



Jamann

Sailing Adventures Extraordinaire

www.jamannsailing.com

Welcome to the Fall 2020 edition of the Jamann Sailing Adventures Extraordinaire (JSAE) newsletter. Thank you for your interest. We have made it past the peak of hurricane season and things are fairly quiet in the Atlantic basin right now. In fact, October 15th is Hurricane Thanksgiving Day! And of course, like the rest of the world we are doing our best to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. We are pushing ahead with our plans for 2021. We still have a couple of dates available for 2021. Check out the details below. So sorry that there has been such a long gap between newsletters. Take a break. Grab your Pusser's. And let's get caught up!

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 your family and 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.

COVID-19 in the USVI

Just as the local community was starting to recover financially from the 2017 hurricanes here comes COVID-19. By mid-March, our governor had issued orders for everyone to Stay at Home, non-essential businesses were closed, groups limited to 10 people and facial coverings when entering any business. The cruise ship industry shut down. The Sailing Charter industry shut down. And all the Caribbean islands closed their borders – except the USVI and Puerto Rico! The USVI borders are controlled by the US Federal Government. Our federal government ultimately closed our US borders to people coming from certain countries. So, the USVI could not stop everyone from entering. Consequently, we ended up



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Kathy & Jim Jackson

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

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Captain Greybeard the Pirate, Executive Editor

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We Be Jamann!!!

being the only Caribbean island where boats were allowed to enter, and we ended up with hundreds of additional boats here. In closing down non-essential business that included preventing hotels, Airbnb's, VRBO's and any other accommodation type business from registering any tourist which shut down tourism completely which is not good for an economy that relies almost totally on tourism. But for the good of the public health the measures taken did limit our exposure to COVID-19 and allowed our health care system with its very limited resources to make the necessary changes and improvements to be prepared for handling the spread of the disease. As these resource conditions improved we were able to move to the Safer at Home phase with less restrictions and by June 1st we moved to the Open Doors phase at which point tourists were allowed back in with the opening of hotels – still no cruise ships. The charter companies were able to book some charters as the normal season would be winding down. On June 1st we had 69 confirmed cases, only 2 active cases and only 6 deaths. By Aug. 13th we were up to 741 confirmed cases, 209 active cases and 9 deaths and the governor was forced to shut things down again. Today, Oct. 10th we are at 1,325 confirmed cases, 16 active cases and 20 deaths. So, we have a way to go before things get better, but the sailing charter industry is cautiously optimistic and moving forward with plans for this next charter season as our economy recovers and grows.



Things in the BVI remain much more restrictive. They do not have the kind of governmental support from the UK as we have with our US federal government here in the USVI. They have gone through several lock downs and curfews. There are now strict entry protocols for citizens and permanent residents returning but no tourists allowed to enter. There is a current proposal to allow tourists to enter starting Dec. 1st but again with strict protocols including testing prior to arrival, testing upon arrival, quarantine for 4 days and then a final test. Entry is at the airport only with the marine port entries remaining closed. This still needs to be voted on by their government's Cabinet. The USVI charter boats (day sails and term charters) may have to wait quite a while before being allowed to take guests to the BVI. In the meantime, we'll have a good time showing our guests the many beautiful locations in the USVI.

Jost Van Dyke Primary School – The Struggle Continues!

It has been 2 years since hurricanes Irma and Maria hit the Virgin Islands and left the Jost Van Dyke Primary School in ruins. As you may recall and for our new friends, the primary building was almost completely damaged with windows and doors blown out and the roof severely damaged and gone in some sections. The secondary building had the 2nd floor completely blown off and major damage to the first floor. On our last trip over to Jost back in March we were very happy to see that local workers with funds and resources and a strong community effort were able to repair half of the primary building and

all of the secondary building including a new 2nd floor. There are rumors that the project to build a new primary school has been given new life and we are waiting to hear what the details will be.

We would like to report that with the help of many of you our projects to help the JVD Primary School resulted in several hundred donated books; donated art supplies; a donated projector and screen; and, food, water and cleaning supplies purchased right after the hurricanes. And with our JVD Primary School Hurricane Relief Fund monetary donations totaling \$11,034 had been collected and has been used to purchase a vast amount of school supplies and resources including everything from book bags, pens, pencils, crayons, poster boards, notebooks, laptop computers, printers, ink cartridges, paper, clocks, laminating machines and much, much more! Thank you all for your most generous support and help for the Jost Van Dyke Primary School.

Was There a 2020 Charter Season?



The Hunts and Hildebrandts on Jost Van Dyke

Yes – well sort of. The season got off to a great start and then came to a screeching halt with COVID-19. We had a fun day sail with the Henne/Chaffee family in January. And we had a great term charter with Pauline and Barry Hildebrandt and Sheri and Rich Hunt the end of February. Managed to pick up a day sail in early March. But then no other term charters for the rest of the season. Luckily, all our remaining term charters rescheduled for 2021. After things shut down in March, we did manage to squeeze in a day sail with Karen Torres and Russell Richardson. Then a day sail with good friends, the Brandt family. We were also fortunate to be able to again participate with this year's Virgin Islands Professional Charter Association's Internship program with two day sails with the interns learning sailing on larger mono hulls. And that was it for the 2020 season for us! Check out the photos from the trips on our website.

2021 Charter Season Information

We are looking forward to a great season in 2021. As mentioned above we already have several charters booked, those who rescheduled with us from 2020 cancellations. [We do have charter dates available for February, May and June.](#) If any of those time slots work for you give us a call now and let us set something up! [Book now before prices go up after we get our new insurance premium costs!](#)

And of course, if 2021 is not going to work out for you **we are accepting reservations for charters in 2022.** If you want to get the best dates for 2022 now is the time to let us know of your interest and make a deposit to reserve your sailing adventure dates. If you are really into the sailing part and do not care if we ever stop sailing, you might want to consider January or February. If you want to maximize your time playing in the warm clear blue water, you might want to consider May or June. If you want a

great balance between great sailing and great fun in the water and on the beaches, you might want to consider March or April. If our regular charter season of January through June doesn't suit your schedule it might be possible to charter in July, November or December but these are the months when we take off ourselves for our own adventures or may have other things going on. We do not charter in August, September or October (height of hurricane season). Bottom line no matter when you come down to sail with us you will have a great time relaxing and enjoying life in our sunny warm breezy neighborhood. We are supposed to be retired. So our charter schedule is somewhat limited. To get the best time that suits you contact us now and let's get the planning started. **P.S. – 5% discount for return guests!**

Frequently Asked Questions!

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

Do you have a car or a house on shore and how do you get your mail?

No, we do not have a car. Too expensive to own, insure and park. Nor do we have a house on shore. Too expensive to buy, too expensive to rent, and utilities are too expensive. We live on the boat year-round with the boat on a mooring in Red Hook Bay. Fortunately, here on the east end of St. Thomas almost everything we need is available right here in Red Hook. A short dinghy ride to shore and everything is within a short walking distance. We have a great grocery store right across the street from where we park the dinghy where we can shop for ourselves as well as provision for charters. There is a "strip Mall" across the street with a number of businesses including a pharmacy, a well-staffed medical facility, the mail service that we use (we don't get very much paper mail any more but that's how we get packages sent to us), a bank and several restaurants and other stores. On our side of the street in buildings that are part of the marina complex are even more restaurants, a laundromat, a dive shop where we both help out occasionally, ATM's, a marine chandlery (that is a marine hardware store for you



The view from our mooring in the outer bay back to Red Hook

landlubbers), a convenience store and the Captain School business that we both work at part-time and a marine mechanics business. We get fresh water for the boat and fuel at the marina fuel dock. For the few times when we do go into town, Charlotte Amalie (out in Red Hook where we are is considered "out in the country" by the locals), to the big TuTu Mall (Kmart and other stores), to the movies (yes, we do have one movie theatre on island) or to Home Depot we use the local open air "taxi" service known as the "Safari" or the "dollar bus". It only costs \$1 to get to the mall and only \$2 to get down to town. So,

we don't really need a car and our house floats. We can take the house with us when WE want to go on vacation and visit other Caribbean islands or just to visit other bays and anchorages around the USVI, BVI and Spanish VI. We live off the grid and don't have any property taxes, but we do pay an annual fee of \$860 for the permit for our mooring location. We have good cell phone service (throughout the Caribbean) and internet access on the boat for communications and entertainment. Life be good in day islands, mon!!!!

If you have any particular questions you'd like our resident Mr. Know It All (guess who that is on Jamann?) to answer let us know and he'll be glad to share the answers with everyone else, especially if you offer him a tot of Pusser's.

Living the Dream!

A strange time for us all. Hopefully, we get through the pandemic as quickly as possible. Being isolated on a boat in a beautiful bay with the sun, the breeze and the warm clear water is not so bad – wait, that was the plan all along even before all of this. We are extremely fortunate to be able to still live the dream while dealing with this pandemic and our annual visit from the hurricanes. Wishing you all good weather and good health!!!!

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



Life is GREAT! Arrrgghhhhh!

Kathy & Jim Jackson

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



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*The Chaffee Family at Honeymoon Beach,
St. John*



*Karen Torres and Russel Richardson at Maho Bay,
St. John*



The Brandt Family at Caneel Bay, St. John