SOUTHERN BAY RACING NEWS YOU CAN USE #182

Lin McCarthy on Monday January 5, 2004 09:01AM

KEY WEST RACE WEEK BOUND: The annual pilgrimage is about to begin. The actual racing begins at KWRW on January 19th. Here are some southern Bay (and beyond to the south) boats, skippers and crewbies who have announced intentions to dig out their sandals and commence the trek: (1)Titillation, J/29, sailing out of Fishing Bay, skipper Paul Andersen with Elizabeth Staas, Mary Carter, Carolyn Grant, Sue Kessler, Michelle Garn, Morgan Marchant, and Sue Reilly: (2) Night Music, J/29, also from Fishing Bay, skipper Sam Marshall with Hal Starke, Dan Clark, Marshall Orr, Tom Norris, Bill Fendley, Rachel Barnard, Kathleen Slattery, and Anna Smith; (3) Phantom, B-25 from the Outer Banks, skipper Frank Silver with Ken Saylor and Hubbs Hubbard among the crew; (4) Insatiable, Mariah 27, out of Fishing Bay and skippered by owner Mike Karn; (5) Brian McCauley, who used to race Conspiracy in PHRF A, is teamed up with **Debbie Koelliker** and **Tami Erb** to join some Annapoleans on a chartered J/105. Five more KWRW entries with North Carolina leanings who, like Phantom, share various connections with southern Chesapeake Bay racers, are (7) Savannah, Henderson 30, owned by Walter Kennedy of Charlotte; (8) Unvanquished, Abbot 36, belonging to **Dan Ledbetter**, also of Charlotte; (9) **Mike** Jones' Outrageous, SR33, of Wilmington; (10) Rum at Six, J/105, from Beaufort sailed by Baggett/Brown/Harris; and (11) Wairere, Thompson 30, Peter Hunter of Kill Devil Hills. HAPPY NEW YEAR! RACE HOT INTO THE 2004 SEASON!

Callinectes, Impulse, and Southern Yankee take the lead in 2004 standings! The 2004 New Year's Madness Race came off without a hitch. Nineteen skippers skippered, crews crewed, and boats sailed. A reach-y start in Mill Creek and a quick turn into the Bay and around the tall range mark off Buckroe Beach cleared the post-celebration heads and got racers back in time to enjoy the OPCYC post-race legendary chili party. RESULTS: Spinnaker: 1. Ben Cuker, Callinectes, Cal 30-3; 2. Mike Nestor, Glory Days; Cal 39; 3. Dana Dillon, Amarylynn, Catalina 30. Non-Spinnaker: 1. Tom Peddy, Impulse, Catalina 34; 2. Dave Arnold, Decision, Catalina 30; 3. Greg Cutter, Gremellyn; C&C 30-2XL. Cruising: 1. Brian Murray, Southern Yankee, Tartan 41; 2. Gordon Johnson, Didi Mau; Beneteau 39; 3. Mike Barber, Crusader, C&C 32. RC Chairman: Bob Williamson

Fleet Flags - Get 'em Now! All (keel) race boats need fleet flags. From this time forward, all sailmakers, traditional suppliers of fleet flags, will only get busier. Therefore, ... do the algebra. On the southern Bay, most sailing instructions call for the racers to signal the fleet in which they are racing by displaying the appropriate International Code Flag: PHRF A - Code Flag 9; PHRF B - Code Flag 6; PHRF C - Code Flag 7; PHRF Non-Spin - Code Flag 5. Cruising One Design classes use a variety of options, most often a class insignia or a specified code flag. Usually, you are required to display your fleet flag at the bow and on the backstay - buy a pair. Appropriate fleet flags are specified in governing sailing instructions.

Southern Chesapeake Volvo Leukemia Cup Regatta (July 9-10, 2004) organizers are seriously considering adding a "Club Challenge" competition to the event. Stay tuned. Event is hosted by Fishing Bay YC and Stingray Point Marina and is scheduled a week ahead of the Screwpile Challenge Regatta (July 17-20), so as to make a nice stopover for Solomons-bound racers.

Also, at Key West Race Week will be southern Bay racer emeritus **Ray Houle** (owned and skippered Sea Saw). Until this year, Ray has been a key player in a dominant program in the Gulf Coast PHRF fleet, but he reports that boat has been sold. So, he will be a hot commodity, i.e. unattached crew, at this KWRW.

J/24 Fleet 71 newcomer, Jack Herbert is proud owner of Mark Muenster's boat.

Mark and Jean Brzozowski have sold Damn Yankee (Catalina 32) and Mark says he's on the verge of giving a home to a larger boat with a fin (read that as "goes better up wind") keel.

More 2004 organizations' officials named: Broad Bay Sailing Association race points of contact for 2004 are: Commodore, Mike Nestor; Fleet Captain (Racing), Scott Almond; and Fleet Captain (One Design - dinghies); Jean and Jerry Pattenaude.

Word among the **J/24 racers** is that Bellows Creek Yacht Club will be hosting the **2004 J/24 District 8 Championships** at either Lake Norman or Oriental in North Carolina. **Ron Medlin**, who raced Bash at a couple of southern Chesapeake Bay events in 2003, is honcho-ing the decision on the venue. **Chris Duer**, Cavitation, is collecting "druthers" from the southern Bay contingent. Chris can be reached at (757) 638-4825.

STRICTLY SAIL Calendar: The folks at Strictly Sail have something for southern Bay racers to do, if they happen to be in the traveling mode during January and February. ATLANTIC [City] SAIL EXPO, January 15-18; CHICAGO, January 29-February 1; MIAMI, February 12-17. Call 1-800-817-SAIL.

MURPHY'S LAW: Yours truly certainly enjoyed the holidays - especially the eat-a-thon! I am the world's only racing beagle who now has form fitting foulies. Or, is that just tight skin? Or, both? Living to race, racing to live. /s/ Murphy the Racing Beagle

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SOUTHERN BAY RACING NEWS YOU CAN USE, Lin McCarthy, Editor