



Acton

Action

Hueston Sailing Association



Kevin DeArmon is all smiles in this photo.

Take a look at him a few races later on page 4.

May 20, 2105

Volume 58 Issue 6



Rose peeks under for the leeward mark Sunday.

Inside

Katterheinrich wins Founder's Day Sunfish regatta with strong finish in last race as Laura Beebe fades in final race.

2

Modified Olympic Course? Just what is that? We explain the whole thing and keep it simple.

6

Memorial Day Weekend Series This Sunday/Monday

HSA's first holiday series is upon us in the form of Memorial Day weekend. And it is a full weekend for the club.

On Saturday, HSA will do a Learn to Sail session with some couples. We return to the lake on Sunday for the first two races in the holiday series followed by the HSA social committee's first potluck dinner in the Hueston Room at 5:00. Bring family and friends and a dish to share along with table settings.

Racing returns on Monday for the final two races that make up the four race holiday. HSA's holiday series are self contained and will crown a champion after the four races are tabulated. All three fleets are in action.



Follow me to Page

5



At left, the fleet scooting quickly to the first mark in race 5. In the end, only two points separated the first three place finishes.



Laura Beebe is way out in front in race 4 as she heads for the leeward mark and a win and a two point lead over the next competitor.

Katterheinrich Wins Founder's Day Sunfish Regatta in Last Race

Laura Beebe only needed two things going into last race of Sunday's Founder's Day Sunfish Regatta: finish in the top three, something she had done in all four previous races, and finish no more than one place behind her the nearest challenger.

Sir Thomas Katterheinrich, the Sunfish Bishop of the North, had a more difficult task. He not only needed to beat Laura Beebe in the last of five Sunfish races Sunday, he needed to beat her by at least two places and finish in the top three himself.

The improbable happened. Katterheinrich came in second in that last race and Beebe had her worst race of the day. The effect was to hand Sir Thomas the first place trophy that should have been hers.

Laura and her fellow racer on the distaff side, Rose Schultz, began the day well by taking the top two spots in race 1, prompting the men to mutter about misplaced chivalry.

"Keep it simple, stupid!"

Rose then faded but Laura stayed strong, also winning race 4 and placing in the top three in races 2 and 3. She went into the final race leading Katterheinrich by two points. It seemed only a capsized or a foul could pry her grasp from the Founder's Day trophy.

Afterwards, she was characteristically philosophical. "I was overthinking the race. I needed to 'keep it simple, stupid' but started thinking too much. (continued next page)

Founder's Day Sunfish story continued



Founder's Day Regatta Results

1. Tom Katterheinrich
5 1 1 3 2 - 11.5
2. Mike Stratton
6 2 2 2 1 - 12.75
3. Laura Beebe
1 3 3 1 6 - 13.5
4. Roger Henthorn
4 6 4 4 3 - 21
5. Kevin DeArmon
3 4 6 5 4 - 22
6. Rose Schultz
2 5 5 6 7 - 25
7. Jerry Brewster
7 8 7 8 5 - 35
8. Charlie DeArmon
8 7 8 7 8 - 38

(In scoring, places are determined by totaling finishes in all races, except that first place only counts for .75 or 3/4 of one point.)

Beebe begins this season where she left off last and is increasingly becoming a major threat for the Sunfish championship. Her new Sunfish stayed on the trailer (a white hulled beauty with a yellow stripe down the middle) while she went with her old reliable. Imagine what she will do in the new one.

Beebe wasn't alone, however, in her lone bad finish. Every racer had at least one finish in the bottom half of the fleet.

Racers were hit by rain in the second race but the real weather moved in moments later. In the lull between race 2 and 3, a tropical deluge, first heard crashing through the trees on the west shore, came galloping across Hueston Woods. The rain brought a chill with it that had some thinking cancellation.

After about 15 minutes of hard rain in which visibility was less than half a mile, the rain moved on and sunny warmth returned. Participants were thoroughly wet and chilled but the sun cured all that.

Wind speeds were up and down the chart as the rain first brought a lull of 2-3 mph and then gusts to 15 mph. Racing continued despite conditions except for a brief hiatus during the heavy downpour.

There was a collision, a few near misses, and a few urgent reminders about right of way, but no capsizes or catastrophes in what many considered a great sailing day despite the *rainus interruptus*.

At the post racing picnic, most were dried out and all were ready to rid themselves of hunger after a good workout on the water.

Committee persons Bobbie Bode and Pete Peters set up a modified Olympic course (see elsewhere in this issue) and then sat back to enjoy a good day of racing.

HSA racing emeriti Jerry and JoAnn Callahan were on hand for launching and yearbook duty and stayed to watch and help afterwards. Thanks to all.



Between Races 2 and 3, an absolute deluge struck. Here, Kevin hunkers down in his boat and sails out the storm. Note the visibility.

Below, Roger Henthorn demonstrates the art of opening a leech downwind as he rocks and rolls his way to the leeward mark.



Odds and Ends

What are your candidates for the three most essential knots for sailors? A quick search online seems to turn up remarkably similar answers. The bowline often ranks as the most important, followed by the clove hitch.

After that it gets a little contentious. Here are some that get a lot of mention: the square knot, the sheet bend, the rolling hitch, the cleat hitch, the half or double half hitch, and the figure eight.

What are your choices? This week's poll asks you to send us your candidates for the top five knots that sailors need to know. We will publish the results in the next issue.

Top Three Reasons to Sail

- 1 When you go sailing, you are continuing a tradition 3000 years old in one of human history's most important inventions - the sailboat.
- 2 When you are sailing, your footprint is small. The wind is free, and you are enjoying nature up close without leaving a trace.
- 3 When you go sailing, you are having fun, moving, experiencing, creating memories, and feeling alive. Sorry, that's four reasons. Really though, there are a thousand good reasons. :)



Pete and Rose check out the launch ramps. You might check out the sign behind them. It announces the no-wake policy that went into effect last year. So far, so good. You may have noticed the motorboats you see this year are different than we normally see.

continued from page one

Last year, Joe Buchert bested a fleet of five Hobies, Pete Peters and Rose Schultz topped a six boat Y fleet, and Jerry Brewster topped the Sunfish/handicap crowd.

If you are wondering about the weather, the forecast calls for temperatures around a pleasant 80 degrees, wind around 7 mph on Sunday and 11 on Monday. There is a chance of showers, but, as last Sunday proved, it might be just a little wet between the really nice periods of sunshine and clear skies.

If you race either day you can qualify for the series. If you come on Sunday, you will not only enjoy a day on the water, but the warm conviviality of the potluck dinner.

Looking ahead a bit, HSA is deep into **Learn to Sail** already with two events this week and the larger class on June 6-7, which has a full roster of new sailors-to-be.

HSA's second **Learn to Race Clinic** is coming up on Saturday, May 30. If you are interested in learning the fundamentals of the sport, this is the clinic for you. Instruction includes a chalk talk with some experienced racers on how to start, how to get around the race triangle, how to round marks, and how to finish. Sign up by contacting Mike Stratton at midview@wildblue.net.

The **Interfleet Championship** is also looming on June 21. Also known as the "**Noodle Races**", this fun event involves all fleets in an informal relay race with teams! Picnic will follow under the "Big Tree", aka "Older than Jerry Tree".

Modified Olympic Course: What It Is

On most Sundays, Sunfish (as well as other fleets) sail two or three laps around a traditional triangle consisting of three marks, a start line, and a finish line. On Sunfish only days, which happen four times a summer in our racing calendar, the race committee will switch to a modified Olympic course.

So, instead of racing around a triangle where the starting line is near the bottom of the course and the finish line is at the top, the modified Olympic course consists of one lap around the triangle and then the second time around you skip the reaching or gybe mark (the one to the left below) and go straight from the windward mark at the top - on the second lap - to the leeward mark at the bottom and then to the finish line.

Instead of being at different places, the starting line and the finishing line are in the same place and positioned about halfway up the windward leg so the committee boat never moves.

