

Volume 15, Issue 1 January 2005

President's Message

By Suzanne Roberge

Another year is over...I hope you had an enjoyable one. For me, 2004 was the first year in a long time that I did not do much windsurfing. My shortboard hit the water only once and did not take me very far off Britannia Bay! My longboard enjoyed the occasional splash, but they were rare. On the other hand, we held a very successful regatta in Kingston, Ontario at the beginning of August. We had 38 participants and almost half of those were racing Formula. The proximity to the province of Quebec

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brought out a good contingent of Quebecers that added to the mix of masters, young and old, Anglophone and Francophone. Thank you to all who contributed to the success of the event. Marlin Meitzen, one of our American friends, has made an excellent DVD of the whole weekend. If you would like one, please contact Jon Matthews.

In Kingston, some of us had the pleasure of meeting a family from Comox, BC that was on the road for 7 months (?) with 3 of their 4 children. They crossed Canada from west to east and then back west via the States to end up in Baja before going home. You can follow their travels on their website at http://www.mancells.50megs.com/index.html. It seems that they all windsurf so they make a point of stopping at all the good "windy" sites along the way. I was very impressed by their setup and the amazing experience they are living. I wish I had the guts and the means to do that one day!

Our US Director, David Blake-Knox has been keepings us in the loop regarding races and events that may interest Canadians. Amongst other things, he organized a luncheon at the Canadian Embassy in Washington and I passed on the invitation to all members. I think the Russian contingent was the biggest out of 10 people who attended. Who knows, maybe another year, the Canadians will be in full force!

In 2005, our annual regatta <u>may</u> be held in the Montreal region. Robert Leroux, our Quebec Director, has had to resign so we are in the process of trying to find a suitable venue, hopefully in Vaudreuil, Quebec. More information at a later date.

Don't forget our spring and fall clinics and women's clinics and the Hatteras trips. The CMWA is still organizing Hatteras trips but has joined forces with Toronto Windsurfing Club. Our contact is still David Culliford.

Windsurfing in Turkey

By Noel Lomer, CMWA Public Relations Director

Alicati on the Aegean coast of western Turkey, is the windsurfing capital of Turkey and a gateway for a visit into the fascinating history of this ancient land.

Toronto racer Dinchar Kocalar is originally from Istanbul, Turkey. He competed at the CMWA championship in Kingston in the summer of 2004, and when he heard I planned to visit his homeland, he identified Alicati, near Cesme and Izmir, as the best spot to windsurf.

Why go all the way to Turkey to sail? Obviously, NOT! But a visit to Alicati is an opportunity to see a country with an extraordinary offering of history, art. archaeology, gorgeous beaches, wonderful yachting, all served up in a modern country that is safe, efficient, economical, and genuinely welcoming to foreign visitors, including us Canadians! In general, we travelled on our own, without a package tour. We used the "Rough Guide to Turkey" to find clean and inexpensive accommodation. For example, our modest hotel in the center of old Istanbul cost \$28 Cdn for two, including breakfast. We could always find someone to assist us in English. We enjoyed the modern conveniences- our bank card dispensed money, the phones were cheap and could be operated in English, the transportation system worked like a charm, and we had several heart-warming personal experiences with legendary Turkish hospitality and reserve. Our total cost for two, including all flights. food, hotels, transport, flights, and including 3 days in England (staying with family) was \$4,700 Cdn. Turkey is still a bargain, particularly in October, their end-of-season month.

Briefly, we flew Ottawa-London (Zoom Airlines) and London-Istanbul (British Airways). We flew internally to Antalya on the Mediterranean (on Onur Air, a local discount airline). We travelled by long distance modern air conditioned buses to Fethiye, Izmir and toward Cesme, on the Aegean coast. We took local buses called dolmus (Turkish for "stuffed") and got off at Alicati, where we spent three days. Our first view of Alicati showed 12 huge modern wind turbines and 3 very old stone Greek windmills in the town- a promising introduction! Here the pension was expensive (\$70 Cdn/night); so we took a dolmus 4 km to Ilica, where our cheaper

"motel" was Cdn \$26/night for two. We returned by dolmus to Alicati beach. There is a beach-side choice of accommodation on the site ranging from a deluxe 5 star Suzerotel (www.suzerparadise.com) to a German run pension Chark for \$30 Cdn that was closed for the season when we arrived. The main season in Alicati is June-August; so it is a summer windsurfing resort catering to Europeans, including Germans, Brits, French and Russians. October was the tail end of the season with light winds of 5-10 knots. All the major suppliers are there, including Club Mistral, Viva and 3 others, with surf shops, a bar/restaurant, beach lounge chairs and umbrellas. This is really a European enclave, with European prices, not Turkish!

I rented from Surf Action (info@surf-action.com) run with cheerful German efficiency by manager Eva Bilem. Equipment includes 2004-5 Fanatic & JP boards, Neil Pryde and Simmer sails. I paid 70 Euros (\$118 Cdn) for two days rental with full equipment, shortie wetsuit, harness. interchangeable boards and sails, everything except the booties! I sailed mostly on a 160 Litre Fanatic board with 8.5M Neil Pryde sail. This propelled me to planning speed on day one, but on day two I spent a lot of the day practicing the elusive helicopter tack, and flopping into the water. Day air temp was about 25 degrees, water was about 20 degrees on October 23. The pebble beach turns to a shallow sandy bottom allowing learning sailors to stand up for several hundred meters; so it's an ideal training site. The thermal wind is from the north, sideshore, with flat water.

Alicati was a side trip to our tour of Turkey, which was the main attraction for us. Turkey has a range of history that is difficult to absorb because it is so varied, multi-layered and rich. On our way through London, we spent a day in the British Museum, and saw the Elgin marbles, the Greek sculptures that were taken from the site of temples we later visited in Xanthos. At the Topkapi Archaeological Museum in Istanbul, we visited the stunning collection of sculpture arranged chronologically by periods of empire- Ionian 6th century BC, followed by Persian 5th and 4th century BC, followed by the Hellenistic empire founded by Alexander the Great, followed in turn by the Roman empire from 30 BC. We also saw many architectural and historical sites from the Byzantine empire (the

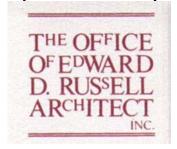
Roman empire survived in the east after the fall of Rome until the 16th century) and the Ottoman Empire (16th to 20th C). Interspersed between these are the invasions of Mongols, and Crusader fortresses built to secure supply lines between Europe and the Holy Land. Modern Turkey turned toward Europe with the establishment of the republic in 1923 under founding father Ataturk.

Today Turkey deserves more than the 2 ½ weeks we could spend. We will go back to enjoy this safe, fascinating country, and go sailing again at Alicati.



Windsurfing in Turkey by Noel Lomer

Thank you to our renewed sponsor!



Thank you to our generous sponsor!



Women's clinic, fall 2004.

Women's Clinic 2004

By Andrée Gauthier

This summer, CMWA was involved in running two clinics for women. One was held June 19 and 20 at the cottages on Lake Simcoe and the second clinic was held at Minet's Point on September 18. Both clinics were expertly coached by Dan Thomson. We had 11 women in attendance for both clinics. The winds were very cooperative and everyone left with great tips and practice skills to work on during their next vacation. Some even won new harnesses, purchased new equipment and will likely return in 2005 all ready to learn new skills. Dan has agreed to coach the clinics in 2005 which are scheduled for June 18 and 19, 2005 at the Burgess's cottages in Port Bolster on Lake Simcoe and a one day session is planned in September. Next year we are hoping to attract more women by offering boards and rigs to the people who don't have their own. The clinic in June is open to any level of windsurfer from very beginner to advanced. The pot luck dinner is always a huge success and makes for a great lunch on the following day. It's a nice weekend away and offers a place to sleep, receive great coaching, be with good company and find wind. Mark the date in your calendars and plan to join us in 2005. andree.gauthier@rogers.com. �

Cape Hatteras Trips

By David Culliford

This year, the CMWA joined with the Toronto Windsurfing Club (TWC) in promoting the week in Hatteras in the fall. The first week was cool with consistent winds. There were eight participants: Sue Thomas, André Jubinville, Duke Ducyk, Ian Wilding, Clark Hill, Bill Quantock, Barry Holtzkener and David Culliford. Bill, André and myself kited as much as we sailed. I am told that I got the prize for the biggest wipe-out. After the time on the water, dinner was the highlight. Food was hardy and plentiful with a per participant cost of \$29 US, a new record.

The second week, the weather was warm, in the 80's some days. We had 7 participants: Ivan Richardson, Ken Addeman, Russ Scorgie, Bruce Badger, myself, and two first timers, Daniel Kaminski and Joe Lok from North Bay. I sailed two days in November in my shorty. We were there for the US election and found that the Canadians seemed more interested in the results than the Americans. Wind was lighter than the previous week and we had to go up to Waves some days to be able to sail. Ivan and myself were the only ones kiting this week. Again the food was a highlight. We ate more expensive meals with Ivan's famous tuna steak and Ken and Russ doing an exceptional job on tenderloin. Bruce baked deserts every night. The unit cost \$59 US.

Overall, I was on the water 12 of 14 days, three days on a windsurfer and 10 on a kite. We had a disk golf basket for the no wind periods of the day.

I have reserved the same two weeks for next year (October 22 to November 5, 2005) and will be looking for commitments in March. I had to turn away 3 or 4 people this year.

Note from the Editor: CMWA is not having a Hatteras trip in April 2005. You can join the TWC Hatteras trips if you'd like to join a group of people to share a house in April.

Also, silly me did not know what disc golf was, so David was nice enough to explain and send pictures! •



Disk golf in Hatteras – a now wind activity!



There was some wind in Hatteras!

WINDWHACKERS

A painful and frustrating day on the water for many of the competitors today as the breeze swung around the Saronic Gulf and caused chaos on several of the race courses. This was probably not the day to be out on the windsurfer course, or the windwhackers as many here like to call them.

Until I'd witnessed a race in this class I hadn't really grasped why they have this nickname, but as the clock counted down the last five seconds, the cacophony of flapping Mylar as the fleet pumped their way off the line said it all. Sounding like a flock of birds that have suddenly decided to take flight, the windwhackers' start is an extraordinary spectacle and a shock to us traditionalists.

Having whacked their way upwind, they then proceed to stir themselves downwind in another, more elegant pumping manoeuvre. Frankly, it's just not cricket to anyone who grew up sitting on a thwart, but it does at least get them around the course. - Yachting World website, full story: http://tinyurl.com/69g41

Scuttlebutt #1649, August 18, 2004

Snowkiting - A new twist on an old sport *By Steve Slaby*

Imagine a perfect sunny weekend 15 centimeters of new fallen snow and you are on the way to the ski resort to make the most of the day. Everything is great until you pull up to the resort and see the longest line in history at every lift line and realize that you will be spending more time standing around waiting to get on the lift than anything else.

Well, now you have a new alternative, the sport of snowkiting. For those of you who have yet to see this sport, think of it like waterskiing or wakeboarding on the snow with the significant difference being that a kite is pulling you along instead of a ski boat.

For those of you who already skied, waterskied, wakeboarded or snowboarded, you already mastered a good portion of the skills required to get into snowkiting.

Many people would probably think that it would be quite cold being out in the open zooming along on a windy day but in fact you are constantly expending energy while snowkiting and without having to stand around waiting for lifts or riding a lift up the hill you do not have a chance to get cold, assuming of course you dress appropriately!!

Most people who get into the sport are surprised at how much more tired their legs are after one or two hours of snowkiting compared to spending a whole day at the ski hill.

Starting Off

The first task that you will have to master is how to fly a kite. Its best to start off with a very small kite on a light-wind day so that you get familiar with the safety guidelines and equipment that are involved, get comfortable with the skills required to launch, fly and land the kite as well as get a feel for the pulling power of a kite.

Once you have mastered the basics and are comfortable with operating the required safety equipment, you can head out and enjoy fresh tracks in untouched snow for as long or as far as you want. The only "catch" with this new sport is that you need a minimum of approximately 10km/h of wind to get you going. Of course, you will no longer be spending long drives to get to the best conditions and having to pay for lift tickets in order to have the pleasure of standing in a lift line with the masses. Now, assuming you have the minimum wind speed, you go to the nearest open area, set up your kite and you are zooming along.

As far as equipment goes, all you need to get started is protective gear, a power kite, your skiing or snowboarding equipment and some instruction from an experienced, knowledgeable instructor. This sport can be quite dangerous due to the unpredictability of the wind as well as the risk of getting dragged or lofted by an overpowered kite.

There are a great number of different kites on the market. You can pick up a complete kite that was specifically designed for kiteskiing/kitesnowboarding for around \$800, while a more popular traction kite that could also be used in the summer on the water for kitesurfing will cost you around \$1,200. The kites also come in a variety of

designs: Inflatable kites, Framed Single Skin Kites and Ram Air Foil Kites.

If you think you would be using the kite in both winter and summer, then your best bet would be an inflatable kite which works well in both situations. To get started, for the average person a 12 meter inflatable kite is recommended. If you will be strictly using it in the winter time, then you would be better off with a foil kite in the 6 meter size. As you progress in the sport, you might end up getting smaller as well as bigger kites which will expand the range of wind speed that you can head out and enjoy yourself.

Depending on your ability on snow, you may have an easier time learning on skis compared to a snowboard since you have more stability as well as the ability to push yourself forward to get going.

Some of the "new school" snowkiters are learning various jumps and tricks, some of which you would see in a snowboard halfpipe or a wakeboarder behind a ski boat. Others are caught by the speed bug and are always pushing themselves to see how fast they can go. Given the right conditions people have been tracked with a GPS going over 80 km/hr!!

For those of you into competition, there are numerous snowkiting events where people compete performing tricks/jumps as well as speed/distance competitions. For the best of the best, there is even an international competition the Ice & Snow Sailing World Championships which have been expanded to include a category for snowkiting. •



Snowkiting action on Lac Deschênes, Ottawa, Ontario

THE GROWTH SECTOR

Windsurfing, after several years of contraction, is booming nationwide, said Nathaniel Siddall, executive director of the U.S. Windsurfing Association, which has 50 member clubs. The latest survey by the National Sporting Goods Association showed that 400,000 people participated in windsurfing at least once in 2001. Compared with sports like golf or tennis, participation in competitive windsurfing remains relatively small. The association's National Racing Tour draws about 200 participants to each of its 20 annual regattas, while the U.S. Windsurfing National Championships, held in July in San Francisco Bay, drew 80 competitors, Mr. Siddall said.

The only potential hidden costs, several windsurfing enthusiasts said, are the travel expenses needed to satisfy an almost inevitable wanderlust that comes with proficiency in the sport. Among the more popular windsurfing sites are the windswept Caribbean island of Aruba, Padre Island in Texas, the Outer Banks of North Carolina and a section of the Columbia River Gorge near the town of Hood River in Oregon, where unique meteorological conditions create high winds and big waves. - Harry Hurt II, NY Times, full story: http://tinyurl.com/498qd

From Scuttlebutt # 1684, October 7, 2004 •

Breaking News

The ISAF has chosen the Neil Pryde RS-X as the equipment for use at the Olympic Games in 2008 replacing the Mistral One-Design. "The RS-X is a true cross over board in that it makes the best compromise between traditional raceboard sailing in sub-planning conditions, and exciting *Formula* racing in planning conditions starting from 8-10 knots." http://www.sailing.org/default.asp?id=j19Fhou/8&Men

http://www.sailing.org/default.asp?id=j19Fhou/8&Menu ID=&Tkn=1125736

Sail size maximums are increasing in response to recent Olympic and international competition decisions. For 2005 the Raceboard maximum sail is 9.5 sq.m. for men; and 8.5sq.m for women. Dimension rules have been changed as well to include hybrids. See http://www.raceboard.org/page0098v01.htm for details.

No final decisions have been made by the CMWA but it is believed we will include the RS-X in our Open/Raceboard Class and adopt the sail size changes as laid down by the International Raceboard Class.

Windsurfing 2005 Schedule

- May 21-22 OSA #1, TS&CC Icebreaker
- May 27-29 CMWA Spring Get-Together/Clinic, Port Bolster. Stelphanie Todd surfit@sympatico.ca or 905-953-8331
- June 11-12 OSA#2, Toronto with TWC Boardfest
- June 18-19 CMWA Women's Spring Clinic, Port Bolster, Andrée Gauthier andree.gauthier@rogers.com
- June 24-26 Shippagan Windfest; Instruction, demo, clinics, prices and evenings parties acadian style. Everybody who loves wind is welcome. A special place will be made for kitters this year. Shippagan, New Brunswick. Info: windsurfing.shippagan.com
- July 16-17, OSA #3, Kingston
- July 30-August 2 CMWA Canadian Masters Championships, Montreal Area
- Aug. 13-14 OSA #4/National Capital Regatta, BYC, Ottawa (Raceboard & Formula). Info: bobnjoan@sympatico.ca or www.byc.ca
- Sept. 10 OSA CIRCUIT, Cherry Beach, Toronto
- Sept. 11 TWC Mammoth Marathon, Cherry Beach. Open to all, Long & Short courses. Info: 416-461-7078 or www.torontowindsurfingclub.com
- Sept. 17 CMWA Women's Fall Clinic, Port Bolster. Andrée Gauthier, 416-385-3657 or andree.gauthier@rogers.com
- Sept. 16-18 CMWA Fall Wrap-up, Port Bolster. Stelphanie Todd <u>surfit@sympatico.ca</u> or 905-953-8331
- Oct. 22–Nov. 5 CMWA trip to Hatteras, contact David Culliford, d.culliford@rogers.com

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^{*} Indicates members of the Excutive Committee.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

The next newsletter should be published in the Spring 2005. We welcome all contributions. Please e-mail your articles and pertinent pictures to roberge811@sympatico.ca.

How to Reach Us

Voice: (613) 820-2612 Dave Luck Email: membership@windsurf.ca

Website: www.windsurf.ca

Or contact any member of the Board

Moving?

Please send us your new address, etc. to membership@windsurf.ca.

This newsletter was prepared by Suzanne Roberge. Thank you to those who responded to my plea and sent me some material