



New Jersey Windsurfing and Watersports Association Newsletter

Vol. 1 Issue 1 Summer 2009



Steve Myer at Brant Beach, LBI

Introduction

Welcome to the first of the New Jersey Windsurfing and Watersports Association newsletters. Our plans are to issue future newsletters quarterly, however, during the summer months, additional issues may be posted depending on input from NJWWA members. We start this first issue with an introductory message from Jim McGrath, the outgoing, and Karen Marriott, the incoming, President of the United States Windsurfing Association (USWA). This is followed by a message from our own President, Wallace DaPrón who introduces the current board members. Also included in this issue are the first of what will be regular features: Club News and; Update from Sailing Sites.

In addition to these features, in upcoming issues, we plan to expand the content of the newsletter to include other regular features which we hope that the membership will contribute to. These features include trip reports from our members describing other windsurfing / watersports sites within the US and from more "exotic" locations with the aim of providing background (the cons as well as the pros) for others wishing to plan a trip to these locations. These can be personal travelogues or more informative pieces describing travel, accommodation, best times to visit, light wind day options, dining options, etc, etc. Locations that come to mind are: The Gorge, Hatteras, Florida, Texas, Bay Area, and Cape Cod in US; and Aruba, Baja, Bonaire, Costa Rica, Cabarete, Lake Garda (Italy), Margarita, Maui, Poland, and Virgin Islands as more "exotic" locations. If anyone is interested in submitting an article please forward on an MS word file to ancwsurf@gmail.com. An approximate guideline would be around 1000 words with up to three photographs. Please try to focus (no pun intended) the photographs on action shots and shots showing sites and sailing conditions. Other planned regular features would be descriptions of the various other watersports of interest to our group. These

would include SUP, kayaking, kiting, ice windsurfing, and even surfing and sailboating. It is hoped that these articles would focus on what the sports are about, equipment, suppliers, approximate costs of getting into the sports, skills required, and sites in New Jersey where these sports can be enjoyed. We would also like to include a section on sailing tips (hopefully from experts!). This would include windsurfing and other watersports such as SUP, Kayak. It is also planned to include the occasional general interest article, for example on the ecology and environmental issues with Barnegat Bay and other areas on the New Jersey Shore and waterways. Finally, as we would like to encourage input from the members, we plan to have a Members Page where members could submit letters, ideas, photographs, general comments and ideas for future issues.

Message from USWA Presidents

As the outgoing and incoming Presidents of U.S. Windsurfing, we'd like to offer our congratulations to NJWWA on forming a windsurfing organization. You join a community of windsurfing organizations around the country and the world that work to protect and improve windsurfing sites, improve safety for their members, introduce new windsurfers to the sport, organize races and learn to windsurf days, and create a social network of local windsurfers. While your efforts might have been galvanized by threats to your access points, I think you will find that building a community of windsurfers will have other important values. We at US Windsurfing offer you our best wishes, and whatever help we might be able to give.

Jim McGrath (outgoing) and Karen Marriott (incoming)
USWA Presidents

Message from NJWWA President

Welcome to the New Jersey Windsurfing and Watersports Association's premier Newsletter. On behalf of our first Board of Directors, thank you for helping to make our new organization a raving success! As most of you might remember, the NJWA was a very active club in the late 80's and 90's with a very strong regatta racing program. Having picked up the mantle of the old NJWA, the membership voted during our first meeting in May to also include all non-motorized Watersports. Therefore, we changed our name to the NJWWA and our charter to include Kitesurfing, Kayaking, Stand-Up-Paddling, and any other cool watersports that might become popular in the future. I would like to introduce our first Board of Directors to you. Jeff Bauer, Membership Chair, is a true New Jersey Waterman. Born and raised in North Jersey, Jeff enjoys SUP on the bays and ocean and of course, windsurfing, frequenting many sites up and down the NJ coastline. Brian Rauch, Event Chair, is also a native New Jerseyian, and has long enjoyed sharing his passion for the sport of windsurfing having taught many friends and family over the years. Bill DeStefano, Treasurer, is a great addition to our board having served as a Treasurer and President of Non-profits in the past. Paul Smith, Secretary and Race Committee Chair, is a true NJWWA member with avidly Windsurfing, Kayaking, Sunfish Sailing (what next Paul; Kitesurfing?). Steve Acunto, Vice President, brings a wealth of experience to the club and represents us in New York. And myself as President, having learned to Windsurf on the Chesapeake Bay at twelve and now regularly trek from Pennsylvania to enjoy the many awesome windsurfing spots that the State of New Jersey offers. We have accomplished a great deal during our first season, including incorporating as a Non-Profit Recreational Club with the State of New Jersey, gaining 501(c)7 Non-Profit status, launching our interactive website, and conducting a very successful "Learn to Windsurf" clinic and "Sail Across the Bay" Windsurfing Race in August. The future looks bright for our Club and I hope to see you out on the water soon!

Yours truly,

Wallace DaPron
NJWWA President



President: Wallace DaPron



Vice President: Steve Acunto



Secretary:/Race Committee Chair: Paul Smith



Treasurer: William De Stefano



Event Chairman: Brian Rauch



Membership Chair: Jeff Bauer

Club News

August 1st Fun day

An abbreviated version of this report can also be read on our web site (<http://www.windsurfnj.org>) with many additional photographs taken at the event.

On August 1st, the NJWWA held its first Fun Day at Bayview Park. The event featured multiple water sports – Stand Up Paddling, Kayaking, and Windsurfing. There was a great turnout with nearly 40 participants attending! After a 9.00am registration, participants were treated to multiple avenues to enjoy the scenic environs of the park beach and the waters of Barnegat Bay.

The day started with group lessons teaching beginning windsurfing. Three classes of between 6-8 per class resulted in 20 students getting an introduction to windsurfing. The

static windsurf set ups on the beach were followed by on-water training from NJWWA members. Throughout this time (and for the entire day) other participants enjoyed kayaking, as well as, trying the relatively new sport of Stand Up Paddling. Others just sat in beach chairs, socializing, taking in the scene, and soaking up some sun (the weather was perfect!). At noon, lunch was delivered from the local establishment “Custard Hut”, and was served in the Boardwalk Pavilion. The afternoon continued with everyone out on the water with family members watching from the beach. Again the bay was speckled by windsurfers, SUP’s and kayaks.



Brian with static windsurf training



Bill DeS and Jeff helping students

Late afternoon, a windsurfing “Fun Race” for NJWWA members was held and, even though it was light wind, everyone had a blast. Paul and Brian set the course based on the conditions and it was decided to shorten the course to allow the competitors to get back to the beach before the sun went down! Eileen gallantly served as the turning mark by sailing out on a sunfish then anchoring in the middle of the bay. This added an extra bit of excitement as several of the competitors found that the anchor line made an excellent trap for fins during attempts to jibe round the mark. At the halfway mark, Steve A. was a clear leader, however, on the return to shore, the light winds resulted in difficulty staying

upwind. Alasdair, with a bigger fin, managed to hold onto his tack and on the return trip to shore ended up overtaking Steve to take the lead. The final results were:

Mens:

- 1st Alasdair Gilfillan,
- 2nd Wallace DaPron,
- 3rd Bill Steber

Womens:

- 1st Corinne Gilfillan



Race Start

After the race and award presentation, Jack Bushko, from Island Surf and Sail, gave a freestyle clinic.

It was great seeing so many people learning and enjoying the various sports, especially as many of them came with their families and friends. The NJWWA has received extremely positive feedback from those taking part in the Fun Day, many of which expressed a strong interest in attending future events.



Participants trying SUP

Below are abstracts of three representative Emails sent to NJWWA:

"What a great day you all organized to learn some windsurfing! Thanks so much for everyone's patience with our two girls. They absolutely LOVED it. We'd do it again in a heartbeat! Emily O'Brien"

"Tony and I could not stop raving and talking about the wonderful experience we had yesterday. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. This would be a sport we definitely would continue on learning and doing. I had even forgotten about the bruises on my legs until I had to kneel down in the pews during mass today. Everyone was so nice and patient. Your passion for the sport shows, and we thank you for sharing your enthusiasm and words of wisdom. We look forward to meeting up with you in your future events. Please keep us posted. (Who would have thought that yesterday was your first event? Y'all did a phenomenal job from organizing to executing to following-up the entire event.) Again, thank you for an awesome experience. Christine"

"I just wanted to write and thank you guys for such a wonderful day! My son Nick had an awesome time and please let us know when you will be sponsoring this again. Thanks again, Cheryl Serdaru"



Bob helping student

We would like to thank Brian who organized the event, all the volunteers, Jack, and Island surf and Sail, who provided equipment, for making the day such a success.

Upcoming event- September 13th

The Club will be having its second event on Sunday September 13th. We'll have a nice menu of activities for SUP's, kayaking and windsurfing. Specifically we'll have fun races for SUP's, kayaking and windsurfing. It will be a busy day with two divisions for each race (men's and women's). Additionally we have Anna Marchefka who will be conducting a sea kayak clinic. Also planned is a "Learn to SUP clinic". The heart of the day will be, as in the last event, our member-volunteers. Registration is \$25 from the NJWWA website.

Update from Sailing Sites

It is hoped that in future issues we will also have reports from other New Jersey sailing sites such as Lakes Bay, Trixies, Seaside, and Sandy Hook, but by way of getting the ball rolling, this is a report on the sailing conditions at Bayview Park, Brant Beach, LBI over the past few months. Again, we would be grateful if we can have volunteers to help with future sailing site reports.

Brant Beach

This year, it has not been particularly windy at Bayview Park, at least during the weekends. June and July were particularly disappointing as the usually reliable early summer thermals never really materialized this year. This was likely a consequence of the cool and damp weather and the lack of temperature differential between the relative cool air temps and with the relatively warm sea temps. Regardless, we did have one or two excellent days of largely frontal driven wind.



Kay at Brant Beach

It was great to see such an excellent turnout on these days. In fact, the number of sailors at Brant Beach during these days often exceeded those of previous years and there were many new faces on those and even on lesser wind days. It was also great to see so many people getting lessons from Jack over the past few months, especially kids. Hopefully some of those getting lessons will stick at it to get new faces into the sport. As discussed in depth the "Club News" on August 20th, we had the first of our "Fun Events". Although

the winds were very light, together with the warm day and shallow conditions, this was ideal for the beginner lessons.

During the week of 8/16, we had reports of, and personally experienced, two or three really excellent days, especially on Tuesday and Friday. Both days were very warm, the water relatively shallow, and the winds averaging in the mid twenties. The chop and ramps made for some really exciting sailing. Friday saw a pretty good turnout of sailors. Hopefully, the sailing conditions will gradually improve with the upcoming Fall frontals.

Finally, it has been good to note that the floating eelgrass masses that we normally see at this time of year have for some reason not been too evident as yet this season. In addition, the numerous Sea Nettles that were seen at the beginning of the season, also seem to have disappeared for the moment. We are all now hoping for the late Summer/early Fall winds to start to pick up.

Members Page

As discussed earlier, to encourage members involvement, we plan to use this Members Page as a forum for members to post letters, suggestions, ideas for future issues, photographs, and other items. We are also considering the idea of a member's "Wanted" and "For Sale" section called "Trade Winds". However for a number of reasons this may be best based on a web format. We will keep everyone posted with regards to this idea. Please send items that you wish to be considered for the Members Page to: ancwsurf@gmail.com.



Contributors

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