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the
Acton Action

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Capri Championship Shortened; Race Not Riggged

Everything was going well until it stopped going well. Shortly after the beginning of race four of six planned starts, HSA #4's mast fell. Apparently, a ring ding came out, followed by the pin that held up the port shroud and when Jerry Brewster, who was skippering that boat in race 4, tacked to port, over it went. No one was hurt, but, with the format for six boats and rotating skippers impacted, the decision was made to sail in.

Before that incident, the Capri sailors (cont. page 3)

HSA's MidSummer Party

It's the pause that refreshes. HSA will take a moment to gather and talk in the quiet confines of the cornfields of Farmersville on Saturday, August 17th.

No boats to rig, repair, or race. Just good fellowship with our sailing family. Bring *your* family, a dish to share, and the rest is taken care of.

The address is 15545 Dechant Rd. Farmersville. The time is 4:00 pm until after dark. Got a favorite drink? Bring it along though we will have plenty to share.



Save the Date!

Fall Series Start

Sunday, July 28

Calling all fleets.

Back in action!

Brunch -11:00 in

Hueston Rm.

HSA Mid Summer Party

Saturday, Aug. 17

Coming to a corn field near here!

CruiserFest 19!

Sunday, Sept. 8

San Juan 21 guy

Curt Donahue will defend his title as top cruiser skipper!



If you are thinking, "Hey, that looks like Albert Einstein!" you would be right. That's him in his sailboat "Tinef" sailing in New York's Nassau Point. You don't have to be a genius to learn how to sail. But some pretty good minds have found that a sailboat is a good place to think.

HSA Brunch!

This Sunday is the brunch that kicks off the Fall Series. Don't let the word "fall" fool ya. It's still July. If you would like to attend the brunch, it starts at 11:00. Let Rose know you're coming. The cost is \$5. It's always good. Except that one time. Remember?

A Love Letter to Sailing

by Julie Hylton

I love sailing because it makes me feel awake and alive – but also because it gives me moments of peace, meditation and stillness. I love the way it makes me feel powerful – and at the same time, very small in the scheme of the universe. I love that I have to be completely tuned in to the moment and my surroundings.

I love that it connects me to nature, and makes me notice the shape of the clouds, the height of a wave, the pull of a current. I love that it makes me see things that are invisible to others – the direction of the wind, and the cat scratch of a puff on the water.

I love the elegant lines of a sailboat, and that feeling when the sails are perfectly trimmed and the boat is balanced and sails with incredible ease.

I love the sense of order on a boat, where everything has a place and a function, and it's possible to make everything shipshape. I love the pale first light of day on a boat, the late afternoon sun glinting on the water like diamonds, and especially the sunsets. Sometimes soft and pastel, sometimes fierce and fiery – sunsets on the water are like nothing else.

Sailing has given me gifts I never knew I wanted – or so desperately needed. It's filled my soul with joy and longing and sometimes fear, but the joy is what I choose to keep. It's connected me to the most wonderful community of sailors, who understand and share the obsession with boats, wind, water and waves.

It's given me the discipline to focus on the unseen and how it impacts my course. It's made me whole in ways I can't even explain. And I guess that's why sailing will always be my life long love. (Got your own Love Letter to Sailing? Send it along to us. We'd like to hear it.)



Capri Championship Shortened (continued from page 1)

had coped with a light air first race and the heat before the wind picked up quite nicely for races 2, 3, and 4 - all of them in the 6 to 12 mph range. Yes. Not bad.

All four of HSA's Capris were in it plus the very swift boats of Jerry Brewster and Diane Pierok. Skippers changed boats every race, rotating from one to the next at Dock A where ice water spray and refreshments awaited.

After a noon skippers' meeting where we found out just how many boats, skippers and crews were on hand, the racing began. Rose Schultz jumped off committee duty and into a boat to crew. Juniors Cosette Gunter, Jack Cooper, and Charlie Cooper joined in along with dad Jim Cooper. Dominiek Everaet also volunteered to crew as son

Noah went with the committee.

Races 1 - 4 saw Jerry Brewster and Mike Stratton take turns taking bullets. Race 4 was when Brewster had to concede as his mast came down. (Reminder: always tape the ring dings on the side stay pins) In the heat of the battle, Brewster was waylaid by a rigging accident that was no fault of his own.

Roger Henthorn, Bobbie Bode and Pete Peters manned the committee and the exchanges of boats. It was a herculean effort for all as temps soared into the low 90's. The wind made it all somewhat tolerable. The good-natured group of racing sailors made it memorable.

After the mast fell, races 5 and 6 were scrubbed.

The Results

- 1. Mike Stratton 1 2 2 1 6
- 2. Jerry Brewster 3 1 1 (2) 7
- 3. Ken Wright 2 4 4 2 12
- 4. Diane Pierok 4 3 6 3 16
- 5. Stephen Cook 5 5 5 4 19
- 6. Brett Hart 6 6 3 5 20

Top Crew/Boat: Cosette Gunter in HSA 1
2 3 1 1 7

Thank you crews! Dom Everaet, Jim Cooper, Charlie Cooper, Jack Cooper, and Rose Schultz



Sunfish Fleet Laughs Off Hot Weather, Weak Wind as Camptown Races Crowns Champion

Everyone knew well ahead of time that it was going to be a drifter in hot water and hot weather. It didn't matter. Fifteen Sunfish came to the lake and, despite the lack of even so much as a ripple on a flat piece of Chihuly glass, went out to race.

A couple of hours later we had actually logged three "races". And once again, leading the pack was millennial and perennial Sunfish queen of Acton Lake, Laura Beebe, who had wrapped up another title.

Beebe has lost only one Sunfish regatta on her home lake (2017's regional) in the past three years. Sunday she nailed every slow start, survived every crowded mark, and eliminated every challenger one by one on her way to first place in the Camptown Races Sunfish Regatta at Hueston Woods. Beebe excels in both light and heavy air, so her fellow entrants knew what they were up against.

They just keep hoping for a crack in

her armor. It doesn't exist. Finishing second in a tie for Almost-Laura-Conquerors were Roger Henthorn and Mike Stratton. The latter took second on the tiebreaker and won his single bullet by a nose over She-That-Must-Be-Named.

Results

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| 1. Laura Beebe 1 2 1 | 5 |
| 2. Mike Stratton 3 1 5 | 9 |
| 3. Roger Henthorn 2 5 2 | 9 |
| 4. Megan DeArmon 7 4 3 | 14 |
| 5. Rose Schultz . 4 8 6 | 18 |
| 6. Ken Wright 8 3 9 | 20 |
| 7. Kayla Draper 12 6 4 | 22 |
| 8. Amy Marks . 11 9 7 | 27 |
| 9. Pete Peters . 9 11 8 | 28 |
| 10. Kevin DeArmon . 5 13 12 | 30 |
| 11. Jerry Brewster . 14 7 11 | 32 |
| 12. Bill Molleran . 6 10 DNS | 32 |
| 13. Charlie DeArmon 13 14 10 | 37 |
| 14. Julie Molleran . 10 12 DNS | 38 |
| 15. Dominic Everaet . 15 15 13 | 43 |



Why Sail the Great Lakes?

Do you dream of deep-water sailing? Fancy yourself in the soft rollers of the Pacific or Atlantic? Picture yourself cruising the Caribbean or the Chesapeake?

Those all sound very nice and there is something special about oceans that seem to enchant and pull us. But then consider this. We live within about three to five hours drive of the largest fresh water lakes in the world. That's about 180 miles to the nearest, Lake Erie. If you want to drive/trailer to the ocean, it will take you about eight hours. And that will put you in Schmelaware, Delaware or Hilton Dead or Myrtle Bleach.

If you are trailering a boat, a three-hour trip wins hands down. Yes, you can charter. But the Great Lakes are smarter. (And cheaper) There are a great many other things that all point north rather than east or south besides proximity. The Great Lakes are not the ocean, but if they put you on a boat on Lake Michigan, would you be able to tell the difference when you took the blindfold off?

Some might say that storms can come up quickly on the Great Lakes, but Gordon Lightfoot and the Edmund Fitzgerald notwithstanding, sailing anywhere is relatively safe if you mind the weather.

If you are thinking that adventure and exploration are only oceanic, remember there are five Great Lakes and they have a combined 4,530 miles of U.S. coastline. That's more than the U.S.'s east and west coasts put together. And there is a lot of water there - 250,000 square kilometers. If you get lost, keep going and you will run into land before you die of thirst, starvation or boredom.

If you could somehow explore the entirety of Lake Erie, all five Great Lakes are connected to one another and to those oceans. The ocean is alluring. But you can spend a lifetime on the Great Lakes and never run out of things to see, clear blue water to sail, and challenges to your ability.

Last summer on Lake Michigan, we soon lost sight of land. That was our goal along with the crossing to Chicago, but it felt like we were miles at sea. The Seven Seas are wonderful but not very accessible. Thank goodness we are right next door to the inland seas - the Great Lakes.



Did you know?

- If you stood on the moon and looked back at earth, you could recognize the Great Lakes from space.
- The Great Lakes contain 1/5 of the world's entire fresh water supply.
- The Great Lakes offer more than 94,000 sq. mi. of outstanding cruising.
- They contain enough water to cover all of North America to a depth of five feet.
- Laid end to end, the Great Lakes system would stretch from New Brunswick in Canada to Cuba.
- French explorers called them the "sweetwater seas".