

HARBOUR LIGHT



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>From the Pusser</i>	2
<i>Cruising</i>	3
<i>Communications</i>	4

FROM THE COMMODORE... Ted Slotwinski ZALEK

September was a great month for HHSA cruising. We were blessed with fabulous weather and fun themes which resulted in high participation. The cruises are discussed further in other newsletter articles. Although there was only one HHSA race in September, many boats participated in Annapolis Race Week and the NASS Annapolis-to-Oxford and Hammond Race back with considerable success. What a great way to show the HHSA burgee around the bay. October is filled with cruising and racing plus the Annapolis Sailboat Show, so get out and participate.

Last year for the Fall Annual meeting we held a chili fest in which eight members provided a variety of tasteful chilies for membership consumption. We are repeating that format again this year, with a new twist. Al Del Negro and Trish Creevy have volunteered to host the event at their home on Spa Creek ... wow! So please put Saturday November 7 on your calendar. Also let me know if you intend to provide another inspiring chili.

I am pleased to announce the following candidates for the 2010 HHSA Board. You may find brief insights about them elsewhere in the newsletter.

Commodore - Rich Griner (former Racing and Vice)
Vice - Tom McGarry (repeat)
Racing - Arne Fliflet (new)
Cruising - Al Del Negro (repeat)
Social - TBD
Newsletter - Ellen Harris (repeat)
Communications - Joe Laun (new)
Secretary/Treasurer - Maris Eshleman (5th time!)
Past Commodore - Ted Slotwinski (repeat)

As I prepare this article (9/23) I am still looking for a volunteer (male or female) to assume the duties of Rear Commodore Social. The

primary duty is to plan the annual banquet. Other duties which require significantly less time and effort are the Spring and Fall meetings, the New Members Breakfast, and the Summer BBQ. If you wish to volunteer, or know of someone who may be interested, please contact me.

For those unlike myself, who plan well in advance, an early reminder to reserve Saturday January 30, 2010 for the HHSA annual banquet at the Tower Club in Vienna, VA.

Save The Date

01/30/10

Winter Formal
at the
Tower Club
In
Vienna, VA

CHILI COOK-OFF!

ALLEN WRIGHT, TSATSKY TOO

Our Fall Meeting on November 7, 2009 will again feature a chili cook-off like we had last year. Break out your favorite chili recipe and cook up a batch to share at the meeting. We will have a panel of independent judges to rate each entry and will award a prize for the chili judged to be the best. Last year Stefan Leader's chili received the majority vote and took top honors. This year lets see who

can come up with a winning entry. Trish Creevy and Al Del Negro have graciously volunteered the use of their Spa Creek home for the meeting and that should be an added incentive to attend. Please reserve the date on your calendar to review our accomplishments for this year and to help elect a new slate of officers for 2010.

HHSA BOARD NOMINEES FOR 2010

Commodore:

RICH GRINER

I have many great memories of HHSA club events since joining some 10 years ago. Thank you for considering me for the position of commodore and giving me the opportunity to give back to an organization that has provided my family and I so much enjoyment.

If you're a racer you already know me. I can count on two hands the HHSA races I have not participated in. I can just about tell you the dates and reason why I could not make it. From May to August, Wednesday's are the best day of the week. HHSA race weekends are better than the other weekends.

Most of the cruisers also recognize me or at least my boats, from our first boat with the club, Fowl Weather (White 1969 Tartan 34), our next boat Coyote (Blue 1979 C&C 40), and finally our current boat Coyote (Claret 2006 C&C 115). I haven't been active in the cruising side, but my background prior to HHSA was more oriented to cruising. Instead of reiterating the same details that most of you probably already know about me I thought I would dig up some lesser known details of my marine background.

Some of my earliest maritime memories were going to the marina with my father. He had an oyster boat that we kept at our house in warm months but when it got colder the boat was kept at one of the marinas in Parish Creek off the West River. Back then you still had hard freezes and they would bring in ice breakers into Parish Creek to keep the channel open for the waterman to get out. All I can say is a lot has changed

in 40 years. Back then you had to watch where you stepped whether it was on the dock or on shore. The finger piers wobbled and had broken boards. It was not uncommon to have a scrap piece of wood nailed over a plank that had broken. The yard had a travel lift and was full of oyster shells, discarded boat parts, and beer cans. The owner had a bad temper and one of the foulest mouths in the world. In other words, this was the coolest place on earth for a kid.

I had gone out a couple times on my uncle's catalina 22 on some light wind days and thought it was ok, but other than that I was strictly a motor boat kid. Then when I was 12-13 a friend asked me out on his Sunfish and that was the turning point for me. It was blowing 15-20 out of the South with nice rollers. We capsized at least 10 times. It was awesome. I came home and told my parents I wanted a sailboat. I had been working all summer and had saved enough money to buy a small motor cycle. I had even convinced my parents; despite all the injuries I had just riding a bicycle, to let me buy a dirt bike. My parent jumped on this and within a week I was the proud owner of a 420. She was old and needed cleaning up, but she was mine.

Within two years I wanted more speed. I sold the 420 and bought a Sol Cat 18. I loved going out in a breeze in that boat, hanging out on the trapeze flying one hull. You just had to remember to always have the mainsheet ready for release. You could cleat the jib but not the main. I learned that the hard way. I also learned how hard it is to right one of these by yourself in a breeze. I was probably as

much of a pain to the motor boats with this catamaran as today's Jet Skis. On a good day with breeze we would seek out the yacht that was creating the largest waves and try to get our boat completely out of the water without pitch poling.

After graduating college, instead of getting a car that could get me to work reliably I bought another boat. I looked at a J-24, which was the first sign of interest toward racing for me but I went with the swing keel San Juan 24 that I could keep for free at my parents place. This little boat would take us to great anchorages on the other side of the bay.

A few years later my parents were interested in partnering on a boat so we bought the next boat, a 1969 Tartan 34. We extended our cruising from central bay to all of Maryland waters and the upper Virginia portion of the bay. We would cruise every weekend in the fall. We also got our first taste of Racing. The sails on the boat were as old as I was, and I refused to fold the bimini up while racing. It was more important to stay cool then to have a good sight on the sails. Now you know the rest of the story.

Richard Griner
Coyote

Rear Commodore-Racing:

ARNE FIFLET

I am honored to be nominated for the R/C Racing position. I have loved sailing ever since I learned to sail as a young boy on the Oslo fjord when my family spent a few years in Norway. I sailed and raced in a Snipe, an Optimist-type dingy, and a small rotund keelboat called a Kylling (chicken). Later I sailed an 18' Flattie in Vancouver, BC.

(Continued on page 3)

Board Election

November 7, 2009

Creepy-Del Negro

Residence

Annapolis, MD

HNSA BOARD NOMINEES (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 2)

My wife, Debbie, and I met while we were grad student and post doc, respectively, at Caltech in Pasadena, CA, and while there in the late 70's we sailed a Clipper Marine 21 off Redondo Beach and Marina Del Ray. I have been a Research Physicist in the Plasma Physics Division of the Naval Research Laboratory since 1982. For almost 20 years our sailing activities were limited to occasionally renting a Flying Scot on the Potomac or a Hobie at the beach, but the dry spell ended in 1997 when we bought a 1976 Pearson 30, Sandpiper, and slipped her at Herrington Harbour North. The first time out we got caught in a squall with a jammed roller furler. This provided my kids with material for their "worst thing that ever happened to me" essays for years. We joined HNSA in 2000 mainly for the Wednesday evening races which I found to be a good way to get in more sailing. Since then we have increased our participation in the HNSA racing program and in CBYRA races including the Governor's Cup several times. It has been challenging keeping Sandpiper competitive as the level of HNSA racing has steadily increased. This year we decided to move up to an off-shore capable boat and acquired Mazal Tov, a 1996 J/120. We are looking forward to racing and cruising Mazal Tov on the Chesapeake and beyond. When not filling in the gaps in my knowledge of seamanship and boat maintenance, I have prepared lectures on the physics of sailing for Debbie's fluid dynamics class in the Aerospace Engineering Department at Penn State. The HNSA racing program has benefited greatly in recent

years from the efforts of Keith Mayes and Bruce Artman and as R/C Racing I will continue the successful program they have developed. We are also fortunate to have a talented and enthusiastic group of experienced racers. We do need to attract new racers, both boat owners and crew, and work on increasing participation in weekend events. I will continue the outreach to other sailing associations to set up joint events, and will promote the Integrity Invitational Regatta. I would like to continue to develop our racing-related training events, both off and on the water, and in general do what I can to extend the length of the racing season.

Rear Commodore—Cruising AL DEL NEGRO

My wife Patrisha and I joined HNSA in 2000 and initially we only attended the galas. We started sailing our Sabre 32 in 1989 which has been berthed at HNS since 1985. Finally, we started cruising with HNSA and this opened up to us an entirely new life on the water. We both have been heavily active in HNSA since Trish became Rear Commodore/Social for two years and later became Commodore. Her commodore year was marked by monthly meetings at our house in DC and I served the role of chef for these gatherings.

To say we are committed to HNSA is self-evident and I relish the chance to repeat as Rear Commodore/Cruising for the 2010 sailing season. We have had a great HNSA cruising year this season with the introduction of new cruises, (a crab feast ashore on the Wye River, the

Tom Cruise, The Saturday Night Fever Cruise) and repeat of popular themed cruises as well great participation in pickup cruises. In the coming year, I hope to continue in this vein. I also hope to increase efforts to join with our racing members in cruises and cruise races which are terrific fun. Last year's cruising seminar was a big hit and I hope we can schedule additional seminars with invitations to local experts to speak on topics of their expertise.

Rear Commodore-Newsletter ELLEN RAINS HARRIS

I have been producing newsletters for professional organizations and non-profits since

cutting and pasting actually involved scissors.

An enthusiastic cruiser, I began sailing as a passenger on a Sunfish owned by my husband and our attorney, called by the attorney's wife the "He-Man-Woman-Hater" boat.

Moving to Alexandria in 1998, Hooper and I bought a house that came with a bonus—a 1965 Columbia Contender 24, which had a waterline inside the cabin from its last sinking, and a slip at Herrington North. This became the first Good Ship Tabasco.

The current Good Ship Tabasco lives on C Dock at Herrington North (a 1983 Hunter 34).

Secretary-Treasurer MARIS ESHLEMAN

Well I would be right pleased to again be your Pusser for this

(Continued on page 4)



CRUISING

AL DEL NEGRO, *S/V SOLACE*

Cruising Notes October HHSA Newsletter

For Trish and me, September and October have always been the best months for sailing. The winds are relatively consistent (this past weekend they weren't!) and since they are usually shifting around to the NW, they provide the chance to sail easily to different anchorages compared to the mid summer wind conditions. We love the color changes as fall progresses. I remember one winter when it was warm enough even in December for a cruise. That's why we don't put our boat up on the hard for the winter until mid December.

The cruising season is winding down, the chance for early winter sailing notwithstanding. It's been a grand year for us cruisers as we've had great attendance at cruises (20 or so boats for the Jimmy Buffet Cruise, and eleven boats for the pick-up cruise to our crab feast on the Wye River) Both themed and pick-up cruises have been heavily

subscribed and moreover, we've all had a great time participating together. Next is the Race Cruise which Trish and I enjoyed greatly in the past. Alas, we will be out of town on this weekend but we hope for great participation. This is the second such event of the year. Following the Annapolis Boat Show is a revival of the Oktoberfest cruise, this year sponsored by Gray and Kathy Pritchard on October 17-18. My son Michael will join me on this cruise this year. This will close out the scheduled cruising season for 2009.

The last scheduled cruise of the year is the Halloween Cruise to St. Michaels which John and Barbara Locke will sponsor again this year. Halloween falls on a Saturday this year and St. Michaels always puts on a great show for this holiday. (Last year, HHSA also put on a great event for Halloween!) The next "cruise" of the season is on November 7 at our house in Annapolis. This will

be for the location for the annual November meeting of HHSA at which time we'll have Alan Wright's Chili Cook-Off. Bring your chili and enter the contest for the best chili again this year. Last year, the contest was won by former Commodore Stefan Leader. We have plenty of room and we hope as many as possible will attend not only for the chili but also for the annual nomination for the board for 2010 and the vote on board membership. This is your chance to speak up about the direction of HHSA and to validate your board.

Our Annapolis Address is 164 Acton Road, Annapolis, MD 21403. We are off Spa road near its intersection with Hilltop Lane. (Mapquest has this one address correctly located.) Our phone number is (410) 263-0046 (Home) and (703) 725-6347 (my cell). We welcome all members to this meeting and we hope as many as possible will attend. Albert Del Negro
R/C Cruising



BOARD NOMINEES 2010 (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 3)
here fine Sailing Association to complete a lustrum. Me fine mate and me continue to enjoy the pleasures of the Bay every chance we get and look fur seeking adventure around the seven seas.

For them among ya that don't much know us we hole up in Reston, VA when we be on land. In the yars b'fur sailing I spent many of 'em in the Army learnin to pillage and plunder. These days when we not be sailing I work for a fine firm called Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc. in McLean, VA as an

IT project manager. Yar Pusser is eminently qualified with a BA, MS and JD degrees and many yars of Pusserin.

Yar Pusser looks forward greatly to seein all hands at the Annual Meeting and in the next yar where we be reporting on the gold in Pusser's chest.

**Rear Commodore-
Communication**
JOE LAUN

My wife Jennifer and I have been members of HHSA since the spring of 2007, having

bought our first boat (*Scarlett*, a 1974 Pearson 30) the previous fall. In October of 2008 we moved up to *Lady Grey*, our J/110, which is on E-dock at HHS (stop by for a beer or a splash of rum). We participate in the majority of the HHSA racing events, and have also been seen in several raft-ups on cruises. I consider myself fairly new to sailing- I spent much time in college on sailboats, but that was some time ago. As Jennifer and I become more comfortable with our sailing skills we hope to become more

(Continued on page 6)

TRIVIA CRUISE

RICH AND MARIE ORDEMAN, SV *SPOOK*

The annual Trivia Cruise was held on the 26th and 27th of September with the destination of Hunting Creek off the Miles River. During the week the weather report seemed to be all over the map. In the end we experienced some of what was forecast and some that wasn't. Winds were 15 - 20 SE on Saturday with accompanying rollers which had been building for a couple of days. Most experienced a close-haul trim to the Miles River with lots of spray over

the bow. This was a day for dodgers! Reefing and small jibs seemed to be the order of the day. For the most part, the rains held off until the party which then became an indoor/outdoor event. The anchorage was calm throughout the night but with lots of rain into the morning when all departed under clearing skies. Return trip was calmer than the preceding day. Seven boats participated in the "feature event" held on *Spook*. Most were below and some under canopy in the

cockpit. The quiz, again prepared by Marie, was reviewed and self corrected with first place going to *Glissade*, second to *Ichi Ban*, and third to *Skylark*. All answers had to include "hunt" or "mile". Others who participated included *Solace*, *Diva II*, *Sweet Liberty*. *Ventreil Magh* arrived at the anchorage after the party. Our appreciation to all who participated, intended to participate and turned back, or planned to participate only to be thwarted by weather.

THE VERY FIRST TOM CRUISE

HOOPER AND ELLEN HARRIS, S/V *TABASCO*

September 19th dawned blustery, but this little intimidated the hearty flotilla who headed toward Shaw Bay in the Wye River.



Tabasco left the slip at 9 a.m. because she is a slow and steady ship with a year's load of barnacles inhibiting her speedy nature. The Captain seemed somewhat concerned about the green water breaking over the bow, but the Admiral was confident, since she had seen this happen on "Most Dangerous Catch" many times. And we weren't even in the Bering Sea! The Captain was further disturbed when he discovered green water on his pillow in the V-Berth.

We arrived and dropped anchor, and were shortly joined by *Ichi Ban*, *Dulcinea*, *Island Time*, *Odyssey IV*, *Sweet Liberty*, *Ventreil Magh* (captained by our ceremonial Tom, Vice-Commodore McGarry), *Diva II*, new members Bob and Karen Hendrickson on *Getaway*, their Cal 35, and new boat owners and trial members John and Joan Allen, on their Beneteau 31 *Upstream*.

The Tomfoolery began with the ceremonial raising of the Tabasco Bottle at the stern end of the host boat, with carafes of Tom Collins lubricating the event.



The winning food entry was provided by Estelle Bouchard, with her Shrimp à la Tom, with tiny pictures of Tiny Tom toothpicked to each tiny

shrimp. But there was enough offerings for plenty!

When Estelle came aboard *Tabasco*, she commented that she had seen a patient wearing an examination gown on another boat, and hoped that all was well.



Little did we know.

Winning the hands-down award for Tomfoolery was a mysterious woman accompanying Stefan Leader. On the front side, she looked like Andrea Heinzemann. But on the backside, well, it was a backside. She showed us a version of her botTOM. It was indescribable.



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LABEL HERE



**Herrington Harbor
Sailing Association**

We're on the Web!
<http://www.hhsa.org>

2010 HHSA BOARD NOMINEES

(CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 4)
involved in longer-distance events, both racing and cruising. I'd like to thank Maris Eshleman for introducing us to HHSA and I look forward to serving the members of the Herrington Harbour Sailing Association.

**Vice Commodore
TOM MCGARRY**

I have been sailing with our boat, the Ventreil Magh, a 1997 Ericson 380, for five seasons now. Prior to that, I sailed sporadically on charters, including a one-week

charter in the Chesapeake Bay. During the first three of the past five seasons, I sailed almost every weekend, mostly on overnight cruises, in the Bay. In 2004, I did a Round DelMarVa 400 with two other crew, which consisted of a sail to Hampton Roads on the first leg and a sail from Hampton Roads to Annapolis via the Atlantic Ocean, Delaware Bay and the canal.

The during the 2007 and 2008 seasons, I similarly sailed about every other weekend. In 2006, I did a solo nine day extended

Southern Bay Cruise in the Bay. In September of 2008, I did a separate solo nine day Southern Bay Cruise, this time to Norfolk and then back, with some interesting and mildly challenging conditions. This year I sailed on most of the cruises and to other destinations when there was no cruise, notably to Kinsale (with friends) for dinner and back over the Labor Day weekend. This year I have also been Vice Commodore and among other things produced, with Nina, the directory.