

ACTON ACTION

SPECIAL SAILING
CAMP EDITION
AUGUST 2017



First day of camp witnessed sailors doubling up in boats for capsizing drill and for first bits of instruction. By afternoon, most everyone was soloing.

CAMP FRIGHT NIGHT? JUNIORS HANG IN THERE

Did you hear the one about HSA's Junior Camp? Ok, it wasn't funny then, but we can laugh about it now. From the Friday before camp to the first day of Ladies Camp there were five, count them, five damaging storms that hit Hueston Woods.

You have likely seen the photos on HSA's Facebook page or HSA's Junior Camp Facebook group page. We're talking trees down, not just limbs. We're talking tents flattened. We're talking flash floods. We're talking hiding out in the Hueston Room for two nights and an entire day while Mother Nature acted as if she had just caught Father Nature with another woman.

According to Park Manager Scott Fletcher, the golf course was even worse. It closed for two days while cleanup was done. Meanwhile out on the water, it was a different story. We may have holed up during the worst of it, but HSA's juniors did sail, dodging rain and driftwood.

Among the many firsts? Never had to spend an entire day indoors doing sailing activities on a concrete floor or in a parking lot between downpours. Never had to experience three major storms in three days. Never had to prepare meals in the kitchen by flashlight due to day and night time power failures. Never sailed in the evening due to storms wiping out the day. But it was all good. In the end no tree hit a tent, no child was left

behind. No one went home without a story. The first night of camp was the most electrifying. The storm hit about three in the morning. Joe Fulford's tent, an efficient low profile, stayed staked to the ground but his canopy resembled a daddy long leg that had been roughed up by the mob. His framed screen tent was picked up, flown over JoAnn Callahan's car, and deposited in the campsites across the road. Tents were flooded. Charlie DeArmon's car had rushing water up to the door. Chris Snider's pontoon was ready to launch a half mile from the ramps. Seven girls huddled in Katie Lockhart's pickup and sang along to "Take Me Home, Country Roads". No one went back to sleep. Everyone huddled until dawn in cars.

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Vivian Prytherch jots down her answer to "What Happened to George?" Below counselor Clayton Snider shows his protégé Dylan Lefever how to hold a tiller. And how to hold his tongue.

B Fleeter
Eli Rovito
shows a
Connor
Snider
how it's
done.



2017 JUNIOR CAMP FINDS FUN DESPITE STORMS;

"GEORGE" EVEN ENJOYED IT

"George" never sailed but he certainly was a fixture at camp this year. The faux skeleton hung on the wall as campers wrote answers to the question "What happened to George?" The winning answer after three days and several dozen candidates? Check the box at left.

Here is a brief summary of who was in each fleet, activities and awards:

C Fleet - Instructors Rose Schultz, Pete Peters; Campers Ryan Hater, Nick Radford, Ian Radford, Zubin Dhuru, Dylan Lefever, Jady Marshall, Dalton Marshall, and Vivian Prytherch.

Most Improved: Dalton Marshall and Zubin Dhuru

"Fish Award": Dylan Lefever and Ian Radford

(From instructor Rose Schultz: These two boys capsized 14 times during the capsize drill. Since they enjoyed being in the water so much, they were given the "Fish Award".)

B Fleet - Instructors Laura Beebe

and Chris Snider; Campers Jonathon Rucker 15, Eli Rovito 12, Connor Snider 12, Morgan Crawford 13, and Charlie Cooper 13, and Collin Snider 12.

For all of these, it was their second year of camp, with the exception of Collin as it was his first.

Connor received the first place trophy as he won 5 of the 6 races we held, and got a second place in the 6th race. Jonathan Rucker received the most improved trophy with a 2, 3, 2, 2, 3, 1.

A Fleet - Instructors Mike Stratton, Rob Hill, and Phil Robertson;

Knot Tying Champs (Speed Test) - Square: Jack Cooper; Behind the Back Bowline: Will Hater; Bowline, Clove Hitch, and Figure Eight: Kayla Draper

Ironman Champ (Rig, Sail, Capsize, 720, Backwards sail, Spider Queen Egg Snatch): Clayton Snider

Modified Olympic Course Racing Champ: Kayla Draper

Best Camper: Will Hater

Swim-a-sailboat Champ: Victor Abitabilo (cont. page 4)

"George" Quote Winners

3rd place - Pushed his tiller instead of pulling!

2nd place - Ate take out instead of JoAnn's spaghetti with garlic bread.

1st place - Climbed the mast and got struck by lightning!





Backwards Sailing Champ: Kayla Draper

Capri Racing Team Champs: Clayton Snider, Victor Abitabilo, and Kayla Draper

Rudderless Sailing Co-Champs: Clayton Snider, Kayla Draper, Victor Abitabilo, Will Hater, Jack Cooper, and Ben Olenick

Noodle Relay Team Champs: Clayton Snider, Ben Olenick, and Will Hater

Individual Accomplishments:

Capsized in Lowest Wind Champ: Victor Abitabilo (4mph)

Fall Overboard From Capri Champ: Clayton Snider

Dry Capsize Champ: Ben Olenick

Fleet Accomplishments:

Chalk Boat Relay Champs; Chalk Boat Nomenclature Race

Overall:

Third place: Will Hater - 215 points

Second place: Clayton Snider - 215 points (won tiebreaker)

HSA 2017 Junior Champion:

Kayla Draper - 240 points

Junior Counselors: Megan DeArmon, Ian Mahoney, Katie Lockhart, Cosette Gunter, James Rucker, and Kevin DeArmon. Thank you all.



As we wondered who might be good enough to draw a sailboat in chalk on the floor, we realized that one of our instructors is none other than Rose Schultz, an artist and a former art teacher. Rain delay activity superstar.

Meanwhile. back at camp... (see below)



One of the Junior Counselors (who will remained unnamed) (Ian Mahoney) carefully lays "George" in bed with unsuspecting Collin Snider. Campers spent two nights in the Hueston Room as rain fell heavy. At right, the first ever sunset sailing at Junior Camp. You gotta do watcha gotta do.



Camp Fright Night (continued from page 1)

As night two approached after a day of doubled up sailing in 15 mph wind and 15 bucks worth of Laundromat drying by Amy Marks and Rosa Molleran, JoAnn Callahan got a text from EPA environmental and weather prodigy Brian Callahan in Indianapolis that the storm coming Monday night was a repeat of Sunday's. The camp emptied, preferring the concrete comfort of the Hueston Room to the thunderous rain. Later the meteorological prophecy came true.

Tuesday's midafternoon storm was the strongest. With winds exceeding forty miles per hour and straight line rain sweeping over the park office rooftops, the camp hunkered down in the dark and tied knots, drew rigged Sunfishes on the floors, and learned more about boats and the sailing vocabulary than any camp in recent memory. Tuesday night, the camp moved indoors again and left a dozen tents up, wet, and empty.

The Tuesday night sailing after dinner was, in stark contrast, peaceful and pleasant. The campers stayed out long enough to make sunset a part of their day with boats. At 10:00 they were just getting to their bedding and snow cone machines.

Redemption came Wednesday. Sun, wind in the near perfect zone, and all day on the water brought everything to a close. At the banquet, parents heard all about it, and -we are pretty sure - on the way home too.



Although there was this bit of product placement at camp, we promise, parents, there was no beer at junior camp. That was last year. That's Collin Snider in the beer boat. (Or maybe Connor Snider?)



Junior Counselor Kevin DeArmon with his young camper as they head out to sail on Day One of the 2017 camp. At right, James Rucker with initiate Ian Radford. That's Ian and Dylan at right. (photos by Jeanette Olenick)

