

Subj: # 466 SOUTHERN BAY RACING NEWS YOU CAN USE
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Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use # 466

SBRNYCU is an independent weekly publication of southern Chesapeake Bay racing happenings. Founded in April, 2000.

BOO! Watch out for ghosts and goblins! HALLOWEEN is this coming Saturday.

'Round the Lights Race - Many braved the elements, 40 successfully. Cats' Paws wins the Clipper Award. 2009 Round the Lights proved a challenge, winds 20-30 knots over the course, to all 55 who started. When all was said and done, 40 successfully finished the staggered start (aka pursuit) race around the two Hampton Roads lighthouses, Thimble Shoal Light and Middle Ground Light. The first to cross the finish line was **Clipper Award** winner **Cats' Paws, Michael Turner's** Island Packet 44, sailing in the cruising class. **David Eberwine's** *Sea Star* made up just over 28 of the more than 33 minutes that he had to spot *Cats' Paw* at the start and finished second overall. RESULTS: PHRF A (7 boats): 1.**David Eberwine, Sea Star**; 2.**Christian Schaumloffel, Mirage**; 3.**Phil Briggs, Feather**. PHRF B (15 boats): 1.**Rusty Burshell, Cool Change**; 2.**Bob Archer, Bad Habit**; 3.**Harry Tenney, Margarita**. PHRF C (5 boats): 1.**Justin Morris, The Hunter**; 2.**Jack Clayton, Melantho**; 3.**Randy Pugh, Elusive**. PHRF NS-1 (4 boats): 1.**Leo Wardrup, Black Widow**; 2.**Larry Bryant, Whisper**; 3.**Dixon Wilde, Kingfisher**. PHRF NS-2 (5 boats): 1.**Mark Poineau, See Ya**; 2.**Steve Lundsford, Joy**; 3.**Mark Wolfe, Orange Blossom Special**. Cruising Fleet 1 (10 boats): 1.**Bob Howell, CYMRU**; 2.**Jay Wright, Glory Days**; 3.**Juan Diaz, Levante**. Cruising Fleet 2 (9 boats): 1.**Michael Turner, Cats' Paws**; 2.**Steve Runals, Gypsy Lady**; 3.**John Bouma, 3/4 Time**. RTL 2009 numbers: 61 boats entered; of the 61, 55 started the race; of the 55 starters, 40 finished. Event Organizer - Dennis Miner

FROSTBITE SERIES BEGINS SUNDAY (November 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29): The annual Frostbite Series, administered by Hampton Yacht Club, begins this coming Sunday (Nov 1), and goes for 5 consecutive Sundays through November. You **do have to have a valid 2009 PHRF** rating certificate to race in the PHRF class; PHRF Equipment **Category 5P is allowed** and PHRF crew number limitations will not apply. Crew on boats that are sailing PHRF without lifelines must wear life jackets. The race committee may assign a handicap rating to those non-PHRF boats who wish to race in the Cruising Fleet which is offered. There will be daily awards along with the series awards. For information and to enter, please contact Dick Boykin at (757) 890-0093. Organizers remind all to check insurance policies for winter sailing coverage.

The newly minted Clipper Award trophy, which goes to the first boat to cross the finish line in the "Round the Lights Race, is made (in part) from a plank from the Middle Ground Lighthouse. The 2009 winner, determined Saturday, is the 14th boat listed. **Sledd Shelhorse' Meridian**, sailing on her PHRF rating, was overall winner last year, and *Cats' Paws*, sailing on a courtesy "cruising rating", won this year. So, winners can be an PHRF boat or a non-PHRF Cruising fleet boat.

Sometimes in the heat of battle, a racer misses a mark of the course and subsequently retires from the race. Usually the racer has an excuse ready for deployment before he gets to the post-race party: "English is a second language for my tactician," or "I think that tug ran over it just before I got there," or "The Navy Seals blew it up," or "...but the GPS said it was on the beach at Willoughby," etc., etc. It would be hard to miss a mark in the 'Round the Lights Race - they are **lighthouses**, for goodness sake!

LIGHTNINGS, LASERS, 420s, FJs AND J24s are all invited to the 2009 FALL FLING REGATTA, sponsored by Hampton Yacht Club on November 7- 8. OPEN TO ALL. Lots of great racing and the trademark OYSTER ROAST on Saturday night at Leigh and Dave Chapman's home, just a short walk from the yacht club. Word is that there is a group of Lightning sailors who sally forth from New Jersey and Pennsylvania each year for the racing, the hospitality, and the tasty bivalves! For info contact HYC at (757) 722-0711 or check out www.hamptonyc.com Also, you may contact Chris Rasmussen (757) 850-2103 or Dave and Leigh Chapman at (757) 726-9640.

IMPORTANT TO PHRF RACERS: The Annual Meeting of the PHRF Board of Delegates is scheduled for November 14 in Annapolis. One thing that is being tossed around the dock rumor mill is the consideration of **uniform Bay-wide rating bands**. That probably means ours would be the same as Annapolis' ratings (not *vice versa*). For as long as anyone can remember, Region 4 (the southern Bay region) has determined its own splits each year. The basis has been that the local region reps are better informed on the impact the splits have on the local region fleets. If you have thoughts about this or other PHRF matters, voice them now to your PHRF Delegate and/or Handicapper **PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL MEETING**. **Don't wait for your delegate to call you - you call him!** NOTE: The PHRF website is www.phrfchesbay.com and delegates and handicappers are listed there. **And, the PHRF VP for Region 4 is Mike Dale -cell (804) 347-7409.** Mike welcomes your input.

Racing conditions Saturday were tough, but not prohibitive for the well prepared. Skippers and crewbies struggled to race well. There was a lot of wind, the sea state was rough, and almost everyone got very wet. Some more than others.

Staying on the boat took strength, ability, and brains. The conditions served as a reminder that, no matter how experienced, having practiced and talked about **man overboard procedures** can come in very handy... usually when you least expect it.

MURPHY'S LAW: From *The Murphster's book of quotes*: "You know you've raced in heavy air when you add, all at the same time, your sailmaker, your rigger, and your chiropractor to your speed dial list." /S/ *Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.*

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SOUTHERN BAY RACING NEWS YOU CAN USE, Lin McCarthy, Editor