

+Acton *Action*

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Roger shoots for the boat end of the line



Above, fleet heads for mark.



Laura waits for signal between races.

+ OktoberFast Gamble Pays Off

It was a bit of a gamble. Should HSA postpone the final racing event of the season due to rain and hope for better weather the next Sunday? That next Sunday could be very cold or just as wet as the one that confronted racers on October 6th, the intended date of the closing of the season.

The Executive Committee was split down the middle. Finally, just hours before a sailing shutdown, a compromise was reached and votes were recounted. OktoberFast would live to sail another day.

And what a day it was as evidenced by the pictures above. Hard, muscular breezes blew in from the northwest; sunshine infused the air and water - OktoberFast was on.

Not only was it one of the finest race days of the season, five of the seven boats entered were there because, if they had a good day, they could win the season long Sunfish series as well.

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+ Banquet Coming Next

Dinner, Wine Tasting, Awards Galore Await Members

When the HSA calendar year closes with the annual banquet on Saturday, November 2, it will cap the club's 57th year in existence. At least part of the dinner celebration will honor that achievement as well as the many other awards to be handed out on that evening.

Five special trophies for sportsmanship and contribution to sailing on Acton Lake will be given to deserving individuals in addition to the racing trophies for the club's three fleets.

Also planned are "special" trophies for HSA's three events that have their own unique trophies: the InterFleet Fun Day, Beach Day's Scavenger Hunt, and OktoberFast.

The evening begins, however, with other activities. Y-Skipper Charlie DeArmon,

who also happens to be a wine merchant in Oakwood, will start the night with a special wine tasting that promises to be as good as ever.

The awards presentation will begin after dinner but not before a photo replay of the summer in pictures (and captions) where we all make fun of ourselves, but particularly Don and Roger.

The Barn-n-Bunk will once again host and cater that night's dinner/awards program and if you have not sent in your reservation to Rose Schultz, call her at 937-866-8862 and let her know you are coming even though you missed the Oct. 23 deadline for RSVP's. She'll get you in, we hope.



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OktoberFast Gamble ...

Molleran Tries to Run Table – Nearly Does

Race chair Pete Peters, using a borrowed cruiser as a committee boat and an inflatable Don Fecher for rescue, managed five races before exhausted but happy participants called October 13 a day.

Bill Molleran, qualifying on the last day for the series, won three of the five contests and did well enough in the other two to take the OktoberFast title and trophy.

Molleran, a renaissance style outdoorsman who, along with his family, camps, bikes loooong distances, kayaks, fishes, skis, skydives in canoes, ... led at the first mark in every race except one.

Rose Schultz, who led the Sunfish series going into OktoberFast, took a bullet in race 2 but got buried in a few others for a 4th place for the day.

Laura Beebe also found herself near

the top of the pack, as usual, and ended up taking 3rd. Beebe never finished lower than 4th and continued her pattern of not having a bad race. In the season long series her average race finish is a 3.5, second best among all Sunfish qualifiers. (Molleran is first with a 2.4 average finish) She is the only racer in the top five for the season who never finished below a 6th in any of the Sunfish series racing.

Roger Henthorn, who began the day in second overall for the year and needed a good showing to capture the season title, could never quite get ontracked and finished 5th on the day, guaranteeing a drop in the standings. Henthorn missed the first Sunfish series due to surgery but had recovered well enough to be in contention.

Twenty skippers participated in the Sunfish Series over the summer.

(Full results next page)

+ OktoberFast Results

Bill Molleran

1 4 1 1 2 9

Mike Stratton

2 2 2 4 1 11

Laura Beebe

3 3 4 2 4 16

Rose Schultz

5 1 5 5 3 19

Roger Henthorn

4 5 3 7 6 25

Jerry Brewster

6 7 7 3 5 28

Charlie DeArmon

7 6 6 6 7 32

Top: Don Fecher doing his "duty"

Middle: Bill Molleran doing it upwind

Bottom: Yours truly doing his best Neil Harrell imitation

(photos by Ruthie Vaught)





Haul Out: Finally!

Boat Winterizing Gets A Bye But Gets Done

In photos below, JoAnn Callahan reads her crockpot manual; Goodnight Moon gets tagged. Pics courtesy of Jerry Brewster



HSA's committee boat and Rescue One had to have their big day delayed one week due to technical difficulties, but last Sunday, with mild temperatures, sunshine, and wind that didn't matter, the Haul Out was completed.

With power washers blasting away and JoAnn Callahan's chili warming in the crockpot, the day took on all the appearance of a work day. The crew was a happy one, though, as motors and steering gear were maintained and repaired, and pontoon bottoms were freed of their months long barnacled duty.

On deck with Harbormaster Don Fecher to lend a hand were the Callahans, the DeArmons, the Peters – Pete and Laura, The Brewster,



The Roger/Bobbie Team NozzleBlaster and a few dozen geese.

Yours Truly managed to pull his boat out too and pulled a few generous hands over to help on sometime committee boat "Goodnight Moon". The results were eventually magnificent after The Brewster and Petey got done doing their best Banksy on Mike's bottom. (See pic above)

Despite the absolutely beautiful day, few people other than the HSA crew were there to enjoy it. Only two pontoons and a handful of cruisers remained at their docks with the deadline for hauling out coming at midnight that day.

A few groups walked around the marina/ramp area and Miami's sailing team went out to practice racing. Nice.

Clean boats, chili and Pumpkin chocolate chip cookies? Priceless.



Did You Know?

This is the last week to enter your choices for best sailing songs ever! Send us your nominees by this weekend. Roger is compiling a playlist for the banquet of your favorites.

The HSA constitution has a new proposal up for adoption. It would change the make up of the Executive Committee to include the newsletter editor and change the wording to most recent "active" Past Commodore instead of "immediate".



+Sunfish Worlds

Dave Munday gave us a heads up about these photos. To see more go to: <http://www.sail-world.com/USA/Sunfish-Worlds-Carnage---in-choppy-conditions/115730>

The photos here are from the 2013 Sunfish World Championship held this summer at the Lewes Yacht Club on Delaware Bay. After only five races (due to the obvious high winds most of the week) Alex Zimmerman of Peru won the title. A lot of DNF's (did not finish) as you might expect. Kind of makes you appreciate Acton Lake a little more.



+You Know You're A Sailor When...

- *You put telltales on your car radio antenna
- *You won't buy a Porsche because you can't put a trailer hitch on it (Mike W. excepted)
- *Your most expensive shoes are Topsiders
- *You plan important dates like weddings, anniversaries, Mother's Day, funerals around the racing calendar
- *Your best tan is on the top of your feet
- *You pass a car on the road and yell "Coming up!"
- *You can always find your foul weather gear but not your umbrella
- *You install drain plugs in the trunk of your car
- *Your best watch runs backwards

(Adapted from Grande Maumelle SC's "Mainsheet" as printed in the Sailing News Exchange)