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Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use #774

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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](#)

Remember: Valentines Day this coming Sunday, February 14th!

Henry and Barb Amthor and Dave Eberwine take 3rd place overall in Sarasota Viper 640 Winter Circuit!

Three Viper 640 teams, all from Hampton, competed in the three part Viper 640 Circuit.

Mark Wheeler finished in the top 10 at 9th overall and **Steve Taylor** took 16th in the 29 boat fleet. The racing was spread over three weekends – one in December, one in January, and the final this past weekend.

The final day of racing, yesterday, was blow away by 30+ knots that kept the boats on shore. The next big happening for Viper 640 racers will be the EFG Winter Cup (March 6-7) and then the EFG Viper Pan-American Championship sailed at Bacardi Miami Sailing Week (March 10-12).

From Memorial Day Weekend through the 2nd weekend in June, the Southern Bay will host three tantalizing racing events.

Starting with the **67th Down the Bay Race for the Virginia Cruising Cup** on Memorial Day weekend, when racers will be able to prove beyond a doubt their prowess by racing 120 miles, non-stop from Annapolis to Hampton. There are PHRF Spinnaker and Non-Spinnakers Classes, along with Cruising, Doublehand, IRC, and Multihull Classes. This event is organized by Hampton Yacht Club and the Storm Trysail Club Chesapeake Station. On Thursday, June 2nd **Southern Bay Race Week 2016** will open for the check-in and welcome party, followed by three days (June 3-5) of top-notch racing and party-ing. There are four SBRW Divisions – PHRF, One Design, Cruising, and Multihull – racing on three venues, all within an easy sail of regatta headquarters at Hampton Yacht Club. SBRW includes a distance race on Saturday, June 4, for the PHRF, Multihull, and Cruising Divisions. One Design classes usually in attendance include J70, Viper 640, and J24 and others are invited. Cruising Division participants race on Saturday and Sunday only. Then, to top off the triple play of racing, comes a special edition of the **Norfolk Harborfest Challenge**. Part of the commemorative 40th anniversary of the Harborfest Festival, the race will be sailed on Thursday, June 9th, and the racers will be invited to sail in the Friday festival opening Parade of Sail, stay Friday through Sunday at the festival docks, and enjoy a post-race party and the awards presentation at the Harborfest main stage. The Welcome and Skippers Meeting will be hosted by Norfolk Yacht and Country Club on Wednesday evening, June 8th. At all three events hospitality abounds and great racing is the order of the day.. For information, on-line entry, and beaucoup lists, documents, and details click on the event sites below.

DTB - <http://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=1605>

SBRW - <http://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=1547>

NHC - www.festevents.org/norfolkharborfestchallengeregatta

Ian Hill and crew have to be prime choices for trifecta bettors on the DTB, SBRW, and NHC sailing super bowl (see item above). Ian's *Sitella* is already entered in all three events. Ian will take delivery on his brand new XP44 in early April. She will ride a ship over from her build site in Denmark. Very exciting.

Southern Bay Racer and collegiate coach, **Max Plarr**, has taken on the volunteer position of Regional Training Coordinator in the US Sailing Training Program. If you are interested in US Sailing Level I, II, or III certification courses or have other questions about the program, you may contact Max at maxwell.plarr@cnu.edu Max's territory includes the Chesapeake Bay and North Carolina.

Eighty-six (86) Southern Bay racers got the jump on their competition Saturday. They spent the day at the **MURPHY RULES** seminar, presented by John McCarthy and hosted at Norfolk Yacht and Country Club. In addition to sharpening up their understanding of the rules, the racers shared gossip and guffaws throughout the day. Great way to spend a cold winter Saturday.

We are in February – to some the longest month of the year. An anonymous poet once wrote:

*Thirty days hath September,
April, June and November;
All the rest have thirty-one,
Except February, which is endless.*

US SAILING ONE DAY RACE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR, scheduled for **Saturday, February 20, 2016**, at **Hampton Yacht Club**, Hampton, Virginia, is open for on-line registration. The course is tailored for those interested in learning about race management/race committee-ing as well as the US SAILING race officer certification program. The seminar meets requirements for Club Race Officer certification or renewal. Lead instructor is John McCarthy, USSA National Judge and certified Regional Race Officer. The seminar is posted on the USSA calendar (<http://www.ussailing.org/race-officials/become-a-race-official/race-officer-seminar-calendar/>) and registration is now open. Click and then scroll down until you come to the February 20, 2016, seminar at HYC, and follow the prompts. IF you have questions or need assistance with the on-line registration, contact Lin McCarthy at 757-850-4225. **On-line registration will close on February 14th.**

MURPHY'S LAW: A friend of *Yrs Truly, the Racing Beagle*, has reported that groundhogs are not infallible. As to the Groundhog's prediction on last week: the truth is that past predictions prove to have been accurate only 39% of the time. So, like with a favorable weather report, it's all about finding a favorable channel, in this case a favorable groundhog, that has the *good news*. THINK SPRING! /S/ *Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.*

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