

NSB

July 2015

Vol. 8 No. 2

The Curved Mast

Commodore: Schuyler Boylan
Newsletter Ed.: Alan Silken

Narragansett Bay Herreshoff S Class Association
Newsletter



JUNE 26-JULY 5, 2015

 **NEWPORT SAILING WEEK**

EFG 

Fred Roy on Helm of *Mischief* Takes Bacardi Newport Regatta!



Start of Race 1: (L to R) *Mischief* (27), *Adamant* (2), *Swallow* (24), *Aquila* (51), *Firefly* (7), *Osprey* (8).

photo Cory Silken

June 27-28, 2015
--from the deck of *Firefly*

Rum is no stranger to Newport. In the late 17th and 18th century, Newport had over 20 rum distilleries and at that time was the largest rum producer in the colonies, and perhaps the world. So, next time you think Dark-and-Stormy, reach for the Bacardi for that Kill-Devil beverage. And it seems the weather-makers did just that--mixing up Saturday night's dark storm with 45 kt gusts and pounding rain that ultimately killed the racing plan for Sunday.

The fruit bat is a symbol of good fortune, and so a bat is centered on the Bacardi Newport Sailing Week trophies (and also on Bacardi Rum bottles!). The Bacardi family story is a story of great business enterprise, strong Cuban patriotism, and leadership since the company was founded in Cuba in 1862. (For more on Newport rum, see "A brief history of Rum" further in this newsletter.)

Well, the weekend weather was a mix of everything--from a sunny start on Saturday with 10-12 kt SE breeze, to the anomalous gale that shot through town Saturday night, to the calm-after-the-storm fog Sunday morning, followed by dreary rain and clouds. As a result, the Classics had two fine races on Saturday, but after delay, all racing was cancelled on Sunday.

The S Class participated in the Classic Day Racers fleet that consisted of *Adamant*, a Quincy Adams Interclub, *Emma*, a gaff rigged Watch Hill 15, and six S boats, *Aquila*, *Firefly*, *Mischief*, *Osprey*, *Shona*, and *Swallow*. The course for Race 1 was from start in Potter's Cove north of the Newport Pell Bridge, to mark 13 left to starboard (just north of the bridge); Mark S to port (at Rose Island); Mark 2 to starboard (at Fort Adams); Mark 4 to starboard (at Hammersmith Farm); back to Mark 13 this time left to port; and then finish at Mark 15 on the Jamestown shoreline. There was no signal boat at the finish-- the finish line consisted of an imaginary line perpendicular to the last leg of the race. Each boat was responsible for calling in their finish time. This was not always easily achieved, but the RC kindly accepted late reporting. The course for race 2 was the same as race 1, except that there was an extra leg added from Mark 15 back to Fort Adams, where the race ended at Mark 2 left to starboard.

It was a complicated and challenging course, with ample opportunity for great competition-- and for great confusion-- maybe it was the rum! Position changes were attributed to confusion about the course as much as to sailing skills. *Swallow* suffered confusion about whether to leave mark S to starboard or port (cost=RAF); *Firefly* was confused by a yellow buoy in the vicinity of the finish, while the finishing mark that was supposed to be yellow appeared to be colored camouflage orange-brown (cost=2 places); *Aquila* was confused about whether to leave the finishing mark of the 2nd race to starboard or port, and not calling in their finish time (cost= loss of win). *Osprey* unfortunately suffered a breakdown and could not finish race 2 (cost= DNF). But Fred kept *Mischief* on a sober course, charging around the marks as prescribed.

Race 1: *Osprey*, *Aquila*, *Mischief*, *Swallow* (RAF), *Shona*, *Firefly*.

Race 2: *Mischief*, *Aquila*, *Swallow*, *Firefly*, *Shona*, *Osprey* (DNF),

Congratulations to overall 1st Place Fred Roy for his masterful work on helm of *Mischief*; 2nd Place *Aquila*; and 3rd Place *Firefly*!

Many thanks to Bacardi, the Race Committee, Studiomilano, and all the staff that worked so hard to make the event a success!■

2015 Bacardi Newport Regatta S Class Results:

Bow	Sail Number	Yacht Name	Yacht Design	Owner/Skipper	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	T O	Total
Bacardi Newport Sailing Week Racing											
CRF Division											
Classic Day Racers											
1.	USA 27	Mischief	S Class	Walter Bopp	3	1					4.0
2.	51	Aquila	S Class	Geoffrey Davis	2	2					4.0
3.	7	Firefly	S Class	Alan Silken	6	3					9.0
4.	15	Shona	S Class	Robert J Hutchinson	5	4					9.0
5.	8	Osprey	S Class	Michael McCaffrey	1	9/DNF					10.0
6.	2	Adamant	Quincy Adams Interclub	Mark Pincus	7	5					12.0
7.	24	Swallow	S Class	Andrew McClatchy	4	9/RET					13.0
8.	H-15	Emma	Watch Hill 15	Jed Pearsall	8	6					14.0

A Brief History of Rum

Molasses was an unwanted byproduct of sugar plantations of the Caribbean in the 17th century. But when mixed with cane juice and allowed to ferment, an alcoholic beverage was created in Barbados that could put a smile on any sailor, especially if he was a pirate. The process of rum distilling rapidly spread to the American colonies, originally Staten Island in 1664 and Boston in 1667. But none was more productive than Newport, with twenty-two distilleries. Newport was one of the three corners of the so-called "Triangle Trade"--molasses-rum-slaves-- in which slaves were brought from Africa to the Caribbean sugar plantations, molasses was shipped to New England where it was distilled into rum, which was used to buy slaves. At one time, rum was so valuable it was accepted as currency. Rum was (and still is) a prized commodity and obvious target for pirates. The British Royal Navy used rum as a daily ration for sailors, watered down and called *grog*. An order to "splice the mainbrace" means a double ration of rum. Try that command the next time you're in a bar and see what happens. After Admiral Nelson died at Battle of Trafalgar, his body was preserved in a cask of rum en route back to England, but alas, the crew drained the cask for a bit of grog, known as "Nelson's blood." If you sip a rum drink with a straw, be careful-- you'll be "tapping the Admiral."

Do you enjoy the S Class Newsletter? Additions, comments, corrections, and even praise, are welcome. ■

2015 SEASON SERIES Standings

Results are posted on NBHSCA website: www.nbsclass.org



2015 S Class Season Series

60% to qualify; 5 races for 1 throw-out; 10 races for 2 throw-outs

QUALIFYING BOATS

Leukemi NYYC Annual

Bacardi

Div Rank	Boat Name	Sail No.	Div Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Squaw	57	0.9403	2.00	1.00	1.00	3.00	(0c)	(0c)
2	Osprey	8	0.8841	3.00	2.00	7.00	1.00	1.00	(7f)
3	Swallow	24	0.8689	1.00	3.00	2.00	5.00	(7q)	3.00
4	Aquila	51	0.8636	(0c)	(4.00)	3.00	4.00	2.00	2.00
5	Mischief	27	0.8165	4.00	(6.00)	4.00	6.00	3.00	1.00
6	Firefly	7	0.7955	(0c)	5.00	(6.00)	2.00	5.00	4.00
7	Argument	22	0.7176	(0c)	7.00	5.00	7.00	(0c)	(0c)
8	Shona	15	0.6962	5.00	(8.00)	8.00	8.00	4.00	5.00