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Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use #522

SBRNYCU is an independent weekly publication of southern Chesapeake Bay racing happenings. Founded in April, 2000.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Now we can begin to THINK SPRING!

2011 racing gets off on the right foot. Racers at Seaford and in Hampton Roads were blessed by the Mild Temps and Moderate Winds Weather Gods. No better place to be than racing on the first day of the New Year. At Seaford Yacht Club **Dan Smoker** (*Smoke*), **Chuck Eldred** (*Gail Force*) close behind, led the fleet around. Meanwhile in Hampton Roads, Hampton Yacht Club and Old Point Comfort YC hooked up for the 2011 Dana Dillon New Year's Madness Race. **Phil Briggs, Feather, was overall winner** of the 17 boat fleet, 5 of whom encountered skinny water and spent some time aground between the start in Hampton Creek and the finish in Mill Creek (5+ miles). **Ben Cuker**, *Callinectes* was the fastest B fleet boat, **Steve Taylor**, *Insolvent* in C Fleet, and **Dixon Wilde**, *Kingfisher* in Non-Spin. **Jim Forrester** brought his Catalina 387, *Anjalei*, home first among the Cruising boats. Finishing 2nd in their fleets were: A-**John Blais** (*Stardancer*); B-**David Taylor** (*Wham Bam*); Non-Spin-**Roy and Mike Tate** (*Aquarius*); and Cru- **Jim Beaudry** (*Black Dog*). **Mark Wolfe** did double duty, serving as event chairman and racing, too.

FORT LAUDERDALE TO KEY WEST RACE. A week from this Wednesday, on January 12th, three boats with southern Bay and beyond attachments will be racing from Fort Lauderdale to Key West. **Christian Schaumloffel** (HYC, Virginia Beach), will be taking his Hobie 33, *Mirage*, and **Glenn Doncaster** (FBYC, Raleigh, NC) will be racing his Sabre 426, *Nanuq*. Richard Oland, with southern Bay racer **Mark Wheeler** in the crew, will race *Vela Veloce*, a Southern Cross 52, to Key West and will stay over for KWRW (see below). All of the Lauderdale to Key West crews hope and pray for a very fast reach down the coast of Florida without, of course, any "bumps in the night".

KEY WEST RACE WEEK - January 17-21, 2011. Already entered are southern bay and beyond boats **LUCKY DOG**, **Travis Weislander** (Richmond, VA) in the J/105 one-design fleet, and **JUBILEE**, **Carl Huges** (Summerville, SC) A40RC who finished 2nd in the PHRF A1 fleet at SBRW 2010. Former J29 owners **John and Linda Edwards** (California, MD) will race *RHUMB PUNCH*, their Farr 30, in the KWRW one-design fleet and **Mark Wheeler** will be on board *VELA VELOCE* (Richard Oland's Southern Cross 52) racing in the IRC 2 fleet. You can follow the entries and the racing at www.Premiere-Racing.com.

Southern Bay Racer Sighting. Former owner and racer of *S2 Frequent Flyer*, **Tim Driscoll**, was spotted at a hockey game in Norfolk recently. Tim had been "...sailing the Scandinavian countries. . . this past summer and then did a trip around the Horn on a square rigger before returning home", according to an SBRNYCU reliable source. Tim was an active racer in the BBSA Willoughby Racers Thursday Nights for a number of years (circa 1980-1995). His shoreside residence is in Virginia Beach.

Shadowfax on the mend! Remember last spring when **Denis Bessette's** boat barn collapsed on his boat, *Shadowfax*, because of the blizzard? Denis borrowed a friend's boat, *Audrey*, also a Merit 25, who did the Down the Bay Race, and stayed around to race at Southern Bay Race Week. Well, Denis says the *Shadowfax* [major] repair ". . . is practically finished now. Just some touchup work like adding trim to the hatch cover and painting the hatch cover rails so they look pretty. " He sent photos of the new mast, which he built. So, *Shadowfax*, the boat that was almost crushed by her own barn, will be re-commissioned this Spring - good as new. Watch for her on the Bay. Denis sails *Shadowfax* out of Dahlgren Yacht Club.

Speaking of Merit 25s, *Audrey* and *Shadowfax* are two of 8 or 9 that live on the Chesapeake, one of which is *Figaro*, which is raced by **Kathy and Mike Barber** in the Hampton Roads area. The Merit 25 rates out in PHRF at around 180, solidly in PHRF C in either Division of the southern Bay.

Hopes are high that a significant number of **OPSAIL 2012** tall ships will stop in our southern Bay waters in June of 2012. Since the event, which commemorates the **War of 1812**, is 18 months away, there is time to bone up on US history of the period (1812-1815) of the War. Two southern Bay racers who better be on top of their history trivia game are **Jim Williams** and **Will Roberts**; they named their Hobie 33, **Treaty of Ghent**. The actual Treaty

of Ghent ended the war and dictated that both countries be returned to " . . . *status quo ante bellum*, the state of affairs as it existed before the hostilities broke out," according to *Sea History* 133, winter 2010-2011.

Not heading for Key West Race Week? Head north for this fun - On **January 13th** Cunard's **new Queen Elizabeth**, on her inaugural tour to North America, will depart New York Harbor with the sister ships **Queen Victoria** and **Queen Mary**. The World Yacht *Duchess* will cruise out with the ships and the National Maritime Historical Society is organizing the evening on board the *Duchess*. Early-bird fare is \$160 each and includes 4 hour open bar, sumptuous dinner and dessert buffet, entertainment and information (not to mention the fireworks in NY Harbor and the Statue of Liberty). Call 1-800-221-6647 for details and info.

Most know that **Pete Wallio** (*Island Time*) finished 2nd in his class in the **Caribbean1500**. Here's the rest of the story: After a couple of days in Tortola Pete headed south with **Jackie Gaskins** and **Jim Rice** as crew and made a three day passage to Grenada. They weathered one squall on the second day of the three day trip, which stressed out their hydraulic steering and damaged a spreader, but with makeshift repairs, they made it in safely. After several days of enjoying Grenada while waiting for parts to arrive by FedEx, they are on their way again, island hopping north.

Dave and Phil Alexander, who race (*Don't be Blue* - J22) and sail with **Pete Wallio**, went down to help with repairs to *Island Time*. Because the needed parts had to be shipped in, Dave and Phil got in a lot of sightseeing and fishing (the *other* passion). Along the way, Dave dislocated his shoulder (fishing) and they discovered an island rum factory - the **Rivers Rum operation on Grenada**, where the rum is hand dipped from the "bonding" tank and then poured through filter cloth over an *Igloo* cooler. You fill the bottles by hand and they are capped and boxed for shipment! Dave owned up, saying, "Not all made it to the box!" Dave has written a delightful, detailed report of the trip to *the islands, Mon*, which includes great illustrative pictures. Ask him about it.

Workshops and clinics - some dates to remember:

- * "*Racing Rules Made Easy*" - February 5, 2011 - Neuse Yacht Racing Association, New Bern, North Carolina
- * "*US SAILING Race Management Seminar*" - February 19, 2011 - Hampton Yacht Club, Hampton, VA
- * "*Murphy Rules - All You Never Thought You Could Know About the Racing Rules*" - March 26, 2011 - Rappahannock River Yacht Club

2011 SCHEDULE FOR SOUTHERN BAY "BIG BOAT" RACING: It is available for distribution. Contact club racing officials or click on "reply" to this issue of *SBRNYCU* and on the subject line put, "**Send my 2011 schedule, please**" and it will come to you by return email, courtesy of *SBRNYCU*.

MURPHY'S LAW: Help! *Racing Beagle* down! Went sledding during the snow storm. Got frozen paws. Licked one. Got tongue struck to paw. Need emergency hot, medicinal rum to melt ice on paw *and* tongue! Ya never can find a Saint Bernard when ya need one! /S/ *Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.*

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