



Jamann

Sailing Adventures Extraordinaire

www.jamannsailing.com

Welcome to the Fall/Winter 2017 edition of the Jamann Sailing Adventures Extraordinaire (JSAE) newsletter. Thank you for your interest. We may have to keel-haul the newsletter editor for taking so long to get out this newsletter. But wow what a year 2017 has been. And, yes, we are accepting reservations for charters in 2018. Check out the details below.

Those of you who have yet to come down and sail with us will have to come on down to find out how a retired couple can stay busy running a sailing charter business. And to those of you who have already enjoyed an adventure with us we thank you and look forward to your return in the near future. Our most effective marketing strategy continues to be referrals from those of you who are kind enough to help spread the word. Thank you for helping us in that way. Please feel free to share this newsletter with all of your friends who might be interested in a great Caribbean sailing/snorkeling/dining experience. And if you are reading this and are not on our email list please email us so that we may add you to the list to keep you all informed of our upcoming events, activities and charter opportunities.

2017 Hurricane Season!

Over the years the weather service has extended the Atlantic Hurricane Season and it now officially goes from June 1 to November 30. But the peak of the season is from mid-August to mid-October with September being the most active month. Over the last few years since we moved down here to the Virgin Islands we've been pretty lucky with only a few hurricanes getting within several hundred miles of us. This year the probabilities caught up with us with hurricane Irma directly hitting the British Virgin Islands, St. Thomas and St. John on September 6th followed two weeks later by hurricane Maria directly hitting St. Croix and Puerto Rico.



Jamann Sailing Adventures Extraordinaire

Kathy & Jim Jackson

(a.k.a. Captains HiHo and Grey Beard)

November, 2017

Captain Greybeard the Pirate, Executive Editor

Captain HiHo, Contributor and proofreader

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Two days before Irma arrived in the Virgin Islands we made the decision that the best place for Jamann was to move her to the south side of Puerto Rico where there are the mangroves of Bahia Jobos, a well-known area for protection from storms. It took me 2 days to get there with an overnight stop in Vieques. Kathy was still in PA finishing up her annual trip back to the states. I secured Jamann deep in the mangroves and road out the storm aboard her quite comfortably. Snuggled up in the mangroves with Irma passing Puerto Rico to the north I only saw maximum winds of about 30 knots, which on any other day would have just been a great day to go sailing. A couple of days after Irma passed I moved Jamann around to the harbour of Salinas. There I got the news of how badly the Virgin Islands had been hit by the storm. So instead of Kathy flying back to St. Thomas we made plans for her to fly to Puerto Rico and meet me in Salinas where we could stay and possibly spend some time exploring the southern coast of Puerto Rico. But then came the news about Maria.



Maria was ramping up quickly to Category 5 with a projected path aimed directly at Puerto Rico. Kathy arrived in Puerto Rico on Monday the 18th. Tuesday morning we moved Jamann back into the mangroves securing her in the same spot as for Irma but this time we came back ashore and got a 2nd floor room in the hotel at the marina. Maria arrived early Wednesday morning and continued into Thursday. Daylight revealed that most of the boats in the Salinas harbour were severely damaged or destroyed. However, when I went to get Jamann on Friday she was floating quietly right where we left her with very limited minor damage (wind generator gone, wind vane at the top of the mast gone, a bent stanchion and one small bracket on the bimini frame broken). I moved Jamann back to the Salinas Harbour. We stayed there for a week, first getting Jamann cleaned up and then helping to get the marina and hotel area cleaned up. While the super market was open and stocked fairly well there was no power (unless you had a generator), no public water, no cell service, no internet access and no banks or ATMs. There was no fuel or water at the marina and we didn't have jugs or transportation to get any from the gas stations (not to mention the 4 to 6 hour waiting in line to get a limit of \$20 of fuel). So with our cash reserves dwindling we decided to head back to St. Thomas where we were hoping they might be a little further ahead in restoring these basic utilities and services.



The devastation and destruction was severe and everywhere. In Salinas, all along the southern shore of Puerto Rico, in Sun Bay Vieques, all along the southern shore of St. Thomas and back home in Red Hook. Homes, businesses, cars, boats, utilities, roads, beaches, trees and bushes – destroyed, damaged,



flipped over, sunken, knocked down, ripped up, covered in debris, broken, uprooted, stripped of all leaves.

Arriving back in our home bay of Red Hook almost a month after Irma hit we found 5 boats sunk, 9 boats up on shore or smashed against the rocks and three boats severely damaged but still floating. Cell service with internet access had been restored to a large part of St. Thomas. But still no power or water, no ATMs or banks and no postal services and a 6PM curfew (with no power none of the traffic lights or street lights were working making it very dangerous driving at night). Some businesses and restaurants were open with limited services and hours and all operating on a cash only basis.

It is now more than 80 days since Irma. Power and water has been restored to only about 50% of St. Thomas. Some businesses have re-opened but many have not and some will never re-open. The major resorts and hotels will not reopen until mid to late 2018 with a few not until 2019. There are still piles of debris everywhere and power lines still down and across some roads, roads that are still torn up. There are still many boats and homes badly in need of repairs and many that will never be repaired or restored. There are many people who have no homes and no jobs with many of them having left the island. And as bad as things are here in St. Thomas things are much worse in St. Croix, St. John and all of the islands in the British Virgin Islands.



Fortunately Kathy and I and our yacht Jamann are fine. We have all that we need and life aboard Jamann has returned to normal while life here in the islands will not be normal for a very long time.

How YOU can Help!

Many of you have asked us how you can help support the good people of the Virgin Islands in their efforts to rebuild their lives, our communities, our islands. A Google search will reveal quite a number of sites where you can make donations including perennial favorites such as Red Cross and United Way. Please check out any charitable organization to whom you wish to make a donation to make sure your donation will be used as you desire. We would like to also offer the following options (click on the Fund name for details and donations).

Fund: [Virgin's BVI Community Support Appeal](#)

Organizer: Richard Branson/Virgin Unite

Currency: US Dollars & Pound Sterling options

What happens with your donation: "We are working with Virgin Limited Edition and Unite BVI

to support the local BVI communities in the medium to long-term. They will be working with local organizations to identify the ongoing needs of affected individuals and communities including the families of those employees affected by this disaster.”

Fees: NO FEES. Virgin Unite’s overheads are covered by Richard Branson and the Virgin Group, meaning that 100% of all donations received will go directly to helping support local BVI communities.

Fund: [Love for Love City by Kenny Chesney](#)

Organizer: Kenny Chesney

Currency: US Dollars

What happens with your donation: Love City is what the locals call St. John. “We're going to help. I want to enlist my friends to figure out the best ways to make a difference, to help in whatever ways, small or larger, that we can. I’m blessed with so many great people... We’re already talking, trying to figure out how to get in there. And I know the No Shoes Nation is mighty. They’ve dug in before and made a difference. I have a feeling once we have our plans in the place, they’ll be there again. Be safe. Tell someone how much you care. Remember to Spread the Love.

Kenny Chesney”

Fees: 2.9%+\$.30 deducted from your donation through PayPal.

Fund: [Adopt a Family in the USVI](#)

Organizer: The Team at Adopt a Family in the USVI

What happens with your donation: You register with this group and are then paired up with a needy family in USVI. You then receive a wish list of goods needed by that family. You purchase the goods and send them to the family. More details available on their website.

Fees: The goods that you purchase should fit into one USPS Priority Large Flat Rate box (12 ¼” x 12 ¼” x 6” and then be mailed to the family.

Fund: [Sidney’s Peace & Love Rebuild Fund](#)

Organizer: Janet Hendricks

Currency: US Dollars

What Happens with your donation: The Hendricks family, starting with Sidney and his wife Athena and now their children, have been operating this great restaurant since the 1960’s. This is one of our most favorite restaurants in the VI. The storms severely damaged the buildings and then picked up and dropped a big ferry on top of the damaged building. There are several local families who are dependent on this



business. So getting it back up and running is paramount. There's a lot of work needed to get them back up and running. Your donation will help these families survive and thrive once again by rebuilding their iconic restaurant.

Fund: [Jamann Relief for Jost Van Dyke Primary School](#)

Organizers: Kathy & Jim Jackson

Currency: US Dollars

What Happens with your donation: The island of Jost Van Dyke is near and dear to our hearts and over the years the Jost Van Dyke Primary School has become our charity of choice. The children are our future and education is the best preparation for a successful future. The primary school lost virtually everything with Irma gutting their primary building, completely demolishing the Pre-school/daycare building and blowing off the 2nd floor of the library building. School is now being held for all grades in the 1st floor remains of the library building. This fund will help us replace basic supplies (pencils, crayons, paper, notebooks, back packs, tape, markers, posters and other teaching resources) as well as purchase a new computer, a new copier and a new projector.



Fees: NONE! Jamann Sailing Adventures will cover all Paypal fees so that 100% of your donation goes towards relief for the school.

Books, Books and MORE Books! PLEASE!!!!

One of the very biggest needs that the Primary School has is for books. Books for all grades from Pre/K to 6th grade and for girls and boys. All of the books they previously had were destroyed in the storms. So immediately we are asking all of you to help us with donations of books (new or gently used). In our previous book donation drive we were able to collect over 200 books for which we, the kids and the school staff were truly thankful for. We would like to triple that with this effort as the need is much greater now than before and is an immediate need.

For a really fun afternoon get your kids, grandkids, great grandkids and even the neighbor's kids involved by telling them about the Jost Van Dyke Primary School and this book donation drive. Take them to a book store and let them pick out books they think the kids would like. Then get

them to write a note to the Jost Van Dyke kids on a post card from your home area. Put the post card/note and the books in a USPS Priority Flat Rate box and ship it to us. Our address is

Jamann Sailing Adventures
6501 Red Hook Plaza #201
St. Thomas, VI 00802

We would like to receive your donated books by December 15th. So you will have to act immediately so that the books reach us in time. We will be heading over to the school on Dec. 19th to participate in their December 20th Holiday program and would like to be able to present the books at that time. The mail service to and from the USVI right now is still very slow. So the sooner you can send the books the better.

Your help with this project will be GREATLY appreciated!

2018 Charter Season Information!

The time to sign up for a charter with us in 2018 is NOW! The best way to help the islands recover is to come on down and help stimulate the local economy with your patronage. With everyone kind of going back to basics things will be quite a bit more relaxed and uncrowded. The businesses along the beaches and harbours are working frantically to get up and operational as quickly as possible for the start of the charter season. The beaches are getting cleaned up. The water is warm and clear with lots of fish wondering where the people are. So snorkeling will be great. And the sun and breezes have returned maintaining the distinction of the Virgin Islands as being the sailing capitol of the world. So in honor of this year's storms and with our desire to help stimulate the local economy, instead of our regular 2018 price of \$7,750 for a 7 night charter we are pleased to offer for the 2018 season only our

Irmaria Discount Special prices!!!

7 night charter with 2 guests at \$5,000!

7 night charter with 3 guests at \$5,500!

7 night charter with 4 guests at \$6,000!

These are HUGE discounts that none of the other charter companies can match. Our regular 2018 charter season will run from Jan. 15th through July 15th. We generally do not do any charters between July 15th and October 15th due to the challenging and unpredictable weather (i.e. hurricane season). In 2018 we will be taking off on another big sailing adventure down island leaving towards the end of October and not returning until the beginning of December. So for 2018 we will NOT be able to accommodate any charter requests for dates during the period of Oct. 15th to Dec. 15th as we have been

able to do in the past. Due to the holiday season we usually do not do charters between Dec. 15th and Jan. 7th so that our crew has time off to celebrate with everyone else.

So please contact us immediately and let's get rolling. This will be the best year for a sailing charter with Jamann Sailing Adventures Extraordinaire in the Virgin Islands!

Frequently Asked Questions!

A couple of questions have come up numerous times since our last newsletter.

Were you scared during the Hurricanes? Prior to Irma Kathy had been up to Pennsylvania and Delaware for her annual trip back to the states while I had stayed at home in St. Thomas. We have several good applications that give us great weather and storm information. Using that information we decided to move Jamann to the south side of Puerto Rico with Irma forecast to hit the Virgin Islands directly. So two days before the storms arrival I sailed over to the Bahia Jobos mangroves and secured Jamann there. The path of the storm was forecast to pass Puerto Rico to the north east with the winds forecast to be a maximum of 30 knots where I was with the boat. So I stayed aboard (as did others nearby in the mangroves) and rode out the effects of the storm with no problem. Kathy then joined me in Puerto Rico arriving the day before Maria was forecast to hit Puerto Rico not too far from where we were. With such little time we put Jamann back in the mangroves and this time went ashore and stayed in a hotel at the marina. Up on the 2nd floor in a nice sturdy cinderblock and cement building we felt quite safe but there were a few anxious moments with the wind howling and the shutters banging and debris hitting the sides of the building. But it never got so bad that we feared for our lives.

Do you have insurance that covers you in a storm? Yes, luckily, we do! But not everyone can afford such insurance. Our policy covers us all year round in the water. To get lower costs some people get policies that require them to exit the most probable hurricane area during hurricane season or to secure their boat in an approved boat yard or hurricane hole. What we learned this year is that with Category 5 storms boats on the hard in the boat yards or in the well-known hurricane holes could very well still be severely damaged, destroyed and/or sunk as did happen with many of the boats here in the Virgin Islands. Fortunately we will not have to make any insurance claims even though we were covered.

If you have any particular questions you'd like our resident Mr. Know It All (guess who that is on Jamann?) let us know and we'd be glad to share the answer with everyone else.

Living the Dream!

Heading into our 6th season and waiting for more of you to come down and sail with us! The dream is alive and well and we are thoroughly enjoying the experience in spite of this year's hurricanes. We have another exciting down island adventure later next year starting in October to visit a couple of islands

we've not visited yet as well as stops at some of our favorites making it back home to St. Thomas in early December. Stay tuned for pictures and posts on our Facebook page as we try to stay connected via the internet wherever we can. We certainly do love sharing our island life with our family, friends and new friends (a.k.a. guests). And we are humbly gratefully to be able to experience our life in the islands. We continue to appreciate all of the support and well wishes we have received from everyone and look forward to having you come down and share the fun and excitement in our neighborhood.

Thanks and see ya in da islands, mon! Pass the Pusser's!!! Arrgghhhh!!!!

Life is GREAT! Arrrgghhhh!

Kathy & Jim Jackson

(a.k.a. Capt'n HiHo and Capt'n Grey Beard the Benevolent Pirate of Red Hook)



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