

# HERRINGTON HARBOUR SAILING ASSOCIATION

## HARBOUR LIGHT

### FROM THE HELM

Commodore Maris Eshleman - *Amekaya*

We are now in the dead of winter with only the Banquet waiting to close out the 31st year of HHSA. The banquet will mark the end of my service of being your Commodore after 2 years at the Helm. It has been my privilege to serve with some outstanding Board members during that time and see the development of some new activities.

As we think about our new year we think of new things we plan to do and old things we will do no longer. With every new thing we do we lose something old. The Board is working through its transition so that when the new HHSA year begins in February activities will continue in earnest and the season will begin with activities already planned for February. A part of the New Year is

reregistration and dues so we hope all this year's members will reup and we can look for new members to recruit. The benefit of HHSA is what you make of it. Show up and have fun or don't. At the Banquet those who made a contribution will be rewarded for all their efforts.

HHSA is about its members and their good times on the



## 2012 Season Awards Banquet

When: Saturday January 26, 2013

Time: 6:30 PM - 11 PM

Where: Herrington on the Bay Catering at HH South

An opportunity to dress, dine, socialize, and honor those being recognized for their achievements this season

Cover page photo - Race 1 start; Frostbite week 5, December 2 by: *David Strine*

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## 2013 Schedule

Date	Time	HHSa Event	Where	Description
Jan 26	6:30 PM	2012 Season Annual banquet	HOTBC @ HH South	Dress up and celebrate the 2012 season! Racing & Cruising awards presented.
Feb 9	7 PM	Soup night	Albert's residence	Join David & Laurie Albert, <i>Passing Wind</i> , for soup and socializing
Feb 16	9 AM	Racing Rules seminar	HOTBC @ HH South	Learn the rules changes for 2013-2016 plus review and practice protests
Feb 23	TBD	Land Cruise	TBD	Join Maris & Linda Eshleman, <i>Amekaya</i> , for dinner, drinks, and comraderie

Full racing and cruising schedule can be found on the HHSa Web Site.



Emily & Keith, *Jubilee* - Final Frostbite Race



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water. We celebrate those times with cruises, parties, regattas, parties, social activities and generally good camaraderie. Whether you race or cruise there are good times to have.

As we each advance in our sailing careers as we choose HHSA wants to be the catalyst to help you reach your goals. Linda and I this year made a major advance by taking our boat south and then going to Florida for Christmas. What an exciting time! In last month's newsletter I wrote about our trip to Georgia and this month I have some notes about our trip to Florida.

In sailing and in life, dream big, think big and act on them to make them happen. While at St Augustine recently a man on a boat came over to us because he recognized us because he was on our dock at HHN. It is a small world and goals can be attained one step at a time.

Wishing you and HHSA all the best in the New Year.

See you on the water!

## 2013 COMMODORE REMARKS

Commodore Arnie Fliflet -  
*Mazal Tov*

The Frostbite Regattas are over, the racing marks have been hauled out, the final racing results have been posted, and several cruisers

have moved their boats south. It's time to start preparing our boats for next year's sailing activities.

This is a busy time for Board members who have by now worked out the next season's racing and cruising schedules, ordered the racing and cruising awards, and worked hard on banquet preparations and preseason seminars. As your incoming Commodore I am extremely grateful for the efforts of the current and incoming board members and especially for the service and dedication of our present Commodore, Maris Eshleman. Thanks to these individuals, HHSA has successful racing and cruising programs as evidenced by the accomplishments and enthusiasm of our membership and our continuing ability to attract new members.

I do have a few ideas that I plan to share with you in the coming months. My perspective is that of a racer but as I get more into offshore racing I find myself thinking more about cruising issues as well as satisfying those pesky ISAF Offshore Regs.

One thing I'd like to see more of is educational talks given by our own members. Perhaps we could set up a series of seminars given monthly throughout the year in a setting similar to that used by our Women's Group. To keep costs down I'm thinking of meetings held during a weekday evening at one of the marina facilities or at a member's house (or boat).

Members could prepare talks on topics of interest to racers, cruisers or both to be followed by discussion facilitated by a bit of grog. Subjects could include any area of boat maintenance, seamanship, inshore and offshore racing issues, safety concerns, the aero-hydrodynamics of sailing, or sailing apps. There is certainly enough expertise among our membership to cover these topics. I'm thinking, for example, of the valuable information that has been presented in the discussion forums lately such as Kinne Sutton's contributions on LED lighting. The number of participants wouldn't have to be large but we would endeavor to keep to a regular schedule. If you would like to participate please let me know.

Fair winds and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

## RACING REPORT

Rear Commodore (Racing)

Joe Laun - *Lady Grey*

While the calendar may show that the 2012 season has just ended, our 2013 schedule is well underway. As I hope you've already seen, our calendar has several events that we all need to be aware of. First and foremost - the annual Herrington Harbour Sailing Association Banquet is set for the evening of January 26th, 2013. This event is a fantastic opportunity to recognize the efforts

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of all HHSAsailors over the past year.

Second, please plan to attend the Racing Rules Seminar on February 16th at Herrington Harbour South. The event will be an all-day seminar, and lunch is included in the very modest \$12 registration fee. We'll spend part of the morning reviewing changes in the 2013 Racing Rules of Sailing, and then move into a

review of all of our rules. Following lunch, we'll spend several hours enjoying a thorough overview of the protest process, complete with mock protests. Leading the seminar will be Kristen Berry, Co-Director of J/World Annapolis. He's a "rules nerd" who loves to teach-it'll be a great time!

The Competition Committee is working on a draft schedule for 2013. We're planning a slate of events similar to 2012. Questions or comments? Give me a shout at 703-963-0283 or at racing@hhsa.org

## 2013 CRUISING REPORT

Rear Commodore (Cruising)

JR Larsen - *Odyssey IV*

2013 HHSAsailors Cruise Planning is already underway. The Events Calendar is starting to fill in. We have cruises starting in April



running through October. There are plenty of open weekends throughout the season to schedule more cruises. This year, our goal is to have events on calendar for as many weekends as possible. This way, regardless of your schedule, you won't have to wait multiple weekends to join a cruise. Contact JR Larsen and volunteer to lead. No problem, if current cruise leaders want to host multiple events during the season. We'll see you on the Bay!

## SOCIAL REPORT

Laurie Albert - *Passing Wind*

As the winter chill sets in and we've all survived the apocalypse, warm up with HHSAsailors friends at the Annual Banquet on Saturday, January 26th – a wonderful evening of music, dancing, awards and more! With 50 plus people already registered, you'll want to make sure that you don't miss this great event – sign

up today!! Complete details available on the website.

You'll also want to stay connected with fellow sailors throughout the winter months at one of our HHSAsailors Landlubber gatherings. We all had a fabulous time at the home of Judy & Tom Lampley a couple weeks ago. Many thanks to the Lampley's for welcoming us into their home. Don't forget to warm up your bellies on February 9th at "Soup Night" at the home of Laurie & Dave Albert in Reston – please sign up and let us know that you are coming.

Until next month – stay warm, welcome in the New Year safely and "Register for the Banquet".

## MID-WINTER HOLIDAY

Maris & Linda Eshleman -  
*Amekaya*

One of the reasons we took *Amekaya* south for the winter was to be able to extend the sailing season by using her for a few mid-winter holidays. Our first chance to do this was the Christmas week. Christmas falling in the middle of the week this year presented a perfect opportunity was take a week long getaway. After some discussions and conference with my daughter who lives outside Orlando, we decided that St. Augustine Florida would be our destination to spend Christmas this year.



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So after winding down several unending weeks of work, we loaded up the car and hurried over to I-95 so that we could sit in traffic. A drive back down to Brunswick, GA that should have taken 10 hours and get us there in time for a casual dinner took about 13 hours as everyone with a car parked on I-95 south.

The trip from Brunswick to St. Augustine would take us about 12 hours under ideal conditions. Forecast was for little wind so we knew we would need to motor. We left Brunswick just before dark and motored offshore with the intent to make the St. Augustine channel about 0509 for the high tide.

The St. Augustine channel is known to be problematic from shifting shoals and unlit marks. Like many channels they can also have riptides and dangerous rages in adverse conditions. Timing our arrival at high tide and slack current we should be able to minimize the effects of shallows and strong adverse currents so we set off to time our arrival based on the astronomical data we knew. It would be totally dark when we tried to enter but from the forecast there shouldn't be any adverse conditions, other than being dark.

After an uneventful motor we arrived at the channel just after the high tide. Using information provided by the Dock master the day before and from other sources we rounded the sea buoy and headed toward the first mark which we found. Moving ahead we

proceeded far beyond where we thought the next mark should be and the water was down to 12 ft. Concerned that we had missed the mark we turned to backtrack knowing the depths were good and on the way back we found the mark we missed and then the next mark and we were in.

We had reserved a slip at the St. Augustine municipal marina and found out when we called that they had staff on 24 hours a day so we got through the Bridge of Lions on demand and into our slip. The sun had not yet risen when we tied up to our dock to great relief. Next on our agenda was a nap.

Later that day and night we walked through St. Augustine amazed by the beauty of this little heralded resort town. I had been in St. Augustine as a kid back in the 50's touring the Castillo de San Marcos and the oldest city in the US that was founded by the Spanish in the 16th century. The old city streets that were tread on by some of the most famous sailors in history now have artisans with beautiful and unusual wares along with the usual T-shirt and junk shops. We also found several wonderful restaurants and art galleries with very unique displays.

But the City is a site to behold with its Christmas lights and decorations on the colonial Spanish architecture. Although it was somehow hard to think of it being Christmas with temperatures in the 70's it was easy to enjoy. A St. Augustine Christmas should be on

every cruisers wish list at least once.

With the holiday over we were looking forward to a brisk but chilly sail up to Brunswick on the backside of the low pressure that brought snow to our area at home. Instead of a sail we got another motor albeit in nice sunny conditions. Inside the cockpit enclosure it was bare feet and bathing suit to enjoy in anticipation of the cold that would come once the sun went down. Exiting the St. Augustine channel during the day was almost a non-event given all the negative hype we had heard and we had a track to follow.

Our ocean course took us through the Northern Right Whale Habitat and the whales were supposedly active causing us concern on the way down in the dark that we could inadvertently hit one. On the way back in the light we hoped we might see one but did not. We contemplated anchoring. Traveling part of the way up the ICW so that we could anchor someplace but it was just as easy to motor on to our slip that we chose to do that. We got back secured into our slip about 12 hours after we left St. Augustine.

We spent Friday cleaning up the boat and doing other maintenance before setting out on the return to cold and snow planning our next winter vacation on *Amekaya*.

Herrington Harbour  
Sailing Association

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Mailing Label