

# SHACKLES & CRINGLES

## CANADIAN ALBACORE ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER

January 17, 1967

### ALBACORE MAKES IMPRESSIVE SHOWING AT ONE-OF-A-KIND EVENT AT BRONTE

On October 1 and 2, the Bronte Yacht Club again sponsored a three-race series for centerboarders. Handicap was based on waterline length and sail area - a formula used by the well-known Florida OAK event.

Among the 16 centerboarders entered at Bronte was Bill Gooderham's Albacore, Raven #277, earlier winner of the C.A.A. Championship on Lake Rosseau.

Since Bill Gooderham was unable to sail the two Saturday races, Don Giffin sailed "Raven" with Felicity Robinson as crew in the first race and Don Grant in the second.

The first race started in light air, changing to drifting conditions until a storm brought calm, rain, wind and wind shifts. The Albacore performed well in all conditions almost catching the Fireball and finishing second on corrected time behind the 5-0-5.

The second race, in light to medium conditions, featured a close, three-way contest on the reach with the Fireball and Wayfarer. On the last leg to windward, the wind freshened and the Albacore pulled away finishing second to the 5-0-5 on both actual and corrected time.

On Sunday, Bill Gooderham, with his son Bryan, sailed "Raven" in a fairly fresh breeze, with planing on the reaching leg. The 5-0-5 flew to over a leg win with the Albacore a very handy second after a good battle with the Wayfarer. During this three-race series, the Albacore proved a commendable performer among these various types of boats, some of which held higher potential performance rating.

Results, based on corrected finishing position after handicapping, were:

1	5-0-5	1	1	1	3
2	Albacore	2	2	2	6
3	Wayfarer	4	7	3	14
4	Firefly	8	3	4	15

cont'd. ...

5	Fireball	3	9	5	17
6	Enterprise	5	6	7	18
7	Windmill	6	5	8	19
8	Scorpion	9	4	9	22
9	420	11	10	6	27
10	Lazy E	10	8	10	28
11	Cygnus	7	11	11	29
12	G.P. 14	13	14	12	39
13	Nordberg	12	13	16	41
14	Spindrift	14	15	13	42
15	O'Day Sailer	17	17	15	49
16	O.K.	two races only			

#### FLEET CAPTAINS' MEETING

A successful meeting of the Fleet Captains, Fleet Secretaries and Measurers was held at the Toronto Sailing & Canoe Club on December 1, 1966. It was the first such meeting that has been held, other than at annual regattas, and there was a good attendance of over fifty people representing some twenty-three fleets.

The main purpose of the meeting was to deal with amendments to the constitution and the by-laws which set out more clearly the requirements for membership and provide for the constitution of fleets and districts. The proposed amendments were discussed and with some minor amendments were passed by the meeting.

Some of the basic decisions reached were that a Fleet should constitute three or more Albacores sailing in the same waters or residing in the same locality. Districts shall be areas containing geographically related Fleets which may be designated as districts by the Executive after consultation with the local Fleets. The basic rule is self-government for both Fleets and Districts, subject to the provisions of the constitution and by-laws of the Association. Provision was also made for eligibility at the national championships and other sponsored regattas which are to be open only to 'members of the Association, members of their immediate family as associate members and crews who are associate members who have regularly skippered Albacores'.

It is intended that these proposals will be incorporated as revisions to the constitution and by-laws and will be submitted to the membership for ratification at a special meeting to be held some time in the Spring.

A good discussion was held on a number of other matters of mutual concern. Don Giffin dealt with some of the fine points regarding measurement of the boats. Emphasis was placed on the need for two-way communication between the National Executive and the Fleets and vice-versa. It is to be hoped that future meetings of this kind will help to cement the class. Arrangements for the evening and the refreshments were capably handled by the Toronto Sailing & Canoe Club Fleet under Frank Wimmer, Bob Goodings and Tower Fergusson. We were very happy to see representatives from a distance from the Niagara Frontier, Peterborough and Conestoga.

#### NIAGARA DISTRICT AND ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY-OTTAWA DISTRICT

No sooner was the ratification of the proposed amendments by the Fleet Captains adopted than two of the Districts set up district organizations immediately. The Albacore sailors of the Ottawa Valley have elected as District Captain, Conna T. Wood, G.R.Y.C., and District Secretary, Philip M. Thomson, G.R.Y.C. The Niagara District Fleet Captains, with seven clubs represented, discussed inter-club racing in the area and established the principles for operating a District.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR NEW APPROVED BUILDERS

As reported at the Annual Meeting and the Fleet Captains' Meeting, the Executive of the Association has received a number of applications from small boat builders to be approved as builders of the Albacore. The Executive gave lengthy consideration to this in the late Fall and ultimately decided not to approve any more builders in Central Canada for this Season, principally on two grounds.

(1) Fairey Marine had indicated that they did not wish to approve any further builders in Central Canada at this time, and (2) In the Spring of 1966 in the course of discussions leading to the licencing of Whitby Boat Works to use the name 'Albacore', the Association had indicated to the builders that there would not be an increase in the builders in Canada in the next Season. These decisions were communicated to the applicant builders before Christmas.

Circumstances have now changed which have required a re-appraisal of this decision. One of the applicants, McGruer and Clark Limited of Owen Sound, Ontario, which had formerly built wooden Albacores from kits, obtained an agreement from Fairey Marine that Fairey would be willing to permit use of their trade mark 'Albacore' by McGruer and Clark Limited if the Association would authorize them as builders.

After review of the many considerations, the Executive has decided that it would be in the best interest of the Class to permit McGruer and Clark an unrestricted sale of thirty-five Albacores for this Season. The Albacore is only one of the boats produced by McGruer and Clark and it is thought that a limited authorization will be fair to them and would not interfere unduly with the sales of the two present builders.

In addition to the application of McGruer and Clark, the Association received an application from Tom Allen of Buffalo to be allowed to build the Albacore for both the Canadian and United States markets. In line with the previous decision, the Executive did not authorize the Allen Boat Company to build for the Canadian market. However, the United States Albacore Association was interested in obtaining an American builder and, in view of the potential market in the United States, has authorized the Allen Boat Company to build Albacores for sale to American residents and the concurrence of Fairey Marine has been obtained.

Canadian residents should note that it is a condition of the agreement between the United States Albacore Association and the Allen Boat Company that the Allen Boat Company is not permitted to sell its Albacores to Canadian residents. A boat that is sold in breach of this agreement will not be recognized by the Canadian Albacore Association and will not be eligible to be raced or recognized in any regatta sponsored or sanctioned by the Canadian Albacore Association. Anyone who is in doubt about the application of this condition should get in touch with the Executive of the Canadian Albacore Association who would be glad to enlarge on the restriction. It will be better to enquire than to inadvertently purchase an unauthorized boat.

The need for a policy with regard to authorizing new builders has arisen urgently in this Season due to the rapid increase in the Class which has attracted new builders. The Executive has spent a great deal of time trying to find and implement the correct policy. It is expected that the whole matter of authorizing builders will be reviewed in the Fall and the Association will be very glad to receive comments and viewpoints of members of the Class, preferably in writing.

#### MID-WINTER ALBACORE CHAMPIONSHIP AT TAMPA, FLORIDA

By now those of you who were registered in last year's Year Book will have received an invitation to the Mid-Winter Albacore Championships being sponsored by the Tampa Yacht and Country Club on February 23, 24 and 25, 1967.

There is a large Albacore Fleet at the Tampa Yacht and Country Club and they hope to obtain a good entry from other parts of the United States and Canada. At present, competitors are urged to bring their own boats but we understand there are a small number of boats which could be borrowed while they last. If a group went together and took a couple of boats, driving time could be reduced by spelling each other off. This regatta will probably become a regular event and it will give it a big boost if Canadians could make a showing this year. Anyone planning to go should advise the Association of their plans. Extra copies of the information are available from Mrs. Barnes. Rumour has it that Dave Humphrey of the Boulevard Club has already entered, has borrowed a boat and may be looking for companions.

#### TORONTO BOAT SHOW

The Toronto Boat Show will be held from February 3rd to February 11th this year and, as we have done in the past, the Association will be manning booths at our builders' locations to answer questions for people interested in the Albacore, to encourage membership in the Association and to help promote the sale of the boat generally. We are always in need of volunteers to spend an evening in this not unpleasant work. The head of this year's committee is Hugh Morris of 143 Alexandra Boulevard - 488-5196. Persons who would be willing to help with this should get in touch with either Hugh or Len Davis, 69 McRae Drive - 421-4113. The Association provides a bulletin board with pictures of the boat and other information and also a brochure to hand out to those interested, together with a sheet of how to answer the most commonly asked questions about the boat.

#### PICTURES

Photographs or movie footage showing the Albacore as a family boat, junior activities or racing are needed by the Association for promotion of the class. Copies will be made and your pictures returned in good condition. Contact Len Davis, 69 McRae Drive (421-4113); Bob Armstrong, 65 Thomas Street, Oakville (845-2339) or any other member of the Executive.

#### 1967 MEMBERSHIPS

You should have received in the mail by now a letter from Monty Brown, the Secretary-Treasurer, and an application for your 1967 membership. We are most anxious that the memberships be sent

in early this year because it is from the completion of the application that we are able to make corrections in the Register in order to have them in the Year Book. We expect to 'freeze' the Register for Year Book purposes shortly after the Boat Show so that we would urge all members to send in their applications and membership fees promptly, being sure to fill out the application completely so that we will catch any changes in the information.

#### TRANSFERS OF BOATS

We have not been receiving information promptly when boats are transferred. Owners who have sold their boats should send in both an application for themselves for their new boat and advise as to who their previous boat has been sold to with their name and address, together with their measurement certificate, if they have one. A new certificate will be issued to the new owner. The purchaser of a new boat will, of course, have to have his boat measured in order to get another certificate. Please note that the sail number stays with the boat and cannot be transferred to a new boat.

#### REMINDER - REMINDER

During previous seasons, many prospective boat owners have experienced disappointment in the delivery of their new boat because they waited until the peak selling period just prior to Summer before placing their order.

If you are planning to purchase a new boat or know of someone interested in buying an Albacore, we suggest that your order be placed early to ensure delivery prior to July.

#### ODDS AND SODS

A recent check of the registry showed that approximately 575 boats were registered out of an estimated total number of boats in Canada of something over 700. We hope the growth in the membership will keep up with the growth in the registry.

Winter seems to be the time when new Fleets are hatched. We have had indications that by next Spring there may be new Fleets at Whitby, with Larry Cond organizing, at Rockwood Yacht Club at Sparrow Lake with Bruce Garland organizing, and at a new Conservation Lake at Woodstock, Ontario. We would be glad

to have news of any new groups or fleets forming, as there are often Albacore sailors in the area who are unaware of these developments.

One classic tale of this sort comes to us from our correspondent in Saskatchewan, Louis Vuillez. Louis had recently moved to Regina bringing his Albacore with him and did not think there were any Albacores in Saskatchewan. One day he drove up to a lake about sixty miles from Regina with some friends and put the Albacore in for a day's sailing. At the time there wasn't another boat on the lake. After a few minutes, however, they spotted another sailboat in the distance. Upon approaching, it turned out to be the only other Albacore in Saskatchewan belonging to William Berry of Regina, which turned out to have been built from the same group of kits as the Vuillez boat. Moral: You can never be sure what will be around the next point, but it will probably be another Albacore.

#### AS WE GO TO PRESS

The Royal Hamilton Yacht Club announced that the Lake Yacht Racing Association regatta tentatively scheduled for early this summer, will be extended to include centreboard classes. During previous years, this event has been confined to keel boats.

A good representation of Albacores is desirable, particularly since the R.H.Y.C. is forming a new fleet of Albacores this year.

More information will be forwarded as details are finalized.



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