

The last BBYRA race of 2008 is on Saturday December 6th...don't forget it! It's the final local race before the Jaguar Cup begins! We will probably have some good out-of-town boats added to the mix.

JAGUAR CUP – If you haven't sent Ken your entry form – please do it today!

Sharon Bourke is Doc Walloper!

Congratulations to our own Sharon Bourke who received the prestigious Doc Walloper award given annually to a CRYC member who has demonstrated "Leadership on the bay and ocean under sail." Sharon has spent many hours serving as PRO and Jury member at CRYC. She has been the Marine Facilities Chairperson. Her regatta duties have included many Orange Bowls and recently she was responsible for measurement and launching & recovering at the Star Worlds. Great job Sharon!

USA-1055 wins Contessa Cup!

Congratulations to Chris Lanza who has won this year's Fleet 20 Annual Contessa Cup. This award is given to the skipper with the best combined score in the five "annual" BBYRA regattas. This is the 2nd year Chris has won this award. Chris sailing USA-1055 with crew Anson Mulder, Mike Danish and Tim Banks put together another impressive string of bullets, seconds and thirds.

USA-1239 wins Minerva Cup!

Congratulations to Steve Horwitz sailing USA-1239 who has won this year's Fleet 20 Minerva Cup. The award is given to the "Rookie of the Year" although it would be hard to call Steve a rookie. Steve has been doing great in the local BBYRA races, sailing 4-up with crew Robbie, Erik and Megan. Steve also campaigned 1239 in the 2008 Worlds and many other travelling events over the last two summers.

The Fleet 20 fall "Almost end of hurricane season" party at Nehmo's house was a great success. We had a great attendance with some notable rock-star guests (i.e. Jud and Moose – is that his real name?). Many thanks to Paige for organizing the Ribs and Chicken from Shorty's! I believe that everyone had enough to eat and drink this year.

The Lanza party review:

"The Coral Reef Annual was preceded by the annual fleet party at Casa de Nehmo. The setting was even more beautiful as Jeff had installed a gorgeous new stone wall and landscaping in the very front yard. The party was well attended and the food and drink very good. Like last year, we had Jud Smith in attendance after a great clinic sponsored by Doyle Sails and Tom Lihan. The scuttlebutt at the party was that Tom Lihan was sailing with not only Moose McClintock, but Judd himself, a very impressive collection of talent indeed. The only real question discussed by those in attendance was ... who would come in second.

Many Thanks to Jud Smith, Doyle Sails, for conducting a well attended tuning clinic on Saturday, November 1st. Hopefully everyone learned something. Thanks to Tom Lihan for organizing this event.

CORAL REEF ANNUAL RE-CAP

By Chris Lanza (USA-1055)

Once again, the day started out a bit suspect with rain, gusty wind and a big temperature drop.

There was a long and cold postponement and the wind literally rocked around the clock and made for anything but happy days for the race committee. Despite the foul weather, the team on 1145 made it out to the starting line, (under cover of the very luxurious and T-topped 26ft Edgewater). 1371 also gave it a shot, but it is rumored that someone forgot their foul weather jacket and had opt out to avoid hypothermia. (Tom and Paige made me promise not mention any names, but they think it was left in Alaska).

Race I – The Soft Parade

Race one, North by Northwest....another Hitchcock thriller.... The race started in very light air with the wind West / Northwest. The bulk of the fleet went left and a few boats hit the right. At the beginning, the left looked good, but.....the wind shifted hard right and filled from the Northeast. Frank Atkinson sailing 1266 with Demitri Yakavanko (former Russian wrestler and bear trainer with the Moscow Traveling Circus) and JB Slater were gone. They were followed by PJ Keenan and the fair weather boys "I don't sail unless it's sunny" (Ed Cabassa) and "help me I'm melting" (Henry Chau). I do not know who was third at that point as I was so far behind I couldn't read the numbers. The dream team of 1305 and yours truly rounded pretty deep, and despite what turned out to be a parade were able to march on by a few boats to finish 3rd and 4th. This set up for an all or nothing second race as there was not enough time for three.

Race II....The Tortoise and the Hare

Race two, started in much better conditions. The wind had gone East and built and we started in a nice 8-10 Easterly. 1055 arrived at the top mark first, followed close behind by the dream team. Both boats pulled away on the run and it was apparent that the rest of the race would be a match race. It is always nice to be in front, but not when three of the best sailors in the world are chasing you down from behind. Half way up the final beat 1305 began the dreaded tacking duel. After 25 or so tacks and regretting eating those ½ dozen or so extra ribs at Nehmo's the night before, 1055 was able to hold 1305 off....until the run.. After still sucking wind from the tacking duel, Tom and Judd decided to give an impromptu clinic on how to jibe an Etchells 25 times on a run. (This was not covered in the much happier clinic the day before). Slowly the greyhound was reeling in the rabbit (a bad analogy, I know, just think big stuffed bunny like the kind you won at Carnival if you scored 10,000 points on the impossible game to win). I would like to tell you what happened at the very end, but I think I fainted, and really don't remember a thing. I just remember waking up and getting evil stares from Lord Banks, something about F\$#@ing up that last jibe and well....you get the point... Luckily someone on the race committee owed me money and well you get the picture. As always, I thank Tim Banks and Mike Danish for making us go fast and pointing me in the right direction.

At the end of the day, three boats 1305, 1055 and 1266 ended up tied for first with 5 points. Another tight day of racing and another photo finish. At this point, you don't expect anything less as we have a very competitive fleet with a lot of talented sailors. 1372 and Marvin Beckman in his brand new boat will be joining us for the next one. I hope to see you all out there again.

Frank Atkinson takes the plunge and moves from the crew list "A-bench" to skipper of USA-1266! Go for it Frank and welcome to the 'look-in-the-mirror' ranks!