

## 'Octoberfest' Columbus Day Landing Party (October 16, 2021)

*By Martina Sestakova*

Our 'Oktoberfest' Columbus Day Landing Party took place on Saturday, October 16, 2021, and fun was to be had by all! Thank you, Ron Harbin and Joan Brandt, for hosting us at Bowleys Marina in Middle River, MD. The weather forecast was a little troublesome with the morning sunshine turning into rain but out of the 11 attending members of our club, four still braved the waters and attended by boat: Bob Morrow with Keith Zeigler and Joan and Ed Criscuolo. We lucked out and enjoyed bratwursts, sauerkraut, German potato salad, hot pretzels prepared on the spot, smoked fish spread, and crab meat stuffed peppers while the sun was shining on us in our pavilion. Jen and Rick Cook brought a variety of German beers. Many of us reached out for Jack Janos' crab meat stuffed peppers. Bob Morrow made everyone happy with a fabulous German dark chocolate cake. And there was more: apple strudel and wine. Yum! Ron and Joan led a fun Oktoberfest-related trivia and Rick Cook recalled his knowledge of German as he read out sailing terms we were to guess in English. His years in Germany paid off and we all had a good laugh completing for a puzzle provided by the hosts. Commodore Jordan Snyder shared updates on our club's upcoming December 5 event. Thanks all for joining!



*Photo by Ed Criscuolo*



*Photos by Martina Sestakova*



## Fixing a Self-tending Jib

*By Bob Morrow*

This is my current project. I have a self-tending jib, which is a big help when I'm single handed up a narrow channel. I just set the single jib sheet once for the angle of attack to the wind, and then to tack I just turn the wheel and don't need to worry about the jib sheet, which takes care of itself. The problem is that the track that the jib sheet car travels on needs stoppers and more than once in heavy winds the car slammed into the stoppers with such force that it knocked them off the track and the car came off too. That spilled non-captive ball bearings all over the deck, which is a tripping hazard, and means I can't use the self-tending feature of the jib until I fix the problem, which means buying two sets of rather expensive Torlon (sort of a dense, high strength nylon) bearings at about \$14 a set, and the putting the ball bearings in the car without having them fall out before I put it back on the track, which is a tedious and time-consuming job. To fix this, I bought new Harken stoppers which were priced at around \$100 each, for a hunk of plastic and metal, but the pistons that supposedly lock them into place were bigger on the new ones than the existing holes in the track. So, I drilled bigger holes in some of the existing holes to fit the new pistons in the new stoppers. I need to enlarge more holes to make the stoppers fully adjustable across the entire track, and so I can heave to, since I can't backwind the jib unless I can prevent it from sliding to the leeward side of the boat. I also am drilling smaller holes at each end so I can tap them with threads to screw in a bolt as a positive stop, so there is no way that the stoppers and car can come off the track. That's some of what I'm doing in the picture. Fortunately, the track is aluminum. It's soft metal, easy to drill into, but with such big holes, it's still necessary to drill slowly, and keep spraying with WD-40 to lubricate the drill bit.

## Art Inspired by Water

By Martina Sestakova

While I love sailing and being out on the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, I am drawn to water no matter what its shape. Heavy rain, slow flowing creek, puddle, white caps on the ocean... As an abstract painter, I observe the world around me and capture it in colors, shapes, and textures. I work in watercolors and acrylic inks on an interesting medium: yupo. This man-made 'paper' was designed in Japan and has no pours so all paint stays vivid and sharp on its surface. I am sharing two examples of my artworks: pondering on water's role in our lives through an abstract eye. And as writing is a hobby of mine, each painting comes with a short story. Enjoy!

"The River Keeps Flowing"... This painting is a result of my recent camping adventures, often by delightful creeks. Water is so healing. An ever-changing stream that just keeps going: a sign of hope to me. I hope you find this piece calming, yet exciting. A vivid exploration of indigo, which is so lovely.

"Keep Swimming Upward" ... I remember learning to swim in a pond behind my childhood home. 12 strokes that my grandma just had to see! Well, these days ... I am thinking of swimming as a way of moving through my mind and thoughts that can get complex. I think of water and waves washing over. I think of change.



**Member Happenings - Do you have an update to share in an upcoming newsletter or with our club members via email? Reach out to Martina at [martinaprague@verizon.net](mailto:martinaprague@verizon.net).**

## SAIL ON!

Questions/comments? Contact the 2021 CLUB OFFICERS \* [www.cbpsa.org](http://www.cbpsa.org)

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