

THE BAGPIPE

THE 29th YEAR OF THE THISTLE

VOL. XXVII, NO. 6

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1974



**DYKSTRA (3295) AND KEMPPF (1347) TAKE A PIN END START
TOM DYKSTRA WINS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Photo by Bob Thomas

THE BAGPIPE
Class Journal
of the
Thistle Class Association

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FROM THE EDITOR

With this issue I conclude my first year as editor of the *Bagpipe*. Many thanks go to the people that assisted me by writing articles and to you who have been kind enough to express good words about the *Bagpipe*. I also wish to thank those who expressed their displeasures, as these thoughts are also vital in keeping the *Bagpipe* an outstanding class publication. Keep the articles (with pictures, compliments, and complaints coming, gang. I expect the *Bagpipe* will be as much fun in the next year as it has been this year, and the opportunity to edit it for a second year is most welcomed. Incidentally, the *Bagpipe* is printed locally by Parkin Printing Co. They have treated me wonderfully, and their work is just outstanding. Jack Lynn, their president, is a sailor and takes particular pride in this publication, as does his staff.

**Editor's Boat Stolen
While Returning From Nationals**

The nice thing about writing this article is that it has a happy ending. I is true my Thistle (2617) was stolen shortly after leaving San Diego on our return home from the Nationals. About 120 miles from San Diego we experienced a double blow-out and went into a bad spin. By the time we came to rest in the sand, the trailer had a bent tongue, the boat was overturned, having broken the ring holding the tie-down to the fender. In the process of all this, we had punctured our gas tank and blew a third tire. In short, this required a tow to El Centro, California (the hottest place in the world). The tow truck driver was to return and take the boat and trailer to his station and we would pick it up after the car was repaired on Monday. El Centro isn't exactly a great place to spend a weekend. We hadn't been in our motel room very long when a detective came bursting in to tell me my boat had been reported stolen. Mark Kastel (3160) and his crew had reported three fellows loading it into a white pick-up truck. The tow truck driver also reported the boat missing when he returned to the accident scene. All this was within 1 1/4 hours. The highway patrol dropped the ball and didn't record the license number Mark Kastel had given them and the three got away. We left El Centro Monday without our Thistle and still in shock.

The following Sunday evening I was able to talk with Mark and he had kept a very careful record of what he saw, and I relayed the license number to the detective I had talked with. He traced the truck to a fellow stationed at the Naval Anti Submarine Command adjacent to the site of the Nationals. The rest was easy for the police and a very nice Sgt. Mike Singh, who didn't rest until he solved the case. The boat was found hidden about 90 miles from El Centro and the three men are being held by the Navy on other charges which came out during the investigation of the boat theft. I am most happy to report my boat is being returned to me in good condition and at Navy expense. My warmest thanks go to Mark Kastel and his crew for being concerned enough to stop, question the three individuals, realize they were stealing the boat and obtain their license number without their knowledge. AREN'T YOUNG PEOPLE GREAT?

**1975 THISTLE MIDWINTERS
St. Petersburg Yacht Club
February 22 - 27**



TCA DUES

Active members	\$10.00
Unattached members	10.00
Associate members	5.00
Co-owners, other than the senior co-owner	5.00

Note: \$4.50 of each member's dues shall be the annual subscription rate for the *Bagpipe* which is published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October, and December.

Office of publication and
Second-Class postage paid at
Highland Park, IL., 60035

Send all *Bagpipe* copy to:
THOMAS G. RICHARDS
19 Rosewood Circle
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Deadline FOR NEXT TWO ISSUES:
January - February November 1, 1974
March - April January 1, 1975

the skippers' meeting

REVISED FILM POLICY

As approved by the Governing Board

By order of the Governing Board, at the 1974 Nationals, San Diego, Calif., a charge of \$10.00 plus postage will be assessed for the use of the 1973 film, The Many Moods of a Thistle. Fleets requesting this film will be required to send a deposit of \$20.00 before a show date can be confirmed.

The reason for this additional charge on the 1973 film is to finance the purchase of additional new copies of the film as the present copies wear out.

All other Class films will be loaned out as before, requiring only a \$15.00 deposit and a charge to cover postage and handling.

New Central Atlantic District Governor

Mr. Peter E. Bragg
4129 Belvedere Drive
Chesapeake, VA, 23321

NOTICE

Due to his house burning down, Jerry Hinds, film custodian, cannot be reached by phone until the Fall of this year. Mail however reaches him at his regular address.

NOTES FROM HONEY:

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Address changes need not be sent to the *Bagpipe*. The Secretary holds all the mailing plates in Highland Park. If you notify her of a new address, that will take care of *Bagpipe* and all other mailings. Be sure to identify yourself either by boat number or your old address so your plate can be located for changing. Zip Code is necessary for all *Bagpipe*/Yearbook mailings.

CHECK YOUR CERTIFICATES

The Secretary-Treasurer estimates that anywhere from 25-30% of all measurement certificates sent in for approval have to be returned for corrections, registration fee payment, signatures, duplicate copies, etc. Save yourself some time and trouble by being sure both copies are completed, all measurements are the same on both copies, and all needed information is supplied. Attach your membership card for stamping: "Registered Boat."

Due to the increase in the cost of envelopes, future addressing orders will have to be billed at 2c each rather than 1c.

1975 THISTLE MIDWINTERS
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THE WACO "360" weighs only 7 ounces

Initially designed for thistles, hundreds of these unique fittings are currently being used by racing skippers the world over.

This unique fitting can be used to control the centerboard, adjust the traveler, cunningham, or boom vang, etc., from any position in your boat even while hiking out, as the bracket with cam cleat can pivot independently through 360°.

Trouble-free operation due to the quality construction of stainless steel, Nylon bearings and a non-slip cam cleat. Base - 2-7/6" x 1-1/4". Up to 3/8" line. Available for immediate delivery.

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\$17.95 plus postage

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