



# Jibs and Jibes

## Official Newsletter of the Webster Sailing Association

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## The Weather

Most of us talk about the weather all the time . While this summer's weather was not particularly unusual, this winter's weather was certainly one for the record books. In December and even early January, it was so warm, I was wishing my boat was still in the water. Over the years we have seen some dramatic climate changes, but this year certainly was the most noticeable. And for those of us who iceboat, it was particularly frustrating not to have ice anywhere in the North East. But then winter came at us with a vengeance with below normal temperatures and some snow. I finally got out iceboating three weeks ago on some beautiful ice. A group of us even tried iceboating Webster Lake...great ice but no wind. The snow has covered the local lakes, but we are still able to iceboat on lakes south of us.

Now is the time to think of spring and getting our boats ready for the new season. You need to make a list of all the things you need to do to your boat so you will not be unprepared and late getting your boat down to the club. And make a promise to yourself to sail more.

## Work Parties

Three work parties have been scheduled this spring...April 7<sup>th</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup> to build two new docks and April 21st for the opening work party. We would like to see as many people as possible at each work party to make fast work of the tasks needing to be done. Bring tools for the dock building work parties.

## Dues

As it is each year your dues must be paid by March 1, 2007. You will notice an increase this year of \$30.00 for full membership. The increase was necessary to cover much higher property taxes and other expenditures. The cost of membership is still one of the best bargains around, and you will have an opportunity to vote on this increase at the Spring meeting and banquet.

You will also notice a space on the renewal form for the lottery of the two boat slips. Still \$25.00 per entry.

Note: Make sure you include proof of insurance with your application.

## Spring Banquet and Meeting

This year's Spring Banquet and Meeting will be held at the Point Breeze Restaurant on Saturday, May 12, 2007 starting at 5:00PM. Reservation forms must be returned by April 22<sup>nd</sup>. As always, we would like to see all of you there. It is not only a good time to socialize and get to know your fellow members, but also to participate in the running of your club. Sally and I will have some sample WSA shirts which can be ordered at that time.



## Fleet News

I was asked by the US Mariner Fleet Association to run an event at the WSA to help support Mariner owners here in New England. I proposed it at the January executive meeting and it was agreed to hold the event Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. This is the first open event the WSA has been involved in for many years and I hope it will become an annual event. Mariner owners will be invited to come Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> for a day of sailing on the lake and on Sunday, there will be a workshop on rigging and in the afternoon, participants will be invited to race with us in the scheduled point score race. If enough boats sign up, they will have a separate start. Afterward there will be a cookout and awards given out. All WSA members are invited to participate.

## Starting Line

The Webster Sailing Association was started to promote sailing and racing on Webster Lake. One of my goals this year is to try and improve participation in racing. To accomplish this I will be more actively promoting major races (Trophy Races) and recruiting members interested in racing. As I stated before...racers are the lifeblood of any sailing organization.

## Committee Boat

A couple of years ago we purchased a new (old) pontoon boat to replace our aging committee boat. Unfortunately, it did not come with a trailer and some of us are getting too old to carry it up and down the ramp each year. At the executive committee meeting, it was decided to look for a new trailer. It will not only help getting the boat in and out of the water, but for transporting it to the mariner for repairs. We are also looking into replacing the top, which was in sad shape when we got the boat.

## Volunteers

The annual dues at the WSA are kept relatively low, due to a group of volunteers who not only manage the club, but do most of the work. But it is each member's responsibility to contribute to the general upkeep. If you have a parking spot for your boat, you should keep it mowed and clean. Pick up a rake and clean the beach. Fix or paint something. Volunteer to be on a committee. Remember ...this is your club.

## WSA Shirts



This is a sample Polo shirt with the WSA logo. The actual color is dark navy blue with white lettering. Before the Spring Meeting, we will investigate the price and availability of items such as hats and T shirts.



Prices will be announced at the meeting.

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