



# Jamann

## *Sailing Adventures Extraordinaire*

[www.jamannsailing.com](http://www.jamannsailing.com)

Welcome to the Winter 2019 edition of the Jamann Sailing Adventures Extraordinaire (JSAE) newsletter. Thank you for your interest. We have successfully made it through the 2019 hurricane season, and we are pushing ahead with our plans for 2020. We still have a couple of dates available for 2020 and we are already taking reservations for 2021. Check out the details below. So sorry that there has been such a long gap between newsletters. Still kind of busy trying to recover from the 2017 and 2019 hurricanes. It's a long newsletter, so get comfortable and grab your Pusser's!

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 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.



Jamann Sailing Adventures Extraordinaire

Kathy & Jim Jackson

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

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Captain Greybeard the Pirate, Executive Editor

Captain HiHo, Contributor and proofreader

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## ***Jost Van Dyke Primary School – The Struggle Continues!***



It's been 2 years since hurricanes Irma and Maria hit the Virgin Islands and left the Jost Van Dyke Primary School in ruins. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> floor completely blown

off and major damage to the first floor. Over the next few months after talks about building a new school fell apart local workers with funds and resources were able to repair half of the primary building and all of the secondary building including a new 2<sup>nd</sup> floor as we were glad to see when visiting the school back in March of this year. But the spirit of Ms. Blyden (the school's principal), the staff of teachers and the parents will not be denied and they have worked very hard and successfully to get the school back up and running.



But the struggle continues. As the families returned to the island and the school population began increasing back toward their pre-storms enrollment numbers of 44 students the classrooms have become over crowded. They also now have the local day care center, which previously had its own building, using part of the school's secondary building. There is still a strong need for support in getting basic day to day school supplies for both the staff and the students.

### ***Jamann Support for the Jost Van Dyke Primary School!***

We are so appreciative of the way our Jamann Sailing Adventures family of friends have come forward to help us provide support for the Jost Van Dyke Primary School. This support has shown itself in two ways.

We started collecting books for the school prior to the storms and then stepped up the effort after the storms. Many of you reading this newsletter are to be thanked for your many donations of books and we have delivered well over 600 books for students of all ages. Unfortunately, with the overcrowded status of the buildings there is no more room for any more books at this time. So, we need to suspend the book donation project for now until more room at the school becomes available. Some of the excess books have been donated to the St. Thomas Boys & Girls Club so that they go to good use now instead of just sitting in storage.

Of course, the other way many of you have helped to support the school is through your monetary donations and once again the Jamann Sailing Adventures family of friends have far exceeded



expectations and hopes. To date the donations have totaled \$8,284 for which we, and the school, are truly grateful!!! With these funds we have been able to purchase water, cleaning supplies, back packs, and food items right after the storm. Then followed that up with purchases of new laptop computers for the staff, new printers/copiers, ink cartridges, clocks, extension cords, a laminating machine, clip boards, reams of paper, markers, glue, paper clips and many more items. Also a projector and screen were donated. While the book donation collection has been at least temporarily suspended we are still

actively accepting monetary donations as the school is still struggling to get the basic everyday resources they need to support their educational efforts.

### ***How YOU can still Help!***

You can continue to make donations to our support fund by clicking on the fund link below.

**Fund:** [Jamann Support 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 for the Jost Van Dyke community. This fund will help us to continue providing basic supplies (pencils, crayons, paper, notebooks, back packs, tape, markers, posters and other teaching resources). Your continued support is greatly appreciated!!!!

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

### ***Was There a 2018 Charter Season?***

The storms in 2017 severely damaged many of the islands, not only the Virgin Islands but also many of the other islands down the whole Caribbean island chain. Our 2018 charter business as with many other charter companies saw a very significant drop in the number of guests and number of charters. Tourism in general took a big hit considering the Virgin Islands lost approximately 80% of the hotel rooms in the territory. Even today, 2 years later, several of the bigger resorts have yet to reopen. One of the biggest challenges we all faced was insurance. Two months after the storms our



insurance company simply locked the doors and went out of business. Many other businesses refused to sell policies for vessels in the Caribbean. The best rates we could get were up by 55% in 2018 and now up another 25% in 2019. So in 2018 we did not do any term/multi-night charters but we did manage to do a few day sails for guests. Many thanks to Barb and Paul Baldassarre and family, Sally Bartlett and family Melissa and John, Kara and Dave Hartnet, Caroline and Joe McGlynn, Amanda and Matt Seward, Anne and Wayne Brandt and family and Captain Jack Sanzalone for joining us on some great days of sailing in 2018. Pictures from these fun days of sailing can be found on our Jamann Sailing Adventures Facebook page (make sure you check out Brandt's Slithering Snake Dive – I bust out laughing every time I watch the video 🤔) or clicking the links below in this newsletter.

The highlight of the 2018 season for us was our sailing adventure down to St. Lucia! We departed from St. Thomas on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>, the day after hurricane Thanksgiving day. It was a windy, rainy cloudy kind of day but we were excited to be on our way. The first 24 hours were challenging conditions but 45 hours after departure we were moored and looking at the beautiful island of Nevis. We headed for Monserrat and had a great day of sailing arriving there around 4PM. But the only bay we could anchor in was very rough with waves crashing on the shore. So onward we went without stopping and our day sail turned into an overnight sail as we continued on to Isle de Saintes off Guadeloupe. We had been there twice before and this has



become one of our favorite stops. Over the course of two days we visited Fort Napoleon, checked out the beach on the south side, enjoyed time meandering through the town, really enjoyed the French cuisine (a great lunch and a really great dinner) and a little bit of snorkeling. Then on to Martinique for the first time. First port of call was at St. Pierre for the weekend, an old town with lots of interesting history and then on to Anse Mitan, a much more

modern tourist location where we enjoyed some snorkeling. The last leg of the down island part of the trip was to St. Lucia where we picked up a mooring ball in Marigot Bay. Here we met up with our scuba diving group and spent the week with them there doing some great diving, eating some great meals and enjoying lots of great St. Lucian rums!

We spent a couple of days after the dive group left to re-provision and then started our trek back up island heading back to Martinique, first stopping at Grand Anse de Arlett and then on to St. Pierre. Then on to Isle de Saintes, Guadeloupe where we found another interesting anchorage to snorkel in and had yet another great French dinner. After a couple of days to rest we headed off on the overnight sail past Monseratt and on to Nevis. But during the middle of the night with Kathy at the helm and me asleep in the cockpit we were hit by a large rogue wave. A single very large wave seemingly out of no where. It caused Jamann to heel sharply to port which then caused it to round up almost immediately to go up and over the wave. What a way to wake up with



a wall of water hitting me in the face. We were stunned but okay. No problems with the boat but the suddenness of the hit really made a mess down below throwing every thing around. Luckily the rum bottles did not break! No more sleep the rest of that night for either of us and we were glad to get back to Nevis at dawn for some rest. From there it was a short sail on up to St. Eustatius where we stopped for a few days to dive with our good friends at the Scubaqua Dive Center. Always a great time diving with those guys! For all of our diving friends you should head for St. Eustatius and dive with Scubaqua as soon as possible. The next stop was St. Croix on another overnight sail. Only this time the seas were flat and there was not wind. We ended up motoring for 20 hours but it was an easy trip otherwise. After catching up with a few friends in St. Croix we made the final sail back to St. Thomas arriving back at our Red Hook homeport on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was a fabulous 6 week adventure but it was great to be back home.

### ***2019 Charter Season Information!***

Our 2019 season got off to a great start with a January day sail with Rebecca & Mike Carr along with friends Christine & Dean Newstrom during their stay in St. Thomas. In February our former Mount Joy, PA neighbor Randy McCoy, his wife Sandra and Theresa and Bob Connell did a nice 3 night charter with us and afterwards stayed on land for another 4 nights. Also in February Cheryl Good, her husband Craig and friend Leana Aungst did a BVI charter with us. B.A. McGettigan and Don Juan Laverdure sailed with us in March making it over to Anegada for a great lobster dinner. Sue and Don Zigler (college classmates) and Sheri (Amour) and Mark Grim did the BVI charter loop with us in April. We had a return charter with Brenda and Bill Dorsey along with Diane Vickers, Charlene Kline and Tony Coccio in May. Then we managed to sneak off just the two of us for a belated celebration of Kathy's birthday sailing over to Anegada for lobsters and beach time.



For something new this year we participated in the VI Professional Charter Associations Internship Program hosting 6 of the local interns on a day sail so that they could learn more about sailing particularly on larger vessels. These interns were in a 6 week program learning all aspects of the marine industry with hopes of being able to get jobs in the local marine industry.

And we finished up the season helping Chad Block and Danielle Miller to celebrate Chad's birthday with a great day sail to the north side of St. John. Thanks to all of our guests for a great season. You can get to lots of pictures from these adventures clicking the links below in this newsletter or by going to the Past Adventures section of our website.

### ***Links to the various charter photo albums***

If you are reading this on your computer, tablet or smart phone, click on the links below to see how much fun you and all of your friends have had on a Jamann Sailing Adventure Extraordinaire. If you are not in any of these albums you, too, can join in on all of the fun by booking a charter with us for 2020 or 2021. (Bonus prize for anyone who looks through all of the photo albums below!)

[Moserd-Gratacos-Marleau-Kaikkonen – Jan. 6, 2017](#)

[Gillette Family – Jan. 9, 2017](#)

[Haberle-Taylor – Jan. 19-26, 2017](#)

[McGettigan-Loomis – Feb. 12-19, 2017](#)

[Pritchetts – Mar. 11-18, 2017](#)

[Wiley-Lever – April 18, 2017](#)

[Kazmerski/DeClementi – May 6-13, 2017](#)

[Perry-Seible – June 30, 2017](#)

[Bloom and Friends – Aug. 8, 2017](#)

[Sites & Friends – Dec. 25, 2017](#)

[Baldassare Family – Jan. 1, 2018](#)

[Brandt Family – Mar. 16-17, 2018](#)

[McGlynn – May 26, 2018](#)

[Seward – May 27, 2018](#)

[Sanzalone – June 22, 2018](#)

[St. Thomas to St. Lucia – Oct. 16-Nov. 2, 2018](#)

[St. Lucia – Nov. 2-12, 2018](#)



[St. Lucia to St. Thomas – Nov. 13-Dec. 2, 2018](#)

[Carr-Newstrom – Jan. 29, 2019](#)

[McCoy-Connell - Feb. 6-9, 2019](#)

[Good-Aungst – Feb. 23-Mar. 2, 2019](#)

[McGettigan-Laverdure – Mar. 16-23, 2019](#)

[Zigler-Grim – April 17-24, 2019](#)

[Dorsey-Coccio-Vickers – May 7-14, 2019](#)

[Block-Miller – Aug. 2, 2019](#)

## ***2020 and 2021 Charter Season Information***

We are looking forward to another great season in 2020. We already have several charters booked, some with new friends and some with repeat friends. [We do have charter dates available for June 20-27, 2020.](#) If you are considering doing a charter with us (hopefully everyone reading this newsletter is considering doing a charter with us, aren't you?) and these dates will work for you please contact us immediately so that we can work on getting those dates reserved for you. All of the detailed information about our charters can be found on our website. After reviewing that information if you have any additional questions please contact us immediately.

And of course, if 2020 is not going to work out for you **we are accepting reservations for charters in 2021.** If you want to get the best dates for 2021 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 don't care if we ever stop, 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 our selves 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. **Book a 2021 charter and make a deposit by March 1, 2020 and get the charter at 2020 pricing.** P.S. – 5% discount for return guests!

## ***Frequently Asked Questions!***

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

What happens when a storm threatens?

First, we stop and have a tot of Pusser's rum (in the early days a tot, the daily ration, was about 8 ounces – today a tot is about 2 ounces)! Helps to clear the mind for critical thinking purposes. And we check to make sure we'll have enough rum to get us through (and I guess we check the food supply, too, but definitely check the rum – a pyrate can survive much longer without food than without rum). Then we start gathering weather information from the National Hurricane Center and other good sources of information, the key phrase being the actual sources. Then we take another sip of Pusser's rum. We study the nature of the storm (Tropical wave, Tropical Depression, Tropical Storm, Hurricane) and the likely hood of its development and especially its size. Then we study its forecast path and speed using the various "spaghetti" models in relationship to where we are. This allows us to determine what options we have in terms of the best place for the boat and for us. Then we take another couple of sips of Pusser's rum while monitoring the situation over a couple of days. When the storm is about 5 days away then we make a decision on what action we need to take to best protect ourselves and to protect the boat. And then of course we take another sip of Pusser's rum and execute the plan. Sometimes, as with Dorian, the choice is to stay here on our home mooring in Red Hook. When we chose this location for our mooring one major consideration was protection from storms and this location provides excellent protection from storms passing us to the south and west. And then we installed the mother of all moorings with 5 sand screws and lots of chain. Our home port is not as good protection from storms passing us to the east and north. So in those cases we move the boat over to the mangroves east of Salinas on the south side of Puerto Rico. That's where we were for Irma and Maria. In addition to getting the boat and ourselves to a safe location there are several other preparations that need to be made. We pack a ditch bag with all of the important stuff we must take with us if we have to get off the boat. We take down the roller furled foresail. We tie up the sail bag with the mainsail in it. We take off the bimini covering. We take off the kayak and find a place to store it. Since we sail a lot we do not have anything cluttering up the deck or the cockpit that would need to be stowed. We secure everything down below, close all of the through hulls and secure all of the hatches. The next big decision is whether to stay aboard or get off the ship and that depends on just how big and bad the storm will be and where we are. In either case we grab the Pusser's, have a tot and then wait for the storm. For Irma I stayed aboard and I only experienced Tropical Storm conditions 60 miles west of the Cat 5 hurricane – 30 knot/35mph winds. For Maria we got off the boat and stayed in a hotel as Maria was a Cat 4 hurricane when she made landfall with its center only about 15 miles east of us – 155 knot/180 mph winds. It was 3 days before we could get back to the boat and extremely relieved to find her okay. For Dorian, a Cat 1 hurricane just as it hit us, I stayed aboard as the center of the storm passed to the west of our homeport mooring only 3 miles away and right over St. Thomas - 50 knot/58 mph winds. Of course, once the storm passes and all is well again then we have a double tot of Pusser's rum and then go check to make sure the neighbors are okay, arghhhh!!!

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!***

As the recovery from Irma and Maria continues hopefully Mother Nature will take it easy on us next season as well and let the people of the islands do their best to get back to normal. It is a slow tedious process but progress is clearly being made. But we are still living the dream and loving every minute of it. 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!!! Argghhhh!!!!

Life is GREAT! Arrrgghhhh!

***Kathy & Jim Jackson***

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



# ***Jamann***

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