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Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use #773 February 1, 2016

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](#)

GROUNDHOG Day is Tomorrow, February 2nd. Here's the drill. If the sun is shining when The Groundhog leaves the burrow, he is likely to be frightened by his shadow and will immediately return to his hole and we can expect another six (6) weeks of WINTER. However, if the day is cloudy when The Groundhog comes out of his burrow, The Groundhog is likely to stay out and we can expect an EARLY SPRING. We don't need a poll to guess which kind of sky most racers will want. The Kingpin Groundhog, the one most featured on the six o'clock news, is Punxsutawney Phil who lives up there in Pennsylvania.

LAST CHANCE! - 2016 MURPHY RULES: What you Really Need to Know - "Cutting Through the Fog". Saturday (9am – 3:30pm), February 6, 2016, hosted by Norfolk Yacht and Country Club. TO REGISTER: email mcbear@earthlink.net and ask for the *Murphy Rules 2016 registration form* (it will come to you by return email) or call Lin McCarthy at 757-850-4225.

Southern Bay **Viper 640** racers will be returning to Sarasota, Florida, this coming weekend to race in the 2nd part of the Sarasota Winter Series. Keep fingers crossed for them!

PHRF of the Chesapeake officials plan to have the 2016 application form and payment information up on their site soon – www.phrfchesbay.org Most events that require a valid, current PHRF rating certificate will take your entry form and count on you to send your proper rating info as soon as you have it.

Remember, as of July 1st, 2016, everyone (no matter the age) must complete the Virginia Boater Safety Course to obtain a VA Boater's License. You can take the course and the test on line -

<https://www.boat-ed.com> . NOW, when you are not involved in the hubbub of spring/summer and racing, is the time, if you plan to use the on-line option. It takes some time, but you CAN save your progress on the course at any point and come back to finish it. You do not pay for your certificate until you have passed the on-line course quizzes. Or, sign up at one of the local clubs or associations that is offering the course on site.

SOUTHERN BAY RACE WEEK, June 3-5 (opening night, Thursday, June 2) – SBRW is the weekend AFTER Memorial Day weekend. Regatta Headquarters is Hampton Yacht Club, Hampton, VA. On-line entry (and paper entry form), Notice of Race, entry list, scratch sheets, accommodations and docking info, and more are available at www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=1547 **SBRW 2016 – Y'ALL COME SAILING!**

The HARBORFEST CHALLENGE returns in 2016 as part of the grand 40th celebration of Norfolk's **Harborfest**. Racing is Thursday (as in the past), June 9, and raceboats can join an abundance of watercraft, including the festival tall ships, in the Parade of Sail on Friday. Docking at the downtown festival site will be available for raceboats and race awards will be presented on the Main Harborfest Stage. All the details about the race (the finish line will be off the Waterside seawall), the Wednesday Skippers Meeting (hosted by Norfolk

Yacht and Country Club), and the post-race party are all explained in detail in the official Race Announcement – click on www.festevents.org/norfolkharborfestchallengeregatta.

The LEUKEMIA CUP REGATTA, July 8-10, hosted at Fishing Bay Yacht Club, in Deltaville, VA. The event is open for entries. You may submit yours on-line at <http://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=1573>. It is not too early to think about supporting and enjoying this grand event. Details are available at <http://www.leukemiacup.org/va/>

2016 SOUTHERN BAY BIG BOAT SCHEDULE: Ask your club's racing program official for a copy OR email mcbear@earthlink.net for an electronic copy, *Subj: please send my 2016 schedule.* The schedule will come to you by reply email.

MURPHY'S LAW: *Yrs truly, the Racing Beagle,* knows racing skippers have a lot of "paperwork" to complete before they get on the water in the Spring. There are rating certificate applications, membership forms, parts orders for the boat, entry forms, and, don't forget, those invites to the off-season crew party where important stuff is decided, like which boutique beer will the team endorse for post-race parties and what color should the crew shirts be this year! /S/ *Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.*

To **SUBSCRIBE** directly, send an email to mcbear@earthlink.net, put *SBRNYCU* on the subject line, give your name, and say, "Sign me up!" *SBRNYCU* is free. If you wish to UNSUBSCRIBE, send an email to mcbear@earthlink.net and put UNSUBSCRIBE on the Subject line OR, simply hit "reply" and put UNSUBSCRIBE on the subject line. **The postal address associated with this email is: SBRNYCU, 4401 Chesapeake Avenue, Hampton, VA 23669.** You may reprint or forward all or any part of this publication as long as you give credit to: *SOUTHERN BAY RACING NEWS YOU CAN USE*, Lin McCarthy, Editor