

HARBOUR LIGHT



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FROM THE COMMODORE

RICH GRINER, COYOTE

Are you still on target to have all required work complete on your boat prior to launch window or are you one of the few that is back in the water already. I have already begun to scale back my winter work projects, knowing I do not have enough time to do each of them properly.

Anyone wishing to contact me via email, I suggest that you use my standard email listed in the HHSA membership directory. Since taking over as commodore my in box has seen a spike on emails that are junk. My junk box has grown 10 times. I noticed a couple emails recently in the junk that are valid and from members. I don't know how many others that I may have deleted with the rest of my junk mail. I don't normally open up anything in my junk box.

Thanks to all my fellow board members for hammering out the plans for this coming year. Everyone that came out in the rain for the Spring Meeting got an overview of the events for the year. For those that could not make it, look to the club's WEB site for details.

At the Spring Meeting we announced that this year's Banquet was going to be held at Herrington on the Bay. I realize that some of you may not be happy with this decision. Any change made in a large

organization is hard for some, I expect no different with this change.

As I understand it that back in the early days the Banquet was held in the month of December and was held at Herrington Harbour. The club grew so much that they outgrew the current facilities. We haven't had 250 guests show up to the Banquet in the 12 years I have been a member (maybe I am the cause of the decline). It's time to return the Banquet to its original home.

We'll get both floors of HOTB with reception, music, and dancing on the first floor, and dining on the second floor. After dinner, if the music is too loud for conversation you can stay up stairs or even go outside to the heated cigar tent. We have 20 rooms reserved at HOTB Inn, 12 of these rooms have hot tubs. Additional rooms may be made available at HOTB as well as a shuttle to North Beach/Chesapeake Beach facilities if we warrant the extra rooms.

Treat the event more like a land cruise. Come down early and check in on your boat. You still have time to have a few drinks and nice soak in the hot tub before getting ready for the party. After the Banquet, enjoy a few quiet drinks back at your room and maybe some more of the hot tub. Sunday morning gather

with your friends one more time for breakfast before heading home.

Long term I think this will be easier on the club. It has been harder to recruit volunteers for Social so the big events need to be simple. HOTB has a very low minimum for this event (50 I believe), does not require one of HHSA members to be a member of the Host Facility, and we have the ability to postpone the event due to adverse weather conditions. Going forward, who ever is running the Social program; they only need to work with one facility for all of the HHSA social activities. This is less work for the Social rear-commodore and we can better anticipate the budgets from year to year. HOTB is working hard with us to bring the costs down and they will be here for the club long term.

I find that having the HHSA year start and end with the Banquet cumbersome. To properly plan out the season the board needs to be very active in the Fall. For anything relating to CBYRA racing or associated with another club it must be finalized in the Fall. Every year I know the new board has aspirations of activities in January and February and every year we always scale back to just events in March and April. I doubt I

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FROM THE COMMODORE

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can convince the club to change the by-laws to have the year changed to begin and end at the Fall meeting, but we can accomplish the work without rules changes. This year's board will be responsible for next year's

schedule, at least the off season seminars and the major Racing Events. I'd like to see an event each month December - March. I think we have enough interest in the club to support 2 racing seminars as well as 2 cruising seminars during this period. Hopefully

the next board will then do the same favor and take care of scheduling for the following board.

RACING

R/C RACING ARNE FLIFLET/ MAZAL TOV



The Competition Committee has been working in the off-season to update the HHS racing-related documents. These can now be downloaded from the HHS website and each racer should have a full set. There are only minor changes to the 2009 documents: Credit for participating in abandoned races has been eliminated. Some courses have been modified so that the pin end of the finish line is always left to port. A few clarifications have been made in the Race Committee Manual. The starting times for the Wednesday evening races have been moved up five minutes.

The beginning of a new season is a good time to review the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), especially Part 2 When Boats Meet. Part 2 is designed to prevent collisions by identifying the *right-of-way* and *keep clear* boats in every situation. Rule 14 states:

A boat shall avoid contact with another boat if reasonably possible
However, a right-of-way boat or one entitled to room or mark-room
(a) need not act to avoid contact until it is clear that the

other boat is not keeping clear or giving room or mark-room, and
(b) shall not be penalized unless there is contact that causes damage or injury.

Dick Rose's article on collision avoidance on the race course in the March issue of *Sailing World* makes two points that I think are worth repeating here prior our season. The first is that there are three additional rules that are part of the *International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCS)* and although not explicitly stated in the RRS are, as discussed by Rose, implied by the RRS. These rules include maintaining a proper lookout, making audible signals to alert nearby boats of your presence and intentions, and the requirement on the keep clear boat to take early and substantial action to "keep well clear". On an upwind leg keeping a look out involves stationing a member of the crew on the lee side of the boat where her view is not blocked by the deck sweeper genoa even though this is at odds with the goal of getting as many people on the rail as possible. Anticipate collision scenarios: for example, a boat on the same tack to leeward is likely

to tack at some point and head straight at you. Don't be shy about hailing other boats. Being able to make an audible signal in a breeze means training the crew to shout "Starboard!" in unison to make sure the approaching boat hears the hail. If anyone has other ideas for proactively avoiding collisions I would like to hear from them. The second point Rose makes is that crew on the rail are very vulnerable to injury when boats sideswipe when attempting to avoid collision. Therefore crew on the rail should be instructed to always be ready to move inboard quickly and hold on if necessary. Some of us may calculate the time needed to accomplish this maneuver and decide to forego the rail.

The following events are coming up in April:

Race Management and Cruise Seminars on April 10: Bruce Artman will run through the tasks performed by the Race Committee as it conducts a race. Bruce will cover all the topics in the RC Manual with special attention given to course selection and setting the starting line. Being the Race Committee is

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SWEET LIBERTY TO HOST APRIL FOOL'S CRUISE

BY MARIS AND LINDA ESHLEMAN

Some fools always get their boats in the water early to temp the fickle fate. To celebrate and give these fools a reason to sail the crew of *Sweet Liberty* is hosting the April Fool's Cruise April 24-25 to Oxford on the Tred Avon.

Join the foolhardy that venture out early in the season to enjoy good sailing, beautiful weather and great dining.

This is a threeppeat of a great time hosted by *Sweet Liberty*. Experience a foolish sail to Oxford, Happy Hour on *Sweet Liberty* with y'ar Pussers Painkillers and din-

ner at the Latitude 38 Restaurant. Last year the weather was sunny with 80 degrees and it should be just as nice this year so don't be fooled by the winter goblins. Come on out!

Visit the website and foolishly sign up so that we know how many tables we need as well as how many gallons of pain killer to bring. We will be in a slip at Mears Marina ringing the bell for Fool's Hour at 1700 and plan to migrate to dinner around 1900. As usual bring a horse doevre to share (preferably one that isn't ridden) or a vine bever-

age if rum isn't your cup of tea. The restaurant will provide land transportation unless someone has towed their car along that we could use.

Saturday the 24th is also Oxford Day so if you are able to arrive early you can enjoy the down east festivities; go for a ride on the ferry or enjoy a swim in the pool. The season is short so start early!



RACING (CONTINUED)

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fun when you know the procedure, but can be intimidating otherwise. Attendance is highly recommended as all racers must serve as RC to be eligible for awards. Bruce's presentation will be followed by a cruise seminar by Ardell Hoveskeland.

On-The Water Clinic on April 18: The OTW Clinic is a great opportunity to practice start techniques and get the crew reacquainted with the boat. It will be conducted by professional racers Jonathan Bartlett and Alan Drew of North Sails. They will give a short on-land briefing at 0900 (optional for previous partici-

pants) with the in-the-water race starting exercises beginning at 1030. During the exercises Jonathan and Alan will be on the water working with individual boats. Marks will be set to show where boats actually are at the start vs. where they thought they were. Please sign up for this event on the web site.

Wednesday Evening Practice Race on April 21: The Wednesday evening racing season gets started with a practice race one week before Series 1 begins. Practice starts, restarts, and make sure everything works before it actually matters. Same

great post-race gathering at the Fabulous Brew.

Wednesday Evening Series 1, Race 1 on April 28: Wednesday evening racing season officially gets underway with Race 1 of Series 1. Post-race gathering at the Fabulous Brew.

Please send me or Joe Laun your choice for Race Committee duty if you have not already done so. If anyone does not have easy web access, let me know. See you on the water and be safe out there!

CRUISING

R/C CRUISING ALBERT DEL NEGRO, *SOLACE*

This winter, *Solace* stayed in the water at HHS and of all the winters to do that, this one turned out to be the most worrisome for a sailboat (or any boat) wintering asea. After the second snowstorm (remember they were only a few days apart) we checked on *Solace* only to find her bedecked with two feet of snow with cockpit drains frozen! Fortunately, I was able to clear off the heavy snow (we were riding pretty low in the water) and the bilge didn't freeze and the bilge pump functioned normally! I heard that there was a power boat sinking at HHS, the victim of snow and ice. For the first time, I used an ice eater lent by an HHS colleague, and that kept us ice-free while all others were surrounded by ice.

On our last visit to the marina, all was well and dry. It was about 50 degrees and that alone made me excited, anticipation of the coming sailing running through me. Last weekend, about 20 hearty souls met at HHS's east tent pavilion. Rain and wind whipped around us but inside, we were full of the excitement about sailing as we attended the HHSA annual Spring Organizational Meeting. For us cruisers, this meant outlining the plans for the coming season and I think they are exciting. The first cruise was a land cruise sponsored by Maris and Linda Eshleman to Pirates Cove on February 27. About 35 HHSA members attended, both cruisers and racers.

The next cruising function will be on April 10 when HHSA holds a Seminar at HOTB to follow the Race Management Seminar. This seminar will be

conducted by Ardell Hoveskeland and the topic will be the circumnavigation of the Delmarva peninsula planned for ten days starting on June 19. This promises to be an exciting cruise and Trish and I are signed up for it along with a few others including some racers. Joe Luan will help with the planning for a race-cruise event during this trip. Any one interested in this cruise should attend the seminar.

The annual April Fools Cruise to Oxford will be reprised on April 24 - 25. Maris and Linda Eshleman will again lead this cruise. The usual plan is to take a slip at a marina and get together for dinner at one of the several restaurants in town. Maris promises to make the appropriate sacrifices to Aeolus to assure favorable winds.

The next planned cruise is the New Members Breakfast and Cruise which starts at 9:00 am at the pool at HHN. New members just show up and standing members bring breakfast to share. A cruise to a destination TBA led by Commodore Rich Griner follows. The last several years we have had relatively good weather for this cruise since we moved the venue to HHN and we hope that this will hold true for this years cruise. The date for the New Members Breakfast and Cruise is May 22, so mark your calendars. Remember to bring an appetizer to share and the beverage of your choice for the social hour, usually held at 5:30 pm at the cruising destination.

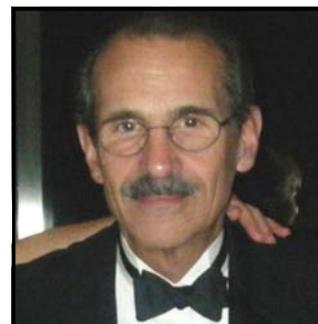
Between April 24 and May 22, there is ample opportunity for cruisers to sail. Although there are no regularly sched-

uled cruises during this time, anyone who wishes to sponsor a "Pick-UP" cruise should contact me so I can post it on the club website. Pick-up cruises are relaxed, spontaneous opportunities to join up with friends or on-water socializing. Some of the most enjoyable experiences Trish and I have had have been on such cruises.

This year, HHSA will journey to the Greek Isles for about 8 - 10 days. Maris and Linda Eshleman will lead this foray to some of the most beautiful places on earth to sail. The proposed date for this trip is mid - late October and Maris promises that the price will be very reasonable and the experience will be unparalleled.

This all sounds like a good start to a great cruising season. As cruising R/C, I'm open to any suggestion and available for help in organizing and enhancing your cruising experience. I'm so proud to be able to serve HHSA by helping to organize the cruising program and I look forward to cruising with you again this season.

See you on the water.



Spring Membership meeting, led by Commodore Rich Griner, and featuring a presentation by Anna of Herrington on the Bay.



MOMMA MIA THAT'S A GREEK CRUISE!

BY MARIS & LINDA ESHLEMAN

Worldly sailors from HHSA and beyond are venturing across the seas to sail among the picturesque waters of Homer, Zeus and Odysseus. The crew of *Sweet Liberty* has organized a cruise to the Dodecanese Greek Islands from 18-28 October. Leaving from the base in Kos the odyssey will tour several islands, maraud along the Turkish coast and end up sailing past the Colossus of Rhodes.

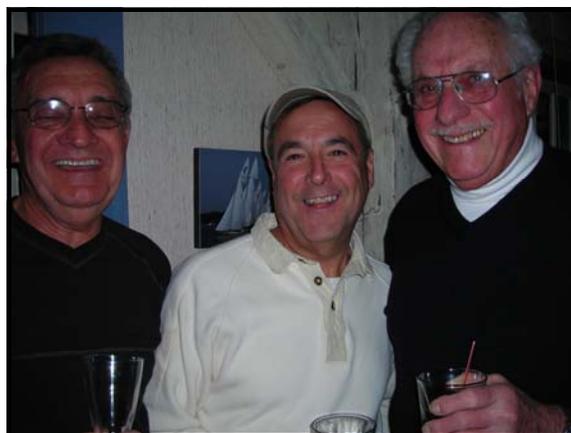
Currently there are 14 sailors scheduled to venture forth in 3 boats. 2 Bavaria 46's and 1 Bavaria 42 Cruisers have been char-

tered for the 10 day trip. The cruise will be led by a local Captain for the benefit of local knowledge, translation and to pilot us home after nights in the Ouzeries.

Weather should be controlled by the warmer waters flowing from the southeast and these islands are normally arid so the experience should be pleasant. This is a great opportunity to see ancient lands with villages that date back 3-4,000 years.

There is still room for

additional sailors if any would like to come. Each person is responsible for their airfare to Kos and return from Rhodes. Inter-island flights are serviced through Athens, the primary international airport. All boat costs will be proportioned with the exception of provisions that will be determined by boat and of course individual meals. Contact Maris or Linda Eshleman if you are interested.



New Sailing Season Contemplated at Land Cruise

By Maris & Linda Eshleman,
Sweet Liberty

The first sailing season of the new decade was celebrated by 36 hearty HHSA sailors at the Pirate's Cove, Galesville, on 27 February under bright sunny blue sky as the thoughts of snow melted under the warm sun. This year's iteration of the annual land cruise was as big of a success as last year as several new and many old members participated to shake the winter blues and discuss their plans for the season soon to come.

For the fourth time the crew of *Sweet Liberty*, Maris & Linda Eshleman hosted this mid-winter party for that was attended by some of the best sailors on the Bay. The party began promptly at 1800 with barmaids serving grog to the thirsty shipmates. Dinner began somewhere after 1900 with Board members making comments about the dawning year. Having this great enthusiasm so early in the season bodes well for future HHSA events. Plan to be in attendance and share the fun. See you on the water!



*The
Land Cruise ,
February 27,
2010*

*Pirate's Cove
Galesville, MD*

**Herrington Harbour
Sailing Association**

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LABEL HERE



**Herrington Harbour
Sailing Association**

We're on the Web!
<http://www.hhsa.org>

SOCIAL TIDBITS

R/C SOCIAL KEITH MAYES, *JUBILEE*

April is a quiet month for the organized social events, but please spend your time wisely ... attending a seminar and getting your boat ready for the coming season are both highly recommended!

Don't forget that the New Members Breakfast and Cruise will be held on Saturday May 22nd. As in the past, we will gather at 9:00 AM for breakfast at the Herrington Harbour North Pavilion, near the pool. Old members (i.e. those who have been members for more than 1 year) should bring something to share and new members should bring a smile. There will plenty of hot coffee and

juices provided. This is an opportunity to meet new friends and renew acquaintances with those you haven't seen in a couple of months. Hopefully the weather cooperates and a large number of boats join the Commodore for the traditional New Members Cruise following the breakfast.

Looking ahead to June 5th, we have a new twist on the interclub visit from SMSA. This year their race to Herrington Bay coincides with our Double Handed Race. We hope that many racers and cruising types will join in the

fun, starting with a race around the buoys and government marks in Herring Bay at 11:00 AM, followed by an informal BBQ at HHS with the SMSA folks later in the afternoon. We'll have blind-folded dinghy races on the beach on Sunday morning, June 6th. Check the website Calendar and home page for more details. Registration ahead of time for events helps with planning – like having enough chairs, coffee, rum, etc.

Party On!
