



Acton Action



In this issue

pg. 2 Callahans announce end to decades as junior and ladies camp organizers.

pg. 3 Plastics and oil; how will we respond to these challenges?

pg. 5 Sunfish Worlds - you might be glad you weren't there!

pg. 6 Haul Out another success story. Boats safely snuggled away for off season.

When you're down by the sea and an eel bites your knee, that's a moray (sing like Dean Martin)



Quote for the Day

"Always be yourself. Unless you can be a sailor. Then always be a sailor."

Unknown

HSA Banquet to Celebrate 2018

Boats out of water. Check. Boats stowed in barn. Check. Well then, the only thing left to celebrate is the 2018 season. HSA will gather one more time this year before pulling the draw strings tight on the sail bag. It is the annual awards banquet at the Barn-N-Bunk on the outskirts of the quaint and charming village of Trenton.

Nominations for special awards

are in and selections have been engraved for eternity in gold. Racing trophies are ready to be distributed also. The social planners are working to make this banquet a memorable one.

The banquet is not only a good way to end a season, it is a good way to begin anticipating the next one. See you there. Have you returned your reservation? Can we say, "check"?



Kitchen and camp are JoAnn's domain.

Boats and sailing are Jerry's.

After 2019, HSA will need to find some people with big feet - the shoes will be hard to fill.

Callahans Announce Retirement from Junior and Ladies Camps After Long Run

JoAnn Callahan handed me a piece of paper after the Haul Out last week. A short simple message but so like them to not make a fuss.

The note announced that after nearly four decades of being the production team that spearheaded HSA's Junior and Ladies Camps, they would be hanging up their spars after next year's camps.

The Callahans began running the camps when their own three children were young and have since seen both their grandchildren and great grandchildren come through.

We will likely celebrate their retirement next year but for now, here is their announcement:

"This is perhaps the most

difficult letter I have ever written. After long discussions, Jerry and I have decided that 2019 will be the last year we will do Junior and Ladies Sailing Camps. It has been a wonderful, fun filled run of over 35 years, and it is time. We will both be over 80 years old next summer. Our health is still good, so it is time to stop while we are ahead. I'm writing this now in the hope that people will start thinking about taking over the program and bring their thoughts and ideas to the banquet. We hope you will work along side us in 2019 and take over in 2020."

JoAnn Callahan

317-989-1545 JoAnn

317-989-1544 Jerry



Photo from junior camp circa the early 90's. On the right is a Callahan grandchild. On the bow is Laura (Peters) Beebe. Behind her, one of the adult instructors lends a hand.

14-Year-Long Oil Spill in Gulf of Mexico Verges on Becoming One of the Worst in U.S. History

An oil spill that has been quietly leaking millions of barrels into the Gulf of Mexico has gone unplugged for so long that it now verges on becoming one of the worst offshore disasters in U.S. history.

Between 300 and 700 barrels of oil per day have been spewing from a site 12 miles off the Louisiana coast since 2004, when an oil-production platform owned by Taylor Energy sank in a mudslide triggered by Hurricane Ivan. Many of the wells have not been capped, and federal officials estimate that the spill could continue through this century. With no fix in sight, the Taylor offshore spill is threatening to overtake BP's Deepwater Horizon disaster as the largest ever.

Focus on the Environment



Plastics: Refuse to Use?

The Dirtiest Word in Sailing

by Lauren Coiro (reprinted from American Sailing Association website)

The ocean is facing many problems right now. Plastic pollution is among the biggest.

The ocean is a sailor's playground, but humans have also used it as our dumping ground: A large portion of the waste we create on land eventually makes its way to the ocean through our waterways, blowing out of landfills, or is dumped directly by coastal communities.

Plastic is one among many

forms of ocean pollution: Runoff from industry and agriculture can poison fisheries and cause toxic algae blooms, as we've seen recently in Florida¹. Excessive heat and gases generated from industry, transportation, and electricity generation are warming the ocean, which is killing off our coral reefs.

These gases also increase the ocean's acidity, which dissolves the shells of bivalves like mussels, oysters

continued next page

and clams. Scientists are estimating that the amount of plastic in the ocean may outweigh its fish by 2050.

Plastic is an incredible and recent invention that has allowed our society to embrace conveniences that make our grandparents shake their heads in awe. While plastic polymers can be made out of various materials, almost all of the plastics we use in our day-to-day lives are made from crude oil.

Consider for a moment the outrageousness of drilling oil from deep out of the ground, shipping it, refining it, adding dyes, chemicals and emulsifiers, molding it, packaging it (usually in more plastic), and then selling it in the form of a gelato-sampling spoon that will have a lifetime of about 8 seconds. A substance that takes millions of years to make⁵ should not be used so flippantly.

While we feel a sense of relief when we toss our plastics in the blue recycling bin, we shouldn't. **Most of this does not enjoy a second life.** We simply do not have the infrastructure in place to handle the volume of recyclable waste we are producing.

The U.S. used to export most of its plastic to China for processing, but recently China has stopped accepting almost all of our plastic waste. Americans are also particularly lazy trash sorters and many loads of recyclable materials are doomed to landfill because they are tainted with food scraps and oils.

Plastic kills wildlife and is absorbed into the food chain. This affects human health, as plastic is a carcinogen and absorbs toxic solvents.

In addition to its versatility, plastic is also incredibly durable. Instead of breaking down, it simply breaks into smaller and smaller pieces, called microplastics. These plastic bits act as tiny sponges that absorb other toxins in the water.

Virtually every level of the food chain is now eating plastic, which means these toxins bioaccumulate up the food chain and eventually reach our plates. There are over 3 billion people relying on fisheries for food and nearly half the world's population lives near a coastline, so there are serious implications for human health.

Cleanups are happening all over the world, and anti-plastic laws are being passed.

On land, coastal nations and cities are starting to take notice of the issue and are passing bans on single-use plastic items. Costa Rica, China, and



Consider for a moment the outrageousness of drilling oil from deep out of the ground, shipping it, refining it, adding dyes, chemicals and emulsifiers, molding it, packaging it (usually in more plastic), and then selling it in the form of a gelato-sampling spoon that will have a lifetime of about 8 seconds.

the UK have all enacted legislation on plastic convenience items:

"The man who doesn't read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them." - Mark Twain



Sunfish Worlds' Sailors Experience It All

Top Ten

1. Jean Paul Trazegnies Peru
2. Alonso Collantes Peru
3. David Hernandez Guatemala
4. Martin Alsogaray Argentina
5. Jonathan Martinelli Ecuador
6. Conner Blouin USA
7. David Mendelblatt USA
8. Caterina Romero Peru
9. John Birkett Ecuador
10. Simon Gomez Ortiz Columbia

Others

16. Paul Jon Patin USA
20. Jeff Linton USA
25. Eugene Schmitt USA
42. Ron McHenry USA

It was rough at the 2018 Sunfish Worlds held earlier this month in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina.

The first two days were a wild mix of high wind and high seas of 6-10 feet. Many of the competitors never came to the line. Days 3 and 4 of the five day competition were cancelled entirely due to tropical storms that nearly capsized a 70 ft. cabin cruiser in the area where the 14 ft. Sunfish were to race.

Day five, ironically, turned into a one race drifter and many boats could not make it to the finish line by the time limit. It was, then, a six race regatta to determine the new World Champion, Peru's Jean Paul Trazegnies.

HSA friends - Tom Katterheinrich and Gail Turluck - were among those who only made it onto the race course briefly, wisely deciding to forego the conditions they seldom find at their home lakes in Ohio and Michigan respectively.

Many of the competitors from both the U.S., the Caribbean, and Latin and South America were ones that HSA's own Sunfish sailors saw in competition earlier this year at the Midwinters and at the North American championship. There were 71 boats at the Carolina Yacht Club Event.



Above left, Diane Pierok and Dominiek Everaet look on as the Rescue One's motor gets a makeover from Pete Peters and Scott Eversole. Top right, part of the gang that turned out for chilly event, which was followed by a chili lunch for all hands. At right, Brett Hart gets a hand from Kevin and Charlie DeArmon on a Capri cleaning. Bottom, Ken Wright helps Jenny and Jim Cooper with their MacGregor 25.



Haul Out 2018



Many thanks to all who helped with Haul Out: JoAnn Callahan, Rose Schultz, and Jenny Cooper - food division; Labor provided by Laura Beebe, Pete Peters, Roger Henthorn, Bobbie Bode, Dominiek Everaet and son Noah, Charlie and Kevin DeArmon, Diane Pierok, Scott Eversole and daughter Makenna, Don Fecher, Ken Wright, Brett Hart, Jim and Charlie Cooper, and Joe Fulford.

All boats away!