



Hard-a-Lee

occasional newsletter
of the Wichita Falls Sailing Club

(find us online at wfsail.org)

February 15 2022

Commodore's Corner

By Debra Halter, 2022 Commodore

Another year has rolled around and the club is ready to get moving. You'll read more about the upcoming plans and issues facing the club in this issue. Many of you have had difficulty in launching your boats from the current ramp. The problem is sand. High water level and lots of strong winds have added even more sand over the last few years. Constructing a new boat ramp on the north side of the current ramp had been bantered around for most of last year. After months of discussion, this appears to be an unworkable solution. We'd still have sand deposition and would have to build part of the ramp underwater, which is very costly. Clearing off the old ramp seems to be our best option. So, work will soon begin on sand removal. And we mean a lot of sand. All of that sand will be spread out onto the club's lot, as it can't be put back into the lake. Hopefully, the lake will stay low until we complete the removal. We'll use the sand to fill in some ruts and low spot around the club grounds. *(Continued on page 2)*



WFSC Fleet Meeting Set for February 21 At The Forum

If you're itching to get out and meet up with your yacht club buddies, join us February 21 for the annual WFSC Fleet Meeting.

The Club has reserved a room at The Forum, 2120 Speedway Ave. The event will be 6:30 to 8 p.m. We will be using an entrance on the east side of the building.

The venue should give us enough room to have a safe and enjoyable evening as we set the schedules for the coming season and discuss any other issues. Schedules will be developed for the Flying Scot fleet, the handicap "Big Boat" fleet and for a "fun-run" Wednesday evening dinghy fleet. Any other type fleet could be considered (at least three skippers required).

Some snacks will be provided by the Club.

**The next WFYC board meeting
is scheduled for March 3, 7
p.m. at the Clubhouse.**

Further details may be forthcoming.

Commodore's Corner,

(continued from Page 1)

The cost of leasing the club's three lots has jumped this year – substantially, as it has for other lease holders along the lake (See Matt's info). Racing season is fast approaching, so come to the Fleet Meeting on Feb 21 (at the Club Room at the Forum) and add you input.

Whether sailing, fishing, watching the sunset, or just enjoying a quiet day at the lake, the club has a lot to offer. Come out and make use of your membership.

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Debra Halter
Commodore

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2021 Board of Directors

Commodore	Debra Halter	940/632-8557
Vice Cmdr	Glenn Tole	940/182-1814
Rear Cmdr	John Kidwell	940/781-1310
Treasurer	Matt Baker	940/923-7387
Secretary	Jim Loudermilk	817/600-5148
Past Cmdr	Steve Colley	940/733-0847
Harbormaster	Mike Gillis	940/867-3753
Grounds chair	Paul Spilman	940/782-3277
House chair	Binks Davidson	940/782-6147
Racing Chair	Steve Priester	940/781-7016

Boat Ramp

So our first idea was to build a new ramp near the dingy dock since that body of water drops off to deep water fairly steeply. In order to pour concrete, the best way would be to dam off the water with the coffer dam and then build forms and pour the cement. We looked at pouring cement under water, but there were too many unknowns about what to expect. The issue with building a coffer dam is the expense. One quote from a company called Aqua-Barrier who rents water-inflated dams was estimated at \$16,000 plus track hoe plus (2) 8HP 4inch pumps. This is something that could be done in the future, but the decision was decided to pursue a different approach with trying to utilize our existing dock. An idea was presented to rent a "long-stick" excavator which can reach out 50 feet. We could then dredge not only the boat ramp, but also the sand South of the ramp and haul that silt off. The idea is that we would be able to get most of the ramp cleaned off and create a low area for new incoming sand to fill up before the ramp is covered with silt. We feel like 50 foot reach will be beneficial versus a smaller excavator or backhoe. We will be required to remove the silt from the lake and dump it in an area that can not reach the lake again. Our plan is to hire one or two dump trucks and have the excavator dump the silt in the dump trucks and then have the dump trucks haul the silt to the Northwest corner of the property and dump. The rental of the excavator for a 2 day period is approximately \$3,500. We may need to rent the excavator for a longer period. The club will hire an experienced long-stick excavator operator and the club will hire two dump trucks with operators.

(Continued on page 3)

(Boat Ramp continued from page 2)

Our plan will be to have this completed over a Saturday and Sunday period, but at this time we are not sure. We may need another line dividing columns day. The WFSC board approved the project to not exceed \$8,000. The estimated overall cost we feel should be closer to \$6,500. Our plan is to have the boat ramp cleared off around the first of March. This project may be a necessary maintenance issue that WFSC will have to budget for after so many years as we are not aware how long the boat ramp will remain silt free before we are required to dredge again.

Water Level

923.44

Level is 2.56 feet below full pool of 926.00 a of February 14 2022

Thanks

A big thanks to Kerry Roach who donated Fly Scot #2578 to the club. Kerry was one of the original members of fleet 170. This brings the number of Scots to 13. We will see the team of Bink and Brasket sailing her proudly around the course.

Sailing Club Lot Lease Changes - Financial Impact

Matt Baker - WFSC Treasurer

The club signed a 50-year lease for the club property in 1972. The current lease with the City of Wichita Falls will expire in 2022. The club has been paying approximately \$300 annually for the lease of the property we enjoy at Lake Arrowhead. The city began increasing rates on lease renewals several years ago. Unfortunately, the Sailing Club lease rate has increased substantially for our renewal. The new 25-year lease will begin October 1, 2022 at an annual rate of \$4000. This huge increase is unfortunate for the club. We need to remember that the club has enjoyed what appears to be one of the largest leased lots on Lake Arrowhead at an incredibly low rate for 50 years. Because of the substantial rate increase, the WFSC Board of Directors voted on February 10, 2022 to increase our membership dues and slip fees beginning on July 1, 2022 as follows:

Current Monthly Member Rate

New Monthly Member Rate

\$30.00

\$35.00

Current Monthly Slip Fee

New Monthly Slip Fee

\$30.00

\$35.00

New Quarterly Statement amount for members - \$111.56 (includes state sales tax 6.25%)

New Quarterly Statement amount for members with a slip - \$223.13 (includes state sales tax 6.25%)

These increases, based on our current membership and slip rentals will help us offset this increased property cost. We last had a member and slip fee increase on October 1, 2010. We expect other operating costs to increase over the next year, but we hope to not need another fee increase for

many years. We feel that club membership remains an excellent value at the new rates. We appreciate the support of all the WFSC members and look forward to seeing you at the club.