

## Commodore's Corner



Therese Straigis  
Commodore

As many of you know the Straigis team has not been as active this summer. Jason and I had every intention on being on the water as much as possible while Jason was home for 2.5 months. Unfortunately we have only been out a handful of times, due to our dog's (Merle Haggard) sudden separation anxiety that has resulted in crate-bending bites and damage from clawing into dry wall and insulation.



Bob Longo,  
Vice-Commodore

Worse than not being able to sail was being on

house arrest, because Merle cannot be left alone for too long before he has a panic attack. THANK GOODNESS for Fleet friends to the rescue! Did you know that the Rob, Darcie, and Mimi have opened up new businesses? Boatworks is now the parent company for a doggie daycare called *DogWorks*, and they are offering rehabilitation services including a 24.7 doggie cam! Merle now spends his days at the Rob & Darcie's under the watchful eye of his nanny, Reach. Rasta uses a holistic licking technique to turn Merle's frown upside down! Last but not least, you can buy crates on the go at Mimi's van-n-shop. The past few months have been stressful and challenging, but nowadays it has become more entertaining to watch the pups. My fleet relationships continue to transform from club members to great friends. The fleet can be loud, routy, and opinionated, but their true colors are selfless, generous, fun, and a heartfelt community. Thank you Rob and Darcie for taking Merle in and relieving me from house arrest! I could not be more grateful to be apart of Fleet 2-O-4, 2-O-4, 2-O-4!!! Hope to see you next meeting at Borios!

*Commodore Hondo*



## 2015 Sailing Event Schedule

- Aug 8 - 9** Oswego Hobie Regatta, Oswego Yacht Club, NY (D16)
- Aug 15** Schroon Lake, NY Fun Sail Around
- Aug 21 - 23 H14 NAC Missisauga, ON
- Sep 12 - 13** CMOR Regatta, Canandaigua YC (D16)
- Sept 12 – 13 RBSA - Fall Classic Rehoboth, DE (D11)
- Sept 19 - 20 Roton Point Multihull Regatta - Norwalk CT (D11)
- Sep 21 - 25** Hobie16 North American Championships Pensacola, FL
- Oct 3 - 4** Ben Hur Regatta at Water Rats - Toronto, ON (D16)
- Oct 3 - 4 Rock Hall Yacht Club, MD (D11)
- Oct 10 - 11 Hi Performance Dinghy Open Regatta - American Yacht Club, Rye NY

## Fleet 204 Meeting Minutes July 14, 2015

Submitted by **Bruce Krupke**

The meeting was called to order by **Commodore Therese Straigis** at 8:15 pm at Borio's Restaurant. There were about 17 Fleet members in attendance. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.



**Secretary's Report: Bruce Krupke** reported the June meeting minutes were put into the Fleet newsletter by Editor Theresa White and Publisher Adam Atherton. There weren't any changes or additions. There was a motion to accept the minutes, seconded and passed.



**Treasurer's Report: Dr. Bill Whalen** noted the checking balances are about the same as last month in our 2 accounts. He reported Madcatter showed a profit of just over \$1,000. He said sponsorship was responsible for the surplus and thanked once again all the sponsors who contributed. Thank you letters have been sent out to most of the sponsors.

**Did you pay your annual dues yet? Dues are now past due!** Remember, you need to be a member to attend the Outting!! If you haven't paid them, please get them in ASAP. It's only \$50 per family. Please, Mail your membership dues check to Dr. Whalen 8254 Honeysuckle Drive, Liverpool, NY 13090, make them out to **Hobie Cat Fleet 204**. **There was a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded, carried.**

**Safety Talk, Mimi Appel**, Title: *Person Overboard*. Everybody should have a whistle on their life jacket. It is also very important to have a safety plan and practice it for when someone finds themselves off the boat. A simple plan could be to discuss what to do under certain circumstances. If a crew member comes off the boat, the person now-skippering the vessel should yell to the crew. Skipper should approach the person in the water from upwind only and retrieve the person from the water Approach as slowly as possible. Retrieval with the person in the water grabbing the dolphin striker between hulls is effective, as long as that idea can be effectively communicated. So, be sure that a newbie knows what a dolphin striker is, and understands that in an emergency, they might need to grab that bar from the water. It is easier to grab someone back onto the boat from this location under the boat. A brightly colored gear/life jacket is best for detection in the water. If both crew members fall over, stay with the boat! If an experienced skipper falls off the boat leaving an inexperienced crew, have a plan in place. Teach the crew to turn into the wind to stop the boat: "push the tiller toward trouble".

**Division 16 Report: Adam Atherton**, our Division Chair Division chairman, reported he is working on the final details for the 2nd regatta in Oswego, NY. So far approximately 7 boats will be going to Oswego. The H14 North American Continentals will be held August 21-23 at the Mississauga Ontario Sailing Club. **Herb James** has a 14 available to anyone wishing to participate.



**Training Coordinator Report: Herb James** conducted drills in June with many Fleet members participating. Thank you for the drills and instructions. Herb commented on the improvement of many members by having the drills. He'll have more later in the year.

**Past Regatta Report:**

- **Statue of Liberty Race in NY City.** **Herb and Sharon James** reported that there were 42 boats, and that 11 finished the race from Sandy Hook NJ. The H16 was the largest class. At times there was a 6 mph current. They were on the water for 11 hours and somewhat unprepared because it was very unusual to be on the water that long for the race. Herb and Sharon were the only boat not to be towed back to shore. Towing started about 8 pm. Herb and Sharon returned to shore about 10:30 pm. If you hugged the shoreline, you were able to make better progress since the current was less strong in that area. The race committee had a good handle on where everyone was. The participants had cell phones/radios for communication. **Sean Smith, aka Jackson**, was detained since he got too close the Statue and ran into Liberty Island. There were 1000 people watching this event. **Adam Atherton** sailed with his son **Jon**. Adam stayed to the west side of the bridge trying to manage the current. The wind died. Then there was a storm and heavy rain. He did make it under and past the bridge about two miles. A cruise ship was coming and Adam was not making headway, so that's the point at which Adam called the race. As soon as he turned around, he was able to make the beach by about 6:30 p. m. downwind. This regatta was on Herb's bucket list and he recommends it. The nice venue at Sandy Hook is RV friendly. Good food drinks. It is a cat club with approximately 120 boats on shore. No bugs, a pretty skyline, and fireworks rounded out this special event. The Trophy was brought back by Herb and Sharon for viewing. Congratulations to Fleet members who participated and the James' for their trophy finish!



- **Pan Am Games:** A report was given on Hobie Cat 16 USA Team **Mark and Grace Modderman** was in first after the first day. This great team finished in second place for the silver medal. The Game's Website gives good information. Also there was live information on Facebook. Just two races were run per day due to having many divisions. **Go Mark and Grace!**



**Future Regattas**

- **Barnegat Bay (NJ)**, a point regatta in Div. 11, is coming up this weekend. Some Fleet members will be participating. Check out the racing schedule on the website and come to a regatta this summer.
- **Schroon Lake NY Sail Around, Sat. Aug 15** –Flyers were distributed about the event. Bruce Krupke is organizing this event and is looking to have 5-6 boats to go there. They will meet the public in the morning and sail around Schroon Lake in the afternoon. The Albany are Fleet will be contacted and invited to come to Schroon Lake. If you are interested in attending, talk to Bruce.

**Social Report**

Many Fleet members attended **Ian and Stacy Smith's** wedding in June. Congratulations to the new happily married couple!



**New, Old, and Other Business**

- **Pontoon Boat.**

There was a discussion about the Pontoon boat. It has been out of the water two seasons- Do we want to continue to try to use it? It is in Boat Works lot, and could be used, but will



need a good cleaning. An issue is where to dock it. Do we want to just give it back to **Steve Oad**? **Herb** thinks we can manage the space if we keep the boat. Pontoon makes a good spectator boat, there is more room. The question is who will maintain it? The maintenance may be prohibitive. It was suggested we stick with just the Winner this year. We would need to clean the pontoon boat up before returning it to Steve. Costs associated with the Winner motorboat should be paid by Fleet. Someone would need to step up to be the coordinator if it was to be kept. Someone should approach Steve about his wishes. **Rob will talk to Steve.**

- **Winner Fleet Race Boat.** Some modifications have been made to the Winner to help not burn out another bilge pump. Herb would be happy to help teach the use of the winner to sailors. We should come to some agreement for fair compensation to Boat Works for the maintenance of the winner (Percentage?) There was a motion to figure that formula by the executive officers, seconded and vote carried.

- **Fleet Races.** We will have Fleet Races up to Labor Day. Please sign up to run the committee boat if you haven't yet.

- The **Labor Day Outing** will be held at Chedmardo Campsites in Pulaski, on Lake Ontario. All Fleet members (did you pay your dues!?) and their family are invited. If you bring a guest, please see Bill Whalen about a small daily fee for them. Please



bring food to share to the event. It will start Friday

September 4 through Labor Day. There is a fee to camp. Watch the website for all details.

**Outing Assignments and Volunteer Duties:** A supply list was talked about as outlined from last year. Let Therese know what you can do to support this event. Some people were signing up for the things they did and or were in charge of last year. The **Perkins** will not be there due to a family wedding, but perhaps Perky could still make the call for Porta-johns and reservations at the camp?

There was a suggestion to have upgraded Porta-johns but we can't because there isn't any power available.

- **NACs Training.** There will be some type of training/practice for those who are training for North American Championships in Pensacola Florida (race beginning September 21).

- **Madcatter 40th Preparation Discussion:**

- Next year's Madcatter will be May 20, 21 and 22, 2016.
- At the October meeting, we'll make some big decisions such as do we want the tent or Arrowhead lodge? Between now and then anyone wishing to bring an idea needs to be researching them for presentation to the group with associated costs and who will be volunteering, etc. at the meetings between now and October.
- **Bill Whalen** will take care of insurance;
- **Therese** will do t-shirts.
- **Dave Witmer** will handle all signage.
- Many more duties were discussed and assigned. Please sign up early to make the 40<sup>th</sup> a great success.
- **Bob Longo** suggested we try to promote we want to try to get 100 boats to the 2016 event.
- Dinner ideas for Friday and Saturday were discussed.
- There was a suggestion to adjust time schedule for Friday events to have both the long distance race and the guest expert be better attended.
- **Pat Bisesi** mentioned possibly having the Hobie family come and talk about history, etc.
- There will be a trophy this year for the Stanley Cup long distance race (provided by MIMI from her father's collection).
- We should send Invitations out early, place our NOR/Ad in the Hotline every issue from this point forward and make calls and the drive to get people to the event.
- **Therese** may be able to get a drone for aerial photography for Madcatter 40.
- **Marty Borio** has expressed interest in being a part of the 40th with his Restaurant's facility. Decisions will need to be made before October.
- **Fluffy White** suggested "save the date" cards to entice people into coming to the 40<sup>th</sup>. **Diane Bisesi** will organize this suggestion with **Bridget Quatrone** and **Sue Korz**. A motion to spend up to \$300 on this was presented, seconded and carried.
- **Bob Longo** has talked to **Matt Bounds** about using the Hotline to get the push for 100 boats at this event. He has asked about timing. Bob will spear-head the Hotline coordination. Bob wants to create a "100 boat sticker"; **Rob Jerry** and **Fluffy White** suggested a 40th Anniversary sticker. Discussion about how many fleets have had this many consecutive regattas.
- Creating a historical "through the years" committee was discussed.
- The Theme will be a 70's throwback was agreed upon by the Fleet along with it being the 40th Anniversary.
- **Fluffy White** will approach a few people about artwork since we will need something in place for placement in the hotline.



There was no other business; there was a motion to adjourn at 9:54 pm.



### Eight Bells, Brad Wilson

We are very sad to report that our friend and Fleet 204 Member Brad Wilson passed on Thursday July 23<sup>rd</sup> after a year-long battle with cancer. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word and is deeply missed. Our deepest condolences go out to his wife Louise, his nephew Derek MacKenzie, and the entire Wilson family. We know he is looking down on us with fair winds, a following sea, and blue skies.



### Newbie Tuesday Report

Ten Newbies joined 6 Fleet skippers on July 28<sup>th</sup> for Newbie Tuesday. There was moderate wind and they all got a chance to steer and or get out on a wire. There was a lot of interest with many commenting they want to return next week and even look into purchasing a Hobie. If you would like to participate, watch our Forum each Sunday for a posting for the next Newbie Tuesday. We'll continue to hold them up until Labor Day. Come on out and Sail Newbie Tuesday to see if Hobie Cat sailing is for you! Thanks to all the Skippers who get a chance to get out on the water an extra night during the season, we know it is tough to do, but we are sure you'll find a way to cope!



### We've been Throwing this Party for 40 years!!!

Madcatter 40 is coming up this spring. We want to blow it OUT for the 40<sup>th</sup>! This Fleet Meeting will be looking for volunteers and committee heads. Please look this list over and see where you can plug yourself in! Contact Bob Longo 256-7061 [rmlongo@aol.com](mailto:rmlongo@aol.com) The Theme is *That 70's Regatta*. Thanks and see you at the meeting!



**Membership Information Form**

<b>Address Information</b>	
Last Name	Home Phone
Address	Home e-mail
Address	
City, State, Zip (Country)	
<b>His</b>	<b>Hers</b>
Name	Name
Phone	Phone
e-mail	e-mail

**Delivery options:** We would prefer to receive the newsletter via:

US Postal Service or  e-mail (Please double check your e-mail addresses above)

(Send to **Theresa (Fluffy) White**, 601 DeMong Drive, Syracuse, NY 13214)

**Membership Summary**

The membership statuses are: Complimentary or Regular. **Regular** (\$50.00) says you and your immediate family have opted to take advantage of all that Fleet 204 has to offer, fleet races, newsletters, parties, the Labor Day Outing, etc. Each February, your membership status reverts to **Complimentary** until your dues are received. Please mail your dues (checks only please, payable to **Hobie Cat Fleet 204**) to us with your membership information.

**Contacts**

**Commodore:** **Therese Straigis**, [surge7598@aol.com](mailto:surge7598@aol.com), 8482 Grandview Drive, Cicero, NY 13039  
**Vice Commodore:** **Bob Longo**, [rmlongo@aol.com](mailto:rmlongo@aol.com), 315-637-0722, 4920 Red Pine Road, Manlius, NY 13104  
**Co-Secretary:** **Bruce and Pattie Krupke**, 315-699-6040, 5426 Fortuna Pkwy, Clay, NY 13041.  
**Treasurer:** **Bill Whalen**, [bill204204@yahoo.com](mailto:bill204204@yahoo.com), 315-622-0823, 8254 Honeysuckle Dr., Liverpool, NY 13090  
**Social Director:** **JoAnn Perkins**, [Perk77766@aol.com](mailto:Perk77766@aol.com), 315-656-2840, 7591 Kirkville Rd. North., Krkvl, NY 13082  
**Youth Membership:** **Trey James**, [sjames1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:sjames1@twcny.rr.com), 6819 Yacht Club Rd., Cicero, NY 13039..  
**Newsletter & Membership:** **Theresa (Fluffy) White**, [h16tlw@yahoo.com](mailto:h16tlw@yahoo.com), 315-345-4303, 601 DeMong Drive, Syracuse, NY 13214 and **The Athertons**, [atathert@twcny.rr.com](mailto:atathert@twcny.rr.com), 7888 Marina Dr., Bridgeport, NY 13030.  
**Fleet Website:** <http://www.fleet204.com/>  
**Where are we:** During the sailing season (approximately late April through late August), we can be found on Thursday evenings, sailing out of the Caster residence, 6725 Lakeshore Road, Clay, NY 13041. Preparations usually start about 5:00pm with white flag at 6:00pm. Launching facilities may be found almost immediately to the left of the Caster's at Therre's boat launch. Take South Bay road to the end, turn left, and you're there.

**204 Play**  
**The Atherton Family**  
7888 Marina Dr.  
Bridgeport, NY 13030

**Address Service Requested**

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Next meeting is **Aug 11<sup>th</sup>**  
at **8:00 pm** at  
**Borio's Restaurant**  
**Lakeshore Road**  
**Cicero, NY**