



From the President

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Winter provides an excellent opportunity to sow the seeds of a great spring and summer for your fleet. Here's a list of individual and group activities that are guaranteed to get your fleet going:

- Have a fleet pitch-in some dark evening in February.
- Decide to host an invitational regatta next summer.
- Challenge another fleet to have a four-weekend series of races—two at your lake and two at theirs.
- Plan to work on boats as a group so you can share parts and know-how.
- Put kittens in your cockpit while you work on your boat [to attract kids, whose parents will join them—and end up talking about boats].
- Find crew and sail the Midwinters.
- Buy new sails as a present to yourself.
- Work with a sail maker to get a fleet discount for new sails.
- Put a "We Sail Flying Scots" bumper sticker on your car.
- Encourage someone who attends most fleet functions to write a fleet newsletter.
- Take a friend from work sailing.
- Offer to help someone in your fleet improve his/her sailing skills.
- Pair experienced sailors with newbies in a mentor program.
- Offer to install grease fittings on all the trailers in the fleet.
- Encourage other sailors to travel to regattas.
- Always have an article in the club newsletter.
- Submit "how to" articles to *Scots n' Water*.
- Support the Flying Scot Foundation.
- Apply to the Foundation for a grant to

host an educational session next summer.

- Hang a half-model of a Flying Scot in the clubhouse.
- Man the phones as a fleet for the local fund-raiser.
- Give someone a new set of sail numbers.
- Keep perpetual trophies in your clubhouse during the summer.
- Help your local dealer stock proper clothing and gear, and buy from that dealer.
- Do race committee or patrol duty.
- Print a fleet t-shirt in some wild color and encourage fleet members to wear it.
- Help with registration or in the kitchen for a regatta.
- Send articles with sexy pictures to the local newspaper or get your fleet on TV.
- Do race committee duty for some other fleet.
- Bring a cooler of beer and soft drinks to the rigging area and give it all away.
- Set up a fleet boat at the local boat show; include puppies.
- Offer a kid a ride to the lake.
- Send holiday and birthday cards to fleet members.
- Keep an eye on beginners so that they have fun.
- Help beginners interpret the weather so they don't go out when it's too rough.
- Challenge another fleet to a contest—any contest, sailing or not.
- Set up a week-long fleet sailing trip in cruising yachts.
- Send a group photo to *Scots n' Water*.
- Maintain a For Sale list.
- Ask sailors of large boats how much their new boom vang cost.
- Clean and polish your boat in the middle of the parking lot.
- Take a disposable, waterproof camera

sailing and leave the developed photos—labeled "take one"—in the clubhouse.

- Video the fleet for a day.
- Get a Flying Scot tattoo.
- Create a fleet scrapbook and leave it in your clubhouse.
- Conduct a rules seminar.
- Loan out your boat when you do committee duty.
- Post the race results on a conspicuous bulletin board.
- Give out a lot of trophies...recognition is what gets people back on the water.
- Sail backwards.
- If you usually win, start late and coach the others as you pass them.
- Create a fleet Web page.
- Invite sailors from other clubs to visit your club.
- Welcome new people when they suddenly appear at your club.
- Remember the new guy's name and use it.
- Give somebody a new line for his Flying Scot.
- Make sailors pay fleet dues to create vested interest, and give them value for their dollar.
- Get everybody to join FSSA.
- Set up a fleet social sail to a local destination.
- Set up an e-mail list and remind everybody to come out every week.
- Show off on windy days.
- Invite others to join you whenever you go sailing.
- Express personal disappointment every time a sailor misses an event.
- Buy your dad/son a new Flying Scot part for his birthday.
- Tell everybody how much fun it is to sail a Flying Scot. ▲