

Acton Action

Hueston Sailing Association

Serving the Sailing Community since 1956

At right, Stephen Cook leaving for the race triangle



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“I told my wife to embrace her mistakes. She hugged me.” Unknown husband on his wifely crew

Cook Wins CruiserFest!

In one of the more startling developments in what has already been an unusual competitive season, Stephen Cook has won the 2020 version of CruiserFest in his Montgomery 15, with he and his boat just back from vacation on Lake Erie.

Stephen whipped the pocket cruiser around the single lap course, winning race two in a wire to wire performance and winning race one after corrected time showed him beating contender Curt Donahue by a slender margin. Donahue, the 2018 champ, was the raw winner of race one, sailing in good form.

Stephen, who has struggled earlier in the season against faster competition in the HSA handicap fleet but who has recently toyed with success, took his handsome boat and Portsmouth rating out versus the big boys and scored a surprise TKO in both bouts.

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How to Sail Faster (up a river, on a movie prop sailboat)

Inigo Montoya: Look! He’s right on top of us. I wonder if he’s using the same wind we are using.
 Vizzini: Whoever he is, he’s too late. See! The Cliffs of Insanity! Hurry up! Move the thing! And that other thing! Move it! (from *The Princess Bride*)



Sailing “Marriages”

The Acton *Action* Continues Its Look At Husband/Wife Crews and Other “Marriages” of Convenience

Capri skipper Jerry Brewster tells the story of his sailing marriage.

Around 1990, shortly after moving to Dayton, Ohio from Long Island, New York and meeting Darrilynn, I was invited by Dan Haile to serve as crew on his Y-Flyer.

On another race day, Darrilynn was also there and crewed on a competing Y (we can't recall the skipper for

certain, but believe it was Jerry Callahan.) After getting married and starting a family, we put sailing on hold. When Isaac and Brianna were in elementary school, we bought the Capri 14 that we race today.

At that time, I started crewing in J/24 races at Brookville Lake. One Mother's Day, I surprised Darrilynn with an older Sunfish, which

she promptly learned to sail at the HSA Ladies Camp.

The advantages of sailing together are that our schedules are usually in sync and we can travel to the lake together. We can discuss strategy in our spare

“And we NEVER argue or disagree.”

time, although we rarely do. We can read each other's minds and know what the other expects us to do while racing. Moreover, there are no personality issues to overcome. And we NEVER argue or disagree.

The disadvantages are that the chores at home are not getting done. There's no one home to watch the kids if they

Are of an age that requires supervision or anyone to watch the dog. (Fortunately, we own a fairly self-sufficient cat and not a dog. Finally, we ALWAYS argue and disagree!

We both love the feeling of peace, quiet, and freedom that sailing offers. We also have a competitive,



but friendly side, so we enjoy the social and racing opportunities that HSA offers.

How do we handle conflict on the boat? (cont. next page.)



“...I somehow knew that he would turn into a good competitive sailor, or maybe you could just say that I’ve always been drawn to fast guys.”

Julie Molleran talking about her sailing marriage with husband Bill.

Sailing Marriages

(Continued from previous page)

Hmmm... we’re open to suggestions here. Usually the conversation goes like this:

Darrilynn: We need to tack.

Jerry: (silence)

Darrilynn: You’re going to tack, aren’t you?

Jerry: (more silence)

Darrilynn: You’re not going to listen to me, are you?

Jerry: Ok, let’s tack.

Darrilynn: You just want it to be your idea, don’t you?

OR like this:

Darrilynn: We need to tack.

Jerry: Wait, we’re getting lifted.

Darrilynn: But there’s better air over there.

Jerry: Just a minute.

Darrilynn: We’re sailing into a hole.

Jerry: Ok, ok.

Darrilynn: Now we’re barely moving and everyone is way ahead.

Jerry: Yeah, I should have listened to you earlier.

The secret to a happy sailing marriage is to admit when you’re wrong and treat your crew to a delicious post sailing dinner at 4J’s in Camden. We highly recommend the garlic and parmesan boneless wings and loaded mashed potatoes. (Look for a sponsorship ad to appear on our sails and or hull later this season.)

Modern Molleran Sailing Marriage

Bill and Julie Molleran have sailed since they first met. They both sail Sunfish now, but they used to sail together on a Hobie 16

Bill, perhaps unwisely, has left it to me to answer your queries regarding sailing and marriage. I learned to sail when I was a Girl Scout. My best friend’s father had a Flying Junior and a small Sunfish type boat and sailed at Cowan Lake.

He put together a sailing class for all of us in the troop to earn our sailing badge. When Bill and I first started dating I took him sailing and he was hooked. A few years later, he bought a Force 5 and shortly after we were married we traded up to the Hobie 16. I suppose you could chalk it up to

intuition, that I somehow knew he would turn into a good competitive sailor, or maybe you could just say that I’ve always been drawn to fast guys.

The good thing about our sailing marriage is that I know where he is on Sunday afternoons. Having common experiences and great sailing stories to share is also a big plus. Sailing together has sharpened out mind reading skills. If your marriage can withstand racing together it can handle anything!

Bill derives enjoyment from the broad skillset required for sailing well – both physical and



“The secret to a happy sailing marriage? Gin or maybe vodka.” Julie Molleran

mental faculties are engaged. He likes the challenge of getting the boat to perform well especially given the capricious nature of the winds at Acton Lake. I just enjoy the look on people’s faces when I (cont. next page)

Sailing Marriages (Continued from previous page)

mention that I race sailboats. I'm finally one of the cool kids!

The Mollerans, continued:

And the odd victory over Brian Callahan is fun too.

Conflict? Well, given that we both race single-handed now, I guess maybe getting separate boats is a good way to avoid conflict! When we raced the Hobie, I always knew what my role as the crew was – to take the blame and give the credit. Bill always understood that as skipper he was ultimately responsible for making decisions but good input from me was important too.

But our number one rule was that if we stopped having fun it was time to go home. You have to keep things in perspective.

The secret to a happy sailing marriage? Gin. Or maybe vodka.

Pete and Rose

Pete Peters and Rose Schultz have been crewing together since 2014 in a Y Flyer. Both also race Sunfish singlehanded.

Rose and I were experienced in the Y-Flyer's in our sailing careers. Both of us were sailing Sunfish and working together at Junior and Ladies Sailing Camps. Chuck and Helen Smith were retiring from sailing and offered Y 2702 to me to fix up and sail.

Rose and I started sailing Y 2702 in 2014. I think we both enjoyed being back on the Y. I remember one of the first times back on the Y with the good feeling of a well performing boat, someone on board to talk to, and the exhilaration of a Y-Flyer race.

All of this brought back some great memories for me. A great advantage for us is that we are both accomplished skippers with the ability to talk and think in sailing terms and actions. Many times, we are reading each other's minds which is kind of scary.

I look forward to racing because it is a great feeling for me to be a part of a team that works well together. We enjoy each other company and I really don't remember any conflicts. Rose probably deals with conflict when I do something crazy. Civility has been maintained all these years!

My secret to the happy sailing/racing partnership is that I consider Rose a friend with a great demeanor, competitive spirit, and a nice person to be around.

Jerry and JoAnn Callahan on Sailing Marriages

(Jerry and JoAnn Callahan have been a part of HSA since the year the lake was born in 1956. The two have won numerous regattas and three national titles in a Y-Flyer. Jerry also raced a Sunfish and did so until he retired from sailing at Acton Lake about five years ago.)

How did each of you get into sailing?

Jerry: My father raced Snipes before I was born. In fact, I have a trophy he won before I was born. I tell people that I have been sailing for more than 75 years.

JoAnn: Born and raised in Detroit,

I had never been in a boat. I moved, started seeing this young man when I was 15 and was immediately introduced to sailing.

What advantages or disadvantages to sailing together?

Jerry: The advantage is that you are doing things together; sharing a common goal (although a fleeting one); depending on each other; the same good friends; just spending time together. Disadvantages? None.

What do each of you derive from your involvement in the sailing/racing life?

Jerry: Aside from just doing things together, JoAnn helped make us relatively successful. We also were able to travel to many parts of the US and Canada making many friends along the way.

JoAnn: I am not an athletic person. I love cooking, reading, and sewing. I don't golf, go bowling or play football so sailing kept my body from atrophying.

How did you handle conflict on the boat?

Jerry: We didn't have much conflict on the boat. I trusted that she
(continued next page)

Cook Is Cruiserfest '20 Champ!

(continued from page 1)

Donahue and crew brother Chris were once again in the hunt after winning big in 2018. Curt was thrown out of the race in 2019 when stopped from the competition by an eagle eyed park ranger who spotted his expired registration.

Teen cruiser phenom Dalton Marshall showed he learned how to get a good start in junior sailing camp and turned in two sturdy outings in his Hunter 23. Dalton finished in a three-way tie for fifth. Both Dalton and younger brother Colton are grads of HSA's junior program.

HSA's Jim and Jenny Cooper landed in 4th with son Charlie crewing. Charlie is another HSA junior camp alum. Jim piloted his MacGregor 26 to two fifth places after some nifty mark rounding pulled him up in the fleet in race two.

The annual Dock Party after racing came off swimmingly thanks to Dave and Jackie Judy who set up a street fair style fish fry and fed the whole fleet and then some. **Thank you Judys!**

Thank you's are also extended to the HSA race committee consisting of Brett Hart on the drums, Bobbie Bode on the horn, and Roger Henthorn doing vocals.

Pictures from CruiserFest 20 are on HSA's Facebook page and being, as we speak, circulated round the world.

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Callahans (Continued from previous page)

would do the best she could even if she was hurting. I remember once when I made some stupid mistake, we were arguing about my reaction. We were well down in the fleet when one of us said, "Let's stop this and concentrate on the rest of the race." We did and recovered to finish second. I often think about that lesson.

JoAnn: I was a good crew - no, I was a great crew. I never had the desire to skipper. I knew my job and did it very well. When I yelled STARBOARD! the entire fleet was heads up!

What is the secret to a happy sailing marriage?

Jerry: Doing things together. Sailing, racing, traveling to regattas, meeting new friends. All these things gave us plenty to talk about other than the daily routine in our lives.

"I knew my job and did it very well. When I yelled STARBOARD! - the entire fleet was heads up!"

JoAnn Callahan

JoAnn: Know what you are doing, thing ahead, remember the sunscreen, mentally go over each part of the boat before it leaves the dock, keep your mouth shut when things start to get really tense, (I was not always successful at this) and remember those black and blue marks will eventually go away.

Rose Schultz

Rose Schultz crewed for many years with her husband George. In the past decade or so that George has not sailed, Rose continues to race in her Sunfish singlehanded and crew with Pete Peters in a Y-Flyer.

George and I took a Coast Guard class on sailing and had a picture of a Hobie on our fridge as we saved up for a boat. I met Jerry Callahan at a boat show at the Dayton Mall, and we decided to become part of the Y-Flyer fleet with the purchase of our first sailboat.

We raced our boat on Acton Lake the first time we sailed it, and we were hooked on Y Flyer racing.

The advantage to sailing together is primarily to share an interest and to enjoy time spent together. Having racing goals in common on the water results in sailing conversations off the water. It is fun to learn a skill together and accomplish a goal together.

The friendships made with people in the club have continued for almost 40 years. We value the HSA members; they are a great group of people.

It has been quite a few years since George has been able to sail. I guess the secret was to appreciate the work of both members – skipper and crew.

Fall Series Has Fecher, Peters/Schultz, Brewster's in the Lead

With six of the ten races in the Fall Series now in the books, we can take a look at who is leading the charge towards the trophy podium. If we just count the best five races (half of the total to be raced this fall), here's what is shaping up..

In Hobies, Don Fecher has a one-point lead over Mike Wier with Kevin DeArmon just six points back in third. But all of them have bullets and time left to catch up.

In Y-Flyers, Pete Peters and Rose Schultz have wrested the lead from the Henthorn/Bode boat that dominated the Spring Series. But it will still be tight. Henthorn is only 4 points behind. After those two fleet fast guys, it is even tighter. Both the Peters and Henthorn boats have an off weekend coming for service on race committee. That means that boats like the Brett Hart, Charlie DeArmon, and Phil Robertson ones can do some damage. All have either won races or finished second in the Fall Series. Only a few points separate them from the third place Stratton boat. Translation: it could be very close come the end of September. It will be the first Series in memory where as many as six Y's could be at least theoretically in the hunt for the title of Series Champion.



Y-Flyer Fleet in recent start

Handicap Fleet Growing Competitive

In the Handicap Fleet, it could get "competitier". At the moment, the Jerry/Darrilynn Brewster team is riding high, and, with no committee duty, they will no doubt be trying to pad that lead in the final two weekends. Still, Laura Peters is favored to win it all since she has a missed weekend being counted along with the three bullets she already has. One more race will likely catapult her into the front.

Will the rest of the fleet have anything to say about it? Doubtless so. Diane Pierok and Ken Wright are currently only one point behind Peters, and the team of Joe and Leigh Ann Fulford are making a late charge. In addition, Sunfish guy Dom Everaet has two seconds and has also been showing signs that he intends to compete for a spot in the top three at awards time.

Cruiser guys Stephen Cook and Curt Donahue, although scoring in the Handicap fleet, are duking it out for the unofficial mantle of "Cruiser King".

CruiserFest 20 Results

(After Corrected Times)

1. Stephen Cook Montgomery 15 1 1 2
Flicka
2. Curt Donahue/Chris Donahue San Juan 21
2 2 4
3. Charlie DeArmon/Amy Marks/Mike
Stratton 3 3 6 **Goodnight Moon**
4. Jim Cooper/Jenny/Charlie MacGregor 26
5 5 10 **Captain Kitty**
5. Pete Peters/Rose Schultz Catalina 22 9 4
13. **After You**
6. Peter Lask Catalina 22 4 9 13 **Lil Yachty**
7. Dalton Marshall 6 7 13 **Dream Weaver**
8. Rich Warmuth/Ryan 8 8 16 **Corsair**
9. Cus and Wendy 12 6 18 **Life Support**
10. Asom Ponamanta 11 10 21
11. Martin Griffiths/Ken Wright 10 11 21
Eagles Nest
12. Dave Judy/Jackie 7 DNS 22 **Aquaholic**
13. Chris and Lynn Breda DNF DNF 30
Happy Ours
14. Dennis Hensley/Melissa Burnett-Knue
DNS DNF 30 **Wuzz Up**



Top photo: Tall ships line up just before start Sunday. Center, Dock Party hosts Dave and Jackie Judy round the mark with literal flying colors; bottom left, upwind we go!