



FAQ's About Lighthouse Charities, Inc.

Q: What is Lighthouse Charities, Inc?

A: In 2001, the Oklahoma City Boat Club created a separate non-profit public charity organization which hosts an annual charity regatta to support its sailing programs. It has 501(c)(3) tax deductible status as a public charity. Its volunteers seek underwriting and in-kind donations for meals, entertainment and the regatta.

Q: When is the 2018 Lighthouse Charity Regatta taking place?

A: June 22, 2018 (Friday night – Lake Hefner Challenge Cup races); June 23-24, 2018 (Centerboard, Multi-hull and Keelboats)

Q: Does Lighthouse Charities, Inc. have a paid administrative staff?

A: No, LCI is organized entirely by volunteers, primarily OCBC members. The only employees are hired to teach/coach for the sailing programs sponsored by LCI.

Q: How much money has LCI raised in the past?

A: Over the first 15-16 years, LCI distributed over \$325,000 to Oklahoma City community charity beneficiaries and a few small grants. Income raised from the meals, T-shirt sales, and regatta entry fees covers almost all the expenses of the event. Beginning in 2016, the proceeds and other donations throughout the year are primarily allocated to support of sailing education, and adult, collegiate and youth sailing programs.

Q: Who were the beneficiaries?

A: The Board approved the amount of proceeds distributed each year to one or two Oklahoma City agencies whose primary purpose is to benefit the children of the community and any small grants that are consistent with the corporation's purpose and mission. The primary beneficiary received approximately two-thirds of the distribution and the secondary beneficiary received approximately one-third of the total amount distributed each year. The following year, the secondary beneficiary became the primary and a new secondary beneficiary was selected. As interest in sailing programs, lessons and camps increased, the LCI Board approved discontinuing distributing most of the net proceeds to outside organizations and retaining the net proceeds for allocation determined by the Board to support the maintenance and purchase of boats, equipment and other expenses to provide education and organized sailing instruction for adults, collegiate and youth sailors as well as hosting collegiate regattas and other opportunities for sailing competition.

Q: What are the education and sailing programs?

A: Lighthouse Charities, Inc. owns a fleet of Optimists, Picos and 420s sailboats that are used primarily by the youth and collegiate sailors for participation in sailing camps or collegiate instruction for approved collegiate teams. In addition, a women's sailing program is authorized to use the Picos and 420s. A program for beginning and improving sailing skills is being formed for male and female adults.

Q: Does Lighthouse Charities, Inc. promote sailing on Lake Hefner or other sailing groups in the metro area?

A: Yes. The interest in sailing on Lake Hefner has continued to increase in 2007 with the Olympic Initiative event sponsored and held at the Chesapeake Boat House on the Oklahoma River. Sailing was one of the sports included in the City of Oklahoma City's effort to have the metro area designated an Olympic training and competitive venue. The Oklahoma City Boat Club staffed a booth on Sailing. Also, in December, 2007, the City Council of Oklahoma City voted to approve the Lake Hefner Recreational Master Plan as part of the comprehensive City Plan which substantially reduced the sites designated for potential commercial development around Lake Hefner. This is part of the overall plan to keep the Lake Hefner area, including the trails, available as a park area.

From time to time, the Lighthouse Charities, Inc. board of directors has approved small grants, many of which have been to college sailing groups as well as the YMCA program on the south shore of Lake Hefner that is now being operated by the OKC Boathouse Foundation. Beginning in 2008, board of directors approved the purchase some boats that are available to the Youth Sailing program sponsored by the Oklahoma City Boat Club that is open to youth in the metro area. Over the last few years, the Oklahoma City Boat Club Board has transferred all boats it owned for the Youth Sailing program as well as the program, to being under the authority of Lighthouse Charities, Inc. These boats are available for use by youth and adults with certain limitations and requirements. As the projects undertaken by Lighthouse Charities, Inc. and the Oklahoma City Boat Club continue to evolve, additional funds were used to purchase additional boats, equipment and contract sailing instructors for the Youth camps/clinics program as well as offering adult instruction by arrangement.

Q: How are donors recognized for their contributions?

A:

Donors of \$2500 and up (Gold Fleet) will have their name posted on the event board at the Oklahoma City Boat Club (all year), and name or logo posted on the LCI web site, and all event mailings as well as displaying any donor-furnished banner during the regatta. Also, they will receive four (4) tickets for the Saturday night dinner and entertainment, and two (2) event T-shirts.

Donors of \$1000 - 2499 (Silver Fleet) will have their name posted on the event board at the Oklahoma City Boat Club, the LCI web site, and all event mailings. Also, they will receive two (2) tickets for the Saturday night dinner and entertainment, and one (1) event T-shirt.

Donors of \$500 - \$999 (Blue Fleet) will have their name posted on the event board at the Oklahoma City Boat Club, the LCI website, and all event mailings. They will receive one (1) ticket to the Saturday night dinner and entertainment and one (1) event T-shirt.

Donors of \$250-499 (Red Fleet) will have their name posted on the event board at the Oklahoma City Boat Club, the LCI website, and all event mailings. They will receive one (1) ticket to the Saturday dinner and entertainment, **or** one (1) event T-shirt.

Donors of up to \$250 (White Fleet) will be posted on the LCI website as well as on event mailings.

Q: What is the Lake Hefner Challenge Cup (LHCC)?

A: Lake Hefner Challenge Cup is a series of races on Friday night (June 22, 2018) between competitors of eligible boat designs which have donated a minimum aggregate of \$500. Individual donors receive donor benefits, if any, based upon their individual donation.

Q: Does LCI have a website?

A: Yes, www.okclighthouse.org.

Q: How can I donate or pay to register to compete in the regatta?

A: Lighthouse Charities, Inc. accepts cash, checks or credit card.

Q: Do I receive a tax receipt for my donation?

A: Lighthouse Charities, Inc. sends a thank you letter to its donors, and a tax receipt to donors of a minimum of \$250. Lighthouse Charities, Inc. cannot value of any in-kind donation but will provide a tax receipt describing the donation.