

HARBOUR LIGHT

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- The name of the game is recruitment this season!
- Volunteer to be the Dock Captain on your dock, making sure to contact every sailor on your dock and invite them to become a member of HHSA.
- Talking points for recruitment will be posted on the website.

FROM THE COMMODORE...

TED SLOTWINSKI—ZALEK

Finally, weather suitable for working on boats is here, though I've noticed that the early birds are already in the water. For myself, ZALEK will be launched as usual in mid-April.

The attendance at the recent land events has been better than expected; the Land Cruise to Pirate's Cove in Galesville, the racing rules seminar at Calypso Bay, and the racing tactics seminar at Herring-on-the-Bay Catering. Let's continue the encouraging trend at the Spring general meeting at Calypso Bay and the race management training

on April 18. April will begin the racing season with the practice race on Wednesday April 22. April will also begin the cruising season with the first water cruise on April 25-26.

The sixth version of the world's most arduous sailing race, the solo, non-stop Vendee Globe race around the world has finished. The eleventh and final competitor to finish, Austrian Norbert Sedlacek, did so on March 15 after 126+ days at sea. American Rich Wilson finished ninth on March 10 after 121+ days at sea.

As discussed at the Spring general meeting and elsewhere in this newsletter, we are experimenting with some new recruiting ideas such as dock leaders and free trial memberships. Coupled with the usual diligence of our members and current bulletin boards we hope to return to membership growth. Please remember to fly your HHSA burgees when onboard so others can identify our members' boats throughout the marinas.

APRIL FOOL'S CRUISE!

LINDA AND MARIS ESHLEMAN — SWEET LIBERTY

There may still be cold nights and winter may seem like it's not far off, but time has come to plan for weekends of getting out on the water and enjoying fresh air, sunshine and great friendship. Come join the crew of *Sweet Liberty* and other fools to venture out for the first cruise of the season April 25-26.

We are planning to have a great sail to Oxford and take a slip in Mears Marina so that we can have shore power and hot showers. We have made plans for dinner at one of our

favorite spots on the Eastern Shore - Latitude 38 that features very interesting meals, great atmosphere and rides from the Marina. Please sign-up on the website so we will have a seat for you if you plan to join us at dinner.

Happy hour will begin at 1730 or whenever you show up and y'ar pusser will offer his favorite drink - Painkillers of course. Dinner is planned for 1930.

If your boat's not in the water you can still enjoy the festivi-

ties at "Oxford Day" and join our cruise from shore.

No need for a Captain's meeting since everyone should be able to find Oxford, but don't hesitate to call on VHF 16 or our cell phone (571-265-2633) for the cruise 411. If you're a new cruiser and need any help or guidance check-in with us and one of our HHSA salty skippers will be able to help get you there.

THE SPRING MEETING

MARCH 21, 2009
AT CALYPSO BAY



Discussion of the upcoming season, the need to recruit new members, racing, and the location of next winter's banquet all were on the table at Herrington North's Calypso Bay restaurant. About 30 members attended.

COMMUNICATIONS

KEITH MORGENSTERN — BEYOND THE SEA

Welcome our newest members!

Gail Stamm, of Springfield, VA, crew on Xaris

Chris Cowie, of Washington DC

Larry Brown of Chesapeake Beach, MD

I have 3 items to report for this month's newsletter:

YAHOO groups email list deactivated: As many of you know, there was some recent SPAM on the yahoo email list. Because of this spam, in addition to the lack of effective control to weed out former members, the lists have been deactivated. However, there is nothing to worry about, because we will instead be using the website forum email lists.

WEBSITE Forum email lists: These email lists have been in service since 2007, and over time most folks have shifted over to use them exclusively. They offer a

few nice features: strong Spam control, posting is limited to members only, but non-members (such as racing crew) can still view certain forums, such as the Racing Results forum. Also, you can attach files to the messages, and the files are archived on the website for future reference. And you get real, timely customer support (ME and Clubexpress). Please add the following to your "DO NOT BLOCK" list in your email program:

results@hhsa.org
racing_discussions@hhsa.org
Crewfinder@hhsa.org
cruising_discussions@hhsa.org
cruise_announcements@hhsa.org
general_discussions@hhsa.org
classified_ads@hhsa.org

BOARD email addresses:

Do you have a question about something club related, and can't remember the email address of the board member you want to contact? Or maybe you can't remember who all the board members are? There is a handy list of the email addresses that go to the current board members on the back cover of this publication.

See you on the water (SOON!)
-Keith Morgenstern

THE HNSA RACING NEWS...

BRUCE ARTMAN — T-BONE

Don't forget to send in your PHRF certificates to racing@hnsa.org so that we can build the scratch sheet and start populating the scorinEvents to Dateg databases!

Competition Committee

I am being assisted this year on the Competition Committee (CC) by the following club volunteers: Andrew Awalt (*At-Large*), Hank Chalkley (*Scorer*), Rich Griner (*Scheduling*), Keith Mayes (*Regatta Chair*). Thanks for all of the help so far this year and your commitment to helping the program!

Racing Documents
The CC has made very few changes to the 2009 racing documents. The HNSA Racing Rules no longer have a loophole giving an race committee (RC) more season high points than their fleet if they abandon a race. New this year, the rules also grant season high points to boats that check-in on the water (granting them all *Did Not Start* points) even if the race is not started. This last change will remove incentive to start races in conditions that do not promote fair competition. The Sailing Instructions include all races for the year, including informal and non-High Point events. The Course Book remains the same except that strong south wind can also

use Course A with a downwind start. All documents will be made available on the web site immediately following the Spring Membership Meeting.

Rules Seminar

A very successful seminar was held at Calypso Bay on Feb 22nd. The facility's management allowed us once again to use the back dining room for no charge. The seminar was led by Brent Ostbye, the Junior



Sailing Director at Severn Sailing Association. Brent focused on how to use the Racing Rules of Sailing (2009-2012) (RRS) to figure out rules situations. More than 40 members and crew attended.

Tactics Seminar
Alan Drew, from the local North Sails loft, led a session on the importance of everyone on the boat (crew too!) understanding how tactics play into movement around the race course. The seminar focused on collecting good data about the competition and the boat's performance and what that data means when starting

and when traveling upwind. Almost 60 members and crew attended the seminar held at cost in the upstairs ball room at Herrington Harbour South.

Upcoming Events

Red Cross Certification (3/22/09)

All boats that have declared a PHRF "4P" status on their certificate are required to have "at least one member of the crew ... familiar with First Aid procedures". This training will unequivocally satisfy that requirement as well as the recommended US Sailing Prescription that two members of the crew be trained in CPR. The cost for the event is \$45 and will be held in the Herrington Harbour North Marina's conference room; a special thanks to the marina for allowing the club to use the facility without any charge.

Race Management Seminar (4/18/09)

Will be held at the Herrington Harbour South upstairs ballroom. Coffee and Danish will be served and the roles and responsibilities of the RC will be reviewed. The session will be over in time for getting some boat work

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*Joint Racing/Cruising
Seminar at HNSA
upstairs ballroom
Saturday, April 18th at
9 am*

*Race Management
and Cruising Basics...
Anchoring, Weather,
Navigation, Rafting
Etiquette, Barkeeping
and Hors D'oeurving.*

CRUISING

BY AL DEL NEGRO — SOLACE
REAR COMMODORE, CRUISING

At last, our boat's bottom is painted, the brightwork is refinished (again!) and we are in the water and fully re-commissioned. The Cruising season for us and HHSA has begun anew!

Cruising activities of HHSA start this month with the **April Fool's Cruise** to Oxford on April 25 – 26. Cruise Captains for this cruise are Maris and Linda Eshleman (s/v *Sweet Liberty*) who have

sponsored this cruise several times. Besides great sailing expected of April winds, the highlight of the cruise will be dinner ashore for those who wish to dine out at Latitude 38 in Oxford. A call to them will fetch a ride to the restaurant and Linda and Maris will take a slip at Mears Marina in Oxford. After the spectacularly successful Land Cruise to Pirates' Cove, Galesville, Maryland, on February 28, (also sponsored by Maris and Linda) this year attended by 30 members of HHSA, we hope to follow-up with another supportive turn-out.

Following that is the **Memorial Day Cruise** May 23, 24, and 25 sponsored by Stefan Leader and Andrea Heintzelman (s/v *Diva II*). This is a three day weekend and promises to be adventuresome and fun. The following weekend (May 30) is the date of the **New Members Breakfast and Cruise**. Cruise captain for this popular cruise is, of course, HHSA

Commodore **Ted Slotwinski** (s/v *Zalek*). This cruise is ordinarily the first one of the year but this year the date was changed to later in May to take advantage of the usually warmer weather later in the month. This is also a social event with breakfast starting at 9:00 AM. Bring a breakfast treat to share and meet new members and catch up with old friends on the winter's activities before sailing later that morning.



Planned for the future, in addition to cruises, is a cruising seminar for HHSA members, time and place TBA. This one day seminar will cover the details of being a Cruise Captain, picking a destination, reviewing the techniques and etiquette of rafting, the 5:30 PM cocktail party, and after dinner activities. The target audience is any and all members of HHSA but especially those new members who may be new to sailing, cruising and rafting.

In between these fixed dates for cruises are several weekends which may lend themselves to "pick-up" cruises in which members take it upon themselves to organize an impromptu cruise with fellow members of HHSA

for a relaxing and enjoyable time on the water. Anyone who experiences such an urge to form a pick-up cruise can announce that intention on the HHSA website or on the Yahoo Cruisers Group for HHSA (HHSA-Cruising@yahoogroups.com). As Rear Commodore for cruising, I will be more than happy to help advertise pick-up cruises and assist in any way so assure their success.

The schedule for cruises is more complete now that we have had HHSA's annual spring meeting held Saturday, March 31 at Calypso Bay, HHN. At that meeting, I circulated a list of available weekends for volunteer cruise captains, several of whom stepped forward to firm up dates for cruises. Although many of our cruises have themes, not all of our cruises

need them. Simply choosing a cruising destination on a pleasant weekend and organizing a cruise for the mere pleasure of sailing and spending a night on the hook are reasons enough to cruise. In addition, this year we hope to be able to enjoy cruises which would appeal to cruising families with young children. Cruise destinations will include venues where we could go ashore for the social hour. This would no doubt appeal to families with young children.

There was a spirited discussion about all aspects of HHSA's activities at the spring meeting including a proposed cruising seminar aimed at newer members who have not had the

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Next Cruise;

*April Fool's Cruise,
April 23, 2009 to
Oxford, Maryland and
Mears Marina*

CRUISING

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pleasure of sailing far from port and rafting up for the night with fellow members. That seminar is now scheduled for April 18 immediately after the Race Management Seminar at HHS scheduled on that date. Speakers will be Stefan Leader (*Diva II*) on anchoring

techniques, Hooper Harris (*Tabasco*) on weather and

navigation, and yours truly Al Del Negro (*Solace*) on organization of a cruise and rafting. This seminar is open to all members regardless of experience.

My wife Trish Creevy and I are excited about this year activities with HHS and we hope to make this summer's program for cruising a successful one with your help and input. See you on the water!



VICE-COMMODORE'S REPORT

TOM MCGARRY—VENTREIL MAGH

Recruitment, Recruitment, Recruitment. The current membership of HHS is 70 (as of 3/26/09 at 10:15 am). If you have not renewed yet, now is the time. It is easy on line on the web site, but if you prefer, send back the application previously sent you. If there is no change in the information, just indicate so on the form. Our target membership for this year is 125. We have developed a recruiting program to make a concerted effort to reach that goal. The main features of the program involve active participation by selected members, and most importantly, by each member as a routine activity. The elements of the program are:

Dock Captains Program; This effort involves the selection of a dock captain for each dock at Herrington Harbour North and South, as well as Shipwright. I will be emailing and calling many of you seeking your help. Those of you who want to sign up for a dock without prodding, please contact me. The concept is that dock captains will commit to a once a weekend

dock walk and solicitation of new members among the sailors encountered. We will provide talking points emphasizing the benefits of the club for both racers and cruisers. The suggestions and comments at the Spring Organization Meeting were overwhelming and extremely encouraging. As a token of appreciation, for each new member obtained, the responsible member will receive his or her choice of a HHS burgee, hat or shirt. We anticipate a weekly call in to among dock captains to discuss responses to the efforts and feedback to improve and more sharply focus our efforts

Free Three-Month Memberships. We are in the process of making these arrangements to capture people who purchase a boat through Integrity Yacht Sales, take a sailing course through The Sailing Academy at HHN, or are new slip holders at HHN or HHS. The program entails providing a new member package and follow-up personal contact to engage the new members in HHS activities

Outreach to Inactive Members. Like the effort with the three-month members, we want to engage all inactive members to make them aware of the HHS activities and encourage participation.

HHN/Integrity Yacht Sales Unused Equipment Sale. HHN and Integrity Yacht Sales is sponsoring an equipment sale at HHN on May 2. We will have a table there and will be selling items consigned by members and promoting HHS. Those of you who have equipment you want to sell are encouraged to contact me to make the arrangement. The event lasts from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

General Recruitment. **This is where each of us comes in.** We will be providing a few brochures for each member, so that you will have a ready handout for chance – or not so chance – encounters on the docks or on the water, at restaurants, etc. Anytime is the best time to talk up HHS.

*Coming up in
September:*

*A new fall cruise, the
"Tom" Cruise,
celebrating all things
Tom: Tomcats, The
TOMato, the
Tom Collins, The
Tom-Tom...*

**Herrington Harbour
Sailing Association**

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Were On The Web!
www.hhsa.org



**Herrington Harbor
Sailing Association**

LABEL HERE



THE HHSA RACING NEWS...

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completed in the afternoon. Skippers are encouraged to bring crewmembers!

**OTW Spring Tune-Up
(5/3/09)**

Last year's inaugural OTW Clinic was one of the best liked of the season. This year, the event has been moved to a later date to allow even more boats to participate. North Sails' Alan Drew will be joined by Jonathan Bartlett (also

from North) to lead the session. The day will start with a 1-hour lecture on good and bad starting scenarios and then will head out to the water for more than 10 complete start sequences. A great chance to get everyone in the boat (crew too!) used to the starting sequence. This year a small fee (\$10) to cover expenses will be charged per boat. Summer Invitational (6/27/09) Once again received financial support from

Integrity Yacht Sales for the Summer Invitational. CBYRA has sanctioned the regatta as the Integrity Yacht Summer Invitational and at least 4 one-design fleets have put the regatta on their calendar. The party will be held at HHS and will include live music. *The goal is to have 40 boats compete in the regatta and 100 people at the party.*

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Artman