

July 2023

# Mainsheet

[www.blsa.us](http://www.blsa.us)



*Commodore Bill Ralston*

## Calendar

**July 8th**

**5th Race  
'Firscracker'  
&  
Beer Tasting and  
Trivia Night**

**July 29th**

**6th race  
&  
Full Moon raft-up**

**August 5th  
Club Social**

On Saturday 6/24, we had a great turnout on a very pleasant evening for the Wine Tasting and Charcuterie Board social.

Charcuterie boards or platters have gained popularity as a stylish and versatile way to present a variety of cured meats, cheeses, and complementary items. These boards are typically arranged with an aesthetic appeal, combining different flavors, textures, and colors to create an appealing and diverse culinary experience. (Chat GPT)



Hosted by Bill and Patty Beglin and quite ably assisted by Nicole Holtkamp who created a mouthwatering arrangement of the items provided by all in attendance. This was a new event this year and based on comments received would seem like one to continue in the future.

Combined with the assortment of great items, members provided a wide range of excellent wines for all to sample.

As a reminder to members, we're always looking for volunteers to host and/or assist with social events. Contact Nicole at [nholtkamp@castellinicompany.com](mailto:nholtkamp@castellinicompany.com)

**Social Calendar**  
**Nicole Holtkamp — Social Director**

We need hosts for the social event days listed below. Nicole is the Social Director, but last I checked she only has two hands and needs volunteers for each event or the club will not be able to host them. We do have a club trailer with most everything needed in terms of tables, grills utensils etc. It's really just a matter of wanting to help support the club and jumping in. Nicole monitors the club email at [blsa.news@gmail.com](mailto:blsa.news@gmail.com) so let her know your availability to help run a great social event and any questions you may have.

July 8 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Race - Firecracker Beer Tasting and Trivia Night	Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Full Moon raft-up
July 29 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> Race & Full Moon raft-up	Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Chili Cook-off
Aug. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Club Social—Stay tuned	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	End of Season Celebration
Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Full Moon raft-up		
Sept 9 <sup>th</sup>	End of Summer Team Event & Pork Regatta		

**BLSA Fall Pork Regatta — aka Pig Regatta (though some thought that referred to the sailors rather than the evening fare)**

From World Champion FD (Flying Dutchman) sailor Paul Hemker to FD sailors:



The famous or 'infamous' Brookville Lake Pork Regatta is scheduled for September 9 & 10. We call it a fun regatta since you can come and enjoy the fellowship and you can also compete as seriously as you want. Sailing will take place at the Hanna Creek launch ramp on the east shore of Brookville Lake just off Indiana Route 101. That's just north of Brookville IN and south of Liberty IN. We'll plan to run as many races as we can starting at about 1 PM EDT. After racing the club has invited us to enjoy the club picnic dinner with brats, grilled chicken and pretzels along with all the fixings. Sunday we'll plan to continue racing starting about 10 AM with a lunch and trophies by about 2 PM. Please bring any trophies along that will be the awards for the regatta. The Puddle Duck Racer fleet also uses that approach and you can bring fun or fancy



trophies. To add interest, BLSA will have another start for club boats to keep things interesting for all of us.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments. We look forward to your joining us and if you know of any other FD sailors, please us know about them and invite them. Paul Hemker (937)-459-2735

We'll provide at least some of the main course and would appreciate having the sides and desserts from members.

**PAYMENT FOR BLSA EXPENSES:**

I am trying to get the BLSA finances on a sound basis with financial records. Therefore, if you buy items or services for the club, please give me (or mail me) the invoices or the receipts and I will write a BLSA check to cover. Be sure to include who the check is to be made out to and where to mail it. (Or I can give it to you at the lake if I know we will both be there.) Any amount over \$500.00 will have to be approved by the BLSA board first. I will appreciate your cooperation and in return I promise to pay you promptly (unless I happen to be out of town, of course.)

So SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS.

Thank you.

Heide Hemker, Treasurer  
4733 Meadowcrest Lane  
New Paris, OH 45347  
Cell: 937-459-2734

**2023 YTD Racing Results:**

Results are on the [Racing Results.pdf](#) attached to the email distributed with this newsletter.

For the most part winds this year have been pretty typical of Brookville. Some good days and some not so good. Either way we've had 11 boats sign up to race and hopefully the winds will be more favorable in the coming weeks to increase participation.

**Sail trim – Keep it simple**

I have no idea how many books there are on sail trim – but I think too many. Becoming an expert on sail shape, trim, twist etc. and endlessly tweaking various controls is not necessary to sail your boat well. But a basic understanding of the sail controls your boat has and how each effects your boat is definitely necessary to sail your boat well. Some basic knowledge and practice will allow you to sail more confidently in most all conditions. This month is about basics and assuming I follow through there will be subsequent articles to go into more detail.

**Some basics to remember:**

Your sails (main and jib) work as a pair or better yet as a team, there is a definite additive effect between the two when properly trimmed. They do this best when they are trimmed essentially in parallel. Looking down from above, note the main and jib are trimmed at roughly the same angle to the wind except when nearly dead downwind when the sails as shown are on opposite sides or ‘wing and wing’.

When your boat is heeling too much and /or your fighting the tiller or wheel, you are over trimmed (sails

sheeted in too much) or you just have too much sail up for the wind conditions. Depending on how your boat is equipped you may have a lot or little ability to reduce sail. More on reefing later, but as a safety note, practice getting your sails down and secured as quickly as possible. No matter how good you are, if a 60 mph storm comes up you are going to be in serious trouble if you're caught with your sails up and that's not the time to learn.

We tend to think of the rudder as just steering the boat, when in fact the more your turn it off center it actually turns into an excellent brake. Look at your rudder out of the water and think about how much



force it takes to drag it through the water at any angle other than straight ahead. When your sails are properly trimmed you should be able to steer with a very light touch even in stronger winds. This picture of the Webb's boat 'Design First', is an excellent example of all these factors. The boat is heeling nicely, the tiller is

almost straight ahead and they have great boat speed all of which demonstrate excellent sail trim for the conditions.

**Wrinkles:**

In sails, as in all of us, wrinkles are generally not a good thing. Fortunately with sails you can do



something about it! Wrinkles along the luff or leading edge of the sail are easily corrected with halyard tension. If the luff of your sails looks like the ones in this picture you need to tension the halyard more or use a

cunningham (look it up). Remember halyards do stretch with wind load, so don't be surprised that you may have to adjust these with changing wind conditions. Tensioning the halyard also pulls the pocket or deepest draft portion of the sail forward which is a more forgiving and powerful sail shape.

All for now, next month we'll discuss the various controls for your mainsail. If there is something in particular you'd like to see discussed, please let us know.

**BLSA Board**

	<b>Member</b>	<b>Email</b>
Commodore	Bill Ralston	wm_ralston@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Heide Hemker	hemkehe@earlham.edu
Social Director	Nicole Holtkamp	Nholtkamp@castellinicompany.com
Race Director	Al Navarro	atnavarro54@gmail.com
Membership	Ron Stevens	Ronstevensphoto@gmail.com
Webmaster	Val Navarro	venavarro@gmail.com
Newsletter	Bill Beglin	wrbeglin@gmail.com

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