

ACTON ACTION

February 2026

Daily Motivation

Jonathan Patterson

Do things at your own pace. Life's not a race



But our races are!!

So, join us for race instruction at Hueston Woods Lodge February 28th for our Second off-season racing clinic! We will meet at the Smokehouse Restaurant for lunch at 12:30 PM race clinic to follow at 1:30 in the conference room. This session is titled “When to Use the Racing Rules of Sailing for Tactical Advantage and When not to”

Please RSVP with Mike Stratton @ mastratton44@gmail.com
HAPPY RACING!!

CRUISERS!

Remember your dock fees need turned in!

SPRING CHECK LIST

Current license on boats
Check all safety equipment
inspect rigging, engine, hull before
during and after launch
key tasks include checking for
mast/shroud corrosion, replacing zinc
anodes, testing bilge pumps and
electronics, servicing engine(impeller,
oil), cleaning/waxing the hull, and
ensuring safety gear like flares/flags are
in working order

Commodore's Corner

Spring Nearly Here & Stinking Badges!



Spring is nearly here (ignore the snow) and the early bird gets the worm. What the heck is our Commodore on about?

Well, a quick check of our new fancy-pants on-line membership registration (thanks, Brett!) shows only a dozen members have signed up for the upcoming 2026 season and sent a check to Treasurer, Roger Henthorn. It is that time folks, and the link can be found on HSA's home page: <https://huestonsailing.com>. Still a bargain--\$120 bucks!

BTW, our clever early bird sailors know that new Rear Commodore, Jerry Brewster, will be checking your requests and preferences for race committee duty assignments. He will employ HSA's time-proven method of assigning those dates based on *when you register and send in your check*. Tie breakers go to... wait for it... those who registered early. Operators are standing by...

BTW, you'll be helping our diligent annual Directory crew led by club Secretary, Dom Everaet, who strives heroically to have our handy yearbooks printed on time for launch day.

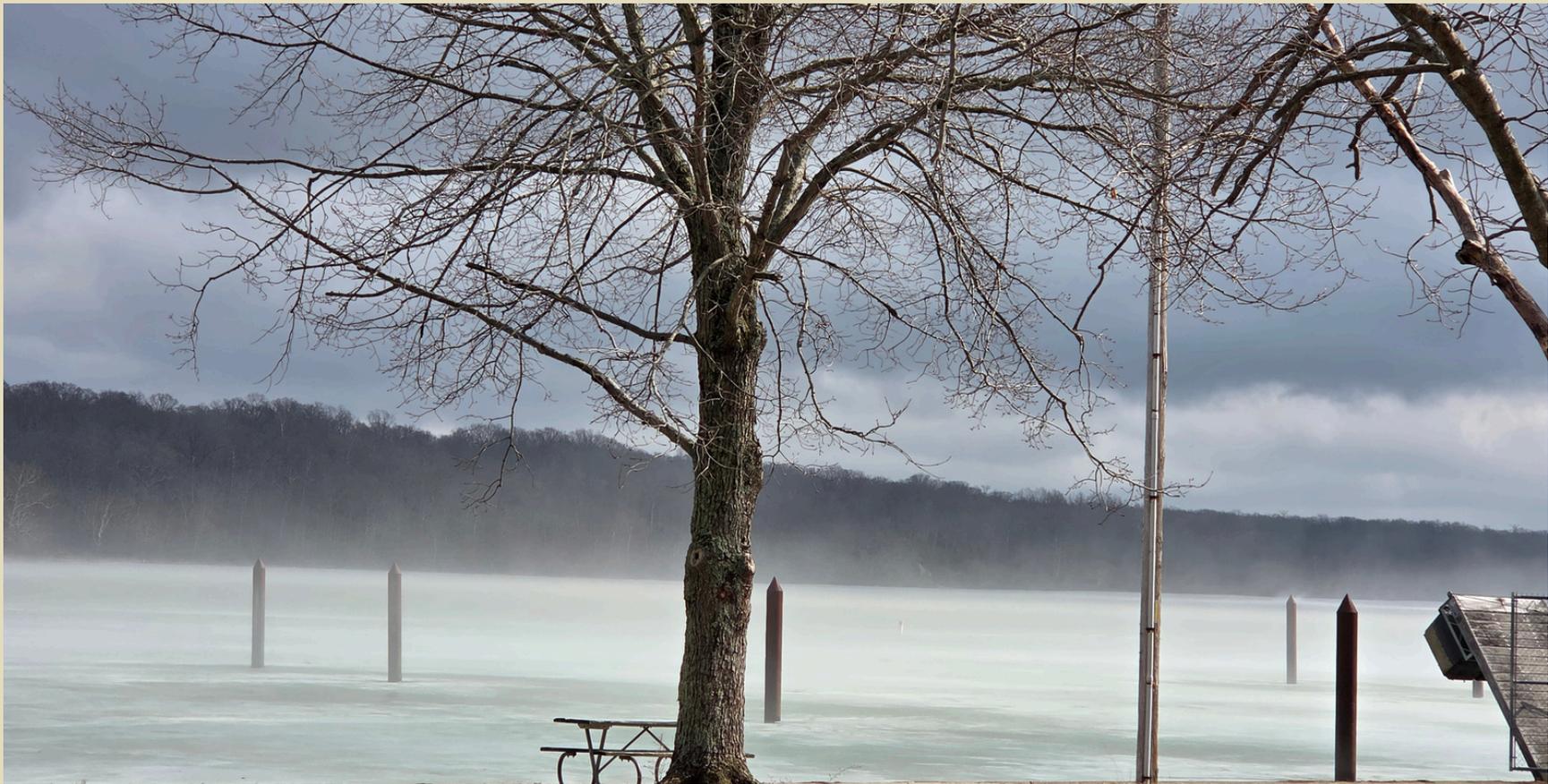


"Badges? We don't need no stinking badges!"

This famous line, originally from the 1948 film "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre" and later parodied in 1974's "Blazing Saddles" reflects a dismissive attitude towards authority. Some of us "seasoned" sailors could successfully use this line on an ODNR law enforcement officer. But, whippersnappers born after January 1st, 1982, need a license to legally operate our rescue boat (since it is powered by an outboard over 10hp). Get er done in an afternoon for free on-line at: <https://www.boat-ed.com/ohio/>

February 19, 2026

The ice is melting, causing this fog just above the lake! The fog magnifies all the sounds coming from the surface of the water. From the ice breaking to the ducks achieving lift off, this is an eerie yet beautiful promise that spring is coming! Bunnies hop early this year and the sounds of sailor's Ahoy Matey and make room at the mark will take the place of popping ice and squawking Great Egrets! The excitement for launch and racing to begin is building. First as quiet as the fog lifting off the ice, then as our teams of sailors check on all our equipment the rumble of excitement will increase in intensity as we check the race schedule for committee boat duty and when our turn to help Diane Pierok with lunches and dinner gatherings will be! Racing will be here soon! So be listening and preparing!



Sailing Anyone???

We could launch but we would soon need an icebreaker on the bow to get very far!!

SPEAKING OF BOWS WITH ICE BREAKERS!

Tim Morrow, one of our new sailors from Alaska, sent us some great pictures and dialog of what he has been up to this year!

R/V Sikuliaq and Tim passed thru the Straits of Magellan around January 8th, 2026!



Seymour Island, a large pile of mud and fossils. The penguins and puffball babies love it. The adults create long lines to tackle a 300 foot cliff of mud to reach their buddies skylined at the top!



Video of waddling penguins. Tap on it to play video!



The penguins on ice were closer to Palmer Station.

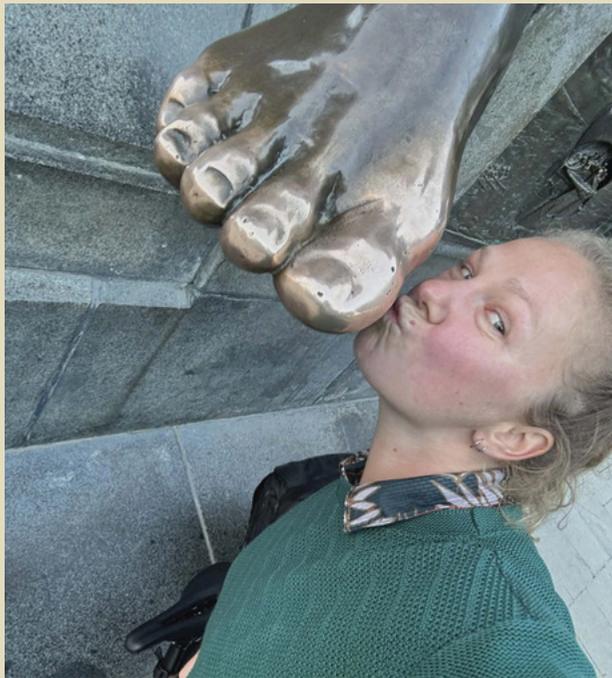
Tim Morrow and R/V Sikuliaq (cont.)



The ice closed in on us so tight that we got stuck and had to burn upwards of 7000 gallons of diesel a day for 5 days to get free of it! Then along came a big blow and cleared our whole passage out in two days!



In Punta Arenas, Chile's town square, there is a towering bronze statue of Ferdinand Magellan. Below him, also in bronze is an indigenous Patagonian, whose low hanging foot has been rubbed to a shine by travelers headed out to sea.



This is Qualified Member of the Engine Department, Rita Spann, who feels most responsible for R/V Sikuliaq's most recent calm crossing!

The Drake Passage was a lake, some would say because we rubbed a toe! Tim and R/V Sikuliaq have three more crossings in the next couple months, so Tim might go rub that toe too!

Thank you Tim Morrow for sharing your most recent activities with us! Fair winds and following seas to you all! See you this summer!
Hueston Sailing Association