

# CLSA Windword

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## Royal Navy Lifeboat Institute

Submitted by Rick Atterberry

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CLSA web site:  
<http://www.clsasailing.org>

The Royal Navy Lifeboat Institute in the British Isles is an organization much like our Coast Guard Auxiliary, with the exception that it operates under a separate charter and is not a part of the British Coast Guard. Volunteers are organized in many seaside communities. As I understand it, some financial support comes from the government, but much of it is privately raised. You can become a supporting member of RNLI without participating in their rescue activities.

Here's a link to the main web site: <http://www.rnli.org.uk/>

When Gisele was living in Canterbury last year, one of the closest seacoast towns was Whitstable. It was about 12 miles east of Canterbury located on England's east coast. It is just a little north of the Strait of Dover. I visited Whitstable often. There is a yacht club...every small coastal town has one and most are just as informal as ours. Some offer sail training in small boats, including Lasers. Training also includes wet suit rental, something we just couldn't bring ourselves to do. Whitstable does have an RNLI station. Its web site is at <http://www.whitstablelifeboat.org.uk/>

On the websites above you can sign up to receive notification of the latest "Shout" which is what we would call an activation. The RNLI site often links to newspaper articles about activities while the Whitstable site provides local commentary and pictures. We were visiting Whitstable with some friends one day as a training drill was ending and got an up-close look at the operation. The Whitstable boat is a large inflatable. It is launched from a trailer which resembles a cage. The trailer is brought

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out of the shoreside boat house, located well above high tide, and pushed down the launch area on the beach by a large 4-wheel drive tractor which has been modified to run while partially submerged. The boat is kept backwards on the trailer so it can be driven straight off to save time. Often, on returning, the water is too rough for the boat to safely back onto the trailer. In those cases it is driven onto the trailer and later turned around manually using a special cradle built for that purpose. The boat and all equipment must be hosed off after each use because of the salt water. We had a chance to speak briefly with crew members and have our pictures taken with them...Yes, the Whitstable Crew is co-ed.

Many of the local RNLI boathouses also have small gift shops which can be a supplemental source of income. There is also an on-line gift shop on the main web page. Just remember the exchange rate and shipping charges!

## Six New Docks at Clinton Lake Marina

submitted by Dave Toland via the Bloomington Pantagraph

CLINTON -- The Clinton Lake Marina could see six new covered docks next year as part of a plan by the DeWitt County Board to upgrade facilities at the publicly-owned marina.

The board's marina committee voted Monday to recommend Shoremaster, a Missouri firm, as the contractor for the project. The committee gave tentative approval of Shoremaster's bid of \$101,000 to build six covered docks.

For more of this story, click on or type the URL below:

<http://www.pantagraph.com/articles/2006/10/16/news/doc453405c63f61b850798182.txt>

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## Looking to Buy a Boat?

submitted by Bill Vokac

A number of CLSA members have asked me to watch for a used boat about "so long" and for under "so much," which I enjoy doing. After all, it is such fun to look...

As a CLSA member or friend of CLSA, you can:

1) check the CLSA classifieds at the end of each CLSA Windword or place a "boat wanted" ad of your own.

All of the recent Windwords are available on-line at

[www.clsasailing.org](http://www.clsasailing.org) -- just click on "recent Windwords"

-- follow other sailing links on our CLSA home page

-- go to the Flying Scot link on our CLSA home page  
(or directly to [www.fssa.com](http://www.fssa.com), then click on "Scots N' Water Magazine, classifieds")

2) subscribe to:

BoatUS.com's "Classified Ads Sailboat Newsletter"

I enjoy getting this email regularly, "just to look...", to give me an idea of the used sailboat market, and help me get through those L O N G winter nights.

While you are at [www.boatus.com](http://www.boatus.com), when you go to the classifieds, you can do a search that allows you to limit responses to certain brands, lengths, price ranges, etc. to save your time. For instance, you could look at only Hunters under so many \$\$, and so on. If you have "fallen" for a particular model of sailboat, this site is great for looking only for Compac 16's or a Potter 19, or ? You might have to travel to another state but you'll get exactly the sailboat you're looking for!

3) check classifieds online at <http://www.NorthernBreezes.com> (this link currently inactive. Ed.) for sailboats in Illinois and adjacent states.

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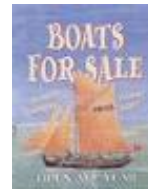
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4) look in your local newspaper's classified, too. And don't forget those *free* magazines you find in racks at restaurants, gas stations, etc. That's how I bought the 10' catamaran that I train youngsters on.

5) E-Bay could work, too. There are some but, there is no substitute for seeing the boat before you own it.



bargains out there, you are bidding upon

For Instance:

If the mast or boom is not perfectly straight? It to correct that without creasing or tearing it. A you over \$1000 and require expensive shipping had a local shop repair a Scot boom. Even though I said it needed to be perfectly straight before they welded a patch on, it wasn't right when they got done. Their answer was, we didn't think it needed to be "that straight!" I used it a couple of years for pleasure sailing and then bought a new one when I got more serious about racing my Flying Scot.

may not be possible new mast will cost (think wood crate!). I

If the sails are in bad shape, a new main will run close to \$1000 and jibs run \$500 and up, depending on size and features (like reef points, etc.). If there is an engine, it may need expensive repairs or replacement.

(BTW, I have found good values on new and used replacement sails at <http://www.thesailwarehouse.com> That is where my new MacGregor 25 main came from.)

6) look between houses and backyards for a sailboat that obviously hasn't been used for years and knock on the door. If they say the sailboat is not for sale tell them about all the fun we have at Clinton Lake with CLSA! (please give me their contact information, so I can answer all of their questions about CLSA...and thanks for helping us grow!)

Enjoy looking for your sailboat. It'll give you many years of pleasure and fond memories of great days on the water. And, don't forget to...

Sail CLSA!!

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## Winter Boat Storage Suggestions

submitted by Bill Vokac

Winter Sailboat and Gear Storage Comments and Ideas:

The inspiration for this contribution and some information below came from *Sail Magazine*, Nov 2006. (See [www.sailmagazine.com](http://www.sailmagazine.com) for a complete "winter lay-up checklist.")

Unless you have a warm garage to store your sailboat(s) in, you need to consider the damage that freezing can do to your normal gear and your hull.



Clean and DRY your bilge! "Bilgewater that freezes and expands around keelbolts or glass tabbing can crack these exposed surfaces." (p.69)

(Sailboats with water ballast should follow instructions from the manufacturer carefully.)

Personally, every winter, I have always put up my MacGregor 25 by removing:

- 1) cabin cushions: which I clean with a damp cloth and then spray with Lysol before storing in our house basement
- 2) sails: cleaning any stains and residue with a damp cloth, air-dried (by hanging them outside between trees) , and then folded or rolled them to put back into their sailbags
- 3) all lines: soaking them in basement laundry tubs with occasional hand agitation, air dried, coiled and stored with proper labeling of previous function
- 4) outboard: serviced for storage and left in 50+ degree, stored horizontally on its own backrest bracket. (The motor has rewarded me by always starting every Spring on the second pull.)

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5) storage battery: which I have always kept charged with a monthly boost from a regular charger, but this year I'll use a new trickle charger with only a 1.5 amp rate to compensate for the normal self-discharge rate (batteries left uncharged in freezing weather will be ruined).

If you store your boat outside with the mast up all winter, you risk needless wear and tear on all surfaces. Erect rigging on a sailboat firmly attached to a trailer endures more pressure than it would if the sailboat were still allowed to tilt in a slip or on a mooring when the wind picks up. Moreover, the increased leverage could topple the hull with the trailer still firmly attached! (It has happened nearly every year at Clinton Lake to someone!) Unless you plan to re-launch a couple of times over the winter, putting the mast down is best.

## CLSA Fall Party

submitted by Chris Wojnar

It was great fun and there was great attendance at the end-of-year CLSA Fall Party. 50 plus people were in attendance at Greg Forrest's restaurant, *The Captain's Galley*. Attendees were treated to an exceptional buffet dinner of ham, roast chicken, broiled potatoes and vegetables with cake and pie desserts. Entertainment was provided by the live island music of "Steely Pan." Dave and Betty



Toland kept everyone happy through the evening, entertaining the audience with many creative door prizes and anecdotes. Dave also received the coveted traveling trophy "Salty Dog" for his background in blue water sailing around Tortola in the Caribbean as well as fighting for preservation of CLSA and its place at the marina. Dr. Mike Trautman

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(last year's winner) and veteran of both Clinton Lake sailing and Sarasota, Florida blue water sailing, was present to pass the award on to Dave. Sarah Freyman won the Commodore's Cup for her exceptional work in the restoration of the point near the CLSA pavilion, as she is responsible for the return of the flora after it was completely demolished by earth-moving equipment last year. Gerry Christman was master of ceremonies during the racing awards and handed out at least a dozen trophies and award cups. Craig Rost, as outgoing commodore, welcomed Bill Vokac as next year's commodore. CLSA now has nearly 85 memberships and is still growing! There are still a few boats in the water and still fewer sailing days left in 2006. Good luck to all in the coming year and may the warm winds of Spring bring you all back to Lake Clinton.



## CLSA Classifieds

1. **Nicro Marine solar ventilation fan** model 20503B, needs 3" hole, black exterior. Battery not included but not needed to run unless you want 24 hr operation. Works well. \$25.00.

2. **Boat anchor**, 14 LBS, probably Danforth, with 100' of 5/8" line and 6' vinyl-covered chain. Easily holds 25' sailboat. \$50.00.

Rudi Mortimer, [rgm@uiuc.edu](mailto:rgm@uiuc.edu), 217-367-4705.

**Hobie 16 Parts For Sale:** The U of I Sailing Club is parting out 2 Hobie 16's. We have a good mast, bent mast, good frame, very good complete rudder/telescoping tiller extension assembly in U of I colors, set of usable sails, and misc. other parts. All reasonable offers accepted and all unreasonable offers considered -- especially from fellow CLSA'ers. Contact Rob at [coatney2@uiuc.edu](mailto:coatney2@uiuc.edu), or 217-621-6309

**Windsurfer Parts Wanted:** The U of I Sailing Club is looking for parts to get our windsurfers going. We need: Bic Samba centerboard, Mast base parts for boards (Wayler, Mistral, Bic Samba, O'Brien, Kerma). We have Hobie parts and some windsurfer booms available for trade. If you have any of these parts (or any old windsurfing stuff you're looking to get rid of) please contact Rob at [coatney2@uiuc.edu](mailto:coatney2@uiuc.edu), or 217-621-6309.

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**22 foot Spindrift**, sleeps 4, has a porta potty, sink, alcohol stove, 12 v light system. Interior is in great shape. 9.9 Mariner electric start in great shape. Sails are good. Furling jib is good. There is a for sale sign on her now out at the lake. The track on the jib furler is broken, but we have the new one, just have not installed it. It has a retractable keel and a tilt trailer. Land storage is paid for this year. We really need to move her. We had been asking \$4,500 or best offer. Our phone number is 485-3545...Cathy and Steve Stiff

**The Carlyle sailing association is selling several Sunfish.** These inexpensive, 14-ft. boats are a great introduction to sailing. For details, contact Paul Hanson, (217) 288-5840; email at: PHanson@stcharleseng.com



## CLSA Officers 2007

**Commodore:** Bill Vokac  
**Rear Commodore:** Craig Rost  
**Vice Commodore:** Still trolling  
**Secretary:** Ben Williams

### Committee Chairs:

**Membership:** Bill Vokac  
**Race Committee:** Gerry Christman  
**Harbormaster:** Dave Toland (with help from several volunteers)  
**Education:** To be determined  
**Social:** Rick Wojnar  
**Publicity (aka Windword;Website):** Bob Miller



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