

Acton Action

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At right, HSA Rear Commodore Joe Fulford skids along in an HSA Capri with Intro to Sail participants Glyn and Stefan Loveridge from Ft. Thomas on Saturday. The picture belies the often blustery and bold winds that kept the tillers firm in most skippers' hands. The Capri is the latest addition to HSA's fleet.

Intro to Sail Gets Blown Away!

Wind Gusts into 30's on Sunday, Causing Cancellation of Day 2

The instructor for the on shore teaching spent a good bit of his time emphasizing safety to the twelve participants in last weekend's Introduction to Sailing: how to respond to excessive heel, cold water hazards, capsizing recovery. Then promptly went out with his two charges and dumped them and himself in the chilly water.

Winds gusting in the high teens proved manageable for nearly everyone else (Jerry Brewster included capsized in his instruction for newcomer Linda Davis), but it was the kind of day where a skipper had to be at his/her boat balancing best.



HSA Adds Horses to Stable

Thanks to the sharp eyes and hard work of the Chris and Meredith Snider family, HSA has two additions to its growing fleet of Capris. Saturday, Joe Fulford used one of them in ITS. The Sniders are refurbishing another one and donating both to HSA. Thank you, Sniders.

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New Member Profile: Stephen Szymanski

The club doesn't often get a new member with a sailing pedigree. Stephen Szymanski has one. He came to Cincinnati recently with the Prysmian Group's Telecom Division from Columbia, S.C. where he was active with the Columbia Sailing Club. He has two teenage daughters, both of whom have learned to sail in youth sailing camps. Stephen's firm is a cable manufacturer where he is primarily involved with fiber optics and the advent of 5G networks.

Here is what we asked Stephen:

AA: What do you sail and for how long?

Stephen: I've been sailing for 40 years, some leisure sailing, and some competition. I've competed in most one design classes, coast to coast and a few international regattas. I've owned half dozen Lasers, Finn, SJ21, a few J-24's, a Thistle, a Catalina 30, Optimist. And now a Sunfish, which I have never sailed. In the late 80's, I was a member of the College of Charleston varsity sailing team. I gave up long distance racing about a decade ago and have not been on the helm of a sailboat the last four years.

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Memorial Day Weekend!

The first glorious weekend of racing is about to hit this Sunday and Monday as HSA reaches the halfway point in the Spring Series.

A potluck (of course) dinner will take place in the Hueston Room after racing on Sunday. We encourage all to come whether racing or not. Bring a friend, bring family, and bring place settings along with a dish to share. It starts at 5 with hor d'oeuvres.

All fleets are in action on Acton and the club will crown new champions in the Hobie, Y-Flyer, and Handicap divisions.

The Callahans will handle race duty and the kitchen once again.

Last year, 22 boats made it to the line for Memorial Weekend. Joe and Kelly Buchert reign in the Hobies; Pete Peters and Rose Schultz captured the Y's; and Laura Beebe was Sunfish Queen. Again.



Midwest Sunfish Schedule Full

In addition to our own four Sunfish regattas this year, there are over 70 others in just the Midwest Region this season. Clubs from Wisconsin to Michigan to Illinois, Ohio, and Indiana as well as, gasp, now Kentucky! All will be hosting events this year.

Breaking with a long tradition, Devil's Lake Yacht Club will not be hosting a regional this year. That honor goes to Gull Lake Sailing Club in Michigan for Regional Championship #1 in August and to our own Hueston Sailing Association in October when we host Midwest Regional #2. By October, we should be ready. This year's regatta chair is Brett Hart.

Founders' Day Regatta! Sunfish Series Starts June 2nd

If you look through last year's issues of AA, you won't find the results for last year's Founders' Day Sunfish Regatta. We're not sure where they were reported, but we do know something else for sure: the winner was probably Laura Beebe, the reigning champion in all things Sunfish last year. Will she be challenged in 2019? The target on her shirt will be huuuuggge. Here are the hunters with bows:

1.

Bill Molleran - Sunfish ace and holder of more OktoberFast trophies than anyone else in the club. Bill, an avid biker and former Hobie guy, has the tools and the tactics to be the favorite to take Beebe down.

2.

Kevin DeArmon - A rising star among junior sailors in the club, the 19 year old has plenty of skill and lots of practice. If the wind blows strong, he too will challenge.

3.

Rose Schultz - If light air is in the offing, this will be the one to watch. Rose has the uncanny ability of being right where there is wind when no one else can find it.

Longer shots? Dark horses? Unknown quantities? Mark Costandi has renewed his interest in winning; Megan DeArmon, you might remember beat all the adults last year in the Capri Championship; and as for unknown factors, Stephen Szymanski has indicated he will sail. He may not have sailed a Sunfish before but he certainly knows his way around a race course. Smart money's on Beebe, but...

cont.

(New Member Profile continued)

AA: Tell us how you got into sailing and where.

Stephen: My father and uncle took up sailing in the 60's on Barnegat Bay, N.J. I started sailing with my father at age 4. At age 6 we moved to Columbia, S.C. and my parents joined a local sailing club. My father was a club commodore, SJ21 national commodore twice, US Sailing national judge, and very active in South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association (SAYRA).

AA: What was your previous club?

Stephen: I'm still a member of CSC, Columbia Sailing Club and recently resigned from my board of steward's seat.

AA: Does your family sail with you?

Stephen: I have two teenage daughters both of whom have attended sailing camps in their younger days, both of which have moved on to other activities. I'm confident both will return to sailing as adults.

AA: Anything else we might want to know?

Stephen: I look forward to getting on the water on warm, sunny days!

Below: Stephen with wife Melissa and daughters Kate and Mimi.



Intro to Sail Gets Blown Away (continued from page 1)

The crew on Yours Truly's Y were Steve Kuhlman and his 7th grade daughter Julia when the Y went over. Julia and I were no match for dad Steve on the low side when a wicked gust hit. Julia, about 4' 10", was not only not flummoxed by the whole deal, she calmly offered advice in the shallow water as dad and skipper righted the boat, mud on mast and all, with a little assist from Roger Henthorn and Bobbie Bode in Rescue One.

Brewster and Davis were farther down the lake when they got on the wrong side of a shift, but in the end all were dry within a few minutes and continued their otherwise uneventful afternoon on the water.

Sunday was another matter. With a wind forecast of 20 mph with gusts to 40 mph, it was decided that it was wiser and more valorous to declare the wind as victor and let it have its day of rage. Later that evening, a tornado touched down about 20 miles north of the lake, a scant 4 miles from the home of Yours Truly.

But on Saturday four Capris, two Y-Flyers, and Mike Weir's Hobie were involved in this introduction to challenging winds. On board with Mike in his high flyin' catamaran was Carla Myers, a librarian at Miami University, who raised her hand to be a Hobie crew for the day. She wasn't disappointed. In fact, she enjoyed it so much, she is signing on for Ladies Camp in July.

As for Julia, her father reports that she has enjoyed telling all her friends about her capsized enhanced adventure. Linda Davis, Jerry's captive capsized crew, also enjoyed the fact that she had a story to tell and can't wait to get back on the water in her recently purchased Chrysler Mutineer.

Other, drier participants included Kris Miller, a 29 year old computer information guy for United Way who skipped his own graduation from Miami just to be with us. But for Kris, it was his second degree, so being on the water was to him far preferable than listening to a commencement address. Bert and Jen Stewart were in a Capri with Laura Beebe; Glyn and Stefan Loveridge got into another Capri with Joe Fulford; Pete Palko and Lindsay Smith rode along with Ken Wright in a Capri; and Paul Kuhlman, Julia's brother, went with Kris Miller in Pete Peters' Y-Flyer.

That's Laura Beebe with her two crew at ITS - Bert and Jen Stewart. At right, Jerry Brewster and student driver Linda Davis in a drier moment.

