

NEW NAME

Winter

P.O. BOX 547 RIO VISTA, CA 94571

1991

SHREDITOR'S LETTER...

Rio Vista Windsurfing Association? I know, you thought you had joined an organization named Team Rio

Boardsailing Association. Well Team Rio sold us and to everyone else in the Western Hemisphere their mailing list. Apparently the officers were trying to raise money for some Baja trip? Just kidding, what's really going on is after months of painstaking conversation the Association has decided that it is time for a new name.

Team Rio is a little misleading. I remember asking someone if they had ever heard of Team Rio Boardsailing Association, and they replied they had. But the startling thing about this is, that they thought Team Rio was a team of boardsailors trying to raise money to windsurf in competition. I know this example may seem a little extreme, but with today's growing concerns regarding access in the Delta, we cannot afford to lose would be members due to misunderstandings. We drastically need to increase membership.

We hope you will be satisfied with the new name. We feel it helps to connect our Association geographically. This we have recently found important when dealing with local and state agencies. In closing we would like to say "Happy Holiday's" to all of you.

R.V.W.A. officers



Windy Cove Sailboard Park - Fact or Fantasy?

In 1984 an initiative bond was passed that would allow the State Department of Parks and Recreation to build new state parks and enhance existing ones throughout the State. Right around that time Brannan Island State Park acquired a parcel of land directly across Highway 160 along the Sacramento River. Their intentions were to construct a camping/windsurfing facility.

In 1986 discussion began regarding this facility. Our Association was asked for input in the years to follow as preliminary plans were prepared. It is now November 1991 and the Windy Cove facilities have been down scaled to one half of the original plan. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in mid 1993 with a 1994 completion date. The project has 1991/92 state budget approval.

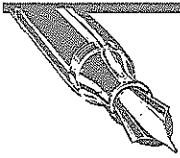
All would appear to be going well. However, if the state decides to make further budget cuts in the years to come, the already scaled down Windy Cove project could become so small that we might need magnifying glasses to see it! At the very least it could be further delayed.

The number of windsurfers using the Delta for recreation is now exceeding the numbers estimated in the general plan for Brannan Island and Franks Tract that was prepared several years ago. As these numbers increase we're seeing phenomenal overcrowding at the few sailing sites currently available. Of the accesses currently available, only two, Sherman Island County Park and Sandy Beach, are designated for public use! The remainder of the accesses, approximately eight, are on private property. We have been very lucky to have continued use of these unimproved sites.

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Tide Charts

Walt White of "First Cool Breeze" has provided the association with rights to copy, distribute and resale his popular tide charts. The association has agreed to pay annually for his service. You will find the first four months of 1992 enclosed, and additional months will be provided in each quarterly newsletter. The charts are unique in their presentation of the currents and are calculated for Sherman Island - no more adding hours to quesstimate an accurate tide. We are sure that you will find these tide charts an indispensable part of your gear bag.



Letter from the prez...

As another season of windsurfing comes to a close in the Delta I find myself breathing a sigh of relief. Each season since my involvement began with the Association I am increasingly plagued with the feeling of impending doom. I am not pessimistic by nature, however, I feel as if we are sailing on borrowed time.

I was very concerned when Sacramento County Parks installed the toll booth at Sherman Island Access. As luck would have it, the overall impact to windsurfing was actually minimal. I believe this was due to R.V.W.A.'s installation of two new accesses outside the park, which helped to ease congestion on and off the water.

The true test of spirit came to light in late August with the closure of the popular access known as the "Jungle." This travesty actually helped strengthen the Association, and has given the Officers and Board of Directors a more formal point of view. It became vividly clear that the Association needed to begin taking an offensive posture, rather than reacting only in times of trouble. Otherwise, the next time windsurfers are threatened with the loss of access we may come out the loser.

The difficulty our Association is experiencing is that we only have a small core of energetic individuals to pursue numerous goals. Therefore, we must be selective in expending our limited energies.

Over the last two years we have experienced the Delta becoming a destination for windsurfers nationally and internationally. The longer the majority of our accesses remain target to potential closure, the less secure we can be about being able to sail where we want to tomorrow. We must keep in mind that if an obscure spot frequented only by a few becomes off limits, those individuals will seek access else where, subsequently creating further overcrowding.

There exists a great potential to increase low-impact, safe accesses in the Delta, and steps need to be taken to ensure that these potentials become realities. The Association desperately needs to increase membership. Current membership is only one-half of last years. If you feel that you have anything to offer, resources, experience, or just desire please get involved by contacting the Association.

Steve

Current Membership

We thank all members for their generous support. Your contribution will help ensure that windsurfers can continue to exercise our privileges as we do now. From the sandbags, information signs, porta-potties and beach cleanups at various sailing sites, to our political activity in local and state government - your contribution is hard at work. We would like to express additional gratitude to the non-windsurfers who made contributions to our organization. You have confirmed our status as an integral part of the Delta community. In order to meet the goals defined for the coming year, we need to increase our membership. Please encourage your friends and associates to join this fun and dynamic organization.

Corporate members:

Boards 'N Motion
Terry Bartles

Sustaining Members:

Alameda Sailboard Exchange
Eric & Dora Morse
James 2-Tall Beatty
Jim E Bullington
Jimmy B Smith
Neil Hanscomb
Porter D Vaughan
Rick Dedolph
Sandy Bert
Vincent P Eckles
Windcraft Sailboard Center

Family Members:

Bob Concannon
Brad & Doug Evans
Darrel Daly
David Edwards
David M. Shames
Denis O. Whiteneck
Gary W. Kimsey
Harold C. Appleton
Jack Geiger
James & Janet Grinstead
Joel Olney
John & Sandy Kohlmoos
Jon & Carol Shanser
Julie & Jay Zeilenga
Frank & Lassa Kristel
Lydia & Frank Schlosser
Mark & Julie Wales
Michael Herman
Michael Passovoy
Michael Wilcox
Milan & Margo Pender
Spencer Rauber
Stephen Sims
Tony Sweet
Walter Haefeker
Will & Cookie McClard

Individual Members:

Andy Sewell
Anne E. Karcher
Antonio Rocha
Bill Geisinger
Bowen Dickinson
Brad Davidson
Brent Hodson
Brian Geasa
Bruce Ryhal
Carl Bass
Charles Blade
Christopher Doty
Connie Padgett
Curtis L. Rich
Dave Hamilton
Dave Luehls
David Stanffer
Delsie M. Austinson
Dennis Gates
Don W. Swezey
Doreen Bryant
Doug Fleas

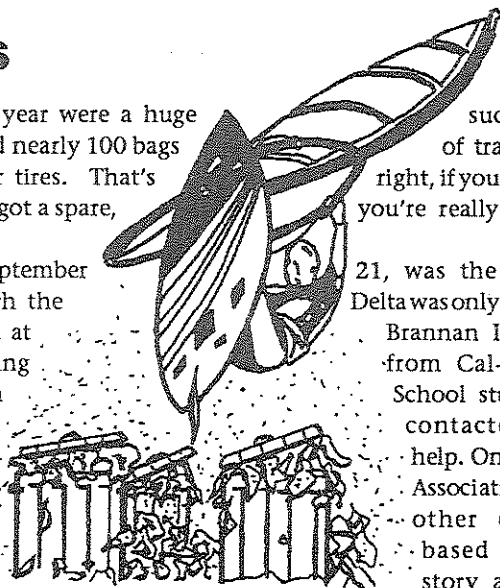
Edward Bishop
Eric Ting
Gail A. Thompson
Gene Gelfus
Gerry Grotenhuis
Graham Crawford
Greg Wiley
Howard Hendry
Hugo A. Manzano
James Mossop
James W. Gann
Jay M. Uhalt
Jay Runge
Jean Gibassier
Jeffery A. Johnson
Jessica Gibassier
Jillian Dornan
Joe Mraz
Joe Ragsdale
Joel T. Martinique
John H. Henning
Jonathan F. hue
Joseph W. Hayes
Karel L. Nunnink
Ken Brown
Ken Sevier
Kevin Meyer
Larry L. Perkins
Lawrence Ward
Lori Szczepanik
Mark E. Brady
Mark Sewell
Mark Stephens
Melly Thompson
Michael Jesse
Nancy Zehnder
Noel Ahlgaard
Pat Rickey
Ragnar Hakansson
Randy Zorn
Richard L. Waller
Rick Prier
Robert Hicks
Robert L. Schneider
Robert S. Davis
Robert Stewart
Rocky L. Stone
Ronald Beck
Russ Gordon
Russell W. Luba
Ryan Augustin
Sandra Scott
Sam Tallman
Shi Bromann
Stephen Reynolds
Steve Hodson
Steve Schiff
Steve Smith
Steven L. Goetz
Sue DeWitt
Tim J. Kuma
Tony Tucker
Walt White
Wayne Wilson
William B. Clausen

Clean Ups

Our two clean ups this year were a huge first, held August 17, netted nearly 100 bags frigerators, and several car tires. That's the levee, and you haven't got a spare, now.

The second, held on September 21, was the California Coastal Clean Up in which the Delta was only a small part. The Delta effort was based at Brannan Island State Park and volunteers ranging from Cal-Trans employees to Pittsburgh High School students participated. R.V.W.A. was contacted by the help. Once again the Association brought other entity in-based in Sacramento and we received prime time recognition.

We again thank all of those who graciously gave their Saturday afternoons to pick up garbage. Without windsurfer participation these efforts would be a failure, and consequently our accesses would look much like the city dump.



success! The of trash, two re-right, if you get a flat on you're really in trouble

21, was the California Delta was only a small part. Brannan Island State from Cal-Trans em-School students par-ticipated by the help. Once again the Association brought other entity in-based in Sacra-tory and we re-

Wynd

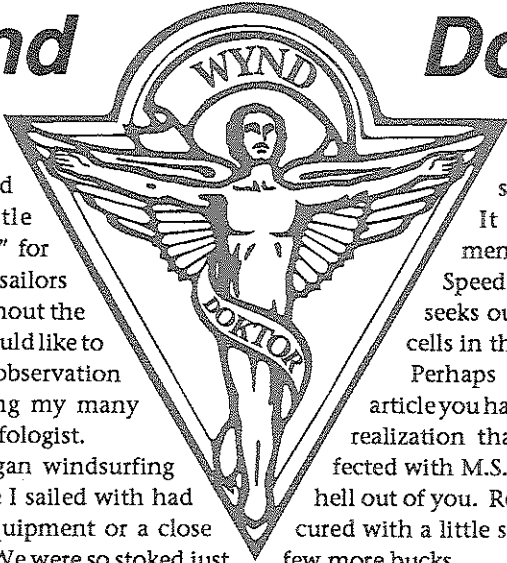
Doktor

Since this is the last newsletter for 1991, I have decided to produce a little "food for thought" for you wind starved sailors to chew on throughout the winter season. I would like to share with you an observation I have made during my many years as a Windsurfologist.

When I first began windsurfing most of the people I sailed with had either the same equipment or a close facsimile thereof. We were so stoked just to be out sailing together. With this limitation on our equipment, it was unheard of to come down with the disorder M.S.S., more commonly known as Maximum Speed Syndrome.

Since the introduction of slalom boards and cambered sails, this disorder has reached epidemic proportions. Persons diagnosed with this mind crippling disease usually have the same symptoms. An obsession to spend large sums of money to purchase the latest, lightest, and fastest equipment available, for only one purpose. The purpose, of course, is to go faster than anyone else, especially their friends and others afflicted with M.S.S.

Persons afflicted with M.S.S. have been known to stalk their intended victims on and off the water. M.S.S. is extremely contagious and most people are infected after being passed repeatedly by one or more sailors who have already been overcome by this disorder. As with most illness' there is a degenerative process



that takes place in the infected person's mind and body.

It has been documented that Maximum Speed Syndrome actually seeks out and destroys fun cells in the human body.

Perhaps while reading this article you have come to the grim realization that you may be infected with M.S.S., and it scares the hell out of you. Relax, M.S.S. is easily cured with a little self-discipline and a few more bucks.

The first step is to go out and get a moderate to high wind chop board. Also, a chest harness and a couple of wave sails will really help to speed up your recovery. Whenever you are overtaking someone and you feel the sinister urge to pass close enough to make them eat your spray, just crank off a 360. You should immediately feel the fun cells regenerating.

Now that you have been informed about the cause, symptoms, and cure of M.S.S. I would like to leave you with the following advice; Going fast is definitely fun, state of the art equipment is most excellent to own, and racing within the boundaries of good sportsmanship can be considered healthy windsurfing. However, always remember to sail safe and fast, but if the intent is wrong "DARE NOT TO PASS."

*Happy Trails in the water and the snow.
The Dok*

Windsurfing Access Threatened

August 17, 1991 began like any other day in the Delta, however, something was going to be different about this windy summer day. Windsurfers using the accesses locally known as "The Jungle" and "The Slab" were going to receive a notice from the California Department of Parks and Recreation stating that these accesses would no longer be open to windsurfers.

RVWA members contacted Association officers later that night at the annual August dinner, and for days to follow, calls came in from members expressing their concerns as well as their desires to participate in reopening these accesses. RVWA members Sue DeWitt, Steve Reynolds, Glen Giovannoni, along with Association officers formed a Brannan Island committee, and began the tedious task of investigating into this seemingly unnecessary closure. As the evidence flooded in, the supposed impetus for the closure was uncovered. Staff at the Parks Dept. stated that these areas were never formally open for public use, and that fences had been torn down so that windsurfers could reach the water.

Now, I ask you, does that sound like something windsurfers would do blatantly destroy property so that they may reach the wind ravaged water? I would say not! It sounds more like a restless group of vigilantes than windsurfers to me. In reality, what had occurred was windsurfers had gained informal access through existing holes in the dilapidated fence. When local park employees rebuilt the fence, they installed a permanent gate in recognition of the access that had been granted to windsurfers by default. During an August 1991 tour of the park, management became aware of the gate and initiated the closure.

The stated motive then became two fold, with the second issue being safety. That's right, SAFETY! One of the safest sailing accesses known to windsurfers was being deemed unsafe. A small informal meeting was held on the following Monday, at the obscure location of Brannan Island State Park. Here the cries for "right to water access" were voiced by a small crowd. Virtually nothing was ac-

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Notes of Appreciation

Rio Vista Windsurfing Association would like to express our deepest appreciation to everyone who donated time, effort, and resources throughout 1991. Only with the continued cooperation and assistance of members, Delta landowners, organizations, and individuals can R.V.W.A. continue to improve the quality of windsurfing, as well as minimizing it's impact on the fragile Delta surroundings.

We would especially like to thank those who were key in helping to achieve our 1991 goals; Gene Chelli-Land owner of the power lines area, Larry Del Caro-lessee of the power lines area, Gene Peck-Sherman Island Levee maintenance, Steve Reynolds & Homeboyz trash crew-Coastal Clean up, Peggy & Al Martin-Rites of Summer, Sue DeWitt, Steve Reynolds, & Glen Giovanononi-jungle access issue, The sand baggers-to numerous to name, and Hillbilly Dave-The Sandman.

These are only a few of the many who helped the season be a fun, clean, and safe one. Every effort, no matter how small, can make a difference.

R.V.W.A. needs continued support to help achieve goals that are already in the works for 1992. It is never to late, you can make a difference, get involved!

Windy Cove *(continued)*

The Delta has been labeled as one of the world's premiere windsurfing locations by numerous sporting publications and the authors of the General Plan. What is so great about it? Sure, the winds blow consistently hard all summer long, but there are increasingly fewer and fewer locations to windsurf due to overcrowding. We need more water access!

If we were to look into a magical crystal ball to see what the future has in store for us, what do you suppose we would see? New wonderful windsurfing parks with showers, overnight camping, and restrooms all along the Brannan/Sherman Island corridor? I doubt it! Who would be the driving force behind such a Shangri-la?

Rio Vista Windsurfing Association is dedicated to ensuring that the sport remain fun, and overcrowded accesses are not an ingredient in the recipe for fun. Therefore, the Association is currently doing a study to see how feasible pre-developing Windy Cove might be. This

pre-development could encompass the following:

- Grading a roadway.
- Grading a parking area for approximately 150 vehicles.
- Cutting a large bowl with a 1 to 6 slope at the cove area for river access.
- Providing portable restroom facilities and trash receptacles.

If we find that we have resources to do the above we will proceed to write a proposal for the Department of Parks and Recreation. We are asking all of our membership to be our resources. If there is anyway that you might be of assistance please contact the Association. Hopefully, in the years to come, we won't be asked "What ever happened to that proposed windsurfing park at Windy Cove?"

Happy Holiday's,
Kevin



Access *(continued)*

completed due largely to the Parks Departments attitude towards windsurfers' small needs. No alternatives were proposed, and in the days to follow fences were installed impeding access at these locations.

The Brannan Island committee began making phone calls to several state agencies researching our rights to this water access. During this time, it was discovered that the Parks Dept. also had plans to install No Parking signs along both sides of the highway to ensure that no river access would be available. Finally, after a myriad of phone calls and letters, the Parks Dept was persuaded to put a hold on the installation of the No Parking signs.

That is where the issue currently rests. Not necessarily a happy ending to a tragic event, but rather a bit of peace amid a cloudy issue. We are currently working for more access in this vicinity. A special thanks to Sue, Steve, and Glen for their zest to see that accesses like these remain open for all of our use.



RIO VISTA WINDSURFING ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 547
RIO VISTA, CA 94571

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To get involved call...

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<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Brian Geasa</i>
<i>Membership</i>	415-521-8834

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