



# S.H.B.C. Sentinel

V4N2

February 2016

The S.H.B.C. Sentinel is a periodic publication (terms of submission, last page) containing the stories and pictures of past events. Material is provided by Club Members and Guests and barely edited. Nothing provided here represents an official position of the Safety Harbor Boat Club.

## In Memory.....

Lou Hilton 1952 – 2015

With sadness, I am sorry to announce the passing of a former member of SHBC.

Lou Hilton passed away on December 30<sup>th</sup>. He owned *Sunking*, a Hunter 27, renamed *John Marie* by its new owner. According to the Sunset Point Funeral Home in Clearwater, private cremation services will be held. Those wishing may make memorial contributions to Suncoast Hospice, 5771 Roosevelt Road Clearwater, FL 33760.

Please keep his wife, Kelly, and Son Ian, in your thoughts.

Regards,  
Ronald Poirson  
Com SHBC

## Friendly Alert for Unfriendly Scam

By Mikey

BoatUS Magazine ran an article about one form of scam. You may have seen it; it relates to the selling of a boat and how that can go wrong. However, I have seen reports of this method applied to the sale of other items. What follows is the Reader's Digest version of the article.

You decide to sell your boat (or other item) using one of the For Sale sites like eBay or Craig's List. You list your asking price and contact information. In record time, you get a reply with an offer to meet your asking price. Gotta' love technology! In fact, do they not only NOT try to negotiate a lower price, but even offer to give you more money than you listed. All you have to do is refund some of the money (the overage) by sending a money order to a shipper.

**RED ALERT !!!** What you get is a bogus check so good that it even fools the banks for a while. By the time the bank back-charges your account for the "shipping charges", your money order has been cashed and you have no recourse. If you spent the profit from the sale, you will be out that money too.

If it is any consolation, the article did not mention that anyone actually picked up your item for sale, so you can do this again if you want to.

**Sit vendit cave**

## GUEST SPEAKER FOR FEB. 3 SHBC MEMBERSHIP MEETING

BY ELLEN HENDERSON

Plan to attend our Wed., **FEB. 3** SHBC meeting at 6:30 pm, at the Safety Harbor Library. For this meeting our speaker will be from **Mastry Marine** .

The subject is "**Everything you wanted to know about Engine Repair, but were afraid to ask**".

The Meeting is at 6:30 PM and is held at the **Safety Harbor Library in Meeting Room A**. **Safety Harbor Library** 101 2nd St. N., Safety Harbor 34695. If you need further directions, call the Library at [727-724-1525](tel:727-724-1525).

## RECAP OF JAN. 6 SHBC MEMBERSHIP MEETING'S GUEST SPEAKERS: ED MALEK & JOAN MARZI

SUBMITTED BY ELLEN HENDERSON

Our speakers for our **JAN. 6** SHBC membership meeting were our Club's newly elected **Vice Commodore, Ed Malek** and newly elected Club **Secretary/Scribe, Joan Marzi**. **Ed & Joan** recently returned from their sailing trip in the Western Caribbean and they shared their adventure

with the Club. A big thanks to **Ed** and **Joan** for presenting their Caribbean Cruise on the "Brilliance of the Sea" ship. Great pictures and video of Key West and Mexico. Barry Fox helped out in postproduction, by adding island music and chapter titles for their various venues. Thanks **Ed, Joan** and **Barry**. We're all ready for a cruise.

**Joan** spoke about how they started their trip out of Tampa. On board she showed us **Ed's** video of a "belly flop" contest, plus lots of beer and wine tasting. Stops included Key West, Cancun to Cozumel, where they rode on a catamaran with jet drives, with speeds up to 35mph and the ruins at Tulum, in which it felt like 110 degrees in the end of April. This was **Joan's** 13th cruise, while it was a first time event for **Ed**. The grapevine tells us they're already planning their next trip.

## Weather Monitoring PC Software

By Mikey

<http://www.wxspots.com/wxwarn.htm>

WXWarn is easy to use free weather software that will monitor National Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts, etc., and alert you (audio and visually) as new ones are issued. Monitor the whole US, just your state, county or county list. You can also monitor and screen for specific alerts.

WXWarn will also display up to 12, real time weather graphics that you can configure for content and size! This software is designed to download and parse weather data published by the NWS.

## ST PETERSBURG CLASSIC REGATTA PREPARATIONS

by BFox

It was a dark and stormy night.....oh, wait....that's a different tale.

Back in December, Christy Edwards told Ellen Henderson and me about her friend, Monique Descent, who wanted to race her O'Day 302. You'll remember Monique....she spoke at a boat club meeting a couple of years back about her sailing adventure with her husband and two kids from California. They sailed south past Baja Mexico, then Central America, through the Panama Canal, then across the Caribbean to St Petersburg...Wow! So Monique, now living on Little Bayou in South St Petersburg, had heard about the former 'Good Old Boat' Race scheduled for January 9th, 2016, and wanted to campaign her 1988 O'Day, aptly named for her daughter Michelle. Just one problem, she needed crew. Christy, Ellen and I came to her rescue along with Boca Ciega Club member Suzanne Boohar.

Our first practice day was a gloomy one during the third week in December with winds out of the northeast, not too breezy but challenging for a new crew on an unfamiliar boat. Luckily we had Little Bayou to protect us as we practiced tacks, checked out pointing angles, and figured out how the boat handled under a single reefed main. After an hour on the bayou, we ventured out into lower Tampa Bay and really got Michelle going after shaking out the reef. She sailed beautifully

as the winds moderated and the crew learned how to handle her. As we motored back into Little Bayou we did a complete inspection of the bayou's depths...and found a shallow spot. Michelle was aground! It wasn't for long though as the competent crew, or was it the incoming tide, quickly got Michelle moving again and back into good water!

After returning Michelle to her Little Bayou dock, we congratulated ourselves on cheating death once again and left Monique with a long list of to-do's....items that would make Michelle safer, more sea worthy, and most important - more fun.

We practiced again on January 2nd, just enough time into the New Year to clear out the hangovers and get back to sailing fun! Feeling more confident, we immediately steered Michelle out of Little Bayou and out into lower Tampa Bay. More tacking practice, downwind runs, and close reaches followed as our confidence in Michelle and our abilities increased. We were ready for the St Petersburg Classic Regatta, just seven days away!



From left to right, back row:  
Suzanne Boohar, Christy Edward,  
Ellen Henderson. Front row:  
Barry Fox, Monique Descent

## THE BIG DAY

by BFox

So the big day arrived....January 9th, 2016, the St Petersburg Classic Regatta with 45 boats entered to race.

To recap, Monique Descent with her O'Day 302 'Michele', had enlisted SHBC vagabonds Christy Edwards, Ellen Henderson, Barry Fox and Boca Ciega Club crewmember Suzanne Booher to crew for her in the 2016 St Petersburg Classic Regatta. The crew had trained vigorously (twice!) and felt confident they could score at least a top 5 finish. After a great breakfast at the St Petersburg Sailing Center, the crew listened raptly as Race Chairman Dave Ellis briefed the packed crowd on how the race was going to be run. It was to be a three legged triangle of about 6 miles with a northerly starboard beam reach for the first leg....EASY!

After the brief, we gathered at 'Michele' and donned the spiffy blue polo shirts and white hats that Monique had specially made for this event. While we were not sure how our racing was going to turn out, we looked FABULOUS!

Motoring out and setting sails in the midst of 44 other boats was challenging but fun. We maneuvered 'Michele' around all the other sailboats while discussing starting line tactics and positioning, taking advantage of the rule that allows you to use the motor up until the 4 minute prep flag....nice! Wind was out of the east at 5 to 8 kts, northerly course meant a starboard beam reach at the start. At two minutes we were lined up nicely near the middle of the line with most of our Cruising B Division brethren to our right near the committee boat. We had clear air, room to maneuver, and only one boat to our left who might get in our way. A little bit early at 40 seconds, we eased all sheets, slowed the boat, and turned left to run the line. Then at 20 seconds, it was "Trim, Trim, Trim!!", right turn for the line, and feel the acceleration of our light and fast 'Michele'. The sailing mate to our left, who had also been running the line, turned right when we did. Our two boats crossed the start line, parallel, on course, on time, and moving fast.

That was the highlight of the race....the start. We nailed it and now I could relax...the ladies could do all the work from here. As usual, the wind shifted and headed us so we close reached to the north with light but decent winds. Halfway to the first mark the winds began to fade and so did our chances of finishing the race. While we made it to the first mark and turned right to steer to the second southeasterly mark, the winds dropped to a mere whisper and the northerly current took hold of 'Michele'. The seas became glass with not even a hint of breeze. So now we did what all sailors have done over the centuries....break out the booze! Actually, we broke out the wine since that's all we had. Somewhere after a glass or two/three/four, Christy saw a pod of dolphins and figured she could lasso Flipper, get our boat moving, and perhaps make it to the second mark. So, imagine this....Christy on the bow with a cowgirl lasso circling through the air, calling to Flipper to come over and stick his/her dolphin snout through her loop and save us from being becalmed....Right!

We languished on the desert flat seas watching the first mark fade in the distance to the south as the northerly current grabbed hold and swept us towards Weedon Island. I haven't mentioned throughout all of this that 'Michele' did not have a working depth finder so I'm as jittery as a cat on a hot tin roof as we drifted towards thin water. Luckily for us, 'Wanderlust', our SHBC compadres were to our northwest so they would run aground before we did. We sat, drank, sounded the bottom with a lead line, drank some more, talked to 'Wanderlust' on the radio, called the dolphins, drank some more....no wind...nothing. The whole fleet was becalmed so we didn't feel so bad.



Off to the west some weather started moving in and I thought, perhaps some wind...silly me. Our BCYC crew member Suzanne saw the lightning first and while other boats were announcing their intentions to quit on the radio, it was game on between 'Wanderlust' and 'Michele' as to who would quit first. Luckily, 'Wanderlust' announced her intentions to quit a few seconds before I keyed the radio to take 'Michele' out of the race. We fired up the diesel and beat feet for St Pete Yacht Club as the rain pitter-pattered on us. Entering the breakwater, the rain fell in earnest and I was glad to be back at the marina instead of out on the race course. Some boats stayed

out there and saw Mother Nature's wrath in the form of vertical, beautiful lightning bolts and crushing thunder. I'm glad we were tied up at the dock, though our rain gear got a workout in the pelting deluge.

After it was all over, only four boats out of the 45 that started, actually finished. As you can tell, we were not one of those four. But it was fun.....we nailed the start, enjoyed one good sailing leg, and called up dolphins to help get us out of the no wind lurch, and enjoyed good wine, good friends, and so-so sailing. Would I do it again....you bet!

## **Safety Harbor Marina Project**

By Mikey

Safety Harbor announced we have to vacate the marina for a maintenance project that will begin the first of March. I immediately began contacting Regatta Pointe Marina with the intent of docking there during the project. After a visit there, pointless, and a phone call, almost pointless, and another visit, more productive, I realized we were playing a game of who commits first.

Their questions:

- When?
- How long?
- How many boats?
- Willing to commit to a 3-month stay?

My questions:

- Open slips?
- Room for 5-6 boats?
- How much for 1-2 months?

Although I did not meet with the Dockmaster, The assistant was fairly helpful and promised I would get a call about the rates tomorrow (today is 01/28/2016). In the meantime he said they are about 90% full, compared to a typical 60%, and may require a deposit to reserve a slot. Right now, they have 2 slots that will accept a 5' draft, and about 8 more that will accept a 4' draft. We used my boat as a worst-case size and draft. I told him I don't know how many boats would join, but I am definitely not anchoring out.

To get some sort of timeline update, I stopped by to visit Stephanie Kern at City Hall. She is our new Marina liaison. She said she expects the work to start the very first of March if not sooner. They are opening the bids next Monday, and meeting with the bid winner the third week of February. If the winner already has a workflow plan, they could start that same week.

Stephanie recommended we actually vacate the Marina before they open the bids just in case. She said we could anchor out right away. I told her if she owned a boat, she would not make that suggestion.

I really need to know how many boat owners will be relocating to Regatta Pointe Marina. I am expecting at least two months down there. It is a clean full-service marina and worth a visit even if you do not use their services. I am open to suggestions for other marinas as well. Remember we need at least 5' of water at mean low tide.

Home page: (it actually looks like the pictures)

<http://www.regattapointemarina.com/>

Amenities: (full service and liveboards)

<http://www.regattapointemarina.com/amenities.aspx>

Slip Rates: (not guaranteed)

<http://www.regattapointemarina.com/slip-rates.aspx>

Remember S.H. only has water, electricity, and Sunup/Sundown restrooms.

I will report any new information at our February monthly meeting.

## **2016 SHBC Change of Watch Party**

By Von Taylor

The Safety Harbor Boat Club members and guest met at the Bahama Breeze in Tampa, Florida on Saturday January 16, 2016 to celebrate the Change of Watch Ceremony to introduce the clubs new officers for 2016.

Commodore Ron Poirson

Vice Commodore Ed Malek

Treasurer Linda Brandt

Secretary, (Scribe) Joan Marzi

Congratulations to our new Officers.

The club also thanked our 2015 outgoing officers for a job well done.

Vice Commodore Chris Garill

Treasurer Barry Fox

Secretary, (Scribe) Connie Pope

Chris Garill presented Ed Malek with his Vice Commodore Flag.

A big thank you goes to our secretary Joan Marzi for preparing some fun games at the party. We had Pin the tail on the sail and a memory game.

The winners on Pin the tail on the sail were Renee and John Viverito

The winners on the memory game were the following teams;

1<sup>st</sup> place Sail Ahead, Christy Edwards and Tom Potter

2<sup>nd</sup> place Windsong, Mark and Ann Kanack

3<sup>rd</sup> place The Girls, Brenda Poirson and Ann Scott

Awards were provided to the winners of the Saturday and Wednesday races.

### **Saturday Racing Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Place Amelia Barry Fox, Ellen, Sue and Chris

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Incentive Dale Cuddeback, Marty and June

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Pegasus John Viverito, Ellen



### Wednesday Racing Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Place Amelia Barry Fox

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Incentive Dale Cuddeback

Great job by all the captains and their crews.

Winner of the 2015 Commodores Cup went to Captain Dale Cuddeback and his crew of June and Marty Horowitz. Congratulations for a great job.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the party was the performance by the Safety Harbor Shifty Winds Blues Band. Joan, Sherrie, Barry, Christy and Ed were performers. They did a wonderful job and everyone loved it. Nice job Barry and Christy on the song lyrics.



The folks at Bahama Breeze served some great drinks and food. The staff did a fantastic job. The weather that day was 75 degrees partly cloudy, just a beautiful day compared to the rest of the country.







We also sang Happy Birthday to Tom Potter, Connie Pope, and Sue Keller. There were several door prizes given out and the winner of \$36.00 was Sue Keller.

Von Taylor reminded members to submit pictures and comments that they wanted posted on the club's Facebook page to his email address [vgtaylorjr@gmail.com](mailto:vgtaylorjr@gmail.com)



## **SHBC MARDI GRAS PARTY & RACE**

**BY ELLEN HENDERSON**

Make sure to mark your calendars for the Sat, Feb, 13 **SHBC MARDI GRAS PARTY & RACE**. The race will begin @ 2:30 pm followed by the pot-luck **MARDI GRAS THEMED PARTY** @ 4:30 PM. Decorators will show up @ 11:30 am, so please volunteer by contacting Ellen Henderson @ (H) [\(727\) 797-9380](tel:727-797-9380).

Plan to dress for the party & bring a New Orleans type dish for the pot luck.

(Pix from last year's party....)



## THE FIRST 2016 SHBC RACE - Wednesday - 1/13

BY ELLEN HENDERSON

The start time was 2:32 pm There were three boats: **Amelia** - Owner - **Barry F.** with crew (**the 2 Ellen's: Dupaul & Henderson**), **Jean Marie** - Owner - **Chris G.** with crew **Mike Duffy & Wanderlust** - Co-Owner - **Ron. P.** with guest crew **Suzanne Boohar.**

Weather Underground had predicted Partly Cloudy to Cloudy skies, temp was 63 degrees. SailFlow called for 8 to 11 knot winds out of the NE. WU was right on in their prediction.

Tides were low starting out, but incoming throughout the afternoon: Low tide @ 12:09 pm @ - 0.67; high tide @ 6:39 pm @ +1.63

The course was decided by Race Chair - **Barry F.:** Orange-White-Fin; Start 14:32:00; Winds NE 6-10

**Amelia** was first over the start line and first to round the orange & white marks. However, **John Marie**, which was in second place, bested **Amelia** on corrected at both marks. The last leg "turned the tide", with **Wanderlust** passing **John Marie**, but they never caught up to **Amelia**.

The race results are below: There was less than one minute in corrected time between **Wanderlust** and **John Marie**, so it was a close race.

	Finish	Time	Corrected	Pos
Amelia	03:27:30 PM	55 min 30 sec	55 min 30 sec	1
Wanderlust	03:29:15 PM	57 min 15 sec	57 min 15 sec	2
John Marie	03:32:45 PM	60 min 45 sec	58 min 05 sec	3

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO SHBC

BY ELLEN HENDERSON

Congratulations to the new SHBC Members, who have joined our club: **Dr. Lee and Denise Baker** plus their **son Sawyer**. They joined SHBC last summer and have participated in several events. **Denise** has lived in SH twenty-five years and had been aware of the club through walks at the Marina. They joined to provide **Sawyer**, who turns three in March, with the opportunity to experience boating through the other members.

### Terms of Submission:

Material may be slightly corrected for grammatical or spelling errors, but generally left as-is unless you request otherwise. Ideally, a Microsoft WORD document would be easiest to process, but we can work with text, HTML, most word processors, or Google e-mails. If you wish to submit your story or report in another word processor or document format, contact the S.H.B.C. Webmaster for discussing.

**Submissions must be complete with text and images. If received after the 26th of the month, they will be held over and not included in the latest issue.**

*Images / photographs:* If using a cell phone, please hold the phone in the horizontal (landscape) position. Otherwise, they are rotated 90 degrees at my end. Unless of course it was your intent to put them in sideways, then please let me know.

Mike Hembrey  
Webmaster & Newsletter Editor  
S.H.B.C.

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