



St Lucie Sailing Club

The Log - August 2019

Incorporated April 4, 1975

From the Commodore:

Summertime in South Florida. Hot, humid weather, light winds, and afternoon thundershowers.

In spite of all this, SLSC sailors persevered. In addition to our beer can races, we had an excellent turnout of 8 boats for our Blue Firecracker Ocean/River Regatta. See Mike's Racing Scuttlebutt for details.

That's not to mention Sailsman's adventures in the Abacos last month. More on that at the August meeting along with Glenn and Sue Strickland's presentation about their offshore passage up to North Carolina.

Speaking of August, we're going to back off the pace a little this month. It is the Dog Days after all. But don't despair, there will still be late afternoon 12 Pack and beer can races. There will also be a pool party to help us all cool off. See the events list later in the Log for details.

Meanwhile, let's have fun on the water and stay cool.

Joe Sawyer,
Commodore



RACING SCUTTLEBUTT –Mike Brescher



On Saturday July 20, 2019, the St. Lucie Sailing Club held the BLUE FIRECRACKER OCEAN REGATTA, which was an ocean race from St. Lucie Inlet to marker 14 and back, with a river race on the same day. The “A” Fleet had the ocean race and the “J&M” Fleet had the river race.

This was to satisfy the request from the sailors who wanted a river race and the sailors who wanted the traditional ocean race.

We had a nice three-boat turnout in the river race. There were thunderstorms surrounding us, but the weather remained clear, giving us five knots SE winds at the start, increasing to 14kts at the finish. The boats stayed spread out on the course throughout the race.

The day gave us perfect weather, and sailing conditions that made it a perfect and fun day to be on the water. The racecourse was designed to allow the boats to sail a good race in the allotted time and make the after-race party at our new “Sailor’s Return” location, where they could tie up their boats and enjoy.

The Trophies were presented for the J & M Class at the “Sailor's Return” restaurant's bar area. Everyone was pleased with our new after-race location. The results were:

- 1st WARLOCK with Steve Delise at (E) 1:40:09 (C) 1:15:09
- 2nd SLOOP JOHN B with Mike Diamond at (E) 1:52:56 (C) 1:29:05
- 3rd FREEDOM with Carolyn Zytaruk at (E) 2:03:49 (C) 1:44:19

“Blue Firecracker *Ocean* Regatta” Saturday, July 20, 2019

Five boats participated in our annual “Blue Firecracker Ocean Regatta.”

They were: Angelina, Last Word, Mambo, My Weigh, and Wild Rice.

Summer in Florida – weather is steamy and warm, but that does not deter our avid sailors from enjoying our favorite sport. Winds were light at the start, SE at six knots, which gave us a few photo opportunities. Wild Rice opted to fly spinnaker, which helped only a little. The sail to marker N14 was a struggle. Angelina rounded N14 first, with Wild Rice five minutes behind. Last Word, My Weigh, and Mambo were last to round.

The sail back from N14 was definitely an improvement. Winds were SE 8 to 10 knots, with occasional gusts (if you could call them that) up to 13 knots. The Wild Rice crew cast out a couple of fishing lines, and our crew member, Patricia Strutz-Behm, actually had a couple of Bonito hits, but the fish did not cooperate and got off the hook. She did, however, snag quite a bit of pretty seaweed from time to time.

The highlight of the afternoon was the rare opportunity to see two sea turtles frolicking (mating) near our boat – so cool! Despite weather predictions of occasional thunder showers, we were spared, and enjoyed an amazing day in the pretty blue water.

Submitted by **Asta Poirier** – S/V Wild Rice

The Blue Firecracker Ocean Regatta Trophies will be presented at our August 5 General Meeting: The results are:

- 1st ANGELINA with Orlando Milian at (E) 5:08:20, (C) 4:31:00
- 2nd WILD RICE with Asta Poirier & Richard Rice at (E) 5:33:00 (C) 4:40:43
- 3rd MY WEIGH with Jack Molinelli at (E) 7:56:39 (C) 7:14:36
- 4th LAST WORD with Darren Kirtland, DNF
- 5th MAMBO” with Glenn Strickland, DNF

FOLLOW UP TO JULY MEETING DISCUSSION ON LIGHTNING

By Jack Molinelli

I subscribe to Practical Sailor and *lo-and-behold*, they just did an email on lightning protection. Their basic message is that they are very skeptical that "dissipaters" work and they recommend following the ABYC recommendations. A short summary of the ABYC recommendations can be found here:
https://www.kp44.org/LightningProtectionABYC_Standards.php

My bottom-line takeaways from the meeting and these articles are:

1. There is no system that will guarantee your boat won't be hit by lightning.



2. Dissipaters like the one pictured here don't work -- The problem with this approach is that the earth can supply a charge far faster than any set of discharge points can create ions. The earth can supply energy 4,000 times faster than the rate at which a static discharge brush can dissipate the energy!

3. Connecting the mast to the keel via a "thick" wire is an ABYC recommendation -- they also recommend having a "lightning rod" that sticks up 6" above anything on the top of the mast and with a "sharp point" on its end.

3. A "bonding" system is not necessarily the same as a "lightning protection" system -- i.e., the goal of a lightning protection system is to protect the crew (not necessarily the boat). Bonding protects the boat from electrolytic corrosion issues; it does that by interconnecting all the metal pieces of the boat. However, if the bonding wires are not thick enough, they might not be able to carry a lightning bolt and that could lead to side flashes inside the boat, definitely not good for the crew.

4. As discussed at the meeting, connecting the shrouds to the water directly can also help to mitigate side flashes, but again is no guarantee.



SLSC Upcoming Events

"On the Radar Screen"

Stuff happens: check your emails!

August 3 - Twelve Pack Race

August 5 - Club Meeting!

August 8 - S&M dinner. Location to be decided!

August 17 - The Dog Days Regatta is canceled . We will run a 4pm Beer Can Race instead.

August 24 -- Pool Party at James & Debbie Arthur's Home (not the Jagoda's). Limited to first 40 RSVPs!

Sept 2 - Labor Day weekend, normal monthly meeting is canceled.

Sept 14 -- Goombay Bash Regatta

Sept 17 - Bridge Meeting, location to be decided

Sept 21 -- Coastal Cleanup Sept 21st

If you'd like to get something on the Radar Screen, just let me know! Paul

SLSC Bridge



Commodore	Joe Sawyer
Vice Commodore	James Arthur
Rear Commodore	Vacant
Treasurer	Debbie Arthur
Secretary	Dina Hollobaugh
Fleet (Cruise) Captain	Larry Bryant
Race Captain	Mike Brescher
Social Captain	Linda Magda
Director Ships Store	Katherine Neurohr
Director Web Master	Adrienne Jalowsky
Director Publicity	Harvey Nation
Director Log	Paul Loschiavo

We sold out of the first order of official SLSC Bistro Mugs last month!

Katherine Neurohr has worked some magic and arranged another limited production run... but this could be the last!

The Bistro mugs are \$5 each or two for \$9. Outfit the entire galley at four for \$15!

She suggests that you bring some small bills and do a combo: one cup and six raffle tickets for \$9.

She also has tee shirts on sale for \$10!

