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Letter from the President

Thanks to everyone for their generous service and contributions to the US J/22 Class Association in 2016! As we continue our strategic initiative to focus on "*Getting Youth Involved*," I want to assure you that your effort and money have gone, and will continue to go, to good use. Every hour you volunteer and every dollar you donate is directly invested in the future of this terrific Class.

Midwinter Championship. If you have not yet registered for Midwinters (March 23-26), you definitely should! Four days in New Orleans, hosted by the second oldest yacht club in America—the Southern Yacht Club—is just what the witch-doctor ordered! This is by far one of my most favorite venues for regattas...hope to see you there! More information is at www.j22mw.com.

Inside Line Youth Profile. We want to hear more stories about all our young J/22 sailors and why they love the boat and the Class. If you are a young sailor, or know one, please visit the following website: http://www.veritasmarketing.com/young-j22-sailor-profile/. Simply tell us about yourself, and you could be featured in an upcoming The Inside Line!

North American Championship. My home club, the Buffalo Yacht Club, will be host for this year's North American Championship. As you start to plan for your 2017 campaign, please earmark July 20-23 for this wonderful event filled with Raw Bar and Buffalostyle breeze. More information is at www.j22na.com (registration will soon be available).

Scholarship Boat. If you know anyone aged 19-35 who is interested in receiving a free, fully-outfitted J/22 and trailer for the 2017 season, please ask them to visit the Class website and submit an application before March 15.

Happy holidays!

Mark "Stu" Stuhlmiller, USJ22CA President Stuhlmiller@yahoo.com



Southern Yacht Club and Fleet 46 in New Orleans are excited to host the 2017 J/22 Midwinter Championship this March 23-26. Registration will be Thursday, March 23, with racing beginning Friday morning and continuing through Sunday midday. Up to nine races are planned. For those snowbirds who want to enjoy even more temperate winter sailing, New Orleans Yacht Club's Mardi Gras Regatta is a few weeks before this event.





Planned off-the-water activities for the J/22 Midwinters will include a trip to the French Quarter to

experience a Bourbon Street party, and great daily entertainment during the regatta.

Southern Yacht Club is located on the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain (the lake forms the northern border of the city). The lake is 24 miles in diameter and is relatively shallow at 14' deep. The winds in March are governed by the timing of fronts which pass through. It is hard to predict

whether the breeze will be light or heavy more than a few days in advance, but in all likelihood there will be a little

of everything over the course of the regatta. If the breeze does kick up, a short chop can develop very quickly, testing gear and seamanship.

Contact Zak Fanberg (Fanbergz@eaganins.com), Richard Heausler (rheausler@tdw.com) or Peter Gambel (petergambel@att.net) if you have any questions. For complete details and to register, check out www.j22mw.com.



In 2016, the US J/22 Class Association awarded its first annual scholarship boat to Patrick Shanahan of the Brown University Sailing Team.
Thank you to Patrick, Nate Housberg, Sam Alexander and Haley Carter for the following report on their experience at the 2016 J/22 World Championship. You can follow the team and support them at http://www.sphynqssailing.us/.

We would like to start out by saying thank you to the J/22 Class Association, the Buffalo Yacht Club, Mark Stuhlmiller, Terry Flynn and the Annapolis Quantum loft, everyone who donated and became a part of the team, and lastly all the competitors for making this summer unforgettable. Without the help and support from everyone, none of this could have been possible and we are so grateful to have been given this once in a lifetime opportunity.

As we pulled out of Providence towing the J/22 after picking up Sam and Haley, it all started to sink in. We were on our way to the J/22 Worlds, the summer was coming to an end, and all of our hard work and practice would be put to the test. Arriving late in the hours of the night, we dropped off our boat and went back to the dorms where we were staying. Eagerly awaking the next morning, we headed down to the boat park to get everything set up.

We expected measurement and registration to be a breeze, but it was far from that. We didn't have the right supplies, parts didn't measure in and pieces were missing. To our surprise, the entire Class and measurement team helped us and gave us the necessary parts and help to fix everything. We were all in shock. Instead of people getting annoyed we were holding up the line and putting us at the back, everyone jumped in and helped us with what we needed. Somebody had every part we needed and gave to us to use. Once we had measured in thanks to the entire Class, it was time to launch the boat. All we had to do was throw up



the mast and we would be out on the water for a practice sail. We were just about to put up the mast when we skyed our halyard.

Off we went to find someone with a solution. and immediately all four of us came back with a solution and pieces to fish out the halyard. The first day of racing had finally come, and we were all excited to get out on time to the race course and not miss our first race like we did at the Raw Bar Regatta. When the breeze finally filled in, we did our pre-start practice and were asked to go upwind and speed test with Terry Flynn. We, of course, did not turn down the opportunity and went upwind, asked him about his set-up and tweaked ours. We came out strong in the light winds with a fifth place finish. We were all very happy with the result but knew we had a long regatta ahead. From there, we had our ups and downs in the rest of the races, but every single leg of each race we learned something new about the boat. For us, it wasn't so much about performing in the results as it was having fun and learning as much as we can.

Being at this event and having phenomenal sailors all trying to make us better and help us was truly amazing. We would show up to the boat in the morning and have the winners from the previous day all come up and give us advice on boat set-up and answer any questions we had. When we came in from a day of sailing, we would have debriefings and ask the winners of the day how they were set-up and what they were doing. Coming from a singlehanded Class, it was a shock to see the entire Class working together

and trying to make everyone better and sharing their secrets. The Class was so talented and made the racing exciting and difficult, but everyone acted in such a sportsman-like manner. I recommend that everyone sail at least a regatta in the Class and get to know the people. You will make some lifelong friends and will not regret it. Thank you to the entire J/22 Class and everyone who made this possible.

NATE HOUSBERG:

Sam Alexander and I stepped out of my dad's Ford Flex in the boatyard of the Buffalo Yacht Club in Buffalo, New York. It was a muggy early June day, but there was a cool breeze coming off of Lake Erie that was refreshing after the long drive from Jamestown, RI.

Sam and I were here to pick up the inaugural J/22 Class Association Youth Scholarship boat. We would take it back to Jamestown, RI to prep, practice and race, culminating with the J/22 World Championship at CORK. It had been months of planning, budgeting and scheduling, but before the adventure even began, Sam and I realized that we had a problem. The SUV was missing the wiring to connect the lights on the J/22 trailer.

After a few desperate phone calls, a few hours and a few hundred dollars at a local Ford dealership, we were on the road back to Jamestown. We arrived in the early hours of the next morning, fortunate enough that the only problem we faced after the light debacle was my struggle backing the 1,800 lb. boat into my driveway.



It would be an understatement to say that I learned a lot through the course of the J/22 grant. Maybe the most meaningful of what I learned was the generosity of this fleet. When we needed a set of sails, we had help. When we needed tuning help, our questions were answered generously. When we needed a new forestay, we were lent one. When we skyed our halyard through the mast, we received even more help than I think we deserved to ask for. To trust our rag-tag team with the responsibility of this boat gave me the opportunity to learn more about everything from tuning to trailering. I am very grateful to have been a part of it.





As the sailing season winds down and winter sets in, now is the time I start thinking about next season. Everyone thinks about their work list for the boat, projects to do, when the club series starts, etc. But are you planning your first road trip of the year? Or better yet, how many road trips you can do? One of the best things about the J/22 Class is that we have so many great venues to sail in—whether it's a regional event that is just a weekend or a national level event such as Midwinters. North Americans or Worlds—there is something for everyone. The upcoming schedule is impressive: 2017 Midwinters in New Orleans, North Americans in Buffalo and the 2018 Worlds in Annapolis. This is just the beginning as there are awesome regattas in Texas, Lake George, Cleveland and other places, just to name a few. I am excited just thinking about it! So the next step is how to get there.

Talk to your friends/get organized early – Talk to others and see where they are going. Try to organize a group to travel to an away regatta. It's built-in entertainment, it's having a buddy system for when you are on the road, it's what sailing is about!

Try somewhere new - It's easy to add the NAs and Midwinters to the schedule and know you will have a great time or to go to the same event you have been to every year. But some of the best travel regattas are when you go to a new venue and get to sail with new people. This happened to me a few years back when I went to Lake George for their weekend regatta. If you have been there, you know what I am talking about. If you haven't, it's quite an experience. The club is like nothing you have ever seen, the lake is so clean I felt bad putting my boat in it, and the party, well that can be another article in itself. The point is that the Doyles said to me, "You need to come to Lake George," and I was a little skeptical at first, but it was the best thing I did in a long time. It was a



blast, and when I can, I will 100% be back. I know there are many, many more regattas like this, and it is always a goal of mine to add a new place to my schedule each year. Step out of your comfort zone.

Talk to the locals - Once you know you are going to an event, let the locals know you are coming. Get the tips on where to stay, etc. Let them know how excited you are. This helps the local fleets as well. It's amazing how the locals come out of the woodwork to sail when they hear "out of towners" are coming. It works both ways. The local fleet wants to sail against new people too. It's a win/win for everyone.

Build in a little spare time – When you get to where you are going, make sure you have time to check out some of the local sites. Nothing is worse than going somewhere new and just seeing the yacht club and sailing venue. Get out and see the local flair. Eat at somewhere that looks interesting. Check out the local history spots, sports teams, whatever! It doesn't matter where you go, but make sure you do something more than just the sailing. It will make your non-sailing travelers in the family more interested and supportive of these trips as well.

If you are a regatta organizer, get your dates and information out early and start to call boats from out of your fleet to come. Nothing gets folks more excited to come to a regatta than receiving a personal invitation and the feeling of being wanted to come.

Now that you have decided on where you are going and the logistics, there are a few things you NEED to remember to do before you venture off. Have your car/trailer serviced. Nothing is worse than having a breakdown on the trip. It doesn't cost that much to get your car and trailer looked at, but it will be a HUGE bummer if you are stuck

on the side of the road during your big outing (while it may make for some great stories in the end).

Check out the route ahead of time. Make it an adventure. There are always cool spots to stop when going to and from a regatta. The more fun you have, even in the car, will make these trips more memorable and make the time you take to do them more worthwhile. Some of the best trips have been finding the hole-in-the-wall BBQ place in Mississippi on the way to New Orleans or checking out some of the beautiful parks in PA and NY on the way to Buffalo. There is so much to do. Make all of the time, even in the car, valuable.

Once you get home, don't forget to share your stories! This will only encourage more people to have fun and get out there too. You never know who in your local fleet will get brave and hit the road too. This is how our Class grows. We are a community of people who share the common fondness of our great little boat and the people who sail them. Spending more time with each other both on and off the water is what makes the J/22 Class special and fun to be a part of. The strength and future of our Class depends on constant support of local, regional and national sailing. So do yourself and your team a favor in **2017—GET ON THE ROAD!**

My selfish plug, as the Chair of the 2018 World Championship in Annapolis: I am expecting strong support from the Class to come to Annapolis in September for the Worlds. The Annapolis fleet plans to put on an awesome regatta both on and off the water. My personal goal is to have over 100 boats, with 35 of them being from outside the USA. Start working in your fleets now to get here! This being said, 2017 is a great time to start traveling so that the Worlds will be easier for you!



J/22 World Championship May 30-June 4, 2017 The Netherlands

The 2017 J/22 World Championship will be held during the North Sea Regatta, the biggest Dutch sailing event. The preliminary schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, 30 May: Preparations & registration
Wednesday, 31 May: Preparations & practice race
Thursday, 1 June: Race day 1, four races
Friday, 2 June: Race day 2, four races
Saturday, 3 June: Race day 3, four races
Sunday, 4 June: Race day 4, four races & prize-giving

Visit https://j22.nl/worlds2017/event/nsr/ for up to date event information. Ahoy from way up here in Michigan. We have had another great year sailing on the best body of water no one knows about! The ice was out early, and the water warmed up quickly this year. Our water levels have been on the rise the last few

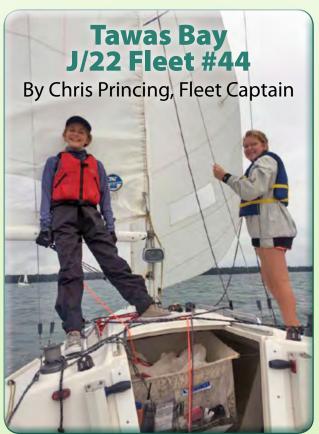
years, and we are almost back to our 1999 levels which pretty much coincide with the formation of our fleet.

Every race day was sunny and 80 degrees with smooth water and free beer! That is just Tawas, man! While we did have a fun year and we sailed 18 races, we did have our issues. The biggest one was a vengeful Michigan DNR officer, who decided to be a jerk, and would not allow any club sailing until we had our proper permits. This is where it gets tricky.... In 80+ years at TBYC, we have never drawn permits with the DNR. The USCG, yes, but

DNR? No. I will save you the trouble; this was a personal vendetta by one government employee against the club because his feelings got hurt. It boils down to, yes, we are actually required to apply for permits before we can hold a race, set a buoy or even test two boats against each other. No, this law has never been enforced in Tawas since the start of the club 80+ years ago. No, no other yacht clubs in Michigan that I contacted had said-permits or have ever applied for said-permits... Solution—we applied, and with the help of a few people (specifically Fran Fitus), got them expedited and we were able to resume racing after having to cancel two weekends of events. Thank God, we did not have a big regatta scheduled during this time.

We had a lot of fun this year, and we crowned a new fleet champion: Mike Scott sailing with his sons Matt and Tim on USA 454, *Squealer*. An average finish of 1.32 is pretty impressive, and that

was what they were. In second place was William Coberly with Paul Nice and Randy Stevenson on USA 275, *The Other White Meat*. Third went to Jon Banner on USA 838, *Pigs in Space*.



Our fleet is a mix of old and new. The old is my dad, Dennis Princing. He is 79 years old and owns USA 121, *HogTide*. He bought *HogTide* from one of his friends who was too old to sail it anymore (Tim was 77 when he sold it to my dad). Dad has owned her for 10 years, and sails it with his son Matthew Princing and Matt Haglund.

The new is our girls who are sailing. Hannah Monville and her sister Izzy are 11 and 7 respectively. They sail with Dave Larue on USA 695, *This Little Piggy*. Jenna Princing, age 10, sails on USA 1552 with her Mom and Dad (Jennifer and Chris). Jenna has been

sailing in the fleet for eight years. This was the first year she did foredeck all by herself. We are very proud of our youngsters and are hoping they continue to love sailing. Next year, we look to add Paige Thwing to the group, sailing with her dad (Yohann) on the original "pig" boat, USA 538, *Pig Dirty*.

Boats are now put away for the winter, but led by Jon Banner, a group of us borrowed *HogTide* and drove her up to Charlevoix, MI. We are joining the rebuilding Charlevoix fleet and sailed the Cranberry Cup on Round Lake. Round Lake is at the exit to Lake Charlevoix just before Lake Michigan. It is very small and surrounded by tall hills and tall houses on top of the hills. The locals call this arena sailing, and it is a blast! Jib and main only, every Sunday in November, with up to six races on a Sunday. A lot of fun and good to see the Charlevoix group building the J/22 fleet once again.



THE BUFFALO YACHT CLUB

J/22 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

SAVE THE DATE

THE 2017 J/22 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP WILL BE HELD AT THE HISTORIC BUFFALO YACHT CLUB ON JULY 20-23, 2017. MARK YOUR CALENDARS TO MAKE THE MEMORABLE TRIP TO WESTERN NEW YORK TO RACE AGAINST THE BEST AND THE MOST COMPETITIVE RACERS ON THE CIRCUIT WHILE TAKING IN THE FLOURISHING CITY, THE EVER DEVELOPING WATERFRONT, AND BEING NEXT DOOR TO NIAGARA FALLS, ONE OF THE SEVEN NATURAL WONDERS OF THE WORLD.

More information? Patrick Weisansal, Regatta Chairman PWeisansal@gmail.com or (716) 725-4953



Young J/22 Sailor Profile Maggie Houtz



Maggie Houtz | Age, 19

Wayzata Community Sailing Center/Wayzata Yacht Club | Wayzata, Minnesota

Q Years of Sailing Experience? **A** 7

Q How did you get into sailing/racing?

A I was walking around Lake Harriet in Minneapolis, MN with my family, and I saw sailboats racing on the lake. I thought it looked awesome, so that summer I signed up for sailing camp at Lake Calhoun. I really enjoyed it. So when I got to high school I joined my school's sailing team, which practiced out of the Wayzata Community Sailing Center, and that's when I got really hooked.

Q How did you start sailing/racing on a J/22?

A My friend Katie randomly asked me to sail on Holly Anderson's J/22 one day a few summers ago. I think someone had dropped out last minute, and they were desperate. It ended up going well though, despite that being my first time racing a J/22. I've been sailing with Holly and other boats in the fleet for a few years now.

Q What was your most memorable J/22 experience?

A My most memorable J/22 experiences have been sailing the Women's Series at Wayzata Yacht Club the past few summers with my friends Kaye Siemers and Maeve Kennedy, who also race in the J/22 fleet. We switch off who was driving, trimming and on bow. It was just a lot of fun to hang out on the lake and race in a relaxed setting with some of my good friends.

Q Describe an important J/22 sailing or racing tip that you received.

A When you're on the bow, always clean up the lines on the downwind legs. It will make everything much easier when you're transitioning back upwind.

Q What do you like best about sailing the J/22?

A I love the community feel of the J/22 fleet. Although it's very competitive, everyone is friends on and off the water. And I've enjoyed getting to know new people.

Q What goal(s) do you have for future sailing/racing?

A I go to the University of Wisconsin, Madison. And I hope to stay competitive on the sailing team here for the rest of my time in college. Also, I would like to keep improving my skills on the J/22, and eventually be excellent at every role on the boat, including steering. I participated in my first J/22 regatta this past fall. In the future, it would also be really cool to do more big events.

Q If you had a J/22, what would you name it?

A If I had a J/22, I would name it 'Houtz it Going?' because it's kind of a funny pun of my last name.

Q What advice would you give someone your age interested in sailing or racing?

A Just go for it! The only way to get better is to give 100% every time you're on the water, and it will be so worth it in the end.

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Calendar

2017 Calendar

February 17-19, 2017

2017 St. Petersburg NOOD at St. Petersburg Yacht

Club, St. Petersburg, FL Contact: Jennifer Davies

March 17-19, 2017

2017 San Diego NOOD at San Diego Yacht Club & Coronado Yacht Club, San Diego, CA

Contacts: Jennifer Davie

March 24-26, 2017

2017 J/22 Midwinter Championship at the Southern

Yacht Club, New Orleans, LA

Contact: Boo Heausler, rheausler@tdw.com

April 20-23, 2017

2017 Charleston Race Week at the Charleston Ocean

Sailing Association, North Charleston, SC

Contact: 843-628-5900,

info@charlestonraceweek.com

May 5-7, 2017

2017 Annapolis NOOD at Annapolis Yacht Club,

Annapolis, MD

Contact: Jennifer Davies

May 30 - June 4, 2017

2017 J/22 World Championship at the North Sea

Regatta at Scheveningen, The Netherlands

Contact: Rosemarijn Verdoorn, chairman@j22.nl,

+31 (0) 6 30372709

June 9-11, 2017

2017 Chicago NOOD at the Chicago Yacht Club,

Chicago, IL

Contact: Jennifer Davies

June 16-18, 2017

2017 Cleveland Race Week at Edgewater Yacht Club,

Cleveland, OH

Contact: Caroline Sundman

July 20-23, 2017

2017 J/22 North American Championship at Buffalo

Yacht Club, Buffalo, NY

Contact: Patrick Weisansal, 716-725-4953

July 27-30, 2017

2017 Marblehead NOOD at Corinthian Yacht Club,

Marblehead, MA

Contact: Jennifer Davies

July 28-30, 2017

CanAm Challenge at Youngstown Yacht Club,

Youngstown, NY

Contact: Tim Finkle, 716-745-3862

August 11-13, 2017

J/Fest New England at Sail Newport,

Newport, RI

Contact: Bill Kneller, 401-225-2271

2018 Calendar

September 8-14, 2018

2018 J/22 World Championship at Annapolis Yacht

Club, Annapolis, MD

Contact: Linda Ambrose, lambrose@annapolisyc.org

Submit your regatta dates/information to howell@j22.com



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