

# ACTON ACTION

## Former Member Buckley Enjoying Power Cruising



Peter Buckley on dock next to "Puffin", a Nordic Tug 42

*Former HSA member Peter Buckley quit racing a few years ago, but that didn't mean he and wife Kathy were off the water. We caught up with them recently in Massachusetts where they were cruising in their latest adventure boat, a Nordic Tug 42 named "Puffin".*

I learned to sail as a kid crewing for my cousins in Annisquam, MA. I didn't get to sail again until I was in my mid 40's and we bought an old Balboa 26 and sailed it on the Ohio River. We then discovered Brookville and their racing program.

We went through three more racing boats including a Laser 28, a Raven, and a J/24 over the next several years. During that period we bought a JY 15 to give one design dinghy racing a try. As for the Raven, I drove to Connecticut and hauled back a 1960 bare hull in poor shape on the recommendation of a friend. I took it to Paul Hempker's shop and completely redid it. We faired, painted, re-rigged and put on new sails. We did very well with that boat. (continued on page 2)

### WHAT'S INSIDE

Sails for Sustenance is looking for your old sails. Bring them to the banquet!

Page 2

Fall Series Finishes in Fine Fashion

Page 3

New members profiled. We want you to meet Steven Wicks and Michel and Bethany Bourgeois.

Pages 4-5

"Varsity Blues" Scandal put Stanford sailing coach in the spotlight. He wrote a book.

Page 6

*"It is inhumane, in my opinion, to force people who have a genuine medical need for coffee to wait in line behind people who apparently view it as some kind of recreational activity."*

Dave Barry

HSA's Annual Awards Banquet returns for the first time since 2019 this Saturday night. You may not be surprised by who gets the racing awards but what happens musically will. The real drama, though, is who gets the five special awards.

The wine begins to flow at 6 pm. Dinner is at 7:30. There are 63 members and guests coming. Wow.

## Sails for Sustenance Looking for Your Old Sails

In 2006 two University of Miami students, Michael Laas and Michael Carcaise gathered 14 old sails from the University and nearby Coconut Grove Sailing Club.

earthquake that killed over 200,000 people. Then six years later Hurricane Matthew came ashore and knocked them back even as they struggled in the earthquake aftermath.

They put them in a crate and sent them to Haiti where fishermen who were using plastic sheets and flour sacks as sails.

In 2021 they were hit by another earthquake and Tropical Storm Grace. Haiti, one of the poorest countries in the world, is in need of help on so many levels.

The donated sails allow easier entry into business for scores of Haitians who would not otherwise have the resources to outfit their boats.

Your donated sail can give some who otherwise cannot feed their families a way to survive.

We know that Haiti has been hit by a number of natural and manmade calamities. In 2010 the island was struck by an

S4S has collected over ten tons of sails since 2006. If you have sails to donate, let us know or bring them to the banquet Friday. We'll make sure they get there.



*Sails for Sustenance is looking for your old sails. You can find out at [sailsforsustenance.org](http://sailsforsustenance.org) where you can send them. Or bring them to the banquet for collection.*

## Former Member Buckley Enjoying Power Cruising (cont. from page 1)



*If you look closely, you can see Kathy Buckley in the pilot house doorway.*

With the JY15 we found dinghys required a new skill set and learned a lot racing in winter events in Florida. In 2011 Kathy sustained a severe injury to her arm and was out of racing for a couple of years. During that time I came to HSA for the Sunfish fleet. That allowed me to race in the winter events in Florida solo.

Our cruising in sailboats began in 1990 with our first charter. We continued our cruising on friend's boats on the East coast from Massachusetts to way "down east" Maine through 2016,

In 2007 we went to the 'dark side' and bought our first powerboat a Rosborough 246. We were both still working so the portability was an important part of adventures. (cont. page 6)



## Fall Series Ends with Great Winds and Great Wins

HSA's Fall Series ended in September with some familiar faces among the leading crews, but with some other familiar faces surging in 2021.

In the Handicap Fleet there were 15 boats participating over the course of the Fall with five of the fifteen making enough starts to qualify. Sunfish racer Brian Callahan topped all qualifiers and took the Fall crown followed by the Capri team of Jerry and Darrilynn Brewster. Dom Everaet, one of those surging in 2021, finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall without the benefit of winning a race, but his steady improvement is well noted. Dominiek has raced both his Sunfish and his Catalina 22 to widen his skill and has participated in the Louisville Sunfish Regatta the past two years running.

Curt Donahue in a San Juan 21 and Diane Pierok/Ken Wright in a Capri 14 also qualified and earned a couple of second place finishes along the way.

In the Hobie 16 fleet Don Fecher once again took top honors in battles with runner up Charlie Buchert and fellow catamaran guys Mike

Wier and Mark Costandi.

In the Y Fleet Pete Peters and Rose Schultz eeked out a narrow win by one point over the Roger Henthorn/Bobbie Bode team. Both the Peters team and the Henthorn boat gathered a lot of bullets but on the last weekend Peters/Schultz pulled out the series win with two 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes to take it all.

The 2021 season has seen the rise of Charlie DeArmon and Amy Marks in the Y Fleet as they put on some spectacular displays in heavy air picking up a three 2<sup>nd</sup>'s and a bullet on their way to a third overall. All three relative newcomers to the Y Fleet – Brett Hart, Eric Anderson, and Scott Eversole – had reason to be happy with their 2021 performances with at least one top three performance in the series. All three are improving steadily. Eric also had a nice finish in the Round the Lake Race as he and daughter Lauren powered their way to a first place finish in raw scoring and a second in corrected time.

Of the nine Y's in the club, eight of them made it to the line this Fall with five of them making enough appearances to qualify.

## New Members: Michel and Bethany Bourgeois

*Editor's Note: Michel and Bethany Bourgeois are new members in 2021. They live in Loveland, Ohio with their two bulldogs, Hazel and Augie. Both Michel and Bethany work in graphic design. This past fall, Michel completed certification in the Capri 14.*

Michel started sailing with his dad who has lived in France his entire life. Michel lived there for about four years himself in his younger days. The boat was a Muscadet which, according to *Sail* magazine, is a French design that has achieved iconic status among the French.

**“It wasn’t something that I really understood or enjoyed at that time, but it always felt like an adventure and stuck in the back of my mind.”**

It is a 21 ft. plywood design boat that Michel’s dad kept on the Mediterranean. The 24 ft. version is an ocean racer, a blue water cruiser and a family coastal cruiser which was popular in the 60’s and 70’s and still found all over Europe.

“It wasn’t something that I really understood or enjoyed at that time,” Michel says, “but it always felt like an adventure and stuck in the back of my mind.” On his honeymoon in St. Lucia four years ago, he and Bethany got to sail a Hobie Cat. “It was a total leap of faith for us,” he said. “We enjoyed that experience so much, we sailed that boat over and over again throughout our stay.



Needless to say, we have been hooked ever since.”

In 2021 Michel and Bethany bought a baby blue Flying Scot. A friend of theirs who sailed and raced it at Cowan Lake sold it to them. But the Bourgeoises have also sailed Hobie 14’s, Sunfish, Capris, a Precision 18, and a Y-Flyer.

In September, Michel and Bethany got into a club Capri for the Round the Lake Race where they surprised themselves with a seventh place finish among 14 boats. “It was our first race ever,” Michel said, “and also the day I completed my Capri certification.” Before the race, the rudder wouldn’t stay down, so they sailed up to the committee boat and got a quick fix. “We had a blast! It was fun to put into practice all we have been learning over the last year.”

The Bourgeoises plan to continue building their skills and confidence so that they can race next season as well as sail different kinds of boats. “We are grateful and appreciative to everyone at HSA for all the help, coaching, and warm welcome we have received at the club.”

Plans for the future? “One of my dreams,” Michel told us, “is to take my dad out for a sail in our boat and fly the spinnaker. He has never been able to do that on his own boat.”

## New Member: Steven Wicks



*Editor's Note: Steven Wicks is a new member of HSA, joining just this past summer. He is a musician and recently finished a program studying music composition for film and TV. A John Williams fan, he would like to start a career in producing music for film and TV, even if just commercials. Steven completed his Capri certification in September and took advantage of every opportunity to get on the water at Hueston Woods. This is Steven's story in his own words. (The photo is from Steven's bareboat charter with three buddies he took this past year.)*

At an early age, around 10 or so, my aunt and uncle bought property on a lake in the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania. Our family started visiting there once a year and after a few summers my uncle had taught me to sail the Sunfish they had. After the Sunfish, I didn't really sail much for several years until my uncle needed crew for the weekly sailboat race on the lake. Everyone that participates in the race there sails Javelins.

**“The Round the Lake Race was a great time, I enjoyed the sense of community I felt so quickly. Everyone is so friendly there, probably because they're on the water, right?”**

Then earlier this year I went on a bareboat charter to the British Virgin Islands with some friends of mine. We sailed a 50 foot monohull for eight days through the BVI. Living on the boat for a week really helped my understanding of sailing as well as sparking a real passion for it. Then I heard about the Hueston Sailing association and was really excited.

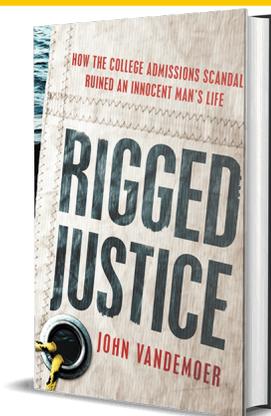
We have been talking about doing another bareboat charter in the Caribbean, probably a catamaran this time, and a friend mentioned St. Lucia. I want to get scuba certified so I can participate in dives off the boat.

The Round the Lake Race was a great time, I enjoyed the sense of community I felt so quickly. Everyone is so friendly there, probably because they're on the water, right? It was also helpful to see how Jerry (Brewster) sailed the Capri. (Steven crewed for Jerry on his Capri 14.) I didn't have much experience with a boat like that.

At some point in the not so distant future I would love to buy a live aboard and fix it up to spend weekends up at Hueston Woods and to bring friends to hike and sail.

I'm looking forward to advancing my sailing experience and getting to know the members of the Association!

## “Varsity Blues” Scandal Also Touched Sailing Community



It's almost a footnote to the now infamous college admissions scandal that unfolded in 2019, and one you may not know about.

The criminal conspiracy investigation uncovered the payment of over \$25 million between 2011 and 2018 to William Singer, the organizer of the scheme to fraudulently inflate college entrance exam test scores and bribe college officials. There were 33 parents charged and at least 53 people in total, most famously actress Lori Loughlin. A pretty fair number of elite universities got caught up in the scheme as Singer used coaches in water polo, soccer, rowing, basketball and other sports as his targets.

The coaches, who were from schools such as Georgetown, UCLA, USC, the University of Texas, Wake Forest, Yale, all profited personally from the bribery by taking money and then influencing the admissions department to admit students as “athletes” when they were, in most if not all cases, unqualified.

One coach caught up in the investigation was Stanford University's sailing coach John Vandemoer. He has written a book titled “Rigged Justice: How the College Admissions Scandal Ruined an Innocent Man's Life”.

Vandemoer took money from Singer, but it was donated directly to the Stanford athletic department for use by the sailing team. Nearly three quarters of a million dollars came into the department as a result of the Singer/Vandemoer connection. To his credit, Vandemoer, unlike the rest of the coaches involved at other institutions, took no money for himself.

In his book, as you can guess from the title, he tries to explain his involvement and defend himself. He did, however, plead guilty to a federal charge of racketeering. Although he lost his job at Stanford, he only served one day in prison. He is still married and has a job selling potable water systems now, but the article in *The New Yorker* does not say whether or not he is still involved in the world of sailing.

### FORMER MEMBER BUCKLEY (CONT. FROM PAGE 2)

With that boat we could get to great cruising grounds at 65mph on the trailer, cruise for two weeks and get home. With that boat we introduced ourselves to Lake Champlain, the North Channel of Lake Huron, the Georgian Bay, the coast of Maine, and the Georgia Intracoastal Waterway.

In 2016 health issues lead to the sale of the Rosborough “Tinker”. In 2018 after a life saving operation, we went shopping for the Nordic Tug. We bought the boat “Puffin”, a 42 ft. Nordic Tug, in August 2018 in Wisconsin and sailed it going East down to North Carolina. Since that time we have made two round trips to Maine and one trip to Sarasota and back.

We have not cruised the St. Lawrence but the “Down East Loop” was on the schedule until COVID intervened. Our home port is New Bern, NC in a slip at the New Bern Grand Marina (the “grand” part being a bit of a stretch).

Kathy is an experienced sailor and cruiser but her initial reaction to the latest boat was “Cruising good. Living aboard? No way.” Now she hates the thought of not being aboard.