



Houston Sailing Special Awards 2020 Five Special Awards Decided as 2020 Comes to Close

Awards highlight contributions from veterans and newcomers alike;

Pete Peters has been racing as part of the HSA family since the club's inaugural seasons back in the 50's. Noah Everaet, age 11, participated in his first race as a solo sailor. Both were among the honorees this month as HSA announced its special awards for the 2020 season.

The club has five traveling trophies, all for contributions to the club outside of racing. This year's recipients were recognized for their participation in club activities mostly off the race course, including maintaining club facilities and equipment or promoting and participating at exemplary levels in sailing and racing at Hueston Woods.

In this issue we highlight those five award winners as well as presenting the racing awards for each fleet and/or special racing series. See more on the pages that follow.



Racing 2020

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All the top finishes in all the racing for the 2020 COVID shortened season



Special Awards

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A little history of the Special Awards

Commodore Boies Award – 1959 initiated. It has, however, not been given out since 2007 as it is given to the winner of the Boies Series for the club championship, a race we have not conducted since then. Last winner? Roger Henthorn. First winner in 1959? Gerald Callahan

HSA Junior Championship – begun in 1961 and given to the best junior racer. Last winner? Will Hater. First one? Pete Peters (if you can imagine him as a boy)

Bob's Sportsmanship Award – 1962 – for distinguished service and sportsmanship. Last winner? Brett Hart in 2019. In 1993 it was awarded to the entire Vincent family. In 1999 it went to the entire Y-Flyer fleet!

Frank Peters Memorial Sportsmanship – 1972 Awarded purely for sportsmanship. Has Pete, his son ever won this one? Yes, five times. Hobie and Sunfish guy Mark Costandi won it in 1983. Seven former junior champs are still racing with us.

US Sailing Sportsmanship – 1986 initiated for promoting the sport of sailing. In 1989 it went to Dan Owczarczak. Yes, if you think it is hard to spell, try pronouncing it.

Richard Saunders Award – started in 1980 for a junior with the most enthusiasm for sailing. First winner? Chris Snider. Last winner in 2019 was Kayla Draper. (continued on page 5)

HSA Recognizes Those Who Serve – Those Who Excel

Rear Commodore Joe Fulford took the nomination letters and gives us this report

The Larry Johnson Challenger Trophy - Dom Everaet

Dom won this in 2018 but deserves the honor again for he has continued to show the attributes of a committed racing sailor - participation, improvement, and enthusiasm. This year he showed that he is willing to put in the extra time it takes to succeed and the results were more than good.

He has climbed in the competitive standings in the Handicap fleet and done well. In addition, he has demonstrated a commitment to being a well-rounded sailor, adding a Catalina 22 as a family boat to include his two children and his wife Laurie more in his sailing journey.

He traveled out of town to a Sunfish regatta in Louisville where he placed 9th out of 29 boats. He has had a good year with us. HSA needs more people like Dom who are eager to learn, willing to put in the time, and showing that their investment is paying off. Sailing in a race with Dominic participating always seems a little more fun.

One windy Sunfish race last year, sailing with windowless sails, he crossed paths with another sailor on the windward leg. Neither of them saw the other until the very last second but there were no injuries, hard feelings, or splintering fiberglass, although the other sailor did get to swim in Acton Lake! Finally, Dom always ensures his children, Noah or Skyler, feel safe are having a good time but don't feel pressured to compete in the second race of the afternoon if they have had enough. That's the way to get youngsters to come back & enjoy sailing later on.

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At left, Dave and Jackie Judy aboard *Aquaholic*. Below, young Noah Everaet wielding the pressure washer wand as he “magically” cleans the pontoons of the committee boat. Dave was awarded Frank Peters Memorial Sportsmanship Award. Noah received the Richard Saunders Memorial Trophy.



HSA Recognizes Those Who Serve

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DAVE JUDY is the winner of the **Frank Peters Sportsmanship Award** for 2020. Dave has worked diligently over the past few years to help HSA promote sailing and sailing fellowship at Hueston Woods. If you want help launching a cruiser, he is there to help. If you need help with getting a cruiser out of the water, he is there to help.

Dave even showed up on HSA Haul Out Day and assisted in our work party. For the past three years, Dave has helped organize and promote CruiserFest, an HSA event. Dave and his wife Jackie have almost singlehandedly been responsible for the amazing dock party during that time and before HSA became involved.

There is no problem facing a cruising sailor that he doesn't want to be a part of solving. Some have even taken to calling Dave the Mayor of Hueston Woods for his unwavering devotion to building a community of sailors. Dave and Jackie have

participated in some of the racing we have initiated since our first CruiserFest in 2018 and helped us make the event a viable part of our racing calendar as well as opening up membership growth opportunities for HSA with the cruising community.

Dave's enthusiasm for sailing, for cruising, for problem solving, and for helping sailors learn their boats and how to take care of them is arguably unmatched by any other sailors at the lake.

NOAH EVERAET is our choice for this year's **Richard Saunders Memorial Trophy**, and Noah wholeheartedly earned it. He not only started racing with us this year, he did so without the benefit of junior camp as a foundational starting point.

He went from crewing for his dad to soloing on a Sunfish for the first time and he did it
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HSA Recognizes Those Who Serve

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in competition. Noah is an eager and enthusiastic junior member who loves committee duty and frequently offers his help to others when he is at the lake. Most recently, he donned foul weather gear and got under the committee boat to use the power washer on the slime covered pontoons.

Noah is not only a great volunteer, he is also a cheerful, friendly young man who adds considerably to our gatherings on Sunday. He is also sometimes a contributing *Acton Action* newsletter photographer

DON FECHER is the **US Sailing Sportsmanship Award** winner for 2020. Don does a heck of a lot more than most HSA members are aware of. On R/C duty, he can determine wind speed and direction with just his right hand. Kidding aside, Don comes up to the lake during the offseason to work on all manner of HSA maintenance issues. He comes up with ideas to protect the boats and for getting the most out of our storage building.

For the past several years, Don has come to the lake before the Haul In to get the R/C boat ready so it could be used for Miami University's Regatta. During the season, he makes sure there is always gas available for the R/C and Rescue boats and that the boats are working properly and safely. All of this is done while he is working a full-time job, not to mention also working a lot of overtime.

While we have always felt that Don's behind the scenes efforts should be honored, this year, he went well above and beyond. Basically, he saved HSA's sailing season. Even though the rescue boat's motor had been serviced, it died. Don allowed HSA to use his personal boat as our rescue boat. Putting in long hours at his job, he still made the time to get his boat, the mixed gas it required, and get it to the lake in time for Sunday's races.

With the way things were going this year, the motor took a lot longer to fix. As weeks turned into months, Don allowed HSA to use his boat for the biggest part of the sailing season.

PETE PETERS is the association's 2020 recipient of the **Bob's Sportsmanship Award**. If someone asked us what we did in the spring of 2020 we might have different replies, but I bet most (continued on next page)



Don on committee duty gives the all clear. Or he might just be waving.



We posted this shot of JoAnn Callahan in a DN ice boat on our Facebook page. You might wonder why she isn't hiking out. Or can you even do that on a DN?

HSA Recognizes Those Who Serve (continued from previous page)

answers would involve how Covid prevented us from doing something. In contrast, we would like to call attention to a sailor who took advantage of the stay-at-home order to accomplish a worthwhile, difficult, and time-consuming task for HSA.

Looking at the long-term needs of the club, what could be more valuable than having a rescue boat that floats? We all knew the rescue boat leaked considerably, sat lower in the water as the afternoon sailing went on, and was difficult to return to its trailer because of excess water weight.

We just did not want to tackle the problem. Pete Peters did just that during the Covid spring. He cut out the fiberglass parts that held the old steering mechanism and patched the boat interior to make more room for marks. He flipped the boat over (with the help of three neighbors) to find the leak in the hull and patched that.

He also worked on the transom plug to repair that leak. Then he painted the bottom of the boat. Due to his efforts HSA has a seaworthy rescue boat. (And Linda got him out of the house for at least two weeks!). Of course, no good deed goes unpunished.

Since the hull was now in good repair on the rescue boat – its motor broke – twice. Pete was also involved taking the motor in for repair, calling about parts, and transporting the motor back to the lake.



Award History (continued from page 2)

Larry Johnson Challenger Trophy – first awarded in 1994 for improvement in sailing and racing skills. Only awarded to a duo twice, once in 2005 to Jim and Carolyn Hater and again in 2017 to Diane Pierok and Michele Elsaesser. Current winner? Scott Eversole

HSA Women’s Championship – initiated in 1975 but not awarded since 2007 since we discontinued that race. Why? Maybe because women were winning a lot of the other racing trophies. And come on, it was 2007. In the 29 years it was given, it was won nine times by Rose Schultz. That’s more times than anyone has won a single award in club history. (Except for Jerry Callahan’s 15 club championships and Roger Henthorn’s 10.)



Thing of beauty?
Yes, the new rubber padding on the docks. Hallelujah.



Shortened 2020 Race Season Still Successful; Champions Reign

It wasn't the best of times, nor was it the worst of times, but somehow HSA managed to pull off a racing season during the pandemic.

True, we are not out of it yet and 2021 remains a gigantic question mark, but in 2020 we did get to see a pretty active group of racers in action.

After a late start in June, the club managed to pull off an

Intro to Sail, added new members, and saw a competitive racing season where a number of our group moved up in performance.

We did have to cancel several events such as junior and ladies camp, all social events, the Memorial Day Series, and the Annual Awards Banquet, but we survived and grew despite the difficulties. Nice going HSA!

Hobies (Five boats participating)

July 4th Series - 1st Kevin DeArmon

Labor Day Series - 1st Don Fecher

Spring Series - 1st Charlie Buchert
2nd Mike Wier

Fall Series - 1st Don Fecher

Sunfish Series

3 Events – (24 boats participating)
(Camptown Races, Augusto!, and OktoberFast)

1st – Laura Peters

2nd – Bill Molleran

3rd – Mike Stratton

4th - Rose Schultz

Y-Flyer Fleet (Eight boats participating)

Spring Series – 1st Roger Henthorn/Bobbie Bode
2nd Mike Stratton/Family

July 4th Series – 1st Pete Peters/Rose Schultz
2nd Roger Henthorn/Bobbie Bode

Labor Day Series – 1st Pete Peters/Rose Schultz
2nd Mike Stratton/Family

Fall Series – 1st Pete Peters/Rose Schultz
2nd Mike Stratton/Family
3rd Roger Henthorn/Bobbie Bode

Handicap Fleet (Eighteen Boats participating)

Spring Series – 1st Bill Molleran

2nd Jerry Brewster/Darrilynn

3rd Laura Peters

4th Diane Pierok/Ken Wright

5th Joe Fulford/Leigh Ann

July 4th Series

1st Jerry Brewster/Darrilynn

2nd Ken Wright/Diane Pierok

Labor Day Series

1st Laura Peters

2nd Jerry Brewster/Darrilynn

Fall Series

1st Laura Peters

2nd Jerry Brewster/Darrilynn

3rd Diane Pierok/Ken Wright

4th Dom Everaet

5th Brian Callahan

Round the Lake Race (13 boats participating)

1st Charlie Buchert – Hobie

2nd Roger Henthorn/Bobbie Bode Y

3rd Stephen Cook Montgomery 15

4th Kayla Draper Sunfish

CruiserFest (14 boats participating)

1st Stephen Cook Montgomery 15

2nd Curt Donahue/Chris San Juan 21

3rd Charlie DeArmon/Amy Marks Catalina
250

4th Jim Cooper/Jenny/Charlie Mac 26D