

# Commodore's Message - STC Newsletter December 2017

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December  
Newsletter



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Vol. 79, No. 12 December 2017

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## In This Issue...

**Commodore's Column - Report from the Bridge**

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## Upcoming Events

### ***ANNUAL MEETING***

*Saturday January 6,  
2018*

*Officer's Club*

*Naval War College*

*Newport RI*

Whitney Kneisley

(914) 834-8857

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**SORC**

**Islands in the  
Stream Series**

**Ft. Lauderdale to  
Key West Race**

January 10, 2018

**Miami to Cuba  
Race**

February 14, 2018

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***Hands-on Safety  
at Sea Seminar***

***Bermuda Race  
Qualifier***

*Saturday May 19,  
2018*

*SUNY Maritime  
College*

*Ft. Schuyler, The  
Bronx, NYC*

*Butch Ulmer, Chair*

*Tel: +1 718-885-  
2028*

**Merry  
Christmas!**

**Happy New  
Year!**

Look for my full  
year's report in  
the 2017 Storm  
Warnings which  
you will receive  
soon in the mail.



See you in Newport, January 6, 2016.

Commodore Lenny

**Commodore Sitar's Photo Credit: Gary Martin**

***Newport Station House - IYAC - Dressed for Christmas***



**On The Waterfront**

**Storm Trysail Club Member's Yachts Entered In Races Far  
and Wide**

**Volvo Ocean Race -**

Mob: +1 914-584-0584

Lisa Schinella, STF

Tel: +1 914 813-0233

## Advance Notice



### 2019 Storm Trysail Club Block Island Race Week

June 23-28, 2019

**Butch Ulmer Says -**



### **I Want You To Propose A Member!**

Find a suitable candidate (check STC By-

Vestas 11th Hour Racing, Volvo Ocean 65, **Charlie Enright**, Skipper and **Mark Towill**, Team Director. \*\* **VS11 TAKES PODIUM FINISH IN CAPE TOWN**

### **Five STC Yachts Entered in the 2017 Rolex Sydney Hobart Race - Starts on Boxing Day - December 26, 2017**

*Follow the STC entries on the Rolex Sydney Hobart Race Tracker. Note: the yacht descriptions and crew lists that follow are courtesy of Rolex Sydney Hobart Race organizers. Names in bold are **STC** members.*

*Christopher Dragon, Ker 43, **Andrew & Linda Weiss**;*

*Andrew and Linda Weiss's Sydney 43, Christopher Dragon, enjoyed a standout 2015 season on the USA's east coast. She won two distance races, finishing first in her IRC class at*

*the NYYC's annual regatta (she won all four races and led at every mark in all), second in IRC 1 in the Marblehead Halifax Race and first in IRC 2 at Block Island Race Week, with five wins and six second's - only super maxi *Comanche* toppled her for the overall win. Now Weiss is coming to tackle the Sydney Hobart for the first time, where they will face *Comanche* again. Weiss is an experienced yachtsman and can count 22 Block Island Race Weeks among his other races, but all aboard are Sydney Hobart novices.*

Owner - **Andrew & Linda Weiss**; Skipper - Andrew Weiss; Navigator - **Larry Fox**; Crew - **A Loory, B LaMotte III, G Girstl**, C Weiss, **R Lyall**, J McShane, **D Lynn, L Cutler**



Laws, Article  
IX, *Membership*, for  
details)

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Office: (914) 834-  
8857

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*Dorade*, S&S  
Custom, Pam  
Rorke Levy &  
**Matt Brooks**

Famous  
American classic  
wooden boat

*Dorade* is a  
revolutionary S&S, designed by a then 21 year-old Olin  
Stephens and built under younger brother Rod's (20)  
supervision. Features a deep keel with external ballast, very  
narrow beam and a generous sail plan. The yawl took the  
yachting world by storm and made headlines around the  
world after scoring an upset victory in the 1931 Transatlantic  
Race from Newport, Rhode Island to Plymouth, competing  
against much larger boats. In the next 10 years, *Dorade*  
scored overall victories in the 1931 and 1933 Fastnet races  
and the 1936 TransPac Race. Adrienne Cahalan, the first  
woman to sail 25 Hobarts, is navigating.

Matt Brooks and his partner Pam Rorke Levy purchased  
*Dorade* in 2010 and spent a year restoring her with the aim  
of competing in all the major races she had won. Since, she  
has beaten her Transatlantic, Newport-Bermuda, Fastnet and  
TransPac times of the 1930's and made the podium in all,  
winning the 2013 TransPac overall in the bargain. Arriving in  
Australia this year, she placed third overall in the Brisbane  
Keppel race and 14<sup>th</sup> in the recent Newcastle Bass Island  
Race. The oldest boat in the fleet at 87, this is her and  
Brooks' first Hobart.

Owner - **Matt Brooks**; Skipper - Kevin Miller; Navigator  
- Adrienne Cahalan (25) & Matt Wachowicz; Crew - M Brooks,  
E Chownoski, M Giles, **J Hayes**, H Beatie





*Triple Lindy*,  
Cookson 50, **Joe  
Mele**



Not to be  
confused with  
the Swan 44 MKII  
of the same

name that Joe Mele contested his first Sydney Hobart with last year and finished 27<sup>th</sup> overall for sixth in Division 4. The American reappears with latest *Triple Lindy*, the ex *Akatea*, which finished 38<sup>th</sup> overall in the 2012 Sydney Hobart as a Kiwi entry. After purchasing the yacht this year, Mele replaced the bowsprit, mast, rigging and sails and sailed her across the Tasman to prepare for the Hobart. She will then be shipped to USA to compete in major ocean races around the world. Will be great competition for the other Cookson 50's in the race.

In the meantime, Mele took his Swan 44 MKII in the 2017 Rolex Fastnet Race, finishing 113<sup>th</sup> overall and the Rolex Middle Sea Race when he placed 13<sup>th</sup> overall and won Class 5. He has previously placed second in both the Marblehead to Halifax Race and Key West Race Week. He has also contested four Newport Bermuda and Marion Bermuda races. Brad Kellett has overseen the boat's renovation and will race with the bulk of last year's crew.

Owner/Skipper - **Joseph Mele** (1); Sailing Master - Bradshaw Kellett (25); Navigator - **John O'Brien** (1); Crew - S Hunt (23), R MacDonald (1), P Ramsdale (1), **E Cesare**, I K Paisley (1), J Mackay (1), A MacMillan, S McDermott (1), R Trainor (1), W Mackay, G Simeoli (3)

*Warrior Won*,  
XP44, **Christopher  
Sheehan**

Seasoned  
offshore  
yachtsman  
Christopher  
Sheehan  
purchased  
*Warrior Won* in  
2014 to compete  
in the 635nm  
2016 Newport  
Bermuda Race,  
and won the St.  
David's  
Lighthouse  
Trophy, awarded  
to the overall  
winner of the  
largest division  
with 110 entries.

In 2015, the Xp 44 won ORR Division II in the Marblehead to Halifax Ocean Race and PHRF Division 7 in the Long Island Regatta. Now Sheehan and his entirely American crew of seasoned racers are headed Down Under with this modified racer/cruiser to tackle their first Hobart. Katherine De Vore, at 19, is the youngest crew member. Her dad, HL De Vore, is also aboard with a crew mainly from Larchmont, with one each from Rhode Island and Connecticut

Owner/Skipper - **Christopher Sheehan**; Sailing Master  
- **Christopher Simon**; Navigator - **H.L DeVore**; Crew - **B  
Holby, C Corning**, J Slattery, K DeVore, **P Bauer, P  
Carpenter**, R Holliday Jr, **R Zupon**



*Wizard*, Volvo  
70, **David & Peter  
Askew**

*Wizard* is the newly rebadged *Giacomo* - winner of the 2016 Rolex Sydney Hobart, after finishing an incredible



second on line to *Perpetual Loyal*, one of three boats to finish inside *Wild Oats XI*'s 2012 record, leaving two super maxis in her wake when owned by winemaker Jim Delegat. The New Zealander also raced her in the 2013 (finished sixth on line and 22<sup>nd</sup> overall) and 2014 (dismasted off Tasmania) Hobarts. While in Sydney in 2016, she took line honours in the Flinders Islet, Bird Island and Newcastle Bass Island races, a portent of things to come. Just after purchasing *Groupama 4*, winner of the 2011-2012 VOR, Delegat took monohull line honours and won overall the 2015 Coastal Classic and won, line, IRC and PHS in the 2016 Sail Fiji Race.

With their Reichel/Pugh 74 of the same name, the Askews broke the Key West Race monohull record in January, took line honours in the Pineapple Montego Bay Race in February and scored victory in the 109th Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac in July. *Wizard*'s sailing master is Chris Larson, a champion across America's Cup (including coaching the *Mascalzone Latino* crew), VOR, Admiral's Cup, one-design, match racing and offshore events, counting world titles in a variety of classes, and was named 1997 Rolex Yachtsman of the Year.

Owner/Skipper - **David & Peter Askew**; Sailing Master - **Chris Larson (1)**; Crew - R Clarke (4), M White (14), C McAsey, P Trinter, R Bearda (11), M Parker (5), **B Jenkins**, R Keenan (18), A Means, R McGarvie (11), N Drennan (31), D Miller (1), **R Steitz (3)**

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***STC Youth Movement in the Rolex Sydney Hobart***

**Carina Becker**

**Named**

**To Magenta**

**Project Crew For 2017 Rolex Sydney Hobart Race**

Alison Kent, Allie Gray, Karen Young and **Carina Becker** make up the four crew members to join the first all-female crew for 16 years, in the 2017 Sydney Hobart. The women will be part of 8 crew that will race on-board *Climate Action Now* with Lisa Blair in partnership with The Magenta Project.

Full Crew: Owner- Lisa Blair; Skipper - Lisa Blair (1) & Libby Greenhalgh; Crew - **C Becker**, A Gray, K Young, E Shaw, A Kent, E Draper

*The STC Newsletter Editor wanted to learn more about one of the club's outstanding junior members.*

*How did you catch on with the Magenta Project? Did you apply or did someone propose you?*

I did apply for this opportunity and was one of four that got picked from 170 applications world-wide! Perhaps I had a leg up on many of the others because I have sailed with the Magenta Project before. I went to Miami last February to sail an M32 clinic with them.

*Carina is a Freshman at Boston University. Do you have a major yet at BU?*

I do not have a major yet, but I'm working very hard to figure that one out.

*Did you sail on the BU dinghy team? Any highlights about College sailing vs. JSA?*

I am on the sailing team at BU and sailed both as a skipper and a crew this past fall. I absolutely love the team and sailing in college. It definitely keeps you focused and having fun! One of the highlights this fall was sailing in the Storm Trysail Foundation Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta. We raced a J/105 and won both our class and overall, taking back the Paul Hoffmann Trophy to Boston. I love seeing all my JSA friends at regattas!



*How do you feel about the upcoming race?*

I am definitely excited to get down to Sydney to meet the team and see the boat. I think this experience is going to be completely different from anything I've done, since I am sailing with new people on a new boat. I will out of my comfort zone, but in a good way. I'm excited to learn from the crew and see everyone's different perspectives on ocean sailing and racing.

**More on the boat and crew Carina is joining:**

Lisa Blair sailed in the 2011/2012 Clipper Round the World, then took on the ITL Solo Tasman Challenge from New Zealand to Australia. She placed PHS 13<sup>th</sup> overall in her



first Hobart (2015). At the time, her next goal was to be the first woman to circumnavigate Antarctica, solo, non-stop and unassisted, but *Climate Action Now's* mast broke in April, forcing her into Cape Town to repair. But she finished the task; first woman to circumnavigate Antarctica solo, crossing the Albany, WA finish at the end of July. She embarked on her epic journey as the recipient of the 2017 Australian Geographic Society Nancy Bird Walton Sponsorship, which supports ground-breaking projects led by women. She will race to Hobart with an all-female crew, including well-regard British meteorologist, Libby Greenhalgh, who navigated SCA in the last edition of the VOR.

Blair named her boat *Climate Action Now* to raise awareness of the environmental climate. It is the former *Funnel-Web*, originally owned by Ivan MacFadyen and Sibby Ilzhofer who contested the tough 2004 Sydney Hobart with it and finished 48<sup>th</sup> overall in a race where 59 finished and 57 retired. Blair purchased it in September 2015.

## ***Warrior Won's Youth Crew Member - Katie DeVore***

Katie DeVore ... sailed all last summer on board *Warrior Won* as training ... did Edlu, Block, Annapolis-Newport and Marblehead-Halifax Races. Skipper Chris Sheehan's son Joost is not old enough for the Sydney-Hobart age cutoff, so



Katie is our youth team member. She's a sophomore at University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Undergraduate Business. She grew up in junior sailing at Larchmont Yacht Club. Her dinghy sailing ended after winning LIS champs in Pixels. She was discovered through her soccer play to be a national-caliber runner and went on to win multiple state titles and ultimately National Indoor Track Championship in the 4x800 meter relay which she anchored. She loves cruising and distance racing onboard our J/44 *Honahlee* and now Chris Sheehan's XP44 *Warrior Won*.

by H. L. Devore, Katie's Father and *Warrior Won* Navigator

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## **Members In The News**

If you've raced in Western Long Island Sound or at Block Island Race Week in the past 15 years or so, you've heard Ray Redniss on the VHF. A lifelong Stamford, CT resident, he's



among the finest race officers on the water. A fortuitous incident that brought Ray to race management also inspired what may be the most lovingly crafted guitars in the world.

"I'm a third generation Stamfordite," says Ray. "There's a picture from 1948 of my mother and me in my parents' daysailer. I wasn't yet two, although I didn't get into active sailing until my teens. My father taught me a lot about rigging and knots, and a healthy respect for rules. Although I sailed on lots of boats, the first one I owned was a Seidelmann 25 I bought with my friend Rob Panish. He, my wife Jaime and I raced it for three years before we bought a J/29."

"I'd sailed in the Vineyard Race and Stamford Denmark Friendship Race since the late '60s and always found those events, together with the Storm Trysail Club's Block Island Race, several Stratford Shoal races and race weeks, the highlights of Long Island Sound. In 1991, I was in a collision in the American Yacht Club Spring Series, sustaining nerve damage to my right arm and tearing the rotator cuff."

"I've been playing guitar since I was 13, but after that accident I didn't play for over a year," Ray recalls. "I was playing acoustics, but couldn't put my arm over the body. Jaime suggested I get 'one of those skinny guitars.' I said, 'Yeah, a Telecaster!' I bought one, but the sharp radius on the body still hurt my arm. Jaime said I should get 'the one with the sloped top.' When I said, 'I'm not a Strat lover' she replied, 'You work with wood...build yourself one!' I did lots

of research, shopped for woods and parts, and built a Telestyle body with a Strat-style contoured top. The next thing I knew, Jesse was borrowing it for practice, then a gig, and then said that if I wanted it back I had to build him one. He found a small round pendant with a silver moon on stained glass that he wanted set into the headstock. That's when Old Moon Guitars was born!"

Unwilling to stay off the water, Ray volunteered for race committee duty at Stamford Yacht Club and Breakwater Irregulars, the Tuesday night racing club with whom he'd sailed since 1967. A Stamford YC member for 31 years, he's served as Race Committee Chairman, Fleet Captain, and on the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and Nominating Committee. "We've made great friends there, sponsored other friends, and had wonderful opportunities," he enthuses. "I got lucky when the Storm Trysail Club moved the start of the Block Island Race to Stamford and asked me to work with Event Chair Peter Reggio."

"My goal from the start was to run races the way I would've liked to sail them," says Ray, a Professional Land Surveyor whose facility with angles and vectors has given countless sailors great racecourses. He currently serves as the Storm Trysail Club's Fleet Captain and on its Race Committee and Board of Governors. "I've been the Event Chair and Principal Race Officer for the Block Island Race for 15 or 16 years, a PRO at Block Island Race Week since 2003, and on an RC crew at Key West Race Week for 10 years."

For sailors contemplating RC work, Ray counsels, "Do it! There's a huge need for volunteers at all levels. You'll be met with open arms! Get out with as many race officers as you can. You'll learn something from each, and find one with whom you are comfortable. I'm not just talking PROs - I'm talking scorers, event organizers, mark boat operators, and judges. It's a complex sport with lots of rules, but that's part of what makes it fun and rewarding."

A member of the International Society for the Perpetuation of Cruelty to Racing Yachtsmen (ISPCRY), Ray serves on that venerated group's Moosehead Committee. Each fall, race

committees from around the Sound attend the Moosehead Luncheon, celebrating race management blunders. "We could do an entire magazine on race committee stories!" he chuckles. Recalling the first night out on a Bermuda Race, he says, "The crew was all on deck while the skipper was rummaging around below. He seemed to be getting more and more frantic, but refused help. After about a half-hour he came up and announced that we had a problem. What was left on the roll was all the toilet paper on board!"

"I really don't get a chance to race anymore," says Ray, who is also Vice Chairman of the Stamford Harbor Management Commission. "I have a 23-foot Seacraft, *Ragtime*, that I bought from the estate of an old friend who'd recently passed. The executor of his estate, another old friend, asked if I could help evaluate the boat. I went to Stamford Landing to take a look, and instantly fell in love!"

Ray is frequently seen on *Ragtime* between Larchmont and Westport, often with his four grandsons. "Stone is 7, Cole is just shy of 6, Boden is 4 and Rigby is 3. My son Jesse and daughter-in-law Andrea have a house on the Saugatuck River and a 21-foot bowrider. Jaime and I have met them on Cockenoe Island, and I go fishing with the boys as often as I can."

SoundWaters, a Stamford-based environmental organization that protects Long Island Sound through education and action, recently honored Ray as its first HarborFest Commodore. He's a former board member of the Young Mariners Foundation, an organization dedicated to educating underserved youth. "Young Mariners and SoundWaters merged in 2016," he explains. "The Young Mariners STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Academy operates out of the SoundWaters Harbor Center in Boccuzzi Park."

"The best thing about sailing," says Ray, "is the enjoyment of spending time on the water with friends and family, doing something everyone loves, and knowing you can continue to do it well into your years!"

Courtesy WindCheck Magazine.



### **Andy Burton Exchanges Burgees with Antigua YC**



**Andy Burton pictured with Antigua Yacht Club Manager Kenny-Sha**

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### ***Southern Station***

**The Wirth M. Munroe Race: *White Rhino* and *24 Heures* Take Top Podium Finishes**

Under perfect Chamber of Commerce Florida conditions **Austen and Gwen Fragomen's** chartered Volvo 70 *Interlodge* set a new course record of 05:11:39 while Todd and Lisa Stuart's *White Rhino* took corrected first place in IRC division of 7 competitors. In a two class PHRF division of 12 competitors Anson Mulder's *24 Heures* prevailed overall.



Event Chair Tom Bowler presided over the race party and presented the awards.

Award presentation photos courtesy of Lara Dallman-Weiss, Double Shot Studios



**Todd and (not pictured) Lisa Stuart, boat *White Rhino*, 1st place IRC**



**Anson Mulder, Boat *24 Heures*, first place PHRF A**



**Donald Lasky, boat *Paparazzi*, first place PHRF B**





**Austin and (not pictured) Gwen Fragomen, boat *Interlodge*, chartered Volvo 70 for the race, first to finish and set new course time record**

Complete finishes: [YachtScoring.com](http://YachtScoring.com).

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### **SORC "*Islands In The Stream*" Series**

#### **Reviving A Winter Tradition**

**Next up in the SORC: Ft. Lauderdale to Key West Race.** STC is also a member of the Organizing Authority of the Ft. Lauderdale to Key West Race, January 10, 2018, along with the Ft. Lauderdale Yacht Club. This annual classic down the FloridaKeys presents unique challenges to navigators and crews. As Key West recovers from Hurricane Irma, we can expect an extra-special welcome in the Conch Republic.

The newly revived Miami to Cuba Race, February 14, 2018, the final and deciding event of the series, provides a most appropriate and fitting venue for the overall awards ceremony. The word is that inspite of Hurricane Irma, plans are well underway for a great race in 2018.

The Storm Trysail Club would like to commend the SORC and its Chair, Carol Ewing, for all they are doing to promote offshore sailing in South Florida. Such developments as the inclusion of the East Coast Racer/Cruisers Association

(ECRCA) are helping to build the fleet once again into an avid group of boats and skippers.

Bill Moriarty, STC

Southern Station

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### ***Now Here's A Storm Trysail Race!***

#### **The Cape Horn Race 19/20**

**Race Around Cape Horn?** We just received advanced notice of this event and thought we'd pass it on. More info here: [Cape Horn Race 19/20](#)

A poster for the Cape Horn Race 19/20. The background is a collage of sailboats on the water. A white rectangular box in the center contains the race details. At the top left of the box is the Cape Horn Race logo, which consists of a stylized sailboat icon. The text in the box is as follows:

**CAPE HORN RACE**  
**THE CAPE HORN RACE 19/20®**  
**START** Gibraltar  
**THE CAPE HORN TRANSAT®**  
2 November 2019  
Lap 1. Gibraltar – Buenos Aires  
**THE CAPE HORN CHALLENGE® ARGENTINA**  
29 December 2019  
Lap 2. Buenos Aires – Ushuaia  
**THE CAPE HORN CUP® CHILE**  
19 January 2020  
Lap 3. The First Race Round Cape Horn Island  
Pit-stop and podium in Puerto Williams  
**THE MAGELLAN GRAND PRIX 1520-2020®**  
500th anniversary of Magellan Strait  
8 February 2020  
Lap 4. Punta Arenas - Punta del Este  
**FINISH** Punta del Este, Uruguay  
18 February 2020

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f The Cape Horn Race 19/20 ® @mediamec



# THE CAPE HORN RACE 19/20

