

Chesapeake Catboat News

Vol. 21

Winter Wrap-up David Bleil, Editor

No.4

Past Events

The Great Whitehall Bay Catboat Race & Rendezvous – 2013

The twenty-third annual Great Whitehall Bay Catboat Race & Rendezvous was held Sunday September 1, 2013 at the Providence Yacht Club in Annapolis Md. Begun by the late Capt. Bill Hoover on his home waters in Annapolis MD, this event is traditionally the CCBA's most popular of the season. Carolyn, Bill's first mate has strived to continue the tradition by graciously hosting the event since his passing in 2005. New to the event and racing this year were Denny Byrne and Nancy Ward sailing **Gratitude**, and Peter McAliney sailing **Zeta Marie** with the experienced Dave Park. Rounding out the fleet were Paul Cammaroto and Andrea – **Bubbly**, Dave Morrow and first mate Kim – **Anna**, Butch Miller – **Dusty**, Marc Cruder and Steve Flesner – **Wanderer**. A favorable weather forecast brought back David Bleil – **Gull** who wisely shied away last year due to predicted storms for the return trip.

After last year's drifter, all welcomed the fairly steady 10 knt winds out of the south into the open mouth of the bay that made for one of the best days of sailing ever had at this event for the smaller boats.

Two races of around twice, up and back were held. The race committee set the marks early so as to avoid a bit of pre-race stress. Great idea but upon returning to the course it was found that the wind had shifted about ninety degrees. After a scramble to shift the marks,

the route was changed and all was well for a start. Not! A call went out about a grounding at the pin end. !@#!@#\$% So much for stress avoidance.

After clean start in both races it was as pretty much ducks in a row and as expected **Anna** (pass the glasses so I can find her) took the lead, followed by **Bubbly**, **Gull**, **Gratitude**, **Dusty**, **Wanderer** and **Zeta Marie**. There were a few passings and crossings but for the most



A rare orderly start testifies to the high quality race committee and a little bit to our learning curve.

part the boats finished in that order. Congratulations go out to **Gratitude** for challenging **Gull** most of the day as it was their first time racing. **Wanderer** was challenged by the lack of gale warning conditions. **Dusty** was challenged by the starts and the grass on the other side of the fence.

Caroline's Mars and Tonic Bar was opened following the race setting the mood for the award ceremony where the Capt. Bill Hoover Perpetual Trophy, a mounted Mystic 20 half-hull donated by Peter Legnos was presented



The first place winner, David Morrow gets a year to display the Capt. Bill Hoover Memorial Trophy here presented by Mrs Carolyn Hoover.

to Anna for first place. Cups were presented to **Bubbly** for second place and to **Gull** for third.

Many thanks to Carolyn Hoover putting the event together once again and for the dedication and hard work she has put forth to continue the tradition of this special event. Also, thanks to the Millers for co-hosting and special thanks to Richard Rodgers and Jim Mohler for providing and manning the committee boat.



Second Place winners Paul Cammoroto and crew.

The Results:

Place	Skipper	Boat	Design
1st	Dave Morrow	Anna	Marshall 18
2nd	Paul Cammaroto	Bubbly	Marshall 18
3rd	Bleil & Ohlmacher	Gull	Mystic 20
4th	Butch Miller	Dusty	Marshall 18
5th	Denny Byrne	Gratitude	Marshall 22
6th	Marc Cruder	Wanderer	Wittholz 25
DNf	Peter McAliney	Zeta Marie	Herreshoff 18
	- Butch Miller		



Race Committee Chairperson Butch Miller calculates the handicaps for the day.

Time Trials in Prospect Bay

In an effort to refine the handicapping system time trials were conducted to develop data on a few boats. Devised by Butch Miller as a way to further confuzalate the handicap system we have developed, the time trials developed data on only a few boats so additional attempts will be required at an unspecified time and undisclosed location. It is relatively clear to even the casual observer that the amount of cruising gear and miscellaneous nautical junk in any given craft will have an effect on racing performance. This is highly variable - along with fuel load, freshwater load, number of crew and other weighty issues. To be tackled at a future date is calculating the liters of rum on board at start- minus liters of rum at the finish line divided by the liters of rum in the crew at the start. This metric must be related to the average wind speed (start - finish),

significant wave height as a function of freeboard minus the capacity of the bilge pump (if working).

Prospect Bay Catboat Regatta September 14, 2013

For the second consecutive year, a brisk northwest wind on a beautiful Saturday was the site of the 2013 PBCR. Five assorted cat boats started an eight leg race in various conditions of reefing. Some reefing plans were more successful than others. As a result two boats withdrew from the race with rigging issues. In **Gull's** case it was a gooswing gybe which threw a loop of the topping lift over one of the gaff jaws. This made tying in a reef or even dropping the sail impossible and required an exit from the course to find shelter.

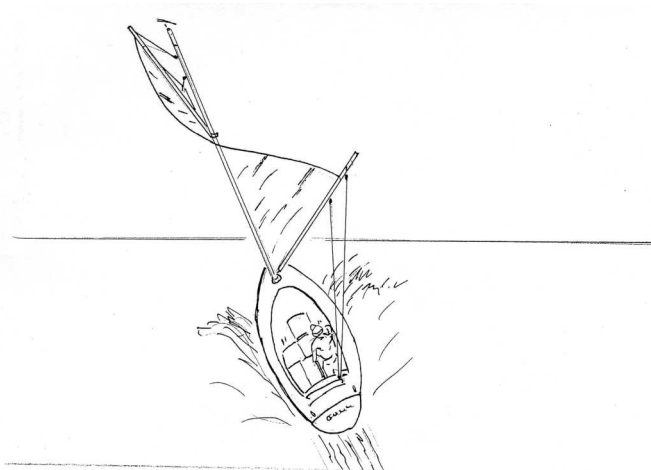
The race was a genteel affair with no contacts and no protests. Using our locally-developed Dunn/Hoover modified Portsmouth number handicapping algorithm, the results were as

Now where will I hang this one? Butch Miller contemplates his W.I.Tuttle Memorial Trophy.



follow:

Place	Boat	Skipper	Type	Corrected Time
1.	Wanderer	M. Cruder	Witt-25	60.92 min
2.	Bubbly	P. Cammaroto	M-18	60.95 min
3.	Dusty	B. Miller	M-18	63.15 min
DNF	Gull	D. Bleil	Legnos 20+	
DNF	Sarah K.	D. Park	H-18	
DNS	Tenacity	R. McLaughlin	M-22	



Prospect Bay 2013 a fresh breeze

Dave Park was out there and saw it happen. But the horizon was not that flat!

As the race committee was retrieving the race marks from the Bay, Rich McLaughlin arrived in **Tenacity**. Mistiming a draw bridge opening at Kent Narrows caused him to be listed as DNS for this year's race.

Following the race, the competitors (and Rich) joined their fellow Chesapeake Bay catboaters at the home of Jill and Roger Compton for an evening of lively discussion (mostly catboat related), refreshments, and a potluck supper. Trophies for the 2013 PBCR were awarded by the host (and race committee chair). There were four sanctioned race events on the Chesapeake Bay during the Summer of 2013, the cumulative results of which resulted in the naming of the 16th Washington Irving (Tu) Tuttle Memorial Trophy winner. This year's winner, by a similarly small margin over second place as in the above-reported results, was Butch Miller sailing **Dusty**.

Respectfully submitted, Roger Compton
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A first place for the Commodore. Marc is all smiles.

St Michaels Small Craft Festival

The Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival again displayed some spectacular hand made boats from canoes to small cruising yachts. A large portion of the St. Michaels Maritime Museum was devoted to boat builders and their products. A camp ground was setup inside the draw-bridge gate to accomodate exhibitors and their famlies. One of the usual family activities was the construction of rafts consisting of plastic and paper milk cartons and reams of Duct Tape. Either the kids are getting more skilled or the Duct Tape is getting more waterproof because the contraptions actually floated long enough to paddle a race.

Dusty (Butch & Denise Miller), **Shoveller** (Mike Crawford & Rich McLaughlin) and **Gull** David Bleil & Jim Ohlmacher) were anchored in Fog Cove just off the Inn at Perry Cabin which provided a view of a wedding in progress on the lawn next to the sea wall. The cove was packed as usual resulting in lots of anchor scope readjustments as newcommers

squeezed in. With dinghy and kayaks we were able to come and go freely from the Museum and row over to dinner at David and Maryanne Bevans. A dozen members attended and enjoyed the spectacular view of the harbor and sunset while enjoying an equally spectacular pot luck feast. The night was calm and mild, perfect sleeping weather on a boat. Plans were made to repeat the enjoyable experience the following weekend with a cruise to the Wye River.

Wye Wild Goose Chase

The following weekend we were faced several days of rain and generally unpleasant weather so the event was canceled. The night in St. Michaels was the end of the season for most of us.

Downrigging at Chestertown.

By Richard McLaughlin

Capt Crawford and I were around Chestertown, this week-end. **Shoveller** went up the river on Friday and being hauled there on Monday. Saturday, we are at RHYC hauling **Tenacity**. Saturday evening at Fishwhistle. Sunday we were sailing **Shoveller**

Enjoying the best of early Fall, a dinner on the deck at David and Maryanne Bevans in St. Michaels.



with tall ships. It was opportunity to mix it up with them and fire a few over the bows with the black powder cannon. No hurricane was predicted this year and this year the annual event did not overlap with Halloween.

Left house at eight Saturday morning and finished wrapping up **Tenacity** at six PM with Mike's help. Still have to go back down to winterize. Sunday cold and breezy. **Kalmar Nykel** couldn't get off the dock because of windage. **Virginia, Pride of Baltimore II, Sultana, Lady Maryland, Martha White** and **Shoveller** sailed (with two reefs) amongst the fleet. **Shoveller** attempted response to Sultana's guns, but first two attempts failed due to old powder. [Where is that crazy Dutchman, Jim Wagner when you need him?] A newer can of powder was put into service and respectable volleys followed. Later, onto land and the FishWhistle via kayaks from our anchorage, for last light over the fleet at dock, and conversations with the crews, while enjoying crab soup and stout beers. You shoulda been there!

News of Members and New Members

John Brown's **Traveler** is undergoing a facelift of sorts by Ken Spring and Rob Dale of SOB's Small Open Boats in Port Republic. They are reconfiguring the rigging, building a new rudder and work is being done on the hull and deck. Adam Hantman's Marshall 18 is also at SOB's for work on the installation of the new Marshall cockpit fiberglass benches. Steve Flesner has his Mystic 20 **Tuckernuck** listed for sale. He can be contacted at 410-586-8179 or flesner00@comcast.net After a two year restoration, Bette Gruben launched her Mystic 20 **Aggie Hay**, needless to say, she looks like a new catboat!

Roger Compton has his Mystic 20 **Pussy Foot'N** for sale, currently in storage at Island View Marina on Crab Alley Creek. He can be contacted at 410-827-6019 or rogerhcompton61@hotmail.com Butler Smythe's boat **Caerulean III** is at

Zanheisers Boat yard undergoing preparation for his cruise to Maine next summer. He indicated he could use some help on this trip. Anyone want to sign on as crew?

A **new member** – who is a friend of David Morrow and trailers his Sanderling to the Chesapeake. With a little encouragement he may join us for the next long cruise.

John King
920 Woodburn Drive
Brentwood TN 37027
Ph: 615-478-5906
email: jking@radalliance.com
Boat: **Julie** 2012 Marshall Sanderling
Fiberglass
Home port: Hamilton Creek Marina/ Percy Priest Yacht Club
Nashville, TN

Future Events – out of the area

USEPPA ISLAND CATBOAT RENDEZVOUS, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 – SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014:

Where will you be the last week of February 2014? Hopefully, joining other Catboat sailors for the 014 Useppa Rendezvous. Going back over two dozen years, the every-other-year Useppa Rendezvous can boast:

1. The largest fleet of Sandpipers south of the Mason Dixon Line.
2. The most outgoing and gregarious sailors you have ever met.
3. Some of the best sailing waters in SW Florida.
4. Best parties ranging from dinners and beach parties to lunches and après racing snacks.
5. Sandpiper World Championships.
6. Fun racing for *other* Catboats.
7. Sailing

related games; island amenities such as beach, pool, tennis, and croquet.

8. Without a doubt, the most unique location for a sailing rendezvous in North America.

Useppa Island is a real car-less, bridge-less island of 80 acres accessible by boat located west of Ft. Myers and Cape Coral, FL along the ICW. In February the weather is balmy compared to up north. According to co-chairmen Jay Taylor and Mike Albert, the intent of this gathering is to bring together owners of all Catboats to mix, mingle, race, eat, drink, and enjoy each other and their boats. And Catboat aficionados, of course.

While the Sandpiper Worlds are serious, the main purpose of the Useppa rendezvous is to have fun. Come to Useppa and join the group from Wednesday, February 26th – Saturday, March 1st. Bring your boat, bring your family. Come early, stay late. For more information about the Useppa Rendezvous, e-mail Jay Taylor at jaytomato@icloud.com, 941-737-4807, or Mike Albert at mycopres@aol.com, 941-376-1200.

Accommodations on Useppa Island, and dock reservations, are to be made through the Useppa Island Club (mention you will be part of the Useppa Rendezvous): 239-283-1061. For more information on Useppa Island: www.useppa.com.

Join other Catboat sailors and their families on Useppa Island, Florida from Wednesday, February 26th – Saturday, March 1st? Mark your calendar now!

Jay Taylor, Mike Albert