

The STARTING LINE

Hebgen Lake Yacht Club

Montana's Newest Sailing Club

September, 2011 volume 1



Andrew Schreiner with his wife, Suzanne, and mother, Mary Lou, accepting the first ever Hebgen Cup for the Dinghy fleet.



You are cordially invited to become a founding member of the newly formed Hebgen Lake Yacht Club.



More information of future plans for the club, and how to join, are contained in this first issue of The Starting Line.



Commodore's Comments

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the First Annual Hebgen Cup Regatta (August 20, 2011). We had a total of seven boats and skippers, along with eighteen crew, for a grand total of twenty-five sailors. In addition we benefited from the logistical support of our race committee and club photographer. Special thanks go out to Pam Sveinson of Kirkwood Marina for allowing us to host our event at her facilities, and to join in her Fifth Annual Trout Cook-Off. Also, I am sure we would all like to thank our race committee, Sara Phelps and Presiding Race Officer (PRO) Doug Timm, for their work in setting up and officiating the regatta. Thanks are also due to Lee Griffiths, who volunteered his power boat to serve as race committee boat. We would also like to thank Patrice Parks and Katherine Mozzone of KTVM Bozeman for providing news coverage of our event, which aired the following Monday night. Finally, thanks go out to Brad Lartigue, who served as Club Photographer and provided many of the photos of the event contained in this issue of The Starting Line.

I was thrilled to see the interest generated by this event, and I hope we are able to carry this energy forward towards the full formation of Hebgen Lake Yacht Club. Towards that end, I have put together this newsletter, and I've included an application form in hopes that each of you will be willing to become a founding member of our club. More details of the plans for our club follow in a separate article. Since the regatta, I have spoken to several other people who are interested in joining HLYC, and who are looking into adding boats to our fleet.

Of course summer is coming to a close here in Montana, but we can use this off-season to organize and plan for next year, and the full establishment of our club. Best wishes and smooth sailing to all this fall and winter, and I look forward to sailing with each and every one of you next summer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brock D. Short

RACING



The first mark rounding



A tight start



Full Sails



Tacking duel



Race Committee



Sea-J Spinnaker Run

THE HEBGEN CUP

By any yacht club's measure, the HC was a success, but particularly when we consider it was the first sailboat race ever held on Hebgen Lake. Granted, we did not receive the usual windy day we have all come to expect, but that did not keep us from racing and having a good time.

After some delay in gathering us all to the line, our Race Committee, PRO Doug Timm and skiff skipper Sara Phelps, did an excellent job of getting a race underway in spotty air, and the unusual downwind start. Cheers and hoots rose up from all, as this defining moment arrived. The start was even captured on film and aired the following Monday on the Bozeman NBC affiliate. Sea-J, our J-32, was the first to hoist her spinnaker, with Kirk Seitz on Hornet, a yellow San Juan 21, and Jason Gras on Aerie, a Catalina 22, to follow. Sailing with Kirk on Hornet were Dean Elliott and Marie Gary. On board Aerie were Jason Gras, Kari Gras, Chris Adams, and Sean Pierce. For Sea-J, even in the light air, the spinnaker made the difference in the race, as we crept out into the lead. For a moment we felt secure, but as our winds died, others shot up on the inside. It looked as though we would be passed by even Andrew Schreiner in "Frenchy", who started ten minutes behind in the Dinghy fleet. Sailing with Andrew were his mother, Mary Lou, and his wife, Suzanne. Half way up the first leg, wind returned to allow us to re-consolidate our lead and round the "weather" mark in first place. We again hoisted our spinnaker, which helped us maintain a solid lead. With Barry Silverman on the helm, I pulled the strings in the cockpit to hoist and trim, while Jason Armstrong ran the foredeck, setting the jibing the pole. Jane Short trimmed the main throughout the race as Zoey Silverman and Chelsea Armstrong played a key role as middle crew and human jib preventers. In a light air race the heel of the boat can make a big difference.

Meanwhile, the rest of the fleet, including Gary Douglas, sailing with Patrick McVey and Lee Griffiths on "Silvergirl", a McGregor 25, and "Frenchy" battled closely at the weather mark in light air. At times it appeared the Hornet would make out on everyone, but Gary McRae in "Pearl" managed to round second, and stretch a lead on the pack back down the second leg. On board with Gary were two seasoned but well-preserved sailors, James Bildahl and Dave Broederdorf.

Upon rounding the second mark we caught several strong reaching puffs, at one point accelerating to over six knots. The wind died at the finish, but we still managed to drift across two hours after the start. "Pearl" battled with "Frenchy" most of the way back, for a solid second place finish, and "Frenchy" took first for the Dinghies. Don Loyd, sailing with his wife Becky, managed to sail most of the course, despite a late start. Their backyard-built Triad was being sailed for the first time, and their homemade blue tarp sail kept us all grounded as a true grass roots sailing club. "Silvergirl" struggled downwind on the second leg, without a spinnaker in the light air, but a major battle set up for third place in the cruiser fleet between "Aerie" and "Hornet." Leads were exchanged, but the dying wind at the finish line left Jason Gras so frustrated that he finally dove in the frigid waters and swam "Aerie" across the finish line. Way to go, Jason! You further exemplified the Corinthian Spirit and down-to-earth nature we are after at HLYC.



"Pearl"



"Silvergirl"



"Hornet"



"Frenchy"



"Aerie"



"Backyard"

HEBGEN CUP RESULTS

Cruisers

<u>Position</u>	<u>Skipper</u>	<u>Boat</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Actual Time</u>	<u>Corrected Time (sec's)</u>
1	Brock Short	J-32	Sea-J	2:00:12	7,212
2	Gary McRae	Hunter 25.5	Pearl	2:33:31	8,181
3	Kirk Seitz	San Juan 21	Hornet	2:50:01	8,821
4	Jason Gras	Catalina 22	Aerie	3:08:08	9,846
5	Gary Douglas	McGregor 25	Silvergirl	DNF	DNF

Dinghies

<u>Position</u>	<u>Skipper</u>	<u>Boat</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Actual Time</u>	<u>Corrected Time</u>
1	Andrew Schreiner	Tanzer 16	Frenchy	2:44:14	8,164
2	Don Loyd	Triad 12	Backyard	DNF	DNF





FUTURE PLANS

Location

The future appears bright for HLYC, given the participation in the first Hebgen Cup, and the interest expressed by all in the formation of a club. I have been talking with Pam Sveinson of Kirkwood Marina, and she has agreed to allow us to establish a clubhouse on her grounds. We are still discussing the exact location, but my hope is that she will agree to let us use the Southeast breakwater point. The views are excellent, and it is possible to drive out there, with room to park. Pam is also willing to add docks on that side, so we may be able to get our fleet right there by the clubhouse. We are working on electricity availability, and the feasibility of putting a port-a-potty out on that point.

The Clubhouse

Vice-Commodore Gary McRae has offered to contribute his 14' X 10' wall tent. Our plan is to build a wood deck at least twice that size to allow for a front porch. Lawn chairs and picnic tables should be easy to come by. We may even find someone to add sailing murals on the "club house." This would give us a place to gather for both races and social events, thus an identifiable presence on the lake.

Events

In addition to the Hebgen Cup, next year we hope to conduct club races every other Saturday. This will give us more practice, and more races in various wind conditions. We also hope to plan a raft-up on the Saturday evenings in July and August that are closest to the full moon. For this event sailors will meet in a designated cove, tying their boats side by side for cocktails and dinner. We also hope to plan some lunch time and evening cook-outs around the club before or after our club races.

As the club grows, we also hope to develop a youth sailing program. Depending on the boats we end up with in the club, it may also be possible to develop a team with one or more boats that can travel to races at Canyon Ferry Lake and Flathead Lake. If this unfolds, we could then develop an intra-yacht club challenge and competition.

The Organization

All these plans of course depend upon sufficient member participation. The Hebgen Cup gave us the start we needed. Our hope now is to begin with ten to twenty founding members, and build from there as described. Jane and I deposited the entry fees from the regatta in an account with American Bank titled "Hebgen Lake Yacht Club." We are asking our founding members to fill out the enclosed application and commit to a \$100.00 initiation fee, with \$25 payable now and \$75 payable by next June, when we begin to set up the club house. Beyond that, we need to meet this winter to decide on a possible dues structure. Our need for dues will depend on what we wish to achieve, and whether or not Pam will insist on a lease payment. She seems inclined to help us get started, but we want to be fair to her as well. Initiation fees will go into the club account, to be spent on the creation of the club house, a possible lease payment to Kirkwood Marina, and initial organization fees to form a Montana non-profit corporation. I will try to minimize any organizational expenses by borrowing from my Tennessee yacht club's documents. I hope we can have an organizational meeting this winter to approve some initial by-laws and a slate of officers. I will be glad to host this meeting in December or January, after I return from Tennessee. So please send in your initial application so we can have a core membership with which to work together in building this club.

Yours Truly,

Brock D. Short

HEBGEN LAKE YACHT CLUB - MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant Information (Please print legibly)

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Address: _____

Alternate Address: _____

Home Telephone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Occupation: _____

Spouse Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Cell Phone: _____

Children:

Name: _____ Birthday _____

Name: _____ Birthday _____

Name: _____ Birthday _____

I currently own a boat(s) _____ Yes _____ No

Manufacturer: _____

Class: _____ Length _____

Location Where Boat is Kept _____

Dry dock on trailer _____ Dock Slip _____

Previous sailing experience: _____

Current and/or prior sailing club affiliation(s): _____

FEES – for 2012

Reservation Fee Due Now (Enclosed) \$25.00

Balance Due June 1, 2012 \$75.00

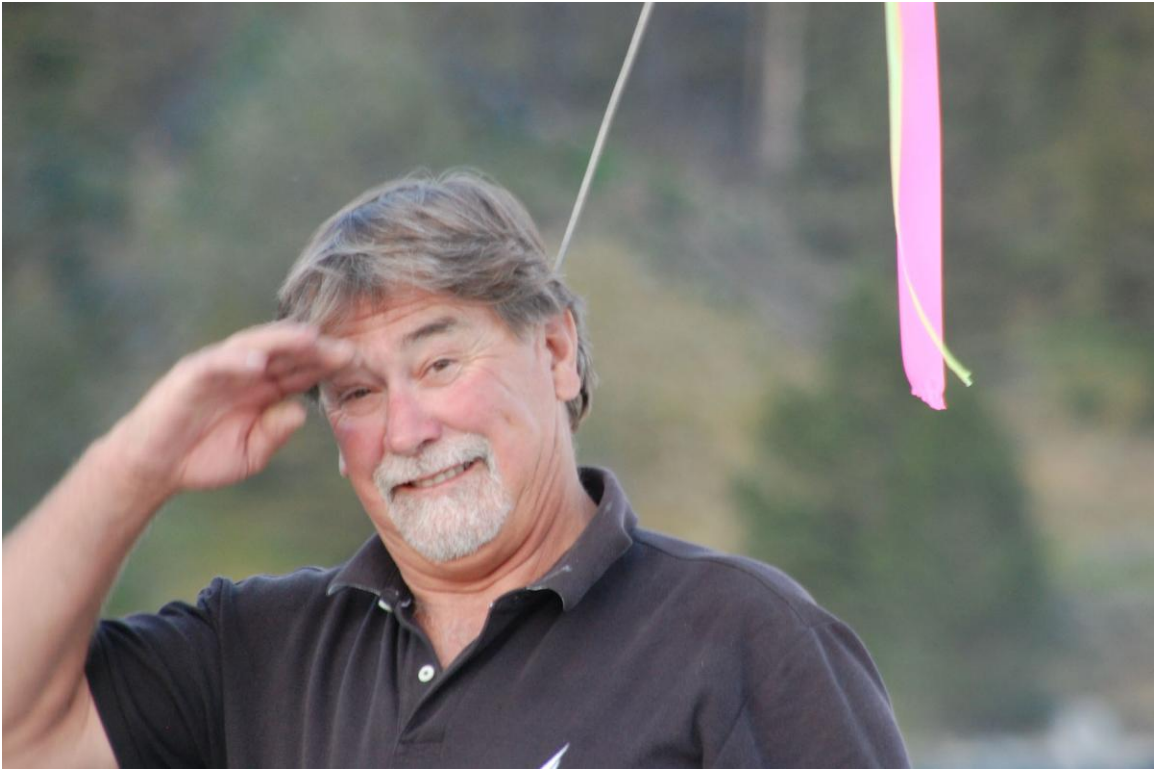
Total for 2012 \$100.00

HLYC is not a “marina business” organized to sell services to the public. It has no paid staff. HLYC will be a Club composed of friends and operated through the unpaid, volunteer labor of its members. You will be asked to devote your time and effort to making HLYC a continuing success.

I hereby apply for membership in Hebgen Lake Yacht Club on the terms indicated on this Application. I agree that my family and I will abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, Dock Policy and other rules and regulations of HLYC and Kirkwood Marina. If accepted into membership in Hebgen Lake Yacht Club, I fully understand and agree that the Club assumes no liability whatever for personal injury or property damage or other loss to me, my family, my guests, my boats, my car or my other property. I understand and agree that any property left on HLYC or Kirkwood Marina premises by me, my family or my guests is left there at our own risk and that HLYC has no duty for the security or safety of such property. I understand and agree that, while the HLYC and Kirkwood Marina will make an honest, good faith effort to provide safe facilities, it does not warrant the safety or serviceability of the docks, equipment, gang-planks, grounds or Clubhouse, and I and my family and my guests use these facilities at our own risk. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Hebgen Lake Yacht Club and Kirkwood Marina from any and all liability it or they may have to me, my family members or guests arising in any way out of the use of the facilities or participation in activities of the club.

APPLICANT

SIGNATURE: _____ PRINT: _____ DATE: _____



The Last Word

Alas, alas, as summer comes to an end.
But memories are anchored in new found friends.
The sailor exists in enviable surroundings,
Tempered by the sounds of nature and silence.
They know true freedom: freedom from computers
And traffic, bound only by the vast horizon
And the water passing under their hull.