



March 2008

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

March 15 Spring Meeting	HHS	10:30 AM
March 29.....Spinnaker Trim.....	HHS.....	10:30 AM

From the Helm

Ted Slotwinski, *Zalek*

The mild winter has tempered the longing for spring. We may still get to shovel snow off our boats, as significant snow in March is not unheard of. It's so much fun standing on an ice-covered deck ten feet off the ground shoveling snow off your boat with part of a cardboard box, having forgotten to bring along anything resembling a shovel. But I feel we will be lucky this year, and for most of us, March is time to begin the recommissioning process. Likewise, HHSA is busy getting ready for the 2008 season. Various reports throughout the newsletter will describe our racing, cruising, social, and communications plans. But what better way to begin the sailing season than to join our members at the Spring Meeting at Herrington on the Bay Catering on Saturday March 15 to receive first hand reports from the board members and the marina staff. That day West Marine at Herrington Harbour North will also offer a special discount to HHSA members-- a great opportunity to stock up on recommissioning supplies as well as improvement projects.

Our members are our finest recruiting tool. Spring commissioning gives us opportunities to meet new sailors whose boats have been randomly parked near ours. I encourage you to wave the HHSA flag a bit and

introduce yourself and the sailing association in a friendly non-pressure manner.

I'm not sure how many noticed a short article in the *Washington Post* in late January that with little fanfare Frenchman Frances Joyon set the record for a single-handed global circumnavigation.. He completed his circumnavigation in a 98 foot trimaran in 57 days, 13 hours, 34 minutes, and 6 seconds for an average speed of 15.84 knots. He shattered the solo record set in 2005 by Englishwoman Dame Ellen MacArthur in a 73 foot trimaran of 71 days, 14 hours, 18 minutes, 33 seconds (average speed of 12.66 knots). He is remarkably close to the crewed record for a circumnavigation set in 2005 by a 120 foot catamaran skippered by Frenchman Bruno Peyron of 50 days, 16 hours, 20 minutes, 4 seconds (average speed of 17.89 knots). True testaments to the limits of human physical, mental, and psychological potential! These and many other interesting and amazing sailing speed records can be found at the World Sailing Speed Record Council website at

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Membership Corner

Carl Schaefer, *Cadence II*

Please join me in welcoming our latest new member, Patricia Remacle. Patricia docks her Hunter 38, *Tortola Sunset* at Herrington Harbour South, in slip O-09. Patricia, welcome to HHSA and we hope to see you on the water this season!

HHSA member renewals really picked up this past month as the membership expiration date of April 1st approaches. Currently, our membership stands at 86, four of which are new members for our 2008 season. We still have 50 members that have yet to renew so I'm confident that we can meet our 2008 goal of 125 members. Hitting this goal will take some work from all of us, and I encourage all members to actively recruit a new member this season. Please recall that in each of the renewal letters I sent out in early January that I included a membership brochure; I challenge each of you to get rid of that brochure as quickly as possible!! Don't throw it away but instead give it to a dock mate, a crew member, a sailing friend, or anyone interested in joining our association. Please call me or email me if you need additional brochures or membership applications and I will get those to you as quickly as I can.

I'd like to remind all of our HHSA members that you are eligible to receive half-off BoatUS annual membership dues. Normally \$25 per year, BoatUS dues are only \$12.50 per year if you note on your membership application HHSA's group ID no: GA 80463 S. In addition to all the benefits of BoatUS membership (go to their website, www.boatus.com for more information), BoatUS picks up the first \$50, per incident, for the cost of towing. Of course, we all know that towing is much more expensive than that, and BoatUS offers a number of different towing options based on your need. My wife, Debbie,

works at BoatUS in the member services department and would be more than happy to help if you have any questions. She can be reached at dschaefer@boatus.com.

In response to my request for some suggestions on how to boost our membership base and how to make HHSA membership attractive to younger sailors and families, Mark Burrows, a crew member on Keith Mayes's Beneteau 36.7, *Jubilee*, sent me some excellent suggestions that I share here:

Membership is about marketing: people need to know you exist.

Show the fun: members of the organization need to be visible and a part of the community.

Lots of signs: give potential members lots of information on how to contact you.

With these in mind, here's a shotgun full of brainstorm--

- 1. Have some events that other slip holders can participate in.*
- 2. Have a table with "sailing experts" set up over a holiday weekend (lots of traffic).*
- 3. Have an HHSA walkabout on the docks to introduce the club to slip holders. Hand out flyers.*
- 4. Have a little boat race (nothing larger than 25 feet) with special invites to all those boats in the shallow water slips.*
- 5. Have an HHSA boat wash or car wash.*
- 6. Along with flyers, ask Herrington Harbour to hand out HHSA chockis (leftover t-shirts, coozies, etc) to new slip holders*
- 7. Hang an HHSA banner whenever an official event is going on. Banner should have contact info.*

I think Mark has some excellent ideas here, and I'd like to actively pursue a number of these later this spring as folks finish their spring commissioning lists and splash their boats in anticipation for a new sailing season. I encourage each of you to send me any ideas you have to augment Mark's excellent

suggestions above. In addition, I'd like to remind the membership that we will be hosting a donuts, bagel, and coffee "Morning Social" in April at HHN. The intent is to entice nonmember boat owners to our information "booth" during breaks in their spring commissioning tasks. I will be asking for volunteers to help with this small event that I suspect will most likely be the first or second weekend in April. Drop me an email at cgschaefer@gmail.com if you're interested in helping out.

Cruise News

Tom McGarry, *Ventireil Magh*

The news for us cruisers is brief this month. First, please calendar and remember the April Fools Cruise on April 26, hosted by Maris Eshelman on *Sweet Liberty*, and the new members cruise on May 17. In addition to those previously noticed events, a July 18-20 Full Moon Cruise is listed, hosted by your Vice Commodore for Cruising on *Ventireil Magh*, and a combined cruising/racing event on August 23-24, the first ever Shorthanded race to Trippe Creek, organized by Rich Griner, who expects to take all honors on *Coyote*. Those events are or will be posted on the website event calendar, and you can sign up for them on line there – except for the Shorthanded Cruise Race, which requires registration with Rich Griner by 1800 on Tuesday, August 19.

While I will have a signup sheet for cruises at the spring meeting, I encourage each of you to think about hosting a cruise and letting me know, so I can put it on the club website calendar. Suggestions for themes are on the website, but you are by no means limited to those listed; consider other themes you may find appealing and different formats and new destinations. For example, there are a number of historical sites around the bay and an historically themed cruise would add a new dimension.

For those of you who do not have access to the internet, the suggestions are as follows:

- Sea Urchin cruise (organized specifically for children)
- Talk Like a Pirate cruise
- Wine-Tasting Cruise
- Beach Boys Cruise
- Dinner Cruise
- Winter Land "Cruises"
- Crazy Hats Cruise

In the last newsletter, I suggested some of those different float plans for cruises. I have not had any feedback, good or evil, but I welcome all comments or suggestions. My email is tmcgarry@cox.net and my telephone number is 703-425-8727.

Racing

Bruce Artman, *T Bone*

There is so much to cover in this article that I am amazed we have not even started sailing yet! First, I want to thank the members of the Competition Committee for helping to get the planning off to such a great start. Check out the "Committees" section of the website to see this year's volunteers and to send us all an email if you have any questions or concerns.

As the winter progresses, more and more of the details for the upcoming season are falling into place. This year's largest change to the HHSA Rules will center on how our events are scored. After soliciting feedback from multiple members and much debate the Competition Committee has decided to divide the spinnaker class at a PHRF rating of 100. Both classes will start together but by scoring the widely disparate boats separately, we hope to make the finish order reflect the conditions those boats experienced. The exact wording of this scoring change is still being finalized but

will be submitted to the board for approval before the [Spring Meeting](#).

The next event on the racing calendar is Alan Drew's [De-Mystifying Spinnaker Trim](#) seminar. I strongly encourage everyone that sails to come listen to Alan's talk-- even if you don't normally race with a chute. Efficient trimming of a spinnaker not only makes the boat faster, but it also makes the sail more stable and easier to control. Alan has even built a small spinnaker that he will use to illustrate the concepts. The seminar will be held at Herrington Harbour South on March 29th at 10:00am. More details can be found at the link above. Register early for you and your crew, space may be limited!

The annual [Race Committee and Committee Boat Training](#) seminar is going to be a little different this year. Of course we will cover the mechanics of running a good race here at HHS.A., but we will also cover how competitors can take advantage when accidents happen. We will cover the different strategies at the start that enable competitors to make big gains and get to the side of the course that will help to extend those leads. Also, we will cover the various rules in effect at the start that can help competitors maintain their tactical advantage. Expect a fun and interactive session that everyone will learn from. The [live event](#) will be on April 12th at 9:30 in the back room of Calypso Bay For those unable to attend the session live, we will also be hosting an [online web meeting](#) at 7:00pm on Wednesday April 16. All that you will need is a broadband connection and a phone to participate. We will cover the same material but probably in less time—two options for getting some great information. Don't forget to invite your crew!

Immediately after the RC Training, we will be launching the race marks for the season. We will certainly need help, so if your boat is already in the water, come lend a hand! [Register here](#) so that we can properly plan the work distribution.

Probably the biggest event of this year's spring season is the [OTW Clinic](#) held on April 20th at 9:30. This day-long event will feature on the water coaching from professionals like Alan Drew from North Sails, as well as former HHS.A. high-point winners. The day will start with a short pre-brief at Herrington Harbour South's clubhouse. Immediately after the briefing, we will hit the water (slip holders in northern marinas should plan on motoring to the briefing, slips will be available for you). Once on the water, we will run through more starts in one day than most boats see in an entire month, maybe even an entire season. Everyone that joins the clinic will certainly have a leg up on the season. Schedule your launch date soon so that you can get and stay at the head of the pack!

One final note; events like the OTW Clinic and equipment like our current racing marks are only possible because of the generous donations of so many members time and money. Thanks to all of the volunteers that have given so generously already this year!

Social Corner

Nina McGarry, *Ventreil Magh*

This issue of the Social Committee contribution to the newsletter presents several pieces of information. Firstly, information on the upcoming 2008 spring meeting is included. The flyer with details follows. Secondly, we have additional data from the Annual Banquet held in January. We provide a list of sponsors supplying doors prizes and ask you to patronize these establishments. And finally, the list of social events for the 2008 sailing season is produced for you to mark your calendars. You won't want to miss anything!

2008 Spring Meeting

As with past years, HHSA will host its annual spring meeting. The spring meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2008 (Saturday). The HHSA Board will present the annual budget; discuss upcoming racing and cruising season. This is your opportunity to make recommendations. The meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. at Herrington on the Bay. A link with directions to Herrington on the Bay can be found in the attached flyer.

In addition to hearing and discussing upcoming HHSA activities, a representative from Herrington Harbour plans to attend. The Herrington Harbour representative will present new developments at Herrington Harbour.

Following the business meeting, a nice lunch is provided for a small fee. This year we are trying a new approach. Because we must guarantee a certain number of attendees for lunch, we are encouraging early luncheon registration. If you register for lunch before March 1, 2008, you will receive a 10% discount. Luncheon reservations received on or before March 1, 2008 is \$20.00 per person. After March 1, 2008, luncheon reservations fees are \$22.00 per person. Reservations for lunch can be placed on-line, by return mail using attached registration form found on the flyer, or telephone Nina McGarry (703-425-8727) with your intent to attend. With this latter option you can pay at the door.

The luncheon is a great time to socialize. Plan to spend a delightful afternoon with your sailing club friends and prepare adventures for the upcoming season. A wonderfully delicious menu is planned for the afternoon. Please see the attached flyer for luncheon menu.

In addition to great friends, enticing food, West Marine in Deale is offering all HHSA members a 10% discount for March 15 only. The address for West Marine Deale is 389 Deale Road, Tracy's Landing, MD 20779.

If you plan to take advantage of the West Marine in Deale offer, stop by Herrington on the Bay for the business discussion and lunch. We look forward to seeing you.

More Annual Banquet Details

At the annual banquet, many different awards and prizes were offered. At the time of the February newsletter deadline final results of individuals winning door prizes was unavailable. However, we are now pleased to provide door prize winners and the boat affiliation.

Taylor Barry (*Cantata*, crew); Kinne Sutton (*Diosa*); Marsha Reich (*Beyond the Sea*, crew); Keith Mayes (*Jubilee*); Meg Clarke (*Leap Frog*); Linda Eshleman (*Sweet Liberty*); Jodi Weinbecker (*My Mojo*); Bill Weinbecker (*My Mojo*); Ted Slotwinski (*Zalek*); Emily Manders (*Jubilee*); Marco Garcia (*Zorra*); Matt Weider (*Iroquois*); Ray Shields (*Coyote*, crew); Rich Johnson (*Verity*); Robin Deykes (*Eclectic*, crew).

Congratulations to all door prize winners.

In addition to door prizes, a 50/50 contribution was collected. The non-profit benefitting from the 50/50 collection is C.R.A.B. For those unaware of C.R.A.B., it is a non-profit using contributions to support sailing for persons with disabilities. Herrington Harbour Sailing Association is proud to have sent \$115 dollars to C.R.A.B. to support continued development. A hearty THANK YOU to everyone contributing to this donation.

We would be extremely remiss if we failed to recognize HHSA supporters, suppliers, and vendors contributing door prizes to the Annual Banquet.

Annapolis Yacht Sales – Dan Nardo - Annapolis, MD (\$100 gift card from West Marine); *Chesapeake Bay Magazine* – Annapolis, MD (2008 *Chesapeake Bay Guide*); Conlyn Marine Services – Herrington Harbour North (Free oil

change); Gecko Gift Shop - Herrington Harbour South (Miscellaneous gifts); Gem Polishing – Waldorf, MD (One deck hand washing); Herring Bay Towing – Bill Conlyn -Herring Bay (Two free tows, one free instruction); Herrington Harbour Inn – Herring Bay (One free night at the Inn); Herrington Harbour Marinas – Herring Bay (Pump Out for One Year), (10% off of first slip payment), (One short haul); Herrington-on-the-Bay Catering – Rosehaven, MD (One free crab dip serving 25 people); Osprey Marine Composites – Herrington Harbour North (One free gallon of bottom paint); West Marine – Deale, MD (Hand-held compass).

\$22.00 after March 1, 2008

Reservations Requested

Several Options for Placing a Reservation

- 1) Register using HHSA website;
- 2) send check payable to HHSA to Nina McGarry 7615 Willowbrook Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039;
- 3) advise Nina of your intention to attend and pay at the door.

Be sure to provide the name of your boat!

If you are seeking any services, please consider one of the vendors supporting HHSA. As a final note, Herrington Harbour donated \$500.00 to HHSA. What a great bunch of sailing enthusiasts!

Save the Dates!

In addition to March 15, Saturday, for the 2008 Spring Board Meeting, HHSA scheduled events include the following:

May 17, Saturday, New Members Breakfast

July 26, Saturday, Summer BBQ

November, (in the works), Fall Meeting and Chili Festival

Mark your calendars to attend these fun events. Check the HHSA online Social Column for updates and registration information.

HHSA Spring Meeting

Saturday, March 15, 2008 -- 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Early Bird Special -- \$20.00 per person until March 1, 2008

Communications

Keith Morgenstern, *Beyond the Sea*

Land O Well, we have been making tons of little tweaks and fixes to the website. We plan on making more, but really we need your input. What should the website do for you? Please send your suggestions and any wild and crazy ideas you have to me at Communications@hhsa.org.

- Do you have a website for your boat? We are going to put together a page of links to all the members' websites. Racers, we are going to list yours separately in the racing section of the website. Please forward your website addresses to me at Communications@hhsa.org. I will make sure they not only get listed on the website, but put into your personal profile.

- Do you have an extra widget that you no longer need for your boat? Did you know that we have a "For-sale" section

in our website? For example, right now there is a Lewmar Double Rope Clutch listed for sale, a Tack Tick Race Compass, Data Marine speed and depth instruments, and two different types of shaft packing. Or do you want to find a part for your boat? List it there too! It's like our very own HNSA-Ebay store! Just go to the online forums and click on "Gear Swap / Items For Sale".

- Have you checked your online profile lately? Although we do our best to enter your information correctly, we do make mistakes. So please go online and make sure we have your address, your boat name, year and type, and other details correctly listed. This will be the information we use for our club directory, so it is important that you make sure it correct. We will be reminding you again as we get closer to printing time for the directories.

That's all for now. Next month, I plan on chatting about how you can use our websites online forums to your best advantage, and how we are thinking about sending our the weekly racing results to not only our skippers but our crew! Stay tuned!

First Cruise

Maris Eshleman *Sweet Liberty*

A hearty band of 21 shipmates braved the storm and treacherous winter conditions to set sail on the First Cruise of the New Year. The Land Cruise to Pusser's, Annapolis kicked off the new season with killers of pain and hearty fare to overcome the cruel seasonal deprivation experienced by sailors this time of year.

The well-known delectable rum drink warmed the spirits of those that have thus far survived the bitter season and ushered in talk of coming days under sail that will begin in just a few short weeks. The evening slipped by quickly as they often do when surrounded by friends and comrades enjoying a nice meal and pleasant conversation. Before we said farewell an entertainer performed and started with the song of the evening – "Changes in latitudes, changes in attitudes."

Here's a toast to all those that made the voyage and to those that didn't we'll see you on the water!



New boat in the racing fleet

