



Sailing Singles of South Florida

MainSheet

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| <p><u>Up Coming Events</u> HOLIDAY PARTY at Galuppi's December 6th Tickets are still available! Call Denise Lush</p> | <p>Arthur Who? Part 2 of Mike Sawzak's Story Dealing with the Storm Page 3</p> | <p>New Year's Eve Celebration at Debbie Figueira's</p> | <p>Your Board of Directors' Contact Information Page 6</p> |
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International Raft Up

Depsite strong winds and high seas SSSF members had a blast! Although, there were those who cancelled, the hearty sailors knew how to party! Five of the ten boats rafted up in Lake Sylvia. We all cancelled our day out on the ocean and went straight to the raft up.

Denmark, Greece, Germany, France and Japan were all represented! How often can you get food and drinks from so many countries in one place! There was difficulty with some of our decorations and costumes, but that didn't dampen our spirit! It never rained during the raft up and we even saw blue skies and sunshine! All it took was a little more rode and a couple more anchors. Go to our [Facebook Page](#) to see all the photos. Don't forget to "LIKE" the page.



Sailing Singles of South Florida

The Good, The Bad, The Ugly...
and some real dogs! We had everything from Angels to Cereal Killers, who I tried to choke the breath out of, but it didn't work. What a blast! Great music (Thanks Rich!) Great Food and wonderful friends. We really know how to party! A big Thank you to Bob and Loui for hosting yet another fabulous party! Thank you to Denise Lush our Social Director! Go to our [Facebook Page](#) to see all the photos.



Sailing Singles of South Florida

Arthur Who? (Part 2 of 3) by Captain Mike Sawzak

Continued from [August Issue](#) of Mainsheet

After the all day journey from Allans-Pensacola against Tropical Storm Arthur's headwinds Bleu Bayou found itself back in the same anchorage we departed from the previous morning. We were stuck between a rock and a hard place. The rock was Hawksbill Cay, a craggy uninhabited mile long rock formation with little, to no vegetation. The hard place was Foxtown, a sparsely inhabited area of Little Abaco Island. As night fell the wind really started blowing but we had set the anchor with plenty of rode and had no neighbors. We bounced all night and to add to our misery we were soaking wet. It was a sleepless night. I was concerned we would drag anchor again, as in the previous night's anchorage, but she held steady. I should have slept, maybe with one eye open though; I kept thinking about sharp things piercing fiberglass. The anchor held strong!

In the morning the wind was greatly subsiding and we checked for damage. The tangled less-than-half-furled jib was ripped from flailing all night above my reach. During the storm when I made some attempts to untangle the jib sheets the broken jib block clocked me hard. I didn't want to wear a real pirate's eye patch the rest of my days, so we waited it out. We made the decision not to sail her back to Florida with no jib, and a less than robust Atomic 4 Engine, as the Gulf Stream is not to be challenged without all the tools available on a sailboat.

Holly, Marialda and myself took the dinghy to Foxtown to explore our options. We visited the same restaurant we previously had dined and partied two nights before (fried fish everywhere) and explained our circumstances.



"No worries mon, take the ferry two miles down the road where it dead ends at Crown Haven this afternoon. It will take you to McLeans on Grand Bahamas Island and you can take the 45 minute bus ride from there to Freeport. In Freeport take a ferry called the Belariera to Port Everglades/Ft Lauderdale."

Excellent, from the port I can practically walk to 15th Street where I live and the girl's cars are parked...let's do it! The restaurant had wi-fi so we made reservations for the Belarius the next day hoping to spend the night in Freeport. Holly opted to return by plane and grabbed a 45 mile car ride to Marsh Harbour's airport with a local. (Cont'd Page 4)

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Join us at our Thursday Night Social, Universal Palms Hotel at 6:30 pm on the Dec. 4th to celebrate our December birthdays.

Angela Mahin 2/12, Janet Pogozelski 6/12, Douglas Noble 11/12, Larry Bryant & Holly Griffin 16/12, Bonnie Cronenberg & Thomas Mestrirts 18/12, Cynthia Lynne, Kendall Marcelle & Nikki McSweeney 22/12, Marilyn Pennachio & Debbie Hime 28/12, Ferol Ludwig 31/12

Happy Birthday to All of you!



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Sailing Singles of South Florida

(Cont'd from Pg 3) Arthur Who? by Captain Mike Sawzak

A little about Foxtown. Not a tourist destination. No fancy hotels. One restaurant and one gas station. Two last names among a population of 200 or so. The most friendly, good hearted, nice people this side of the equator....and they do have that crystal clear blue water. They don't speak English, well maybe if you can get past the island accent, and as I discovered, they could barely understand me with my King's English.

What to do with Bleu Bayou? Remember the guy who towed us in to the Foxtown anchorage during some of the worst parts of the storm. We were a mile, or so, from the anchorage entrance and the head wind was pushing us backwards. There was only one way in and that was against the wind. We called on the radio and no one wanted to come out in that weather except for a guy named Jamal. A guardian angel who is all of 26 years old! He didn't have a towline, a radio or a GPS. I tossed him a tow line and we shouted to each other over the wind. He has a radio and GPS now, we have to take care of guardian angels.

I was very concerned about the safety of the boat and the items in it...like a Honda generator. Jamal volunteers to keep the dinghy and motor at his home and keep an eye on the sailboat and anchor. I mention I will make a donation to his favorite charity when I return to retrieve the boat so we exchange cell phone numbers.

Marialda and I went to roads end to take the ferry to Grand Bahamas Island, but wait a minute "mon", it's a 26' boat with an outboard engine. We boarded the boat with the other sardines and luggage only to limp back 10 minutes later with a rough running engine. Hours later after everybody who wasn't a mechanic looked at the engine they cancelled the voyage. We left the next morning on the same boat when I realized the captain didn't have a GPS. He didn't need it, this guy must know every rock and mangrove plant, planing in 2-3 feet of water with no navigation aids, we were in McLeans in 1 hour 15 minutes to meet the bus. Not again "mon"! It's not a bus, but a small ancient van from eastern Europe, maybe a Yugo, with 15 people plus luggage. One hour later with a metal spring pushing through the seat the whole time, we arrive in Freeport.

We spent the day in Freeport and took a cab to the port where we boarded the Belarius. Finally a real ferry and in two hours we are back in Port Everglades. I was very impressed with this vessel and highly recommend it to anyone who wants to go to Freeport, Grand Bahamas for the day or a week. It was late in the evening and we breezed through customs. Holly's car was gone, so we knew she was back safely. We were tired, but home sweet home!

Part 3....Fetching Bleu Bayou!

Spinnaker Sponsors

There are now four levels of donation: Platinum: \$100.00, Gold: \$50.00, Silver: \$35.00, Bronze: \$20.00. If you see your donation is up for renewal, please rejoin (and upgrade if you can).

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
|     Platinum - \$100.00     | |
| James Buckmaster and Kathleen Eppler - March 2015 | |
| Gold - \$50.00 | |
| Rudy and Arlene Sprenger - July 2013 | Mollie Meyers - September 2013 |
| Silver - \$35.00 | |
| Sid Royal - March 2013 | |
| Bronze - \$20.00 | |

To become a Spinnaker Sponsor, donate \$20.00, \$35.00, \$50.00 or \$100.00 to the club which allows the club to provide more activities for its members. **WE NEED MORE SPONSORS. As you can see, a lot of memberships have expired. Please join or rejoin!**

Sailing Singles of South Florida

Mark your calendar!

December 13th, 2014

Winterfest Boat Parade

Join SSSF Members on our Raft Up!



Be Styling!

Check Out Our Line Of SSSF Products!
We Have An On-Line Store For Our Product Line, Where You Can Purchase Various Items With Our SSSF Logo. Please Visit:

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Schedule of Events

December

December 4th General Meeting
Universal Palms Hotel. 7:30 pm
SE Corner Powerline and
Commercial Blvd.

December 6th Holiday
Christmas Party at Galuppi's
Tickets still Available

December 7th Riverwalk Sunday
Jazz Brunch 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
Bring a dish to share! Great music,
food, and fun with friends! BYOB

December 11th Weekly social.
Cinema Paradiso 6:00 pm 503 SE
6th St, Fort Lauderdale [Map](#) Free
Parking in Parking Garage across
the Street West Side, Free Buffet,
and Free Movie at 8:00 pm.

December 13th WinterFest Boat
Parade Watch for emails with
information on times and boats
participating in the Raft-Up!

December 18th Social
Information on venue TBA

No Meeting December 25th
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

December 31st New Year's Eve
Party Party at Debbie Figueira's
1225 SE 12th Ave, Deerfield Beach

NO meeting December 31st
HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY
NEW YEAR from YOUR 2014
BOARD!

Schedule of Events January

Change of Command January
24th, 2015 Welcome your New
Board! Get Your Tickets now!
Watch for Emails on details and
Ticket Sales

Sailing Singles of South Florida

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Sailing Singles of South Florida



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It's official! Now, feeling totally comfortable in the South Florida Market, I have joined Keller Williams! I'm not new to real estate, just new to Keller Williams. I have more than 20 years of experience in the real estate industry.

If you, or anyone you know, are interested in buying or selling real estate in South Florida, call me!

The QR Code beside the **kw** will give you access to the information on the MLS (Multiple Listing Service). Add the QR Scanner App to your phone or tablet, then scan the QR Code. You will have information at your fingertips! When you drive by a property listed on the MLS you can find out all the information. Isn't technology AMAZING! Call me if you need any information on the real estate market.

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(Paid Advertisement)

SAILING SINGLES OF SOUTH FLORIDA •



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Sailing Singles of South Florida



**Welcome 2015 with SSSF Members at Debbie Figueira's
Join us to ring in the New Year! Details will be sent in December!**

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