

Newsletter of the Triangle Boardsailing Club

Vol. 21, no. 1 February 2003 ISSN 1540-983X

UPCOMING TBC EVENTS

MARCH 15TH AT 10:00AM: SWAPMEET

Bring the wretched refuse from your garage and newer stuff you think you can part with and see what it will bring at the Spring Swap Meet. If you see a board you want to try, you can launch at Lake Wheeler (moderate launch fee required). Even if you don't sell any old gear, it's still a great chance to hang with your windsurfing buddies.

MAY 17TH: TBC Club Trip APRIL 12th: TBC Race at Windmill Point

APRIL 24th -26th: WindFest (see details below)

JUNE 7th: Lake Jordan clean up Meet at Ebenezer between 8:00 and 8:15.

JUNE 28th: Learn to Windsurf Day at Jordan Lake

DETAILS ABOUT WINDFEST: Jonathan Phillips is organizing our trip to Windfest. Here's a note about the trip from Jonathan:

Windfest is a yearly windsurfing event held at Frisco Woods Campground in Hatteras. This year it runs from Thursday April 24 through Saturday April 26. There will be lots of 2003 windsurfing gear that you can try for free. I've been the past two years and it is a lot of fun. You can get more info about Windfest and Frisco Woods here: http://www.outer-banks.com/friscowoods/. Frisco Woods will begin taking phone reservations in March. They will except reservations through email with credit card number, and prime spots are filling up. Frisco Woods makes it clear that their email is not secure so it is at your own risk.

I think if TBC members got into sites P33, P34(me), P38-P41, P60 it would be fun. This cluster is one row back from the beach and is near the restrooms. You can check their map out in the pricing guide at their website (above). My role is to act as a information person by informing you where other TBC members are located. When you reserve your spot, let me know so I can pass the word.

Tentative Schedule of Events at Windfest:

- * Talk to Industry reps and local shop keepers about the sport and their product line
- * Equipment demos
- * On the water instruction by US Sailing Certified Instructors – all levels (bring your non-windsurfing friends)
- * How-to clinics
- * Kite Boarding Instruction and demos (wide sailing site to provide adequate down wind sailing of windsurfers)

MindJibe attempts to publish six issues each year.

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Please send contributions to the editor at:

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The editor can be reached by phone at 919-489-7863.

- * Board Toss (each year this ever popular event is sure to add to the evening's entertainment, and is brought to you by the *New England Windsurfing Journal*!)
- * Bonfire nightly and * Fun Events (to be determined)
- Jonathan Phillips email: jonathan phillips@ncsu.edu phone: 513-3712

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello TBCers,

Are you as anxious as I am for this winter to end? Get ready, because the best sailing of the year is just around the corner. I love to go to Hatteras in March. The island seems more real somehow: no one is around but fishermen and locals, and the weather can be rugged. I've sailed in 50+ mph winds more than a few times in March. Gotta love it—as long as you have a good wetsuit!

April and May are probably the best two months of the windsurfing year. The weather is finally warming, yet the fronts still pack a punch. Don't wait for the weather to warm up too much or you'll miss the wind.

We've already had a taste of spring sailing. Feb. 23-25 brought gusts over 50 mph. locally, and over 60 at Hatteras. I'm looking at a broken board as I write this, a casualty of some flotsam in the Lake during that wild weekend. Hopefully the wind gods will look favorably upon my sacrifice and bestow many such weekends on us this spring.

Actually, omens of a good windsurfing season abound. Starboard, the number one seller of boards these days, is predicting a long-overdue increase in sales over the next several years. The equipment for new sailors continues to improve at an astounding rate. Recent trends in board design have made a lasting impact on the boards most of us sail as well. Yes, it's a great time to be a windsurfer.

The TBC is planning a full schedule of activities for the upcoming year. Our current list is:

- 1. **Swap meet** March 15th- Lake Wheeler. Come and get your quiver ready for the season.
- 2. **TBC Race.** Date and time are to be announced, but we hope to run a race in late March or early April. Perhaps it'll be windy enough for someone to challenge Jonathan Phillips for TBC supremacy.
- 3. **Lake Jordan clean up June 7**th OK, WindFest isn't a TBC event, but we always have a sizable contingent. This is supposed to be a great time hundreds of windsurfers attend to demothe latest and greatest gear. Contact Jonathan Phillips if you are interested in camping with the TBC group.
- 4. **Club Trip**, starts May 17th. Currently we are renting two houses in Rodanthe. I'm told that both are filling rather quickly, but space is still available. In my opinion the spring trip is the best event of the year.
 - It's a great time and a great way to improve your skills. If you've never been on a spring trip, you need to go!
- 5. **Lake Jordan clean up** June 7th. Did you miss last year's Bamboozle? It was actually rather fun, and the Park Rangers were truly thankful of our efforts. Come and help us show our appreciation for the people who maintain our primary sailing site.
- 6. **Learn to Windsurf Day** June 28th. Like last year, this will be by invitation. Start thinking about people who've expressed an interest in windsurfing. Instruction will be one-on-one (or close to that). And of course, we'll have a party at Dana's afterward.

Whew! Another busy year for the TBC. Thanks to all who keep this club so active. If you haven't been to a club event lately, remember that you're always welcome. And keep a close eye on the chat board to see where everyone is sailing.

--Charles Livaudais, President, TBC

In the Wind The Boy Scouts, to their great credit, offer a merit badge in windsurfing! Check out their site here:

http://www.usscouts.org/advance/boyscout/boardsailing.html. To earn the badge you have to be able to rig a sail and be able to explain the basics of steering the board. The badge itself is not worn on the uniform, but on the left side of swim trunks. (Helping a group of Boy Scouts to earn merit badges in windsurfing might be another way that we could reach out to the community.) [][][] The world's longest windsurfing board measures 16.10 meters and was sailed with 18 similar sails on a lake in East Frisia in North Germany. From the picture (http://www.vdws.de/sportlon.htm.) the board seems able to carry 21 sailors. The board weighs about 400 kilos and is 86 cm. wide. The volume

is 3000 liters. This amazing board has been One of the park rangers offers some swimming areas, including Ebenezer, and the never heard of a windsurfer being sick due to germs, he asks? Everyone is exposed to germs 13 years and he wouldn't let them swim there quality was a concern. FWIW. [[[[]]] Water can get down to 32 degrees on the surface of



sailed in winds as strong as Beaufort 7. [[[[]] Water quality at Jordan Lake reassurance, although there is no data on the entire lake. They do monitor the water quality (in terms of E. coli) has always been good. He also says he's pollution in the the lake. How would you know where you picked up the all day long. He says he and his family have been swimming at Ebenezer for if water

temperature at Lake Jordan. You've seen ice form on parts of Jordan, ergo it the lake. Winter temps at Jordan Lake are between 35 and 45 degrees and it

varies from one part of the lake to another, says a park ranger. He knows, because he's also a fisherman and use a depth finder that also has a temperature monitor. -the Editor

For pictures of the Fall 2002 Club Race, go here: http://www.paulstackhouse.com/tbc2002. Thanks to Paul Stackhouse for shooting in difficult conditions. Is that ice on those sails?!

TBC Windtalker Ready for the Twenty-First Century

While replacing the anenometer head sensor in November, the Windtalker Historical Preservation Team, a.k.a. WHIPT, consisting of John Flavin, Dana Thalheimer, and yours truly, took a good look at the installation and discovered that the wooden mast had rotted out and the wire stays had disintegrated. As we tried to boot up the Windtalker the wind speed was functioning, but the wind direction was not being updated. We suspected the circuit board had failed and feared the worst.

Visit the TBC webpage at:

http://jollvroger.com/windsurf/

only five inches above the sensor head.

Given these deficiences, we decided to upgrade the entire installation. The eighteen inch wooden mast was replaced with a sixty inch ChannelMaster brushed aluminum antennae mast. This has the added benefit of raising the sensor head by forty-two inches. We are still twenty feet lower than the large oak treek which blocks our wind from the northeast, so any increased readings accuracy will only be realized from the NW => SE directions. For north and northeast wind you should always double the reported wind speed. Note that we are unable to raise the sensor any higher because that would place it above the lightning rod which now extends

WHIPT had to make two more trips in December and January to stabilize the mast and debug the wind speed circuit. After a full-on debug with digital and analog multimeters it became apparent that not only were



Mark Kernodle atop the bath house at Ebenezer.

the grounding block connections marginal, but this second generation Windtalker's bus logic was flawed. The wind direction is only updated when a wind reading of about eight mph or higher is sustained for several seconds. It's actually pretty tough to spin those little cups to a speed of eight mph while standing on top the Ebenezer bath house where the roof inclines to 60 vertical degrees so it took us awhile to figure this out.

The connections to the grounding block are now secure. The new sensor head has an estimated lifespan of five years. The car battery and trickle-charger backup should last for another ten years. How long will this vintage 1992
Windtalker last? That is a big unknown. Termite damage to the bath house is now apparent, so the entire structure may not survive much longer. But in the name of historical preservation, WHIPT is prepared to relocate the installation should the need arise. —Mark Kernodle

The Windsurfing Guru

CONCERNED: Your Guruship, answer me this: Is windsurfing "green"? I want to believe that windsurfers are good citizens of the world in ecological terms. GURU: Well, of course windsurfing is green! It is a pure, non-motorized watersport. (I believe that I have spontaneously replicated Plato's famous definition of man as a "featherless biped." But I digress.) Windsurfing puts the sailor in harmony with Nature. Unlike the loathsome jetski, windsurfing does not pollute the water with gasoline nor the air with smoke. Except for crackle of unfurling monofilm or the annoying lip-lip-lip of an overtaking board, windsurfing creates no noise pollution either. But of course you can avoid the lip-lip-lip just by being faster. You heard what I had to say about improving your speed, didn't you?

CONCERNED: But, Guru, you're forgetting how much gasoline it takes to get to a launch site!

GURU: Of course, I personally don't have to drive anywhere to sail because I live in windsurfing paradise, remember?

CONCERNED: Willful avoidance of the issue—if I may say so, Master. What about all those factories in the developing world that make windsurfing gear. Surely you will agree that they are sources of pollution.

GURU: You know for a fact, then, that the Ezzy factory in Sri Lanka pollutes and that the Neil Pryde manufacturing processes fouls the water, do you? You've studied local anti-pollution statutes and are prepapred to say who is in violation of what. I assume.

CONCERNED: Well, no, not individually. That sort of information is very hard to come by. But windsurfing is utterly dependent on some nasty products. We do know about the health hazards of polystyreme foam production; we know what epoxy resin hardeners are carcinogenic; fiberglass and carbon fibers are much like asbestos. I could go on.

GURU: Doubtless these things are worthy of our consideration and, more importantly, regulation, but you cannot base life's major decisions, most especially gear purchases, on innuendo, rumor and vague health threats. So let me suggest an ethically responsible via media: if you have credible evidence that a major manufacturer is illegally discharging industrial waste or operating sweatshops, you should avoid purchasing their products. But you should also take reasonable steps to make sure that the competition is doing a better job of protecting the environment and maintaining humanitarian standards.

CONCERNED: "Illegally discharging"? What does it matter whether it's legal or illegal?! You're talking weasel words and legalisms when I'm trying to save the environment!

GURU: Don't imagine you are alone in trying to save the planet. Many so-called developing nations have laws against pollution. China, for example, where many windsurfing products are produced, has made significant progress in regulation of industrial waste. And even if you could demonstrate that there is some pollution in the production process, you'd have to balance that against the benefits to

society that result from employment, social stability, and the outcomes of international commerce.

CONCERNED: That doesn't sound very green to me. GURU: Not exactly jade green, but tropical lime maybe?

* * *

STUDENT: Guru, I know you are infinitely wise, but do you qualify as an expert sailor?

GURU: Well, we're all intermediates compared to Robby, aren't we?

STUDENT: No, seriously, how good are you?

GURU: In Maslow's terms, I am approaching self-actualization. I have not yet reached the point where no more improvement is possible. My "brain wiring" (you could also call it "native ability") would allow me to go further. If I had greater interest in learning new "tricks" or manoeuvres, I could—although not as quickly as some. I am not sufficiently inspired by tricks to practice them. And I will never be able to loop.

STUDENT: How can you call yourself a windsurfing guru and not be able to loop?!

GURU: All you really need to be a windsurfing guru is board certification and a caftan. And usually just a caftan will do. Oooommmm.

EPIC SUNDAY: A DAY THAT SHALLLIVE IN WINDFAMY

Anticipation started building on the Friday, Feb. 19. Postings on the chatboard asked, Is it gonna blow? The various auguries (NOAA, WRAL, NWS, etc.) all predicted a lot of wind, but less than we actually got. Saturday Feb. 20 brought a foretaste, but the high wind that formed the squall line was accompanied by a lot of nasty weather. Sunday the 21st though was epic—at least for those souls brave enough to face "triple 50's": air temperature at 50 °F., water temperature 50°F., and occasional gusts of 50 mph. It was a day for comfort and control sailors to sit beside the hearth, mend their sails, and gloat about their prudence. Several TBC sailors ventured out into the challenging conditions.

Charles Livaudais reported laconically: "It was windy. It was cold. Unfortunately I had a brief time on the water with Electron and 4.7 before I noticed a gash in the bottom of the board. (Too much sail! The WindTalker said averaging 20 mph. with gusts to 51 mph. right about then.) Must have hit something in the water, but I didn't even feel it. Bummer—6½ years with that board without damage.

"Several other sailors were out and had a more successful time than I. Still, it was good to feel the high wind adrenaline rush again. It's been a while."

Even Adlai Niggebrugge, hardened to cold weather by living in Canada, commented on the cold. "When I got to Jordan Lake around 9 a.m. it was very windy (30+mph.), raining and cold. I was cold standing on shore with a parka. About 10:30 it cleared and warmed to 50° F, and it was at least sunny, but the water was still too cold: I measured it at 5.2 C or 41.3° F. I was sailing a 5.0 and it was too much sail. I basically would sail north of Ebenezer a few hundred yards and get hit with a 45 mph wind gust, then spend 5 minutes positioning the rig for a water start, this would freeze my hands to the point that I couldn't feel them. Not fun. I left at 4 and it was still 30+mph. The best combo for the day, I'd say was a 4.0 m² sail with a floaty 100 L board." Note that despite the challenging conditions, Adlai stayed at Jordan Lake for seven hours!

Rich Auerweck saw similar conditions at the coast, but there he got to sail both Saturday and Sunday. "Saturday was something like 75° degrees and 15-20 mph. The dome didn't happen, but you could tell it *almost* happened. Cool fog banks were rolling into Bogue from the cold ocean. The sound was quite pleasant for February. No part of me ever felt numb. I think the water was above 50° F. Since the wind was due south, I was sailing an offshore wind from my launch. That, plus the patches of fog and the threat of incoming thunderstorms, combined with the fact that I was sailing alone, pursuaded me to be conservative and not go too far from the launch. Unfortunately, the wind line was WAY out and I sailed a shallow angle from the shore to reach it... that put me too far away from my launch for comfort. Once I got to the wind line, it was cranking though. I was overpowered mostly on the 7.5 m² and Mistral Vision 130. I should have driven the extra distance to a mainland launch. I'm pretty sure I could have rigged the 6.1 m² if I had launched from the other side.

"Sunday. OK, I'm happy to be alive! The wind had shifted to the SW overnight and was c-r-a-n-k-i-n-g. The temp was very pleasant at 10 a.m. (high 50's). This time I rigged the 4.5 m² on the Flow 266 (93L). Knowing it was going to be a free-for-all fight with the elements, I set up my video camera on shore to record the carnage. The first trip out was pretty cool, I still had confidence and even pulled off a little jump. Jibing was not possible for me in those conditions, at least not without some more high-wind practice. It was pretty much crash and burn every time. I sailed a short back-and-forth course to stay close to the wind shadow. Again alone. Amazingly, after only about 10 minutes the wind shifted to the west and INCREASED, just like they said it would. At that point I realized that this wasn't sailable anymore, but I wanted to at least try some survival sailing for the benefit of the video camera. I made a couple of very short runs not in the footstraps or the harness. This may have been a mistake (lack of control usually), but the thought of being able to ditch the whole rig in the event of a crash was much more appealing than going down with the ship. After a windward slam in a big gust, I decided to forget about hooking in. TWICE, while I was standing in waist deep water in between runs the wind PICKED UP THE ENTIRE RIG and threw the board and sail

downwind! I have it on tape. How much wind does it take to do that? No question, this was the most wind I've ever been out in. After a few more chicken-runs I packed it in.

Appropriately quoting G. Gordon Liddy quoting Friedrich Nietzsche, Rich sums it up for the weekend... "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." An excellent opening for the 2003 sailing season!

Lake Norman got its share of Epic Sunday as well. **Alan White** reported: "I returned home from the coast to sail Lake Norman on Sunday. It was GREAT. We launched at 8:00 am on the 4.0's - 4.7's. The fun lasted till about 2:00 p.m. when the wind died off some. Some of the guys continued till 3:00 p.m. or so on 5.0's. Lake Norman's water temperature is around 50-55 F° (at the lower end near the nuclear plant), and the air was dry and warm all morning."

On the Outer Banks it was even windier and warmer, as **John Anderson** discovered. "Saturday was 25 to 30 knots out of south, slightly SSW. The air temp was 72 degrees and it was sunny. Oceanside, the water was about 44 degrees. I think in the sound was 48 degrees. I was on a 5.2 but most people were on 4.5s. It was interesting because there was a wall of fog sitting at Ego Beach and warm/windy at the hole. We waited all day for a little more west to push that darn fog out and away. Never happened. But for this time of the year, I couldn't complain sailing at the sound side.

"The next day on Sunday finally gave us a southwest wind. The water on the ocean side got about 5 degrees warmer overnight! When I went to Ego Beach, the waves were perfect at about 10 feet. The sky was clear and still warm at 63 degrees that morning. But it was quite windy. Charlie and Charles were the lab rats and went out at Ego beach. Unfortunately, the wind was blowing too hard. They were on 4.0 and couldn't even hold on. Bummer. So back to The Hole again. It was blowing so hard that there were actually swells at The Hole! I knew this day could haunt me... I had a 12 year old 3.5 sail that I never replaced. It was so different than the newer sail and I never adjusted to it. So I borrowed a friend's who had a 4.0 sail. It was just way, way overpowered. Jumping ramps were unbelievable. All of us were jumping 5 feet and higher! I heard the gusts were in the 60's and I believe it.

There was still wind left on Monday, as **Rob Wood** found out at Jordan: "Sailed a 6.4 ² on SW winds blowing high teens with gusts to the high 20's, ITFS about 90% of the time. Only problem was the obstacle course created by Sunday's carnage: lots of tree branches and pine straw. I could have used a weed fin and a chain saw! I know Adlai didn't much like Sunday's water temps, but the water in Jordan Lake is definitely warmer than 2 weeks ago. Let's hope it's a trend." --the Editor

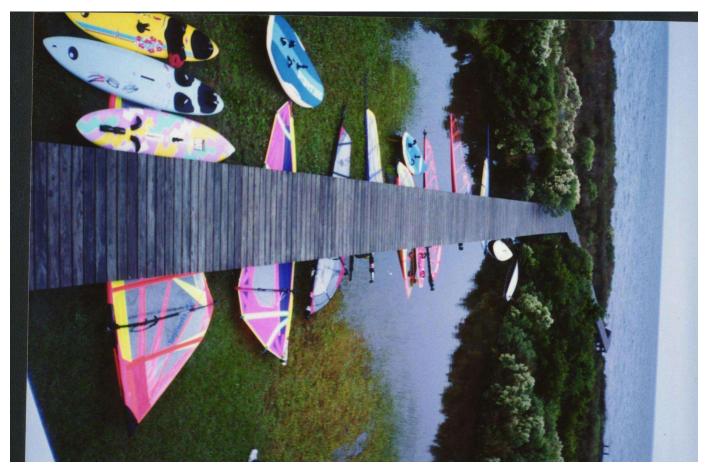
PLANS FOR THE TBC SPRING RACE

The TBC spring race will be held April 12th at Windmill Point near Kitty Hawk, NC. This is a shallow soundside location with good winds. In the past there have been two fleets—pro and novice. Pro is defined by anybody who has won the novice fleet or wants to rank themselves as such. Whether you race or not, come on out to sail, cheer, party.

Novices: If you have never been to a TBC race, the warm shallow waters of Hatteras are a great place to start. We put the emphasis on FUN, not competition. Racing is how I learned to sail. As friends would pass me they would yell out advice. I knew I had people watching out for me if I got in trouble, so I was able to push myself and try new things. This is what makes racing great for beginners. If your thinkin' "I'll just mess everybody up, so I won't go," then you're mistaken. You'll make things more fun by adding to the excitement. So if you can sail out, turn around, and come back, then I expect to see you there.

Pros: When the green flag drops, the B.S. stops. Now is your chance to prove all that trash talking you've been doing during the winter. There is nothing like pinching your competitor upwind into a stall, gibing round the leader as they blow the last mark, or pumping to get that extra half knot for a photo finish. You've got that new door and 12 m² sail, now let's see what they can do. C U there!!

-- Jonathan Phillips



 $High \ water \ soundside, Mirlo\ Beach\ during\ last\ Club\ trip.\ \ Wind\ with\ west\ in\ it\ pushes\ water\ towards\ the\ houses\ at\ Mirlo\ Beach.$

Classifieds: The Editor is still willing to publish classified ads in *MindJibe*. Most people seem to prefer to advertize on the webpage, but print is still an option.

Triangle Boardsailing Club Membership Form

please print clearly!

New Member: ___ Renewal: ___

Name:	Triangle Boardsailing Club			
Street Address:	Mail to:			
City/State/Zip:		Triangle Boardsailing	g Club	
		P. O. Box 662		
Phone Day: _()		Cary, NC 27513		
Email (optional):	Dues:	Single: \$12	Family: \$18	
I cal Tirol D				
1,as a member of the Triangle B	oardsainng Club	, do nereby acknowledge tha	t it is impossible to eliminate all risks associated with the sport of boards	saning, and

for myself, my executors, administrators, successors and assigns, waive, release and forever discharge any and all rights and claims for damages, whether they arise in tort, contract, equity or otherwise, which may accrue to me against the Triangle Boardsailing Club, its officers, directors, and members (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "TBC"), and which result from, originate and/or arise out of, directly or indirectly, my participation in TBC meetings or events, or use of TBC equipment. I do further indemnify and hold harmless the TBC against any and all liability or responsibility for any injury whatsoever, indlucing but not limited to injury to my person or property, received, incurred, and/or arising out of, directly or indirectly, my participation in TBC events, or use of TBC equipment. My release is also given for the reproduction of any photographs taken of me or including me for use in media coverage. I understand that I am waiving rights, which may otherwise have been mine by law, and I do so of my own free will and consent.

The Triangle Boardsailing Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving the sport of windsurfing.

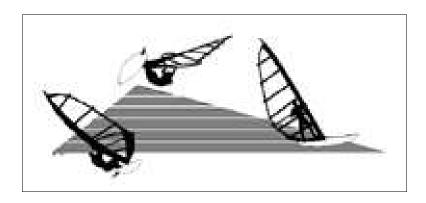
TBC organizes:

Club windsurfing trip to Hatteras and other windy locations
Club meetings and parties
Free instructional clinics
Swap meets
Winter parties
Swap meets
Races

$\label{thm:membership} \textbf{Membership entitles you to:}$

As many issues of the Club's newsletter *MindJibe* as are published Free classified ad service in *MindJibe* and on the Club webpage Use of club-owned equipment on a sign-up basis as available Refreshments at club-sponsored events

In addition, TBC owns and maintains the local Windtalker at Jordan Lake (387-5969).



Please cut out and retain your membership card.



Discussing Boards at Swap Meet

Triangle Boardsailing Club P. O. Box 662 Cary NC 27513

stamp

mailing label	