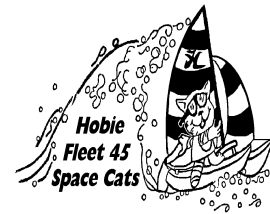


THE WRITING LINE

Hobie Fleet 45, Brevard County, Florida
March April 2001



Commodore	Frank Rodericks	779-1635	Secretary/Editor	Roy Laughlin	773-9844
Vice Commodore	Dave Andrews	639-9516	Treasurer	Dave Foy	254-1868

Fleet 45 Website <http://brevard.net/~cfoy/fleet45.htm>

Calendar

Mar 31 Fleet Race 2, Kelley Park, Merritt Island. This is a *Saturday* race.

April 7-8 Rescheduled IRCA campout, Sebastian Inlet

April 14: Fleet Fun Day, Kelly Park, MI

Apr 21: Beach Cleanup at Pineda

Apr 21: Miami Key Largo Regatta

Apr 29: Fleet Race 3

Apr 28 - 29 Hog's Breath Regatta

May 5: Mug Race

May 12: Fleet Race 4 (Saturday of MYC Regatta)

May 7 - 19 2001 Worrell 1000

May 19: Brevard Challenge

May 27 - 29: Anastasia Island Campout

June 30: 45 x 45 tentative date

Fleet Meetings Changed

Fleet 45's members voted to change the monthly meetings back to 'First Tuesday' (from Wednesdays) at the Cocoa Beach Yacht Club. We made this change because the Yacht Club is now available on this evening, when it had not been so in the past. It will also allow members with schedule conflicts on Wednesday evenings to attend. During the next meeting, fleet members may vote on a proposal to hold every other meeting at a house, possibly in the south part of the county.

Treasurer's Report

As of the March meeting, we had about \$1250 in our treasury

2001 Fleet Races

With the return of sunny, warmer weather, the fleet races are starting again. The next one is scheduled for *Saturday*, March 31 at Kelly Park. Fleet Race 3 and 4 will be on April 29 (Sunday) and Saturday, May 12, respectively. These dates are summarized in the calendar box at the top of the newsletter.

Hagar the Horrible

Hagar the Horrible was a complete success. The dreariest, coldest, wettest Hagar weekend in recent memory couldn't stop the multihulltude from going the full distance to NASA for *Hagar's Run*, and to welcome Hagar, who officially inaugurated the new year's sailing. Although the weather was monochromatic, Hagar was as colorful as ever, the company was as superb as always, and the food was as warm and tasty as we've come to expect. For an account of the story and photos, see www.1design.net →Florida Multihull Sailor. Follow the links to *Hagar the Horrible Regatta*. (or now see www.floridamultihullsailor.com)



JPOR NEWS

Plans for JPOR continue smoothly. We have applied for insurance through our primary sponsor, Junior Achievement. This should be approved by the end of March. The Port of Cape Canaveral has given us approval for the event pending showing proof of insurance and notification of regulatory agencies. This should all be completed by the first week of May.

We have begun a new procedure for planning JPOR with a meeting in February at Roy's house. Rather than hash out details at a Fleet meeting, JPOR committee chair people and interested fleet members get together for pizza, beer and a working session. The first meeting was successful and fruitful. The second is planned for March 27 for anyone interested in attending.

The Saturday evening party is a tradition. This year, we are looking for a change from past years. One idea is to have it at Coconuts. The fleet may pay for appetizers, and let those attending choose and buy what they want to eat and drink. If anyone else has an idea for an economical and fun idea, please let Roy, Dave Foy or Lisa know.

From the general fleet membership, we need to have as much promotion as possible. Do you know people who have attended in the past (or perhaps not attended but would like to do so?). Please invite them personally this year. We'll give you more details as time goes on.

February DS

Hagar the Horrible spawned a great many DS nominations, both of high and low quality. Those of lesser significance included Elaine's nomination of Richard

Merritt, who crewed for Greg, for falling off the boat in the initial stages of an (unsuccessful) attempt to trap out. Richard had new cold weather gear, much nicer than anyone's who sails regularly. It was likely not equal to the task of warming the baptism in the cold water that weekend. Apparently, fleet members felt that Richard must have suffered enough in the dunking because no vote for his candidacy was recorded.

Both Kent and Don were nominated for bouncing off the SR 528 causeway while crossing under the bridge. In the past, Hagar acknowledged this achievement, when properly executed, with the 'Roy Award.' To the best of the Phantom Editor's knowledge, Hagar gave no 'Roy Award' in 2001. Perhaps Hagar overlooked this strategic maneuver, or it was just so cold, he forgot. Maybe these two sailors didn't do it right. The fleet gave only 1 vote each to Kent and Don for the effort. Kent probably could have received a few style points for sailing most of the way up to the causeway on Saturday with a parted jib halyard and a sagging jib. Fleet members, however, were stingy. Better luck next year, guys.

The need for speed makes people take chances on the course. Brian Karr is no stranger to taking chances, as he will be getting married in a month or so. Brian tried jumping dredge pipes floating just below the water's surface while returning on a broad reach. Perhaps Evil Knevil could have pulled this off . . . Brian received only 2 votes for this daring but ultimately useless stunt. (The phantom editor knows that more than one sailor made contact with this dredge pipe. That the pair of votes Brian received should be shared with at least one other skipper. Luckily, no one received points for boat damage. It was minor in all cases admitted.)

Chuck Harndon is in second place for February's DS nomination. His credits include crew abuse, mainsheet infractions and illegal crab harvesting during *Hagar the Horrible Regatta*. Seems that Chuck, in his usual belated preparation, left shore without his main sheet blocks hooked up. This was easily fixed, but not without further psychological affection. Later on a broad reach, Chuck headed up instead of down, sending his crew, Don, through a well known demonstration of inertia. Don kissed the mast. Later Chuck tested a corollary of inertial motion by snagging a crab pot and rapidly decelerating the boat while the crew



again continued moving along the original vector at the original speed. Maybe Chuck has trouble remembering inertia; Don will have trouble forgetting. (The crabs were very good steamed.) This was a good attempt to win the DS award, but not quite good enough. Fleet 45 awarded Chuck 4 votes.

What is easy to visualize may be difficult to describe. Let the picture explain why Floyd White won DS for February, 2001. It's not that members of Fleet 45 are unsympathetic. Floyd almost never gets out to sail, and this once that he did, his shroud broke and his mast fell. We all feel sorry for Floyd. Compassion notwithstanding, Floyd's nomination was for allowing the mast to fall while Frank Rodrick's loaner sails were in use. Floyd is a victim of precedence. A few years ago, Frank's mast, holding those same sails, fell just as Frank prepared to leave the beach and sail to Vero Beach on the 45 x

45. Frank received the DS for that. It is only natural that Frank would nominate Floyd under the circumstances. Floyd got 5 votes, showing that most of the same people that voted for Frank, likely voted for Floyd for the same reason without any recourse to sympathy. Isn't that special?

March 2001 DS

After the Hagar Feast of DS nominations, March's nominations were somewhat slim pickins.

Kent Cooper was nominated for proving that sharks are not the blood thirsty killers as they are always portrayed. Kent was at the IRCA fun day that was moved to the beach in Vero. It was one of the typical week ends we've had this winter. A dry front was crossing the area, with plenty of wind but no rain. Kent borrowed Chris Runge's *Inter 17* for a few moments of excitement in the ocean blue while the atmosphere was dry heaving on the multihulltude. Kent got off shore OK and trapped out in the winds. Then the main sheet traveler came uncleaned. The main went out to the hull, and Kent went down into the water to chum for sharks. Luckily, no (hungry) sharks were around. But Lisa was and so Kent got nominated again.

Chuck Harndon received the nomination for obstructive amnesia. Seems Chuck parked his car in Dave Andrew's drive for a couple of days while he (Chuck) was out of town. Chuck didn't leave Dave a key. Chuck's car was parked right in front of where Dave keeps his Hobie 16 among several trees. Without the key, Dave couldn't even get into the car to put it in neutral and roll it out of the way so he could use his catamaran. Would have been useful to be able to do that. Dave had relatives in town that weekend. They were really looking forward to a ride on Dave's Hobie 16.

The vote for DS was a tie: 3 to 3. A coin toss was in Chuck's favor. Congratulations, Chuck! If Dave can remember where he put the key to the Rhino Boot he locked on your car, he'll give it to you, along with a bumper sticker (attached) commemorating your DS award.

Kent's stroke of bad luck in the outcome of the coin toss deeply disappointed his loyal supporters. This is the second month in a row Kent was nominated but did not receive the DS. Kent seems to be laying low these past few weeks, doing chores around the house and getting ready for April's distance races. Perhaps he is crafting a plan that will finally result in a successful DS campaign.

