

Charles Stadler Commodore 1941-1957

Account written to Jane Galetto (Commodore 1987)

Provided around 1987

Union Lake Sailing Co. (presently "Sailing and Tennis")

I believe U.L.S.C. started in 1932 during the fall and winter. The actual racing started in 33.

I guess the Evening Star Yacht Club was very helpful in the organizing and setting up of both by-laws and sail boat racing rules and regulation.

I cannot give you an exact identification of the Charter Members but Alan Thomas has to be one of the main characters involved along with Mike Di Ciuricio, Keith Styron, Howard Siddons, Dick Beecraft, Paul Testa, C. Mc Connell, Malcomb Downie, George Moir, Harry Rieck.

Like I said Allen Thomas seemed to be most involved and was also the Commodore of club for many years. He and Harry Reick were the only ones from Millville unless possibly Al Lewis who was a motor vehicle inspector and lived on Cedar Street, Millville. He wasn't sailing when I first got interested in club in August of '37, but he was around a lot. He may have been part of the race committee but all of this is very hazy about Lewis. I know he did start racing when the Duster class boat was introduced into the club. Moths were the only boat at first.

The first Duster race was in 19?? And four boats raced that year--they were "Toppe" sailed by Earl Minkwitz, "Sis II" sailed by Malcomb Downie, Aeolus, by Douglas Johnstone and Heigh - Ho by Herb B?

In 1935 the club held an annual River Race. One of the charter members put up a silver cup but I don't know who it was. The race started at the Maurice River bridge and they sailed about seven miles down rivers ten a.m. to a place called Yawp Shore, where skippers, families, and friends had a sort a picnic and get together waiting for the tide to come back in as Yawp shore became a great big mud flat while we were eating and resting. Then we raced back in the afternoon.

At one time we had at least 20 moth boats in club but rarely over 10 that raced at any one race. The Dusters who began in 40 increased in number and by the Sixties were the principle boat on the lake often racing 12-15 boats per race.

The Sunfish started showing up around the early Sixties and this was about the time I sold my boat and lost account of what was happening.

The early race committee was made up of a Mr. Rieck, Mr. Moir, my Dad Bill Stadler.

The club was an active club and the skippers took their boats to all regattas possible and I believe this is the reason we became winners and our club well known.

Our members have held International Moth titles, National Duster Titles, and many regional places in championship regattas. I think the most impressive was when four of our Junior members sailed in a National Duster Regatta and came home with a 1st, a 3rd, a 4th, and a 5th place of the Regatta with a Steve Lippencott taking 2nd and only place of the first five places, so you can see our club did know sailboat racing.

I hope some of my memories will be of some help to you.

~Charles Stadler, ULSC Commodore 1941-1957