

March 2007

Saturday	March 17	12:00 PM	Spring Meeting	HHS
Saturday	March 24	9:00 AM	Sail Trim Seminar	HHS

From The Helm

Stephan Leader, *Diva II*

The snow is still crunchy underfoot and the temperatures in the 20s and 30s; but as I write this at about 6:00PM on Presidents Day, the sky is still light, a sure sign that spring is close. I even bought a new pair of boat shoes at Fawcett's Presidents Day sale. I scheduled my launch last week (have you ?) and now I have to worry about finding a break in the weather to get *Diva II*'s bottom sanded and painted, and the topsides waxed. I'm regretting having missed some of those mild days in December and early January, but hindsight is easy. It may not look like it, but we will start seeing milder weather before long. And when we do, can sock burning be far behind ? And if you still have doubts, Punxsutawney Phil of Groundhog Day fame predicted an early spring.

In any case, there are some upcoming events that will let you put this transition time between winter and spring to good use. You can polish your mind if not your topsides. The HHS Spring Membership Meeting is scheduled for March 17th. Lunch will be at noon followed by the membership meeting. We will be discussing plans for the coming season and doing a live demonstration of the new web site. Come on down and join us. It will be a great opportunity to renew old friendships and hear about plans for the coming season. You can also use the opportunity to check on your boat. If you are like me and haven't checked on your baby in a couple of months because of the

weather, this is a good opportunity to kill two birds with one stone.

Also coming up on March 24th is a sail trim seminar run by Rear Commodore for Racing, Keith Mayes and his race management team. But don't let the "racers" label put you off. Even if you don't race, you can learn a lot from a racer's approach to sail trim. Check Keith's column for time and details.

And finally, if you haven't renewed your membership, now is the time to do it.

Members' Corner

Ted Slotwinski, *Zalek*

As I write this article (Feb 23) membership for 2007 stands at 49, including 18 racers.. Keep those renewals coming. Even if you do not plan to renew, please let us know.

A reminder that you may renew your Boat U. S. membership at half-price by citing

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the HHSa Group ID number GA80463S when you renew. Last year 91 members took advantage of this opportunity.

The West Marine store at Herrington Harbour North will provide a special discount to HHSa members on Saturday March 17th. The discount will be 10% on non-electronics and 5% on electronics. The discounts will also apply to non-specialty orders. The store will have a list of HHSa 2006 and 2007 members. Just identify yourself as a HHSa member at checkout. A great opportunity to obtain spring outfitting supplies or additions to your boat project lists.

Please welcome onboard our newest members:

David and Ann Rennie of Alexandria, Virginia. They own an Oyster 48 named FORTH DRAFT which is berthed at HHN in slip B-36. They do not plan to race their boat, but are interested in crewing.

Cruise News

John Locke, *Island Time*

Has anyone been on their boat lately? Ours was an icicle last weekend. We are paying now for the warm January. February has reminded us what winter can be like. I can't wait for the sailing season to begin again.

Meanwhile cruising activities are starting to take shape. Maris and Linda Eshleman, *Sweet Liberty* led the years first (land) cruise to Annapolis on Feb 17. Thanks you both of you. JR Larsen, *Odyssey III* has held two teleconference planning session for a Delmarva Cruise tentatively scheduled for 26 May through 2 June. And Gary and Kathy Prichard, *Gone Away*, are planning to lead a "Beach Boys" Cruise in June. Also we are also starting to put together ideas on activities for members who enjoy day sailing. Any member suggestions would be appreciated.

If you would like to lead a cruise or participate in planning day sail activities, you can email me at cruising@hhsa.org, or call me in the evening at 703 360-8947. We will also have a sign-up sheet available at the Spring Meeting on March 17th.

I am looking forward to a fun sailing season in 2007.

Hope to see you at the Spring Meeting.

Social Corner

Barbara Locke, *Island Time*

The **Spring Organizational Meeting** is on March 17th at Herrington on the Bay (next to Mangoes). We are having a buffet luncheon of Caesar salad, Chicken Marsala, roasted red potatoes, green beans almandine, rolls & butter, topped off with a walnut fudge brownie accompanied by coffee, hot tea and iced tea. The cost is \$20 per person. Lunch begins at 12:00 noon, followed by the meeting.

You will be hearing about the upcoming racing and cruising season as well as social activities. Jed Dickman has been invited to share the latest information from the Marina. We will be voting on the 2007 budget and learning about the new HHSa website. You will have an opportunity to sign up to lead a cruise, to be on a committee, and to get involved in the racing program.

Your participation is important to this club in getting the 2007 sailing season off to a big start! Please plan to come – you may sign up by filling in the form attached to this newsletter and mailing it to me along with your check for \$20 for each person attending. The check should be made out to HHSa. We need to give a head count by March 12, so please make sure the check gets to me by Saturday, March 10.

Upcoming events for this year are the **New Member's Breakfast** on Saturday **May 5**,

followed by the New Member's Cruise, and the **Annual Summer BBQ** on Saturday, **July 14**. Mark these important dates on your calendar now!

From the Stern Rail

Maris Eshelman, *Sweet Liberty*

I've heard rumors that robins have actually been sighted in the neighborhood, and owners are finally talking about working on their boats. Investment season is drawing to a close as launch dates get scheduled in the, well - not to distant future or at least after the ice melts from the creek. The nice thing about having an old boat is there are always improvement projects waiting to happen. The bad thing about having an old boat is there are always improvement projects waiting to happen. Instead of vegging away, many of us old boat owners invest time during the winter weekends that we hope will pay dividends when the sails are up.

Many new owners of old boats get overwhelmed by the requirements and get frustrated because they believe the amount of time or money or both to do the work exceeds their ability to deliver. When we first got *Sweet Liberty*, we developed an overall strategy for her improvement. We used the initial survey as a starting point to identify requirements and then divided the work into manageable sections to do over a period of years. We set a schedule that was prioritized based on importance of the work to our boats survivability.

The first year we concentrated on deck and rigging improvements to make the deck solid and watertight. We also checked the integrity of rigging for signs of aging by cleaning rust and corrosion from the stainless steel and replaced teak that wouldn't stand up to future needs. The next year we focused on the bottom to repair the effects of 30+ years and replaced the sails that lasted thrice their expected useful life. This year, our focus has been upgrading the interior mechanical systems that will make necessary onboard functions less

challenging. Next year we will continue interior and cabin improvements. Since our old Atomic 4 seems to be running well, we hopefully won't need to address the power issue for many years.

Old boat owners often wonder about the economic viability of making major investments that only deepen their negative equity. Unlike racers who can achieve gratification through success rounding the marks, most old boat owners need to see their improvements as personal achievements that can leave a lasting legacy. We hope to sail *Sweet Liberty* for many years and then pass her on to a kid or grandkid so they can experience the joys of sailing.

Racing News

Keith Mayes, *Jubilee*

The work of completing revisions to the racing documents is just about complete. I think you will be pleased with the relatively few changes we have made this year, improving on what were already solid volumes. I have asked Hank Chalkley to again take on the role of Official Scorer, and in that capacity he has been involved in the review and revision of the Racing Rules and Race Committee Manual (formerly called the Committee Boat Manual). Thank you very much to Hank and the rest of the Committee for their diligence in pursuing perfection!

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, the 2007 racing program kicks off with 3 seminars – a Racing Rules Seminar on Sunday February 25th, a Sail Trim Seminar on Saturday March 24th, and a Race Management Seminar on April Saturday April 14th. As we go to press, we are scrambling to re-schedule the February 25th Rules Seminar, which was postponed due to a winter weather event that kept most sane people home. Please look for notices on the website and through email to get the latest information.

All three seminars will be held at Herrington Harbour South and will start promptly at 9:00 AM. Our goal is to get you out of there by 11:00 so that you can get to the yard and work on your boats. Please put these dates on your calendars now and plan to attend! We have lined up some knowledgeable and accomplished experts to deliver these seminars and I am confident that it will be well worth your time to attend.

Among the events planned this year, in addition to the traditional racing program, are:

- A **Double Handed Race** on June 3rd – for boats with crews of only two (for all comers!)
- An “**Adopt a Cruiser Race**” on July 14th – on the day of the Summer BBQ, whereby the top racing skippers will be paired with cruisers for an around-the-buoys race in Herring Bay. The racing skippers will become crew for the day, and hopefully impart knowledge, experience, and confidence in an informal setting.
- A **Friday evening race** from Herring Bay to the mouth of the Patuxent River on October 19th, with a goal of joining SMSA on Saturday for their Fall Regatta.
- The return of the **Frostbite Series in October and November**, with plans to move to Saturday competition when the Redskins are playing at home on Sunday.
- Another **Cruise Race** on a date to be determined.

If we can just get this winter weather out of here, you can get to the yard to complete the commissioning list, and we get the show started!

Club Communications

Jodi Weinbecker, *My Mojo*

As I sit here on this cold Sunday watching the snow coming down in quarter-size flakes, I dream of the months to come: of lazy Sunday afternoon sails with the sun on my face and nice breeze blowing across the deck. I was very much looking forward to the racing seminar that was scheduled for this morning for many reasons: it would give me a chance to chat with fellow sailors about a sport that I love, and get everyone revved up for this year’s racing season. Alas the winter weather has set us back a few more weeks on this.

One thing I am very excited about is the launch of the club’s new website. I would like to start by thanking Bruce Artman for all his hard work and dedication to this project. He did a great job researching the company we are using and was very instrumental in getting this project up and running. Thanks Bruce!!! Also, I would like to thank the 2007 board for working very hard on their portions of the site to get it ready to launch. Come to the Spring Organization Meeting March 17 and check out the unveiling!

A few things about the website that I would like you all to know. Check out the News section, it will give you a snapshot of upcoming events. You can register and pay for races and events on-line! Got some great shots? Upload them to your personal Members Photo page and share them with the club. Want to get your newsletter electronically? Sign-up for the electronic version of the newsletter and cut down on your paper clutter, lower the club’s expenses on printing and mailing, and help save the environment.

If you have any comments or suggestions about the website, newsletter or any other club communications please contact me at sailmojo@juno.com or call 410-353-3797.

See you on the water soon!

Pusser's Page

Maris Eshelman, *Sweet Liberty*

SEATED NEXT ON THIS HERE PAGE BE Y'AR HNSA FINANCIALS FER Y'AR FISCAL YEAR ENDING 1/31/2007 AND Y'AR PROJECTED BUDGET FER Y'AR FISCAL YEAR ENDING 1/31/2008.

THESE WILL BE REVIEWED AND DISCUSSED IN GREAT DETAIL AT Y'AR SPRING MEETING ON 17 MARCH, BUT ARE PRESENTED HERE FOR YE ALL TO SEE AS WAS DONE LAST YEAR.

THE CLUB BE IN RIGHT GOOD FISCAL HEALTH THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF ITS MEMBERS, THE FRUGAL WAYS OF Y'AR BOARD AND MOST ASSUREDLY THE HEARTY WORK OF A FEW GOOD MATES.

SO MARK Y'AR CALENDAR FOR 2 WEEKS AFTER THE DAYS START LATER AND SHOW UP TO HEAR THE COMMODORE AND HIS TRUSTY RC'S TELL YE HOW THEY PLAN TO SPEND THE BOUNTY. Y'AR PUSSER WILL ALSO REFRESH YER RECOLLECTION OF THE FALL MEETING AND TELL YE HOW MANY DOUBLOONS BE LAYING IN THE PIRATE CHEST.

	<u>Actual 2006</u>	<u>Proposed 2007</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>
INCOME:	-		
Membership	\$5,720.00	\$7,800.00	\$2,080.00
Merchandise Income	\$117.00	\$1,100.00	\$983.00
50 / 50 Income	\$332.00	\$350.00	\$18.00
Burgees	\$500.00	\$400.00	(\$100.00)
Advertising	\$900.00	\$800.00	(\$100.00)
Racing fees	\$760.00	\$1,080.00	\$320.00
Spring Meeting	\$809.00	\$1,000.00	\$191.00
Summer BBQ	\$1,377.00	\$1,500.00	\$123.00
Banquet	\$7,995.00	\$8,125.00	\$130.00
Regatta	\$2,127.00	\$4,500.00	\$2,373.00
Donations	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	(\$3,000.00)
Total Income	\$23,637.00	\$26,655.00	\$3,018.00
NET INCOME:	\$23,637.00	\$26,655.00	\$3,018.00
EXPENSES:			
General			
Awards	\$513.09	\$550.00	\$36.91
Donations	\$382.00	\$350.00	(\$32.00)
Insurance	\$1,278.00	\$1,300.00	\$22.00
Burgees	\$0.00	\$708.00	\$708.00
Merchandise Expense	\$132.00	\$1,000.00	\$868.00
Miscellaneous	\$332.85	\$450.00	\$117.15
Credit Card Fees		\$200.00	\$200.00
Total General	\$2,637.94	\$4,558.00	\$1,920.06
Communications			
Newsletter - Print cost	\$1,872.20	\$1,500.00	(\$372.20)
Newsletter - Postage	\$588.19	\$450.00	(\$138.19)
Web Page	\$409.26	\$500.00	\$90.74
Bulletin Board	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Directory	\$327.96	\$300.00	(\$27.96)
Postage - Directory	\$168.88	\$150.00	(\$18.88)
Brochure	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Communications	\$3,366.49	\$2,950.00	(\$416.49)
Cruising			
Awards	\$445.73	\$550.00	\$104.27
Seminars	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Total Cruising	\$445.73	\$650.00	\$204.27
Racing			
CBYRA Dues	\$155.00	\$200.00	\$45.00
Awards	\$1,412.16	\$1,400.00	(\$12.16)
Equipment, Supplies, Misc.	\$488.78	\$800.00	\$311.22
Regatta	\$2,203.77	\$4,500.00	\$2,296.23
USSA Dues	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$50.00
Seminars	\$532.53	\$450.00	(\$82.53)
Total Racing	\$4,892.24	\$7,500.00	\$2,607.76
Social			
Spring Meeting	\$816.06	\$1,000.00	\$183.94
Fall, Annual Meeting	\$207.27	\$200.00	(\$7.27)
New Members Breakfast	\$38.21	\$75.00	\$36.79
Summer BBQ	\$1,122.44	\$1,500.00	\$377.56
Banquet	\$6,875.53	\$8,125.00	\$1,249.47
Miscellaneous	\$12.79	\$60.00	\$47.21
Total Social	\$9,072.30	\$10,960.00	\$1,887.70
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$20,414.70	\$26,618.00	\$6,203.30
TOTAL INCOME:	\$23,637.00	\$26,655.00	\$3,018.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$20,414.70	\$26,618.00	\$6,203.30
NET PROFIT or (LOSS):	\$3,222.30	\$37.00	(\$3,185.30)

