

Houston Sailing
Association



Acton *Action*

July 30, 2014



Beach Day, Coming UP!

Learn to Sail II is upon us. This Saturday HSA turns toward new sailors and instruction for the summer's second big LTS weekend. Are you in? 3

Beach Day is in less than two weeks. Got your beach gear ready? Your poker game face? Your Mardi Gras beads. (We always wear Mardi Gras beads.) 4



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Fall Series Begins; Juniors Take Over

It didn't take long for the forecast to be proven wrong. Halfway into race one, instead of building to the horrific predictions of 10-40 mph, the wind whimpered to 1-4 mph. The predicted thunderstorms? Uh, uh. Didn't happen.

Some of the junior sailors, including Samantha Marks, Brianna Brewster, Kevin DeArmon, and Megan DeArmon (seated) did a tech check before heading out on the water and ended up in "controversy". More on that later.

The Hobies took the day off even though Don Fecher was there ready to go. And the usual suspects in their Y-Flyers showed up, did some crew swapping, and proceeded to duke it out. The results are inside plus all the details about what went on in the Sunfish.

[Follow me to Page](#)

2



Brianna and Sam
Know How to Ham (it
up)

Brewster Wins Sunfish Day! (No, not Brianna – Jerry!) Henthorn Escapes Again

The day began well enough. The HSA Brunch was, by all accounts, awesome. With forecasts calling for severe thunderstorms, hail, frogs, and locust, as well as winds gusting to 40 mph, it was with no little trepidation that boats went to the water.

It didn't take long for both the forecast and the wind to fold up their tents and go home. There was drizzle; there were dark clouds, but the wind was a humble sub five with wind shifts in triple digits and the course full of land mines of still air.

Jerry Brewster, the only Sunfish competitor with a watch, kept his own time and leveraged his good starts into a second and a first place. It was mostly a battle between the Jerry and newcomer Brian Callahan. In race one, Callahan

squeaked over the line first ahead of the Brew but in race two it was all Brewster.

It was reported that there was a lot of “chatter” and commotion from the junior competitors which witnesses said was so loud it was heard “not only on the beach but also in Camden.” On shore later, the consensus, according to Jerry, was that an unnamed junior (Kevin) violated enough rules that were he to do turns for all of them, he would still be on the lake.

In Y's, The Roger/Bobbie duo took a very close race one after a luffing match nearly gave the race to Charlie DeArmon and crew Rose Schultz. Then, in race two, yours truly overcame an early deficit and loafed to an easier win with crew/wife Dawn, who was actually spectacular in only her third race of the season.



Kevin, punished for his many infractions Sunday, was forced to sit in the corner. Of his boat. On Sunfish Island. He is still there.

Learn to Sail 2 Coming This Week With a Full Cast of Characters (new sailors)

Race Results

Sunfish

Jerry Brewser	1	2	2.75
Brian Callahan	3	1	3.75
Kevin DeArmon	4	3	7
Megan DeArmon	2	6	8
Samantha Marks	6	4	10
Sidney Brooks	7	5	12
Brianna Brewster	5	7	12

Y-Flyers

Roger Henthorn/Bobbie Bode			
1	2		2.75
Mike Stratton/Dawn Gunter			
3	1		3.75
Charlie DeArmon/Rose Schultz			
2	3		5

It is a Learn to Sail class that has been full since late in June. Fifteen students new to the sport have signed on for the August edition of LTS and this weekend will see them all in action both Saturday and Sunday.

Saturday's intro to sailing will hopefully get all 15 on the tiller for the first time. On Sunday, they will put their new found skills to the test around a triangle course similar to our typical race course as they try to navigate their way through their training.

On hand for instruction are: Pete Peters, Jim Paul, Jim Mossman, Jerry Brewster, Rose Schultz, Bill Molleran, Roger Henthorn, and Scott Johnston.

This is the second full group weekend session of the summer. HSA normally posts the class in newspapers and on sign boards throughout the region, but this year is the first when no advertising other than our website has been the source for LTS promotion. Here is a list of the class members: Gerry and Connie Johnson; Jason and Karen Thompson, Cheryl, Jeffrey, Bob, and Amy Dunaway; Susan Skowronski, John and Aimee Faler; Ed Gephart and daughter; and Adam and Mark Oelrich. The participants hail from, among other places, Mason, Milford, Morrow, and as far away as Cleveland, Ohio. Welcome Class of 2014!

Beach Day Is Back!

OK, just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water, it actually IS safe! For the third straight season, HSA will go back to the lake in August for games other than racing.

Gone are the scavenger hunts. Get ready for TEXAS HOLD “EM, partner! That’s right, poker. My, my, my, my poker “race”. But not really a race. Event organizers will place actual poker “cards”* around the lake. Participants will sail to the designated “croupiers”* scattered in conspicuous locations, and return with their poker hand.

This game is a variant of Texas Hold ‘Em in which participants get five cards on their own from the on the water sites and then bring them to the cook out on the beach for the “flop”, the “turn” and the “river”. Players can then use any combination of their five and the communal three to form their best five card hand.

Winner, winner chicken dinner? Even better. There will be prizes for the best hands. The flop/turn/river will take place after everyone has returned from getting their cards on the lake. We will hopefully be deep into burgers and dogs by then and ready to bet the house.

We are looking for bright beach gear, big water cannons, and plenty of enthusiasm. Skippers meeting at 12:30 to lay out the game and the rules. The Acton Casino opens at 1:00. Bring a dish to share. HSA will provide barbeque, dogs, buns, condiments, and drinks. It’ll be fun. You betcha.



Roger Henthorn has been having trouble with a raccoon getting into his boat during the week and has been trying different methods of pest control. I took this photo when I was at the lake yesterday. Apparently, he likes the stuff, Roger.

A man and his pet raccoon walk into a bar. It's about 5pm, but they're ready for a good night of drinking. They start off slowly, watching TV, drinking beer, eating peanuts. As the night goes on they move to mixed drinks, and then shooters, one after the other. Finally, the bartender says: "Last call." So, the man says, "One more for me... and one more for my raccoon." The bartender sets them up and they shoot them back. Suddenly, the raccoon falls over dead. The man throws some money on the bar, puts on his coat and starts to leave. The bartender, yells: "Hey buddy, you can't just leave that lyin' there." To which the man replies: "That's not a lion, that's a raccoon."

A man in a movie theater notices what looks like a raccoon sitting next to him. "Are you a raccoon?" asked the man, surprised. "Yes." "What are you doing at the movies?" The raccoon replied, "Well, I liked the book."

Question: What did the raccoon say in his will?
Answer: "Leave it to Beaver."