



January 21, 2005

George Blanchard  
CWA Chairman and  
Honourary Commodore to the World since it was flat.

Dear George;

Thank you for your kind invitation to be a special honoured guest at the Wayfarer Awards Dinner. Unfortunately, I will be in Miami for the Olympic Classes Regatta. Please believe me when I say that as nice as it is in Miami, I will miss not being at TS&CC.

Running a very successful regatta, depends on a great many people. Perhaps you could pass on my thanks to some of those who stick in my memory, as well as those that I inadvertently leave out.

Al Schonborn, who did a fine job as Vice Chairman representing the class. His encyclopedic knowledge of what seems like everyone who ever sailed a Wayfarer, was a tremendous asset.

Hans Gottschling, for picking up the little important things. Like making reservations for some from overseas, and reserving RV's, etc., etc.

Fred Black, for leading the rescue boats (who said we don't get wind in August?) And for saving the Sign Out Sheets so he could compile the "Jerk Points".

Sid Atkinson, Len MacDougall, Bill Fyfe, and Ted Lacelle for their work measuring, on what was a very hot weekend. A terrific job that requires a great deal of knowledge about the class.

And to you George for being there to answer all of my questions (as always). There is simply no way that the class can thank you enough for all that you do.

There are many, I am sure, that I have missed. From borrowing boats, to lending boats, to organizing dollies, to Heider for his sponsorship, and on, and on. Thank you all.

There were others who also contributed greatly to the success of the event. Rob Wierdsma and his tremendous team from MSC. Fellow Past Commodore Jim Wilkinson who played host to our sponsor, and who organized the boat billets. When I made that offer, I thought that 10 – 15 would take me up on it. In the end Jim found boat billets for almost one third of the fleet. Not an easy task for a long weekend in August.

And of course, my thanks to a terrific Race Committee, with Jake Starr, Rob Wierdsma, and the Martins, plus the gang from PCYC.

It was my pleasure to be the Front Man for such a terrific group from a great class. I think we should do it again some time. Stick around George – I have plans for you.

With the very best regards:

John