

Commodore's Corner



**Therese Straigis
Commodore**

The wind is finally here!

After a slightly disappointing June, July, and August, it is finally windy enough to gear up fleet races and regattas.

We had many Fleet 204 members compete in Division 16 regattas at Sandy Beach and Barnegat. Fleet 204 took over the Flying High Regatta in Toronto, with **Tom and Sue Korz** winning the Hobie 16 class. And last but not least, congratulations to **Trey James** and **Gabe Longo** for placing 3rd in Hobie 16 Youth Champions.

The season of racing is just beginning as we prepare for Canandaigua, other Division 11 regattas, and the big finale: The North American Championships in Galveston, Texas. Many Fleet 204 sailors will continue to be on the water, practicing and conducting drills.

Whether we are going to Nationals or not, we all are striving to compete and challenge ourselves to be better sailors. As a newbie skipper, I spend my much of my time on the water practicing my boat handling skills, and sailing with veteran fleet members, so they can show me the ropes. Although practicing, racing, and competing will make me a better sailor, sometimes I just need a five hour pleasure sail! The Jewell, NY sail was an awesome event for me, a newbie skipper! It was way more thrilling and adrenaline pumping than going to a theme park. Riding waves for a couple of hours on my Hobie is way more fun than riding on a roller coaster for a couple of minutes. There are plenty of challenging, rock-climbing movements in sailing, like climbing on your boat after it flips or when you are knocked off by a wave. And who needs to rappel off a mountain when you can trapeze off the side of a Hobie for three hours and yell "weeeeeee!" By the end I was cold and my muscles ached, but I had a blast! Without the pressure of racing I inevitably practiced my boat handling skills during this windy cruise to enjoy the hospitality of the **Wiehl** family (thanks, **Deb, Steve, Val**, and all!). My up and downwind skills in waves were challenged and I learned how to right a turtled boat. Whether I knew it or not, I was practicing, because every time I get on my Hobie, I learn something new that makes me that much better. I cannot wait to practice for next year's destination sail!

Roger out,

Commodore Hondo

HCA DIVISION 11 and 16 2013 Schedule	
September	
14-15	Shore Acres Yacht Club, Brick NJ (Division 11 points)
21-22	CMOR Canandaigua Yacht Club (Division 16 points)
28-29	Rock Hall Yacht Club, MD (Division 11 points)
October	
5-6	Fall Classic, RBSA – Rehobeth, DE (Division 11 points)
12-13	Heineken High Performance Regatta, American Yacht Club, Rye NY (Open)
21-25	Hobie 16, 18, 20, Tiger North Americans, Porreto Beach, Galveston, TX

Fleet 204 Meeting Minutes August 13, 2013

Respectfully submitted by
Bruce W. Krupke, *Secretary*

The August meeting of Hobie Cat Fleet 204 was called to order at 8:00 pm at Borio's Restaurant by **Commodore Therese Straigis**. There were 34 members and guests in attendance! Fleet Commodore Therese Straigis opened her first meeting with introductions: **Jim Proietti's** daughter **Kim** sailed with **Jason Straigis** for the first time tonight. Newbies **the Schaeffers** came out to sail (**Brian & Christine**) and came to the meeting. Windsurfers **Sharman & Joe** came out tonight as well. **Kirk and Jon Leister** came to meeting (Jonathan bought **Kathy Miles'** boat). Kirk has sailed many Madcatters with **Bob Longo**.

Secretary Report: Secretary **Bruce Krupke** provided a report on the many strengths of our new commodore Therese, most recently her gorge jumping at Buttermilk Falls State Park in Ithaca NY. He had a video of her from a recent wine tour trip (*Editor's note:* Even with the video, it's still not clear whether the jumping was before or after the wine). Bruce told everyone about the hike and Therese's brave jumping at the falls. He reported the July meeting minutes were typed and put in the last newsletter. There were no questions, there was a motion to accept the minutes, seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer **Dr. Bill Whalen** said our two checking accounts are in good shape, and he provided balances. There was a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded and carried.

Past Regattas Report:

- **Hobie Cat Youth North American Championships:** **Dr. Herb James** traveled to California with his son, **Trey James**, who sailed the event with his crew, **Gabe Longo**. They chartered a new boat owned by Pat Porter and they brought their own sails for the boat. The regatta site and conditions was a lot like Sacandaga Lake, which is north of Johnstown, NY (a former site of a local regatta, now defunct), but on steroids; in other words, very pristine and gorgeous, located at 7000 feet, and had thin air. There was a big forest fire only 9 miles away and you could see the smoke from the fire each day. After a lot of great close races, Trey and Gabe finished in third place. Great job men! If it weren't for a couple of flips at finish line, they could have finished first. Herb had an opportunity after the regatta to sail on the lake, the wind was tricky to read and the air was thin! They had a great trip, met new friends and had a great time. They reported there were sixteen youth boats in the race. They received a grant to help pay the way from Hobie youth organization. To receive the grant, they had to write up info about themselves and later submit an article to HCA.
- **Spray Beach, NJ:** **Mimi Appel** reported on the trip. She came in 1st place in the Wave division. Great job, Mimi! Mimi reported that there were three teams from Fleet 204 that participated, although this was fewer than in years past. Everyone who went, though, thought it was a nice location and good sailing spot. They double stacked and had a great time at the NJ shore. To get to the starting line, you have a good sail from shore. They have a real nice yacht club facility and the area is very family friendly. It takes about 5



hours in good traffic to get there. There was racing both days, strong wind on day one with 4 races and lighter wind on Sunday, with 4 more. Tyler Myers (Div. 11) and crew Hunter Hurst took first place in the H16 division. Fleet members **Herb and Sharon James** came in 4th, **Adam Atherton** and **Sally Slavich** came in 8th, **Bruce and Pattie Krupke** came in 9th out of 14 in the class. There were 39 boats total competing in 5 different classes. Some boats flipped in the strong wind and sailed the wrong course; there were also a lot of over early starts. There was a discussion about making this a destination regatta in the future, meaning encourage Fleet members to sail and at the same time vacation there.

- **Barnegat Breezer, NJ:** **Sally Slavich** reported there were 7 races: Three on Sat. in light wind, while Sunday had 4 races, heavier wind, up to 9. Not typical wind for Barnegat. There were 16 H16s and 3 waves. **Billy and Rory Jeffers** sailed went early on Sat. There were 6 boats that had youths on them as crew, including Fleet members **Jeff Slavich** and his son **Jake**. Wally Meyers took first place in the H16 division. There were many wild races with many different boats winning many races. There was a crab dinner and was a good regatta.
- **Put in Bay Regatta in Ohio:** **Mimi Appel** participated. There was a Wave division regatta. The regatta hosted a wine and cheese party, and the Mount Gay rum was flowing as well. They would like to have more Fleet 204 members attend their regatta in the future. They have a 100 year old yacht club and can handle larger participation numbers. There were not any H16s in the regatta. There were 22 Waves. IWCA and Rick White were there and with his very active group. There was a discussion about how some Wave sailors don't use Hobie class wave sails. They had fabulous food, lots of music. They bill themselves as the Key West of the NW. They had three days of races, 4 per day. Chop is similar to Oneida Lake's. It was a great event nonetheless. There was also discussion about making this a destination regatta in the future, meaning encourage Fleet members to sail and vacation there.
- **Weihl's Jewel run:** Seven Fleet boats sailed to **Steve, Debbie and Valarie Weihl's** house on the north shore at the east end of Oneida Lake. There were a lot of stories and discussion about the sail. It was about 18 miles one way. There was a stiff west wind making the sail a downwind run to get there and hard tacking back. **Tom Korzeniewski** said this was not the optimal direction for this kind of sail. Unfortunately the event was planned out and had to take the wind that was provided. Many thanks go out to **Mimi Appel, Diane** and **Pat Bisesi** in a chase boat. There were several flips in the strong wind and waves. There was more discussion surrounding how to provide assistance and advice for skippers with less experience in the future for this kind of sail. **Mimi Appel and Bruce Krupke** will discuss the safety considerations in coming months. Nonetheless they celebrated Fleet member **Don Podejko's** birthday, a cake provided by his wife **Danielle** and **Debbie Weihl**. Lunch and some great food was provided and cooked up by the Weihl family and friends at their beautiful log home. We want to thank the Weihl's for their great hospitality and help with this sail. There was a motion to reimburse some of the Weihl's expenses for all the great food; there was a second, and the vote carried. Treasurer Whalen will get a check to Steve.



Future Regattas Report:

- **Hobie 16 North American Championships:** Five boats are planning on going to Galveston Texas in the third weekend in October. There is room for 4 more boats. If you are interested, see **Rob Jerry**. The event will be on the Gulf of Mexico and is expected to provide challenging conditions.
- **Toronto Etobicoke Yacht Club** regatta will be held the third weekend in August. Many Fleet members will be attending this great traditional event that has moved their date from the traditional third weekend in June. Support our own Division regattas; it is a great venue on Lake Ontario with the city of Toronto skyline in view.
- **CMOR**, also known as Canandaigua Yacht Club Regatta will be held the third weekend in September. This is a Division 16 point's regatta. Many Fleet members are planning on attending. There will be separate starts for the different classes of boats except for the last race of the regatta. Camping is available at the yacht club with lots to do in the area.
- Fleet members **Brad and Louise Wilson** from Owasco Yacht Club in Auburn will be hosting a one or two day regatta event the weekend after Labor Day. It will depend on the weather and how many can attend. This will be the second year they will host this event. They are trying to build attendance and interest with the possibility of it becoming a points Hobie regatta in the future. Keep an eye for more info about it on the Forum. A quick show of hands indicated 5-7 Fleet boats will participate this year.

Hobie Cat Division 16 Report: Chair **Adam Atherton** reported that next year we are looking forward to having some new regattas for the Division. Auburn, Buffalo, and Oswego are already in the works, with discussions and options. To get the Buffalo regatta back, Boatworks will cover costs if we don't get 25 boats registered. There was strong indication that we can get 25 boats to Buffalo. No specific dates or time frames have been set for any new regattas. They will be discussed and planned over the winter.

Other, Old or New Business:

- **Outing Update:** The annual Fleet 204 Labor Day Outing will be held on Lake Ontario, at Cheddamo Camp Grounds, Pulaski, NY. There is a modest daily camping fee. It starts Friday and goes through Monday Labor Day. The Fleet supplies everything; Grills, food, beer, corn, clams and more. On Sat. you are encouraged to bring your own main courses and something to pass for dinner. It is a very kid-friendly event with a Scavenger Hunt being planned. If you can make it for only one day, Saturday is when you should participate.

Commodore Straigis reviewed the volunteer supply list. Still to be confirmed and to be covered are: Clams? **Fluffy**, 4 bags. Paper Goods? **Kathy Miles**. Beer cups? **Rob Jerry** will do this, but also, bring your own. All other supplies are taken care of. All info will be posted on Forum for the duties. **Jim Perkins** has taken care of reservations and blue bowls. There was a suggestion for a trophy for the Sat. party. **Jason Straigis** will chair the evening events/games; to be included this year will be Mexican dice. There will be a guest Fee for one day of \$20 per family, see **Treasurer Whalen**. Members should collect the fee from the guest. As a reminder, see our Forum Racing tab for all past and future regatta information, results and notice of races, (NOR).

- **Pontoon boat:** **Commodore Straigis** brought up the question of launching the Fleet's Pontoon boat. It was decided that it wasn't needed at this point of the year and won't be launched. It was agreed it should be launched and made available. The question is where should it be docked, as **Pat Caster's** dock is full. **Pat Bisesi** said he has a better motor that could be installed on it. This will be discussed over the winter.



- **Garage sale.** It was suggested a garage “sail” of used Hobie gear and equipment be organized for newbies. There was a lot of interested in this idea from everyone. It was agreed we would bring gear to a party being hosted by our Commodore at her new house on Aug. 17th start time is 2:04pm until whenever. Holding the sale at the party will allow everyone to look over the gear for sale. It was suggested we do this garage sale every year, earlier in the season, possibly at the *Come Sail With Us Day* in June. **Rob Jerry** noted new gear can be found at Boat Works, with a Fleet discount. Nevertheless, the Commodore agreed to host a party. She said to bring your swim suits and something to pass. All Fleet members were invited. Burgers, beer, hotdogs, pool, are provided. Please bring a dish and some beverages. Address is posted on the Forum, 8482 Grandview Drive, Cicero. (*Editor’s Note:* This was a great event! Thanks, **Therese and Jason!**)



- **Fleet Sailboats:** **Herb James and Bob Longo** report because of liability issues, they need to make sure anyone who wants to use the Fleet’s 16 and Wave have to be approved and checked out by them. Please contact either and ask permission to use the boats first. To use the boats, you must have the ability to right the boat and have a good understanding of how to sail them. This can be accomplished on Newbie Tuesday nights. They are getting a lot of positive feedback and use of the boats. Also, if you use a boat and happen to break something, remember that you should at least be responsible for fixing the problem and really should upgrade it, if possible. It has been a long standing Fleet mantra and strong suggestion that whenever you borrow a boat, you leave it in the same or better condition.
- **Safety Officer:** **Mimi Appel** volunteered to be Safety Officer for the Fleet. She will review some Fleet events and protocols to be considered for the future.
- We will **continue to sail into October**, weather permitting. If you are going out, post it on the Forum.
- Maybe a future discussion on **winter boat storage tips** and locations could be discussed in September.
- **Southern winter regattas** were discussed and some are making vacation plans now, talk it up and double stack.

There was no chalk talk at the meeting. Commodore Straigis thanked everyone for the great attendance and input! The next Fleet meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 10th, still at 8pm. There was a motion to adjourn seconded and the meeting ended at 9:50pm.



Newbie Tuesday Wrap-Up!

Tues (8/27/13) was the last official Newbie Tuesday for the season. We want to thank all the 204ers who supported this all summer!!! This continues to be a group effort and between the great comments and showing from the Newbies and the overall participation and support by the fleet this has been well worth the effort. We typically had 8-15 boats on the water. We never left anyone on-shore who wanted to get out. We also helped several people with new (to them) boats by giving them a list of to do's- and a list of Boatworks items to pick up. Experienced skippers took out new boat owners trying to understand why everyone goes fast than them. Three H-16s were shuffled to Newbies from fleet members. One new (really, right from Boatworks!) Getaway sits at Therre's and is being used to sail and test the limits and capabilities of it's two very enthusiastic sailors. One "new" boat at Therre's, one "new" boat is being picked up Friday (8/30), and another "new" boat is expected to make its way back the Outing weekend to join our fleet. We hosted the Syracuse Sailing Team and got off two impromptu 12-15 boat races with 100% SU skippers and mostly 204 crews. Two SU'ers showed up for the Last Newbie Tuesday and hopefully we will have a few show up for some post Labor Day sailing.



So again – THANKS TO ALL!!!!!! This has been another great season and the Fleet is slowing growing because of everyone's efforts. That's all anyone one could ask.

Bob Longo and Bruce Krupke

PAUSE FOR THE CAUSE

Bob Burns (from the Buffalo Fleet, who is also a Fleet 204 member) has been diagnosed with



Danielle and Bob Burns, with Karen Grisko, at Rochester Regatta, 2010

Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (AML). This disease is a cancer of the blood and bone marrow — the spongy tissue inside bones where blood cells are made. The word "acute" in acute myelogenous leukemia denotes the disease's rapid progression. Bob needs money for bone marrow transplant – and quickly. There will be several fund-raising events coming up that will help to support Bob and Danielle, including ones at CMOR regatta. Our Fleet is also trying to help, so watch the Fleet Forum (<http://www.fleet204.com/204um/204forum.asp>) for details.

Membership Information Form

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

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

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

(Send to Donna & Kevin Wilson, the204play@verizon.net, 8442 Transit Lane, Baldwinsville NY 13027, 315-430-6678)

Membership Summary

The membership statuses are: Complimentary, Newsletter, or Regular. **Newsletter** (\$25.00) means you will be kept up-to-date on the happening within 204 by receiving the newsletter throughout the year. **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, 8482 Grandview Drive, Cicero, NY 13039
Vice Commodore: Herb James, sjames1@twcny.rr.com, 315-256-6314, 6819 Yacht Club Rd., Cicero, NY 13039
Co-Secretary: Bruce and Pattie Krupke, 315-699-6040, 5426 Fortuna Pkwy, Clay, NY 13041.
Treasurer: Bill Whalen, bill204204@yahoo.com, 315-622-0823, 8254 Honeysuckle Dr., Liverpool, NY 13090
Social Director: JoAnn Perkins, Perk77766@aol.com, 315-656-2840, 7591 Kirkville Rd. North., Krkvl, NY 13082
Youth Membership: Trey James, sjames1@twcny.rr.com, 315-446-1143, 6932 Old Quarry Rd., Fvl, NY 13066.
Newsletter & Membership: Theresa (Fluffy) White, h16tlw@yahoo.com, 315-345-4303, 601 DeMong Drive, Syracuse, NY 13214. and Donna & Kevin Wilson, the204play@verizon.net, 8442 Transit Lane, Baldwinsville, NY 13027, 315-430-6678.
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's 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

Donna & Kevin Wilson
8442 Transit Lane
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Address Service Requested

Next meeting is **Sept. 10th**
at **8:00 pm** at
Borio's Restaurant
Lakeshore Road
Cicero, NY