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**To:** Southern Bay Racers <mcbear@earthlink.net>

**Subject:** GROUP RED #963 SOUTHERN BAY RACING NEWS YOU CAN USE January 27, 2020

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## **Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use # 963** January 27, 2020

*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](#)

***“It was a great morning to go sailing today. 15 to 22 from the north. 30F. Perfect for jib reaching up and down the bar.”*** This was the message received on a recent blowy morning from an Southern Bay Racer who has no need to prove his J/24 DNA. – Alan Bomar (long time skipper of *roundabout*).

**CONGRATULATIONS!** Are in order for Southern Bay Racers **Sledd Shelhorse and the crew of *MERIDIAN XI***. The Carkeek 40 sails out of Hampton Yacht Club and home ports in Hampton and Virginia Beach. *Meridian* was among 28 boats who raced in the 160-mile **Fort Lauderdale to Key West Race** this past week. This was the 45<sup>th</sup> rendition of the event. *Meridian*, the only southern Bay boat in the event this year, finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the ORC fleet. Sailing on *Meridian XI* were: Sledd Shelhorse (Skipper); Dave Flynn (Headsail Trimmer); Ron McLean (Main Trimmer); Trevor Pardee (Pit); Max Plarr (Bow); Austin Powers (Spinnaker Trimmer); Will Van Cleef (Boat Captain); Beau Warren (Grinder); Mark Wheeler (Navigator). *KUDOS to all!*

**Get ready to cross your fingers and do your “Early-Spring Dance” – GROUNDHOG DAY, Feb 2 is this coming Sunday.** Legend has it that if The Groundhog does NOT see his shadow, when he exits his burrow, we will have an EARLY SPRING. However, if he does see his shadow, he will be frightened back into his den, and we, dear racers, will see another SIX (6) weeks of winter. So, on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, we are wishing and hoping with all our might for . . . clouds. If you want to watch the Groundhog-of-All-Groundhogs, check out **Punxsutawney Phil** at <https://www.groundhog.org/>. He'll make his prediction on Sunday at Gobbler's Knob, PA, and you can watch!

**This is the time of year to get your RACING PAPERWORK done:**

Renew your sailing club membership;

Enter the spring events and regattas you plan to race;

Complete your PHRF Rating Certificate renewal or up date it OR FOLLOW-UP with PHRF;

Register for racing seminars and clinics (they do fill up and close out);

Get on the “Splash Calendar” at your boatyard (The hard is not where you want to be when the “Tune Up’ racing begins);

Have a crew dinner, where you have a group look at your 2020 campaign schedule;

Have a conversation with your sailmaker about your sail order;

Order the darn winch maintenance kit and get ready to use it;

Think about going to a winter boatshow - new boat stuff vendors will be there, too;

Make a DIY list for your baby and get 'em done;

Watch "Wind" again and study-up on new rum drinks;

While you finish all this, hope for an EARLY SPRING !

**IF you can get to Miami, Feb 13-17, you can do the Miami International Boat Show 2020**

17 days left

Progressive Insurance Miami International Boat Show & Strictly Sail

Venue: Miami Marine Stadium Park & Basin, Miami FL, United States

Miami – Feb 13-17,2020 <https://www.miamiboatshow.com>

If you want a particular **BOW # for SBRW 2020**, request it on your entry form on the "Bow Number" line of the form. SBRW will give it to you, if it is available when you enter. To enter ON LINE (and for other SBRW documents and info) click on <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=11754>

**THE MARINERS' MUSEUM and PARK: February 13<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, journalist and documentary film maker Laurie Gwen Shapiro.** Ms Shapiro 's presentation is centered on her account of a New York teenager's daring approach to gaining entry to the 1928 Expedition to Antarctica. Her book, ***THE STOWAWAY: A YOUNG MAN'S EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE TO ANTARCTICA***, is a non-fiction work, which embodies the excitement and optimism of the Roaring Twenties in America. **Call TMM at 757-591-5129 for the suggested advance registration. Seating is first-come, first-served.**

**MURPHY'S LAW:** *Yrs Truly, the Racing Beagle*, is very interested in the Shapiro book about the stowaway (see above). The Murphster was a stowaway once. Itching for adventure, and without my own boat, the Murphster eyeballed and chose a beautiful Bristol 42 which had lingered un-visited by crew and on a dark section of the dock for three straight days. At the appropriate dark and gloomy moment, *Yrs Truly* made my move – sprang aboard and scurried to burrow under a pile of uncoiled line in the bow by the anchor. When the noisy crew came aboard that

morning playing reggae tunes, a voyage to the islands was assured in this beagle's head. Imagine my surprise when I awoke several hours later to the sound of a sanding machine. My voyage had been a short one. . . to the Bristol's spot in a nearby boatyard. Argh! */S/ Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.*

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