

April 2007

Saturday	April 14	8:30 AM	Race Management Seminar	HHS
Wednesday	April 25	6:45 PM	Practice Race	HB
Friday	April 27		NOOD regatta	Annapolis
Wednesday	May 2	6:45 PM	Series One Race One	HB
Saturday	May 5	9:00 AM	New Members Breakfast	HHS Gazebo
Saturday	May 5	11:15 AM	New Members Cruise	Rhode River

From The Helm

Stefan Leader, *Diva II*

It's been a frantic few weeks but *Diva II* is ready for the water, and Andrea and I are ready for the Abacos. We leave in a couple of days for a week of sailing and diving organized by Maris Eshleman, although when you read this we probably will have gone and returned, tanned and rested and ready for the new sailing season. More importantly, and thanks to the hard work of board members, the new HHS web site is ready to go live and we can leave with some solid accomplishments to report.

Spring Meeting

The spring meeting on March 17th was a great success. About 50 members attended, including ten or so new members. Most attending enjoyed an excellent buffet lunch served by Herrington on the Bay and organized by Barbara Locke. Jed Dickman, representing Herrington Harbor Marinas, presented the club with a check for \$500 to support club activities and announced a number of new marina initiatives that were well received by all present. Members were delighted to hear that all pump outs will be free of charge, seven days a week, and that a new wireless internet system (Wifi) will soon be installed at both marinas and will be free to all slip holders.

Website

The high point of the meeting was a superb briefing by Jodi Weinbecker and Bruce Artman on the new website, with a detailed walk through of its many features, including an event calendar, a membership database, the ability to pay for events by credit card and numerous other features. Members should have received login information and passwords by now, giving them the ability to log on, update their personal information and surf through the many pages and features of the new site. If you haven't had a chance, check it out at www.hhsa.clubexpress.com. Even if you haven't yet received your login information you can still see the public face of the site.

Cruising, Racing and Membership

John Lock reported on cruising plans for the new season, including a new day cruise and raft up initiative that should be attractive to many members who are unable to get away for overnight cruises and mainly day sail. Keith

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Mayes talked about the racing program, including a new program to match crew with skippers and a major CBYRA sanctioned event sponsored by HHS. Ted Slotwinski reported that member signups are proceeding at a good pace and ten new members have already been recruited, a good sign for the new season.

All in all, it was a very successful day.

Members' Corner

Ted Slotwinski, Zalek

As I write this article (Mar 23) membership for 2007 stands at 88, including 14 new members and 30 racers. The By-Laws specify that members should renew by 1 April. Anyone who has not renewed by 30 April will be assumed not to desire to retain their membership and will be deleted from the 2007 directory, the newsletter mail list, and the web site directory. Since the club now pays the web site per member, we need to be more diligent about this than in the past.

A reminder that you may renew your Boat U. S. membership at half-price by citing the HHS Group ID number GA80463S when you renew. Last year 91 members took advantage of this opportunity.

Please welcome onboard our newest members:

Dave and Alice Dunham of Bowie, Maryland. They own a Catalina 31 named *September Song* which is berthed at the Great Oak Marina in slip B-55A.

James Funky of Falls Church, Virginia. He owns a Gemini 105 catamaran named *Ichi Ban*, which is berthed at HHN on dock "M". He desires to find an opportunity to crew in HHS racing.

Pamela and Richard Johnson of Chesapeake Beach, Maryland. They own a Hunter 33 named

Verity, which is berthed at HHS in slip P-31. They are interested in crewing in HHS racing.

David and Pat Kahrnoff of Washington, DC. They own a Tartan 3400 named *Talpa II*, which is berthed at HHS in slip P-23. They are interested in cruising.

Joe and Jennifer Laun of Springfield, Virginia. They own a Pearson 30 named *Scarlett*, which is berthed at Shipwright in slip E-28.

Michael and Jeanne Luke of Mt. Airy, Maryland. They own a Hanse 370e named *Stella Maris*, which is berthed at HHN in slip B-21. They intend to race, and are also interested in crewing. They have two children, Andrew and Rebecca.

Carl Schaefer of Woodbridge, Virginia. He owns an Etap 30 named *Cadence II*, which is berthed at HHS in slip N-43. He was formerly a member of HHS, and has returned to race again.

Tim Shuttleworth and Robin Miller of Phoenix, Arizona. We envy their sunshine. They own a Beneteau 44 named *La Danza*, which is berthed at HHS in slip K-13.

Neal and Peg Vanderlipp of Tracy's Landing, Maryland. They own an Ericson 34 named *Kokomo*, which is berthed at HHN in slip G-17.

Matt Weider of Clifton, Virginia. He owns a Hunter 410 named *Iroquois*, which is berthed at HHS in slip H-9. He intends to race. He has two children, Matt age 14 and Savannah age 16.

Kurt and Marice Wiese of McLean, Virginia. They own a Sabre 40.2 named *Dancing Queen*, which is berthed at HHS in slip T-21. They are interested in cruising and have a son Peter, age 17.

Alfonso Vayra of Fairfax, Virginia. He owns a Pearson 27 named *Cordoba*, which is berthed at HHN in slip N-14

Cruise News

John Locke, *Island Time*

As I write this, we are eagerly anticipating the first HHSA cruise of the year in the Abacos, Bahamas, being lead by Maris and Linda Eshleman, *Sweet Liberty*. Five boats (3 charters, *Valhalla*, and *Cecil*) and over twenty people participating. The weather is predicted to be warm with moderate ENE trade winds. I am sure we will all return with many stories to tell.

The rest of the 2007 Cruising Schedule is starting to fill in. Eleven cruises are currently scheduled. The entire schedule is posted on the new web site and can be found under the Cruising or Documents sections. Some of the highlights include a Delmarva cruise, a New England Cruise, and a Southern Bay cruise. Also in the schedule are the more numerous weekend Bay cruises with both old and new themes. The first cruise on the Bay will be the New Members Cruise scheduled for May 5 – 6 and led by the club's Commodore, Stefan Leader and Andrea Heintzelman, *Diva II*. Mark that one on your calendar. Any new members that have questions about that cruise or cruising in general should feel free to contact either Stefan or myself. Additionally Cruising information is posted on the club's web site in the "Guide to Cruising" document.

The first day sailing activity of the year will be held on May 12. We are planning some type of a day long coordinated sailing activity followed by an after sailing gathering either at one of the marinas or on a member's boat at a slip. More on that will be posted on the web site. We hope to schedule a day sail activity at least once per month.

Social Corner

Barbara Locke, *Island Time*

The **2007 Spring Organizational Meeting** was held on March 17th at Herrington-on-the-Bay, with an enthusiastic turnout. Over 50 members enjoyed a delicious lunch and listened to plans for the upcoming cruising and racing seasons. We were happy to see so many new members in attendance. Jeb Dickman from the Herrington Harbour Marina staff gave a status of several issues including the new security gate at HHN. A presentation of our new Website was given by our Communications experts, Jody Weinbecker and Bruce Artman. After the meeting, members shopped at West Marine with the HHSA discount for that day.

The next event is the **New Member's Breakfast on May 5th at 9:00**. It will be held at the Gazebo near the pool at HHN. Please join us in welcoming the new members for the 2007 sailing season. After filling up on a variety of breakfast goodies and conversing with other members, we will be going on the **New Members Cruise**, hosted by Commodore Stefan Leader and Andrea Heintzelman on *Diva II*. This will be our first cruise of the season! For the breakfast, current members are asked to bring a breakfast food to share, and new members need only bring their appetites! As always, we will have the 50/50 raffle.

The **Summer Bar-B-Que** will be held on July 14th, so note the date on your calendar. This is always a fun event and follows the "Adopt a Cruiser Race".

We have again booked the Mark Center Hilton in Alexandria for our **Annual Awards Banquet** on January 19, 2008. This is the same location where we had our fabulous banquet in January of this year. Rooms will again be available at a bargain price for those who wish to spend the night.

We have established the position of a "Chandler", who will be handling our

merchandise. Kathy Burke has graciously agreed to step into this position, and she will be ordering hats and T-shirts, which will be available for purchase. As soon as we get our stock increased, we will let you know what is available.

From the Stern Rail

Maris Eshleman, *Sweet Liberty*

Everywhere you turn now somebody has a list of advice on how to get your boat ready for the upcoming season. So here's my top ten list of things to do before getting launched this spring.

1. Use your snow blower to remove all snow and ice from the deck because you want to be sure there's nothing to slip on.
2. Fill the holes you made in the keel to drain the bilge (I heard bubble gum works well).
3. Throw some salt on the ice in your slip so there is a wet place to park your boat after they launch it. Gasoline or diesel fuel works well too.
4. Attach "No Trespassing" signs along the waterline so the muskrats and otters will ignore your boat and swim up the underwater exhaust of the power boat in the next slip.
5. Paint interesting pictures on the bottom to entertain the fish and as the paint ablates it will show new pictures all the time.
6. Coat the deck with sun block to prevent damage from the UV rays (after you remove the snow and ice with your snow blower).
7. Leave milk and cookies next to the paint and brushes so Santa will do a really good job painting the jack stand spots.
8. Stock the ice box with beer now to save ice in the summer since the beer will already be cold.

9. Invite "The 300" to help prep for launch.

And the most important pre-launch activity should be:

10. Put the HHSA Calendar on your palm pilot, blackberry, organizer, fact-o-file or whatever you use to organize your life and join the fun!

Racing News

Keith Mayes, *Jubilee*

The Rules Seminar on March 11th and the Sail Trim Seminar on March 24th both drew close to 50 participants and were well received by both cruisers and racers alike. Many thanks to Jonathan Bartlett and Alan Drew for taking time to develop and deliver quality presentations to the HHSA sailing community.

The 3rd and final seminar for 2007 is the Race Management Seminar on April 14th. This is an essential training event for skippers who have little or no experience in manning the committee boat, and a great refresher for those with lots of experience. Please plan to attend – one of the major improvements the club has seen over the past couple of years is the higher standard of race management that each of our skippers and their crews has achieved. There is more to do here, and I ask that you make this seminar a priority.

Doing Race Committee is not that hard and should be fun – if you are well prepared. Ted Slotwinski will run through the race committee assets and familiarize you with what is there and what it is used for – we had two occasions last year when the Race Committee flew tiny flags they retrieved from the signal flag kit instead of the new much larger flags that we have used for the past couple of years. Both skippers said afterwards they did not know there were large flags in the kit.

There is an informal practice race on Wednesday April 25th, and then the season starts with Wednesday Series 1 Race 1 on May 2nd.

The first weekend event is the Spring Regatta on Saturday May 19th, which will feature 3 short races with windward leeward legs.

At the Spring Organizational Meeting on March 17th I presented information about the 2007 racing program. Attached is a summary of what was presented, highlighting the changes we have made. Please let me know if you have any questions about these.

I hope to see many of you at the seminar on April 14th.

Racing Changes 2007

Keith Mayes, Jubilee

1. New Mark – HHSA “C” located about 1 nm east of HHSA “B” (N38° 45.500 W76° 30.320)
 - a. Ability to create courses that avoid the fish weirs out near “83A”
 - b. Give better options for courses when wind is from the Northeast and Southeast
2. New Course Book
 - a. Incorporating HHSA “C”
 - b. Providing for some downwind start options when there is good wind from the Southwest and West
 - c. Offering more options where start is closer to HHSA “A”, rather than out in the Bay
 - d. Defining for every race, which side to leave the pin at the finish
3. Renamed the “Committee Boat Manual” the “Race Committee Manual”
 - a. To recognize that the difference between a committee boat (the vessel) and the Race Committee (the people)
4. Renamed the “Race Committee” the “Competition Committee”
 - a. To avoid confusion with the real Race Committee – see point 3
5. Created 3 new races (and dropped one):
 - a. A double handed race on June 3rd – for boats with 2 crew on board (see HHSA Sailing Instructions for details)
 - b. An “Adopt a Cruiser” race on July 14th, the day of the Summer BBQ (see HHSA Sailing Instructions for details) – replaces the old BBQ Race
 - c. A Herring Bay to Patuxent River “Marathon” race – 27 miles – on October 19th (see HHSA Sailing Instructions for details), a Friday evening race, with the opportunity to join SMSA for their CBYRA Fall Regatta on Saturday the 20th
6. Bringing Back the Frostbite Series
 - a. No additional fee to compete – need to have paid the standard fee to receive an award
 - b. Racing on Saturdays when the Redskins are in town on Sunday
7. Renamed the “Frostbite Race” the “Autumn Classic”
 - a. To avoid confusion with the Frostbite Series
 - b. Again scheduled for the last weekend in October
8. Retained High Point championship scoring for both Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker boats, AND created a new award – “The Commodore’s Cup”
 - a. Will be awarded to the member who has the best overall performance in HHSA races, as well as selected CBYRA events – the “Yachtsman of the Year” trophy
9. Scheduled the Integrity Yacht Sales Summer Invitational again
 - a. As a sanctioned CBYRA High Point Race

- b. Both the J/30 and Beneteau 36.7 Chesapeake fleets have put this on their t high point calendars
- 10. Defined in the Sailing Instructions new time limits for submitting Protests, and an Arbitration process
- 11. Spinnaker boats will start before Non-Spinnaker boats, and there will be separate starts for all races

Special thanks to Bruce Artman for all his hard work on this project and for taking “planes, trains and automobiles” from Tennessee to make the general meeting to talk about it! Thanks to the board for working so hard putting their pages together to get this site up and running on time. Also thanks to Greg Baldwin for taking the hundreds of archive photos from the old site and putting them on the new one.

I look forward to seeing you on the water – happy sailing!

Club Communications

Jodi Weinbecker, *My Mojo*

By the time this newsletter gets to you, I hope you are sailing on your boat enjoying beautiful weather. Or you may be like us – frantically trying to put the boat back together (literally) to launch before the first Wed. night race of the season. “April yard work brings beautiful May sailing.” Isn’t the saying something like that?

The “NEW” HNSA website is up and running. HNSA.clubexpress.com is ready for your viewing pleasure. If you have not received your login and password for the site via e-mail, please contact me. Remember to update your “profile” (upper right hand corner) after you log in. If you would like to stop receiving paper newsletters and start reading it online, send me an e-mail at sailmojo@juno.com. This feature will save on both printing and mailing costs (one of the biggest expenses our club has!)

Here are some to the features you can use on the new site. Check out what is happening on the Events Calendar, register (and pay) for events online, join an interest group like “skippers looking for crew” or “cruising with kids”, download/print the new 2007 racing Course Book, get the cruise leaders forms before it is your turn to lead a cruise, start a forum about engine maintenance, add your favorite cruising or racing photos to your own photo page, etc. The features are numerous. If you have any questions, problems, concerns or suggestions about the website e-mail me at sailmojo@juno.com or call (410) 353-3797.

The Great Abacos Cruise 2007



Hope Town Harbor



Some of the brave sailors



View aboard *Maryah*, a Hunter 43 sailed by Leader, Heintzelman, Del Negro and Creevy



Andrea and gang on Treasure Cay Hard Life.

And the Spring Organizational Meeting...



The commodores, this year and last



John talks about the cruising schedule

And Ted talks about the new members



