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## **Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use #872** January 29, 2018

*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](#)

### **This coming Friday, FEBRUARY 2, 2018, is GROUNDHOG DAY!!**

This will be the 132<sup>nd</sup> time **Punxsutawney Phil** will tell us whether Spring will be early or we must endure another 6 weeks of winter misery. There is only one Punxsutawney Phil and his predictions have been 100% correct. Remember, Friday, when Phil comes out of his burrow on Gobbler's Knob (in Pennsylvania), if he sees his shadow and, therefore, scampers back into his den, we must endure six more weeks of winter weather. So, Racer Nation, cross your fingers and hope for a gray, cloudy (no shadows possible) day in Punxsutawney, PA. **THINK EARLY SPRING!**

**Fiddler's Green.** Long time, well known, much loved southern Bay sailor **Charles L. Smith, Jr** passed from us last Friday morning, January 26, 2018.. Racers know him as Sonny and he skippered his beloved red Irwin, *Restless*, in the southern Bay PHRF fleet for many years. And, there were other boats before *Restless*. Sonny was a former Commodore of Broad Bay Sailing Association and was known and admired by many, many southern Bay racers, skippers and crew alike. Condolences are extended to his family and friends. NOTE: Readers should watch the *Virginian-Pilot* for memorial service information to be published in the next few days.

**EARLY NOTICE!! US SAILING INSTRUCTOR LEVEL 1 COURSE**, hosted by Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA., **May 3-6, 2018**. Thinking about summer employment as a sailing instructor? It's a good idea to enroll in this course early. The early registration DISCOUNT lasts until April 5, 2018. Slots for this course will go fast. Max Plarr, CNU Head Sailing Coach, will be running the course. For additional info and to register, click on <http://www.ussailing.org/education/calendar/#1485894469111-e696615d-28ab> and scroll the chronological course listing.

**Viper 640 Sarasota Winter Series.** This is a three weekend series, spread over Dec, Jan, and Feb. It should be noted that at the January regatta, southern Bay racer **Peter III**, finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place overall among 26 Viper teams. **Steve Taylor**, **Justin Morris**, and **Martin Casey** were also racing in Sarasota. The final weekend of the series is coming up on February 10-11. Keep you fingers crossed for the southern Bay Viper guys!

**SBRW 2018 Update.** The Southern Bay Race Week "Early Bird" flock continues to grow. Recently, two boats joined the PHRF A fleet - *Kingfisher*, **Dixon Wilde** (Williamsburg/HYC) and *Short Bus*, **Hawk Caldwell** (Dowell, MD/SMSA). Three have joined the Cruising fleet, all from BBSA - *Coeur D' Alene*, **Hank Giffin** (Norfolk); *Base Runner*, **Larry Baun** (Norfolk); and *Wharf Rat*, **Andy Spittler** (Virginia Beach). The **first J70** is in the class - **South Carolina Yacht Club (Hilton Head Island, SC)** is sending a group of youth sailors to race J70, *Vortex*. SBRW info, including NOR, Accommodations contact list, Docking and Slips, entries, scratch sheet, ON-LINE registration, regatta officials contact info, entry fee discounts (Early Bird and Loyalty savings), and more are available at the SBRW YachtScoring site - click [www.yachtscoring.com/event\\_scratch\\_sheet.cfm?eID=4427](http://www.yachtscoring.com/event_scratch_sheet.cfm?eID=4427) or call Lin McCarthy at 757-850-4225. **SBRW Event Chairman: Jack Pope; Principal Race Officer: John McCarthy**

**505 MidWinters in Clearwater.** Southern Bay sailors **Andrea and Mike Berndt** were in Clearwater, FL, this past weekend where they served on the 505 MidWinters race committee. Nine (9) boats got in 10 races over the three day regatta and Andrea sent the following information: Chesapeake Bay sailors were well represented at the 505 MidWinters held 26-28 January 2018 at Clearwater Community Sailing Center in Clearwater. Finishing in first place were **Macy Nelson** (WRYC) with crew **Russell Miller**; in 4<sup>th</sup> place **Ali Meller** (SSA) with crew **Ty Baird**; and in 5<sup>th</sup> place **Brendan Connell** (SSA) with crew **Patrick O'Brien**. Andrea said, "Who knew race committee could be such fun?"

**The Mariners' Museum opens a new exhibit this Saturday, February 3. "SAILOR MADE"** features 60+ items made by sailors and artisans at sea. Go to see works of art, scrimshaw, decorative knot work, commemorative and household items. These are all things that provide a glimpse of the daily lives of sailors making their living at sea and their art work. For TMM exhibit info click [www.marinersmuseum.org/sailor-made/?mc\\_cid=15444a125d&mc\\_eid=2884dca3ad](http://www.marinersmuseum.org/sailor-made/?mc_cid=15444a125d&mc_eid=2884dca3ad)

**MURPHY'S LAW:** *Yrs Truly, the Racing Beagle*, has a hard time visualizing a sunny, warm, zephyr-filled Spring day, given the damp, gray, cold weather we are currently having. How does The Groundhog predict Spring? Although, it has been leaked that Punxsutawney Phil will receive, on the QT, data from an elite meteorological advisory group before making his predication this Friday. I say, "Good for Phil." As for *Yrs Truly, the Racing Beagle*, my think tank is empty. Argh. /S/ *Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.*

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