

the

Acton Action

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Extreme Makeover: HSA Edition

Before the paint was even dry on HSA's shed/pump house/club room, (built in 2013) the interior underwent a makeover last Saturday.

Agreeing that the original floor and storage plan was nice but a bit awkward, Harbormaster Don Fecher and a crew of tradesmen hauled out the crowbars and the saws alls and pushed the reset button.

The result is a handier, more accessible room for storing sails and spars, buoys and bumpers, and anchors and accessories of all sorts. Check out page 4 inside to see the transformation.

(Mystery photo: who's that hiding?)



HSA Battens Hatches, Reefs Sails, Ties Clove Hitch on 2014

No one could say it wasn't a democratic year for HSA. Fifteen different sailors took home hardware from the season past as competition in all three fleets loosened up a bit. The club found themselves in good cheer earlier this month at the annual awards dinner. It wasn't just the wine. The warmth of sailing fellowship was enough to make the evening glow. For a fuller account of the festivities, see inside.

What's Inside

Special Awards

Junior champ?
Yes, we have one.
Plus a few other special people.
Page 2

Red Sky at Night

Just what does make it so delightful for sailors? Page 6

Mark Calendars

Sunday, April 26
OK, that's a ways off but the first races in the Spring Series will come.

Special Awards

Junior Champ – Megan DeArmon

The HSA Junior Championship Award goes to the 10-17 year old who has shown the most improvement over the course of his or her participation. Megan not only won first in the prestigious A Fleet at Junior Camp, she regularly sails against the best Sunfish racers in the club. And dares them to count her out.

US Sailing Sportsmanship Award Jerry Brewster

For his contribution to the club and the sport of sailing, this year's recipient is noted for his notable participation not only as a sportsmanlike competitor, but his service to the club as a photographer during the season and especially at Junior Camp. The affable Sunfisher is known for his GoPro skills and his ability to distract you while on the race course. Though he might prefer his Capri 14.2, Jerry is a rapidly becoming an inveterate Sunfish racer.

Frank Peters Memorial Trophy – Charlie Buchert

Charlie Buchert, a Hobie sailor, raced with a 3' 6" crew (his niece), volunteered for Learn to Sail, raced all the Holiday Series, and will always take on a crew. After having back trouble in 2013, Charlie is our comeback player of the year and our Frank Peters Sportsmanship Award winner.

Bob's Sportsmanship Award – Awww...Yours Truly

When this award was created in 1962, Yours Truly was practically a babe. But the trophy's namesake, Bob Darlin, specifically instructed the club when he donated the trophy, to "never give it to anyone named Mike Stratton". Oh, Bob, you would be pleased to know that it was awarded to me only after I promised to get a rule book.





Does Our Club Need More “Relaxed Racing”?

With winter having arrived, we are in that great waiting room of life – the off season. The Executive Committee has already met and talked about the 2015 sailing season. Nothing is set in stone except dates for using the Hueston Room. Now is a good time to let them know what you think about the racing schedule at HSA.

There was an article in *Sailing Magazine* recently with nearly the same title as this article. In it, Erin Schanen talked about how the world of sailboat racing is so foreign, intimidating, and with complicated rules.

She talked to a Milwaukee area racer named Ken Quant who has revived a casual racing group call MAST. “Racing can be fun,

casual and a great excuse to use your boat more often. We get people who are not dedicated racers. They just want an excuse to go sailing; they don’t really care about winning.”

The group numbers in the 70 boat range now. Finding the right place to start racing is key, says Quant. “Look for something that is short and simple. Out, in, and done.”

The HSA Executive Committee is always looking for new ways to make sailing more fun and more interesting at Acton Lake. If you have a suggestion, an opinion, or an idea about next season, let your Executive Committee know. Send your comments to the editor: midview@wildblue.net

Buchert Wins Old Fox



HSA Hobie cat sailors Dave Munday and Ryan Servizzi joined Joe Buchert at the Old Fox back on October 12th in Columbus. All three were competing in the multi hull division where Joe took first, Ryan was third, and Dave came in 8th. If you remember, October 12th was a good sailing day and the threesome for HSA made the most of it. Nice.

Extreme Makeover: Lake Edition

By Roger Henthorn

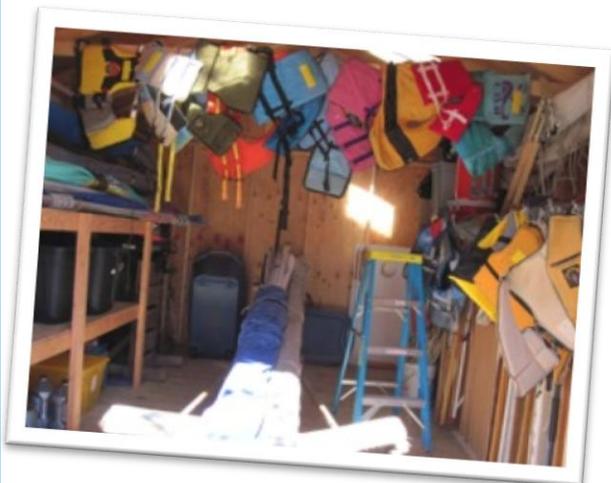
Last Saturday morning, HSA tackled the remodeling of the shed layout. The day started out rainy and cold, but dried up and turned warm, wind light and variable. (Sorry, racers always talk about the weather).

First the shelves that were on the long wall on the left side of the building were removed from the wall and relocated on the back wall. Once the shelves were moved, additional sails holders were mounted on the long wall. Now the entire wall is covered with racks for sails and spars. Another set of racks will be added to the bottom.

Just above the door a new shelf was added. It is about 2'x12' long and makes a great space to store items that aren't used that often. One additional feature to be added is a shelf/clothes rack to allow the life jackets to be hung where then are currently being dumped in a bin and turn moldy.

We are also not alone building wise. Miami University's Sailing Club has their own building now too, located behind the Sunfish racks and 15 feet to the rear of ours.

Turning out to help were Harbormaster Don Fecher, original building superintendent Pete Peters, Charlie and Kevin DeArmon, staff photographer Bobbie Bode and myself. Thanks to all.



In the photo at left, the way it used to be. In the three photos at right and above: your new headquarters. (Photos courtesy Bobbie Bode)

Trophies Go to Fifteen Racers; a Modern Record

It was almost as though the Hobie Fleet had gotten together and said, "Let's spread it around." They didn't say what they were spreading but four different skippers were awarded series trophies this year. Leading the way was **Joe and Kelly Buchert** who took first in the Spring Series and first in the Memorial Day Series.

Joe and Kelly also sail the Michigan catamaran circuit and Joe went solo at the Alum Creek Old Fox regatta on October 12.

Mike Weir won the Labor Day Series gold, and **Charlie Buchert** took first in the 4th of July Series. Harbormaster **Don Fecher** took seconds at both the Memorial Day and 4th of July Series.

In the Y-Flyer Fleet, The Roger once again collected a pile of titles, especially in the early season, taking first in the Spring as well as the Labor Day Series and the 4th of July. This year, though, he had to share and play nicer. The first sign of a crack in the **Henthorn/Bode** armor came when **Pete Peters**, racing for the first time in years in a Y, took the Memorial Day honors.

Pete, racing with Sunfisher **Rose Schultz** as crew, also took second in the Labor Day Series. First in the Fall Series went to Yours Truly, racing with different family members from wife **Dawn** to kids **Kofi** and **Cosette**, as well as newcomer **Marie Toon**.

Charlie DeArmon took second in the Spring Series, also by signing on a motley crew of jibsmen. Eight different Y-Flyers made it to the start line at one time or another in 2014.

In the Sunfish fleet, eight different sailors received awards for racing. Oakwood sophomore **Kevin DeArmon** won the Spring

Series and added a first from Labor Day and a second in the 4th of July Series, his best showing as a junior.

“Eight different Y-Flyers made it to the line at one time or another in 2014.”

Julie Molleran showed that she deserves some shelf space at home with hubby **Bill Molleran**. Julie took first in the 4th of July Series while Bill won the season long Singlehanded Racing, a series based on the best finishes from the four Sunfish only events held each summer.

Rose Schultz took time out from crewing in a Y to win first in the Fall Series but she wasn't the only one from the distaff side to go big in big winds. **Laura Beebe** took third in the Singlehanded Series behind Molleran and Yours Truly.

Jerry Brewster, in addition to his U.S. Sailing Sportsmanship Award, had a big first in the Memorial Day Series to go with his second place in the Fall.

Youthful skipper **Brendan Draper** snuck in a second place finish in the Labor Day Series to win that trophy to round out the Sunfish winners.

The trophies, beautifully designed wooden plaques with engraved plates and a horn cleat, were conceived by Laura Beebe and produced by her first mate **Chris Beebe**. Many thanks to the both of them for their elegant contribution.

Also attending the banquet? Long time Y racers **Phil and Connie Robertson**. Yay!

At right, graphics guru Chris Beebe volunteers with both hands to do trophies again next year. Thanks, Chris!



Red Sky at Night, Sailor's Delight; Red Sky at Morning, Sailor Take Warning

Have you ever heard anyone use the proverb above?

Shakespeare did. He said something similar in his play, *Venus and Adonis*. "Like a red morn that ever yet betokened, Wreck to the seaman, tempest to the field, Sorrow to the shepherds, woe unto the birds, Gusts and foul flaws to herdsmen and to herds."

In the Bible, (Matthew XVI: 2-3,) Jesus said, "When in evening, ye say, it will be fair weather: For the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today; for the sky is red and lowering."

Weather lore has been around since people needed to predict the weather and plan their activities. Sailors and farmers relied on it to navigate ships and plant crops.

But can weather lore truly predict the weather or seasons?

Red sky at night, sailors delight.

When we see a red sky at night, this means that the setting sun is sending its light through a high concentration of dust particles. This usually indicates high pressure and stable air coming in from the west. Basically good weather will follow.

Red sky in morning, sailor's warning.

A red sunrise can mean that a high pressure system (good weather) has already passed, thus indicating that a storm system (low pressure) may be moving to the east. A morning sky that is a deep, fiery red can indicate that there is high water content in the atmosphere. So, rain could be on its way.

For a fuller explanation of the phenomenon, go to: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/mysteries/weather-sailor.html> - the source for our little article.