

RCR Yachts

From: "RCR Yachts" <sail@rcryachts.com>
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 10:19 AM
Subject: Fw: RCR Yachts Sailor's News

RCR Yachts Sailor's News, February 26, 2010

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RCR
YACHTS

What's New? by Don Finkle: March is a very busy month, not only for us here at RCR, but also for the sailing community as we all prepare for the upcoming season. Be sure to check out the list of activities scheduled during March in the event calendar below.

We always receive positive comments about stories we publish here that tell of actual on-water experiences. This week we have three of them, two of deliveries for new boats to the Miami Boat Show, and another from the Perrys. You will remember that last winter we published regular log reports from the Perrys as they cruised southern waters. We have another entry this week along with the address to their blog for those who would like to catch up on their travels.

For many of us the thought of being able to take off and leave our hectic lives behind while we spend some extended time on the water seems a very remote concept. What we can say is that those customers and friends who have actually done so always rave about the experience. I can't recall one who regretted doing it. Even if taking a whole winter off, or retiring aboard ship is not in the cards for you just yet, how about a real decent summer vacation on the water? I know I can't unwind over just a few days away, it takes me much longer than that to relax. Why not plan a cruise of 2-3 weeks, where you can actually go somewhere new for a change.

Speaking of somewhere new, the majority of our readers have only cruised within a 100 mile radius or so of their home port. There are a couple of ways to break out of that shell. One is to take off more time so you can go further yourself. Another is to share the trip to or from with friends or other family members, so nobody has to do the whole delivery. You take the boat there and they bring it home, or vice versa. There are people out there who are experienced, have the time, but don't have a boat. Sometimes they would be happy to move the boat for you in return for some time aboard. Yet another way to cruise a new area is to have a delivery captain move the boat for you. Finally there is the option of chartering. In any case you won't be sorry if

you expand your horizons a bit.

You will note that our Used Boat update below shows plenty of changes: boats sold, new listings just arrived, and price reductions. For the next four months we will experience our most active selling period of the year. Our Fiscal Year begins October 1, and for the five months of our current 2010 year we have doubled our unit sales, dollar volume, and new boat sales over the same prior year period.

Family Boats: We have a couple of very nice late model boats with 3 cabin layouts. When a boat is said to have 2 cabins or 3 cabins it refers to the number of separate enclosed sleeping cabins...it does not count the main salon, where of course one can also sleep. Most boats are 2 cabin, but occasionally we get some that have double aft cabins, hence the "3 cabin" layout. The advantage of the 3 cabin layout is the ability to comfortably accommodate those families with more kids, or those who wish to sail with other adults in more privacy. Check out the Beneteau 361 and 423 listings we have for sale right now, hard to find.

RCR staff cell phones, dial us as needed!

Don Finkle 716-695-4328 CEO
 Rick Lenard 716-472-4702 Buffalo Sales
 Corbo Corbishley 585-752-2530 Rochester Sales
 Tracy Buczak 716-680-4554 Erie Sales
 Bruce Lort 716-998-7545 Youngstown Service
 Darren Wright 716-572-2312 Buffalo Service
 Brian Buczak 716-799-4860 Warranty

March 12, Friday: Holimont's 8th Annual Sailor's Ski Day!

A fun-filled day of skiing complete with Apres' ski party including pizza & wings, bottled red & white wine, beer.

Ski/Ride 9:30-4:20

Apres Ski Party 3:30 - 5:00

Pre-Registration By March 3 only \$25 Covers cost of Apres Party

Lift Ticket at the door \$35

Sponsored by:

Obersheimer's Sailor Supply

RCR Yachts

WNY Catamaran Association

HoliMont 716-699-2320

Ellicottville, NY

Contact: maryjane@holimont.com

Print out and send in this Registration form:

<http://www.rcryachts.com/images/rcryachts/holimont.pdf>

Latest Beneteau Horizons Newsletter:

<http://www.boat-mail.net/e-beneteau/2010horizons/201002/201002beneteauenewsletter.html>

Beneteau USA is now on Facebook

RCR is now on Facebook! Anyone interested in becoming a "friend" of RCR Yachts, they only need to type in RCR Yachts in the "find friend" link. Thanks to Rick Lenard for keeping our page current.

Custom Sailboat Trailer for sale: Will fit 26-32' boat (has been used for a C&C 29). Tandem axle, 6 uprights with adjustable screw pads, 3 custom mast brackets, electric brakes on both axles, 3 stabilizing jacks, wheel chocks, painted black, serviced 2009 with new wiring and battery, 4 heavy duty tires, built by Boyer Industries on heavy duty construction grade Hudson base, \$5,900, Youngstown rick@rcryachts.com

I guess we have to explain this again since not everyone seems to understand the process. We want your business! If you see a used boat advertised that looks interesting, please contact us before contacting the seller or broker. It costs you NOTHING to have us work for you, if you let us make the contact. I can guarantee you that we bring value to the process of buying (or selling) a used boat. Better yet, contact us before you start to look and we can save you time and aggravation, and usually money too.

WE NEED MORE BOATS TO SELL! Let us list your boat, or come see us about a trade-in. Call any of our sales staff for an idea of what your boat is worth.

Used Boat Updates: The following is only a partial list of used sailboats we are offering, those shown below are simply updates. For a full list of sail and powerboats currently available please go to www.rcryachts.com

46' Beneteau Oceanis 461 2001 "Beach Buoys" *NEW TRADE* Bruce Farr Design, Former "Boat of the Year" by Cruising World, 5' 9" draft, 63 HP Diesel, 218 Gallons of Water, Beautiful Varnished Cherry Interior. Professional Epoxy Bottom Job, In-Mast Furling Mainsail, Windlass, 19 Opening Ports & Hatches, 6'5" headroom, Refrig, Freezer, Microwave, Autopilot w/Remote, Plotter, Radar, TV/DVD, Inverter, Air Conditioning & Heat, Electric Heads, Electric Winch, Custom Canvas, Lots more, tracy@rcryachts.com, Iyng Erie, PA

42' Catalina 42 2000 *REDUCED MUST SELL* Three Cabin, New White Hull Paint, Windlass, Radar, Air Conditioning, GPS, New Batteries, New Upholstery, Hard Dodger, Mattresses, Electric Winch \$137,500, Erie, Tracy@rcryachts.com

32' Beneteau 323 2004 "Jersey Girl" *NEW LISTING* Knot, Depth, Wind, Autopilot, Chart Plotter, GPS, Genneker gear, Refrig, Rochester, \$79,500

36' Beneteau 361 2002 "Blue Moon" *NEW LISTING* Hard to Find 3 Cabin Model, 5' Draft, Westerbeke 27 HP, Full Canvas, Knot, Depth, Wind, Chartplotter, GPS, Autopilot, Genneker w/Sock, Extra Cabintop Winch, Steel Cradle, Classic Mast, Charger, AM/FM/CD w/10 Disc Changer, VHF, 2 Anchors, Electric Windlass, Large Fridge/Freezer, 42' Leather Wheel, Dinghy Davits, Custom Winter Cover, Cockpit Cushions, Cockpit Table, Stern Rail Seats. This yacht has been lovingly maintained by the original owner, always sailed in fresh water. Perfect family boat, easy to sail with plenty of room for all. The owner has moved up and encourages offers. Must be seen to be appreciated, the galley, head & bilges sparkle! Located in Buffalo, NY asking \$109,000 rick@rcryachts.com

34' Beneteau 34 2009 *NEW TRADE* Like New, Owner Liked it so much he traded up to a new Beneteau 40. Loaded and turn-key ready, sails great. Draft 4'6", In-Mast Mainsail Furling with Vertical Battens, 110V, Charger, Propane Stove/Oven, Microwave, Stereo, Cockpit Shower, Electric Toilet, Color Plotter, GPS, Radar, Speed, Depth, Wind, Fishfinder, Autopilot, Extra Winch, Extra Battery, VHR w/Remote at Helm, Genneker gear, Steel Cradle, Ithaca, NY \$129,900 Rick@rcryachts.com, 716-472-4702

30' Hunter 30 1977 "Speedy" *NEW LISTING* Big Stable 30-Footer, Wheel, Diesel, GPS, New Rudder & Carpet, \$12,500 Erie tracy@rcryachts.com

41' Morgan Out Island 41 "Stinger" *REDUCED* to \$39,900 Rochester

38' Sabre 386 2005 "Encore" *SOLD*

38' Hunter 386 2003 "Livin' Beyond Zero" *REDUCED* to \$129,900

35' J/35C 1991 "Jibe Talkin" *NEW LISTING* Rochester, \$99,000

35' Freedom 35 1996 "Sans Souci" *NEW LISTING* Youngstown, \$114,900
34' Beneteau 343 2007 "Gatsby" *REDUCED* to \$114,900 Rochester
34' Irwin Citation 34 1977 "My Colleen" *UNDER CONTRACT*
34' Hunter 34 1983 "Serendipity" *UNDER CONTRACT*
33' C&C 33-2 1985 "Chariot" *SOLD*
33' J/100 2006 "Patriot" *NEW LISTING* Buffalo \$119,900
32' Beneteau 323 2004 "Jersey Girl" *NEW LISTING* Rochester, \$79,500
31' Beneteau 311 1999 "Firefly" *UNDER CONTRACT*
30' Pearson 30 1973 *UNDER CONTRACT*
30' Hunter 30 1977 "Speedy" *NEW LISTING* \$12,500 Erie
29' Hunter 29.5 1994 "Skimmer" *NEW LISTING* Erie, \$37,900
29' C&C 29 MKII 1983 *SOLD*
29' J/29 1984 Fractional Diesel "Thunder" *REDUCED* to \$7,900
28' Classic Abbott 28 1967 "Salescall" *NEW LISTING* Buffalo \$7,400
27' Catalina 27 IB 1979 "Windsinger" *NEW LISTING* Buffalo \$7,400
27' C&C 27 "Armada" *NEW TRADE* Youngstown \$7,900
25' Bayfield 25 1980 *NEW LISTING* Diesel, Erie \$9,500

Power:

65' Custom Passenger Ferry 1998 "Horizon" *NEW LISTING* Dunkirk \$424,900
43' Bayliner 4387 1991 "Junkyard Dogs" *REDUCED* to \$95,000
34' Sea Ray 34 Express *UNDER CONTRACT*
30' SeaRay 300 Sundancer "Red Dog Leader", Immaculate, 137 hours on her twin Mercruisers, AC/Heat, Windlass, GPS, full canvas *REDUCED* to \$72,900

RCR will help you find the right boat for you! Our brokers will serve as "Buyers Agents" if you find a boat out of our market listed with someone else. We will protect your interests and represent YOU! It costs YOU nothing to use us...the seller pays our fee. We split the commission with the listing brokerage...just like in real estate. We do business in your community...our community...trust us to do the job for you. We've been doing it since 1972.

Let RCR Find Your Next Boat, or Sell Your Existing One!

Dates, News & Announcements:

Feb 27, Erie Maritime Museum Speakers Series: "Dreamer, the Beauty of Sail" by David Beirig & Bob Arlet who discuss the restoration of the 80 year old Alden Ketch "Dreamer".
 Saturday, February, 27th 2:00 p.m.
 Hirt Auditorium at Blasco Library
 150 E Front Street, Erie, PA
 Admission free

March 4, Obersheimer-Ullman Buffalo Seminar, Downwind Sailing

March 10, Erie YC Racing Fleet Social Meeting 6:30 PM: Free food and beverages along with season updates and a presentation explaining the Yacht Lake Racing Association's Regatta (LYRA - Lake Ontario) to be held in Lake Erie for only the second time in its 126 year history. The July 30th event will be held at the Buffalo Yacht Club in conjunction with their 150th anniversary. Check our schedule. US Sailing President, ESPN commentator and Americas' Cup winner, Gary Jobson will speak at the event and there will be a special charity mini match race series for each LYRA affiliated yacht club. The \$100 entry fee will be donated to the Leukemia Society.

March 12, Friday: Holimont's 8th Annual Sailor's Ski Day!

A fun-filled day of skiing complete with Apres' ski party including pizza & wings, bottled red & white wine, beer.

Ski/Ride 9:30-4:20

Apres Ski Party 3:30 - 5:00

Pre-Registration By March 3 only \$25 Covers cost of Apres Party

Lift Ticket at the door \$35

Sponsored by:

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RCR Yachts

WNY Catamaran Association

HoliMont 716-699-2320

Ellicottville, NY

Contact: maryjane@holimont.com

Print out and send in this Registration form:

<http://www.rcryachts.com/images/rcryachts/holimont.pdf>

March 13, North American Beer Tour at Erie Yacht Club: The Club is hosting its Beer Tasting Party. The Beer Tasting Committee has selected 7 Beers from around the North America. You will blind taste test each beer, evaluate it and pick the best one of the evening. The beer that receives the most votes will be featured in the Club Lounge for the next month.

6:30PM, \$18.95 per person Call the Club at 814-453-4931 for Reservations

March 14, North U Erie Cruising & Seamanship Seminar: Erie Yacht Club Sunday, March 14. Cruise with Confidence! The only Cruising & Seamanship seminar being offered in the 2010 North U seminar season. Steve LeMay, a three time J80 Champion and active cruiser, will be the instructor. For further information or to register for the seminar, please contact:

visit: www.northu.northsails.com

or contact: Fran@northu.northsails.com

Special Discount Code: CS-7245 Entitles you to select the Additional Crew Level Tier Pricing

Indicate Code either under "Comments" on line, or when you call in.

March 20, First Mate Safe Return® Course: A boating safety course offered exclusively by the Sodus Bay Maritime Captains Association. As a First Mate aboard your boat, just how familiar are you with its operation? What if the Skipper should become disabled? Would you know what to do? Would you know how to call for help? Would you be able to tell rescuers where you are? Would you be able to navigate to a safe port?

The First Mate Safe Return course is designed to teach fundamental skills that will enable a First Mate to do the right thing if the Skipper should become disabled for whatever reason. The course will be taught by Coast Guard Licensed Captains and will include a half-day classroom lecture and on-the-water coaching and demonstration on your own boat. The schedule for the half-day classroom lecture is:

Date: Saturday, March 20, 2010

Time: 8:00 AM to 12:00 N

Place: Genesee Yacht Club, 10 Stutson Street, Rochester, NY 14612

Fee: \$75

The on-the-water coaching and demonstration may be arranged at the mutual convenience of the First Mate and a Captain Instructor from Sodus Bay Maritime Captains Association or, at the option of the student, may be conducted by the student's Skipper.

If interested, you may register by contacting Captain Jack Morris (585) 703-4439, jmorris599@aol.com or Captain Bob Paiement (585) 377-6518, rpaiement@rochester.rr.com

April 10, RCYC is holding a safety at sea seminar, sanctioned by US Sailing. Attendance qualifies participants for Newport Bermuda and other offshore races. That said, the material is great for both racers and cruisers. The event takes place on April 10 in Toronto. I wonder if you could make a mention of it in your newsletter? We already have some folks coming up from the Buffalo area. Thanks to Val Matison. More info on the site: <http://www.safetyatsea.ca>

April 15-17, Buffalo Boomdays www.boomdays.com

May 8-9, Thunder Over Niagara Air Show in Niagara Falls, NY

July 9-11, Sabre & Back Cove 40th Anniversary Rendezvous, Boothbay, Maine

Buffalo Winter Sailing Seminar Schedule 2009-2010

Sponsored by:

Obersheimer's Sailor's Supply 716-877-8221

and Ullman Sails Buffalo 716-447-9766

7:15 TO 9:30 PM, 1884 Niagara St. Buffalo New York 14207

Mar 4 Spinnaker Design and Trim, How to Sail Fast Down Wind

Mar 24 Basic Sail Trim, Basic crew work, China light

Apr 7 Using the Rules to Sail Smart, Optimizing the Boat Top to Bottom

Apr 8 Basic Boat Handling, Docking, Starting, Mark Rounding, China Light

Apr 21 China Light Organizing Meeting

Comments & Articles of Interest:

The US Environmental Protection Agency launched a plan to restore the Great Lakes. The five-year plan was unveiled by EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson at a meeting with governors from states bordering the Great Lakes. "This action plan outlines our strategy to protect the environmental, human health and economic interests of the millions of people who rely on the Great Lakes," said Jackson. "We're committed to creating a new standard of care that will leave the Great Lakes better for the next generation." -- IBI Magazine, read on:

<http://www.ibinews.com/ibinews/newsdesk/20100123160837ibinews.html>

From Dean & Susan Perry in The Florida Keys: "This morning we are at our anchorage in Boot Key Harbor (Marathon Key). There must be 300 + boats in here.... 200 on moorings, and the rest at anchor in the harbor, and various tributary streams, and cuts in the mangroves. They have a Cruiser's net in the mornings on VHF 68, just like Georgetown in the Bahamas.... telling you what's going on in the harbor... and surrounds..... They also have a "buy sell trade thing.. just like Georgetown where cruisers barter for things, or get rid of stuff... Anyway... Susan and I are 'drying out' now... We were out exploring in the dinghy (found a nice beach down Sister's Creek...), and we got caught in a rain squall just about 100 feet short of the AB... a bit of bad timing... Oh well... it's fresh water... a shower even !! and "it's a boat!!!" We're on the list for a mooring, but if it doesn't come... so be it... as long as the anchor holds in the bottom... and we have the harbor services... who cares? We just looked at the radar.... wild storms are passing just off shore, south of the keys.... 40 knot winds...and big time rain... So far so good...here in the harbor... it's pretty protected from all sides. (as long

as we can stay off our neighbors... ;) OK... supper time...take care, Wishing you Fair winds and following seas!"

Dean & Susan

(S/V Autumn Borne)

www.autumnborne.blogspot.com

OCEANIS 50 #1 DELIVERY, by Dan Kimball of Beneteau USA: "Quite often people ask how frequently I get to go out on a Beneteau as a Beneteau employee. Unfortunately for me it is not a common occurrence. For five days this February, I was given the opportunity to live the dream. Hull number one of Beneteau's new Oceanis 50 was completed a mere two weeks before its scheduled premiere at Strictly Sail Miami, and I was lucky enough to assist with the delivery from Charleston, SC to the Miami Boat Show. This was my first offshore trip in several years, but by the time the trip was over I had made new friends, learned a few new tricks, and had a great time on a great boat.

I was accompanied on the trip by Adam Cort, a senior editor from SAIL Magazine. Adam has written two sailing related books, and is a very accomplished sailor. For insurance purposes, Beneteau USA acquired the services of Dan Valoppi, a licensed captain who resides in Charleston, SC. Dan is a world class sailor, with over 100,000 ocean miles on his resume. Not only is Captain Dan a great sailor, but he is also an accomplished cook. Needless to say, Adam and I ate very well during our trip from Charleston to Miami.

As we left Charleston on Thursday, February 4th, the wind was from the northeast at a steady 20-25 knots with the occasional gust over 30. We had a great downwind sleigh ride for the first 24 hours of the trip, with the speedometer hitting 11 knots several times and even breaking the 15 knot barrier while surfing down a wave! The waves were a solid seven to eight feet, and Captain Dan even saw one approaching ten feet that night during his watch. The boat performed beautifully, taking the weather in stride and giving the three of us a very comfortable ride. I'm happy to say that I was able to make myself quite comfortable in the aft cabin while underway, despite what has been said about the aft cabin layout not making a suitable sea berth. Under port tack, I wedged myself up to the well padded headboard and fell right to sleep.

The following morning, the weather service predicted that the wind would be shifting to the south and would bring a near gale-force breeze before shifting to the west later in the evening. The three of us looked at each other and quickly agreed that we didn't want to spend the day bashing into waves and heavy air right on the bow. The decision was made to duck into Jacksonville to avoid the storm. Upon entering the harbor, we were treated to a great show of touch-and-goes by an old Navy DC-3 at a nearby landing strip. The plane made at least seven or eight circles during a series of practice runs before we were even able to tie up at the dock. We settled in as the breeze began to build, and watched some of the traffic pass by, which included a barge loaded with containers that had several school buses strapped to the top. Curious, we radioed the tug pulling the barge to find out where they were headed. The answer: Guantanamo Bay.

As we patiently waited for the wind to shift, Captain Dan made us an excellent meal of pork tenderloin, mashed potatoes, and green beans. At three AM the following morning, I received a knock on my door and was told the wind had shifted to the west and we were shoving off. I helped untie the lines, stow away the fenders, re-rig the jack lines, and unfurl the sails. Captain Dan volunteered to take the first watch, so I happily went back to bed. I awoke for my watch later that morning and was greeted by sunshine, calm seas, and a comfortable beam reach. The three of us stayed on deck together for most of the day, enjoying the weather as the boat easily made seven to eight knots under sail. We quickly made up the lost time we had spent in Jacksonville the previous day. We were also treated to plenty of sea life activity, including a north-bound pod of whales that passed by. The whales were then followed by a group of dolphins that stopped by to play for a bit, as well as a sea turtle. As the sun

began to set, we found ourselves off Cape Canaveral. There was a shuttle launch scheduled for early Sunday morning, and although we were a couple miles offshore, we could still pick out the shuttle brightly illuminated by spotlights. I was on deck when the launch was scheduled, but unfortunately the mission was scrubbed and delayed for a day.

Sunday turned out to be a beautiful day. However, the wind began to die in the afternoon forcing us to motor along the Florida coast. The 110 horsepower Yanmar diesel effortlessly pushed the boat at seven knots enabling us to stay ahead of schedule. We were treated to a grand site of a continuous wall of hi-rise condos and hotels, as well as a quick trip into the Gulf Stream. Both of us being Great Lakes sailors, Adam and I had never been in the Gulf Stream before. Not only did Captain Dan take us for a quick ride through the stream, but he also talked me into going for a quick swim in the 78 degree water. After being on board for several days, I have to admit it felt pretty good despite the fact that the air temperature was only 55 degrees.

Being a huge football fan, one of my biggest concerns about this trip was the fact that it would take place during the Super Bowl. Lucky for me, the Oceanis 50 has an option for a 32 inch flat screen television. We were able to pick up the local CBS station and watched the Super Bowl in high definition. All three of us cheered for the victorious New Orleans Saints, while Dan cooked up an excellent Chinese themed dinner. We arrived in the Port of Miami around midnight after motoring the final 60 miles or so, and threw in the anchor behind Fisher's Island.

The three of us awoke early Monday morning, Adam and I both donning shorts in hopes of some warm Florida weather. Strictly Sail Miami was in a new location for 2010, which unfortunately involved a trip under a bridge with a rather low clearance. Adam nicely volunteered to go to the top of the mast to remove the Windex, and we made it under the bridge with room to spare and then safely into our slip for the show. The new Oceanis 50 got us to Miami well ahead of schedule which is impressive considering we had stopped in Jacksonville for half a day.

Upon leaving to return to South Carolina, I found myself thinking about how I could get used to spending more time aboard the Oceanis 50. Creature comforts like the flat screen television, Corian countertops, LED lighting, the new ST70 Raymarine electronics, and electric Harken primary winches definitely had me spoiled by the time I stepped off the boat. Not to mention the fact that the boat performed beautifully throughout the entire trip, averaging 7-9 knots of boat speed under sail. Living in luxury for five days aboard this Beneteau was certainly a treat, one that I intend to cherish for quite some time."

Hunter 45CC Delivery to the Miami Boat Show, by Rusty Hightower: "There are times when our careers really get us excited and then there are times when we get frustrated with our chosen profession. Preparing for a major boat show and the Miami Show has it ups and down. There is a lot of work to get the vessels prepped, checked out and moved to the show, praying that Mother Nature will work in your favor.

I drew the Hunter 45CC to take down to Miami from Stuart. There are two ways to get down to Miami from Stuart. The Intracoastal Waterway or go outside. If Mother Nature is in a foul mood, then the Intracoastal is the way to go, or then maybe not. There was a front schedule to blow in on Friday, the day to depart. I called the crew and rescheduled to Saturday. My reasoning was not necessary the weather, rather the thought of going through the crossroads (where the Okeechobee Waterway and the Intracoastal and the St Lucie Inlet meet) at night in sustained winds of 23 knots at high tide. Therefore, I called the crew, Larry and Tim, to push the departure time to 12 hours later. This way we would be able to sail at high tide and in daylight.

Therefore, when time to set sail came the winds were coming out of the west and still blowing from 20 to 25 knots with gust to 35 knots and I made the decision to go outside. I could have not asked for a better vessel. The last time I was able to sail on a Hunter 45CC was when the boat first came out back in 2006 in San

Diego. She was a great sailing machine then and is now. As I headed out of the St Lucie inlet, I knew I was in for a good ride. It was strange to see waves running from Northwest to Southeast. We set the sails for a beam reach with a reef in the furling vertical batten main and full headsail. The Hunter 45CC settled herself into a groove and the knot meter started to climb. The average speed was 8 to 8.5 knots (about 10 mph) and every once and awhile we actually saw 10 and 9 knots. We were flying and just think how fast we would have been sailing if I had been running with the Gulf Stream. The boat was balanced and I was able to walk up to the fore deck to watch the dolphins play chicken with our bow.

The course I had set in the E-120 chartplotter would keep us about a mile and a quarter off the beach. Where we saw waves, not just crashing but also crushing the beach. I did not get soaked while in the cockpit and I had no dodger. There was no hobby horsing with the bow hollow design on the boat. I tried hard to put the rails in the water with the reefed main but could not do it. The boat's sail plan was perfect and away we went. The vessel did not complain with any moan or groan from the rig or the Selden mast. The Hunter 45CC has the Lewmar Cobra Steering System. I actually took the helm from the autopilot. Surprisingly I did not have to fight the rudder. I would not say it was two fingers sailing, but I did not end up with white knuckles. Meanwhile, my crew remained happy with no problems of sliding around down below while fixing dinner or watching Star Trek on the flat screen.

The winds did die down to 14 knots just south of West Palm Beach, and we unfurled the main to keep the boat speed up. I noticed on the knot meter we had slowed down to about 5 ½ knots over the bottom, and the air temperature seemed warmer. We had sailed into part of the Gulf Stream. We were in about 100 to 110 feet of water. We moved a little further inshore to about 65 feet of water, the speed picked back up, and the air temperature cooled down. As we approached the anchorage for Port Everglades, we noticed all sort of fireworks for celebration for the Super Bowl. Which meant security would be tight going onto Government Cut.

About 10 miles from Government Cut, the wind gods finally thought we had had enough fun. I was on watch, around 4AM, and the wind had died down to about 4 knots when I finally had to furl in the sails and fire off the engine. We had unfurled sails at 3:30PM and had made the run to Miami in a little over 12 ½ hours.

I would never have thought that at 5AM I would see so many cruise ships heading to berth into Miami. There is a rule that is not part of the Rules of the Road. You know the rule I am talking about, "the big boat rule". Therefore, I sat and let three cruise ships go in and then I took off. Fisherman's Channel was a "no go" because of the cruise ships. This meant that I would have to go around on the south side of the port. I finally met up with the Intracoastal Waterway once again, on the west side of the port, and had four bridges to pass under and one of which was a drawbridge.

The west side of Fisherman's Channel is the turning basin for the cruise ships. I waited for one cruise ship to make the turn before I ventured across. I had passed under two bridges and then as I was entering the turning basin and was met with a 50 caliber pointing right at my vessel.

The Coast Guard was heading across my bow with a big gun pointed right at me. I also had about an 80-foot power cat coming up on my stern that was running a little fast because of the current. I pulled over to the city side of the channel and stayed put. However, the power cat just kept on going and two Coast Guard boats went after him. The Coast Guard boat that was stationed with me came over, we talked, and then allowed us to pass through. Nice guys just doing their job. I also suddenly felt very old. Here was a young man about 20 years old piloting his vessel and the gunner was about the same age. The gunner had a flak jacket on and helmet and so did the helmsman on the boat. I was glad that they were there doing their job and prayed that they would have a safe watch. I was in the US Navy, I never did think twice about my orders, and I know they would do the same. I was proud of them and grateful that they were there.

The only part left of the short-lived journey was to dock the Hunter 45 CC in her berth at Sea Isle Marina.

The marina is located just off the Intracoastal channel. The bays around Miami are shallow and it was still dark. Here again the chartplotter came into play and help me identify the right channel marks to head for my berth. The current is also strong around this area and the marina does not have a lot of room to maneuver. However, the Hunter 45 CC had a bow thruster and docking was a snap, even with a cross current. As I docked the boat I knew, whoever buys her will have a superior and secure vessel to travel the waters of the world."

Read more about the travels of "Star of the Sea": Peaches and Chris are now cruising the Bahamas in a Beneteau 423 that they purchased from us. Before heading South the RCR Buffalo crew installed a lot of gear for the trip, including a watermaker. Read Chris's blog below on firing up the new toy:

<http://www.sailblogs.com/member/star/>

New Boat News:

RCR is a Beneteau Platinum Dealership! Beneteau has created a program that ranks all of their dealerships on a variety of factors, one of the main components being customer satisfaction and service. RCR has attained the highest ranking, the Platinum level. This comes on top of winning the President's Service Award from Beneteau in October. Congratulations to our staff for a job well done, and thanks to our loyal customers for your support.

New Boats Available for Viewing at RCR:

Beneteau 31, 34, 37, 40, 43, 46

Beneteau First 10R, First 36.7

Hunter 27, 31, 33, 36, 38, 41DS, 45CC

J/100

Sabre Spirit 36, 386, 426

Back Cove 26, 29 Hardtop Express

Don't forget that RCR handles both sail and power.

We have financing rates that will beat the other guys, exclusive to RCR!

RCR Yachts of Erie News by Tracy Buczak: "It's amazing what a day of sunshine does for the spirit. Couple that with another USA hockey victory. It could be a showdown Sunday with Canada. What a beat down they did on Russia. Jim Rome commented on his show the Canadians took away the Russians manhood. (I cleaned that up a bit). I spoke to Glenn, a Canadian associate, and he was in better spirits today.

The Olympics have been very entertaining and it seems that everyone I've talked to has been watching quite a bit of it. Lots of Patriotism, drama, and you know..."the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat."

I spoke too soon about the weather...don't put away your snow shovel. But the sun does make me this about sailing again.

Don't procrastinate if you want a new or used boat for spring. The best listings are being grabbed up at pretty good prices. If you're thinking of selling call us. We need more listings. Under contract just in the last couple weeks here ...1984 Hunter 34, 1977 C&C 29, Schock 35, New Beneteau 37 and new Beneteau 46. I'm working on several offers right now also. Buffalo and Rochester have sold a C&C 29, C&C 33, Beneteau 311, New Beneteau 40, Beneteau 37, Searay 34 Express, 34 Irwin Citation, and 2005 Sabre 386 to give you some idea of the variety we handle.

Below are two testimonials from RCR customers using RCR Erie as the "Buyer's agent."

"After they sold my old boat for me in record time I decided to work with RCR again to help me locate my next purchase. I visited 3 vessels with Tracy setting up the appointments and making the initial contact with the listing brokers, all of whom he knew. Valuable info was passed on to me. Ultimately the boat I chose was located in Canada and I expected a lot of problems having to navigate tons of paperwork. In the end Tracy made the entire process easy, he handled setting up the appointment to view the boat, managed the offer process, contacted a marine surveyor he knew near the vessel and handled all the necessary paperwork involved with customs and transporting a boat out of the country. Gary"

Another situation involved a powerboat out of town and is still an ongoing process. There is a bank and Title issue to be resolved. Here is the Buyers comment from a recent email regarding the problem.

"Tracy, Thanks for the heads up. This is why I don't mind using a broker as a buying agent. Keep me posted. Thank you, Randy"

Featured used boats:

Power:

2002 Searay 300 Sundancer Red Dog Leader - Just reduced to \$72,900 - only 137 hours on her Twin Mercruiser 5.0L/MPI Bravo III's, AC/Heat, Chartplotter/GPS, CD Changer & much more.

http://www.rcryachts.com/pre_owned_detail.asp?sid=7226199E-02X2K25K2010J3I43I02JPMQ3655R0&veh=1310986

Sail:

2000 41' Hunter 410 Giubileo - Lightly used "Big Boat" Yanmar, AC/Heat, 2 cabin/2 head layout, large refrig & separate freezer, Raymarine instruments, Bimini, Roller furling, Classic main w/lazy jacks. Only \$139,900. Make an offer.

http://www.rcryachts.com/pre_owned_detail.asp?sid=0254223X2K25K2010J3I49I13JPMQ3655R0&veh=878869

Feb 27, Erie Maritime Museum Speakers Series: "Dreamer, the Beauty of Sail" by David Beirig & Bob Arlet who discuss the restoration of the 80 year old Alden Ketch "Dreamer".

Saturday, February, 27th 2:00 p.m.

Hirt Auditorium at Blasco Library

150 E Front Street, Erie, PA

Admission free

March 10, Wednesday at Erie YC: Racing Fleet Social Meeting with free food and beverages along with season updates and a presentation explaining the Yacht Lake Racing Association's Regatta to be held in Lake Erie for only the second time in its 126 year history. - 6:30 PM

March 13, North American Beer Tour at Erie Yacht Club: The Club is hosting its Beer Tasting Party. The Beer Tasting Committee has selected 7 Beers from around the North America. You will blind taste test each beer, evaluate it and pick the best one of the evening. The beer that receives the most votes will be featured in the Club Lounge for the next month.

6:30PM, \$18.95 per person Call the Club at 814-453-4931 for Reservations

**The Erie Power Squadron will be holding their spring
Safe Boating Classes**

Starting March 8th and running through April 26th

Course will be held Mondays 7 - 9 P.M.

Bayfront Center for Maritime Studies

40 Holland Street (Behind the Library)

The instruction is free. A minimal \$40 fee for books and material is required at the 1st class

For questions and pre-registration contact:

Erie Power Squadron (814)878-3636

Tony Kloszewski (814) 899 6204

akloszewski@roadrunner.com

I've been asked frequently about the superstition and process of renaming a vessel you've just purchased. Here is some advice:

Renaming your vessel is a special time for everyone. Whether this is your first new boat, or it is your newly acquired used one, the renaming process cannot be taken lightly. Once a new name for your vessel is carefully and painstakingly acquired you must begin a ritual that will ensure the success of you and your vessel. Throughout time renaming a boat has been taboo. It meant despair upon her crew and her owners if her original first name is removed. Luckily there is hope, and a way to rid these tragedies. First a purging process must begin. Old records, logbooks, and anything else baring the old name of the vessel must be removed. Then remove the name from the boat itself. It is important not to carry anything with the new name aboard until this ceremony is complete.

Next you will need a good bottle of champagne, and don't be stingy, your vessel deserves the best. You will also need a metal plate with the old name written on it in water soluble ink.

Begin by summoning the ruler of deep: "Oh mighty and great ruler of the seas and oceans, to whom all ships and we who venture upon your vast domain are required to pay homage, implore you in your graciousness to expunge for all time from your records and recollection the name (here insert the old name of your vessel) which has ceased to be an entity in your kingdom. As proof thereof, we submit this ingot bearing her name to be corrupted through your powers and forever be purged from the sea." (At this point, the prepared metal tag is dropped from the bow of the boat into the sea.) "In grateful acknowledgment of your munificence and dispensation, we offer these libations to your majesty and your court." (Pour at least half of the bottle of Champagne into the sea from East to West. The remainder may be passed among your guests.)

You are now ready to rename your vessel. This renaming ceremony is usually conducted right after the purging ceremony. You will need another bottle of champagne as you call to Poseidon: "Oh mighty and great ruler of the seas and oceans, to whom all ships and we who venture upon your vast domain are required to pay homage, implore you in your graciousness to take unto your records and recollection this worthy vessel hereafter and for all time known as (Here insert the new name you have chosen), guarding her with your mighty arm and trident and ensuring her of safe and rapid passage throughout her journeys within your realm. In appreciation of your munificence, dispensation and in honor of your greatness, we offer these libations to your majesty and your court." (At this point, one bottle of Champagne, less one glass for the master and one glass for the mate are poured into the sea from West to East.)

Of course you will need to honor the wind gods as well. "Oh mighty rulers of the winds, through whose power our frail vessels traverse the wild and faceless deep, we implore you to grant this worthy vessel (Insert your boat's new name) the benefits and pleasures of your bounty, ensuring us of your gentle ministrations according to our needs."

(Facing north, pour a generous libation of Champagne into a Champagne flute and fling to the North as you intone :) "Great Bores, exalted ruler of the North Wind, grant us permission to use your mighty powers in the pursuit of our lawful endeavors, ever sparing us the overwhelming scourge of your frigid breath."

(Facing west, pour the same amount of Champagne and fling to the West while intoning :) "Great Zephyrus,

exalted ruler of the West Wind, grant us permission to use your mighty powers in the pursuit of our lawful endeavors, ever sparing us the overwhelming scourge of your wild breath."

(Facing east, repeat and fling to the East.) "Great Eurus, exalted ruler of the East Wind, grant us permission to use your mighty powers in the pursuit of our lawful endeavors, ever sparing us the overwhelming scourge of your mighty breath."

(Facing south, repeat, flinging to the South.) "Great Notus, exalted ruler of the South Wind, grant us permission to use your mighty powers in the pursuit of our lawful endeavors, ever sparing us the overwhelming scourge of your scalding breath."

After these ceremonies are performed your vessel is now ready for its many years of safe voyages that are bound to please its captain. You can bring upon all items barring her new name, including your new decal for her.

Good Luck and enjoy your new boat name! "

Let the people we love know it. Take the time to show it. Don't be afraid to express yourself. Seize the day!

Wind...Water...Excitement...Exhilaration...Competition...Family...Friends... fulfillment...Time Together...Relaxation... Romance... memories for a lifetime...THAT'S SAILING!

Tips, Products & Services:

Viking Trailers is offering a 10% discount on all Trailer parts and service work. Just say "RCR Newsletter" and receive your discount. Viking also offers Sailboat Hull, Boot stripe and Topside painting, in house only.
Viking 724-789-9194

Interesting site: <http://www.canadianyachting.com/>

Nautical Trivia "The Sailing Board Game" www.usasummit.com 1-516-628-8486

Boat Canvas Work:

rblakley@rochester.rr.com Julie Blakely
Custom Covers & Canvas: 716-298-5946, Rich or John
Wilson Upholstery & Canvas: 814-474-3618 The lovely Phyllis

Great Sources for Vinyl Boat Names:

www.signdogs.com 585-748-7006
justyn@niagaragraphic.com
<http://www.huntgraphic.com/BOAT%20GRAPHICS.htm>

Beneteau Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Beneteau-USA/93010103950>

Interesting Website: Ken Palmer sent this: www.lakeontariosailing.com

<http://www.silverwaters.com/ed/entry.php?id=log&cnum=c1&topicno=10>

Great books about a Great Lake <http://chimneybluff.com>

THE LATEST IN BOAT EQUIPMENT: <http://www.MyBoatsGear.com>

USCG Captain's License Training: 877-883-9366 or seatraining@aol.com

BOATING DVD STORE: The list is endless! Go to www.bennetmarine.com

Viking Boat Trailers & Cradles: www.sailboats.vikingtrailer.com

Ship Model Site: <http://www.maritimemodelworks.com/>

Delivery Captain: Dave Block, 200 Tons Sail & Power, Mobile: 716.481.7245

Interesting Embroidered Gifts: www.boatpillows.com or 716-745-7291.

New Product Information: www.sailingscuttlebutt.com/forum/products

Flea Market & Small Boat Place:

Don, Just purchased a CD27 fixer-upper. Hull in great shape but needs equipment. Especially ST winches, traveler with line controls, wheel AP, chartplotter, vhf, dodger, etc. If you know of anyone who has equipment for sale from the area, let me know. Thanks, Ed Haley eghaley@twcny.rr.com

"Hi Don, I am a regular boater who is taking a summer vacation to Wilson, NY from the 23rd of June to the 3rd of July. I would like to rent a boat for our vacation to cruise the lake, fish with my son, and make a run over to Toronto for a day/evening. Could you post me request in your news letter as Rick suggests below? I am happy to give more info about my boating experience, as well as provide any other info needed. My cell number below or email address jeff.albee@gmail.com is probably the best way to reach me. Thanks"

For Sale: Two (2) Kasko De-Icers, $\frac{3}{4}$ HP, circulates subsurface water which is warmed to the surface to melt ice and prevent its formation. Can be hung from vessel or dock. The $\frac{3}{4}$ HP model keeps a 75' diameter ice free. Each assembly includes a 25' power cord designed for low temperatures, a zinc anode for corrosion protection and a grounded 3 prong plug. Used one season. New \$699 or best offer. Call Judy for info 716-839-1100 or 716-839-3552.

For Sale or partial trade: 2004 6hp Nissan long shaft...very low hours / stored indoors. Want short shaft 2hp for dinghy. jkrcrew@yahoo.com

Have an unloaded power boat trailer that needs to be brought up from St. Petersburg, FL to the Buffalo area in the spring. I'm seeking a "snow bird" returning to WNY that would be interested in helping out. Please contact Jeff at 585-880-8012.

For Sale:

1) Chutescoop, used very little, 30' long, 9" diameter - excellent condition, \$125
(For your info the following info is from the Chutescoop site : Chutescoops are sized according to sail luff measurements (use the "I" dimension of the boat if the sail luff is not known). Chutescoop sleeves are supposed to be shorter than the sail luff. On cruising spinnakers, use a Chutescoop that stops just short of the leech clew (unless the measurement between luff length and leech length is excessively long). On poled spinnakers allow 3 to 4 feet of sail below the sleeve to permit the pole to be trimmed.)

2) Propeller, 3 blade bronze, 17 x 14, \$200 OBO

3) 2 Lewmar hatch trim and screen kits for #60 hatch (20" x 20") - \$50 for each or best offer, photo available upon request

4) 2 offshore orange PDF's, adult size, \$25 each or BO, photo on request
contact rwaller@twcny.rr.com or call Bob at (607)387-5207

Cleaning out the Basement:

28" diameter stainless wheel

40" diameter stainless wheel

33# Danforth anchor

Tbooth@k-100.com

For Sale:

Used Pathfinder 18" 2KW Radome \$400

brian@rcryachts.com

716-799-4860

Contact RCR Sales:

Buffalo 716-856-6314

Erie 814-455-6800

Rochester 585-339-9730

Sodus Point 315-483-2526

Youngstown 716-745-3862

Disclaimer: We locate info and event dates from a wide variety of sources, and we won't be held responsible if dates change or info we obtain turns out to be inaccurate. Please double-check any event prior to heading off to it!

In the event that you don't want to receive future issues, please reply to this message, and type Remove in the subject line.