

2019 ECA Membership Meeting
12 January 2019
Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, IL
Hosted by Marquette, MI Fleet 35

The meeting was called to order by Commodore John Cutler at 12:50 pm.

Roll call of Fleets: 7 Fleets present: Fleets 2, 34, 23, 37, 35, 57, 70.

Reading of the minutes: Pete moved to accept the minutes from the August 12, 2018 meeting as written and published in the 2018 Yearbook. Mike LaHaye seconded. Motion passed.

Commodore's Report- John Cutler

John thanked Neil Lynch and Fleet 35 for organizing a wonderful meeting at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago. Neil also organized a Friday night social at the Chicago Firehouse Restaurant, which everyone enjoyed. Lunch provided by the Blackstone Hotel was wonderful.

John asked everyone to introduce themselves as we had several new people in attendance. He thanked them for attending both on Friday night and Saturday and that we look forward to their increased participation in the future with ECA.

John mentioned that he feels that the strength of the ECA lies in local fleets and their participation. By having good communication between the fleet members it makes for strong fleets.

Treasurer's Report- Kay Snider

The Treasurer's report summarized income and expenses for 2014-2018. The report is published in the Yearbook. Total income for 2018 was \$23,521 about half of that coming from dues. Total expenses were \$18,412 for a net of \$5,109. About \$15.00 of dues goes for Yearbooks and the three newsletters that are published annually. Closing balance is \$79,832.

A new boat has been sold and in 2019 the ECA will be reimbursed by Ensign Spars for the \$5,200 the ECA paid to have hull #2034 built in 2015.

Vice Commodore Regional Affairs - Neil Lynch

The ongoing goal of Regional Affairs is to schedule National and Regional Regattas as far in advance as possible. With continuing communication with Regional Commanders we have made some real progress in this area. The National regattas are scheduled out to 2022. 2019 in Canandaigua, NY, 2020 in Marquette, MI, 2021 in Nyack, NY and 2022 in Pentwater, MI. Most of the Regional regattas have been set for 2019 and Neil is working on 2020 and beyond.

Vice Commodore Publicity- Pete Kogut

Our publicity was accomplished through publication of our annual yearbook available in a print edition and online, the three newsletters, the ECA website, ECA Facebook and Instagram. In addition, the mid-winter regatta, four summer regional championships and the National championship provide visibility for the Class to the larger sailing community at the various host venues.

At the 2019 National regatta for the first time ever there will be a JAM division. Ensign Spars offered to make, donate and present the trophy in the JAM division.

There was a nice discussion on how to get Chicago and Milwaukee involved in the ECA organization. They are anxious to help in any way they can. Neil Lynch and Mike LaHaye will be the liaison persons between the ECA and the Milwaukee Community Sailing Program.

Vice Commodore- Rules- Bud Brown

At the August board meeting at Seaside Heights Yacht Club, the discussion regarding crew limit and weight continued. There was much resistance to registration weigh-ins or the establishment of a weight limit. At that time, it was decided to keep the rule "as is", which is skipper and three for National and Regional events. Since that time, discussion on the ECA website "Discussion Forum", and among the members of the Governing Board, have produced a rule change proposal providing for up to four crew to be allowed instead of three crew allowed previously. The member vote on the issue of number of people on the boat for a National regatta (Rules- Part III 9. C) at the meeting were 29 in favor of allowing five total on the boat and 2 against. Vote passed.

Rear Commodore- Yearbook Editor- Laurel Jellison

Laurel "retired" from her position as Yearbook Editor and Teresa Coronado from Milwaukee Community Sailing Club volunteered for the position. Thank you Laurel and Teresa.

Rear Commodore- Newsletter Editor- Bill Kelley

Bill is just gathering material for the winter issue of The Ensign. Think about a story that might be included in an upcoming issue of The Ensign. Pictures are always great as well.

Rear Commodore- Webmaster Vic Roberts

Things are going well with the Website. John commended Vic on his fantastic job of managing the Website. There are not as many "log-ins" as expected. The total use of the website is rising, though. If you have news or a story, get it to Vic and he will get it on the Website.

Rear Commodore - Boat List Benz Faget

Kay Snider gave the report. In 2018, there were 15 boats sold. The average price is \$7,300. The average price of a boat for the last five years is \$8,400. There has been an average of 17-18 boats sold from the boat list over the last five years.

Rear Commodore Membership- Marsha LaHaye

Membership stayed steady from 2017 to 2018. There are currently 455 regular members and 537 total members including associate members. We are hoping to keep those numbers steady by sending out letters to members who have been members in the past but did not rejoin. This is an ongoing challenge.

Rear Commodore- Ship's Store Louise Woodruff

Louise has had to replenish some items in the Ship's Store. The inventory is not large. Some items that may be looked at in the future are lapel pins and Tervis Tumblers. Other suggestions have been glassware, hats and trailer hitch plugs.

Royalty Tag sales are up from last year. In 2018, we sold 93 Royalty Tags up from 69 in 2017. Louise covers all shipping costs as her donation to the ECA.

Sea III Award- Michael LaHaye

No award in 2018.

Hall of Fame Award- Zeke Durica

Vince Morvillo from Fleet 2 was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2019. Vince is the first and only blind sailor to ever win the ECA National Championship.

Zeke recommended the ECA establish a new award called at this time the, Good Guy/Gal Award. This award will be looked at further and criteria for the award will be discussed.

Youth Sponsorship Program- Elizabeth Brinklow

No applications were grants were received in 2018.

Ensign Forever Committee- Eric Jones

Eric reported that one of the ways to get more people into Ensign Ownership is to add Ensign's to your Fleet. Fleet 57 did just that this past year by purchasing an Ensign, fixing it up and making it available for members of their club to check out and sail. This is a great way to build fleets.

Nominating Committee- Mike Macina

Mike announced the slate of officers for the next two years. It is as follows:

Commodore- Pete Kogut

Secretary- Roy Adamson

Treasurer- Kay Snider

Vice Commodore of Regional Affairs- Neil Lynch

Vice Commodore of Rules- Bud Brown

Vice Commodore of Publicity- Fran Trapp

The slate was unanimously approved by the members present. Congratulations and thank you for your service to the Class.

Mike Macina moved to adjourn the meeting. Chad Lewis seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 pm.

Prepared by Marsha LaHaye, Secretary