

SEASWORTHY

August 12, 2008

*A Newsletter for the Bergen Chapter of
The Society for the Education of American Sailors*

Calendar of Events:

General Meeting: next meeting will be held on August 27, at 7:30, Red Cross Building, Ridgewood.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, SEAS Bergen – July 23, 2008

Submitted by Pat Sisti, Secretary

Present: 16 members

Meeting called to order at 19:40 by Commodore Peter Kestenbaum. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Treasurer: Ed Marcus

- Funds available for expenses: [REDACTED] General Fund and [REDACTED] Keelboat Fund. No outstanding invoices. National owes us [REDACTED].

Membership: Louise Hauser

- Present membership is 49.

Education: Dave Stern

- Sher Bauer has resigned as Co-Vice Commodore due to illness in the family. Members requested that a letter of appreciation be sent to her.
- A refresher sail day was discussed and Bruce Terrin volunteered to do the legwork to make it happen.
 - No fee will be charged.
 - A waiver form will be required.
 - Participants must be able to swim and wear a PFD while on the boats.
 - A list of past students will be provided to Bruce for contact. He will set a date, compose an invitation and forward it to Matt for distribution to members.
 - Day will be open to friends/family who have not taken basic sailing class.
- Red Cross only has Bob English listed as instructor; all other records are missing following changes in Red Cross offices. Dave is collecting documentation of others qualified, and Maxine has a list for reference.

Keelboat: Pat Sisti

- Meeting of Keelboat Committee was held 7/21, and maintenance of Zephyr was the main topic.
- October 5th is the date set for the Fall Frolic picnic. We are seeking someone to plan a menu and buy the food. Full support will be provided by Maxine, Pat, Louise and others. We need new ideas.

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Publicity: Peter Kestenbaum

- At least one article on SEAS has been published in a local newspaper.
- Should we advertise our meetings/events in MeetUp?

National: Jeff Levy

- Monmouth chapter will host a table at Clearwater in Asbury Park.
- Next meeting is August 13th.

New Business:

- Discussion of problems/flaws in basic sailing courses was main topic of meeting. Some recommendations:
 - Implement the option to sign up for half day as water assistant.
 - Set up a web contact group (Yahoo or other) to distribute a call for volunteers, which will enable an RSVP.
 - Create new position of Volunteer Coordinator to schedule water assistants, although instructors should be free to do their own recruiting if desired.
 - Instructors should be obligated to teach at water sessions in addition to classroom.
 - Establish three sets of water sessions each season with limit on number of students in each.
 - Don't discourage volunteers if too many show up on any day, but make it a social get together.
 - Continue MeetUp recruitment.
 - Increase advertising/public relations.
 - Fall maintenance is critical this year, as there are many minor repairs required on teaching boats. Bob English can provide a list of many known problems, but each instructor should make note of problems following each water session.
 - An Instructors' Meeting is necessary.

Meeting adjourned at 21:05.

KETCH ME IF YOU CAN

By Maxine House
July 5, 2008

QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.



Owner/skipper Jeff Levi

I learned to sail on Phantom (a lateen-rigged dinghy), I've sailed often on sloops, and I've even cruised on a catamaran. But I had never sailed on a ketch until I crewed on Jeff Levi's 40-foot clipper ketch, the *Green Heron (GH)*.

Ah, the sad saga of *Dulcinea*, Jeff's former boat, a sloop. The marina staff dropped it last fall while taking it ashore for the winter! The insurance companies are still sorting it out, but in the meantime, Jeff had the fun of searching online for a replacement. He said that many people were selling their sloops to buy ketches. Jeff decided that he would upgrade too.

He found *GH* in Massachusetts. It was love at first sight. Built in Maine in 1959 by Reid and Prendergast, *GH* is a wooden boat with a center cockpit. Its amenities include three hanging lockers, two heads, and a Shipmate coal/wood stove. Besides polishing the stove, Jeff has a lot of wood to refinish. I am sure he will find eager hands to work for passage!



Our crew assembled at noon on the porch of the Nyack Boat Club and soon were boarding the *Green Heron*. Jeff gave us a tour before we motored off the mooring.

With cloudy skies and a light breeze, we raised all three sails. What fun to have that mizzen sail behind us. Because of the threatening weather, we kept close to the Boat Club. A race was taking place, so we had the fun of watching the boats round the mark and raise their spinnakers for the downwind-leg of the race.



John Mazza, Pat Sisti, & meetup student



Maxine House

We had a delightful day of sailing and all of us look forward to boarding this gem again.

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Please submit articles, jokes, stories (we'll take just about anything) for the next issue to obiesail@optonline.net by September 9, 2008. Thanks.

Bergen Officers and National Representatives:

Commodore – Peter Kestenbaum
Co Vice Commodores: Dave Stern and Sher Bauer
Secretary – Pat Sisti
Treasurer – Ed Marcus
Past Commodore – Dave Stern
Trustees: Matt Jacobs, Louise Hauser, and Maxine House
National Representatives – Jeff Levy, Maxine House

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