



## Fall 2011 Newsletter

“Training Macomb County's Future Sailors”

[www.northstarjrsailing.org](http://www.northstarjrsailing.org) OR [northstarjrsailing@gmail.com](mailto:northstarjrsailing@gmail.com)

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## **Greetings from North Star Junior Sailing!**

As we close out 2011, we are looking forward to making improvements to our program for the 2012 Season. If this edition of our newsletter seems heavily loaded with financial topics, it is. We completed an audit of our 2011 season and have finished this year "in the black". We are also looking at continuing our fund-raising efforts so that we can build our program into the future, and continue our mission to teach children and adults how to sail and to promote the fun and sport of sailing, provided for by program revenues. The balance of our funding is from private donations from individuals and clubs such as North Star Sail Club, Inc. who provides us with a subsidy and facilities.

**To grow a successful program**, we need to make continuous upgrades and improvements as well as repairs to our existing fleet...and we all know that in order to do that, we need to have money to spend on those repairs, upgrades, and improvements. Our **Charity Poker Nights** in September at Riverland were a great success. We grossed \$6000 and will wind up with \$3000 after splitting the take with the house.

Our second event was at Johnny G's in Mt. Clemens. We were able to get in on a last minute cancellation, thus we were able to schedule 2 more events. (We are allowed 4 per year and have to have 2 people from our organization there to handle cash in accordance to the state of Michigan license). Last week, at Johnny G's, grossed \$3000 and netted \$1500 for the program.

**Our final 2011 Charity Poker/Millionaire Party Events** will be held again at Johnny G's (27 North Walnut in Mt. Clemens) during Thanksgiving week on Wednesday, November 23; Friday, November 25; Saturday, November 26; and Sunday, November 27 starting at 6:30pm. Please send your poker and blackjack playing friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family to come out and support the cause. We are also looking for **2 volunteers each evening to work as cashiers. If you're able to help, please call Nickie at 586-484-9688.** We are planning to continue Charity Poker as a continuous source of revenue for the program.

**Community Program Grant:** The Enterprise Foundation has recently informed us that we are the recipient of a \$1500 community programs grant to assist us with our powerboat fleet upgrades. We will be presented with the check at our next Board Meeting in December.

**Monthly Board Meetings** are held the first Monday of every month at 7:30pm at North Star Sail Club. We are also accepting nominations for Board of Director positions. If you are interested, please plan on joining us at our next Board of Directors meeting December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.

## **Thank you to our volunteers!**

Many thanks to the following families who assisted us with our last two charity poker fundraisers: Hicks, Hranchook, Trujillo, Vespa, Osborn, and Besler. Thank you also to Directors Mike Williams, Ed Francis, David Bonskey, Brandon Noland, Blair Arden, and Nickie Kowal for your time to help ensure our success.

Thank you to our Fall Series Supper Catering Helpers: Mike and Cheryl Williams, Tary Rabine, Sarah Demsey, Mike Hranchook, Kevin Hicks, Bonnie Baglaj, Kathy Rodgers, and Nickie Kowal. Also thank you to our Crane Haul Out Weenie Crew: Kevin Hicks, Mike and Cheryl Williams, Diane Trujillo, and Ed Francis.

**Got a Tax Deduction?** We will soon be kicking off our end-of-year donation campaign. North Star Junior Sailing is a 501C(3) charitable organization recognized by the IRS. As such, your donation may be tax-deductible (please see your tax professional). Help us "Float Our Boats". Our 2012 goal will be to continue to upgrade the engines on our current support boat fleet as well as to add new boats to our sailboat fleet, including a Laser (cost new: \$6800/each), Opti (cost new: \$2800/each) , and 420 (cost new: \$8800/each). This fall, we installed a new 90 horse power Mercury outboard on one of our support boats. A second outboard for another support boat is on order. We also expect to have the 3<sup>rd</sup> outboard's carburetor rebuilt this winter. Tuition funds instructor salaries. The remaining 50 percent of our program is funded through generous donations from our families, members of the community, and the members of North Star Sail Club. Please help us reach our goal to improve our equipment and fleet. We also have a scholarship fund available to assist students who might not otherwise be able to sail, to be able to afford our summer youth program.

**Building an Ark? No, just a "Training Opti"...** Looking for Eagle Scout Candidates, dads, uncles, grandfathers, or lady woodworkers who would like to build a wood "Opti" like boat or two for us to use as trainers for our Learn to Sail Program. If interested, please contact Kevin Hicks, Fleet Director at 586-675-5456.

**2012 Season Planning:** DRYA Junior Sailing Committee is currently meeting and planning the 2012 season. Our NSJS Calendar will follow. Stay tuned! We are currently conducting interviews with potential Program Managers.

**2011 "Big Boat" Junior Sailor Crews were in big demand!** We had a great showing of Junior Sailors who came out and crewed on "big boats" at North Star this Summer and Fall! The "Big Boat" owners and skippers had nothing but great things to say about the skills of our Junior Sailors. Congratulations to Mason Demsey, Zane Demsey, Joe Spatafora, Megan Hicks, Connor Hicks, Emily Hranchook, Paul Hranchook, Chase Osborn, William Street, Jessica Gula, Katie Gula, Nikolaus Kowal-Besler, Cruz Schroeder, Stephen Kowal-Besler, Anthony Trujillo, and to our High School Sailors Caitlin Mrsan, Patrick Guyon, Gary Micu, Dan Veryser, and Liam Williams. We hope you'll be out again on the "big boats" in the Spring. To the Junior Sailors who haven't yet come out, give it a try!! We also got several parents out on the water this year: Sarah Demsey, Doug Osborn, the Gula's, Gary Micu Sr., the Veryser's, and the Mrsan's. A great time was had by all!!

Thank you to our out-going Treasurer, **Brandon Noland**, for your help this year. Brandon accepted a promotion at work (along with more responsibilities and longer work hours) and is stepping down as NSJS' Treasurer. Congratulations and Best Wishes!

## ***SAILING IS ...***

***SAIL RACING IS AN IMPRESSIONIST PAINTING OF A TRIGONOMETRY PROBLEM.***

***A STRATEGY GAME ON A CONSTANTLY CHANGING BOARD.***

***STANDING IN A COLD SHOWER FULLY CLOTHED WITH THE LIGHTS OFF AND TEARING UP \$100 BILLS WELL FOR THE OWNER ANYWAY***

***HOURS OF BOREDOM INTERRUPTED BY MOMENTS OF SHEER TERROR.***

***BEST DONE WITH FRIENDS AND A COLD ONE OR SIX THEREAFTER. MAGICAL WHEN YOU GET IT RIGHT.***

***CONSTANT COMPUTATION OF THE VARIABLES.***

***IF CHESS WERE A SPORT, THEY WOULD CALL IT SAILING.***

***IT S LIKE CHESS ON HORSEBACK, ONLY THE HORSES ARE HAND OPERATED.***

***PLAYING BACKGAMMON ON A TEETER-TODDER WHILE BEING HIT IN THE FACE WITH A FIRE HOSE.***

***RACING SAILBOATS IS LIKE HAVING A BUNCH OF YOUR FRIENDS HELP DRIVE YOUR CAR AROUND A PARKING LOT. ONE GUY HAS THE WHEEL, ONE HAS THE GAS, AND ONE HAS THE CLUTCH. ENTER IN A START. SOME OF YOUR OTHER FRIENDS ARE DRIVING THEIR CARS AROUND REAL SLOW IN THE SAME PARKING LOT AND YOU RE ALL TRYING TO LEAVE THROUGH THE GATE AT THE SAME TIME. ENTER IN PHRF SOME OF YOUR FRIENDS HAVE BIG LUXURY SUVs THAT CAN T GET OUT OF THEIR OWN WAY OTHERS HAVE SPORTS CARS AND WILL GENERALLY AVOID YOU. LEST YOU SCRATCH PRECIOUS , THE ONE TO WATCH OUT FOR IS YOUR PERPETUALLY DRUNK BUDDY WITH THE YUGU AND HIS GRANDKID PUSHING THE PEDALS.***

***YOU TAKE BIG PIECES OF CLOTH THAT COST WHAT YOU WOULD SPEND ON A DECENT SPORTS CAR SO YOU CAN GO 8-10 MILES PER HOUR. AND THEN YOU THROW THE CLOTH AWAY EVERY YEAR.***

***WHERE VAST AMOUNTS OF TIME, MONEY AND ENERGY ARE EXPENDED IN THE PURSUIT OF REFINING A MEDIEVAL FORM OF TRANSPORT.***

***CONTRIBUTED BY NIK KOWAL-BESLER***

# Charity Poker/Millionaire's Party



When: 6:30pm til 2am

Wednesday, November 23

Friday, November 25

Saturday, November 26

Sunday, November 27

Where: Johnny G's at 27 N. Walnut

Downtown Mt. Clemens

# Upcoming Events

(see calendar at [www.northstarjrsailing.org](http://www.northstarjrsailing.org))

## Upcoming Events:

A Saturday in February: **DRYA "Winterfest" at Detroit Yacht Club**. Kids get to try their hand at indoor sailing in the DYC pool as well as chase away the winter blahs. More info to follow.

**DRYA Wednesday Night Sailing Series:** Schedule to be announced soon. Join your fellow sailors to listen and learn about a variety of sailing-inspired topics in and around town on Wednesday evenings January thru March.

Watch **NSJS and NSSC Websites** for additional events!  
[www.northstarjrsailing.org](http://www.northstarjrsailing.org) and [www.northstarsail.org](http://www.northstarsail.org) Join North Star Junior Sailing on Facebook!

## Contact Information Officers/Committee Chairs

President Nickie Kowal [sailingamethyst@gmail.com](mailto:sailingamethyst@gmail.com)

Vice President Ed Francis [dashingwave@comcast.net](mailto:dashingwave@comcast.net)

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\*Don't forget to check the website often for updates

[www.northstarjrsailing.org](http://www.northstarjrsailing.org)

**Have 2011 Season Feedback? Ideas/Suggestions for 2012 Season?**

**Interested in becoming a Director, Officer, Committee Chairperson?**

**Please contact your Board of Directors!**

**Thank you to parents and participants who have stepped forward with their feedback, ideas, and suggestions. Your input is valuable to us!**



**YES**, I want to help support North Star Junior Sailing and enclosed is my gift of:

\_\_\_ \$25.00    \_\_\_ \$50.00    \_\_\_ \$100.00    \_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ General Purpose

\_\_\_ Lolly Boston Fund (specifically for the purchase of new boats)

\_\_\_ Charles "Skip" Boston Fund (endowment for Jr. Sailing Summer Program Scholarships)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_