

# Who's Who

September Edition

## Who's Who of LMSA

Ahoy Sailors! This month we feature none other than our very own LMSA Commodore, Scott Marriott!

LMSA: Hi Scott Marriott could you tell us a little about how you got in to sailing:

Scott: I began my journey into sailing once I became old enough to go sailing on my uncle Dave's C&C 39 named Moulin Rouge (after the cabaret in France, not the movie with Nicole Kidman). At five years old, I was about as tall as the steering wheel. I would spend my Wednesday nights racing on the boat which was a family affair consisting of cousins, my aunt, two uncles, and my parents. Some nights I was a very involved main trimmer and other nights I was playing on a Game Boy as I rolled around in various sleeping bunks on the boat. But each night after racing they would let me help steer the boat into the dock which is something I remember from that boat till this day.



(NCYC/JRSC Sail Camp 1997 – Scott second from the left)

From there I got into junior sailing at the age of seven and started sailing Opti's, Flying Junior's, and eventually Thistle's. My parents bought an Interlake and a C&C 33 that we also raced a lot around the Great Lakes during that time as well. I continued my sailing into college racing for the University of Toledo. After college I took a job in Florida and that is where my next adventure began which involved sailing in Central Florida. Once I was settled, I purchased another Laser and crewed on various boats on the Indian River and at Lake Monroe. I got into Flying Scot sailing once I moved to Orlando and that is how I ended up with the boat I currently race.

LMSA: Where did you learn to sail?

Scott: I learned to sail on Lake Erie at both North Cape Yacht Club and Jolly Roger Sailing Club. I started learning the basics from my parents but most of my sailing skill comes from the sail camp program that the two clubs ran together. Once I got a little bit older, I continued with the race training program offered and competed in as many local regattas as my parents were willing to drive me to on Saturday mornings during the summer.

Now I try to improve my skills by attending class-based racing clinics. These are often held prior to major regattas and offer coaching and "chalk talks" from a variety of great sailors. I also enjoy coaching sailing, and my travels as a coach have put me in environments where we are constantly talking about ways to make the boats go faster.



(College Sailing 2012 – University of Toledo)

## LMSA

LMSA: Who are some of your mentors and how did you come to sail at LMSA?



Flying Scot Racing – George Washington Birthday Regatta 2020

Scott: My mentors in sailing include all the coaches that I had in my youth sailing days. One that stands out is Anna Tunnicliffe. She always pushed for us to put full dedication into the sport and she taught me about the importance of rigorous training on the water and fitness. Her dedication to those things is what probably led to her Olympic gold medal in the Laser Radial and her success in CrossFit.

Other mentors that I have had included Tom McNally and Jeff Linton in the Flying Scot Class. Tom was the one who encouraged me to get into the class and became a sparring partner once I had my own boat to race against him. Jeff has always been there at events around the state to provide assistance and feedback when I've needed it. His actions on and

off the water influence the type of sailor I want to be know for as I continue my sailing career.

LMSA: What is your most memorable race?

Scott: One race the sticks out in my head is the first race of the first major event I sailed in which was Jr. Bay Week (US Area E Qualifying Championships). This event became memorable before the start. On the way out me and my good friend Eric thought we were "hot stuff" and decided to put the spinnaker up on a tight reach going out to the racecourse in our Flying Junior. We capsized almost immediately as the other sailors went around us as they set up their boats for the first race. That capsize put us in our place, and we started the regatta with a strong start to begin race one. Throughout the very windy regatta we stayed upright most of the time and sailed consistently in the top half of the fleet. In a race where many boats went over, we also found ourselves swimming after rounding the top mark. We quickly got the boat up and finished the race in a respectable place. We finished 14<sup>th</sup> out of 42 boats and that was a major accomplishment for both my crew and I as the highest placing rookies of that year.

LMSA: Your Boat Name/alias is The Professor how did you earn that name?

Scott: I am not sure if I earned it or if it was given to me by our current reporter (who I should mention does a great job). It refers to my profession in education as a STEM teacher. Sadly, it is not based on my piano playing abilities.



(Sailing Lake Monroe)



(The Professor)

LMSA: Where do you see yourself sailing in the next 5 years?

Scott: I see myself continuing to sail here in Central Florida and on the Great Lakes. It is too nice here and it would be hard to leave a place where you can sail year around. I do miss ice boating on my DN during the winter months in Ohio and Michigan though. Maybe we should plan a LMSA ice boating trip.

LMSA

LMSA: What are your future sailing goals?

Scott: My future sailing goals include continuing to race my Flying Scot with my wife Laura and to travel to as many regattas as possible. I would also like to sail to around in the Caribbean and get to see other parts of the world through my sailing adventures. Maybe even turn into a crazy Opti parent. You know, the ones who constantly question their sanity as they spend every weekend watching their kid do silly things on the racecourse.

...And win Flying Scot Nationals one day.



LMSA: Thank you Scott for your time and comments. Good luck and safe travels!

Comments from the reporter: Wow what can I say; Scott Marriott is a well rounded sailor with a life time of racing skills and tactics up his sleeve. I have had the opportunity to race with Scott on many occasions; he's one of those guys you just don't say no to when he asks you to sail. Always a wealth of knowledge and it is a great learning experience sailing with him. Hence "The Professor" (btw I will probably be sticking in the committee boat when he sees the Professor photo). ☺

Seriously LMSA is lucky to have a Commodore leading the club with the vision and experience of Scott Marriott. We look forward to his leadership going in to 2021 and seeing him on the race course.

Cheers Scott, really enjoy sailing with you!

2020 LMSA Reporter

Jim Goempel

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