

Welcome to the Local Star Class Newsletter!

As many of you may have heard, the Star Class management has decided to go to a quarterly publication of Starlights. The first quarterly publication will be in May. In order to keep Class members up-to-date on such things as regatta schedules and other things of local interest we are publishing this monthly newsletter. We hope that in your fleet someone will take on the responsibility to print up and mail out this newsletter to those people in your fleet who want to receive a printed copy of the newsletter. If there is no such person in your fleet, please write to the editors and we will put you on the mailing list.

This is to be your newsletter. Please send in anything which you feel would be of interest to the other readers. Examples of material we would like to see are articles on fleet development, tips on getting the most out of your boat, "letters to the editor" about things which need to be taken into consideration at any level of the Class, biographies of people, either living or dead, who have left their mark on the Class, articles about up-coming regattas and results from regattas just past, and listings of locally owned boats for sale. In short, please send in anything which concerns the Star Class.

Send this material to your local fleet member who is responsible for mailing you this newsletter or to:

David Bolles: d.bolles@worldnet.att.net
John Fox: FCSdesign@compuserve.com

MAY REGATTA SCHEDULE

As a reminder, the Star season in the Tri-District area of the Northeast is about to begin. The 2nd District in particular is very busy with the World's taking place in Annapolis and a couple of events leading up to the World's. For those who are not going to the World's see if you can attend either the Captain Morgan, the Sunapee Ice Breaker or the Skipper's Choice. Hopefully we can get some new recruits for the Star Class through the Skipper's Choice.

1st District:

May 21, 2000: Captain Morgan: Huntington Bay.
Contact: Laurence Cole: e-mail:
cole.laurence@northport.va.gov

May 21, 2000: Skipper's Choice: Boston Harbor
A chance for non-Star Sailors to find out what it's all about.
Contact: Sergey Leonidov: sleon@compuserve.com

2nd District:

April 29-30: Severn Sailing Association Spring Tune-up (AN)
May 6-7: West River Spring (WS)
May 10-21: Star Worlds "2000" (AN)
May 20-21: Havre de Grace Regatta (NCB)

12th District:

May 20-21: Ice Breaker (Sun)
Contact: Dave Cook: 603 526 4637 (home); e-mail:
davecook@kear.net

LOCAL FLEET NEWS

MID-CONN Reminder:

April 29: Work Day
May 27-28-29: Memorial Day Series. Starts on May 27 and
28 at 12:45 and on May 29 at 11:45.

NOTES FROM STAR CLASS MEMBERS

To All Voting Star Class Members
From the Mid-Connecticut Fleet

Dear Class Members,

On page 3 of the February issue of Starlights is resolution #1 which was submitted by the Mid-Conn Fleet. The purpose of this resolution is to make the members of highest body in the Star Class, the International Governing Committee (I.G.C.), more accountable to the Class membership. At the present, the members of the I.G.C. are selected by the Class President. We feel that the I.G.C. members should be elected directly by the Class membership. Please read resolution #1 and if you agree with the premise of the resolution let your fleet representative know and urge him to vote for this resolution at the annual meeting to be held in May at the World's Championship.

TRI-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP
From John Chiarella

John Chiarella would like to ask the members of the Tri-District fleets if there would be any interest in having a Tri-District Championship. One representative regatta from 1st, 2nd, and 12th districts each year would count towards total points of this championship. Each district would choose which regatta would count that year as the designated regatta. Two perpetual trophies, one for the winning skipper and one for the winning crew, are already spoken for if the idea becomes a reality.

IN MEMOR

Frank H. Go
Star Class Pre
from 1965-1

Frank H. Gordon, past president of the Star Class, died on February 7, 2000, at the age of 88. He is survived by his wife and crew Dorothy Gordon.

Frank was the Star Class President from 1965 through 1973. Before becoming Class President Frank had been the Class Treasurer for 10 years. He was also a member of the International Governing Committee both before and after his term as Class President and later was on the Advisory Council.

By profession, Frank was a lawyer. Frank loved a good debate, and as he once said, "You take whatever side you want and I'll argue the other." Most of the time he won.

Frank was Class President during the very important years for technical advancements in the Class. Just to mention some of the changes and innovations which took place during his presidency will indicate how many things were done during his term in office: fiberglass boats, air tanks, aluminum spars, tighter tolerances in hull construction, and hiking straps. Added to this, Frank foresaw the need to reorganize the Class's administrative structure in order to include Class members from all over the world in Class management. Stan Ogilvy, in his article about the history of the Star Class in the January, 1986, issue of Starlights made the following comment:

"During the Gordon administration it became increasingly clear that the Class had been administered exclusively by Americans for too long. European Star activity was on the rise all the time and the Europeans were rightfully clamoring for more say in Class governance. Frank Gordon worked out a reorganization plan, which was then adopted by a vote of the membership, whereby a much expanded Governing Committee was to include officers from many lands. It was thenceforth called the International Governing Committee (IGC) and Oskar Meier, the beloved 'Star Onkel' of the Swiss fleets and one of the prime movers for reform, was its first chairman. The IGC became the policy making body while the day to day business of the Association was carried on by a newly created Administrative Committee. This arrangement continues basically unchanged today."

Frank was also an accomplished sailor. He was one of the mainstays of the Lake Sunapee Fleet, and seemed to have an uncanny ability to sniff out the wind. The height of his achievement was winning the 12th District Blue Star in 1957 with his wife Dorothy crewing, sailing in 2822, the old Djinn. He won the series with three first places. In 1960 the Gordons

were part of a three way tie for 1st place in the 12st District Blue Star. There was a sail-off, and the Gordons came in second. In 1967 he bought a new Djinn, 5225 (so numbered for his and Dorothy's 25th wedding anniversary), from the Old Greenwich Boat Works, and he continued to sail this boat through the 1999 season. Using 5225 he almost won the 12th District Blue Star again in 1972, this time with Dick Butterfield as crew. Once again he tied for first on points, but this time lost out to the winner because of the tie-breaker rule.

At the 1999 Sunapee Open Frank was heard to say, "(Expletive deleted), if I knew I was going to live this long I would have bought a new boat long ago!"



Frank & Dorothy Gordon
After winning the 12th District Blue Star

Written by David Bolles, with the help of Rick Burgess and David & Robin Cook

Note: See page 5 of the April, 2000, issue of Starlights for an article entitled "A Tribute to Frank Gordon" by Kip Murray who crewed for Frank for the last 27 years.

TUNING TIPS

QUICK TUNING GUIDE

By Mark Reynolds

This is our "quick set up guide". These are the essential numbers which will allow you to get the most from your Quantum Star sails. We have a more detailed 17 page Tuning Guide in a booklet form that is included with our sails. Please call, write or E-mail us for more information.

1. RIG TUNING

Intermediates - Between 70 mm (2 3/4") and 75 mm (3"). We suggest starting at 2 15/16" (75mm)

Spreader sweep back - Set at 127mm (5")

Shrouds - Uppers are tight enough that they just barely slide on the tracks with the mast laid all the way forward or 31- 32 on the old Loos Gauge and 23- 24 on the newer Pro Loos Gauge. Lower should be looser. If you measure up the mast 915 mm (36") and then measure across from shroud to shroud it should measure close to 735 mm (29"). It will probably have to be adjusted on the water to get mast straight.

Mast butt - 4500 mm (14'9)

Jib stay - The jibstay (rake) should be set about 410 mm (16") to 435 mm (17"). Most new boats take closer to 435 mm (17"). The boom should end up about 200 mm (8") off the deck in 8- 10 knots.

2. MAINSAIL TRIM

Mainsheet - The top batten should line up with the boom. Have a reference point with a mark on the mainsheet or judge the distance off the deck and experiment with boats around you until you get a good feel where the right point is. Change trim as conditions or your steering changes.

Outhaul - The outhaul has a small range of adjustment when beating and usually will be set once for the beat and left alone. Make sure it is easy to adjust so you can adjust if necessary. Have a mark on the line at the cleat for a reference. The main should be pulled to the band in wind above 10 knots. In lighter air, ease 25 mm (1") or in very choppy conditions, a little more. Off the wind, ease to add fullness.

Boom vang - The vang should be set reaching and running so the top batten is in line with the boom.

Mast lever - Usually no mast lever needs to be used upwind.

3. JIB TRIM

Jib Shape - In most conditions the leech should trim to mark on spreaders, 458 mm (18") off the side of the mast with just a little shape in the foot.

Jib lead fore and aft - The lead usually ends up about 2200 mm (86.5") from the headstay.

Jib lead in and out - Jib cars should be set at 356 mm (14") from the center line

Jib tack - Set halyard so jib is as low as possible

4. BACKSTAYS

UPWIND

Lower - With the crew in the cockpit, no tension. With the crew on the deck, just a little tension. When the crew drops over pull more. When overpowered, you may have to ease slightly. Too much lower will make a bubble at the mast which will backwind. You will feel the helm increase as the lower is pulled on. The key is to have the boat feel good and watch the boats around you to check your speed. Generally more lower will keep the crew over the side in marginal conditions and help pointing.

Upper - The upper should be just snug. As you get overpowered then start to pull on the upper.

OFFWIND

Reaching - When reaching, ease the upper backstays enough to make the mast straight.

Running - On the run let it off far enough so that the mast starts to reverse with the lever on all the way. In strong wind don't go quite as far.

This performance guide was produced by Quantum San Diego.

Editors' note: We would like to thank Mark Reynolds for sharing with us tips from his newsletter. For other tips see:

<http://www.quantumsails.com/star/>

REGATTA SCHEDULES

1st District

Please check the 1st District Web Site for more information about these regattas. Go to:
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/fcsdesign/>

May 21	Captain Morgan (HB)
May 21	Skipper's Choice (BH)
June 3-4	J.F.K. (BH)
June 17-18	Arms White (Mid)
July 14-16	1st District Championship (Mid)
July 22-23	Secretary's Cup/Make-a Wish Regatta (Benefit) (BH)
July 29-30	Ned Hay (CA)
Aug. 12-13	Picken Memorial (GSB)
Aug. 26-27	Atlantic Coast Masters (BH)
Sept. 9-10	Bedford Pitcher (CLIS)
Sept. 16-17	Nathan Hale, Oyster Bay
Sept. 23-24	Nutmeg's (Mid)

2nd District

April 29-30	Severn Sailing Association Spring Tune-up (AN)
May 6-7	West River Spring (WS)
May 10-21	Star Worlds "2000" (AN)
May 20-21	Havre de Grace Regatta (NCB)
June 10-11	Lippincott Memorial Regatta
June 24-25	Severn S.A. Keel Boat (AN)
July 8-9	Miller Series (CB)
Aug 3	Bigelow Evening Race (MES)
Aug 5-6	Miles River Regatta (MES)
Aug 12-13	Oxford Summer Lipton Cup (ES)
Sept 9-10	West River Keel Boat (WS)
Sept 16-17	2nd District Blue/Green Star Championship (CB)
Sept 30-Oct 1	Oxford Fall Windup (ES)
Oct 7-8	Michelob Cup (WS)

12th District

May 20-21	Ice Breaker (Sun)
June 3-4	Tomahawk (LH)
June 10-11	AYS Open (GrL)
June 17-18	Rock Bottom (KL)
June 24-25	Scythes (Royal Canadian Y.C.) (LOC)
July 22-23	Canadian Nationals (National Y.C.) (LOC)
July 28-30	1st District (LG)
August 5-6	Lake Sunapee Open (Sun)
Aug 12-13	New York State Championship (SL)
Sept. 9-10	Lake George Open (LG)
Sept. 16-17	F.L.A.S.I.R. (SL)
Sept. 23-24	Chili Regatta (SL)