

REVIEW 2012 | PREVIEW 2013

# On the Wind

[www.tacsailing.com](http://www.tacsailing.com)

## Bob's Message

As the new president of TACS, I am honored to lead this remarkable community asset and do so with great privilege following the path laid by past president, Jim Sorbie. Jim's pure passion and perseverance towards this organization is unwavering and proved to be infectious for his wife, Gerri, who provides much support to TACS. On behalf of the entire board, thank you to Jim and Gerri Sorbie for their enthusiasm and devotion.

Approaching this well-guided office, I do so with the strength and dedication of a board of directors who represent a diverse cross-section of our sailing community. It is with their support and continued hard work that enables TACS to carry on its tradition of being recognized as one of the most successful community sailing programs in the country.

Focus this year will be on enhancing the board's committee structure, providing opportunities to involve more volunteers and parents in programs, and refining our calendar into a dynamic, interactive tool for future growth of the organization. Highest of priorities is to remain vigilante in the process of improving and protecting the safety of all TACS participants.

I am genuinely proud of what this board has accomplished the past 19 years. Yet, it is the overwhelming and generous support that we received from the entire community that has truly created this sailing treasure. We thank you.

Bob Cornwell, President

*Once you learn to sail,  
it never leaves you.*



## SAVE THE DATE!

### High School Sailing Begins [Late March]

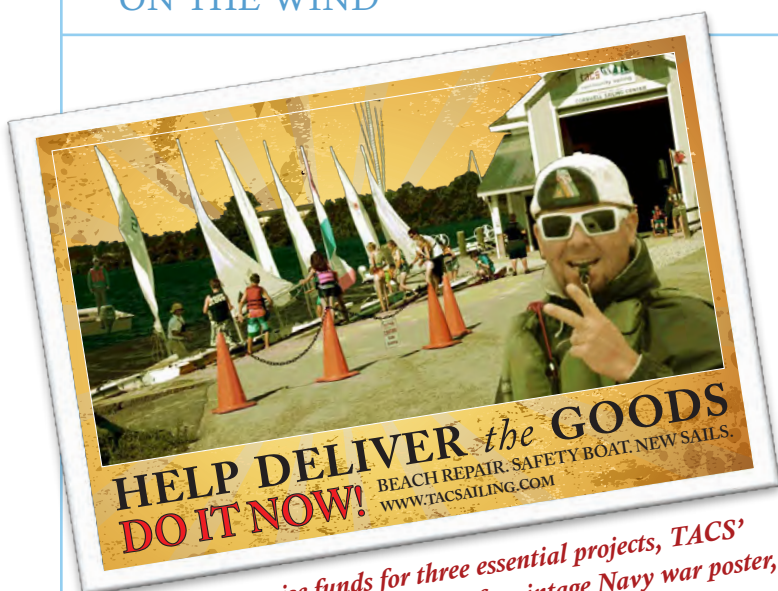
High school sailors sign up early online! Sailing starts as soon as ice is out on Boardman Lake. Wet or dry suits are required.

### Annual Gala Event [Spring TBD]

Always a good time! Look for the details online for this evening of fun, food and friendship to support TACS.

### Summer Sailing Classes Open Sailing [June 17]

First day of summer sailing classes for Adult and Youth. Open Sailing is in full swing. Sign up online.



*In an effort to raise funds for three essential projects, TACS' throwback campaign reminiscent of a vintage Navy war poster, is asking friends and program participants to "Help Deliver the Goods." See adjacent page for more information.*

## Adaptive Sailors Gain Independence

With its own fleet of specially engineered boats for physically challenged individuals, the breadth of students sailing on the Boardman Lake continues to evolve. This group in particular, boosts the joy of independence at the helm. To help others experience sailing self-sufficiently, please volunteer in the TACS Adaptive program contact Steve Rutkowski at [rutkowski024@yahoo.com](mailto:rutkowski024@yahoo.com).

## Scholarships Vital for Students

A whopping 28 scholarships were awarded to children and adults this past season. These opportunities to learn to sail are credited to the generous donations by: **Global Marine Insurance Agency, Bay Breeze Yacht Charters, Grand Traverse Yacht Club, Geff and Mary Sue Heidbrink, Bowerman, Bowden, Ford, Clulo & Luyt, Michael Smith, and the TACS Foundation.**

In all, these friends of TACS raised more than \$5,700. The gift of time from the administration and teachers of Traverse Area public and private schools that refer children who need assistance to join sailing programs is invaluable. TACS is grateful for these referrals, thank you. If you or your business would like to donate to scholarships for TACS, please contact [mike.smith@globalmarineinsurance.com](mailto:mike.smith@globalmarineinsurance.com) or 231-932-4021.

## Adults Find Bliss in Learn to Sail

The *big kids* really got into the fun of sailing last summer as Adult Learn to Sail classes grew ten-fold from the prior season. Classes were at near capacity with parents who have children in the program to couples and friends looking to spend more time together learning a life-long sport. TACS is listening to all this grown-up excitement and is adding more Adult Learn to Sail classes summer 2013. *Big kids*, don't miss the bliss, sign up early online.

“Observing a young lady, only 73 years old, in our adult classes, confirms

it's never too late to learn,” says Ben Ferris. “It's not just the little kids, but the *big kids*, like her, who make the summer. I had the pleasure of teaching 40-plus *big kids* this summer, every one of them as excited and enthusiastic as a 12-year-old. Sailing has a playful youthfulness to it that everyone can enjoy.”



## Revitalizing Rowing

Rowing, a fairly new program to TACS, is led by an enthusiastic group of adults who are in the process of revitalizing the program over the winter months. Come spring, look for more rowing information at [www.tacsailing.com](http://www.tacsailing.com) or send an email to [rowing@tacsailing.com](mailto:rowing@tacsailing.com) to let us know of your interest and we will keep you posted on the activities.



*TC Central Team**TC St. Francis Team**TC West Team*

## High School Racing Sizzling Hot

Competition at the high school level continues to sizzle with excitement.

Cause for celebration this year, was the graduation of the last of the original six high school sailors who were part of the inaugural team. This triumph goes to Elle Rivard and Abigail Skibowski who competed four consecutive years on the high school sailing team, completing eight seasons. The co-eds continue their love of racing at the collegiate level.

Sizzling even hotter is the sheer enthusiasm in numbers of students throughout the region who are coming out to race. Fall 2012 boasted a record of 35 senior and junior high school sailors joining one of three area teams: Traverse City Central, West and St. Francis. Race practice began in late August and ran three days a week on Grand Traverse West Bay and Boardman Lake. The use of both venues creates challenging conditions preparing the competitors for weekend regattas throughout the region.

*"The students rave kudos of thanks to Grand Traverse Yacht Club for allowing training on West Bay," says Jen Fenton, racing coach. "Combined with Boardman Lake, the diverse wind conditions are making our teams smarter sailors."*



*Come and enjoy high school competitive at its best at one or all of these 2013 local regattas!*

**May 18** Red 8 Regatta  
**October 12** Gordon Cornwell Memorial Regatta  
**October 19** Michigan State High School Championship

*Check website for details closer to the dates.*

## World-Class Coach Gerber is Game-Changer for Racers

Ask any high school racer, their parent, TACS board member and observer of the teams, the spring 2012 addition of world-class sailor and new high school head coach is truly a game changer for the competitors. Dave Gerber imparts knowledge in all aspects of sailing and radiates a contagious, competitive positive energy to the teams. In two seasons at the coaching helm for TACS high school sailing competitors, Gerber's vigor smart-style is catapulting area high schools higher in regional rankings. "It's heaps of fun," says Coach Gerber.

## Plan Your Best Summer Ever

### Youth Summer Sign Up, Fills Up Fast

Truly the life-blood of TACS summer is the youth. Children from eight years old, learn the art and sport of sailing in a stimulating, safe environment. Nearly all youth sailors become skippers of an Optimist dinghy midway through the program. Instructors are US Sailing certified. Registration fills quickly, please save your child's spot, sign up at [www.tacsailing.com](http://www.tacsailing.com).



### Advancing Your Sailing Skills

Learning to sail is not enough. TACS students demanding more instruction to compete at a higher level are filling that need in the Advanced Sailing Classes. Refining racing skills such as tactics, boat handling, sail trim and understanding racing rules are all covered while skippering Lasers, Club 420s and Interlakes. Students wishing to join this competitive group should first complete basic sailing.



### Set Sail at Your Own Time

Graduates of any of TACS programs are finding the ultimate freedom by taking advantage to the Open Sailing weeknights during the week and during the day on the weekend. To "drop in to sail" simply purchase a season pass – for students, adults and families – online. TACS provides the boats and certified instructor in a safety boat on the water. For more information or to enroll, sign up at [www.tacsailing.com](http://www.tacsailing.com)





## Three Ways TACS Needs You to “Help Deliver *the Goods*”

*Contributions to the following are vital for the 2013 season: Beach Repair, Safety Boat and New Sails. Please learn more about each one of these needs below. Your generous donation to one or all of these projects builds a better, safer sailing program.*

### Erosion Damage: Building a Better Beach

At TACS Boardman Lake site, the steeply-sloped beach makes it virtually impossible to maintain due to erosion caused by waves repeatedly beating the shore and the continuous activity of lots of big and little feet launching boats.

The sharp stones, gullies and ledges are a tripping hazard for students and instructors. What's more, the uneven and gravelly beach is tearing up the bottoms of the boats.

In the past, truckloads of sand have been poured in an effort to amend the beach, resulting in a ceaseless battle as the sand continuously washes back into the lake. Regulatory agencies no longer allow this practice. Subsequently, after investigating and testing several potential solutions to this safety and maintenance problem, the board has found a porous paving material made of recycled tires.

This revolutionary product is flexible, durable, resilient, permeable, and freeze resistant, provides good traction and is soft underfoot. Since August, an eight-foot-wide test strip is in place now at the boathouse end of the beach and is withstanding the brutal fall and early winter weather. Check it out at the site or on the web at [www.porousepaveinc.com](http://www.porousepaveinc.com).

The cost to cover the beach in Porous Pave material is estimated at \$18,000.

### Dow Foundation Leads Purchase for Safety Boat

Long supporters of community sailing, The Alden and Vada Dow Family Foundations recognize the need for safety with a \$5,000 contribution dedicated to purchasing a new TACS rescue and instructional vessel. This generous donation is nearly half the cost of a boat fully equipped with motor and trailer.

Please gift what you can towards safety and, come spring, help TACS launch a new boat.

### Buy-A-Sail Featuring Your Name

With the high school racing program and more adults requesting lessons in spring and fall, the TACS sailing programs have extended well beyond just the summer season.

Today, TACS is sailing from ice-out in late March through Thanksgiving. That's nearly month's worth of wear-and-tear on equipment each year. Most notably: the sails.

With a dire need to replace sails, TACS new Buy-A-Sail Program, allows donors to purchase a Club 420 sail and TACS will include your company logo on the sail.

The actual cost of a new 420 sail and jib is \$836, TACS is giving sponsors an opportunity to include their name, company name and/or logo for \$1,500. Sponsorships at any level in this program are appreciated!

*To give to any one of these essential programs for the 2013 season and beyond, please send your tax deductible donation to TACS, PO Box 4149, Traverse City, MI 49685-4149. Label your donation with your desire, Beach Repair, Safety Boat, New Sails, or leave blank and TACS board will direct your generosity towards the greatest need.*



P.O. Box 4149

Traverse City, MI 49685-4149

[www.tacsailing.com](http://www.tacsailing.com)



PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TRAVERSE CITY, MI  
PERMIT #568

**LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT  
SUMMER JOB?**

TACS is seeking applicants  
for Sailing Instructor positions for next summer.  
Must be 18. Will train. Email [TACS@tacsailing.com](mailto:TACS@tacsailing.com).

ON THE WIND

REVIEW 2012 | PREVIEW 2013

# Donate or Buy a Boat

Another way to give to TACS is to donate your boat that is no longer being loved, or purchase a boat from many of those that have been gifted to the program. To donate or purchase contact: Bill Allgaier at 231-218-1227. Check out our current boats for sale:

30' Chris Craft Wood Cruiser	\$7500
25' Cal with Diesel Engine	\$8500
22' Tanzer	\$6500
17' Interlake (Choice of five)	\$1000
17' Oday Day Sailor	\$1700
16' Rebel	\$850
15' JY 15's (Choice of 7)	\$1500
15' Snipe	\$500
14' Sunfish-style Sailboat	\$250
13' Chrysler Mutineer	\$750
8' Escape sailboat	\$250