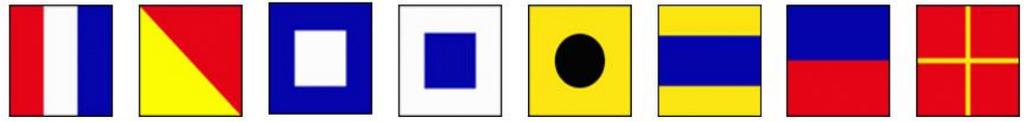


OCT
2019



TOPSIDER



**CAROL
BECKER
WOMEN'S
REGATTA
WINNERS**

**TIE ONE ON FOR
BUZZ AFTER-RACE
PARTY**

**CHESAPEAKE BAY
SUMMER CRUISING**

From the Commodore Jay Leggett:

Hi TASS, Good news! We found my PFD and it was left at Windward Sea Ventures. We are coming up on our holiday season with our Halloween party and then our holiday party in December at Moody Gardens in Galveston - we hope you will sign up early and attend. The Carol Becker Regatta was a great day on the water, with eleven boats participating. A huge thanks to Urs Rathgeb, John Klumb and Babs Bukowski for all their hard work expanding this TASS time honored event to include participants from other yacht clubs.

We are going to start accepting TASS Board nominations in October, in hopes of getting some new members to serve. Our great sailing and social club, solely functions on the work of volunteers. So, if you haven't served or it's been a long time since you last served on the TASS Board, PLEASE contact one of the Board members for more information. [CLICK HERE](#) FOR BOARD NOMINATION FORM.

From the Vice Commodore Urs Rathgeb:



Carol Becker Woman's Regatta ~

For this year's, the 23rd annual, edition of the Carol Becker Woman's Regatta, after consultation with the board and members who were involved in sponsoring the original Deed of Gift, I had set the goal of expanding the regatta to involve more of the sailing community in the Galveston Bay. This included an increase in boats racing, as well reaching out to other clubs. I did get substantial help with these efforts, and I would be remiss if I would not thank Babs Bukowski (as always tirelessly working in the interests of furthering women's sailing) as well as our long-time members Cheryl Morvillo and Mark Langley in helping me fine tune some adjustments to the Deed of Gift, and in writing the Notice of Race. I believe it was worth the effort – we had 11 boats racing, in two classes, Non-Spinnaker PHRF (7 boats), and Club Handicap (4 boats), with affiliations to GBCA, HYC as well as of course TASS.

Conditions were near ideal: Partly cloudy skies, and 12-15 knot winds (reasonably steady) from the southeast. John, our race czar, had chosen a great course, challenging us on all points of sail: from the Kemah Channel Entry (Marks 1 & 2) upwind to the South Boaters Cut, after a port rounding downwind to the H-Mark (the "House"), then, after a starboard rounding and jibe on a broad reach to the F-Mark (the "Giraffe"), which was left to port, and finally on a beautiful beam reach back to the Kemah Channel entrance. Total course length 10.1 nautical miles. As always, the competition was sailed as a pursuit race.

We saw great competition, demonstrated by the fact that there were two extremely close finishes to decide between second and third placed for the PHRF Non-Spin class, and between winner and runner-up for the Club Handicap category. I already look forward to next year's regatta, and am hoping that we can add another class – maybe J-22?

Race results as follows:

PHRF Non-Spinnaker:

Pos	Skipper	Club	Boat Name	Boat Make	Finish Time
1	Nicole Laster	GBCA	Bad Girl	Cal 33-2	15:19:05
2	Cheryl Morvillo	TASS	Astarte	Cal 40	15:19:48
3	Bridget Scheib	GBCA	Student Driver	J-22	15:19:50
4	Elizabeth Wheeler	HYC	Water Nymph 3	Melges 24	15:20:47
5	Andrea Zaiter	HYC	WooHoo	J-22	15:24:00
6	Cyndi McDermott	GBCA	Hobgoblin	Hunter Legend 40	15:28:38
7	Emily Farris	TASS	Blue Horizon	Catalina 310	15:29:10

Club Handicap:

Pos	Skipper	Club	Boat Name	Boat Make	Finish Time
1	Meade LeBlanc	TASS	Two Thumbs Up	S-2 9.2	15:27:00
2	Nancy Welch	TASS	Mischief	Catalina 380	15:27:26
3	Joanne Moschella	TASS	Bright Spot	Hunter 36	15:41:45
N/A	Susan Levy	TASS	Nirvana	Island Packet 29	DNF



Meade LeBlanc (Two Thumbs Up) and crew took 1st place In the Club Handicap Class



Nicole Laster (Bad Girl) took the 1st Place trophy in the PHRF Non-Spin class



The two winners with the perpetual Carol Becker Trophy – Congratulation

As always, the Carol Becker Regatta was followed up with the traditional after race “Tie-One-On for Buzz after race party! More about that in the “Social” section.

As far as racing is concerned, we have one more race to go this season, the Commodore’s Cup Race on November 9.

While one does not need to be a prophet that Cheryl will probably clinch the championship another year, the competition for second place is in full swing.

After 5 races, ranking is as follows:

Ranking	Boat Name	Points
1 st Place	Astarte	15
2 nd Place	Nightwind/Bohemian Mermaid	7
3 rd Place	Two Thumbs Up	5
	OxBow	5
5 th Place	Blue Horizon	4
6 th Place	Sea Lady	3
7 th Place	Mischief	2

Skippers, join us for the Commodore’s cup, BOAT REGISTRATION. The 1st TASS charter race boat is full but you can get on the waitlist. If we have enough people, we will add a second boat is possible. WAITLIST HERE.... and as always Joanne is planning a fine event for our final after-race party of the year. Land and sea creatures of TASS be sure to join us!

Flag Exchange with York River Yacht Club

I recently had the pleasure to join a 10-day sailing trip in the southern Chesapeake Bay organized by TASS members Kevin and Hope DeNicola, including three boats with TASS members and guests (see separate report elsewhere in this Topsider). As the senior current TASS officer participating in the journey, I had the distinguished honor to exchange flags with the Commodore of York River Yacht Club (YRYC), located – where else – in York River, VA.



Don Hogge (Commodore York River Yacht Club) and I exchanging our flags in front of members of TASS, YRYC, and guests

York River Yacht Club showed us the spirit of true Southern hospitality, and invited us to their regular Friday night gathering at their club house, as well as to their annual Labor Day sail (across the Chesapeake Bay to Cape Charles, VA) and dock party, during which the above photo of the flag exchange was taken.

One of the true pleasures of sailing is that we make friends everywhere, and that boats, wind and water never fail to almost instantaneously create a connection, across body of water, states, nations and clubs. I am truly blessed to be part of that!

I hope to see you on the water or at one of our social events (I will be the one with a drink in his hand)!

Your Vice Commodore

Urs Rathgeb

SOCIAL, Joanne Moschella

October closed with a splash as we celebrated our annual Carol Becker Regatta and Tie One on For Buzz Dinner. This year, the venue took place at Houston Yacht Club as, for the first time, the race was opened up to other clubs. With a great turnout, food and libations were enjoyed by all as trophies were given out to club members and to the expanded race participants. I foresee this race and banquet expanding in participation in the forthcoming years.



Our Tie One on for Buzz Contest had its usual share of laughs as Lois Geyer won for the Women's category, Roberto Hinkle for the Men's, and Emily

Farris/Bob Ford won for the couples. Congrats to all the winners and appreciation for all the participants.



Couple Winners Emily and Bob w/ Joanne and Urs and Thann knotted together in confusion.

We have a number of events coming up as the holidays are fast approaching. Be sure and check the calendar and sign up so you don't miss out.

Wishing good luck to those participating in the 33rd Harvest Moon Regatta October 10-13th.

This year's Halloween Party is hosted by Mark Langley at his home on Saturday, Oct. 26th. Costume is mandatory and bathing suits are requested for post party pool time. This is always one of our best events of the year and our gracious host does not disappoint. Check the calendar for particulars and sign up! [REGISTER HERE](#)

November 2nd, TASS is encouraging our members to volunteer as assistants and attend the Sailing Angels Charity Benefit at Jackie's Brickhouse Private Room. All information about this event can be found on the [TASS calendar](#) or by visiting [Sailing Angels](#). Your support is most appreciated for this worthwhile charity.

TASS' last race of the season, The Commodore Cup, is slated for Saturday, November 9. The After-Race Celebration this year will be held at the Tuscany Bistro, 2951 Marina Bay Drive, Ste 220 League City. Registration is Mandatory. Please register early [CLICK HERE](#).

Our annual Christmas Party, Saturday, December 6th, is posted and registration is open [CLICK HERE](#) as we celebrate at Moody Gardens in Galveston. TASS has a block of rooms at a discounted rate and they are going fast as the hotel is full for the weekend. All the particulars are on the website, so sign up and join in on the festivities!
Looking forward to seeing you!

FLEET NEWS, Michael Vaughan

The Carol Becker race is in the books and there is only one more TASS race this year. We have one more TASS race in November. There will be leisure sails most weekends through the end of the year. Now is some of the best time for sailing in the Houston area. Do not be a couch potato and get out on the water before we get to winter. The charter boats for October are already filling up so go ahead and make your reservation so that you will be assured a spot. Temperatures will be cooling off soon. See you on the water.

REGISTRATION REMINDER – We try to have some type of sail each weekend, unless there is another event that overrides sails. Windward Sea Venture, our charter company, is getting busy and we will have challenges to reserve the boats that we want, if we are not able to reserve early. Normally, sign-ups for sails end at midnight on **Thursday** night. If we do not have enough people registered by midnight on Thursday, it is likely that the sail may be cancelled. So, please sign-up early so that we can all spend more time on the water.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS by Patricia Gumbs

Hello TASS as summer as comes to a close our club continues to be strong. We have many new members who are actively sailing. It's refreshing to see the growth and direction of the club; after all we are a sailing club with a social aspect. Current membership is at 157 active members. WE have quite a few members who have lapsed. My hope is that they will come back and renew their membership. As we get ready for the last race of the season, The Commodore's Cup, we hope to see you all out there racing. If you can't race, come and join us for the after Race party. Show your support.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS.

Lisa Doyle, Traci Fowler, Eric Hess, Jimmy Raper, and Janna Zielke

Happy Birthday to our September Members

Member	Date	Member	Date
Vilma Fernandez	3	Jay Leggett	19
Barbara O'Brien	8	Ken Derbridge	22
Becky Nesmith	9	Sharon Guzzino Klumb	22
Jeff Hanrahan	13	Rene Walsh	22
Charlie Holcomb	13	Sue Shirley-Howard	23
Steve Budde	13	Urs Rathgeb	24
Darren Moore	13	Melanie Morin	24
Kathleen Reuther	15	Larry Newbern	24
Stacy Lee	17	Gavin Gerondale	25
		William (Trey) Marrs	26

Webmaster by Thann Dauterive



As promised, monthly I am gathering the most frequently asked questions that come from members and guests and share each month some of the questions that seem to stump the crowd. Do not hesitate to ask your question. You can be a contributor to help make improvements in our process, systems, and communications. We don't know what you

don't know unless you ask. EMAIL: webmaster@sailtass.com

FAQ's from members to the Webmaster

? If I am registered for a Leisure Sail, who should I call if I have weather, departure/return times, cancellations, or other questions?

A You should always contact the SKIPPER designated for your sail if you have questions regarding the logistics of a sail. The Skipper's name is listed on the calendar for the designated sail and contact information with phone numbers and email address for ALL skippers can be found on the website under [CONTACT>Skippers](#). The Contact page can be viewed by members and guests.



? If I signed up for a sail and cannot make the sail what should I do?

A - If you sign up for a sail and cannot /will not attend, you should notify **The Skipper**. This way the skipper will not hold up the sailing departure waiting for you to show up at the dock.

Attending a MEETING or MEET& MINGLES and let people know your spot is available is the best way to recover your money. Check the [Calendar](#) for events. You can also post a note to the [TASS Facebook](#) page. TASS is not responsible for selling your space or any money exchange, however, if you find a substitute for your spot it is REQUIRED that you notify the Skipper immediately. See above Q&A on how your designated skipper.



? Will I get a refund for the sail if I cannot participate?

A - We DO NOT issue refunds for sails or events. Refunds are only issued should a Skipper CANCEL a sail due to a condition that is determined to be unsafe or the event cannot take place. That said, if you want to find someone to replace you at the event or on the sail, it is entirely up to you to broker your spot to others. A few suggested ways to do this is by attending a MEETING or MEET& MINGLES and let people know your spot is available. Check the [Calendar](#) for events. You can also post a note to the [TASS Facebook](#) page. TASS is not responsible for selling your space or any money exchange, however, if you find a substitute for your spot it is REQUIRED that you notify the Skipper immediately. See above Q&A on how your designated skipper.



?- Where can I view photos taken on trips or from events?

A - Recently, we have set up a Google Photo Album to allow *members* to share their favorite photos from events or trips with other *members*. Yes, we do have some guidelines that we would appreciate that you stick with when uploading the photos.



1. No more than 15 of your very best photos.
2. Photos should be cropped and subject persons should be CLEAR – in focus.
3. Photos should contain sailing-related – people photos. While the scenery and amazing sailing vessels can produce brilliant photography work, remember we are SHARING our people's experience with others. Let's face it people LIKE to see themselves in photos.
4. You are responsible to police your photos and we ask that you be respectful of others in your photo sections. The board will monitor the photos and reserve the right to remove any photos we find in poor taste or that reflect poorly on the club.
5. DO NOT create a new album. Should you find a new album topic is necessary, email webmaster@sailtass.com and one will be created.
6. Albums are reserved for Trips and Special Events. Weekly sails/ meetings etc. you can post fun stuff and share on the [TASS Facebook](#) page. Facebook is a great advertisement for TASS and encourages new people to join so **SHARE THERE. Don't just LIKE a post.**
7. NO, the TASS board will not upload your photos, so please do not send them to us.

Here are the links for Photo Albums that are Active:

[2019 Carol Becker Regatta & Tie One On For Buzz](#)

[2019 Chesapeake Bay - September](#)

[2019 San Francisco Group Sail - September](#)

[2019 TASS France June Summer Trip](#)

[2019 TASS 35th Anniversary Party - May](#)

Please feel free to contact me at webmaster@sailtass.com for questions or suggestions.

“Jobs fill your pocket, Adventures fill your soul”— Jaime Lyn Beatty

This summer TASS has truly been active in Adventures. As a member for nearly 4 years, I look forward each summer to the destination, stories, and photographs shared by our TASS members. Here is our story we hope you enjoy— Urs & Thann

Southern Chesapeake Bay

True wind in our hair provided by Hurricane Dorian, S/V's Charlou (Jeanneau 409), Fidelity (Valiant42), and Veritas (Hunter 49) set sail for the Labor Day East Coast adventure. Hope DeNicola was instrumental in putting all the drop pins on the map that took us across the historic heartland of the American Revolution. Williamsburg, VA was the first stop, obvious, as it plays the most significant role in the Revolution. As the crews gathered (15 in total), our first detour was a free concert in the park in downtown Williamsburg followed by dinner. We discussed our plans and prepared for provisioning. Before heading to our boats, we spent the morning on a grand tour of Colonial Williamsburg, a living-history museum of the most important restored and re-created buildings of our country's ancestry. The tour challenged many of us to recall our Junior High school days of American History and Urs enjoyed absorbing aspects of our history he did not study in Switzerland.



Time to set sail. Thanks to Kevin DeNicola, who prepared all our map routes and waypoints making our navigation brilliantly easy. The first port of call was the York River Yacht Haven where hostess Wendy DeNicola brought the York River Yacht Club members together with the visiting TASS members. A great evening of food and exchanges of conversation with fellow yachtsmen/women. We were entertained by the unique and multitalented Javier. The next day we joined the YRYC flotilla as we headed down the York River (go figure what a name) and crossed the Chesapeake Bay to Cape Charles, VA. At sunset, as like-minded sailors do, we gathered for a pot luck dock party – hey TASS does this sound familiar! TASS Vice Commodore Urs Rathgeb and hosting YRYC Commodore Don Hogge exchanged burgees as the crowd took a group photo. On behalf of TASS we want to thank Don and ALL the YRYC members for their gracious hospitality. We were welcomed with open arms,

exchanged boat repair stories, travel stories and made plans for what the heck we were going to do about Hurricane Dorian.

Our trip plan was slightly rearranged at this point but frankly, sailors being sailors, we planned for safety and found new routes. Yorktown River Walk was another day of historic museums. Limited on time, we chose our points of interest as a group. The American Revolution Museum and the Yorktown Battlefield – where America's Independence was won became our top picks. Whether by seaport or land Yorktown was a great experience and the Riverwalk Landing Marina with local restaurants was delightful. At this point, we are loving our "Water Uber" Charlou as we crisscrossed the Chesapeake. Did I mention we sailed through an abundance of dolphin, nearly 100 actually in one pod, playful and frolicking around the bay. Dolphins always generate excitement and I asked Urs to turn the boat around and sail through the pod a second time.



NOW.....Run Run Run....through the Chesapeake up the Rappahannock River and duck into Urbanna Bridge Marina. Yes, we were tied down tight here and awaited the arrival of hurricane Dorian in our Water Uber. History holds true, when TASS hits the Chesapeake, there seems to be a hurricane.

Spending the better half of the day making pirate talk with the sailors on the dock, people here were helpful in explaining the expected tides, wind direction, flood potential and escape routes to us. They offered us rides to the grocery and lines for the boat if we needed extras. Urbanna is a sleepy town but super cute.



Something Different, the local eatery is recommended when visiting along with Cool Beans Café for a quick coffee and sweet treat. Let me also say the Urbanna Bridge Marina has a fanatic public house with a full kitchen and dining room, TV, etc. and we took full advance of this amenity as Urs prepared a delicious home-cooked Bolognese dinner and I got to watch the semi-finals of the US Open Tennis.

Surviving Dorian, our final day of sailing the Rappahannock River gifted us with steady 12 knots of wind taking us back to our charter center Norton Yachts in Deltaville, VA. Once again, we connected with the Veritas crew and by this time the Fidelity crew joined after securing at their home port. Memories made, new territory covered by land and sea and forever friendships with our TASS people.

Veritas Crew: Mark Langley, Cheryl Morvillo, Jeff & Denise Hanrahan, Sandra Powers, Melissa Roedel, Sue Sedwick
Fidelity Crew: Hope & Kevin DeNicola, Ray Monello, Lisa Fires

Charlou Crew: The Rathrives (Thann & Urs), Julie & John Mastroianni