

# West Wind

The Newsletter of the NZ Zephyr Owners Association (Inc)

Volume 4 Issue 4

October 1997

## Zephyr Owners Association (Incorporated)

This issue of West Wind brings another season for the Zephyr Class. Over the winter the ZOA Annual General Meeting was held in conjunction with the Auckland Owners at the French Bay Boating Club. Officers elected were Alex Aitken, President, Rob Ebert, Secretary, with Dennis Craig (Ak) Richard Ineson (Chch) and Bill Ackland (Wgtn) making up an Executive.

The ZOA became an Incorporated Society in 1964, by registering its Constitution under the Incorporated Society's Act. As a result, the ZOA can trade on its own behalf for the benefit of members, and any liabilities are restricted to the assets of the Association.

Local owners groups grew up to promote the class in various geographical regions, but operate without the protection of Incorporation. Over the last year, Alex and myself have put considerable effort into ZOA, seeing it as the logical structure, in an increasingly commercial world, to address the long term development of the class.

YNZ addressed the issue of declining club and class membership as a key issue in this year's Annual Conference. Various speakers observed that declining membership was a problem confronting many clubs in New Zealand. The agreed key to turning this around was for clubs to understand their market, and respond by giving members what they want. It comes down to making people feel welcome and giving them a sense of belonging. As New Zealanders' needs and leisure opportunities change, we will need to understand our "customers" at a local and national level.

As President, Alex Aitken has articulated a need for the ZOA to operate in a professional manner. Over the last year, an informal executive tidied up many aspects of class administration, all reported on at the AGM as required under our Constitution. This year, we will be seeking more ways to get new people into Zephyrs and more Zephyrs out on the water. Our great vulnerability though, is subscriptions. Obviously, they pay for the stamps, newsletters, etc, and provide a fund for initiatives on behalf of the class. More importantly, though, they are a tangible indication that members appreciate the time and effort we put into the national and local associations. If you have not paid a ZOA sub of \$15.00 this year as well as \$10.00 to your local branch, please do so. We would appreciate it.

This issue also contains information about the Easter 1998 National Championships at Waiuku. Interest in the Nationals is building in the North Island, so early indications are for a good turnout. Mike O'Connell, as Commodore of the Waiuku Club, is already planning what should prove to be an enjoyable event.

We have a somewhat cramped issue of West Wind this time, almost warranting another page. There has not been much space for news from the regions, so reports of opening activities will have to wait until next time. Until then...

**HERE'S HOPING FOR AN ENJOYABLE SEASON!**

## FROM THE PEN OF ALEX AITKEN

### *National President*

Throughout the country meetings of local ZOA Associations and the National body have "Charted the Waters" for the season ahead. By the time you read this edition of "West Wind" a number of clubs will have had their opening days and the wheels of many launching trolleys will have been oiled.

The Zephyr Class of sailing dinghy is recognised as a one-class boat. There is a degree of enthusiasm and we have seen a number of boats change hands and come out of the woodwork. All the club openings I have attended talk about the need to attract young people and families to join up and enjoy the sport of sailing. **You can help** by getting the Zephyr out on the water and showing it off as a nice boat to sail. It can be bought for a modest sum or you can buy a new cedar hull and use existing or new rig to sail for pleasure or in club and national competition.

This brings me to talk about funding. Comments have been by other classes that a strong national organisation is the key to the continuing success of the class. Over the last couple of months I have attempted to convey this message to all local ZOAs. You will see by the financial budget set for 97/98 that your National Association is striving to get all "Zephyr sailors on Board". Your association has agreed to collect the National subscription and the local sub, with one payment of \$25.00. Could I make a plea for support and ask you to post your cheque early in the season to your local secretary.

If you have any queries please contact your ZOA representative. I will not bring up this subject again unless the need is critical.

Rob Ebert has noted a number of items including hulls, masts and sails. There is a responsibility of your national body to uphold the standards as laid down in the class rules. Could I comment on the Masters games in Dunedin next February. Canterbury sailors are keen to go and we should have at least 10 Zephyrs to show the flag. There is interest in Otago and this will be a good public relations exercise.

In summing up ....

**GET OUT IN YOUR ZEPHYR AND ENJOY  
YOURSELVES.**

**The New Zealand Zephyr Owners Association (Inc)**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**French Bay Boating Club**  
**August 20<sup>th</sup>, 1997**

**Present:** A Aitken, (Chair) R Ebert, K Smith, T Cotterill, V Drew, A Retter, T Davis, D Craig, R Burton, F Elley, R Waterer, D Waterer, R Allen, A Geddes.

**Apologies:** Bob Foster, Ted Frankham, Kevin and Gill McGee.

The meeting followed the Auckland Zephyr Owner's Association AGM, and commenced at 2050hrs.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the previous AGM were read to the meeting. As the previous AGM had been held in Canterbury, they had been confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the CZOA.

**President's Report**

Alex Aitken welcomed all those to the meeting, and introduced his report. This had been circulated to the meeting and taken as read by assent. It was acknowledged that the improved membership figures for the Association were due to Alex's efforts.

**Financial Report**

Alex Aitken circulated and presented his Financial Report. Accepted Aitken/Smith.

**Queries**

- **Mould Costs:** The original cost of the Zephyr moulds was inquired about, but was unknown. Royalties on new hulls: Alex had allowed a Royalty of \$200 in the hull price, to cover the cost of replacing the mould. This allowance was discussed, and referred to the incoming Executive for consideration.

**Budget**

Alex Aitken then presented the Budget for the coming year. The mould was uninsured at present. AZO had originally undertaken to pay the \$200 insurance on the mould, but did not ratify this at the preceding AZO meeting. The \$200 donation from AZO shown on the projected budget was thus deleted, and the income total modified to \$1705. With these modifications, the Budget was accepted. Burton/Craig.

**Election of Officers**

The following Officers were elected:

**President:** Alex Aitken - Burton/Retter

**Secretary:** Rob Ebert - Aitken/Waterer

**Executive:** Dennis Craig (AZO), Bill Ackland (Wgtn), Richard Ineson (CZO).

It was suggested that the AGM should be held at the National Contest, where there is a larger gathering of owners.

**General Business**

- **Sails:** A letter was received from Chris McMaster of Boyd & McMaster confirming that the traditional Zephyr sail has been transferred to a computer plotter. The next batch of sails will be produced using the new method. The ZOA has in stock a brand new 1983 sail that will be compared with the new ones as a check on construction. It was felt that the consistency of sail shape would be superior with the new method.
- **Masts:** Dennis Craig advised the meeting that Barry Saunders of Bay of Island Spars and Rigging was now the supplier of Zephyr masts. Barry had previously worked for Baverstock and Spar Specialties, and was familiar with the original Baverstock and current McKechnie sections.
- There was concern about the quality and consistency of the masts with the change of supplier. Dennis Craig was asked to satisfy himself that the new supplier of Zephyr masts conforms to the letter and spirit of the class rules, and advise the Executive accordingly. Burton/Retter.
- **National Contest:** Keith Smith and Trevor Cotterill confirmed their commitment to hosting the National Contest at Easter 1998. The need to appoint a Race Officer was identified, and some possibilities discussed. Waiuku were assured of the support of the ZOA.
- **Measuring**  
**Auckland Measurers:** Bob Foster, Noel May, Ted Frankham.  
**Hamilton Measurer:** Rob Ebert  
**National Contest Measuring:** Some boats may need to be measured and issued with Certificates for the National Contest. The idea of surveying one aspect of the boats was floated.

**Sparmaker Moves to Bay of Islands**

Some of you may have noticed a small article with this title in the September issue of Boating New Zealand. It noted that Barry Saunders, originally owner operator of Spar Specialties, has opened a new yacht rigging, maintenance and spar making business in Paihia, Bay of Islands.

Saunders has been manufacturing spars for more than 21 years. He was first employed by Don Baverstock, and went into business with Baverstock in Spar Specialties, and continued to work for the new owners when Spar Specialties was sold.

Saunders says he intends to maintain the highest quality of service and competitive prices for previous and new clients.

Barry Saunders  
 Bay of Island Spars and Rigging  
 Te Kahu Street  
 Haruru Falls  
 PO Box 70  
 Paihia  
 Phone: 09 402 6280  
 Fax: 09 402 6287

**Auditor**

Alex Aitken asked the meeting to note that R Ineson had audited the Financial Report, and asked that he be confirmed as the Auditor. The meeting instructed the incoming Executive to check if the Auditor could be an Association official, and make the appointment.

Meeting ended 2350hrs

## 1998 NATIONAL ZEPHYR CHAMPIONSHIPS

*Preliminary*

"NOTICE OF RACE"

*Organised by the Waiuku Yacht Club in association  
with the Zephyr Owners Association*

### EASTER 1998

Saturday, Sunday, Monday the 11th, 12th, 13th April  
1998. Reserve day Tuesday 14th if necessary.

### VENUE

**Waiuku Yacht Club, Sandspit Reserve, Waiuku:** A very hospitable club on the southern shores of the Manukau Harbour. Excellent facilities including grassed reserve for rigging immediately adjacent to sandy launching area, boat wash-down, hot showers, great clubhouse, etc.

### CONVENOR

Mike O'Connell 09 3758001 Bus  
09 3758062 Fax  
09 2357023 Home

### ELIGIBILITY

All competitors will be fully paid up members of a club affiliated to YNZ and the ZOA.

### PROGRAMME

Briefing	Saturday	early am
Race 1	Saturday	am
Race 2	Saturday	Back to back
Race 3	Sunday	am
Race 4	Sunday	Back to back
Race 5	Monday	am
Race 6	Monday	Back to back

### ENTRIES

Entries may be forwarded to the Waiuku Yacht Club, PO Box 40, Waiuku, at any time up to the Regatta. The entry fee has yet to be set but will be for entries up until the

28th February. The late entry fee will apply for entries after this until 9.00 am on Saturday 11th April.

### RULES

The Regatta will be sailed under the ISAF Racing Rules 1997-2001, the prescriptions of YNZ, the Class Rules, and the Sailing Instructions.

### COURSES

May be either triangular Olympic or windward/leeward to suit conditions.

### DIVISIONS and PRIZES

To be finalised

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Will be available at least one month prior to the Regatta.

### ACCOMMODATION

There are several accommodation alternatives in and around Waiuku. The Waiuku Camping Ground borders the Yacht Club reserve and has campsites and cabins available at reasonable cost.

There are two motels and one hotel in Waiuku. Pukekohe has a range of accommodation and is within 20 minutes drive. Billets will probably also be able to be organised.

Please indicate on your entry form your accommodation requirements. Charges will be included in the 'Notice of Race'

### ENTERTAINMENT and MEALS

Rest assured these will not be forgotten. Saturday night entertainment will be organised. BBQ's each day after racing at the yacht club. Lunches will be available for purchase at the yacht club. Waiuku has a number of local restaurants and cafes.

### *Bits and Pieces*

**Gary Matthews** has assembled the building jig, and is in the process of building the first hull from it. Alex took some photos with the intention of publishing them here, but they do not scan and copy particularly well, so you will have to take our word for it. **Bill Ackland** joins us on the Executive, and he is our "bridgehead" in the capital, busy drumming up interest in the class there. The **Hamilton** season has kicked off. Our opening was a fine day, but the next week's "spring regatta" saw drizzly fluky conditions. **Gary Adams** in 251, made the trip from Waitomo and we hope to see more of him this season. There has been pleasing interest in the class so far this season, with a few more new entrants. We were saddened by the sudden loss of **Mike Westwood** from our fleet. A new recruit to the class last season, Mike died suddenly a few weeks ago, aged 48. **Canterbury** reports some new faces in the fleet, with coaching clinics arranged for October/November. **Masters Games** are in Dunedin from 31 Jan to 8th Feb 1998.

### *The Zephyr Owners' Association*

#### National President

Alex Aitken  
2 Shaftesbury Street  
Christchurch 4  
phone 03 358 4600  
email: a-a.aitken@clear.net.nz

#### National Secretary

Rob Ebert  
25 Hibiscus Ave  
Hamilton  
phone: 07 838 9375  
fax: 07 838 9376  
email: ebertr@wave.co.nz

### SUBSCRIPTIONS 1997-1998

Subscriptions for 1998 are \$15.00 for the NZZOA, and \$10.00 for local associations in Auckland, Hamilton and Christchurch. If you are an "orphan" outside these areas, the \$15.00 NZZOA sub can be forwarded to Alex Aitken, President, or Rob Ebert, Secretary. Please include your boat name and number, so we can update the Zephyr Register.

## Zephyr Owners Association President's Report

Midway through 1996 I was asked by the chairman of the Canterbury Zephyr Owners Association if I would be willing to take on the job coordinating the New Zealand structure of the ZOA. I was aware that very little had been happening since Auckland had voted to pass the reins over to Canterbury. There was a realisation at the outset that ZOA had been pushed into the background and only became relevant when there was a national competition or a need to quit cedar hulls lying unsold and eating up costs. I duly accepted the challenge, and it has been all go since then.

Membership was the first priority and this has been made possible by the revival of the West Wind and sending out copies to all known Zephyr sailors on the Register. Rob Ebert has been a real tower of strength and having computers linked with email and fax facilities makes communication so much easier.

What has been achieved during the year:

- Membership has tripled, resulting in more income.
- Four newsletters have been published
- The toll and stationery accounts reflect the PR work achieved
- The last cedar hull has been sold
- The sail design has been detailed on the computer for more accuracy
- A new boat builder is the process of being commissioned
- Contact has been made with a Zephyr Owner in

Wellington and the feedback is encouraging

- Financial statements have been filed with the Company's office so that we retain our Certificate of Incorporation
- Rob Ebert has updated the Class Rules and building code
- The President visited Auckland with Rob Ebert to establish links with past builders and designers
- The President took part in the Freshwater Regatta on Hamilton Lake and briefed the Zephyr Owners on future activities of ZOA
- A useful forum was held at the National Championships at Pigeon Bay
- The Zephyr class will feature at the Master's Games to be held in Dunedin over Waitangi weekend 1998. This will be a good promotion for the class.

My role has been one of trying to gather Canterbury, Hamilton and Auckland into the National body so that we can have unity. My thanks to Dennis Craig, Rhys Burton, Rob Ebert and the team in Christchurch for providing a sounding board for ideas. Thanks also to Richard Ineson for preparing the annual accounts and for his excellent leadership of CZOA.

Looking to the new season, there is a lot of work to be done to achieve membership levels and we should aim to have thirty Zephyrs contesting the Easter 98 Nationals at Waiuku.

**Alex Aitken**

### ZEPHYRS FOR SALE

These boats are currently listed as for sale. Some of the listings are old, and I have not sought the permission of the owners to print this list. However, the details have been in the public domain for some time. The list is published as a service to buyers and sellers of boats.

Lastname		Phone	Price	Address	Address	Address
Dove	Bill	09 236 0667	\$700.00	Mile Road	Bombay	South Auckland
French	Barry	09 827 1607	\$1,000.00	9 Sunnyside Rd	Henderson	Auckland
Muir	John	09 239366	\$700.00	Shakespeare Road	Waiuku	
Le Page	Don	3844393	\$2,500.00	243 Cannon Hill Cres	Christchurch 8	
Pittams	Des	098462485	\$1,000.00	36 Montrose St	Pt Chevalier	Auckland
Waterer	Richard	09 8186268	\$1,800.00	40a Pleasant Rd	Glen Eden	Auckland
Mayos	Dennis	09 235 3672	\$1,200.00	Glenbrook Beach Rd	RD1 Waiuku	
Colby	Denys	09 528 8696	\$1,100.00	2 Wells Rd	Bucklands Beach	Auckland
Elley	Fred	09 424 2269	\$2,000.00	10 Farnell Place	Gulf Harbour	Auckland
Watson	Charles	07 825 7290	\$200.00	6 Long Street	Raglan	
Langton	Dennis	03 3779893	\$0.00	5/27 Cornwall St	Christchurch 1	
Levi	Glen	06 348 8198	\$500.00	PO Box 586		Wanganui 5001
Mossman	Ron	07 8564804	\$800.00	26b Brookfield St	Hamilton	
Whitehead	Karen	04 479 8059	\$2,000.00	12 Kamla Way	Kendallah	
Collins	John	07 847 6646	\$0.00	6 Riccarton Place	Hamilton	
Hughes	Mike	09 8436746	\$900.00	325 Titirangi Rd	Titirangi	Auckland 7
Brent	Mayall	07 866 4931	\$1,000.00	21 South Highway	Whitianga	

### Renovation Tip - Transom Vents

Transom vents are an effective way to drain water after that half capsize that fills the cockpit. Provided the bow is kept up, water rapidly drains through the stern, even in sub-planing conditions. They are easily installed in boats without a stern bulkhead, and are well worth doing. If you have a hull with a stern bulkhead, a tunnel through the buoyancy tank needs to be created, and would be difficult without the deck being removed.