

July 2013

Club Calendar	COMMODORE'S CORNER Vic Simon
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Bike and Sail</i> Sunday July 28th</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Beach Party/Barbecue</i> Saturday August 3rd 6pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>RACE</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Blue Water Regatta</i> Saturday August 3rd Distance 1pm Sunday August 4th Buoys 11am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Fleet Race #9 Buoys</i> Sunday August 18th 12pm</p> <p>Online Registration is now open for Blue Water Regatta August 3/4 at https://www.regattatech.com/clubs/AHYC/BlueWater13/registration/showEntryForm .</p> <p>Registration Deadline is August 2nd 8pm</p>	<p>Our annual Statue of Liberty Race came off with 40 boats taking off to circle the lady in the harbor. Finishing later between 3 ½ to 6 hrs the race was concluded with only one close incident. This was preceded the night before with the Statue/Anniversary party in which 60 plus enjoyed the music of Steerhead and the food prepared by Mark Brady and crew. The day after was finalized with two buoy races by some of the previous days racers. More can be found elsewhere in this newsletter and put together by Greg Raybon and staff.</p> <p>The next part of the season is coming to us with other events which include the following: July 27th Sat 1pm a sail to the island for dogs and beverages. The next day is followed up with a Bike and Sail event hosted by Bob Fraser and his skiing club. This leads to the next weekend August 3 & 4, with our now annual Bluewater Regatta, jointly run by the Atlantic Highlands Yacht Club and ourselves. Two days of racing, a band party on Sat night and plenty of gab and beverages for all to enjoy. If you are racing you need to preregister through the link set up by the Race program, a link can be found in the race section of the website. We then come to August for other fun events and fleet races. Please make sure you follow the website for these events.</p> <p>Do make your way down to the club with plenty of the summer left. Remember that beverages are available to members and their guests every Sunday. The club is moving forward and thanks to Curtis Butler and others, the yurt has been widened in its seating capacity and the new grill has been finished. Any other major upgrades will be put off until next year and will include replacement of the water heaters which suffered damage from Sandy's wrath and a shade area around the grill. We all look forward to your support in these endeavors. Keeping this short and sweet, here's to much wind and great weather.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Vic</i></p>

RACE

Greg Raybon

Statue of Liberty Race 2013

Another Statue of Liberty Race is in the books. The weather patterns have not be all that cooperative with lots of thunderstorms, fog or no wind. On race day however, Mother Nature decided to cooperate and provided us with a beautiful day. The race turned out to be very similar to last year as we started in a light 5-10 knot southwest breeze shortly after 10:30 am. The fleet shot off the starting line only to sail into some lighter air in the middle of the bay. The first boats made it through the fishing fleet and to the bridge in about 1 ½ hours. Despite strong currents running out of the Harbor, almost the entire fleet beat the time limit and headed to the Statue. Rounding the Statue was apparently not trivial either this year with reconfigurations of the docks at the Statue and the large number of tour boats carrying visitors to the recently opened Statue. The finishes ranged from 3:30 min to 6 hours.

Todd Riccardi and Brendon Scanlon from Massachusetts sailing a C2 F18 took the Worrel Cup for line honors and the Manhattan Yacht Club trophy for the best Portsmouth corrected finish. Fleet members and all-youth team Tommy Butler and Mike Evans sailing a Hobie 16 won both the Wind Water and Wheels trophy for the largest class and the Founders Trophy for the best fleet finish. Phil Danbe returned from Florida and won the Jackson Cup for the single-handed honors sailing a borrowed but fast Hobie 17. The Little Miss Liberty trophy which is awarded to those who only sail to the Verrazano Bridge was given to Luke Puc and Jack Puc who unfortunately had a little mishap up in NY Harbor and had to limp home with a broken tiller crossbar and were unable to round the Statue.

11 boats participated in the 2nd day of racing which was buoy racing in the bay. It was good that the Statue race was held the day before as the winds spun in circles. On Sunday limiting the number of races to be held. We managed to get off two races in the F18 one-design fleet and one race in the Portsmouth fleet.

Results are posted on the web and you can watch the replay of the race at on the SHBCC page at Kattack.com. The live tracking was a great addition to this years race. We had about 12 boats with tracking on and they were spread out amongst the fleet.

Speaking of Kattack, if anyone is interested, you can always download the app to you phone for \$10 and anyone can watch you live as you sail around. If you want to watch the replays, we have the software to publish it on the web. So far, I think that only Bill Raska and I know how to use it but we are both happy to show anyone who is interested.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped out this year. We were very short on the chase boat side this year and Bill Resetar and Dan Keiffer stepped up and provided us with two chase boats. Bill also kindly spent his Sunday with us well for the buoy races. Fortunately, the race went smoothly but we can always use more help in this area in the future. So I'm putting out my plea now for those who have or have friends that own power boats to think about joining us for next year. On Registration, we had Kathy, Pegi, Tom and Ersang. Registration went quite smoothly this year and I thank everyone for participating and using the online registration system. On chase boat duty, we had Vic, Don P., Gary P., and Kelsey B. Bob P. and Al assisted in the start and finish with Pegi, Kathy and a host of other commentators. Mark Brady, as always put together and awesome party with lots of help from Mike McDermot and Kathy and Gary Butler slaved over the hot grill on Sunday serving up hot dogs. I must thank Judy Raybon too for putting the finishing touches on the Statue of Liberty Bobble head trophies. I'm sure I missed a few and If I did, I thank you too.

Blue Water Regatta:

Once again, we have teamed up with the Atlantic Highlands Yacht Club to bring you the Blue Water Regatta. This is the third year for this race where we get a chance to mix it up with the big keelboats on our fast but tippy catamarans. Registration is online at <http://www.ahyc.net/bwr/> and the fee is \$30. Please go online and register. You must be registered by Friday at 8:00 pm in order to race. No exceptions.

This is a two-day event with a distance race on Saturday and buoy racing on Sunday. The race counts toward our fleet race standings and you can take your best score from Saturday or Sunday. There will be a separate skippers meeting each day to go over some of those confusing start sequences. Mark Santorelli will be the Race Officer for our circles so you can expect things like gates and downwind finishes.

The race comes with a big party at the beach.

As always if you can help out with race committee or with the party, please give us a call. We have been asked to supply a little more RC help this year since we tend to be the ones who need help.

From the Skipper Winning the Founders Trophy at the Statue Race 2013

Bob Fraser

The day dawned warm and sunny. No good for hanging out in a tent on the beach. I miss my air-conditioned motorhome sometimes. You can't last long in a tent with the sun beating down. Up and at em. I've got to give the boat a good look over in addition to getting washed, dressed, coffee, breakfast, rig the boat, more coffee, change into sailing clothes and get ready for a day on the water.

At the skipper's meeting it seems like the same things I've heard before in the 25 years I've been doing this race. How did that happen? I remember one thing though. The tide is going to be going out. Low tide at the Battery is at 1:30. Stay out of the middle of the river the current can be 7 knots.

Soon enough we're on the water waiting for the start. With the wind forecast to come from the West shifting to South West we should have a chance against the boats with spinnakers. Although we don't get moving quickly enough for a perfect start we are near the pin which is the favored end. It's a long race and lots can happen in the next 3 to 6 hours. We head a little to the left of the tip of the hook for the end of the containment area around the Navy pier. The hot F18's ahead of us reach it first, pop their chutes and begin a horizon job. Joe & I follow Russ & Charley on a Nacra 6.0 with my Hobie 20 all the way across Raritan Bay to the Verrazano Narrows Bridge. At the bridge the wind is very light and shift. Russ tacks heading toward the center. We slide by in the shadow of the tower on the Staten Island side. The F18's are nowhere to be seen. The only spinnaker boat we see ahead is George Evans' Inter 17 on the Brooklyn side. The wind picks up after the bridge and Joe jumps out on the wire. Now we're moving. We sail between some freighters anchored in the harbor. After passing them we can see we are now well ahead of the 6.0. The advice at the skipper's meeting was great. We thread through some barges, some moving others anchored and surprisingly see only one Staten Island Ferry. Lady Liberty is ahead. We take her to starboard making our only jibe of the day. An accidental jibe that clocks me in the head at that!



Once around the statue we sheet in and head up, threading through the tourist boats and use the current to push us down the river and under the bridge. It's strange with no one ahead to follow. The only boat we can see is a 16 that we suspect was turned back at the bridge. We pass the two islands near the bridge then West Bank leaving them to starboard. I hoped to take them to port in some flatter water. My crew Joe suggested we maintain our current course since we seemed to have good boat speed despite the chop. I head just inside the tip of the hook to avoid the containment area. As we pass the buoy marking the corner of the Navy containment zone a F18 is just visible near the beach. A nice reach across the bay and the finish line is in sight. Finally we cross the finish line. As

we hit the beach we hear a cheer from the committee. We're the first club member back and third boat to finish. Not too shabby for a couple of overweight sailors on a 13 year old boat. Then again 13 has been lucky for me.

FROM THE SOGGY SIDE, STILL

Jenna Meyer

So another month goes by and the title remains soggy as it continues to be more of the same weather except now we have the high ninety temps to fill out our own personal Hades along with that horrid humidity that makes you feel like you have a hull or maybe two (filled with water of course) on your chest. It's time to just deal with it and go on with our fun on the bay. Actually, when on the water you escape from the heat, if only temporarily.

The Statue of Liberty Race came and went mostly uneventfully and for the record books we can consider it another well run event. Thank you Greg and all those who watched over the boats there and back safely home to the club. But did you notice all those F18's. The class is certainly growing in our home port racing events.

I have decided that this article will be the first of a two part series. I stayed behind during the race to help out Peggy on the beach and got the chance to sit quietly (in the a/c) and talk with a previous Commodore of our club, Mike Ohara. Mike was Commodore back in the mid 1980's (85, 86, 87) when we were a fairly young group back then. I must say that I am sorry to those that while listening in tried to add to the chat. I had to ask you to refrain from making comments on the conversation. I really wanted Mike to talk freely about the "back then" and now of our club and his personal view of our current position as a catamaran race fleet and club. I must say I thought I would have to pull teeth to get him to open up but he was very happy to share a piece of our history and his view of who we are today. I felt a common bond when he shared his fondness for our club and how we have grown over the years. It was kind of like watching your kid in a school competition and that pride you feel when it all goes well and you feel their pain when it doesn't. He shared that he doesn't comment on our club site or our Facebook page but rather he lurks in the background watching and reading as we continue to do it all right and takes it all in. Most of us, myself included, never new about the past history of the club except for the occasional story from John Sullivan, Nick, or Vic or some other old salty mutts. Here was a history gold mine free for the picking that was viewing us from a distant Florida and acknowledging that we were a well-run fiscally responsible club with the right folks guiding the way. It wasn't always that way and as we talked I learned more about that time when catamaran sailing really was in its infancy. I was writing notes as fast as I could as the conversation rolled over many different topics. I didn't want to miss anything; I was locked in for every word, feeling and emotion that would spill out of his mouth so that I could capture it on paper for those of us whom weren't there back when.... This was a chance I might never get again to spend time with this man and his personal view of our past and what our future might look like. I wasn't going to let it slip silently by like the bay tides. So let's see what Mike had to say.

There wasn't a Sandy Hook Bay Catamaran Club at that time. That came later on, we were Hobie Fleet 250. It was a real fight when the subject of a name change was brought up. We did have members with Prindle's and an occasional Solecat, but their numbers were small. There was huge brand loyalty in the eighties the choice in boats was very small and of course the boat of choice for most was a Hobie. You couldn't race without one. It just wasn't allowed. Hobie's were the shits for sure and everybody had one and knew it. You really didn't see people jumping from one boat manufacture to another like you see today. There was strong loyalty to the brand. Everything was class legal and it was adhered too always. Then technology started to change and

boats got faster and options diverse. The new designs changed the playing field and we moved to opening the racing to everyone through Portsmouth ratings. The discussion was put on the floor to opening racing to all and encourage folks to race. It was the key to our growth and stability. With the change in technology the competition became intense and remains so today. As the technology changed you could "buy speed" but you still needed to be a good sailor to make it all work. Today that has evolved into two distinct types of boats. The family fun boat and the serious race boats and the following back then were a much younger crowd with more limited resources financially. The older catamaran sailor today is more established in life and can buy into sailing the more advanced boat. But, Hobie's still remain the first boat of many current and new first time sailors.

We knew that a key component of our growth and survival as a club was a solid race program. Leadership in that club program was very lacking and many times we did not have a dedicated individual to take it on so that it would grow. We suffered from that lack of leadership and today you have Greg Raybon doing the best organized program we have ever had and it is well consolidated. Often we didn't even have a committee boat to use and we borrowed a boat or used a Hobie 16 as the committee boat. We had many lean racing years. Greg really built a great racing program for the club. It is no longer a back seat component of the club. We didn't have the resources to buy marks so often we ran buoys. Supplies for racing were very scarce. Greg and the officers know that a key element of the clubs success is a strong, well-funded race program. It is a key element of our future. The youth, our youth are key to our survival and our future growth. There was no consideration given back then to promoting Uts as we call youth today. We were young and most hadn't started or were just starting families. The only young person I could remember was a young pup called George Evans. He basically lived and breathed cat sailing. A benchmark of our progress and success are the youth involved today. They will help insure our future and that of catamaran sailing.

Then those troubled years of contention came and how to stay afloat was upon us. Our membership was dropping and low. There was discussion among the officers of do we pull out and abandon the club next year. We were in trouble and the membership low numbers was just one piece of a bigger problem, our landlord. The landlord was worried about this current year's low membership and what to do with the lease. It was times of dealing with the landlord and what to do or for that matter what to not do. There was division among the club officers as what direction to take moving forward. The landlord was unstable with us and or his plans for the land. It was a season to season unknown mess and negotiations. We knew we had to do something that would insure we had a place to call home port. We looked into the property owned by the town and it would provide that needed long term security and stability in a prime location. We were very fortunate to have found this land. It is a very special place and I am proud to have been a part of it. We had another problem to deal with that we solved rather nicely. We couldn't agree on our original anniversary date of our beginnings. Everybody had their own idea of when we started the club. So we established the 2nd Annual Anniversary Party each year. Problem solved.

To be continued...

Bike N' Sail

High Life announcement

On Sunday July 28, 2013--Bob and Trudy Fraser with the Sandy Hook Bay Catamaran Club will host High Life at the Catamaran Club on Center Ave, Atlantic Highlands---We will meet 9ish for coffee and....The bike ride begins promptly at 10:00AM-- Since the Bayshore Trail was destroyed during Sandy we will ride west on the Henry Hudson rail trail to Keansburg or as far as you want. When you return from the ride a lunch of burgers, hot dogs, salads, summer picnic foods, plus drinks will be served on the beach.--After lunch, you can go sailing on a catamaran with one of the catamaran club members.---Bring beach chairs, lotions, sun shade tents and a thirst for good fun— **All this for \$10.00 members paid by July, 32rd or \$15.00 Guests and at the Door.** See Bob or Trudy at a meeting or call to sign up and pay Home 973-744-8948----Cell 973-651-6250---work 973-746-4050

Directions--Garden State Parkway south take exit 117 to Route 36 east--in about 9 mile you will go under an overpass, This is Earle Naval Weapons Station At the 5th light after the overpass you take the jug handle cross over Route 36 onto Avenue D to the stop sign and make a left onto Center Ave --About 100 yards on the right is the Sandy Hook Bay Catamaran Club

SHBCC announcement

Bike 'N Sail Skippers Wanted

Share the FUN!!! On Sunday July 28, 2013--Bob Fraser and the Sandy Hook Bay Catamaran Club will host High Life Ski Club for the annual Bike 'N Sail. Your help skippering your boat on short rides with members of the ski club will be greatly appreciated. We meet 9ish for coffee and... The bike ride begins promptly at 10:00AM. Since the Bayshore Trail was destroyed during Sandy we will ride on the Henry Hudson rail trail to Keansburg and the boardwalk or as near or far as you want. Upon return from the ride a FREE lunch of burgers, hot dogs, salads and summer picnic foods, plus drinks will be provided for SHBCC & High Life members at the beach.-After lunch, share rides sailing your boat with a guest or two from the Ski Club. Although High Life members pay \$10.00 or \$15.00 for this day SHBCC members can **join the fun FREE.** See Bob at the beach or call me at Home 973-744-8948----Cell 973-651-6250---work 973-746-4050 with any questions.

Security

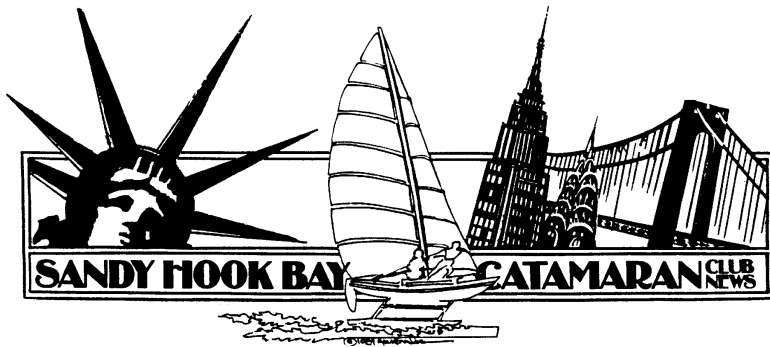
We are now heading into the second half of our sailing season. To ease our way through this period there are some simple procedures to ensure a safe and successful finale. On the catamarans are areas that need to be checked to reach this goal. This includes:

1. Check the tangs on the front of the hull that connects the bridle;
2. Tape your split rings and check them to make sure they are secure to the pins;
3. Don't forget to pull the drain plugs in before departing
4. Periodically tighten all screws throughout the boat (gudgeons, tangs, blocks, traveler tracks, etc.) If you must replace parts on the boat only use standard rigging and parts meant to be around water (particularly salt).

Please handle the wheels with care; the cradles should be adjusted to the width of the hulls. Some of them are taking a beating now due to the hulls sitting on the wrong section of the cradle. You can move the boat around on the catwheels but not with the sails up above the high water mark and if you do have the sails up make sure all sheets are uncleated and nothing is wrapped around the body of the boat. Also make sure you periodically check the ends of your side shrouds and trap wires. Some early signs are rust showing up around the thimbles and stops on the wires. **REMEMBER** that something fails on your boat and either hurts someone or damages another boat, **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE!**

Any questions? Contact me.

Nick



P. O. Box 187, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716

Classifieds

FOR SALE: 1985 Hobie 16. White hulls, blue trampoline Main and jib in great condition Rock-solid dry hulls -- no soft spots on fiberglass 5:1 Sea Way mainsheet blocks Low profile jib blocks Aussie jib set up Double trapeze White plastic rudders Comp-tip mast Carpeted side rails Tiller extension pole Anti-pitchpole hydrofoils Righting rope All lines in great shape Trailer included lights work, 1-7/8 ball hitch, tires 2 years old with less than 1k miles, 10" PVC Pipe / Sail tube Boat is currently located in Seaside Park, NJ on the Barnegat Bay and has been sailed this year. Please send email and we will setup time to view boat. Great condition and well-maintained boat ready for cruising or racing. \$1,700 201-414-3471 jcannan14@yahoo.com