

Shields Class Association – Meeting Minutes

March 10th, 2026

Held Via Google Meet

Attending: Jon Krumeich, Wesley Bemus, Ken Deyett, Jay Dayton, Ted Slee, Steve Mettler, Ann Schwagerl, Richard Robbins, Ron Oard, Daniel Goodwin, Jerry Stratton, Eric Anderson, Dan Ronan, Lee Reichart, Scott Brubaker.

Call to Order: 8:04 PM - Jon Krumeich.

Treasurer's Report: Treas. Dayton reports the Shields Class Association balance stands at \$12,349.76 with no recent transactions. One check for \$15 is expected to be cashed in the near future. Fleet dues are traditionally expected from local fleets in the months of April-June, and local treasurers are encouraged to begin the process of collecting those dues.

Minutes & Secretary's Report: Previous meeting minutes were accepted with one adjustment: Point Richmond, CA, was misspelled in the draft. Apologies from the Secretary.

New Business: An update from the Technical Committee was provided by Ken Deyett. Cape Cod Shipbuilding have begun the process of retooling to produce masts for the Shields class. A new extrusion die has been ordered, suppliers are in the process of being identified, and Cape Cod is preparing to provide a price to the class for these masts. The market for replacement masts was noted as being robust, not just from those teams who would like to upgrade their masts but for boats which are being scrapped, stored, or parted out due to the lack of a viable mast supplier.

Old Business: Ted Slee relayed a message from Jan Slee requesting that folks examine the boat registry and update it with whatever information they may have. As boats are transacted, sold, discovered, and lost, this registry is the primary resource for keeping track of hulls so that we do not lose track of them. The status of the 4 boats owned by Orange Coast College were used as an example in this discussion. The registry will be updated to reflect the 2 hulls which are salvageable and the 2 hulls which are not.

Shields Class Foundation: Eric Anderson provided an update that the Foundation will be taking delivery of hull #199 from the previous owner in Point Richmond, CA and that it will be stored on land in Monterey, thanks to Scott Brubaker, while being restored. Hull #188 has been placed into a long-term charter, with an option to purchase at the end of that period.

The current census of boats held on donation is 7. In the near future, the Foundation plans to solicit offers to sell one or both of the two boats which have been held for the required 36 months following donation.

Proceeds from the sale of a donated boat will be used to fund the restoration and upkeep of other donated boats. The Foundation reiterated their ongoing need for financial and equipment donations. These resources ensure that Foundation-owned Shields are available to grow new fleets and support the sailing of young, mixed-gender, and other interested parties around the country.

Misc: The next issue of the Masthead is planned for e-publication following the Ocean Great Lakes Challenge. The publisher requests high-quality digital images be provided and offered to work with anyone who wishes to type up and submit articles.

OGLC '26: The Ocean Great Lakes Challenge is being held by the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club on May 29-31.

One point of discussion was raised as to the manner of allocating boats among participants. The current, broadly understood, method is that all participants race in borrowed boats which are assigned by lottery. A likely participant in the regatta inquired whether or not they had to offer their boat up into the lottery in order to participate in the event. This question was taken offline to be resolved, but it highlights that the rules for the Ocean Great Lakes Challenge could be updated to enshrine current practices.

Any eligible skippers interested in participating in the OGLC should contact Jerry Stratton or Jim Wirtz.

Nationals '26: Jay Dayton presented an update on the planning for the 2026 Nationals to be held by Tred Avon Yacht Club in Oxford Maryland September 23rd to 26th. TAYC is excited to host the regatta and wants to emphasize that they are offering regatta housing to all entered teams. 8 boats were entered in the regatta at the time of the meeting and Jay Dayton indicates that he expects 3-4 boats to be available as loaners.

Future Events: Future National regatta locations were briefly discussed, and the class is requesting expressions of interest for the 2028 and 2029 events. Both Marion and Monterey were discussed as potential venues.

Adjourned: 8:49 PM by Jon Krumeich.

Submitted: Wesley Bemus, Secretary