

Acton Action

Last Month of Sailing Begins This Weekend with Labor Day Series and Potluck Dinner; Plenty of Time to Get Wet

Issue 20



Calendar of Events

- This Sunday and Monday** Labor Day Series; Four races over two days; potluck at 5:30 on Sunday
- September 8** 3rd Fall Series races; 1st of four in a row; Pete Peters and Dave Munday committee
- September 15** 4th Fall Series; Charlie DeArmon and Roger Henthorn committee
- September 22** 5th Fall Series: Mike Stratton and Jerry Brewster committee

Could This Be You?

Not that we are trying to identify who is in the picture. We know it is Pete Peters, Roy Madison, and Dave Munday. Pete took Dave out on the club's Flying Scot to show him the ropes, literally. (Roy, who is 82, is revisiting the lake. Roy owned the 2nd Y-Flyer ever to sail Acton Lake.) Dave is planning on sailing the Scot with his friends.

The club's boats – the Scot and several Sunfish – are available for members' use. New members can take a Sunfish certification class, a one on one training for rigging, launching, and sailing a club Sunfish. But if you want to use the Flying Scot, you need to be a veteran sailor with your own boat and get Pete's blessing.

The Flying Scot, a 19 foot day sailer with a 6'7" beam width, will delight you with its ease of handling. It is a great boat design and can be sailed singlehanded or with as many as eight people on board.

Let Pete know if you are interested in flying the Scot.

What's in this Issue?

The 3rd Singlehanded Series in Sunfish was last Sunday. See story and race results on page 2. On page 3, you can get a glimpse of what it is like to sail on Sundays after everyone else has gone home.





Sunfish Sunday 3 Goes to ...

Light Winds Keeps Everyone Away Except the Diehardys

Roger Henthorn, a.k.a. He Who Must Not Be Named, figured out what wind there was and sped away with the racing on Light Air Sunday last weekend.

Henthorn, sailing in his aptly named Sunfish "Deathater", endured what he termed his poor starts and ran away from the fleet in races 2 and 3 for an easy win that no doubt moved him up in the season long Sunfish series standings.

The race committee, ably staffed by Bill Molleran, Danny Molleran, Rose Schultz, Ruthie Vaught and Bobbie "the Race Commando" Bode, set out four marks and just blew the horn.

Every race used a different set of marks with the wind changing its mind every two minutes. There were more than a few downwind legs that shoulda been upwind and vice versa.

Race 3 did experience

some sanity. It was the only one where the wind kind of sort of filled in at 4-5 mph and stayed there.

Henthorn's win moves him into the lead for the season with only one Sunfish series remaining, the one that ends the year on October 6th. OktoberFast.

Missing in action were 3 of the 5 leaders going into Sunday's action. Brendan Draper and Mike Wier were absent. Rose Schultz served on race committee.

And Now... the Envelope Please

Roger Henthorn	3	1	1	5
Mike Stratton	1	4	4	9
Laura Beebe	2	5	3	10
Bill Molleran	DNS	2	2	11
Jerry Brewster	5	3	7	15
Kevin DeArmon	6	6	6	18
Rose Schultz	4	DNS	DNS	18
Charlie DeArmon	7	7	5	19

Russell Vela, show at right with yours truly, takes the spars in hand as he continues his Sunfish certification. Russell, a former Penn State Flying Junior racer, has already been through Learn to Sail and the one day Sunfish School.

Russell is one of several this summer who have decided to move on to solo sailing and gaining access to HSA's Sunfish.




He joins Paul Smyth, John Cannon, Bevan Binder, and Hanan Kerr in pursuit of their Sunfish "license to say-ill".

Contact Mike if you want to go solo. Contact Pete for a boat.

Evening Sailing at Hueston Woods

I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving: To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor.
--Marjorie Holmes



Despite the disappearing breeze last Sunday, we decided to take the big boat out anyway after the last of the Sunfishers left the lake. I was eager to rig a spinnaker for the first time on “*Goodnight Moon*”.

There may not have been enough of a breeze to hoist a sail at all, but there was the prospect of a little fishing or a little swimming or just a little motoring around the lake at sunset.

The lake most evenings is a surprisingly different place than we normally see on a racing afternoon. Yes, the wind has usually gone home too, but a few boaters have discovered the wonders of this 600 acres of water at twilight.

The beach is a noiseless desert in contrast to the noonday activity. The

east shoreline is populated with herons, eagles, and the occasional deer family that comes down to the water to drink.

Even the kayakers and canoeists, those lovers of flat, peaceful water, have mostly evaporated into the ether and missed what has to be the best moments of the day for paddling.

We did, quite by chance, find a family we knew from our Farmersville community on the dock at the lodge. They in their kayaks and we on our boat were the last owners of this gorgeous day on the water.

We had dinner at the lodge, which we discovered served until 8:00. And that spinnaker? It was amazing how little breeze it took to fly.



The western shore of Acton Lake at sundown on Sunday. Not another boat on the lake.



Labor Day Weekend Brings Last Potluck Dinner with Racing Side Dish

This Sunday is the final social event of the season at the lake for HSA. After racing and storing of boats and rigging, it is time for the air conditioned comfort of the Hueston Room in the park office complex. Bring a dish to share and place settings for you and your family and friends. Drinks provided. Race at 1:30, dinner at 5:30.

Rose, above left, maneuvers for wind after a start Sunday; below left, Kevin heels for advantage precipitously. Kevin is a good kid but he finished 666 on Sunday. Hmmmm.



Y-Flyer 1590 complete package. It's a Helms boat (fiberglass, pale blue hull, white deck, dark wood floor and trim) with a 3 stay mast. \$1800.00 or a reasonable offer. Trailer and everything you need for your first race. Comes with free lessons on rigging, sailing, and racing.

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Hey, Learn to Sail alumni or other interested party. Want to see what racing is like on Acton Lake? You can help out on race committee any Sunday as a volunteer. The committee will show you how they set up a race course, what signals they use, and how to eat sandwiches and relax in the shade of the committee boat.