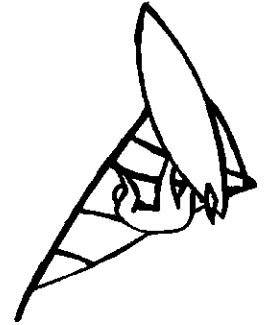


**Congratulations to
Steve & Suzanne Smith
Married Friday, May 8th
On the Island of Maui**



SPRING

P.O. BOX 547 RIO VISTA, CA 94571

1998

Spring Cleanup

Memorial Day Weekend - Sunday MAY 31st - 10:00am

Oh man, do we have a lot to do to get the 1998 season underway.

There is going to be a lot of work to accommodate all of the changes that are going to take place this year.

The new parking lot at The Sign will require us to build several launches, relocating the stairways from the existing parking area and building some sort of parking separation to make sure that the parking area is not a free for all. There is fencing that will have to be removed or relocated and some brush will need to be removed along the levee for visibility and access.

At The Power Lines we need to repair the launches and build stairways down the levee slope over the rock that The Board of Reclamation had to install to stop the erosion where we enter the water.

And of course there is a considerable amount of trash that needs to be removed from the usual winter abuse.

Because of the amount of work that needs to be done, we have planned for a two weekend event. We will start on Sunday of the Memorial Day weekend (May 31) and

continue through Monday. We will complete anything that was not accomplished during Memorial Day weekend on the following Saturday (June 6th).

As there is so much work to get done in order to have a safe and enjoyable sailing season, we really need everyone to show up on as many days as possible. All you have to do is be at you favorite sailing site and RVWA representatives will show up at about 9:30 to coordinate the work and get everyone started.

As always, the work will be scheduled so as not to spoil the best wind and tides of the day. We should be able to take advantage of the lulls and floods and still get everything accomplished that we have planned.

If you are interested in helping even more (preparation, organization, planning) contact Steve at 510-706-0479 or Brian at 510-521-2448.

If you're thinking there will be plenty of help to get things done you're wrong, we need you there.

We hope to have an after clean up party on Memorial Day Sunday but you'll have to be there to get the details.



Membership Dues are Due NOW!

Memberships expire as of April 1st.

Complete the enclosed membership application (be sure to include your membership number from your mailing label on this newsletter), enclose a check and mail it to Paula at:

RVWA

P.O. Box 547

Rio Vista, CA 94571.

Important Resources:

RVWA Website	http://www.rvwa.com
SFBA Website	http://www.sfba.org
Windsurfing Newsgroup	rec.windsurfing
Sherman Island Windtalker	(916) 777-7007
Crissy Field Windtalker	(415) 563-9794
Candlestick Windtalker	(415) 467-7287
Berkeley Windtalker	(510) 843-3446
Mount Tamalpais (north coast)	(415) 381-9463
Brannan Island (camping reservations)	(800) 444-7275
Delta Windsurf Company	(916) 777-2299
Windcraft	(916) 777-7067
Windsurf Diablo	(510) 778-6350

Letter from the prez....

There are going to be a lot of changes in The Delta this season that are going to have a considerable impact on the windsurfing community.

All of our normal sailing sites are going to be affected. Some will be improved and others will be closed for all of the season. The Access, the new parking lot, and perhaps Old Baja Road are going to be closed for the season and will probably remain closed during the 1999 season.

The Army Corps of Engineers will begin a levee repair test project that will start at the cross levee that leads to Sherman Lake Marina and running all the way up river to The Sign. During construction, and for at least eighteen months after completion of the project, there will be no sailing along this section of the levee.

The Sherman Island Board of Reclamation has notified RVWA of their intention to accommodate windsurfers back in this area after the Army corps has finished it's tests of settlement and inclination of the levee test section.

The DWR (our landlords at the existing parking area) understand the impact on windsurfers and RVWA and have agreed to relocate us to a new parking area at the sign. We will have considerably more parking area, power and water at this site (perhaps outside showers). We plan to relocate the stairs from the current parking area and install several launches at this new site.

Hopefully we will get to keep this new site once we are again allowed to use our old sailing site.

It is crucial that windsurfers do not interfere with any portion of this project. RVWA will be working closely with all the agencies participating in this project to insure that windsurfing will not have any adverse affect on the project.

RVWA will continue to notify members of ongoing changes that might affect windsurfing for the duration of construction and testing.

Brannon Island State Park has received a sizable grant to do major improvements to the Windy Cove area of the park. At this time there is no anticipation that there will be any interruption in windsurfing at Windy Cove. Included in the improvements to the Windy Cove area are bathroom/showers, paving of the parking area, irrigation, improvements to the existing launch area and an observation deck. The construction has already started. Construction should be completed some time in December of 1999.

Sherman Island County Park has received a grant from California Boating and Waterways to improve paths and water access at the park. This is good news for us as the focus of the work that has been planed will benefit windsurfers the most. The current plan includes increasing the parking just past the main launch site to accommodate 50 to 60 vehicles. There will be another launch constructed just east of the launch that RVWA installed in 1993. Two permanent tank toilets will be installed. The new toilets are state of the art sweet smelling toilets that are the ecological rage in parks all over the country.

There is a meeting scheduled in May to discuss the proposed improvements and the construction schedule. We hope to see improvements start as early as June.

RVWA would like to thank everyone from all the agencies who have obviously become windsurfing conscious and recognize the need for improvements to help insure that windsurfing continues to have a positive impact in and around the Sacramento Delta sailing sites. It is up to all of us who frequent The Delta to ensure that we all act responsively so as not to interfere with any of the construction that will be going on during the next couple of seasons.

There are sure to be a lot of inconveniences but with mutual cooperation we all will benefit in the end.

Not a bad way for winsurfing in The Delta to kick off the next century.

The logo consists of the letters 'Sae' in a stylized, bold, sans-serif font. The 'S' and 'a' are connected, and the 'e' is separate. The letters are black and set against a white background.

W Y N D

DOKTOR

OK, so I haven't been exactly precise over the last two years in my wind predictions.

How was I supposed to know that a horrendous El Niño was going to 86 the effect of sunspots?

I am glad that I just got my first good session of the year the other night or this article would probably really be depressing. I decided that it would be best if I wrote this article before a prolonged stint of no sailing made me sour.

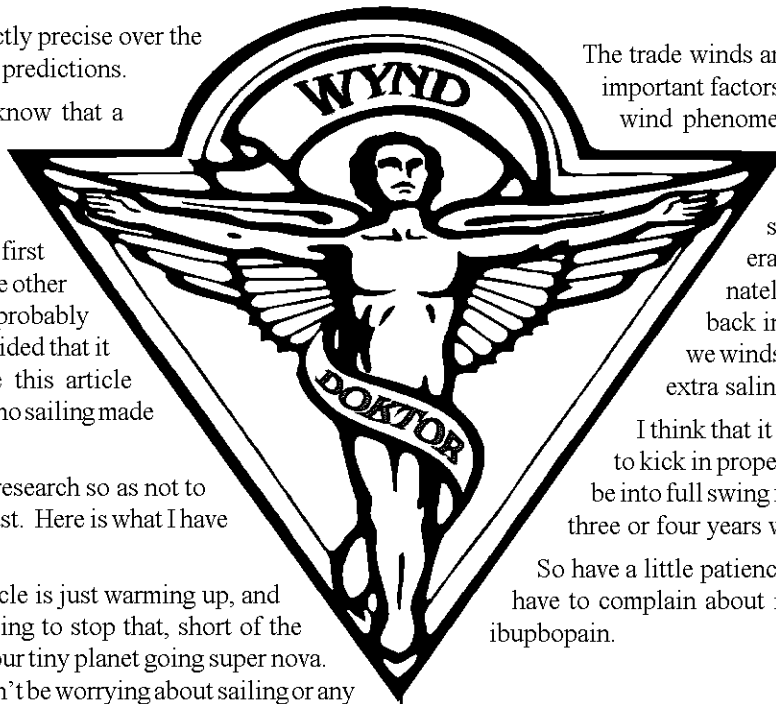
This year I did a lot more research so as not to screw up as I have in the past. Here is what I have come up with

Obviously the sun spot cycle is just warming up, and there is nothing that is going to stop that, short of the nuclear globe that warms our tiny planet going super nova. And if that happens we won't be worrying about sailing or any thing else for that matter.

The El Niño that has been wreaking havoc with our weather is dissipating and it appears that we should soon be under the influence of EL Niña.

Now perhaps I might have your attention, because you might be wondering what the effects of an EL Niña might have in store for us.

What should happen is almost exactly the opposite of what we have been experiencing for at least the last three years from the effects of one of the strongest EL Niños on record. EL Niños are notorious for killing the trade winds and warming up the waters off the California coast.



The trade winds and the cold water are the two most important factors involved in producing our normal wind phenomena in The Delta, the Gorge, and along the California coast.

If every thing goes as expected we should finally be moving into several seasons of great wind. Unfortunately for some, we will probably head back into the drought years. But hey, all we windsurfers have to worry about is a little extra salinity in the water.

I think that it will take a little while for the wind to kick in proper but by June I think that we should be into full swing for some great sailing. And the next three or four years will be outstanding.

So have a little patience and soon the only thing you will have to complain about is calluses and an empty bottle of ibupbopain.

GOT WIND / THE DOK

WYND DOCTOR QUICK TIP

Look for the blue hole: After the storm fronts of Spring roll through, clouds will surround The Delta, but here will be clear skies directly above the marine stable air blowing through The Delta. This usually means that it is already blowing or it will be blowing soon. Sometimes this phenomena can be seen from as far away as the Sierra Foothills.



Membership Info...

Of course it has taken us until the last minute to get the newsletter and tide charts out. Our staffing is very limited and both Brian and Steve have been very busy with a multitude of meetings that seem to be endless, with the many changes that are going on this year.

It would be great if someone could help out with the newsletter and tide charts. Anyone interested should be knowledgeable in Pagemaker or other computerized tool, and must be willing to make at least a two year commitment. Realistically it would only be committing to about thirty hours a year.

The articles are primarily written by Brian and Steve (although we would love some help) so the scope of work will be design, formatting and coordinating printing. If anyone is interested, please call Brian Geasa at 510-521-2448.

It is very important that everyone sends in their dues as soon as possible as this year is going to be a tough one. All the turmoil has brought on many new projects.

Because of the fact that we always run out of money before the end of year and we foresee even more expenditures in the immediate

future, the board of directors have decided to raise the dues to 20.00-single 30.00-family 50.00-sustaining and 100.00-corporate.

Without our sustaining and corporate members The Association will not be able to provide all of the services that we have all come to expect. If you have a few extra bucks and you want to help out over and above, it would be greatly appreciated by all.

RVWA membership is one of the last great values. The tide charts, port-a-potties, the parking, the clean-ups, the newsletters, and the representation all for less than a set of harness lines.

We would like to thank Paula for her excellent work. She is still going to remain in charge of the membership committee. Without her help, things would truly be chaotic, at best.

The tide charts will be in the local shops by the time you are reading this newsletter. Joining at one of our sponsor shops is the quickest and easiest way to sign up. To simplify our mailings, this year T-shirts will only be available at local shops.

From the staff at RVWA we appreciate your support and hope to see you on the water soon.

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



To get involved call...

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 (510) 706-0479
 papasurf@hooked.net

Vice President **Kevin Meyer**
 (916) 351-1425

Treasurer **Brian Geasa**
Tide Charts (510) 521-2448
Newsletter geasa@swcyber.com

Committee Chairpersons

Membership **Paula Goodell**
 (415) 487-9600

RVWA Website www.rvwa.com