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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](#)

2016 Gaboon Race. Twenty-six (26) boats, mostly packed to the gunwales with skippers, crewmates, friends, and families, set out on Sunday afternoon for a race in Hampton Harbor. Gaboon is a special event that celebrates the completion of the southern Bay racing season. The 38th edition was no different – spirits were high. However, almost immediately the racing fleet turned into a *float-illa*. The racing began, but a few hundred yards off the starting line, the boats gathered at the entrance to Hampton River and began a mammoth pack drift into the harbor. Hopes for better wind were never fulfilled, but the racers gave it a good try, enjoying conversation and floating with nearby, very nearby, competitors. The race was called after almost two hours and the socializing continued in the HYC bar. Even though there were no official finishers, a day on the water is always a good thing. Event Chairman – Phil Briggs

SBRW 2017 site open for early info and entry. Southern Bay Race Week is set for June 1 (Opening Night), June 2, 3, & 4 (racing, parties, awards) and is hosted by Hampton Yacht Club, Hampton, VA. The regatta features racing for all PHRF classes, one-design classes with 5 or more boats, Cruisers, and Multihulls. Click on <http://www.yachtscore.com/emenu.cfm?eID=3016> for ON LINE entry, Notice of Race, accommodations and docking information, entries list, scratch sheets, a paper entry form, and more. And, Southern Bay Race Week 2017 will host the *VIPER 640 ATLANTIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIPS*. Already four Vipers are entered – Peter Beardsley (Brooklyn, NY), Mary Ewenson (Annapolis, MD), Sarah Parker (Raleigh, NC), and Mark Wheeler (Hampton, VA). As they say at SBRW, **Y'ALL COME RACING!**

Start the 2017 season right – January 1, 2017, the DANA DILLON MEMORIAL NEW YEAR'S MADNESS RACE kicks off the new year. The race is co-sponsored by Old Point Comfort Yacht Club and Hampton yacht Club – HYC manages the start (breakfast available) and OPCYC the finish and post-race party. There are classes for PHRF Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker (2 headsails), and Cruising. There is a mandatory Skippers Meeting at 1000 on race day at HYC. This is a pursuit race (slower boats start first). Start is off the HYC docks, and the finish is off the OPC Marina Pier. The race entry fee of \$25 is due by 5pm, Monday, December 26 (after that the fee is \$40). For complete details and/or entry call Tim Etherington at 757-690-3178. Even the racers most involved New Year's Eve revelry love this race!

2017 Southern Chesapeake Bay Racing Schedule. Keelboat racers can check with their clubs' racing officials for the schedule. **Or, for an electronic copy, click reply to this email and put "2017 Schedule request" as the subject. You will receive your copy by email, courtesy Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use.**

MURPHY'S LAW: This past week US Sailing reminded everyone to "*Nominate Sailors for 2016 Rolex Yachtsman & Yachtswoman of the Year*" Yrs Truly, the *Racing Beagle*, in an effort to protect others for distress and disappointment, suggest the fruitlessness of such a nomination. The Murphster's name is already on the short list, and the press release is already in draft form. /S/ *Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.*

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