



## October 2008

## CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

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October 4-5.....	Pirate's Cruise
October 4.....	Fall Regatta
October 17.....	Herring Bay Patuxent Marathon
October 25-26.....	Halloween Cruise
October 26.....	Autumn Classic

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## From the Helm

Ted Slotwinski, *Zalek*

September and October offer some of the best sailing weather on the Bay. How tranquil to observe the seasonal changes in nature and the bird migrations in a quiet anchorage. Perhaps while enjoying a good drink and a good cigar. If only there were some way to make the jellyfish go away?

September was another good showing for HHSA racers in Bay-wide racing, especially in the fall races to and from Oxford. Well done HHSA racers!

Our past commodore, Stefan Leader, is in the process of assembling a list of candidates to lead HHSA in 2009, which will be voted on at the general membership meeting on Saturday November 8. If you have an interest in serving at any position and have not been contacted, you may not be on Stefan's radar screen. Please contact him directly at [captstef@comcast.net](mailto:captstef@comcast.net). Prior HHSA Board experience is not necessary to serve in any position.

Support of our social events so far this season has been disappointing to say the least. We traditionally host four social events each season; the spring and fall general meetings, the summer BBQ, and the winter awards banquet. These events provide an opportunity to socialize off our boats, and in the case of the banquet to present ourselves in better-than-boating attire. We will have several member-supplied (read: potentially hazardous to your health) chilies to sample at the November meeting. The banquet is not just for racers and crews to collect their racing awards, but a time for all members to gather and reflect on another successful and satisfying season on the waters we love. I encourage all of you to put these dates on your calendars and come out in support of HHSA.

Our biggest problem for the future remains our lack of growth in membership. As

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always, keep recruiting, see you on the water.

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## Membership

Carl Schaefer, *Cadence II*

By now, all of the membership should have received the 2008 Membership Directory. I'd like to thank Integrity Yacht Sales and North Sails (Annapolis) for helping to underwrite the printing costs of the membership directory. Since the directory went to press, we've had a new member join HHSA. On behalf of the entire HHSA membership, I'd like to welcome Ben Hagar to HHSA. Ben hails from Burke, VA and docks his Kelt 7.6 at Herrington Harbour North.

I want to thank HHN and HHS for replacing the old HHSA bulletin boards with the ones the association purchased earlier in the summer. (The HHSA Board decided to defer the replacement of the HHS west-side bulletin board for now). The aluminum-framed bulletin boards we purchased match the Herring Bay Yacht Club bulletin boards already hanging at the two marinas giving a nice, neat, consistent appearance.

A few weeks ago, during a conversation I had with Jed Dickman, the marina manager at HHS, to discuss where and how to mount the bulletin board, Jed noted that the HHSA bulletin board content is stale and that very little has changed over the course of the summer. The tired and faded photos and information posted on the bulletin boards reflects poorly on the association; and though we don't normally think of it, we are competing with the Herring Bay Yacht Club for new members (yes, a few of their members own sailboats). So I'd like to put out a call for some fresh material and for suggestions for new content. One idea that I had would be to

reserve a portion of each bulletin board for a cruising and racing boat of the month (selected at random from the fleet, with the owner's permission, of course). If folks would like to send me their favorite, high resolution digital photo of their boat, I can digitally imprint the boats name, make, and owner(s) on the photo and post to the three HHSA bulletin boards. If you would like to post information to the bulletin boards, or if you have ideas for new content, please send an email to me or to Keith Morgenstern, and we'll arrange to have information posted. The bulletin boards are normally locked, but keys have been provided to a number of HHSA board members.

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## Cruise News

Tom McGarry, *Ventreil Magh*

The Cruising schedule is beginning to wind down. The remaining scheduled cruises are the Pirates Cruise sponsored by Al and Tricia Creevy on October 4-5 on *Solace*, and the Halloween Cruise to St. Michaels on October 25-26, hosted by John and Barbara Locke on *Island Time*. As I write, Al and Trish Creevy are organizing a pick-up cruise for 9/20-21.

The raft-up at the Shorthanded Race-Cruise was a howling success. Less can be said for the race, however. The start was ragged and the race was abandoned on account of LOW in mid afternoon. Participants were Rich and Kristen Griner on *Coyote*, Joe and Embry Howell on *Carolina Blue*, Keith Mayes and Emily Manders on *Jubilee*, Bill, Jody, Allison and Will Weinbecker on *Pachanga*, Tom McGarry and Mike and Kim Bullano on *Ventreil Magh*, and Joe and Jennifer Luan on *Scarlet*.

Last year I sailed to the Annapolis Sailboat Show on Friday night. By 5:00 or so on Saturday I was finished with the show and

was presented with stunning weather. So I raised the anchor and sailed to the West River for a new anchorage. Very delightful. I am contemplating a repeat event. It occurred to me that others may want to make that a cruise and raft up in Annapolis Harbor or nearby. Please email me at [tmcgarry@cox.net](mailto:tmcgarry@cox.net) if you have an interest.

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## Labor Day Cruise

Kent Kunze, *Glissade*

Over the Labor Day weekend 13 boats in all participated in a cruise that went to Plain Dealing Creek off of the Tred Avon River on **Saturday and on to Baby Owl Cove off Leadenham Creek on Sunday**. Saturday started off with overcast skies and 5-6 knots of wind from the northwest, making it a broad reach to a run to the Choptank River and a broad reach up the Choptank to the Tred Avon River. Most boats had a nice close reach up the Tred Avon to Plain Dealing Creek. By afternoon the clouds had burned off and the skies were clear. *Cantata* and *Sweet Liberty* hosted a cocktail party with *Sweet Liberty* providing home made margaritas. Attending were *Glissade*, *Spook*, *Scarlett*, *Valhalla*, *Silver Lining*, *Sea Luff*, *Footloose*, *Loon-a-Sea*, and *White Bird*. The conversation was light and enjoyable (though the skippers of *Cantata* and *Glissade* were seen having a serious discussion about scoring Wednesday Night Series races). The night was pleasant and clear.

On Sunday the winds had picked up to 5-10 knots with puffs up to 15 knots and were shifting back and forth from northeast to northwest. This made for a fun sail down the Tred Avon and Choptank and up Broad Creek

to Baby Owl Cove. A few boats went over to Oxford for lunch and a couple of boats remained in Plain Dealing for a day of relaxation. *Loon-a-Sea* hosted evening cocktails attended by *White Bird*, *Footloose*, *Sea Luff*, *Scarlett*, *Spook*, *Cantata*, *Glissade*, *Sweet Liberty*, *Mystic Traveler*, and *Gone Away*.

Monday morning was clear with light winds from the north, but by noon the winds starting building to 10-12 knots and moved to the northeast. Those who chose to go thru Knapps Narrows were treated to a beam to broad reach after exiting the Narrows. For those who chose to go around Black Walnut Point, it was a slow reach down the Choptank and initially a beat across the bay. However, with the wind shifting to the east it allowed for a wonderful close reach up to Herrington Harbour. Most boats were in the harbor by 2:00 to 2:30 pm.

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## Social Corner

Nina McGarry, *Ventreil Magh*

At this time of the year, we are gearing up for the final event -- the Fall Meeting. Plans for location are tentative at this time. However, we are looking at hosting the event at a location near Herrington Harbour South. The Fall Meeting will be a potluck with attendees supplying a pot of chilli to share. Drinks, serving products will be provided by the Association. Please visit the HHSA website for updates on the Fall Meeting.

**Plan to attend the HHSA Fall Meeting. Check website for final date and time. Currently scheduled for Nov 15.**

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# Pick Up Cruise

Al Del Negro, *Solace*

Since the only cruise scheduled in September this year was the Red Neck Cruise last week, Trish Creevy and I sponsored a pick-up cruise to Harness Creek the weekend of September 20. Several boats responded interest and *Skylark* (Jules and Sandy Rondepierre) *Diva II* (Stefan Leader and Andrea Heintzelman) and *Tortola Sunset* (Craig Reifstek and Tricia Remacle) *Phoebe II* (Ross and Estelle Bouchard) and *Solace* (Trish Creevy and Al Del Negro) set out on Saturday morning for the South River. The wind was out of the ENE at 10-18 knots and it wasn't possible from HHS to steer a direct course to our rendezvous. We tacked up the bay and with the generous winds recorded, we reached our anchorage by 3:00 PM. *Skylark* had already set the hook and the wind had died down considerably. We all rafted up to *Skylark* and we were lacking only *Tortola Sunset* and *Phoebe II*. By 5:30 PM, *Tortola Sunset* have completed our raft. Only *Phoebe II* was lacking and the cocktail party commenced. The sun set about 90 minutes later and the warmth of the afternoon gave way to the cool of the early evening. We paused for dinner and recommenced for more conversation and some of Trish's lemoncello, finishing up about 11:00 PM.

That night we slept under blankets as the temperature on the water dropped to around 58 degrees. The starry sky was fantastic and the moon rose about midnight to light the landscape. It was mainly motor-sailing on our way back to HSS on Sunday, but a gentle south east breeze at 4-5 knots arose about half way back and allowed us to still our engines and enjoy the remainder of our trip under sail. It was later we learned that *Phoebe II* had tried to join us but got a late start. Realizing that they would be very late, they

headed for Eastern Bay and an anchorage on the Wye River.

Trish and I have always enjoyed sailing but the weather and winds of early fall have never failed to provide the best sailing experiences. This weekend's pick up cruise was no exception.

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# Redneck Cruise

Al Del Negro, *Solace*

With a nod to political correctness and appreciation for cultural diversity, Trish Creevy and I on *Solace* sponsored the Red Neck Cruise on September 13 to Edgar Cove on Broad Creek off the Choptank River. Five boats from HHS assembled for a tongue in cheek spoofing of the red neck life style. In attendance were *Diva II* with Stefan Leader and Andrea Heintzelman and Alan Wright aboard, *Island Time* with John and Barbara Locke freshly arrived from Michigan, *Sweet Liberty* with Maris and Linda Eshleman.

*Sea Luft* with new members Richard and Lynn Clough, and Trish and I on *Solace*.

The sailing there was limited because of light air. However, after crossing to the Choptank through Knapps Narrows, a nice breeze arose from the south and allowed us to sail from the narrows to nearly our anchorage off the northern part of Broad Creek. We grouped together on two rafts and at 5:30, and the fun began. We dressed the part and reviewed a list of qualifications for being a red neck. There followed a lesson in Red neck vocabulary and pronunciation. Many thanks to Stefan Leader and Andrea Heintzelman for hosting the cocktail party aboard *Diva II*. Later that evening everyone convened aboard *Solace*

for more conversation and, of course, some lemoncello.

The following day, the sail back to HHS was spectacular. The winds were out of the southwest at 8 – 12 knots and we literally breezed home. Heading to HHS, we crossed paths with the Oxford to Poplar Island race, all boats with spinnakers deployed. It was a beautiful sight and the perfect conclusion to our gathering.

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## Halloween Cruise

John and Barbara Locke, *Island Time*

To wrap up a wonderful year of cruising, we are going to “Fall into St. Michaels” the week-end of October 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> for a Halloween raft up cruise. Wear your costumes and be prepared for a ghoulish time on *Island Time*. St. Michaels is planning festivities on Saturday, which include the Great Pumpkin Party from 9 a.m. to 1:00, Halloween parade at 1:00, Ghost Tours beginning at 7:00, and a Halloween Party for Adults at the Maritime Museum from 7:30 to 10:30. The link for this information is

<http://www.stmichaelsmd.org/events/fism2008.htm> .

We plan to sail to St. Michaels on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup>, as will at least one other HHSA boat. Any others who can get there early can take part in the festivities or just roam the streets in costume (or not in costume) on Saturday, and enjoy being in this lovely town on the Chesapeake. We're hoping to get a slip at the Maritime Museum, and if not we'll be at the St. Michael's Marina. Bring your favorite appetizer and beverage to the Happy Hour, which starts at 5:00 p.m. (sunset is at 5:15).

There will not be a captain's meeting, as we are coming from Mears Point Landing at Kent Island. We will e-mail last-minute information on Thursday. We will not be monitoring Channel 9 on Saturday; however, we can be reached on cell phone #443-262-6892 (John) and 703-297-6899 (Barbara). Please sign up on the HHSA web if you are planning to come.

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## San Juan Islands Cruise 2008

Allen Wright *Tzatsky Too*

Our return trip to the San Juan Islands proved to be every bit as good as our previous trip in 2004. We chartered two boats from Anacortes Yacht Charters, about 65 miles north of Seattle Washington. Arne Fliflet, Deborah Levin-Fliflet, and Mary and Richard Hubbard chartered a 40 foot Junneau named *Salus*. I chartered a 34 foot Hunter, named *Mission Sails* and had Bernard Halprin, Jim Funkey and David Blessing for our crew. Bernie is a non-sailor friend of mine; Jim Funkey is a member of HHSA; and David Blessing is a friend of Ted Slotwinski who lives a block and a half from our former members, Tom and Sandy Boughner. The boats were in excellent condition, and AYC was even more accommodating with their new customer service that carried all of our gear down to the slips and stowed it aboard. Their briefing session after check-in was complete and thorough, and it did not take too long for them to go over all of the systems with us on each boat. After a brief display of our ability to properly maneuver the boats in and out of the slips, we were free to provision our own boats.

They provided a van to take us to the nearby stores for provisioning and then we were on our own for the week.

Anacortes is an interesting town and has plenty of restaurants and shops within walking distance of the marina. Our itinerary took us from Anacortes to Friday Harbor on San Juan Island on Saturday. The light winds forced us to motor sail all the way. Our early arrival gave us time to walk around town a bit and enjoy huge ice cream sundaes near the ferry slip in town. Due to the predicted adverse weather in the open waters near Victoria on Sunday, we decided to get an early start on Sunday to go to Victoria. This minor change in our schedule proved to us that Tom Boughner was correct in his planning that endeavored to keep us traveling with the tides. We encountered such strong adverse current in trying to get through Cattle Pass between San Juan Island and Lopez Island that our speed through the water of 5.6 knots dropped to only 0.5 knots over the ground. We were lucky to be able to get through the strong eddies at the pass at all.

Victoria was as beautiful as ever. The weather was cool and sunny and the flowers were ever present all around the city in hanging baskets on the street light poles and in the well-manicured lawns and gardens. The pool and spa at the Coast Harborside Hotel and Marina provided a restful break from our sailing. Tom and Sandy Boughner made the ferry trip from their home in Port Ludlow to have cocktails and an elegant dinner with us at the Blue Crab Restaurant in the hotel. Sated with a full breakfast at Smitty's on Monday, we had time for walking and shopping before taking the bus to the famous Butchart Gardens. The dahlias, peonies, myriad varieties of roses and water lilies were all in full bloom. We all agreed that the private cove on the backside at Butchart Gardens would have to be on our itinerary for our next trip to the San Juan Islands. By late afternoon, the weather had turned considerably cooler, and the winds had

picked up to a steady 18 to 20 knots from the SW.

Tuesday was bright and sunny and the SW wind propelled us on a broad reach up Haro Strait on about a 4.3 knot flood tide for our trip to Roche Harbor at the north end of San Juan Island. We sailed through a pod of Orcas off Kellett Bluff at the south end of Henry Island. We had a little light rain about 3:00 PM, and David Blessing and I explored the interesting Mausoleum dedicated to the McMillan family (developers of the island's limestone business) with its Masonic symbolism on a heavily pine forested hillside. After cocktails on *Salus*, the whole group gathered for an inexpensive dinner at the Corner Alehouse and Pub. A steady light rain was falling when we retired for the night.

It was partly cloudy for Wednesday's sail to Echo Bay on Suscia Island on a good SW breeze on a flood tide. We needed to reef the main to avoid being overpowered. Picking up a mooring without a pennant proved difficult from the bow with a fair amount of freeboard. The crew from *Salus* came aboard for cocktails, wine and cheese. Bernie displayed his culinary talents preparing dinner and we grilled rib eye steaks on our gas grill while Richard did the grilling on *Salus*.

We left the moorings 7:25 AM on Thursday to catch the ebb tide for our close reach to Eagle Cove on the east side of Cypress Island. The winds were 18 to 22 knots and it was really quite chilly for late August. Picked up a mooring from the stern platform and walked it up to the bow about 11:30 AM. Eagle Cove was nestled in under the steep wooded slopes of Cypress Island and left us with only a little more than 8 miles for our last run back to Anacortes. We rowed over to *Salus* for our beer, wine and cheese before returning to grill chicken kabobs for dinner.



For the latest  
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the website.**



**Nothing better than an  
HHSA raft up**





**Allen, Bernie and David on the San Juan Island Cruise**



**Rednecks.**



**Pick Up Cruisers**



**Lots of light air racing this summer.**