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Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use # 752

SBRNYCU is an independent weekly publication of southern Chesapeake Bay racing happenings.

Founded in April, 2000. Lin McCarthy, Editor

Try sailing - it's NOT easy! - Bill Schanen, [SAILING Magazine](#)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BUMPS! Bumps Eberwine will turn 90 THIS COMING Wednesday night, August 26th. Bumps and his crew will be doing the HYC Wednesday Night Race, as usual, with Bumps at the helm of *Sea Star*. When they get back in to the HYC dock, they will have a cake and a small keg of beer at the slip for Bumps' friends and well wishers to celebrate the occasion. Everyone is invited to stop by after sailing to have a beer and wish Bumps a Happy Birthday! **THE CELEBRATION IS A SURPRISE – PLEASE DO NOT TELL BUMPS!** As *Murphy, the Racing Beagle*, always says, "Don't let the cat out of the bag!"

PLANTATION LIGHT RACE – THIS Saturday-Sunday (EVENING START). The Grand Dame of moonlight racing on the southern Chesapeake coming this weekend. THE PLANTATION LIGHT RACE, nighttime and non-stop, starts Saturday evening, on **August 29th** in Hampton Roads harbor, goes to Cape Charles and back. First warning signal is a **7 pm**. Most boats, in favorable conditions, finish sometime Sunday morning. **A FULL MOON has been scheduled for Saturday night.** There is no time limit for this one, though, so be ready for whatever Momma Nature throws at you – Translation: *Have plenty of liquids on board.* For information on entry and details, contact Bob Thomas at 757-9407 or 757-592-1650. A valid PHRF of the Chesapeake Rating Certificate which includes the Chesapeake Bay (Ches Bay) Safety and Equipment Requirements Category is required. All PHRF classes are welcome – PHRF Non-Spin allows double headsail. If you especially like summer nighttime racing on the Chesapeake Bay, this race is a must-do for you.

Ed Giles, a former crew member on Rodney Paice's *Vortex, J24*, has taken over the boat and will campaign it for the rest of the season. Rodney passed from us earlier this summer. If you are interested in racing on *Vortex* with Ed, call him at **757-393-2400**. Rodney most certainly would approve of Ed's plan to "keep on racin'!"

TYPHOON CLASS. Typhoons racing on the Rappahannock River open their **Wednesday Night Fall Series** (6 races) this week – August 26th. The Series is conducted by Rappahannock River Yacht Club. Racing begins each evening at 5PM. **For info contact Ned Crockett at nedshirleyc@verizon.net**

RACERS AND THE RULES QUIZ: (Answer follows in this issue of *SBRNYCU*.) **Question:** You are in the last few seconds before your starting signal, running the line ready for the perfect start. Your timer is counting down "5-4-3-2-1GO." However, you hear no starting horn and are hesitant to "pull the trigger". After two or three seconds (during which your primary competitor heads up and crosses the line ahead of you), you look over your shoulder and see that the race committee has lowered your class flag on the Signal Boat. You go ahead and start, but have lost several seconds to your competitor, who proceeds to steal your air and give you a horrible start. Do you have any recourse?

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY WEEKEND is just over the horizon – Friday, September 4 thru Monday, September 7 (the actual, official holiday).

****One of the longest standing Labor Day southern Bay racing events is the **ANNUAL STINGRAY POINT REGATTA, Friday thru Sunday.** This will be the 21st edition of this event hosted by Fishing Bay Yacht Club. The event opens on Friday with a long-distance race that is scored *SEPARATELY* from the SP Regatta itself. There is check-in and registration *for the regatta* on Friday from 4PM to 5:45PM, followed by a mandatory Skippers Meeting at 6PM in the

regatta tent. [NOTE: A Skippers Meeting for the *Friday distance race ONLY* will be at 11AM at the FBYC Jackson Creek flag pole.] Racing for the Regatta will be on Saturday and Sunday in the mouth of the Piankatank River. The number of races each day will be determined by the Race Committee. Racing is for PHRF spinnaker and non-spinnaker classes, one-design classes, and cruising fleet boats. The first warning signal each day is 11AM. For information and entry, click on www.fbyc.net Paper entries (CBYRA entry form) may be mailed to: Stingray Point Regatta, c/o Matt Lambert, 4929 Southmoor Road, North Chesterfield, VA 23234

******Fall Barnacle Racing** begins Friday, September 4th. Racing is sponsored by Portsmouth Boat Club.

<http://portsmouthboatclub.org>

Answer to RR Quiz Question: Other than complain.....no. Although the race committee did not properly sound the starting signal, they *did* lower your class flag at the appropriate moment. **Rule 26, Starting Races**, specifically says that: "*Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.*" Given the use of the word "shall" in the rule, the race committee broke no rule and had no choice but to let the start stand. In addition, a general recall would only penalize those boats who got good starts while rewarding those who did not. No redress is appropriate since no rule was broken and the proper visual signal was made at the proper time. Next time watch the flags, trust your timer, and give *them* bad air at the start.

MURPHY'S LAW: *Yours Truly, the Racing Beagle*, is wondering, "Does running late count as exercise?" And, "Does running late on 4 legs, count as double time, no matter the speed?" These are important issues in today's harried world. – Ahooo! /S/ *Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.*

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