

## **LLSC Annual Meeting Report 2009**

### **Junior Year In Review**

Submitted by Carol Reddaway, Jr. Racing Coordinator and Warren Collier, Junior Director

November 2, 2009

This summary provides a general recap of Junior sailing this year at Lake Lanier Sailing Club. While many of our sailors traveled to out-of-town regattas and events, those details were omitted and the focus was on Lake Lanier Sailing Club's happenings and major Club events.

We started 2009 with Advanced Opti Racing Team practices with six sailors participating. Some of the days were good sailing. On one of the light days, the sailors met at a fitness center for a work-out, which stressed the importance of physical fitness. One goal of these practice sessions was to get the sailors ready for the Valentine's Day Regatta in St. Petersburg, which is a qualifying event for Team Trials. We had 14 LLSC sailors compete there in St. Pete.

There were a few Juniors who participated in the Laser Frostbite series and also raced in the Laser Southern hosted by our Club. Also this winter a few of our sailors traveled to other regattas such as the Boomerang Regatta in Ft. Lauderdale and the Clark Mills Regatta in Clearwater.

We had our snow delayed Junior Kick Off Meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> and proceeded with the plans and programs for the year. Lake Lanier Sailing Club hosted the USODA National/Development Teams practice in March. Many volunteers helped make this practice a success and some of our Opti sailors benefited from participating too.

In April we had our Junior Governor's Cup where we had 10 Optis and two 420s compete. There was a nice breeze in our cove so we had 3-4 races. Daniel Postell won the Gold fleet and Robert Beauchamp won the Silver fleet. Our Junior Officers participated in the Commissioning Ceremony, which was a nice event to celebrate our Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Practices and races continued on through the Spring as much as the wind would allow us. In addition, we had several sailors travel to Atlanta Yacht Club at Lake Allatoona for their Opti regatta which was won by Leigh Ann Collier. We had three Opti sailors compete in the USODA Team Trials at Noroton Yacht Club in Connecticut. The Thistles invited the Juniors for "Sailing on a Thistle" day which was much fun. Memorial Day brought a "Fun Sail" at our Club, and several Opti sailors traveled to Davis Island Yacht Club near Tampa for the School's Out Regatta.

June brought our Junior Week with over 66 sailors participating. Most of the sailors slept in the pavilion due to this year's anticipated thunderstorms. Racing was more of a focus this year and held each day for all the sailors except for the beginners. The food was fantastic, as always, and the evening activities provided good fun. Thank you again to Marian Evatt as Junior Week Chair and all the volunteers who pitched in to make it a great week for the juniors. All the winners of the races and special trophies have been posted; special recognition was given for the Sportsmanship Awards presented to Matthew Schmid and Mandy Weeks.

Over the summer not quite so many practices were scheduled because of typical summer light breezes, but some of them were good. We had good participation at our Reggae Regatta with the Juniors selling hotdogs and burgers on Sunday. Daniel Postell won the Gold fleet, Ian Jezak won the Silver fleet, and JD Reddaway and Connor Cassidy won the 420 fleet. Our Firecracker Cup went well with eleven Optis and three 420s participating. Daniel Postell won the Gold fleet, Robert Beauchamp won

the Silver fleet, and Michael Reddaway and Jamie Reid won the 420 fleet. An intense Summer Race Week was organized at the end of July by David Reddaway good participation and excellent guest speakers were drawn from our local LLSC sailing talent including Brent McKenzie, Jeremy Pape, Lee Estes and Mike Funsch.

Some of our Junior sailors traveled to the SAYRA Youth Challenge and Regatta in Wrightsville Beach, NC and others traveled to Ft. Walton, FL; Savannah, GA; New York; and other northeast areas.

In August we received the big news that our Junior Program was selected to receive a \$20,000 donation toward the building of the Junior Launch area with the passing of an LLSC Member: Hill Bermont. Thank you and may he rest in peace.

Fall practices and races also started in August with light breezes. Some of our Juniors traveled to Birmingham for the Rock, Paper, Scissors Regatta and then came back here for our Junior Commodore's Cup on Monday. Darby Reddaway won the Opti Gold fleet for Commodore's Cup; Thomas Beauchamp won the Silver fleet; Kassie Jezak won the Green fleet; Brett Jezak and Grayson Arias won the 420 races; and Michael Reddaway won the Laser fleet.

Some of our sailors once again hit the road traveling to the Board Bash at Lake Norman, NC where Leigh Ann Collier won the Opti fleet and some of the Green Fleeters (Kassie Jezak & the Funsch bunch) went to the Pirates of Privateer clinic in Chattanooga, TN.

The USODA Opti Southeast Championship was held at LLSC at the end of September with 85 competitors participating. This large event involved many volunteers and much coordination for the sailors, parents, coaches, judges, and other visitors and included housing, motor boat coordination, food, etc. – thanks to all (including our sailors) who represented LLSC with great hospitality and dignity. Our top finishing Junior was Daniel Postell in 16<sup>th</sup> place overall that landed him an invitation to compete in the Team Trials in Houston in the spring of 2010 – congratulations!

Chuck Weaver provided a \$2,000 donation from the Dream Weaver Foundation – Thank You.

We continued our fall practices and races with our last big event being the Halloween Regatta. The Halloween Regatta was won by Leigh Ann Collier in Opti Gold; Ian Jezak in Opti Silver; Thomas & Joe Glenn in 420 and Michael Reddaway in Laser.

The Annual Awards for Juniors were held at the end of the Halloween Regatta. The winners of these end of year awards were:

Junior Fleet Class	Spring Series	Fall Series
420	None	Brett Jezak
Laser	Robbie Estes	Connor Cassidy
Opti Silver	Robert Beauchamp	Ian Jezak
Opti Gold	Daniel Postell	Daniel Postell

The Junior Racing Team was announced based on the applications received. These sailors received dry bags with Junior Racing Team printed on them. These juniors were:

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|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Grayson Arias     | 12. Kassie Jezak       |
| 2. Robert Beauchamp  | 13. Gabrielle Kitchens |
| 3. Thomas Beauchamp  | 14. Ben Postell        |
| 4. Connor Cassidy    | 15. Daniel Postell     |
| 5. Leigh Ann Collier | 16. Grace Pritchard    |
| 6. Caillin Cooke     | 17. Darby Reddaway     |
| 7. Robbie Estes      | 18. JD Reddaway        |
| 8. Alec Funsch       | 19. Michael Reddaway   |
| 9. Thomas Glenn      | 20. Jamie Reid         |
| 10. Brett Jezak      | 21. Steffi Zwarg       |
| 11. Ian Jezak        |                        |

The Special End of Year Junior Awards were presented as follows:

Best Effort – Thomas Glenn and Brett Jezak

Most Improved – Robert Beauchamp and Kassie Jezak

Seamanship – Darby Reddaway and Daniel Postell

Sportsmanship – Connor Cassidy

Sailor of the Year – JD Reddaway.

Many thanks to all of the volunteers over the season. The volunteers of the year that were honored were: Carol & David Reddaway and Jo Ann & Lee Estes.

All the parents of our sailors have willingly given their time and interest in helping our Junior program be a success. We all know this couldn't be accomplished without volunteers. A special "Thank You" to those parents who went beyond average – especially Warren Collier who took the helm as Junior Director and steadily gave his time to help the program succeed. "Thank You" to all the sailors who kept a good attitude and treated their parents and other adults with respect and appreciation. The skills you are learning and friendships you are making will stay with you the rest of your lives.

The last practices of the year are geared toward the Advanced Sailors – especially the Optis who hope to travel to the USODA Midwinters at Southern Yacht Club in New Orleans, LA and the Orange Bowl in Miami, FL over the holidays. Best wishes to all!