

Rip updates



Treasurer\$ Report

New Board meets, Club finances stable

A large turnout of votes were recorded as the membership voted for the 2001-2002 board of directors at the Crandon Park party. At 4:30 PM, the votes were tabulated, with all 12 candidates receiving almost the same number of votes. It was decided to allow all 12 to serve on the new board. They are:

Len Fenn (the new president), Cindy Augustyn, George DeFabio, Ovidio DeLeon, Bill Ehrreich, Jason Hoffman, Adam Locke, Nelson Lopez, Denise Romero, David Schulman, Bob Weinreb (treasurer), and Julie Zahniser.

All bills and obligations are current including the Crandon Park insurance policy. The non profit status of the SFBSA is up-to-date with all necessary payments and filings with both the IRS and The Florida Departments of State and Revenue.

Anyone wishing to review any documents should contact the club president or treasurer, and all files will be made available. As of November, the SFBSA saving (defense) account has \$5,443.49, and the checking account totals \$4,788.14. These funds should be more than sufficient to continue all the club's activities and events throughout the fiscal year.

- Robert Weinreb



Bill Ehrreich

Former SFBSA President accepts an award at the Annual Meeting.

Thanks Bill...

Bill Ehrreich has served as SFBSA President for 2 years. He did a great job and the Board of Directors wish to thank him for all the time he spent on behalf of the club. The position entails a lot of hard work.

The SFBSA's first president was Adam Locke and then Bill. Now charter member, Leonard Fenn, will take the lead.

We are fortunate to have both our former presidents continue their support of the Club as Board Members this year. Welcome back Adam!

As clouds move in, two sailors prepare for a morning sail at the Moorings Resort, Islamorada. Photo from the Pro-Am by Matteo Bianci.



Social

Hello everyone. As a newly elected board member, I have officially dubbed myself “Social Director” of the club. Mostly due to the fact that we have not had a good **Pub Crawl** in a long time, something I think is an important part of every windsurf club!

I felt that the club needed someone to plan fun social gatherings so that we can hang out and have a good time other than at the beach. If there is one thing I have noticed from hanging out with windsurfers for the past few years is that they like to have a good time.

Another thing I have noticed is that in general, windsurfers are a unique group of people. I think one reason is that it takes a certain type of person to be a windsurfer. The never-ending, humbling and often time painful learning process might have something to do with it. I have yet to meet an obnoxious windsurfer!

I find it very refreshing that every time I go windsurfing, I find so many smiling, friendly and familiar faces from the club. I feel very lucky to be involved in such a great sport with a great group of people.

To celebrate that, on Friday, December 7th we will have our first “Pub Crawl” of the season. We will begin at **Senor Frog’s** in the Grove at 9pm. The club will pick up the tab for the first \$75 so don’t be late. Hope to see you there!

- Denise Romero

Real Wind Kite Surfing Board Silent Auction

A silent auction was held for a Real Wind Custom Kitesurfing Board and Rick Upson was the big winner! Thanks to Rob Wymore at Real Wind.

The charitable event helped the local Kitesurfing community with a financial kick start.

You might ask why the windsurfing club is involved with the kite surfing community? We here at the SFBSA know what it is like to lose access to our favorite windsurfing sites and we know how difficult it is to overcome government obstacles after beach access had been denied to our sport.

The SFBSA is strong, confident and ready to help our fellow water sport enthusiasts to organize their own club. Rob Wymore is also eager to help our kitesurfing buddies make a profound step in the right direction.

We encourage all kitesurfers to join their local kitesurfing club and to make a difference.

The Custom Kitesurf Board was a 5’6” Carbon directional board. It has a wood laminate bottom (very cool). To view the Real Wind designs please visit the Real Wind website at www.realwind.com. - A. Locke

SFBSA Bic Techno Board Raffle

Waterpay and the SFBSA supplied the Bic board for the raffle. In a strange twist of fate, Ilan (owner of Waterplay) won the board but he kindly returned it to the raffle. On the second try, John Cerchio won it. John joined the SFBSA for the first time on the day he won the board.

*L. John Cerchio, proud winner of the BIC Techno board. While buying the ticket he said: “I never win anything!”
R. John earlier at the party.*



The SFBSA is once again starting the...

Pub Crawl

Friday, December 7th

We will begin at Senor Frog's in the Grove at 9pm and continue on to all the hot spots in Coconut Grove

The club will pick up the tab for the first \$75 at Senor Frog's so don't be late.

BIG WIND PARTY

There will be a barbecue at Virginia Key on the first windy weekend after Nov 18th.

There will be a 15 mph minimum wind for the barbecue. People are urged to check the new SFBSA message board or call the hotline for dates and details.

Fall Wind Reports

Virginia Key: Saturday October 27th to Sunday November 4th was a great week for windsurfing! I sailed 5 out of 8 days, and Pedro sailed 7 out of 8 days. The wind was at an average of 18-20 knots with gusts between 25 to 30 knots depending on the day. It was a lot of fun. Most people were sailing 4 meter and 5 meter sails. The beach was fairly crowded during the day every day. At around 5 the beach would get even more crowded with all the people racing to the beach after work to get in that 1 hour session before it got dark at 6. Hopefully this is just the beginning of a great windsurfing season, Denise

Matheson Hammock: Bob and I sailed all day Sunday, November 11th. When we got there we were the first ones because the tide was pretty low. Weeds were a problem when we started. It would gust occasionally to 30 but it was pretty steady at 20 knots most of the day. Bob was on a 5 meter. I sailed my 3.5 and had a great time although towards late afternoon the wind picked up and I started to get overpowered. My 3 meter was looking pretty good about then but I was too lazy to rig and I just knew I couldn't talk Bob into rigging for me a second time. I don't like being one of those wives who take advantage, Nancy

Virginia Key went off! 10 Days of bliss, mostly 5.0 , 4.7 and about three days of 6.2 or 5.8 for a 195 pounder. Those sailing the Bay were on 1/2 meter to 1 meter bigger. Certainly this was the type of wind that allows almost any level of windsurfer to move on up the learning curve. The most memorable or at least the day that left a mark on me (literally nose bridge and forehead) was Thursday, Nov. 1st, ENE winds 25-30

miles with wave faces around 10 feet, sun shining, and perhaps another dozen sailors out there. After a fairly long session , achy, salty and on my way home to my family, one thought came into my mind—for the first time since the attacks of September 11, windsurfing had taken me to a place where everything was okay. No concerns about tomorrow, no fear of the unknown. Being here and now was a reality. That night I thanked my lucky stars and prayed for those souls that were not longer with us. God Bless America, Ovidio

Virginia Key: Well it looks as if summer has loosened it's evil grip! Our wind's are back and we have the callused hands to prove it! With 10 days of heavy wind, some of us were glad to get a break from the madness! Is does seem that our fun comes in short but sweet spurts, all the better reason to be in good physical shape! Proper stretching is also critical for these super sessions. As for the juicy windsurfing stories, plenty of gear has been bought, repaired and thrown out (the wake for MY wave board will be held at Va. Key (sob)). Some of our crew are really tearing up the wave line out there, incorporating some fantastic freestyle moves and forward loops into their repertoire. Watching and sailing with a good sailor keeps the juices flowing and makes you push yourself harder than sailing alone, not to mention the safety factor. As for me, I love a marine forecast with gale warnings!! Hope to see you all on the water this winter, Jason

Virginia Key: The last one left standing was Lac Pirie. He sailed his 3.2 at Virginia Key Monday morning, Nov. 5th, as Hurricane Michelle raked past us. Fowey was blowing over 40 and gusting to 50 mph. The iWindsurf monitor measured 35 at

Crandon. In the blowing rain, with waves of 10 to 12 feet at the reef, Lac sailed through the storm. The wind and waves were so furious that there wasn't even any green between the waves - it was just chaotic foam. Only one other person even came out to try, but left after one run. I wish I could have been there to watch Lac fly over the waves, but I was worried about my car toppling over as I drove by downtown! Cyndi

The Annual Season Opener Party



Stormy Weather Affects Attendance but not Spirit at Annual Party

On and off rain showers soaked club members who came to celebrate the new windy season at the annual Season Opener party on Saturday, October 20th. Even heavier downpours in Broward county kept many sailors at home. The result was a smaller gathering than had been seen in prior years. However, if the amount of beer and food consumed was any indication, the party was a success!

The threat of blowing rain silenced the band and kept attendance to about 50 or 60 people. Nevertheless, those who came were treated to Jason Hoffman's famous barbecue, an



Previous Page: Grillmaster Jason Hoffman (Take a closer look at that apron). Top Left: Frank, Adam and others. M. Left: Melia (who brought the Neil Pryde Harnesses) and Katrina center with Ginny in back, hard at work. B. Left: Victor, Lonny and Ilan eating in center. Denise's head cut off in foreground. Top Right: Nelson's SFBSA banner. Dennis Pearson and his son talking on Left (they won a Neil Pryde Hanrness) and Patty in beach chair on right. Bill Ehrreich gives award to Nancy with Dan (the "Real" Miami Fisherman) stretching to see. (Names of people in these photos were not supplied so please excuse it if you were not mentioned here. At least you know who you are.)

All photos in this issue were taken by Bill Ehrreich and Nelson Lopez. Thanks guys!

abundance of beer, an awards ceremony, and a gamut of raffle prizes ranging from harnesses and T-shirts to a brand new Bic Techno and kiteboard. The wind cooperated, providing comfortable planing conditions for a couple of hours. The grill and tap ran throughout the day and by late evening, food and beer for 125 people had completely disappeared.

Congratulations to **John Cerchio**

who won the new Bic Techno, courtesy of SFBSA and Waterplay (Ilan actually won the board on the first pick but gave it back to the club). **Rick Upson** took home the kiteboard, courtesy of Real Wind. Special thanks goes out to Adventure Sports for donating about half dozen Neil Pryde harnesses for the raffle.

The SFBSA would like to thank the following corporations and individuals:

Adventure Sports, Waterplay and **Real Wind** for their generous prize donations; the **Law Offices of DeFabio and Fenn** for providing beer for the event; **Denise Romero** for securing prizes, **Nelson Lopez** and **Rexart** for banners, award monograms and other artwork; **Jason Hoffman, Tom** (the wandering Australian) and **Ginny Gordon** for handling the food and cooking.

- Bill Ehrreich

Nelson and Isabella Conquer America

Imagine moving to a foreign country where you don't speak the language or know the culture, have no friends or contacts or anyone to assist you. Imagine leaving everything you know behind, including your career, family and friends, to find a better life that you believe exists elsewhere. Would you take that kind of gamble? What are the chances that you would survive, let alone prosper?

Club members Nelson and Isabella Lopez took that risk five years ago and made it pay off through sheer tenacity and perseverance.

In Caracas, Venezuela, Nelson worked as the director of a graphics department in an advertising company. Despite his position and his education in graphic design and computers, he was unable to earn enough to rent an apartment or buy a car. Nelson and a few of his colleagues had heard that better opportunities existed in Europe and the U.S. One friend went to London and found success as a photographer. Nelson decided to wait two years for Isabella to finish her Architecture degree. Then, they both would try their luck in the U.S. They sold what few belongings they had and arrived in Miami in July 1995 with \$545 and some clothes.

While the U.S. presented the couple with many new possibilities, it also presented a number of new challenges. Neither spoke English well, but both recognized that learn-

ing English was an absolute necessity. After some deliberation, they made the very difficult decision to speak only English amongst themselves, alienating many friends and relatives. Nevertheless, the plan worked, and the two mastered the language very quickly, to the point that even arguments were conducted solely in English.

The pressure to find work forced



the couple to make sacrifices and place careers on hold. Isabella had come from a well-educated, successful family and had just received her diploma in architecture. Yet, she had to settle for cleaning houses for almost a year until finding work with an interior designer. Four years after her arrival, she finally secured a position as a professional architect.

After a brief stint as a gardener, Nelson found work as a graphic designer with a Miami company that specialized in decals and striping for commercial applications. Some of his best work included complete customization for over 1,000 cars in the Metro-Dade police fleet and the exterior design for the Miami-Dade

Metro rail trains. These jobs required specialized (and very expensive) computer equipment and a great deal of time. For example, it took six weeks to customize the six cars of a single Metro train. In addition to his commercial work, club members will also recognize Nelson's art on club banners, decals and awards.

Nelson's work soon caught the attention of Rex Art owner Lonny Morris, who met Nelson through windsurfing. The two decided to form a partnership and after a great deal of research and investment, added a graphic design department to Rex Art with Nelson at the helm. With the additional help of Adam Locke, the company expects this new business segment to expand rapidly.

Nelson is quick to thank the club for providing him with a door to America: "I have a great relationship with the people in the club. It helped me learn the culture, the language and most importantly, make friends and business contacts." The SFBSA is equally fortunate to have Nelson and Isabella among its ranks. Their boldness and determination is an inspiration to us all. - Bill Ehrreich

News Brief:

The Sanitary Survey that the Department of Health has been conducting at Hobie Beach (at the request of the SFBSA) will be finished soon.

Head Honcho, Samir Elmira expects it to be completed by the end of the year.

A Sanitary Survey is a study which uses dyes and other methods to try to detect the source of water pollution. Hobie Beach was registering high bacteria count for over a year.

We get letters...

Club Members,

In response to criticism of our Yahoo!Groups message board, we have designed a new message board. Use it to check for upcoming events, buy and sell equipment, discuss topics of interest or anything you like.

You may reach the message board by going to <http://www.sfbsa.com> and then clicking on the Talk link. Otherwise, you may go directly by pointing your browser to <http://www.billmiami.com/messageboard.htm>

Please let us know what you think. If the response to this message board is good, we will make it a permanent addition to the site. - Bill Ehrreich

Members:

Please note, if you have not rejoined the club this year (our membership runs from September to September) **this will be your last newsletter!**

Our club cannot survive if we don't increase our current membership. We are asking all former members to re-new now. We are asking all current members to sign on at least one other windsurfer. A form is enclosed along with the form on the back of this newsletter.

If the club is not meeting your needs, let us know. We have a new strong Board of Directors and know that good things are on the horizon.

- Bob Weinreb

Members:

Need a tax write off for office furniture or computer equipment? Contact the Urban Environment League, a non-profit group. They are opening an office in January and need a Mac Computer, printer and PC. This group helped get us to get Virginia Key open again.

They also need chairs, desks and other office equipment. For Info:

Email: Nancy88@Bellsouth.net

News Briefs on Local Windsurfers...

Bob Sanders is celebrating his 70th birthday on November 7th.

Bob has been a windsurfer for the past 15 years. He sails Plum Beach in Brooklyn in the summers and Miami in the winter. He is in a Symphonic band at the University of Miami.

When he joined the band he listed his occupation as: "windsurfer."

Bob had a heart attack at 38 years old. Since the attack he ran 15 marathons. But after his quadruple bypass at 59, he has curtailed his running and has been an avid windsurfer.

You can find Bob on his Bic boards, most windy days during the winter with his wife, Olympic Table Tennis champ, Suzanna.

Speaking of **Suzanna Sanders**, after competing in the U.S. Open Table Tennis Championships held in Fort Lauderdale in July, she is once again

the highest rated Woman Player in her age group in the U.S.

Suzanna is also in the top 40 Women overall, nationally.

I want to see a match between Suzanna and the macho table tennis crew at the Langer Party. Boys against this Woman anybody??

Board Member **David Schulman**, our swap-meet planner, will not be as involved in the club this year. He said he will be occupied with wedding plans! Great news David.



Brickell Family Chiropractic

Dr. Paul Ruggiano

Hablamos Espanol

Dr. Ruggiano's skill to diagnose and tune the body was a real asset to my training, competition performance and recovery. If he is that good for a World Class Olympic Athlete, imagine what he can do for everyone else...he has a real gift to share with the world! - *Olympic Medalist, Mike Gebhardt*

Special for SFBSA Members:

Initial Visit including X-rays as needed: Only \$25

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Close for next issue: Jan. 8

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or want to help with planning
them?
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Have wind/member news to
report (or a letter to the editor)?
E Mail Nancy at
nancy88@bellsouth.net

Thanks to our sponsors:
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This is your last
newsletter if you
have not re-
newed your
membership!

Yes, I want to Join/Renew my SFBSA Membership (Circle Which)


NAME _____ AGE _____
ADD. _____ CITY _____ ST. _____
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Express Waiver of Rights - Please Read Before Signing

By signing below, I here waive all rights to sue the SFBSA, Inc. and/or any of the current individual officers and/or directors of the SFBSA, Inc. and agree to hold the SFBSA, Inc. its directors harmless for any loss or damage to my belongings and/or bodily injury or death to my person which occurs as a result of: 1) any activity held, promoted, sponsored and/or advertised by the SFBSA, Inc. and/or 2) the negligence of the SFBSA, Inc., its officers and/or directors.

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BIG WIND PARTY

See Details Inside

Pub Crawl

Friday, Dec. 7th
at: Senor Frog's, 9pm

