



The *HIGHLANDER*

Volume LXI, No. 4, October 2015

Fleet 16's new members, Scott Page and Janis Mars Wunderlich, sail in after an evening cruise



Photo credit: Sue Bauer

The HIGHLANDER
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International Association

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President's Perspective

I can't believe it's almost September with fall sailing around the corner. This summer, sailing season seems different since nationals was in April this year. Typically nationals is my midpoint of sailing each year, spring sailing is all about tuning up for nationals. This year is definitely different but as a class, I am glad we shook the schedule around. I credit listening to WCSC. They advised what worked best for them *and* provided the best sailing conditions for racing.

The fall schedule is before us. As a class we will be traveling to the different regattas. Harvest Moon is hosted by fleet #10 at Atwood Lake and Governor's Cup, hosted by fleet #45 at Eagle Creek are scheduled on the same weekend. I know each regatta is a multi-fleet regatta for the local sailing clubs but hopefully next year the Highlander fleet captains can attempt to communicate with each other to prevent the regatta dates falling on the same weekend. It's tough to align dates with all of the sailing clubs and there are limited weekends so this can be a difficult task.



*Too Fish at Mad Plaid
Photo by Dave Surber*

We are planning to attend the 2nd annual Clam Digger in September. We heard that they have a fabulous place to sail and put on a great dinner/party. Fleet #47 is growing each year so let's support them again this year. They had 11 boats for the first annual so let's build on that. Next is Bluegrass, occurring on the first weekend of October and they also had 11 boats that competed in 2014. Sailing on the river can be challenging but they throw a party like no other. The final regatta of the season is Pipers at Lake Norman; always well attended with their large lake, easy access, and beautiful venue. They had a great turnout last year with 24 boats on the starting line.

I would like to give a big "thank you" to Steve and Gillian Bauer who have taken over the publication of the "The Highlander" newsletter. It looks great published in color and it's a lot of work in a short period time. We have a few class members which put in many hours of volunteer

work so give a special “thank you” next time you see Steve and Gillian.

So let’s pack up the boat and plan on attending a couple of the fall regattas this year. I think “Team MoJo #1002” is leading the Larry Klein Trophy and they need some competition so let’s put some heat on them. Bring a friend to sail with you at a regatta so they see how much it is to travel to a different place to sail. We have a wonderful class and a boat with unique attributes so take some friends out for an evening cruise or better yet attend a local club race or a regatta. See all of you Highlanders soon..... Doug & Cindy Fisher

Mad Plaid

By John Bauer

Several weeks before the Mad Plaid regatta, my brother, Steve Bauer, called to let me know he would be crewing with Mike Shayeson. He told me his boat was going to be rigged at the dock and available. Steve also mentioned the Spengeman family was hoping to come and use the boat.

I should point out that both the Spengeman family and our Bauer family have a lot in common. We have kids and wives who love sailing! The kids want to go sailing, just not always for the full duration of the day. Both of our wives love to go sailing, if the weather is nice. Unfortunately we can’t all go on the boat at the same time. We kept the plan simple: go racing with any of the kids who show interest, ages ranging from 18 months to 6 years. For the weekend, we planned to rotate ourselves between racing and staying on shore with any kids that didn’t want to race. Keeping in mind that any of the kids could want to come in at anytime, which very well could take us out of the race we were in at the time or even the next race. All and all, we knew we would have to embrace all of these uncertainties and move on.

Saturday morning, when it came time to decide who was going sailing, we had interest from two of the four kids. We went down to the dock, removed the cover, took off the spinnaker, and decided that we were ready to go sailing. Leaving the spinnaker ashore was an idea to simplify the experience for



*Ed Spengeman, John Bauer take Mad Plaid
Photo by Dave Surber*

the kids; one less thing to cause chaos if things get busy on the boat.

Around mid-morning, Steve Bauer came down to the dock with a train of kids, all wanting to go for a pre-race sail. Steve took his kids and the Spengeman kids for a short sail before the skippers meeting. By the time they got back the kids were all sailed out for the day, and looking forward to playing on the playground.

continued on next page



Mad Plaid

Place	Skipper	Boat #	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Total Pts.
1	John Bauer	925	3	2	5	3	9	14
2	Neal Deaves	960	4	7	4	1	3	19
3	Jamey Carey	1002	1	3	11	6	2	23
4	Mark Osterbock	967	6	5	3	2	8	24
5	Jay Carey	906	7	4	6	4	4	25
6	Mike Shayeson	2006	2	1	10	5	9	27
7	Doug Fisher	2005	5	6	1	9	7	28
8	Mac Cooper	927	11	10	2	7	6	36
9	Bryan Hollingsworth	876	8	11	13	8	5	45
10	Chris Kafsky	969	14	12	9	11	11	57
11	Bob Bauer	989	9	8	7	13	DNC	58
12	Harold Bauer	885	10	15	12	10	10	59
13	Bruce Busbey	2007	12	9	8	DNF	16	64
14	Bob Rudy	450	15	13	DNF	12	10	69
15	Bob Thobaben	812	13	14	14	14	14	69
16	Bob McCoun	861	16	16	16	DNF	16	72
17	Craig Rule	980	17	17	15	15	13	77
18	Marion Brainerd	514	18	18	17	DNF	17	89

Cowan is shifty when the wind is blowing across the lake. We found we were able to make faster adjustments to both the jib and main without the spinnaker. We didn't lose any boat speed relative to the boats around us. We were actually able to make gains in comparison to the boats that couldn't respond to the constant shifts of Cowan.

There were times when the wind was blowing down the lake toward the dam that a spinnaker would have proven to be an advantage. During these races we noticed that we lost boats on the down winds. The extra distance on the lake certainly proved to be good for a spinnaker.

In the big picture, having a spinnaker during racing is an advantage. However, when we

are sailing short courses, in shifty wind conditions, a spinnaker seems to over complicate things for two people. So, all and all, not having a spinnaker

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After the skippers meeting Ed and I went to the boat with my youngest daughter, Jossalyn. By the time we got the race area, Jossalyn said she was done sailing and wanted to play with everyone else at the playground. We dropped her off at the dock and headed back in time for the first race. This is one advantage to sailing on small lakes: you can usually head back to the dock and still make it to the race area in time for the start.

While I don't remember any specifics from the races, we did learn the importance of not using a spinnaker on every down wind. Because we left our spinnaker on shore, we were forced to use the jib and main only.



5 Bauer kiddos (ages 0, 1, 2, 3, 4) watch Mad Plaid: Day 2 from Cowan Lake's beach

on the boat for the weekend was probably the largest single factor in our downwind strategy. It really made us focus on smaller wind shifts and sail trim. With only two people on the boat, it gave us some free hands to do everything else.

I would like to thank Steve and Gillian Bauer for the use of their boat and congratulate them on the birth of their third child, Harper, who was approximately two weeks old for her first Mad Plaid Regatta. Also, I would like to thank my wife Lissa and Erin Spengeman for watching our kids on shore while we sailed.

Father's Day at BYC

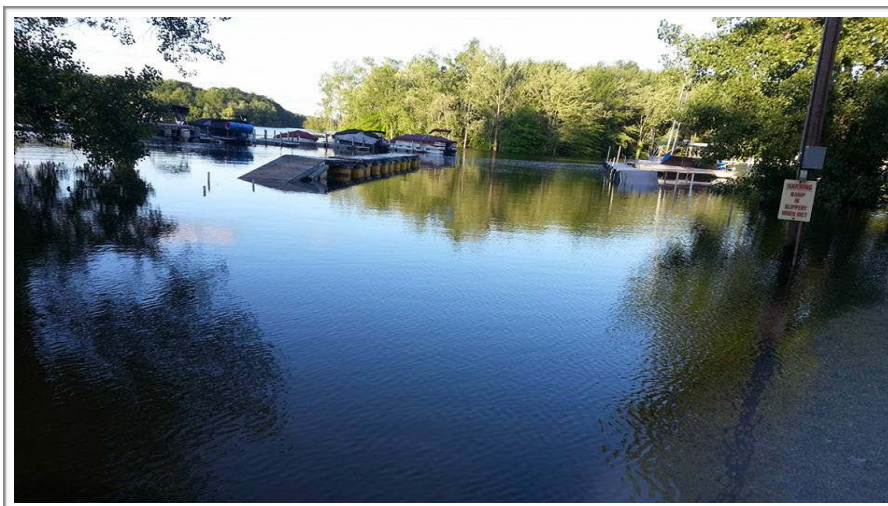
By Joe Garrett

The 65 annual Berlin Invitational Regatta started with the Friday cookout at the clubhouse to welcome travelers from the various fleets represented. Armed with cell phone weather apps and the latest layered radar maps we immediately took up a tradition perfectly befitting sailors and all Midwestern folk. We discussed the weather. The forecast for Saturday didn't look good, and as the evening wore on our phones became less and less popular. Still, the grills were warm, the beer was cold and on tap, and catching up with old friends and making a few new ones never loses its luster, rain or shine.

As Saturday morning rolled around and the rigging began, it became even more apparent that this was not the regatta for fair weather sailors. Both rigging and the trek to the starting line were done in rain or under the imminent threat of it. Sailing in the rain is one thing, we've all done that.....paddling in the rain is quite another. If at this point you are starting to pat yourself on the back for not spending father's day with the Highlander folk over at BYC, then I've suckered you into my storyline, because we had serious doubts about it ourselves at that moment.

There with us was Al Chruscial, and while the rain may have dampened his pipe smoke for a

moment, it certainly didn't dampen his spirit or that of his faithful crew Andy Yonek. For me, the smell of that pipe is as much a part of summer as the smell of sunscreen and back yard barbecues. Filling out Highlander 885 was an entire Bauer boat, John skippered with his crew made up of his daughter Aly and his father Harold. I also had my



*Dock at Berlin Lake just 2 days after the regatta
Photo credit: Sarah Reed Gold*

daughter Elaina crewing for me in the middle and our boat's owner, Gary Steinbach, ran forward. This gave him chance to look at his boat from an angle more normally reserved for his wife Elaine who is off this season with a rotator cuff surgery.

Personally, I had a lot of wins at the 2015 BYC Fathers Day Regatta. I got to sail a wonderful freshly re-cored Highlander (939), with

continued on next page



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Gary running tactics and guiding me through each move. I got to sail against John Bauer, who I could hardly compete with if it weren't for the factors mentioned in the previous sentence. We had some great tactical duels at both the windward and the leeward mark as well as at least one finish to keep Al and Andy at bay. And, it was my daughters first time flying a spinnaker, which again required some intervention here and there (thank you Gary).

The BYC Club members and friends took great care of all skippers, crew and guests of the 33 boats that attended this multi-class regatta. The race committee found two races for us in the middle of spotty rain and OK wind on Saturday, and Sunday provided just enough to get us by for another two. Saturday evening was game night. The club house was filled with card tables and professional dealers guided us through black-jack. OK, one of the dealers might

not have been very professional and apparently most of us had no idea what we were doing at the beginning of the night, but that all only added to the fun. That and the fact that we were dry. Oh how dry we were. The bottom line is that every NOR should imply rain-or-shine. We had a blast at the 2015 BYC Father's day regatta, and we plan to again next year.

For Sale

#556 In very good condition. White with beige deck. Fiberglass hull, mahogany trim and seats. Mast reworked for easy up and down. Sails have some age but limited use. Good cover. Trailer repainted and in good shape. Boat has been stored inside for past 20 years and used only a few times a year. \$2,000 OBO Lynn Swinger (937)726-6232 swingerlaw@gmail.com



The Highlander, Oct. 2015

Tweak Your Trailer!!

By: Mike Perakis

You just pulled the boat out of the water and you notice that the boat is not quite centered on the rollers. After 3 overshoots to either side, you finally get it in the middle. Then, you notice the big black smears on the bottom where the rollers rub on the boat. You also notice your centerboard gasket has two beat-up sections right over the rollers. What can you do to eliminate these occurrences?

You can turbocharge your trailer with bunks instead of rollers. I'm not saying that your boat will fall apart or your hair will turn green if you don't rework your trailer to remove the rollers. I'm just saying that it is much more gentle on the hull because the boat isn't sitting on 4 or 5 points on a flexible trailer (every trailer bends), it's easier to launch and retrieve and can all but eliminate unsightly and damaging blemishes on the bottom. The two bunks allow the boat to float over the trailer as it bends when you hit a bump.

The transformation is really quite simple. The trickiest part is getting the curve of the bunks to match the hull. If you simply slide your boat back

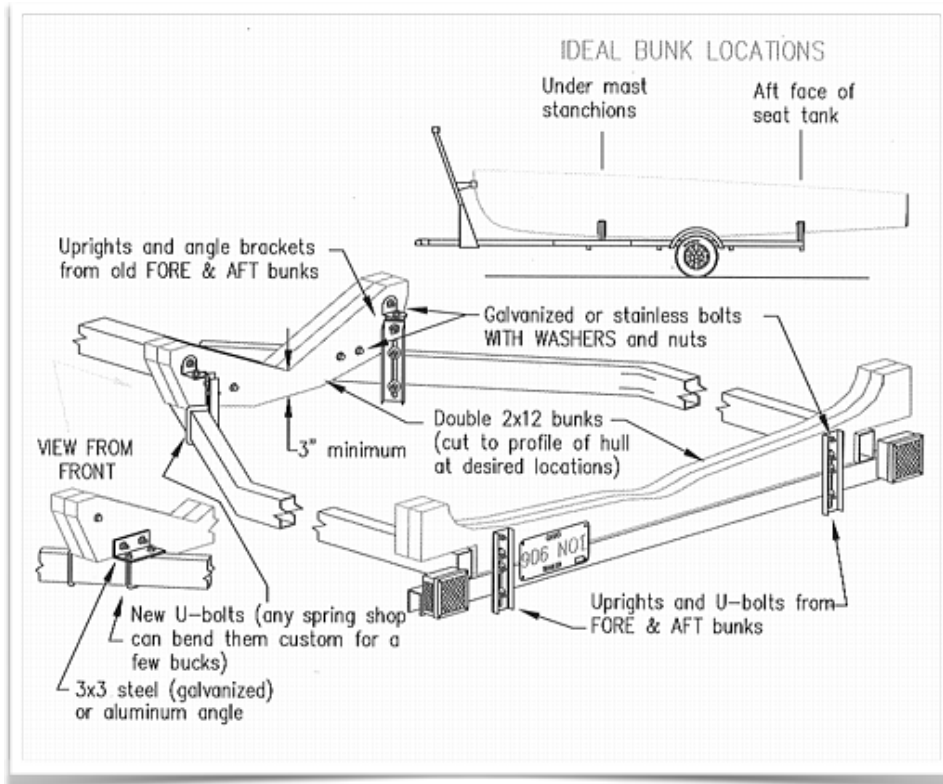
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on the trailer a few inches, you can trace the curve for the back bunk. If your boat is close to the fenders, don't make the bunks any lower. But, if there's a lot of room, go ahead and lower the boat. Keep at least 1" between the boat and the fenders. I just made my bunks the exact same height as the rollers. Remember to allow for TWO layers of carpet, especially at each end where the bunks curve up around the waterline. I used inexpensive, plush carpet store extras. Fold the carpet around the bunks and staple or screw (preferred) it in place.

Attaching the bunks to the trailer is actually quite simple. The adjustable bunk supports (from the old fore and aft bunks) are used to hold the aft bunk in place and, combined with all of the 90° clips, holds the back side of the forward bunk (see picture). A piece of galvanized or aluminum angle holds the front of the forward bunk in place. Any spring shop (like car and truck suspensions) can bend up the odd sized u-bolts to hold the forward brackets. The bolts **will** loosen up for the first few trips down the road. **Make sure** you tighten them up.

You can leave the middle rollers in place on the trailer, just lower them down at least 1" away from the boat. They will keep the centerboard from dropping onto the axle or the road should the pull up line break. (Hint: I had to duct tape my rollers around the crossmember because they rattle like crazy without the boat on them). Happy trailering!!



MAD PLAID 2015

Photos by Dave Surber



HOOVER FLING 2015



Photos courtesy of
Lisa Kreischer
www.LisaKsPhotos.com
LisaKsPhotos@gmail.com



The Highlander, Oct. 2015



Eleven Boats + Twenty-four Crew = Boat Loads of Fun

By Aunt Ruby

Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio Highlanders gathered for the Highlander Fling at Hoover Yacht Club on August 8 – 9, 2015. Fleet #16 covered every detail for this weekend event. Thanks to Sue & Bob Bauer and their committee. Multi-generations gathered Friday evening as Opti boats sailed, the playground was invaded, tent sites were prepared and the keg was tapped. All mingled to share stories and update friends. New acquaintances and familiar faces found camaraderie in the casual surroundings at Hoover Clubhouse.

Saturday morning allowed travelers time to arrive and prep for afternoon races. The Interlake Race Committee set the WLW marks. The first race proved right was right. Jason Japikse, Ed Spengeman, John Bauer escaped from the fleet for a three boat final beat in oscillating light air. Second race teased boats to both sides on the first beat with right being right again. Jason led the final beat with Rob Spring and Jamey Carey in a close two boat duel for second and

third. Third start had

steady breeze tempting boats to take a chance on the left. Ed and Rob took the risk which provided a private lift to the top mark ahead of the fleet. They never looked back with Jamey and John next. Fourth race gave everyone good breeze for the start but soon lightened resulting in Rob and Jason overlapped at the top mark each coming from different sides of the course. The two boats split sides downwind then overlapped stem to stern at the bottom mark. A few tacks to finish resulted in



Mike Perikas with Joyce & Rob Spring

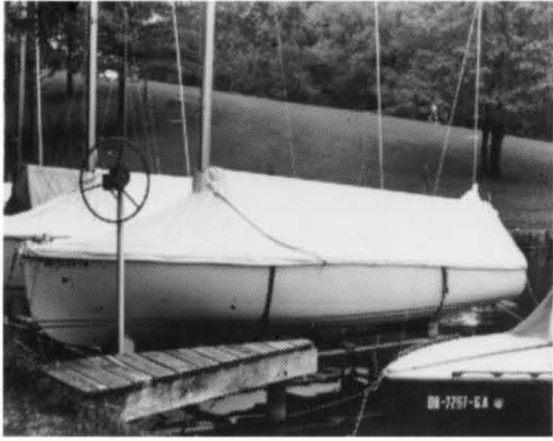


Team Mojo during a race at Hoover Reservoir

Rob, Jason, Neal Deaves and Ed ending the racing for the day. Back onshore everyone gathered again to enjoy awaiting appetizers and share varying stories of the races. Crews and skippers told tales of auto tacks, positive and negative boat-speeds, watching the other side fill with breeze, even an occasional mumbled helpful suggestion.

Sunrise on Sunday brought zero to little wind. Crews made the most of the waiting to follow up with previous stories or new discussions vary from racing to rigging to current events -- never ending topics in a Highlander Clan parking lot. Race Committee signaled racing was cancelled so conversations switched to how many people are





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necessary to pick up a Highlander to slip on a bottom cover.

Trophies were given and everyone recognized for their respective finishing position. Ed and Erin Spengeman have been sailing together since before they were the Spengemans, yet it took until this Hoover Fling (and Ben and Emma both being tall enough to see over the deck) for them to sail with an all-family crew. Jamey and Tanya Carey brought their full size grandson for his first regatta. Not only did he have a good time, but did not say no when asked if he would do it again. Word was they even took a detour to do sight seeing and check out the "Hoover Dam." The Bauer family was fully represented

Hoover Fling

Place	Skipper	Boat #	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Total Pts.
1	Rob Spring	1959	5	2	1	1	9
2	Jason Japikse	2006	2	1	5	2	10
3	Ed Spengeman	2002	1	6	2	4	13
4	Jamey Carey	1002	4	3	3	5	15
5	Neal Deaves	960	10	4	6	3	23
6	John Bauer	925	3	8	4	8	23
7	Tom Fee	857	9	5	7	6	27
8	Bob Bauer	989	6	7	10	7	30
9	Pete Breidenbach	955	8	11	8	11	38
10	Harold Bauer	885	7	10	DNS /12	9	38
11	Chris Kafsky	969	11	9	9	10	39



rotating family members as crew in two boats. Harold even adopted two local crew when family was not available. Bob Bauer had a third Bauer boat with daughter Jessica and local fleet member Stephanie Bahr. Just two letters away from being an all family boat. Steve and Gillian Bauer proudly introduced the newest Bauer: three month old Harper. Not quite ready to crew but great addition to the Clan.

Stefanie Bauer with 4 young sailors; stretching before a day of sailing.

Photo: Sue Bauer

The Highlander, Oct. 2015



This Issue in 1980

By Steve Bauer

About a month ago my dad, Harold Bauer, dropped off most of his collection of *The Highlander* magazines. Late nights with a new baby in the house have allowed me the time to read through the ups and downs of the class over a 45 year span archived in this collection.

In the issue of October 1980, the pages were filled with Larry Klein as he won his fourth championship held in Nyack, New York. The top five were Larry Klein, Steve Carter, Wes Pignolet, Fred Bauer, and John Clark. They had the throwout that year which moved Klein up from fourth to first. The following is what the article had to say:

"Klein Defends Championship, The Nationals 1980, 41 Boats on the Line at Nyack.

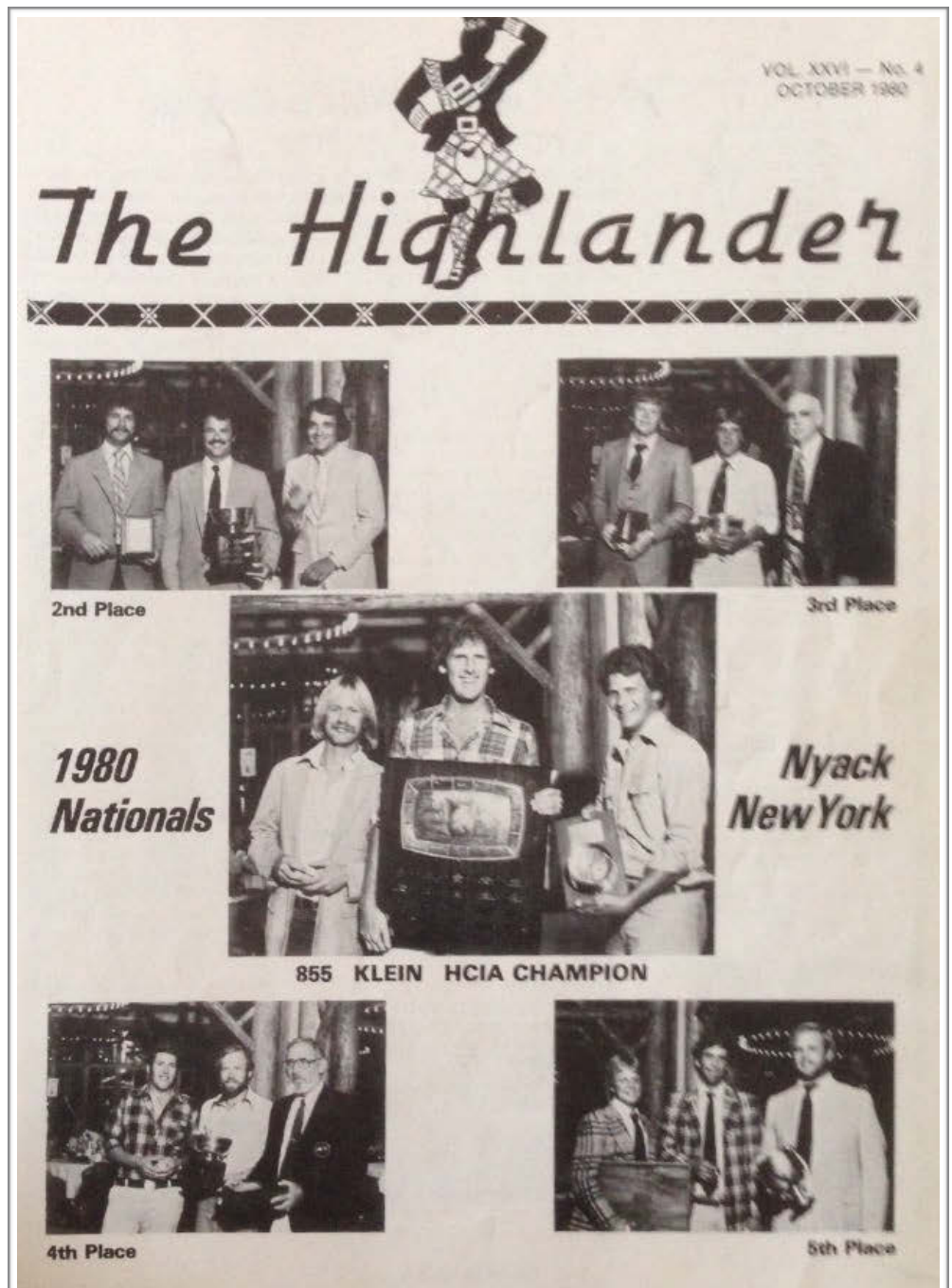
Larry Klein has done it again. For the fourth time in five years, he has won the Nationals and continued as the Highlander Class International Association Champion. He was the top Highlander sailor in 1976, 1978, 1979, and now once again in 1980.

The first HCIA Championship Regatta was held in 1953. The event has been held each year since, which brings the total number to 27. There have only been sixteen champions because several skippers have kept the honor for more than one year. Robert Busbey holds the longevity record. He has the

champion for five years from 1972 through 1975 and then again in 1977.

The 1980 Nationals were hosted by Fleet 29 at the Nyack Boat Club in Nyack, New York on August 11 through 15. Charles Green was chairman for the event."

The remainder of the issue each race winner's recollection of the play by play for the duration of the competition. The next year Larry Klein tied Robert Busbey's record and won the Nationals for the fifth time; his last time.



Sailing as Family

By Erin Spengeman

This isn't a typical magazine article that talks about the logistics of the regatta weekend, or the smartest way to rig your boat, or even a plea to get more boats to the 2015 Bluegrass Regatta (I am my father's daughter after all) but it is a quick recap of one of the best weekends that I have had in a LONG time. Last Friday afternoon, I picked up Ben (age 6 ½) and Emma (almost 4) from Summer Camp with two Optimis in tow and my car packed with a whole bunch of camping gear for the weekend...we were starting our little weekend adventure by hopping on the road to head to the Highlander Hoover Fling. Why not bring three boats to a weekend regatta!?!

We arrived at the club with Ed just a few minutes behind us with the Highlander and since the night was young, and the wind pretty light, we decided that priority number one was to rig up the Optimis and get the kids out on the water. Ed drove Emma's boat with her guiding him on where to go, and Ben hopped into his own boat only to drive to weather of Ed for the entire sail as he figured out that this would "steal Daddy's air." Needless to say, he was wearing a huge smile for most of his sail! They slowly made their way back to the dock as our "sailing family" was starting to show up.

Steve Bauer and family arrived, along with a blast-from-the-past Mike Perakis and we made our way to the Clubhouse to cook out. We were soon joined by John Bauer and his family and we were all back to swapping war stories while watching the next generation of Highlander sailors play on the playground. It was an awesome night!

Saturday came pretty early, as it often does with small kiddos so we started our day having breakfast with the gang in the clubhouse. When we showed up to Hoover, our game plan was to have a rotating crew, with Ed and John taking turns driving our Highlander to allow all of the "shore



moms" a chance to get back on a boat. But sometimes plans change and you roll with it.

So over breakfast Saturday morning we announced to the kiddos that we would be racing as a family that day! Emma was 100% on board and ready to go right then, but Ben was a little reluctant as the playground was pretty cool and he and Jack Bauer were having fun! But we managed to rally the troops and hop on 2002 for our first family race.

We were the last boat out to the starting line and had NO expectations of really doing anything but going for a sail, but we started with the rest of the fleet and told each other that we would just have a good time. Throughout the course of the race, we were filling up water bottles with lake water (followed by "don't drink that!"), Emma was pulling off pieces of electrical tape from the roll (not really sure what she did with those) and Ben was yelling "Tally Ho" to any boats that got close enough to hear (we apologize).

continued on next page



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If you would like to place an ad in the *Highlander* magazine, the cost is \$10 per issue. Make check payable to HCIA.

Send with ad copy to Cindy Fisher, 2280 U.S. 68 S, Xenia, OH 45385. You can also email the ad to her at toofish2005@yahoo.com. The ad should be a minimum of 40 words. Please provide the following information: boat #, price, name, phone numbers, and email address.

Deadline: Dec/Mar/June/Sept 1st for following month's issue.

continued from previous page

Miraculously, we rounded the weather mark in 2nd place and started the next leg of the race. With Jason Japikse ahead of us, and John Bauer close behind we felt like we were in good company and were just trying to keep our wits about us long enough to float to the next mark. When we rounded the leeward mark in first, we quietly explained to the kids what our position was and they suddenly got VERY interested in the race. With a couple of tacks to the finish, we were able to hang on to our position and get our first family bullet which was a truly awesome feeling.

Due to a bathroom emergency, Emma and I had to get off the boat after the first race only to have Ed and Ben two-man the rest of the races as Emma had discovered that her friends Jocelyn and Emily Bauer were on the playground. The guys did a great job racing, and a few times during

the afternoon Ben would ask questions like “how are we going to catch Mr. Rob” or “tell me again why we aren’t flying our spinnaker to make us faster downwind?” and even ended up doing the math on the way back to shore to figure out that they had 13 points. Needless to say, the stories that came from that afternoon of racing were pretty cool and ones that we won’t forget.

That evening we enjoyed sharing a meal with our friends once again, and taking another Opti sail, with some of the Bauers joining us. Little kids and “big kids” got to take turns going for a spin and it was another fun night just spending time with our sailing family.



Without any wind to race on Sunday, everyone started packing up early which gave the kiddos plenty of time to bond on the playground and in the sand box. Our kids were pretty excited when they learned that we needed to stick around

to collect our 3rd place trophy and those are already proudly displayed in each bedroom.

Regardless of how we finished, this was just an all-around great weekend for us. We got to spend a ton of time on sailboats and were able to do it all weekend as a family. We were able to spend time with some pretty awesome sailing friends and make plans for regattas to come in the next few months.

While driving home that afternoon, I asked the kids what they like best about the weekend and both responded that they like racing together as a family. We started the weekend with a plan in place, but plans change. And this time I can only hope that the impact of our plans changing will be a memory that our children hold on to forever. I know I will.

Pipers

October 17 & 18

Lake Norman Yacht Club

Contact Steve Hesler for more information
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The Highlander Rate Card

The Highlander magazine is the official publication of the Highlander Class International Association (HCIA), with over 750 Highlander sailboat owners. The publication is 16 pages, full-color, published quarterly, and mailed to dues paying members each Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct.

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2015 Schedule of Events

Date	Event	Host Club or Venue	GP Class
March 28 - 29	HCIA MidWinters	Western Carolina Sailing Club	II
April 25 - 30	Highlander Nationals	Western Carolina Sailing Club	I
May 16 - 17	Mayor's Cup	Eagle Creek Sailing Club	III
June 6 - 7	Mad Plaid	Cowan Lake Sailing Association	I
June 13 - 14	Cleveland Race Week	Edgewater Yacht Club	
June 20 - 21	Berlin Invitational	Berlin Lake Yacht Club	III
July 4 - 5	Pymatuning Regatta	Pymatuning Yacht Club	III
August 8 - 9	Hoover Fling	Hoover Sailing Club	III
September 12-13	Harvest Moon	Atwood Yacht Club	III
September 12 - 13	Governor's Cup	Eagle Creek Sailing Club	III
September 19 - 20	Clam Digger Regatta	Greenhaven Sailing Club c/o Avondale Boat Yard	III
October 3 - 4	Bluegrass Regatta	Louisville Sailing Club	II
October 17 - 18	Pipers & Pluckers	Lake Norman Yacht Club	II