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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](#)

GANAR! and **ALI-RU** both won their *racing fleet* in the **2017 TRI-SERVICES REGATTA** on Saturday. Of the 40 boats racing, 15 sailed in either the spinnaker or non-spinnaker *racing* division. Leading each of the 3 *cruising fleets* were **CAT'S PAWS, BARBARA JEAN, and IRIS**. Breezes were in the high teens with gusts above 20 knots on the course laid out in Hampton Roads Harbor. With a grin on his face, one of the competitors mentioned the importance of *defensive driving* under the conditions. Principal Race Officer Tim Dull (NNSA) said that ". . . 40 boats represented the Air Force, Army, and Navy in this race which has been run every year since 1975." Tim added that ". . . small craft warning level winds lead to some sporting chases around Hampton Bar." In the "team" scoring for the Tri-Service Cup, Army (Old Point Comfort Yacht Club) won the cup back from the Navy represented by Norfolk Navy Sailing Association. Langley Yacht Club (Air Force) was third. RESULTS: Racing Spinnaker (7 boats): 1. **David Bouchard, Ganar!**; 2. **Sidney Beard/Guy Sorensen, Blue Ghost**; 3. **Andrew Norris, Papahu**. Racing Non-Spinnaker (8 boats): 1. **John Lones, Ali-Ru**; 2. **Dave Nichol, Aeolia**; 3. **Jeff Rogers, Halaha**. Cruising (8 boats): 1. **Michael Turner, Cat's Paws**; 2. **Chess Harris, Belle of Virginia**; 3. **Jim Beaudry, Black Dog**. Cruising 2 (9 boats): 1. **Frank Hunt, Barbara Jean**; 2. **Randy Goodman, Red Frog**; 3. **Dennis Miner, Joy**. Cruising 3 (8 boats): 1. **Claude Speed, Iris**; 2. **James Gordon, Allegory**; 3. **Jason Bolvin, Happy**. Principal Race Officer – Tim Dull (NNSA)

HYC ANNUAL MIDDLEGROUND LIGHT RACE. This race is an annual affair that used to share the weekend after Labor Day with the City of Hampton Bay Days Festival. This year Bay Days was rejuvenated, but located at the Langley Motor Speedway, not on the waterfront. Yesterday, racers being racers, twenty-one (21) boats raced around Middle Ground Light anyway. The PHRF A and B fleets' and VIPER 640s' course was 14.8 nautical miles and the PHRF C and Non-Spins all went 10.5 nm. As is traditional, crabs and libations awaited the racers at the post-race gathering. HYC Vice Commodore Dave McConaughy provided his Albin 31, *Low Country*, for signal boat. RESULTS: PHRF A (5 boats): 1. **Neil Ford and Lis Biondi Ford, Danger Paws**; 2. **Phil Briggs, Feather**; 3. **Greg Cutter, Diablo**. PHRF B (4 boats): 1. **Rusty Burshell, Cool Change**; 2. **Ben Weeks and Michele Cochran, Rumble**; 3. **Andy Armstrong, Bluejacket**. PHRF C (4 boats): 1. **Alan Bomar, Roundabout**; 2. **Ben Cuker, Callinectes**; 3. **John Edwards, Recovery**. PHRF Non-Spin (3 boats): 1. **Ken Copeland, Black Widow**; 2. **John Lones, Ali-Ru**. VIPER 640 (5 boats): 1. **Mark Wheeler, Vapor Trails**; 2. **Peter III, Caterpillar**; 3. **Tyler Moore, Big Rooster**. Principal Race Officer – John McCarthy; Signal Boat – Dave McConaughy, *Low Country*; Official Scorer – John Ritter.

On Saturday, sixteen (16) boats with racers struck out in the **FBYC WOLF TRAP RACE** (named for Wolf Trap Light) and 14 crossed the finish line. RESULTS: PHRF A (4 boats): 1. **Glenn Doncaster, Nanuq**; 2. **Craig Wright, Afterthought**; 3. **David Clark, Corryvreckan**. PHRF B (4 boats): 1. **Miles Booth, Shenanigan**; 2. **Bob Fleck, Mad Hatter**; 3. **Marston Roberts/Jim Raper, Rhapsody**. PHRF C (6 boats): 1. **Brad Miller, Schiehallion**; 2. **R. Collins, Morningtide**; 3. **Paul /Julie Ann Wash, Cheeky Monkey**. PHRF Non-Spin (2 boats): 1. **Doug Anderson, Red Sky**. Principal Race Officer – Brooks Zerkel.

Speaking of Lighthouses. If a real, honest to goodness lighthouse is something you've always wanted, check out this one. The *Craighill Channel Lower Range Front Light Station* sits 2 miles off the North Point State Park (Maryland). This light marks the channel that runs from the Bay to the mouth of the Patapsco River. The structure is 144 years old and has had no keeper since 1964, when the US Coast Guard automated our lights. The light has a one and one-half story keepers living space, which is currently inhabited by birds. Bidding closes on September 15th, this coming Friday. The highest bid as of this past week was \$26,000. Click here for bidding info - <https://gsaauctions.gov/gsaauctions/aucdsclnk?sl=PEACH417027001>

This COMING WEEKEND there's all kinds of sailing in the southern Bay:

Saturday, Sep 16 **HAMPTON ROADS SUNFISH CHALLENGE & DISTANCE DINGHY RACE (HRSC&DDR)**. Event officials report the number of entries is north of 60 already. Race officials have set up a "find a crew/find a boat" page at their website, so check it out if you are looking for either. And, don't let not owning a boat stop you – a loaner program has been added. To register and for more info, check out the website at www.hrsunfishchallenge.com

Saturday, Sep 16 **FBYC Fall Series 1** www.fbyc.net

Sat-Sun, Sep 16-17 **RRYC Rap River Cup** www.rryc.org

Sunday, Sep 17 **CCV FALL SERIES, Races 1&2** This is the first day of the three Sundays (Sept 17, 24 & Oct 8) of the 2017 Fall Series. Day 1 will include two races, drop mark courses, sailed in Hampton Roads harbor. Racing is for all PHRF classes as well as Cruising Fleet boats; Viper 640 class boats are also invited. First warning signal is set for 1100. All CCV Racing members are automatically entered in this series. All others (including CCV Club members) must submit entry forms and fees by Saturday, Sep 16. For info contact **John McCarthy, (757) 850-4225**.

The Saltwater Cowboy, a film about ocean racer Mike Plant. Twenty-five (25) years ago, October 16, 1992, Mike Plant, heading for France, sailed 60 foot *Coyote* out of New York Harbor, planning to do his 4th circumnavigation in the Vendee Globe. A few days later he asked a passing ship to pass along information that his electronics were down. He was never heard from again. *Coyote* was found weeks later 500 miles north of the Azores, up side down and missing her keel. His nephew Thomas Simmons, 10 years old at the time, has now put together a film about his uncle's life and his immersion in ocean racing. The film is expected to be released to the public this Fall. For more about Mike Plant and the film check out the September/October issue of *Sailing World*, "The Saltwater Cowboy".

SOUTHERN BAY RACE WEEK 2018 update: Chesapeake Custom Embroidery & Screen Printing will be the official provider of SBRW 2018 apparel. The gear will be available at the CCE website *before* Christmas! CCE comes highly recommended by SBRW racers and friends. SBRW 2018 opens Thursday evening, May 31 with racing and partying on Friday, June 1 thru Sunday, June 3. SBRW, as always, is the weekend *after* Memorial Day Weekend. For regatta NOR <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4427>

MURPHY'S LAW: *Yrs Truly, the Racing Beagle*, like most southern Bay racers, is sitting this morning with fingers and toes crossed for our many, many friends in the Florida sailing community and others. A number of us sail in Florida in the winter regattas, Key West is part of so many big boat racers' histories, and sooner or later most racers pass through St. Petersburg Yacht Club. Most know someone who has close connections to Florida, especially the west coast. *Irma* is a new four letter word for our vocabularies. Our thoughts are with all Floridians from the Keys to the northern stateline. /S/ *Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.*

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