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A NEWSLETTER FROM HAARSTICK SAILMAKERS

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Check out the updated [Beneteau 40.7 page](#)New Pictures.

[Beneteau 44.7 page](#)

Lake Erie Interclub Cruise

Someone once summed up the Lake Erie Interclub Cruise by comparing it to their childhood experiences at camp. "After every year I would swear that I would never go back, but every time it came closer to going I found myself excited and ready to go again" I think this is a very accurate explanation of the feelings that I have for this regatta. You spend copious amounts of time baking in the sun with little or no wind and if your really lucky, the flies will come out to greet you with their nibbling bites that could drive even the most patient person into fits of adolescent like tantrums.

So to those of you who have not done this event, you must be wondering why any person of average intelligence would want to expose themselves to this type of torture? For me the answer is easy, the people. After doing this event for something like 11 years now I have met people from all over Lake Erie and some even from even farther away that I only get to see for the five days a year that the cruise lasts. To me there is nothing better, medium distance point to point racing, against some of the best sailors that the great lakes has to offer. At night you get to party in a different port and then wake up and do it all over again. There are very few, if any other events that offer such a unique venue and quality racing that the Lake Erie Interclub cruise has to offer.

This year was no different, the days were long and hot and on the 4th day we were totally becalmed. The fleet had to motor the entire way back to Buffalo from Port Colborne which is just on the other side of Point Abino and the point of entrance to the Welland Canal . As we arrived in Buffalo the R/C decided to give it another hour before the days racing was abandoned and wouldn't you know it the weather cleared up and we had a about 5-8kts to sail in. We ran a short windward/leeward course and got a race in. Not the best of races, but at least it made up for a wet motor at 5kts following the committee boat all the way back to Buffalo .

Next year is the 50th anniversary and to anyone that has never participated in the cruise before should take their own boat or find a boat to crew on. The event will be six days long instead of the traditional five. The parties will be great, the people friendly and without question the racing will be intense. I look forward to seeing you all there next year.

-Eric Christensen

A few Results below.

My 1929 Chris Craft Cadet project finally launches July 7th!!

5 years ago, a Star friend of mine mentioned that he had seen an old boat peaking out of a garage just east of Seneca Lake , and I should check it out. As there are lot's of old boats rotting in barns, fields and garages, I wasn't very interested. I had just finished my first attempt at "woodie" restoration that spring, just in time for my son's graduation from college, and wasn't really looking for another boat.

However, as the summer passed, my curiosity began to increase, and I finally went to check it out. To my amazement, it was the remains of a Chris Craft triple cockpit runabout, called a "Cadet". While these boats are not extremely rare, any Chris Craft that is 70+ years old is not a common find. I went up to the house, knocked on the door, and arranged to meet the owner the next weekend to discuss the purchase.

I gave away my intentions when I arrived the next Sunday with the empty Continental trailer in tow, and bought the boat at the asking price, loaded it on the trailer, and headed home. The boat was such a wreck, that I had to wrap it with line just to keep it from falling apart on the road. When Chris (my Son) saw it, his only comment was: "Are you crazy, or just brain damaged?".

I had visions of rebuilding the boat myself, but the next February, I received an offer from Doug Nichols, a professional boat restorer in Branchport, that I couldn't refuse. However, I still kept the sanding, finishing, varnishing, and the upholstery jobs for myself.

As the boat had no engine, I choose a new 260 hp MercCruiser V-8 crate engine for power. As this is about 3 times the original hp, this boat would be a "Donzi" killer. I went for a new engine, as I am realistic about my patience, and skill diddling around with old balky engines. A new one would be just like my car: turn the key, and it starts, or so I rationalized.

Last Thursday, 7/13, the big day came, and I launched at the marina just down the street from my house. In front of a large crowd, I turned the key, but after repeated tries, all I got was an occasional sputter, and backfire. As Chris, my son, was there, I was not allowed to go “ballistic” like I wanted, and meekly pulled the boat, and took it over to Shumway’s (marine) the next morning. That afternoon, after fixing the solenoid wiring, or whatever, I relaunched, and finally got it started. We left the dock hoping for the best. Had a paddle, and my son aboard, just in case.

I am pleased to report that the engine kept running, and we got a taste of the boat’s potential. While I’m not supposed to run wide open for a while, until the engine “breaks in”, even at ¾ throttle, the boat was barely in the water. With no GPS, I’m only guessing, but I think 50 mph is definitely in the cards. I have posted some pictures of my boat buzzing the Genesee Yacht Club fleet this past Tuesday night:

<http://www.haarsticksailmakers.com/Pictures/other/Chris Craft/ChrisCraft06.html>

-Steve Haarstick

2006 Results to date:

Toronto NOOD Regatta:

40.7 – 1st and 2nd (only 2 boats using our sails and they won 5 of the 6 races)

Way to Go: Kiki Werner and the crew of “Silver Bullet” 1st

John Doyle and the crew of “Out of the Blue” 2nd

Shark Class – 1st - “UNC” – Mark Wiggins

Eastern Yachting Circuit – on Lake Ontario

1st Overall - J/30 – “Blaze” - Brendan Benson (46 boats in total)

This is Brendan’s 5th overall win in a row at the EYC Regatta.

Brendan - “The boat is blazing fast. Great speed and great point.”

Div 2 (9 boats)

1st – J/30 – “Blaze” – Brendan Benson

2nd – J/30 – “Crusader” – Dan Mather

ALL J REGATTA at Oswego YC

J24:

1st – Kirk Reynolds (out of 19)

J30:

1st – Brendon Benson

2nd – Dan Mather

3rd – Chuck Dolinskas

Lake Erie Interclub Cruise

10th Overall – “Plumb Bob” – Mike Sendor on the his Beneteau 36.7.

10th is amazing for over 50 boats when it is your first year with the boat and you end up beating the other 36.7's that have been at it longer. Nice job Mike

Fleet D

*2nd – “Taller Cotton” – Sue Robinson

Fleet C

*2nd – “Poison Ivy” – Jim Kondzeilla

Rochester YC Offshore Fleet Spring Series:

Beneteau 40.7 Fleet:

1st – “Out of the Blue” – John Doyle

2nd – “Silver Bullet” – Harry Voss

4th – “Polestar” – Tim Kinsella

(winning 5 of the 6 races out of 8 boats) [PICTURES HERE](#)

**On a side note: The newest boat to join this fleet decided to use Haarstick Sails. (that makes 4 out of 8 boats Haarstick Powered) The newest member made 4 of the six races and finished with a 4,4,8,5. Not bad for the new guy in a competitive fleet of boats.

Div 2:

1st – “30” – Dave Spang

2nd – “Das Blau Max” – Sertl Family

Div 3:

*2nd – “The Fish” – Jay Tovey

3rd – “Arrow” – Gunnar and Brook Richardson

Div 4:

1st – “Destiny” – Bill Baum

Div 5:

2nd – “Wind Addiction” – Chad Henry

*3rd – “Lanakila” – Fred Lawrence

Buffalo Harbor SC Spring Series:

S2 Fleet:

* 1st – “Kewero” – Bob Gradwell

J/27:

*3rd – “Seitz Seer” – Paul Seitz

S2A:

1st – “Egstasea” – Team Egloff

* 2nd – “Gusto” – Jack Mathias

M2:

*1st – “Hideaway” – Tom Clouden

*2nd – “Summer Love” – Tom Vaughan

3rd – “Elusive” – George Czumaj

Buffalo Harbor Summer Regatta 2006:

With out listing them all, as we just got the results in, I would like to thank the following supporters of Haarstick Sailmakers who had a good showing this past weekend.

Mike Sendor – Having a great first year with his new Beneteau 36.7

Bob Gradwell

Jim Christensen

Don Seitz and Team Egloff – Dominating and tying for first in the S2A fleet.

Ed Weiss – coming in first with his J/24

George Czumaj

Mike Seitz

Ensign Fleet 7 on Long Island NY :

Spring Results: (out of 15 boats)

1st – Brian Simkins

2nd – Peter Heffernan

3rd – Ed Brennan

This is one of the biggest active racing Fleets of Ensigns. Haarstick Sails are new to this fleet and the few guys that are using them keep walking up to the front of the pack.

A big thanks to Ensign Fleet 7 for all your continued support.

You can visit them at <http://ensignfleet7.org>

* indicates partial inventory

A FEW MORE TESTIMONIALS:

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Happy Buffalo Customer:

“Steve

Just wanted to let you know how pleased I am with our new Haarstick Genoa purchased from Eric Christensen. The sail is a great fit and Eric has stayed in touch providing excellent service and advice on our sail inventory.

Eric recently accompanied us on the Lake Erie Interclub Cruise (Erie-Dover) where he was a great asset on the boat making sure we got the most from our sails. Although we only managed one flag, we were consistent and stayed in the hunt in a tough 14-boat PHRF fleet.

Thanks again to the Haarstick team

Dick Ham
MAD MAX
Laser 28”

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Another Happy Buffalo Customer:

“Eric,

...

I wanted to tell you how happy I am with the new 155 head sail you built for Taller Cotton! My crew and I thought it worked real well on all points of sail on the river, but it really proved itself on the Interclub Cruise! I wasn't too surprised by the first place finish on Saturday because we usual do well on the reaches and runs. But, Sunday, the Dover course race was a different story. We again took a first place! We have never done well on the course races and to take a first place had to be in large part due to the new head sail. We were running a tight battle for first place for our fleet with Xtra Xtra from Burlington trailing us by one or two points all week. Wed. we ended up with a third, still a respectable finish for a 12 mile beat race, so we were second over all for our fleet for the week. Thanks, Eric for a great job and being so attentive. ...

Sue”

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J/24 upwind sails:

“Doug,

Funny that you e-mailed me today.

Racing has been good. 1st, 2nd, and 2 no races because of storms. We are out tonight.

This past weekend we participated in the annual TransWinnebago Regatta which is a PHRF race on Lake Winnebago . North to South, 24 miles, and the wind out of the South (5-15 knots). 2 Melges 24s, and a

Corsair 24 finished ahead of us, but we won the race on corrected time. We had to shift through the gears because of the varying wind speed, but we got the Sweet Pea dialed in.

The sails look and perform great. I have things good in light air, after this weekend, heavy air is a lock too. We realized we really have to move the genoa cars back in heavy air. The main is simple. It was a lot of fun....

Sincerely,

Peter”

.....

J/29 AP Triradial Genoa

“Doug,

I have been very happy with the sail - it's the best one that was ever built for my boat. Last year we finished 1st overall in one race at Sail Oswego (Harborfest) and that was due to our upwind speed with the new genoa. This sail has more drive than I've experienced with prior sails and it's the first time I've had a "deck sweeper". Also got a lot out of the printed tutorial that came with the sail not to mention the after service service when I had some questions and also needed a different sail bag. My next sail will be a Haarstick, that's for sure.

David”

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On Nomad Jib:

“Hi Doug,

Just wanted to let you know how pleased i am with my new jib-nice cut, good shape, performing well. Also clean repair on the main. THANKS.....Rob van der Stricht"

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Tides Marine – “Strong Track” strikes again.

“Let me add to the positive reviews for the Tides Marine Stong Track system I recently installed on my S-2 9.1, EXEL. There's no binding whatsoever when either raising or lowering the main. Even in a stiff, wet breeze two weeks ago, the sail was in my EZJacks before I could blink once I blew the main halyard. This is just the right solution for what had been an irritating, potentially dangerous problem. I needed about an hour's worth of local expertise to adjust the length of the track for my mast. The price is really right for this system.

Rich Steinacher
Ithaca Yacht Club”

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Upstate NY Racing Dates

July 20-23 Lake Ontario 30, OYS & PCYC
July 22-23 Eastern Great Lakes J/22 Regatta, Buffalo
July 27-29 Empire State Games in Lasers, RYC
July 28-29 Sail Oswego Regatta
July 29-30 YYC Level Regatta
July 30 Founder's Race, Oswego to Sodus Bay

Aug 1 Centennial Race, Rochester to Sodus Bay
Aug 2 Freeman Cup, Start and Finish at Sodus Bay

Aug 2-5 Force 5 North American Championships at Buffalo CC

Aug 5 Hospice Charity Cup Regatta Henderson Harbor YC
Aug 4-6 LYRA Course Racing, SBYC

Aug 5-6 Briody Memorial Snipe Regatta at Newport YC
Aug 11-13 RYC Junior Olympics

Aug 12 Genesee YC Women's Invitational Regatta
Aug 12-13 LYRA Junior Regatta at RYC
Aug 12-13 Mayor's Cup/Queen City Regatta Buffalo
Aug 12-13 US Shark Championship, Dunkirk YC
Aug 11-13 Sonar North Americans at RYC

Aug 14-17 Ensign National's EYC Cleveland
Aug 14 SSRC Monday Metro Race
Aug 19 Buffalo YC Great Race
Aug 19-20 RYC One Design Open Regatta, Mumm 30, 40.7, J/24
Aug 20 Buffalo MS Regatta
Aug 24 BHSC Double-Handed Race
Aug 26 Rochester Hospice Regatta at Genesee YC
Aug 27 Rochester Race at Rochester YC

Sept 1-4 Labour Day Regatta at Bronte Harbour Yacht Club (Canada)
Sept 9 BHSC Last Chance Regatta
Sept 9-10 SSRC Fall Open Regatta
Sept 20-24 J/24 NA's Rochester YC
Sep 23-24 J/22 Northeast Championship, Lake George
Sep 30-Oct 1 Richardson Cup, Buffalo YC