

HARBOUR LIGHT



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>From the Commodore</i>	1
<i>Racing</i>	7
<i>Cruising</i>	6
<i>Social</i>	3

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday
Evening Series 2,
Races 1-5.

DelMarVa
Cruise
June 19-27

Sharps Island
Race
June 24

Independence
Day Cruise
July 3-5

FROM THE COMMODORE

RICH GRINER, COYOTE

We are now in the busy part of the sailing season. We start June off with the Double Handed race June 5th which is open to all HHSA boats and we'll have a casual social afterwards with some folks from SMSA.

August 21st we have the Adopt A Cruiser race, and summer barbecue. We place racing skippers on our cruising boats to provide guidance on how to barge in at the starboard end of the start and how to file a protest when someone else gets in your way. Then we all come back to HHS and enjoy a BBQ.

These are some of my favorite HHSA events. A little racing mixed with cruising and always a social. Read more about these events in this newsletter, the HHSA Website, and the email forums.

Many of these events in June Keith Mayes is either hosting as the Cruise Leader or very involved as head of Social. I am sure he could use some assistance in the BBQ and possibly the after race social for the Double Handed race. Anyone that can lend a hand will be very much appreciated. Please con-

tact Keith if you can provide some help. So far we have not had many violent thunderstorms run through Herring Bay. I don't know if this is a sign of how this summer will be or if Mother Nature is just toying with us. We now have so much technology available to us these days to help see the paths of storms. Half of you probably can see radar shots on your phone. Even with all this sophistication don't forget to just keep an eye on the Western skies. Most bad thunderstorms roll in from the West and you can often tell when bad news is coming well in advance. Use all input available, including simple observations, to stay safe out there. If this all fails then just make sure you're near a mast that is taller than yours.

New Member's Breakfast and Cruise Article
This will be brief as I am holding up production of the June Newsletter, but I thought it worth holding up the newsletter for a couple days to get this weekend's cruise included.
Thanks to everyone that came out for the New Member's Breakfast and the New Member's Cruise.

Despite the weather predictions we had a great weekend. A little bit of rain late Saturday night after everyone had left the social and a little bit more in the bay coming home on Sunday. We had so much good food Saturday morning and much of it went uneaten. Allen Wright suggested opening up the New Member breakfast to non-members as a recruitment tool. Do a little advertisement at the marinas. Perhaps this is something to consider for the future. As we were wrapping up a couple did stop over and according to Tom they plan to join the club. That is truly a new member breakfast.
I saw Al taking some pictures at the breakfast and my son Alex shot some video during the cruise. We will be posting these shots on the HHSA WEB site and include in next month's newsletter. Once Alex has performed some editing of the video will post a link for that on the HHSA WEB site.
During the breakfast we were see a nice 12 knots out of the South East. Perfect conditions for sailing up Eastern Bay to the Wye

(Continued on page 2)

FROM THE COMMODORE

CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)
 river and our anchorage at Shaw bay. Even as we hosted sails at Herring Bay 2 we had over 10 knots, but as the fleet headed out into the bay the winds got lighter and lighter. Coyote and Lady Grey headed easterly to keep boat speed and also position ourselves for hoisting our spinnakers. Several others started motor sailing. When we got up to Poplar we did hoist our spinnaker and this did allow us to gain a few knots of speed. Somewhere between Poplar Island and Eastern Bay 1 we fell in a hole. We could see boats that motored ahead now sailing and sailing with good heal. These boats just disappeared in front of us. When we got to a few hundred yards from EB 1 we finally got the new wind and it was much farther in front of us. To get the spinnaker down we had to fall off and head for the shallows just North of EB1 with great boat speed. I am sure anyone near us at this point got a view of a very interesting spinnaker douse. Once cleaned up from our spinnaker douse we made great time up Eastern Bay. We watched as Lady Grey fell into the same hole we did. Later at the raft up we heard they had as interesting a spinnaker drop as we did. With just two aboard Lady Grey they may have had their hands full for a few minutes. Rounding EB4 we had a small beat up to the en-

trance of the Wye River. We were now among some of the other HHSA boats as we followed Diva II up into Wye River. I love sailing up into this river and didn't want to drop sails when we reached Shaw bay. Diva II set up one raft and Coyote set up a second but most boats dropped their own hook. Not knowing exactly what weather we would see this evening, this was probably wise. The boys were swimming of the stern and I went down to get towels and when I came up we had 20+ crew were on Coyote. One similarity between racers and cruisers is they each are normally well stocked with drinks. The differences are that the cruisers also bring awesome food to share. We ate well, so well that dinner was not an option for me. Before turning in Ted rowed back over and shared a cigar with me and Joe provided some pain killers (the drink kind) putting a nice end to a great day. After a sound breakfast we started our sail home. It was a little slow going out the Wye but the river is so pretty we did not notice. We had good speed out to EB4. As we turned to head out of Eastern Bay the wind was directly behind us. We set up for Wing n Wing, turned on autopilot, and started a very long poker game. We only stopped when it started to rain. By then we were close to 84A, the wind had

backed a few degrees and we were starting to reach with speed. We followed Lady Grey and Diva II into Herring Bay. For a boat that does not get out cruising too often we had a great time. My youngest son is ready to come out again next week if go cruising instead of racing. Thanks to all the members that came out for the breakfast, thanks to the boats that came out for the cruise, and thanks to all the new members we met. My only regret is I didn't have time to talk to each one of you.
 Richard Griner
 Coyote
 Commodore (King for the Year)

New Member Cruise Participants:

Azzura
 Clarity
 Coyote
 Diva II (Tzatsky Too crew aboard)
 Freedom
 Lady Grey
 Skylark
 Solace
 Sweet Liberty
 Wind Dancer
 Zalek



SOCIAL TIDBITS

R/C SOCIAL KEITH MAYES, *JUBILEE,*



On June 26th the annual HHSA Summer BBQ will be held on the beach on the West Side of Herrington Harbour South. We'll have volleyball and other fun activities with good food and drinks for all. Look for more information via email and Forum announcements. Don't forget to register for events on the website ... it really helps with the planning. Party On!

Thanks to those who helped out with the New Members Breakfast. I am sorry that I could not participate, or even help with the setup ... my daughter's college

graduation and a two day regatta for Jubilee in Solomons Island conspired to consume much of my time and most of my energy that weekend.



DIVA II CRUISE

STEFAN LEADER, *DIVA II*

The wind was blowing a brisk 20 knots out of the northwest and the spray flying when we headed out to Dividing Creek on Saturday May 15. But the old saying about Chesapeake weather proved true again – if you don't like the weather, wait an hour or two and it will change.



About an hour out the wind dropped enough for us to roll out all of our 135 genoa and by the time we reached the mouth of Eastern Bay we were able to shake out the reef in our main. With wind on the beam we made a fast crossing. And once in



Eastern Bay, the seas calmed down and allowed us to eat lunch comforta-

bly. Most importantly, the potato chips stayed on their plates. Members Rich and Lynn Clough (Sea Luff) were guests aboard *Diva II* and helped handle the boat under



what the Brits would call "lively conditions." Needless to say the sailing was great. We sailed the entire way from Green 2 in Herring Bay to within a quarter mile of Dividing Creek and were able to drop the hook in a well sheltered part of the creek.

KC and Susie Bacher on their Hunter 44, *Freedom* were there ahead of us, having left about 7:00AM and braved the brisk wind. They found less than the usual 9-10 foot water depth due to the *seiches* effect (look it up – low tide due to wind) but enough for their 6 foot plus draft and found a good place to anchor. As the wind

dropped and the tide rose on Saturday afternoon, the water returned to the creek. Steve and Debra Anand on *Carpe Ventus* arrived shortly after *Diva II* and anchored nearby.

Eight people had ample room in *Diva II*'s cockpit and we had a great party with lots of good food

and wine, birds to watch and the usual lively banter. The party broke up just before dark and we had a deliciously quiet and serene night at anchor. *Diva II* left about 9:00AM and again sailed almost all the way home, including a spinnaker run from the mouth of Eastern Bay to a few miles outside of Herring Bay. All in all, a great weekend. Too bad more members were not able to enjoy it.



CRUISE RACE

R/C SOCIAL, KEITH MAYES, *JUBILEE*

Cruise Race is now scheduled for August

Back by popular demand (seriously) is the Cruise with a Twist. Cruisers can add spice and excitement to the transit from Herring Bay to a designated anchorage, and racers get to enjoy the après race gathering rafted up and swinging on the hook. In my opinion this event combines the best of both worlds!

So here's how it works:

1) Participants register online and provide some very basic information about their boats

2) I pick a destination on Friday night or early Saturday morning based on forecasted weather

3) We hold simultaneous skippers meetings at HHN and HHS at 8:30 AM on Saturday morning - You will receive a sheet of paper telling you:

a. what time you should start sailing - from Herring Bay (yellow buoy HHS "A")

b. where to end up, and what if any government marks you should honor to get there

4) The slowest boat will start first (based on the boat's potential, not the skipper's J)

5) The fastest boat will start last

6) The first boat to arrive at the designated anchorage wins

7) I will honor participants with gifts and certificates during the traditional happy hour

Your goal is to catch the boat (s) ahead of you, and stay ahead of the boat(s) behind you. Add some fine rum and you have quite a recipe for enjoyment!

I hope many of you will join me for this fun event. Look for details on the website. Registrations are now open.



CRUISING NEWS

R/C CRUISING AL DEL NEGRO, *SOLACE*

The cruising season is now well-underway with the **April Fool's Cruise** (Maris and Linda Eshleman) at Oxford, MD, April 4, the first ever **Diva's Cruise** (Stefan Leader and Andrea Heintzelman) on May 15, and the **New Member's Cruise** (Commodore Rich Griner) on May 21.

On the **Diva's Cruise**, Stefan and Andrea led HNSA cruisers on a spectacular sunny, breezy May weekend to Dividing Creek on the Wye River where the Social Hour evolved to a shared dinner event. North west winds over 10 knots sped HNSA cruisers across the Bay to the anchorage, a particularly



beautiful and secluded spot festooned with water fowl.

On the following weekend, Rich and Kristin Griner led us on the **New Members Cruise** after the annual **New Members Breakfast**. This annual event's history includes several years when we huddled in late May rainstorms under the protection of the overhang at the bathrooms near Herrington Harbour South's main entrance.

Good weather has prevailed since changing the venue of the breakfast to Herrington Harbour North at the swimming pool, a much more hospitable site where the adjacent open pavilion provides protection from hostile weather.

With the start of June, the cruising season is well-underway. Coming in June is the **Double Handed Race** (June 5) which attracts several cruisers, the **Race Cruise** (June 12), the **DelMarVa Circumnavigation** (June 19 - 27), and the **Adopt a Cruiser Race and Summer BBQ** (June 26).

The Race Cruise is a chance for cruisers who seldom race to get the flavor of a racing competition. Cruisers obtain a racing PHRF rating for their boats which ranks the speediness of their vessel. The rankings, which determine the order of racing starts, (the slower rated boats start earlier and the faster rated boats start later) make for nearly all boats finishing together, theoretically. This results in a delightful and exciting finish! Thereafter, the Race-Cruisers gather at a pre-determined anchorage near the Race-Cruise finish line for the usual post cruise social hour. Return to home port the next day is usually not under racing conditions but can be if desired. PHRF ratings can

be obtained from Rear Commodore /Racing Arne Fliflet and it's never too early to sign up for this terrific event.

I'll report of the **DelMarVa Cruise** next month but per-



sonally, Trish and I are really looking forward to this first of its kind event for HNSA. While individual members have certainly cruised around the DelMarVa peninsula before, this is the first time we've done it as a sailing association.

There's more to come for HNSA and for cruising. Check out the calendar and pick a cruising event join. If the weekend has no scheduled cruise, consider hosting a pick-up cruise by posting the intention to cruise on the website and inviting fellow interested cruisers to join in. Pick-up cruises are laid-back and enjoyable with the social hour sometimes overlapping the dinner hour and they can provide some of the most beautiful evenings on the hook. See you on the water!

RACING NEWS

R/C RACING ARNE FLIFLET, MAZAL TOV

HHSA June Racing

Wednesday Evening races:

1850 Spinnaker Warning signal. Post-race gathering and scoring at the Fabulous Brew.

Double-Handed Race, June 5:

1055 Warning. Informal gathering with SMSA racers at HHS.

Sharps Island Race, June 19:

1625 hrs Warning

Adopt-a-Cruiser Race/HHSA BBQ, June 26

As I write we have successfully completed three Wednesday Evening Races with good turnouts in brisk early season conditions with winds ranging from the high teens to upper twenties. *Coyote* and *Leap Frog* are off to strong starts in Series 1 with two wins apiece in Spin-A and Spin-B, respectively. Other winners include *Avenger* (Spin-B), *Jubilee* (Spin-A) and *Mirabelle*, *Smoke*, and *Cadence II* in Non-spin. Conducting Race 1 proved to be as big a challenge for the RC boat (*Mazal Tov*) as the 20-30 knot winds were for the competitors. The first race started had to be abandoned after the first mark (HHSA B) was found to be missing by the first boat to reach its location. A second race was started even though there was some doubt that an abandoned race could be re-sailed. The spinnaker boats started without incident but several of the non-spin boats were over early. In carrying out the Individual Recall the RC misidentified one of the over-early boats. This led to one boat being recalled to the start incorrectly (*Tern*) and another not being notified of her over-early status (*Tzatsky Too*). After the race *Tzatsky*

Too submitted a request for redress. A second request for redress was submitted by *Coyote* on the grounds that the HHSA Rules appeared not to allow an abandoned race to be re-sailed. With the R/C Racing being an interested party to both redress requests, Keith Mayes took the lead in organizing protest committees to decide the claims. It was decided to address *Tzatsky Too*'s request first as it appeared that all HHSAracers were interested parties to *Coyote*'s request and therefore that Protest Committee would have to be assembled from outside HHSA. The *Tzatsky Too* protest committee, consisting of Bruce Artman, Bruce Kissal, and Ted Slotwinski, decided that, given the announcements by the RC, *Tzatsky Too* could not reasonably have known she was expected to restart and her request was granted. *Tern* was also given redress in the form of time removed from her finish time. *Coyote* then withdrew her request for redress allowing the validity of the re-sailed race to be decided by the Competition Committee. The committee decided that the race qualifies as a valid race. In summary, the intent of HHSA Rule 13 appears to be to disallow re-sailing an abandoned race on a different day, rather than a blanket prohibition against re-sailing any abandoned race. Moreover, it is in conflict with the RRS which do allow the re-sailing of abandoned races. The HHSA Rules state that in the case of a conflict between the RRS and the HHSA Rules, the RRS shall take precedence unless the HHSA explicitly modifies the RRS. Rule 13 as written does not do this.

Therefore the re-sailed race is valid and the results stand. Rule 13 will be modified to clarify when abandoned races can be re-sailed and to remove the conflict with the RRS. I hope that these events do not discourage anyone from serving as race committee. In fact, I think they show the system works.

The Spring Regatta, held on Sunday May 16, had a good turnout of ten boats in the three classes including newcomer *Tenho* (John Day), a Farr 50 Pilothouse using the regatta as a tune up for the Bermuda Ocean Race. *Jubilee* (Keith Mayes) dominated Spin-A with three firsts while *Tenho* edged out *Mazal Tov* for second place. *Avenger* (Dave Johnson) and *Cadence II* (Carl Schafer) battled for first place in Spin-B with *Avenger* winning on the tie breaker. *Tern* (John Weis) and *Serefe* (Sam Baker) traded places in Non-spin with *Tern* getting the series win. *Avalon* (Jim Murtland), *Cantata* (Hank Chalkley), and *Pachanga* (Jeff Bowen) also enjoyed the excellent racing conditions and the regatta was ably conducted by *T-Bone* (Bruce Artman).

Several HHSA racers will be competing in the Down the Bay Race over the Memorial Day weekend, and *T-Bone* and *Tenho* will be competing in the Annapolis-Bermuda Ocean Race in early June. Good luck to all competitors!

Comments about your experiences on the race course are always welcome. Class winners, please submit your bullet reports.

Arne Fliflet
Mazal Tov



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