



*Windsurfing  
Enthusiasts of  
Tidewater*

## **Looking Back: The Summer 2004**

Our HRSC race will conclude the summer season, or, looking at it differently, marks the beginning of the windy season. The summer was an active one, with events like the Intro to Windsurfing at Mill Creek, the Lotto Regatta at Anderson Park, and a number of tropical systems and fronts hugging, or passing over the region. This issue contains pictures of the Intro and the Lotto Regatta. First, read Dave Kashy's thrilling write-up about sailing deep in the Chesapeake Bay. [JP]

### **Alexander's Cup - Hobie Cat Long Distance Race by Dave Kashy**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September, I joined a Hobie Fleet 32 for their annual Version 2.2 regatta. We sailed course 2, a 21 mile long distance race that took us 9.5 miles upwind off the beach and 12 miles downwind. I was the only windsurfer to make a serious attempt. It was an experience. It was a beach start and I gave the fleet a couple of minutes to clear the beach. I chose my 10.7 and Bic 1.5, and the latest prototype Curtis 41C molded 70cm Soft fin. The combo was ideal. Within a few minutes, I was the lead boat. Close behind was a 20 ft dual trapeze cat.

The guys in that boat have sailed the famous cat race, the Worrel 1000, 1000 miles from Miami to VA beach Va. We traded tacks for about 8 miles with me gaining a bit on each tack. Then they were nowhere to be seen. By then the second tunnel was in sight, and not too far off. So there I was on the boarder

between the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic, 9 miles offshore straight upwind. Well nothing to do now but to head for the tunnel.

The wind had built as I got closer to the third Island of the Bay Bridge Tunnel. Crossing over the bridge 76 minutes after the start, the swell and chop was all over the place. I thought to myself this could be hell getting back downwind. Luckily after about 1 mile the water smoothed, and the wind backed off just a bit. I kept looking back for the cats but did not see them. I decided to jibe and stay in sight of the bridge since I could barely see land. This move would also keep me in the favorable current. I'd sail each tack until my legs and feet were burning and then jibe. I kept looking for the cats, but still none in site. As I approached the shore, I looked for the finish line. When I finally spotted it, I was quite happy. I

sailed through the line and dove off my board after 54 minutes of downwind. The equipment worked perfectly. The fin was fast and stable, and it never spun out. The first cat finished 40 minutes later. It was just too fun, but later that night I was sore.

Report from day 2 not quite as glorified. Stay tuned.

Ok, So Day 1 racing was over, I was quite sore and very tired. I got home and started to relax when I received a call from a coworker, he said he needed some help with our super conducting toroidal field magnet. The 4K was warming up due to a lack of flow of LN2 through the shield circuit. So I got up of my recliner and headed to work. In the mean time, Alan Bernau shows up at my house and goes out to catch a movie.

When I return we have a bottle of wine and discuss the race for Sunday, 25.2 miles on a similar course (ACDA). We get up a bit late, and rush off to the beach. We missed the skippers meeting which was held at 9:30 and just made the start at 10:30. Four formula sailors showed up, but the winds were kicking, and so only AB and I decided to do it. We both rigged 9.8's, this time I chose a 31C\_1 molded 63 cm fin. Alan was on a 70. We were on the beach when the horn went off, and watched for about 1 minute before launching ourselves. The wind was from the NE at 18 gusting to 25mph. We put in and cleared most of the carnage quickly. Several cats were damaged and about 1/2 the fleet retired at the start. AB was a bit underpowered at first, but I was dialed. This was the first time that I'd used such a small fin in this board, then again it was the first time I'd used the 9.8. It felt quite fast when I felt like pushing it, but that was not so often as the swell/chop was 3-5 feet right off the beach.

After about 10 minutes we were in the lead. After about 20 minutes the wind started to build and some rain squalls pushed through. You know the type, you close your upwind eye. Anyway I was pushing ahead of AB, but I did not want to get out of sight of him. I kept an eye on him, but in the rain it became hard to do. So I bore off. This is when I really noticed the wind

had picked up significantly. Blazing on a broad reach I reached him in less than 2 minutes. I thought to myself I don't want to do that too many more times. We had dropped behind 3 cats by now. Then we pressed on. For a while AB had decent speed, but I think my smaller fin and, can I say comfort level?, made me faster.

Anyway, we pressed on. As we approached the tunnel, the wind continued to build. I had passed all but one cat, but now it was almost noon and it was blowing a steady 25 with gust to 30. The seas had built and we were closer to the Atlantic. I had a good lead on AB and could not see him. I tacked out and finally found him. Then tacked back to his tack. I bore off and headed to the leeward side of the first island of the Bay Bridge Tunnel. I was pretty sure he could see me so I rode it into calmer water and dropped my rig. He sailed up and dropped in too. At this point, I was quite sore and really getting tired. I told AB that I thought we should go in. Going down wind would be hard enough from here, and it would be worse if we crossed the tunnel and headed up. He said he wanted to press on but then started telling me that his harness lines were not set up right, nor was his adjustable out haul. At that point I said NO WAY. I did not want to hear his excuses, and did I say I was tired?. So we got our rigs in the air and played leap frog down the bridge. I'd go a while and get slammed then he would. I could not even get in the harness.

Instead of going back to the start I went to the foot of the bridge. I jumped in and the water was over my head. I yelled to AB to keep his sail out of the breakers. I got tumbled in the surf and broke nearly every batten in my sail and ripped out the clew and tore the sail in several spots.

I came ashore and pulled out my cell. I called my good friend Marcy, and she came and picked us up.

Glory- not really, but my wife was happy with my decision.

Oh yeah, we headed to a great flat water spot and sailed for 3 more hours on 5.0 and 5.8's and wave boards...

# Intro To Windsurfing by Bruce Powers

Thanks much to those in WET who came out to help on the Intro To Windsurfing day. I had Marcy K. and John Perry lined up to help out in advance with setting up gear and instructing, so thanks much to them. James Douglass' and my goal was a low student to instructor ratio. With 20 students showing up, there was no way we could have pulled this off with only two of us. We appreciated others in WET showing up to help out: Todd Ferrante helped out setting up and on the water, and John Contos represented from the shore. Dave Kashy put on a cool freestyle demo and had the students asking questions about all those radical moves they saw in

windsurfing magazines. (Overheard: " When you jump off a wave, do you always land and sail away or do you crash? " These guys and ladies wanna get going and go far!) The WET attendance this past Saturday was a great show of support I hope we can see again at the 2005 Intro To Windsurfing events; having more experienced people showing 'em how its done is a good thing, even in light winds. Heaps o thanks go out to Pete Wells at Beach Sports for loaning out his Prodigy learner fleet. We had four boards with 4-5 students per board for three hours.



Mill Creek impressions



# Lotto Regatta

A trip to the salad bar at the WET meeting in May cost Dr. Bob dearly. During his absence, there were no objections against putting him in charge of this year's Lotto Regatta. At least he chose a lean vinaigrette over heavy ranch dressing, so it turned out

to be quite a win-win situation for all. Cheers to all sponsors for donating equipment for the Lotto raffle, notably Johannes Rathgens who chipped in even a sailboard. [JP], pictures Bruce Powers.



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## WET Calendar of Events 2004

### October

22th / Friday

**Buckroe Beach Challenge**

23rd-24th / Saturday-Sunday

**Hampton Roads Sailboard Classic** at Buckroe Beach or Day's Inn. This is our last regatta of the year.

### November

4th / Thursday

7:00 **General meeting** (Elections) at 7:00;

Location TB

### December

Date TBD

**WET Christmas Party.** No meeting this month

**WET Mail Editor-in-Chief:**  
**Joachim Pfeiffer**  
(757) 685-3448  
[jpf18@yahoo.com](mailto:jpf18@yahoo.com)

**WET's Website!**  
[www.sailwet.com](http://www.sailwet.com)



**President: John Perry**  
(757) 357-5862  
[wndsr4@charter.net](mailto:wndsr4@charter.net)

**Vice President: John Contos**  
(757) 463-5830  
[JONNYC@cox.net](mailto:JONNYC@cox.net)

**Secretary: Adrienne Woodell**

**Treasurer: Chad Perkins**  
(757) 850-2294  
[Shambhalawayne@aol.com](mailto:Shambhalawayne@aol.com)

**Members at Large:**  
Earl Berkley, Allen Monfalcone,  
Bob Rowland

**Beach Access, Photography &  
Web Site: [Glenn Woodell](#)**

**Membership: [Marcy Kennedy](#)**

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GOVERNING BODY:**

<http://www.uswindsurfing.org/>



*Wanna know where we sail? Check out the launch map at <http://www.windvisions.com/launches.html> for all the information you need about the local sailing sites.*

#### **WET Officers**

President:	John Perry
Vice-President:	John Contos
Secretary:	Adrienne Woodell
Treasurer:	Chad Perkins
Members At Large:	Earl Berkley, Allen Monfalcone, Bob Rowland

### **Next WET Meeting**

The WET meeting will be

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 7PM

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**WET MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
**203 Buckroe Ave., Hampton, VA. 23664**

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Individual Membership...\$20.00	U. S. Windsurfing Membership...\$25.00
Each additional family member....\$5.00	through WET (Normally \$35)

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER, RELEASE, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

In consideration of acceptance as a member of the Windsurfing Enthusiasts of Tidewater , Inc. (WET), I (the undersigned), intending to be legally bound, do hereby for my administrators, my executors and myself, waive, release and forever discharge any and all rights and claims for damages which may occur to me against WET, its officials, employees and agents of any and all liabilities or responsibilities arising from any injury received or incurred by participation in any event sponsored by WET. My release is also given for the reproduction of any photographs taken of me or including me for use in media coverage. I understand that I am waiving rights which otherwise should have been mine by law and I do so of my own free will and consent.



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