

# #8

## Action Action

Inside:  
Featured  
Family – the  
Bucherts!



What are these juniors looking for? Don't look up, look inside!

## Memorial Day Series Goes From Zero to Eighteen in One Day

If you raced Sunday and Monday in the Memorial Weekend Series, you witnessed the Jekyll and Hyde of racing; the bipolar personality of the wind; the love/hate relationship all sailors have with the weather.

Sunday, you had better have had your patience, your mindfulness, your sense of balance. It was simply awful with winds from 0 (that's zero) to 8 mph, with the emphasis on the zero.

On Monday, you needed your pants cinched up tight or you were going to be blown out of your hiking shorts. Gusts up to 18 mph were recorded on a day

when if you dared cleat in a sail, you were inviting a good dunking.

Fortunately, no one did that, even with juniors on the course and Hobies on the flying trapeze. If we wanted more proof that Mondays are always windy, there it was. The reaches didn't just scream, they wailed. The runs didn't just rock and roll, they ricocheted.

Race one on Monday was two long laps in 30 minutes for Sunfish and about the same in three laps for Hobies. (The three Y's wisely stayed off the course.) Race 2 went to three laps for 'Fish and four laps for Hobies and

Chris Beebe mugs a French lick of his pizza for the camera



we were still off the water by 3:00!

Sunfish champion for the Series was Pete Peters who took three 2's into the final race and then won that after taking the lead on lap 2 from young Turk Kevin DeArmon, who beat all us seniors to the windward mark and then some. Kevin, who is showing that he is coming of age competitively, finished the series impressively.

(See race results on page 3)



## Let the Games Begin!

Juniors play blanket volleyball, Frisbee, and water balloon launch on Sunday before dinner. Pictured are Kayla, Megan, Cosette, Kofi, Kevin, Anna, and Sam. In the background of the corn hole game is the Stanford University women's rowing team, aka, our water balloon target.

# Apathy Ain't One of Them

When you think about all the forces that are working against us, it can cause a little despair.

After all, we often hear about clubs like ours struggling to keep membership active and racing sailboats alive across the country. They are fighting the same things we are: climate change; the proliferation of air conditioning in homes which makes staying home inviting and easy; the growth of digital media that makes it entertaining to stay indoors (in air conditioning) and pass the time there; the increasing popularity of spectator sports on Sunday (both live and on TV); the competition with golf, soccer and other sports for weekend leisure and family time; the recession in 2007 that made people work longer hours; the national retreat from experiencing nature first hand.

The list could go on. And yet we are still here. Why is that? Why hasn't the big A word (apathy) settled in and sitting on our chests? Why do we continue to believe that after 56 years we can weather these storms and come

out on the other side? Why are we still working harder than ever at seeing our sport prosper in our little corner of the world?

It has to be the people. It has to be. Just look around. Some members, long removed from competitive sailing still come and serve on committee, still attend social functions. Some members, long removed from competitive sailing still come and work on special projects.

Some serve in multiple capacities, having taken on others' duties. Some just show up to help on race day or introduce someone to sailing. Some serve as constant ambassadors for our sport, for this lake, for this park.

There are those, too, who show up for racing, even when they may not want to, just because they know that racing is the lifeblood of the club. Those others, who come and teach both adults and juniors so that we are always fulfilling our mission of promoting sailing at the lake we call our own and call it that with some justification. The lake is in our DNA.

We can't be sure how it will all turn out. But we know there are lots of second acts in life. Some of the same things that lure people away from sailing and racing will probably always be there. But it is also true that we have a good thing here. We have boats. We have wind. We have the appeal of a Sunday afternoon in battle with not only other racers, but the forces of nature themselves. An exhilarating battle that takes place on one of the grandest natural canvasses that exists in all creation.

Despair and apathy are just not going to win this one. We have the people. And they happily care.

Dawn does a foreground photo bomb





## HSA's Featured Family: The Bucherts' Catamaran Lives Full of Adventure and Fun

An interview with  
Joe and Kelly

This month's featured family is the Buchert's, Joe and Kelly. They have two girls – Allison, age 7 and Reagan, age 5. Allison is going to start her second season as a cheerleader for Edgewood Pee Wee. Both girls, according to parents, are exceptional swimmers. We interviewed Joe and Kelly recently about their sailing lives:

AA: Tell us something about your girls.

J&K: They both enjoy riding bikes with other girls in the neighborhood. They are also part fish, or at least they think it, and spend all the time they can in our pool or at whatever lake or beach we take them to. Our favorite thing to do in the summer is vacation at the beach.

AA: When did you get started in sailing? What is your sailing history?

J&K: My (Joe's) parents used to sail and race Hobies. Charlie (brother and also HSA member) is still sailing a Hobie that was purchased new by dad in '85. So Charlie and I grew up around it and going to regattas and playing on the beach while mom and dad raced. However, as we got older, Charlie and I started playing soccer and that took up all our parents' time.

So, they ended up selling their Hobie to an older cousin of ours. The boat sat for a few years and then he decided to sell it. This was around '93 or '94 and that is when Charlie bought the boat.

Charlie and I sailed the boat together at times and sometimes I would take it out while he was away working during college. Then the time came when he graduated and landed a job at P&G and so he began sailing a lot more. This posed a problem for two guys always wanting to be skipper.

So I continued to run around with Kelly for a while until I graduated from college in 2000. Kelly and I went on vacation and when I came home, my brother had a surprise for me. For my graduation present he bought me a yellow 1980 Hobie 16.

We used to sail the Hobie with a group called the Ohio Catamaran Racing Association but they faded away in around 2005. The next closest group was the Catamaran Racing Association of Michigan. We sailed with them a little but they mostly sailed F-18's, F-17's or Nacra 20's. With the lack of boats to sail against and a newborn, we bought an F-17.

(continued next page)

## Continued from page 3 The Buchert Family

I sailed it singlehanded for a few years until jumping onboard an F-18. I crewed on a friends' F-18 for two years and then Kelly decided she was done with the beach crew role. So we then traded the F-17 in on a formula class boat, the Nacra F16.

AA: Did Kelly have any sailing experience prior to marrying a sailor?

J&K: No. In fact, she didn't like sailing. She couldn't understand why you had to zigzag so much. She was much more into the sunbathing until we went to our first regatta. When we did OK and she felt the pressure of competition, she caught the bug. So we continued to sail the yellow boat until 2003 when we decided to buy the white Hobie 16 we still own.

AA: Tell us about your recent trip to Atlanta and the Nacra racing there – the Olympic trials

J&K: Let's get one thing straight. Kelly and I are miles and miles away from being Olympic sailors. IN February, Kelly and I spent three days at Red Gear Racing in Clearwater, Florida. The coach spends much of his time training many of the youth campaigning for the Olympics. Many of these athletes were at the Spring Fever Regatta we went to in Georgia over Easter weekend. Truly one of the greatest things about our sport is we can race against the top teams.

AA: Tell us about your racing at other lakes during the summer. Just how involved are you guys in the catamaran circuit?

J&K: We probably average 10 regattas a year. Most are in Michigan but sometimes we travel further. This year our focus is on the F-16 North American Championships in Racine, Wisconsin.



Joe and Kelly, shown here at the lake, have made every weekend this year so far.

We have sailed on Lake St. Claire, Lake Erie, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, the Atlantic, the Gulf and many other small lakes in Ohio and Indiana.

AA: What memorable moments do you have in racing and sailing?

J&K: Too many to list but here are a few. They are all long stories so you will have to ask us about these in person.

Sailing around the Statue of Liberty

Getting towed in from the middle of Lake Erie

Winning a drifter at Spring Fever our first year there.

Kelly's toenail capsized

Getting stuck in muck when the tide turned on me and Charlie

Two top ten finishes the first day of the 1010 F-18 Nationals

AA: What plans do you have for the future?

J&K: The ultimate goal for us would be to have the kids fall in love with sailing. Our short term goal is to have Kelly take over the helm. I have promised her a pink spinnaker if she can make the jump to skinner.

"Truly one of the greatest things about our sport is we can race against the top teams." Joe Buchert

(Continued)



Above, Allison on a board! Top right, flying a hull in February in Clearwater, FL.



Check out the interior of the new shed, where some pretty nifty storage for Sunfish blades are in place. Thanks, George Schultz, for that design and work!

Sunfish

Pete Peters 2 2 2 1 7

Mike Stratton 1 5 1 4 11

Kevin DeArmon 3 4 3 2 12

Rose Schultz 4 1 5 5 16

Megan DeArmon 5 3 5 5 18

Hobies

Joe Buchert 1 1 1 1 4

Mike Wier 2 2 3 3 10

Charlie Buchert 3 4 2 2 11

Don Fecher 4 3 4 4 15

Y's (raced only on Sunday)

Roger Henthorn 1 1

Charlie DeArmon 2 2



The Nacra 16 on the beach



Joe and Kelly collect some hardware in Michigan. Joe is on the left.

Juniors take aim with their water balloon slingshot. The apparent target? Just about anything that moved near the Hueston Room.



## What's Coming Up at Hueston Woods? Here's a Brief Look at the Calendar

Sunday, June 2 – 4<sup>th</sup> Spring Series Races  
Saturday and Sunday, June 8-9 Learn to Sail!  
(Practice/fun races on Sunday with  
Committee boat volunteers Jerry Callahan and  
Bobbie Bode. Come race with the Learn to Sail  
skippers and their new crews)

Sunday, June 16 – 5<sup>th</sup> Spring Series Races  
Sunday, June 23 – Interfleet Championship Fun  
Day (Details soon)  
Sunday, June 30 – 6<sup>th</sup> and final races in Spring  
Series