

# The F C'S'LE

Hunterdon Sailing Club, Inc.

June 2016

Number 490

## Force 5 Spring Spectacular – Sunday May 29th

Force 5 Fleet – The Spring Spectacular will be held this Sunday. We'll plan for the skipper's meeting at 10:00 AM to get a two or three races completed before Noon. In the AM, races will likely be held in the cove with 3 minute (single fleet) starts. These results will be added to the Fleet results from the Sunday Afternoon Regatta to determine an overall winner. We will target 5 races for scoring. If we are able to get 6, we'll have one throw out for best of 5. Gordon will be our RC Chair for the day. Please RSVP for planning purposes and bring \$5 to cover costs. Weather currently looks clear with light winds from the SE. Coffee, water and bagels will be available in the AM. Please BYO lunch.

RSVP jayhalsted@yahoo.com

## Memorial Day Sunfish Regatta- Monday May 30

The Memorial Day Sunfish Regatta will be held on May 30th. The skipper's meeting is at 10:00 AM. Five races are targeted, wind permitting. If 5 races are held there will be one throw-out for scoring. Awards will be for the first 3 places with additional awards for the 1st Challenger and one for 1st Junior.

Fleet assignments do not need to follow the Twilight assignment and you can declare your fleet the day of the Regatta.

There will be a continental breakfast, please BYO lunch.

There is a \$10 entrance fee to cover breakfast and awards.

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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- 6 *Training Updates*
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- LEARN TO RACE
- MAY 29 FORCE 5 SPRING SPECTACULAR
- MAY 30 MEMORIAL DAY SUNFISH REGATTA
- JUNE 4 COMMODORE'S CUP
- JUNE 14 INTRODUCTION TO SAILING LECTURE
- JUNE 14 – 1<sup>ST</sup> OF 4 ADULT LEARN TO SAIL CLASSES
- JUNE 28 – YOUTH LEARN TO SAIL
- JULY 4 – LITTLE BROWN JUG REGATTA AND PICNIC

## Commodore's Corner – Mark Kaplan

It has certainly been a slow start to the season. As of the writing of this article, we have just had our first Sunday of racing. Between rain, light winds, and very high winds, it has been difficult to get out. A few adventurous souls did head out on some Scots on one of the windier Sundays, only to high tail it back to the beach to avoid a very cold swim! Lets hope for improved weather for the rest of the season.

Our equipment is certainly ready to go. Robert and Nick Reyes have done an outstanding job getting our sunfish in great shape. Excellent fiberglass work has them looking great and newly installed bumper guards should keep them that way for years to come. Thanks to the rear Commodore Angelo Lovisa and some volunteers, new permanently mounted VHF radios in SWW, Chase 1, and the shed are working great. The radios are never missing, never have dead batteries, and sound loud and clear. The new SWW has turned out to be a great choice. The boat is much faster than the old boat, so setting up and retrieving a course has never been easier.

This last Sunday was also our first picnic day (the day formally known as Hot Dog Sunday). Healthy choices like veggie burgers were most appreciated. We hope that you come out and socialize on our scheduled picnic days. Email reminders will be sent out.

HSC will hold its 48th annual Commodore's Cup Regatta on Saturday, June 11th. This regatta was established in 1969 to find the outstanding skipper in the Hunterdon Sailing Club.

Note that any sailboat is eligible to participate in the Commodore's Cup, not just our official fleet boats. The regatta is a handicap race rather than one design, which means all boats start at the same time and the finishing times are adjusted based on a rating for the particular boat type. The winner will be the boat with the smallest adjusted time. This allows different boat types to compete with each other on an even basis. If a fast design and a slow design are sailed equally well, they should finish with equivalent adjusted times.

So even if you are first across the line, don't pop open the bubbly just yet!

Ratings can come from several sources. We will use the Portsmouth Rating system (described in the HSC Handbook and also available online).

There will be refreshments at 10:15am, Skippers' meeting will be at 11:00am and we will start before Noon.

Bring your favorite (does not have to be your fastest!) boat and crew to join us for the Commodore's Cup on Saturday, June 11th.



## RACE COMMITTEE SKILLS:

### How to Use the Anchor.

Article written by Gordon Sell

The basic idea for setting a anchor, such as the Danforth anchors used on HSC's pontoon boat and skiffs, is to drag it across the bottom so the pointed flukes tip over and dig into the mud on the bottom. Ideally, and especially in heavy winds, you want the anchor to hold by digging itself into the mud, not by the sheer weight of anchor and chain on the end of the line. Before you do anything, make sure the opposite end (the "bitter end") of the anchor line is tied or cleated to the boat prevent losing everything overboard.

Anchoring is accomplished by motoring the pontoon boat into the wind about 100 feet or four boat lengths past the place you'd like to position the anchored boat--more if you think the water is deep. Place the motor in reverse and move slowly astern at a walking pace. Release the anchor chain from the hook and lower it steadily and quickly to the bottom, being careful not to get a rope burn. Do not just dump it with the boat stationary. As the boat moves astern, let out the anchor line until it is pointing more forward than down. Then put the tail of the line around the anchor cleat to create some drag. Slowly increase the drag on the line, and you should feel the anchor dig in and bring the boat to a halt. If it doesn't, let out more line and try again. Convention says the length "scope" of the anchor line and chain should be 7 or 8 times the depth of the water.

Recovering a well-set anchor sometimes requires more than just muscle power. Start the engine so it is ready to go. Use the anchor line to pull the boat forward over the anchor and draw the line tight and vertical. If it's windy, you can motor forward slowly. If the anchor remains stuck on the bottom, cleat the line and slowly motor forward over the anchor. The action of pulling it forward should release it from the bottom. Then stop the boat and pull up the anchor and put one of the chain links over the hook to secure it.



(Fig 1) Moving the boat in reverse as the anchor hits the bottom helps it to tip over and dig into the mud.

(Fig 2) Five feet of heavy anchor chain helps keep the anchor flat on the bottom of the lake so the pointed flukes can dig into the mud to hold the boat.



# The Hoop Deck

News from the Rear Commodore



VHF radios have been installed on the See Which Won, Safety 1 and in building. A handheld VHF radio with charger will be in an “ammo box” on Safety 2. Placards will be added by each radio with operating instructions. As always, in the event of an emergency dial 911 and the park police at 877-927-6337.

Two main points when using the radios are:

- 1) Turn on radio when leaving and select channel 68 when departing in case the shed needs to contact the boats.
- 2) Turn the squelch knob clockwise until static is heard and the slowly counterclockwise until the static goes away.
- 3) Turn off the radios when done with the boats.

Two deck chocks have been added to the SWW's bow for mooring. When mooring the SWW, guide the line through the chock and then around the outside of each cleat before cinching the line with a half hitch. The chocks help prevent the line from abrading.

If something needs attention please notify me at [rearcommodore@sailhsc.org](mailto:rearcommodore@sailhsc.org)

Happy sailing  
Angelo



## Sunfish

The Twilight Series is off to a strong start with 3 evenings of good sailing and a great turnout – so far 20 skippers have come to the starting line. The field is evenly split between the Challenger and Championship fleets so there is a lot of good competition for everyone.

The first start for the evening racing is 6:00 pm, but you're not late unless you miss pizza!

See you on the water!

Susan Mallows



### TWILIGHT RACE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Please be sure to arrive by 5:15 to get ready for the evening. The RC boat will leave shore by 5:45 to set courses, please be on time.

Thank you for volunteering.

Date	Week	Chair	Crew
1-Jun	6	Robert/Nick Reyes	Jim Sun
8-Jun	7	Bill Seiple	Rich Skeen
15-Jun	8	Dave Davies	Paul Fisher Jeff Goldstein

## HSC Training Updates

### Sailing Lecture – June 14th

The Introduction to Sailing lecture is June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Spruce Run Administration Building. Access is by the first driveway on the right after you enter the park. You can park in front of the building and come in and grab a seat. The lecture should last an hour and will be followed by a trip to the HSC Club House (sic) to take a look at some boats and show everyone where to gather.

This lecture provides an introduction to the club and basic safety information for the classes.

Please join us if you are a newcomer to HSC or will be taking a class at HSC this summer.

Susan Mallows

### HSC Learn to Sail Season Kicks Off

Memorial Day Weekend starts off our Learn to Sail Program with The Learn to Race class being held on May 28. We are happy to say our Adult Learn to Sail Class was so popular this year that a third class was added to meet the demand and all three classes have been filled. As well as both Youth Learn to Sail Classes being filled to capacity. This enables HSC to get close to 50 Adult Members and 38 kids out on the water to begin their sailing journey.

Once participants have finished these classes they are able to continue practicing their skills in both the Sunday supervised sailing sessions, and Wednesday night coached practices. Sunday supervised sailing will take place for 10 weeks in the middle of the season from 1:30pm to 5:30pm and Wednesday night coached practices take place each week beginning July 6th through August 10th. These classes are made possible because of the many members that dedicate their time and talent to teach the class and help supervise.

If you have basic sailing experience and can rig a sunfish please consider volunteering for even just one day to support the growth of our program by checking out our sign up genius page <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094FAFAA2BA6FF2-adult> or contacting Katie Kiernan at [training@hsc.org](mailto:training@hsc.org).

### Jr. Sailing News

HSC Junior Sailing Team entering its 12<sup>th</sup> year!

The Jr. Sail Team will start on July 6<sup>th</sup> and run every Wednesday until August 10. Practice will run from 2:00 to 5:00. Sailors are encouraged to stay and sail at 6:00 in the Twilight series and then to come out for pizza at the Sunset Inn after sailing. The Jr. table at the Sunset Inn is growing every year. The team is open to all HSC sailors under the age of 19 who can sail a boat up wind.

This year the Jr. Sailing Team will be coached by Doug Brown. Doug is the Head Sailing Coach at Drexel University. Whether you want to get better at sailboat racing or prepare for a major regatta come out and sail with us.

If you have questions TXT Coach Doug Brown at 201-394-1866

# 1964-2016 – 52 Year Partnership

Spruce Run Recreation Area Hunterdon Sailing Club



## **A primer for new members and a reminder for the rest of us.**

For 52 years, we've had a mutually beneficial partnership (the only kind) with a part of our New Jersey Government. We've been their best customers, the ones who offer to help clean up the park, the ones who have started a tree planting program and frequently rescue boaters in need. They allow us to keep our shed on the property, make a building available for training lectures and keep on hiring Park Superintendents who listen to our concerns and work closely with us so that we all succeed. For the past several years, as HSC's liaison with the park staff, I've had the privilege of working with Joe, Becky, Jenny and Jason. They have all been the best of what we hope for in public workers. I and other club members also work with the several state law enforcement staff assigned to our park.

Like any partnership, we need to understand each other's needs and concerns and work to address them. The park staff holds up their side of that deal. So once in awhile I like to write about the park's concerns so that we can all be a part of the partnership.

Part of the role of the law enforcement folks is to maintain safety and some sense of order in the boat storage/rigging/parking areas and the road leading in. Here are some issues that I often hear of from them: 1. Observe the stop signs 2. Observe the speed limit on the road to the launch area – we share that space with walkers, runners, cyclists and lots of animals. This year, we've been hearing more about parking. Keep these guidelines in mind: The boat parking area is for boats, the car parking area is for cars. Your car may be in the boat parking area only while loading, unloading, rigging and launching. If you leave your car there while having lunch at the shed, walking to the rest rooms, etc., you are risking a ticket. One of the park officers expressed particular concern about the crowd of cars in the "loop" on busy race days, as they make it difficult for anyone to drive through the area. And please don't leave your car sitting in the middle of the launch area.

Have a good summer, and address your concerns with the park to me please.

*Spruce Run Liaison*  
*Rich Baumann*



## 2016 "Little Brown Jug" Regatta

**Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 11AM Skipper's Meeting, 12PM Start Picnic: Immediately after the race!**

**The Sailing Part of the Day** On Monday July 4<sup>th</sup>, club members will be sailing the LBJ (not named for the past president) for the honor of having the largest perpetual trophy in the club, the Little Brown Jug, gracing your home. All fleets race together with a staggered start based on Portsmouth ratings. The race committee will announce the starting sequence and timing at the skipper's meeting. The first boat to reach the finish line wins regardless of when she started. The course will encompass the whole lake and will last approximately 100 minutes. The race has one prize for first place and a best in fleet for those fleets represented by 3 or more boats.

**The Picnic Part of the Day** You do not need to race to come to the picnic! Burgers, condiments and drinks will be provided by the club. Please bring something to share: last names A-M please bring a side dish; N-Z please bring a dessert. **See you all there on Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>!**

### July 4<sup>th</sup> ADVICE

Some advice for coming to the park: Do not try to beat the crowd. July 4<sup>th</sup> is the busiest day of the year at Spruce Run, and there will be a line forming early in the morning, with the park closing the beach area as soon as the parking lots are full. If you arrive at 10:00 or later and tell the park staff that you are going to the boating area for a sailing club regatta and picnic, you should have no problem.

The park superintendent suggests bringing something "boat like", such as an oar, PFD or even a canoe or kayak on the roof, or a boat on a trailer. Bring your boat storage tag, if you have one. Make it clear that you are a HSC member. Be patient with the park staff. They will be having a busy day!

