



# WCTSS

## NEWSLETTER

Jan 23rd 2012

Issue # 142

Ron Hoddinott Editor

### NEW YEAR'S CRUISE TO KEYS

Ed and Becky Combs coordinated a great cruise to the Florida Keys that brought together members from all over the US and Canada this year. The cruise began on December 29th and went until Jan 2nd 2012. Some members launched at South Dade Marina, where they have a sign that says "No Motorboats." Others launched at the Homestead Marine Park that's on the mainland side of Biscayne Bay 10 miles west of the town of Homestead. Everyone tried to meet up at a funky little on the water establishment, known for years



as Alabama Jacks. Apparently the fun began as soon as the boats were tied up three deep along their pier! Music, dancing, and beer helped everyone get in the holiday spirit. Later in the afternoon, most of our sailors found a little island not too far away to anchor behind for the night.

After another day of sailing Biscayne Bay, and anchoring near an island everyone headed over to Elliot Key State Park Marina, for New Year's Eve Celebration. From there you can watch the Miami fireworks celebration, and ring in the New Year.

Dave and Teresa Barnicoat, Dimitri Krinos and daughter Larissa, Ken Williams and Phil Jones sailed their MacGregor 26 X boats. Ted Jean sailed his Sea Pearl Hideaway, Mark Stewart, and Ed and Becky Combs sailed their Hunter 23.5 boats. Terry and Ruth Nagel sailed Whisper, their Siren 17, Rick and Linda Eggers sailed a MacGregor 26S, Allen and Denise Raedel sailed their Sun-Cat 17, and Stin Linkert sailed his WW Potter 19. Jonathan Arthur also showed up at to join the group in his Sea Dory 22.

Most pulled out on Monday to head home. Good weather and fine friends helped to make this New Years a great cruise for those who made the trip!

Check our web site for Dimitri's excellent description of his cruise in our Reports section.

### BayRaider 20 Debut

A new boat from Swallow Yachts in Great Britain made it's debut in Punta Gorda on January 14th. New member Bill Vogel is the US distributor of the boat and put on a good demonstration at the Isles Yacht Club.

Several of our members attended, and although I'd planned to attend, I could not. So here is Luke Lukowski's report on the event:

Joy and I traveled down to the Isles YC in Punta Gorda this morning for the demo of this new boat. We met Dale and Paul there and had a nice chat with them. The event was run by the dealer, Bill Vogel of Elizabeth Yacht Sales. We didn't go out for a sail on the demo boat but I think Dale and Paul were going to do that and maybe they can give a performance report. I was interested in seeing how this boat compares to my Sea Pearl. Bill did a nice orientation program. The Bay Raider hull is built in Poland and then finished in the UK. The build quality appears to be very good. They call it a ketch rig but where I come from it is a yawl. The jib is club footed and the rig is a gunter. The boat has water ballast (over 600 lbs) and a self bailing cockpit. It has a low profile centerboard. The sales literature is update and compelling. All foils are NACA cross sections which they tout as adding to superior windward performance. Overall, I was struck with the look of the boat. It is pleasing and traditional.

The big selling points that Bill and the literature point out is the performance and safety. They say the rig is easy to set up but it looked a bit tangled and complicated to me compared to a SP. I was somewhat surprised at the price. \$29,000 without a trailer. The trailer is another \$2100 if you buy the factory suggested model. The other surprise was the weight. The standard fiberglass model weighs 925 pounds. The epoxy/wood model is 725 but costs several thousand more. The standard boat comes with Hyde Sails and wood spars. Carbon fiber is extra.

They recommend a 2 to 4 hp short shaft motor. It comes with a spray hood. Camping top is extra. The most interesting features are the water ballast Unique Asymmetric Capsize Buoyancy (ACB) feature. This system automatically floods one side tank if the boat is turtled and within minutes the boat begins to right itself. You can tell this boat was designed for cold and windy conditions. For more information contact Bill Vogel - [bill@elizabethyachtsales.com](mailto:bill@elizabethyachtsales.com) - 904-234-8779

Luke



## Lake Seminole Daysail

After a few cold days we were all hoping for a warm dry day to spend at the lake with our favorite activity, sailing! As I crossed over the 102nd Ave bridge to go pick up Whisper from her storage yard location, I glanced over at the lake and saw wind streaming out of the east. Not too strong, but steady. It was going to be a good day. The launch ticket machine malfunctioned and refused to give me a ticket to display, but I put a note on my windshield and started to set up. Ed and Becky showed up with their new-to-them Chrysler Pirateer daysailor, and Eric and Jane DeVoe arrived with Moxie. Then Russ and Merlyn Blagg arrived with their Potter 15, Merlyn. Merlyn called the county office about the malfunctioning machine, but it was a weekend and didn't get ahold of anyone. Members continued to arrive and set up. By that time, Ed and Becky were zipping around waiting for everyone to launch! Craig Starns arrived with a beautiful restored Lowell Surf Dory, Jeff Carr arrived with his Crawford Melonseed, Nick Lackey, Bob Wood and Joe Milavsky, arrived to power around in Nick's Dory, and Art Gregory came with his Hobie Adventure Island! It was turning out to be a great day!

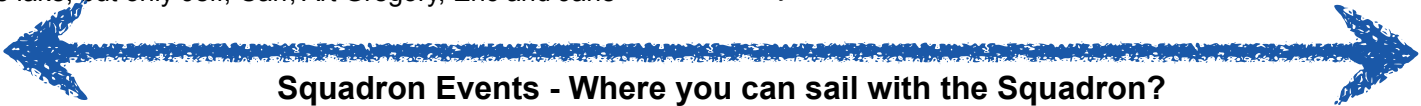
We all eventually got launched and I suggested that we sail to the north end of the lake, which by that time was almost directly down wind. Most of us headed down the lake, but only Jeff, Carr, Art Gregory, Eric and Jane

## Lake Seminole Cont.

and myself actually went under the bridge to the upper part of the lake. There's a narrow neck like a creek between the two parts of the lake, and the wind can be strange in there! Today the wind was just funneled through the neck and I knew it would be tough to get back without a motor since there was little room to tack and then there was the bridge pilings to contend with. Luckily Nick's dory was already in the northern part of the lake! We sailed north until we ran out of room, and the tacked back to the neck. I picked up Eric and Jane's Skerry, and Nick picked up the Melonseed to tow them through the bridge. Art with his power pedals on the AI, managed fine all by himself!

Aboard Whisper the crew was getting hungry. I hailed Moxie on the end of the tow line, and they agreed that it was pretty easy being towed by Whisper, so we continued until we reached the picnic benches near the canoe launch. Lunch for me was an MRE (Chilli and Mac) that I'm still practicing leaning how to heat up. I got it luke warm this time. While we were all eating lunch, an interesting boat arrived. Turns out it was Jay Wolf, a new friend of the Squadron, who was trying out an 18 ft. decked sailing canoe, all fiberglass, for possible entry in the Everglades Challenge. After lunch we went out sailing and Whisper paced along side him, so it much be a pretty fast boat!

It turned out to be great day of fine sailing in steady breezy winds!



## Squadron Events - Where you can sail with the Squadron?

- 1. Lake Harris - Sat Feb 11th and maybe Sun 12th - Launch at 9:30 - 10:00 at Hickory Point Rec Area - Daysail or spend the night on the lake at Horseshoe Cove! Picnic at the Hickory Point Docks instead of going to the "Biker Bar."** Bring a picnic, and maybe something to share.
- 2. Start of the Everglades Challenge 2012 !** Come to the East Beach of Fort DeSoto Park on Friday March 2nd, (all day)to watch the inspection and set up, and then return before DAWN on Saturday, March 3rd, to watch the start of this epic race down the coast of Florida to Key Largo, over 300 miles. Several of our members including Bill Fite will be in the race. Come to cheer him on. After the start, we'll rendezvous at the SeaHorse Restaurant on Pass-a-Grille for a great breakfast together!
- 3. Cayo Coata Island Cruise - March 16, 17, 18 (Friday - Sunday)** Squadron's favorite destination! Launch at Eldred's Marina at Placida, or the Bokeelia Co Ramp on Pine Island, or Pineland Marina on Pine Island, and meet on the beach of Pelican Cove on Friday afternoon. Destinations if any for Saturday will be decided by participants. Return home Sunday. Usually have a great campfire on Friday and Saturday night, so bring along some firewood or a fire log.