

S E P T E M B E R 1 1 , 2 0 1 8

Spindrift

Hueston Sailing Association's Race Report

Weather Wipes Out Fifth Fall

With only a few weekends left in the racing season, Mother Nature woke up in a bad mood Saturday morning and stayed that way, forcing HSA to cancel for the first time this summer.

Below, Roger and Pete stand watch on the committee boat which is sorta displaying a signal flag. It is either the state flag of Alabama or the distress signal. It could be both.



Rain, Rain, Rain Meant Flood, Flood, Flood!

Joe Fulford's inaugural stint as Committee Chair was ruined by some nasty weather. Somehow all the water that came down over the weekend in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky ended up at Acton Lake.

Trees littered the waterscape. Some of those trees had been waiting at the bottom of the lake just for a day like this. Needless to say, the racing was called off, though some of those who came just in case there was a chance of racing, ended up out on the water anyway in Pete Peters' Catalina 22. Just out for a lark. Some people you just can't keep off the water. It is kinda like a drug. On page 3, a full report from Understudy Joe himself.

Captain Joe's Guide to Race Committee



First Principle: Be Prepared For Anything

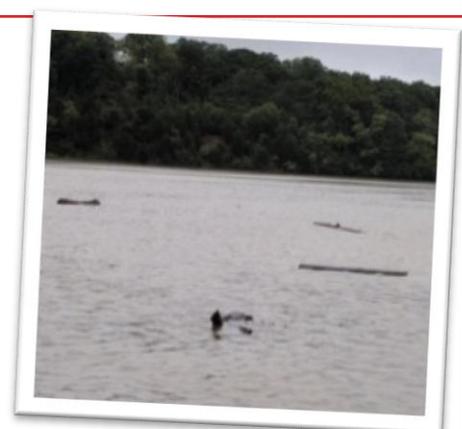
After racing was cancelled, Joe commandeered Pete's boat and forced winch wenchies Bobbie and Rose to help him as Roger, at left, seemed to enjoy it all. Pete is somewhere on the boat, tied up, down in the cabin probably. Joe has prepared a nifty little chart, below, which puts the starting sequence in graphic clarity. Very nice. Sounds, horns, shapes - it's all there except "2699, over early!" (I'll write it in so everyone remembers.)



HSA Race Committee Quick Reference Starting Sequence Guide

TIME	CANS	P FLAG	PA ANNOUNCEMENT	HORN	COUNTDOWN
1:26 PM	All cans up (Wind Reading)		"The starting sequence will begin in XX seconds."	Multiple quick short beeps (optional)	9:XX
1:27	Yellow Showing 			Long 	9:00
1:28		Flying 		Medium 	8:00
1:29		Down	"Clear the line for the Hobie <or catamaran> start."	Medium 	7:00
1:30	Blue Down / Yellow Up 		"All clear." <or "Sailor name(s) or boat number(s), over early.">	Long 	6:00
1:31		Flying 		Medium 	5:00
1:32		Down	"Clear the line for the Y-flyer start."	Medium 	4:00
1:33	Red Showing / Blue Up 		"All clear." <or "Sailor name(s) or boat number(s), over early.">	Long 	3:00
1:34		Flying 		Medium 	2:00
1:35		Down	"Clear the line for the Handicap start."	Medium 	1:00
1:36	(Wind Reading)		"All clear." <or "Sailor name(s) or boat number(s), over early.">	Long 	0:00

Yellow Shape = Hobie Class
 Blue Shape = Y-Flyer Class
 Red Shape = Sunfish/Handicap Class



End of Season Nears; Enthusiasm Not Dampened by Deluge

Committee chair Joe Fulford had to make a big decision even before he actually stepped foot on the committee boat to make his debut. Here, he tells us all about it.

After HSA's other Joe was abducted by the soccer mafia, I got word as "Understudy Joe" that my chance to become a Committee Boat Chair was going to be Sept 9th. Mike Stratton assured me that I had seen enough HSA high jinks to run a tight race and coached me on the finer points of mark placement, timekeeping, and bribe money.

We talked briefly about winds across the eastern shore and how the remnants of Hurricane Gordon would make for lively sailing. I also called Commodore Brewster for weather guidance and he confirmed HSA tradition that I should check the weather at dockside at noon--guidance as a sailing weather optimist I could very much get behind.

After helping Roger clear a few logs from underneath the Committee Boat, I could not help but notice they seemed to depart at about 5 knots. A quick scan of the docks and conversation with Bobbie indicated that the waters were quickly rising and might cover them up. What were we getting into here? No racers were showing up but I was not going to be denied using some of my newfound race committee knowledge and directed Pete and Roger to set the starting pin flag distance 1.5 times the number of boats lengths of the largest fleet from the Committee Boat mast. This they did. It was not

far. It appeared more and more likely that the 1-2-4 triangular course, set more toward the beach side of the lake to avoid wind burbles from the cabins, and to take advantage of our 10-18 NE breeze, would have to wait for another weekend.

Committee Boat members, Diane Pierok and Ken Wright made their way around the swirling waters blocking their normal drive past the campground and we all decided that sailing in currents, rain, disappearing docks, and floating logs was going to be little be more difficult than previous sunny weekends.

Pete then offered everyone rides to the dam in his new Catalina 22 Sport, with a four-stroke current-busting motor, and a dry cuddy cabin--we had a new plan! We got underway quickly in "After You" and stories came forth about the old times when park rangers used to patrol on horseback and you had to go uphill to get to the windward mark.

Self-described winch wenches Rose and Bobbie tended the jib sheets as we sailed in the rain. After You brought us within spitting distance of the dam and we eventually had to beat back up the lake to the marina with some in the boat exclaiming they felt a warm breeze.

Heron sat on their new fishing logs and watched us as we contemplated where the warm breeze came from and signed Pete's sailing log. It was a grand day out for a small group of HSA members after all!

Regards,
Understudy Joe

Devil's Lake Album

Start Your Day with a Good Breakfast

And we did. Saturday morning at 6:30 looked like this with the road warriors on eggs and bagels, thanks to Dawn of Gunter fame. The two people at left are also on road trips. Both daughter Cosette and boyfriend Jake are on their way to ACT exams and different locations. All arrived safely. Some had more fun than others. Unless you think ACT' are fun.



Dubbed the Three Amigos of Sail

Shortly before heading out on the water (we had exactly one hour to register, rig, and launch) the three of us pose for a photo which shows how unprepared we actually were. All three of us ended up wet and cold. During the four races that day we were too busy and active to feel it, but between races our jaws hurt from chattering teeth and spray in the face. Sunday, we were chastened enough to dress smarter and were warm on the water.

Host's Home Cum Sailor Hostel

Because we didn't bring any camping equipment we were forced to stay in this hovel in the country about 15 minutes from the lake. But we were warm, fed, clean, and rested. Oh, and deer out the window at breakfast. Thanks, Dan Norton!



The Few, the Proud, The Decorated

Well, we didn't make the top five. Those honors went to, from left, Dan Norton 1st, Josh Kerst 2nd, Mark Castel 3rd, Tim Pulaski 4th, Henry Pulaski 5th, and Laura Beebe. Who!? Uh, what is that award? The Middle Award? Yes, they gave her a trophy for being in the exact middle of the fleet. 9th place! They made her a special award for 9th place. I told you. *Special.*



CruiserFest 18 Gun to Fire This Sunday

It may not have happened before now, but the event is being birthed this Sunday, head first.

It is CrusierFest 18, a mash up of every type of cruising boat that can make its way to the starting line. The race is open to all classes whether an HSA member or not. It is the Acton Lake version of an open championship for the biggest, heaviest, and perhaps slowest boats on the lake.

The event is being co-planned with the well known cruiser crowd of docks A, B, and C. (They'll come up with a better name, I'm sure.) Right after racing, Dave Judy and others have organized the second annual cruiser picnic on Dock A, which starts right after the racing at 3:30.

Participants in the racing are invited to the dock party as are all cruising sailors and their families. Bring a dish to share and a chair. Special accommodations for the crowd will be in place.

As for the racing, the skippers' meeting will be on shore near Docks A and B at 12:30. Racing begins at 1:30 with Roger Henthorn as race chair. HSA sailors will be available for any skipper who wants an experienced racing hand on board.

No registration required. No fees. Just come on out.



Devil's Lake Sunfish Regional Tests Mind and Body



We knew it was going to be tough. Sailflow predicted winds from 16 to 38 for Sunday. We don't think it ever got that bad but it was enough. Both days. Some thrive in that kind of wind and chop. Others don't. Put me in the latter category.

HSA's Laura Beebe and Kevin DeArmon each had some good moments. On Saturday, with gusts over 20, she managed a 4th place in a tough fleet. On Sunday, Kevin grabbed a sixth! Both were elated having finished so well in what can only be described as challenging conditions.

Laura had a dry capsizes in Sunday's first race. Then in race 2, she went all the way to wet. Yours Truly, I confess, had something to do with that. I finished right behind her and when she tacked onto port to head in, she got stuck in irons. I came right up and hit her rudder and the result was a capsizes. Mast in the mud and all.

Kevin was often in the hunt and, when it was all over, couldn't contain the smiles. It was a truly bravura performance by two of HSA's stellar Sunfish racers. There were capsizes, people falling out of boats, and a few minor collisions. And some blood, but mostly you felt the workout in your shoulders, arms, legs and abs. Hike, hike, baby.

We were often together on the course and waved and laughed as we passed or crossed one another. It was a combination of yee haw for so much wind and "OMG, what have we gotten ourselves into." We had a lot to talk about coming home.

1. Dan Norton Devil's Lake YC
1 1 3 1 1 1 5
2. Josh Kerst Wolf Lake Y C
2 3 1 2 3 2 10
3. Mark Kastel LaCrosse Y C
4 2 4 3 2 4 15
4. Tim Pulaski Erie PA YC
3 7 2 4 4 3 16
5. Henry Pulaski Erie PA YC
5 6 6 5 7 5 27
6. Gail Turluck Gull Lake YC
8 12 7 6 5 6 32
7. Geoffrey Moehl Devil's Lake YC
13 5 5 7 10 8 36
8. Tom Katterheinrich Lake St. Mary's
YC 7 11 8 8 9 7 39
9. Laura Beebe Hueston Sailing
11 4 10 13 11 11 47
10. Kevin DeArmon Hueston Sailing
10 8 15 14 6 10 48
11. Terry Timm
6 16 9 9 18 18 58
12. Donald Fritz Maumee YC
14 10 18 18 8 9 59
13. Mike Stratton Hueston Sailing
12 14 12 12 12 12 60
14. Jack Vanderhorst
9 13 11 11 18 18 62
15. Lawrence Carter
15 9 13 10 18 18 65
16. Matt Heyward Wolf Lake YC
16 15 14 15 18 18 78
17. Martha Croasdale
17 17 16 15 18 18 83