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April 2016

Sailing Singles of South Florida

HTTP://SAILINGSINGLES.ORG

Up Coming Events

General Meeting

7 April

Annual Picnic

16 April

Board Meeting

18 April

From the Helm - Lynette Beal - Commodore

Ahoy SSSF members. It is always a pleasure to promote all of the great activities being planned by your2016 Board of Director's. Debi Hallmark your Social Director is planning the second annual SSSF Picnic at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park on April 16th from 10:30am-5:30pm. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs with all of the sides will be served! Games and activities are planned. Be sure to RSVP to Debi by 4/14/16 to get your name on the SSSF List at the Entrance Gate for



Free Admission. I have been asked why the Board approved that Guests are required to pay \$20. Since the Club is providing everything we are treating the SSSF members to a great day!! This type of event takes a lot of work and money and Guests benefit by having a great time. We encourage them to join SSSF!

The SSSF SunFest 2016 Overnight Sail is planned for 4/29-5/1/16. Saturday you can enjoy Sun-Fest Music and Art. Sunday there will be a SSSF Brunch from 12:00-2:00pm. We hope to have a lot of boats participate and want to get as many members on boats as we can!! Landlubbers can take the Tri-Rail and Trolleys are available to SunFest. Towboat US will give SSSF Dinghy Rides to the Raft-up. Fleet Commander Captain Kelly Dobbs will have more information at the April 7th General Meeting!!

Our SSSF Treasurer Jane Haughian and Volunteer Nikki McSweeney completed the Form 990-N to IRS to assure we continue to have Non-Profit Status. Max Goldstein our Webmaster completed the Florida Not-For Profit Annual Report to the Secretary of State of Florida. Our Board is assuring that we are in compliance with all Federal and State requirements. I am very proud of all of the above.

Our Vice-Commodore is working on a great Sailing Orientation Session SOS scheduled 5/21/16!! More Details to follow at the April General Meeting. There will be a Man Overboard Raft-up on Sunday May 22, 2016 planned by Captain, Stan Dekiel, Dick Linehan and Captain Kelly Dobbs!!

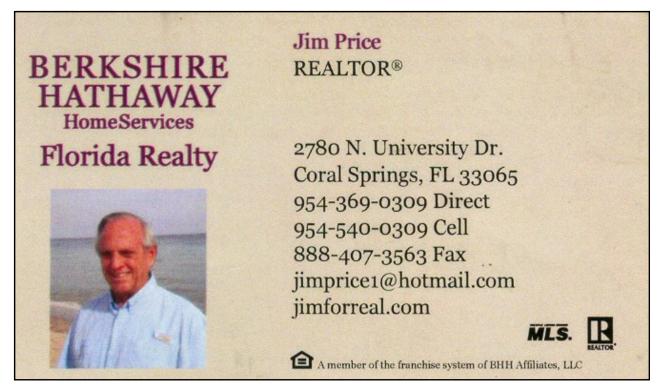
Continued on page 2

We continue to work on the By-Laws revisions and are convening the Pink Book Committee. More details will be available next month. In the meantime a Membership Directory is being sent out to all of the members and Wild Apricot is being updated.

At the last SSSF General meeting, an SSSF member brought two guests who wanted to address the members about their travel business. Unfortunately, there was a communication issue and, although these speakers were not on the planned Agenda, they went ahead and spoke about their business venture. SSSF does not allow solicitation by venders at our meetings, nor do we endorse any products or services. Programs at our general meetings are pre-planned, and any outside participation would take place only during a Q & A following our presentation. We regret this misunderstanding.

SSSF First Quarter Sail Credits

Captain	Boat Name	Sails
James Bradford	Viking Princess	1
Tom Crawford	The Only Way	1
Kelly Dobbs	The Grand	4
Mike Efford	No Mo	1
Debi Hallmark	Ryan's Place	4
Jim McBrayer	Escape	4
Jay Thomsen	Val Hal	1



Hillsborough Inlet Sailing Club Circle Raft-up—Photos by Karen Foster







The HISC Circle Raft-up was a wonderful opportunity for SSSF to join the Hillsboro Inlet Sailing Club in their celebration of their new Commodore Larry Geller and Board of Director's taking on their responsibilities. There was a pirate theme and we all wore our pirate hats, costumes etc. They hosted a wonderful Dinghy Cocktail Party and we all passed fantastic Appetizers from Dinghy to Dinghy!! They also had a party boat with dancing. A Circle of 42 Boats was formed by 3:00pm on March 5th that could not be broken until Sunday March 6th. Everyone had a great time.

The following SSSF Boats participated: **Ryan's Place**: Captain Stan Dekiel, Crew: Lynette Beal, Karen Foster, Gillian O'Neill, Camille Galindo - **Irish Rover**, Captain Patrick O'Brien, Crew, Janet Pogozelski - **the Grand**, Captain Kelly Dobbs, Crew, Sheila O'Neil, Tina Owens, Dot Castell, and Ron Perea. Ethel Facundo, Holly Griffin, and Pam Angel participated and were on HISC Boats as they are members of HISC and SSSF.

Lynette Beal - Commodore

SSSF 2nd ANNUAL PICNIC

Saturday, April 16th at Birch State Park

10:30 AM until 5:30 PM

Free Parking, Games, Food, Activities

Grill-masters Rich and Vince will be cooking

Hot Dogs and Hamburgers

This picnic is provided by the Club FREE to all members!!



RSVP is mandatory by April 14th – Sorry – NO Exceptions!

RSVP to Social Director Debi Hallmark

954-907-7461 or Dailordebi@bellsouth.net

Come out and enjoy some fun in the Sun

Volunteers are needed for set-up & clean-up





SSSF SunFest 2016 Overnight Sail

Raft-Up Friday, April 29 ~ Sunday, May 1

Activities Sat. Enjoy SunFest Music & Art

Sun. SSSF Sunrise Brunch* 12:00 – 2:00

Requires SunFest ticket to enter- \$20 Seniors, \$45 Adults or see groupons. www.sunfest.com ~~~ No private dinghies allowed to dock at SunFest. ~~~

Captains, Notify SSSF Fleet Capt. Kelly Dobbs to register your boat.

Crew, Notify SSSF Sailing Directory Stan Dekeil for boat assignments.

Landlubbers Crew, Notify Stan for daytime boat assignments.

Boats have capacity and PDF limitations so plan ahead!

Advise placing food & beverages on boat before it sails. No coolers, food, or drink allowed in SunFest.

* SSSF Sunday Brunch — crew share brunch bites & beverage samples

SunFest is a musical and art festival held annually in the first week of May in West Palm Beach, Florida. SunFest is the state's largest waterfront music and art festival and attracts more than 275,000 visitors.

Hole in the wall and Beyond

Regatta time in the Abaco Islands is always a fun and busy time. For those who have never been it is an experience not to be missed. The Abaco Islands of the Bahamas offer spectacular sailing, swimming and snorkeling, and of course during race week the opportunity to get on a race boat and attend the numerous after race parties. Such was the adventure the Captain and crew undertook in the summer of 2010.

Nearing the end of race week we decided (Stan and I) to head south of Marsh Harbor to snorkel the reefs in the state parks and then head over to Pete's Place in Little Harbor. As is often the case in sailing, ideal conditions don't always prevail. By the time we reached the state park the winds had picked up making anchoring undesirable and there were no mooring balls to be had. So we decided to abandon the idea of snorkeling and head immediately for Pete's Place. A cold rum runner is always nice.



S/V Ryan's Place

Since we heard our friends on the S/V Wind Pirate on the radio heading in the same direction, we reasoned we would "buddy boat" with them. We motored out the Channel chatting with Wind Pirate on the radio heading for Hole in the Wall. During our conversation Wind Pirate told us they had recently acquired an AIS. We were pleased to hear this because ship traffic can be heavy in that area and we were not equipped with AIS. Best laid plans!! Wind Pirate is larger and faster than Ryan's Place and they soon left us in the seas as it were, along with the access to AIS. What had started out as a beautiful though windy day was disintegrating rapidly.

At about 4 pm we decided to alternate on 3 hour watches, so Stan headed below for a nap and I took the helm. He relieved me about 7 p.m. by that time the rain had begun and the seas continued to build. We decided to drop the main and motor sail under a reefed headsail. At 10 p.m. I donned my full set of foul weather gear, life jacket and took over. Seas are now 6 to 8 feet the winds are howling and the rain is relentless. Since the decks in the cockpit were wet and slick I tethered myself to the boat. With visibility so poor and the seas so high I was diligent about keeping a sharp look-out, when suddenly it seemed as though someone had flipped a light switch. Looking behind me I see this very large vessel a short distance away. Without AIS I was unable to identify who or what type of vessel it was so I assumed it was a freighter.

I summoned Stan and began hailing the vessel behind me on VHF Channel 16. "This is the sailing vessel Ryan's Place hailing the freighter behind me please provide your course and heading" – no reply- tried again – no reply - tried again still no reply. Then incredibly over the radio comes a transmission "to the little blue sailboat in front of me this is not a freighter but a cruise ship and don't worry I won't run you over. Apparently he had AIS! What a relief. Disaster averted.

At that point we decided to keep both people in the cockpit for additional safety and watch keeping. Shortly after dawn we reached the Berry Islands without mishap. Ahhhh sleep at last. — Stay tuned for the sequel - Entering Smugglers Cove

April Birthdays

Gabriela Manely 4/11

Siri Pilitsis 4/16

Bill Roberts 4/16

Mike Sawzak 4/21

Mark Trewartha 4/5



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General Meeting Video Presentations

At the April General Meeting, at the end of the meeting and before the adjournment, there will be a 20 minute video produced by Tom Mestrits. The video will show the Miami to Havana race that was started on February 10, 2016. The video shows the race start for the multihull class from the deck of a 1996 Seawind catamaran called *Catnip*. It shows what was done right by the crew and where they screwed up.

It also covers clearing in at customs, the Hemingway Marina, some of the fast, top race boats, the trophy presentation and party. Later, it shows a drive through Havana to a village 30 miles east of Havana.



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Wishing You and Your Family a fabulous Summer!

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