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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOA in feet</th>
<th>Daily $/ft/day</th>
<th>Weekly $/ft/day</th>
<th>Monthly $/ft/day</th>
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The Caribbean is blessed with hundreds of beautiful anchorages that offer cruisers solitude or party central. When first we arrived in the islands we hit sensory overload after barely two weeks. Our landfall was Martinique and our first port after the Canaries, Fort de France. I guess that’s why I still have an affinity with French Islands. In our first year in the Caribbean there was barely an island we did not visit. Later, we headed west and then north to the beautiful Bahamas. Having cruised extensively, people often ask which are my favorite islands and anchorages, and look askance when I take time to ponder the question. Even now, as I write, I can’t come up with and island or anchorage to top my list. Just when I have it set in my mind, I remember another delightful incident on another island or anchorage and the process starts all over again. What I do say is don’t rush through the islands. The Caribbean is still a magical place and the greatest cruising ground on earth. I am now going to turn the tables and ask: What is your favorite island or anchorage? Describe your favorite Caribbean island and anchorage in 600 words or less and we’ll publish your article in All At Sea magazine. Tell us why you find a particular anchorage, or island, special and what cruisers should look for when they visit.

I was in the marine store lavishing yet more dollars on my boat when I met an English couple at the checkout. The man was paying for a new stainless steel stanchion to replace the one his wife was carrying, which was bent at a seventy degree angle. Being nosy, I asked what had happened to the stanchion, and his reply got me thinking. They are cruising aboard a 50ft catamaran, a powerful beast with plenty of sail area. While sailing towards St. Maarten, the clevis pin on the mainsail sheet failed releasing the boom. The boom crashed across the boat and the flailing sheet hooked the stanchion. There was so much power in the sail that it bent the stanchion as if it was made of putty, however, it did prevent the boom from running right out where it may have damaged the rig. I had a similar experience while single-handing in mid ocean. I had tucked a reef into the mainsail and was tying off the pendants when the boat rolled hard to starboard, the sheet let go and the heavy wooden boom swept me off the cabin top and out over the sea. Terrified, I clung on, and when the boat rolled to port and the boom swung back over the deck, I let go and crashed down onto my back, which rather hurt. Strange things happen to stainless steel. I have seen massive pins shear off and shackles twist and break when they appeared to be in perfect condition. With so many boats starting their annual migration, now’s the time to get down on your knees, no, not to pray but to inspect those pins and perhaps add a twist of wire to the shackles.

In the February edition of All At Sea, we ran a story about hiking in Dominica. The article was extremely popular and several people followed the trails laid out in the story and wrote to say how much they had enjoyed it. Andy and Nicky Gibb of the yacht Intrepid of Dover got in touch to say there is also a written guide to the trails: A Users Guide to the Waitukubuli Trail Dominica; published 2011 by the Commonwealth of Dominica, priced about US$20 and available from Jay Bookstores in Roseau. They also pointed out that we published the wrong phone number for popular Roseau-based tour guide Pancho. Andy says Pancho is an excellent guide with a friendly and helpful character and that he works very hard to help all yachts. His phone number is 1-767-448-1698 (home) or 1-767-295-0525. Email: panchoservices@yahoo.com
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Another Fun Day on the Boat

COVER SHOT: Rolex Swan Cup Caribbean 2013 | Photo: Rolex / Carlo Borlenghi
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WHERE IN THE WORLD?
CONGRATULATIONS JAN AND THANKS FOR READING ALL AT SEA!

This is the first day of spring in Yorkshire, England! Under leaden skies and snowed in until the plows arrived, what’s a girl to do to bring some warmth and sunshine into her life? Although she didn’t go as far as wearing a bikini, Jan followed the yellow brick road to the Caribbean by reading her favorite magazine … All At Sea!

Jan is now back in the islands, harassing the editor and working on her tan!

Send us a picture of you reading All At Sea and you may win a free subscription. We will select one winner a month. Please send images & your information to: subscribe@allatsea.net or mail to: 382 NE 191st Street #32381, Miami, Florida, 33179-3899.

ISLAND EVENTS & INTERESTS
ALL AT SEA’S CARIBBEAN COVERAGE

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Loro Piana Caribbean Superyacht Regatta & Rendezvous 2013: Salperton and Bolero Winners
Party time at Mercury Marine Latin America & Caribbean
Mercury Marine Latin America & Caribbean hosted its annual Private Cocktail Reception in February. The event, which was held at ‘The Bath Club’ in Miami Beach, Florida, welcomed Mercury customers throughout all of the Caribbean, Mexico, Central America and South America. This event was part of the activities that took place during the week of the Miami International Boat Show, which also included general sessions held at the division’s Miramar location consisting of presentations as well as face-to-face meetings with MMLAC’s staff.

The annual gathering is an opportunity to celebrate and thank Mercury’s customers for their loyalty and contributions towards Mercury’s growth in the different territories throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. The event also served as a platform to present awards within different categories to those customers who truly made an impact in 2012.

The reception was also attended by personnel from different divisions of Mercury Marine, Brunswick Commercial Group, Land ‘N’ Sea and Boston Whaler among others.

New Cruising Rally heads south from Trinidad & Tobago
September 2013 will see the start of a new annual rally for Caribbean cruisers. Starting from both Trinidad and Tobago, the Nereid’s Rally is set to pave the way for visits to two of the Atlantic’s least known cruising destinations: Guyana and French Guiana.

“Trinidad & Tobago has always been known as a safe haven for yachts during the hurricane season but yachtsmen need not remain hunkered down in an anchorage or hauled out for extended maintenance when fair sailing in agreeable weather is so close at hand,” organizers said in a press release.

According to the release, the Nereid’s Rally offers sailors a safe convenient way to discover the Amazon basin’s least spoilt anchorages and an excellent excuse for prolonging the traditional sailing season. And with formalities expedited, and assistance with logistical matters, tours and provisioning conveniently provided at each port of call, participants were sure to have a thoroughly enjoyable adventure.

Registration details and more information can be found at the official rally website: www.marinaslm.com/rally
Free Cruising Guides establish education fund in Haiti

Frank Virgintino, author of Free Cruising Guides, has created an educational fund to offset tuition costs for students at Ile a Vache, Haiti, who need assistance. The initial grant of $5,000 has been donated by Free Cruising Guides together with Marina ZarPar of Boca Chica, Dominican Republic.

The first grant funds have been released to 16 students, 12 of whom live on Ile a Vache and attend primary school on the island, and four who live on Ile a Vache and attend high school at Les Cayes, on the mainland.

In a press release, Mr Virgintino said the island of Ile a Vache has long been a safe and wonderful stop for cruising boats and that the fund seeks to give back to the island of Haiti, which has done so much for the cruising community.

Cruisers and businesses who would like to donate to the fund may contact Frank Virgintino at: fvirgintino@gmail.com

**EVENT CALENDAR**

Please send future events to editor@allatsea.net. This month and next month’s events are currently published here and at www.allatsea.net. Your specific area may or may not be shown based on identified activities for these months.

- **ANGUILLA**
  - **MAY 10 – 12**
  - Anguilla Regatta
  - Sailing Regatta
  - www.anguillaregatta.com

- **BARBADOS**
  - **MAY 16 – 19**
  - Mount Gay Boatyard Regatta | Sailing Regatta
  - www.sailbarbados.com
  - info@sailbarbados.com

- **GUADELOUPE**
  - **MAY 8 – 12**
  - Triskell Guadeloupe and Dominica Tour
  - Sailing Regatta
  - www.triskellcup.com
  - organisation@triskellcup.com
  - 0690-49-57-57

- **JOST VAN DYKE, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**
  - **MAY 25 – 27**
  - Foxy’s Wooden Boat Regatta | Sailing Regatta
  - martin@sailship.com

- **ST. BARTHELEMY (ST. BARTH)**
  - **MAY 3 – 5**
  - West Indies Regatta
  - Sailing Regatta
  - www.westindiesregatta.com
  - images@alexisandrews.com
  - 268-724-4435

- **ST. MAARTEN / ST. MARTIN**
  - **MAY 17 – 19**
  - Captain Oliver’s Regatta
  - Sailing Regatta
  - www.coyc-sxm.com

- **ST. THOMAS, US VIRGIN ISLANDS**
  - **JUNE 17 – 23**
  - International Optimist Regatta (IOR)
  - Sailing Regatta
  - www.styc.net

- **GUADELOUPE**
  - **MAY 8 – 12**
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After much hard work and enthusiasm by the students, volunteers, the St. Maarten Sailing School and the Kids at Sea Foundation, the St. Maarten Marine Trades Association’s ‘Build Your Future’ project was successfully launched in March on St. Maarten’s Kim Sha Beach in Simpson Bay. In attendance was the minister of education, Silveria Jacobs, and administrators from the participating schools and many cheerleaders. Students of the Caribbean International Academy, St. Dominic School, Milton Peters College, St. Maarten Academy (Vocational) and the Secondary Vocational Education SBO School all took to the water for two short and fun rowing races. Although the St Maarten Vocational boat was not quite ready for the launch, their team representative joined with another team to enjoy the fun.

Experiencing the event, SMMTA Vice President Lorraine Talmi said: “This initiative has gotten off to a great start, the kids are so excited, and the support from the community has been amazing. We hope this will build a love for the sea that will stay with the students long into their lives. It was fun to notice the on-water lessons of teamwork, as they learned the difficulty in steering a vessel through synchronized paddling. Some experienced a rather circular or zigzagged course; it didn’t seem to matter much, even though one team crossed the finish line first, all of the participants in Build Your Future came away winners!”

The next step of this initiative is to teach the students to sail the boats and organize frequent interscholastic, as well as inter-community, competitions.

The SMMTA worked hard to put the Build Your Future project in place and succeeded where similar schemes had failed. The initiative was made possible with the help of businesses, organizations and individuals who generously gave their time, expertise and financial support.

In a press release, the SMMTA thanked the marine mentors, the businesses and the local community as a whole for such overwhelming support. They also thanked the sponsors: Aqua Mania, Budget Marine, BWA Yachting, FKG Rigging, IGY Marinas, Island Water World, Kelmador Holding, the St. Maarten Harbor Group, The St. Maarten Sailing School, St. Maarten Sails and The Windward Islands Bank.

The release went on to thank the Ministry of Education and all others who pledged their support for the continuation of the project, which aims to teach the students different skills and open their eyes to the many opportunities in the marine industry both in terms of employment and recreation.

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TIME TO LAUNCH – 16 HOURS
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Earning a modest living while cruising the world has never been easier or more fun. The Internet has truly freed us. What is geo-location anymore? For many of us, it is a joke. “Anyone who still has to actually be somewhere—has missed the whole concept of cyberspace,” one shipboard cyber artist recently told me. “And having a physical address is so yesterday!”

It is true.

I do commercial writing for folks who have no idea I’m rolling around naked on a small boat in the Roaring Forties. I have a friend who codes computer games in his aft cabin, another who is the most respected actuarial (insurance life-span) number cruncher in London. (Well, not in London—but they don’t know he hangs in Musket Cove, Fiji.)

Teachers and tutors and coaches are all in demand. I write these words from Clarke’s Court Bay in Grenada. Within a short dinghy drive are exercise, yoga, cooking, and Tai Chi classes—all organized by for-profit, live-aboard instructors.

One woman aboard an American yacht is booking a dozen taxi tours a week—all for a fee, of course. (She advertises daily, without costs, on the 7:30 VHF net on Channel 66.)

... want to join a ‘friendly’ poker game? Wanna make it
more interesting? (Watch your wallet!)

Yachties love to learn stuff—and who knows this better than their fellow yachties? Have you always wanted to know how to take good quality underwater photos? Or how to play steel pans? How to cook the local dishes? Which road-side spice is which?

There’s a yachtie in Grenada who is willing to help—for a small ‘no receipt’ fee.

Why, there’s even a boring writer who will teach others how to write boring prose—for an exciting number of freedom chips.

My favorite ‘sailing professional’ was a balloon-twister from Australia—who dressed like a clown, twisted balloons, and was making money hand-over-fist!

Many yachties have TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) certificates—all the better to teach hardworking Asians, many of whom are desperate to learn English.

With the number of live-aboard children growing each year—so does the demand for sailing tutors. Many ‘former teachers’ have morphed into sailing tutors—laboring to keep the sailing Calvert kids on-track. (Tutors, of course, free up the parents as well.)

Yes, teachers have a lot of competition in LA, NYC, and Chicago—but in Chagos or the Tuamotus, not-so-much.

The Nimble Navigator teaches just that—we saw him grabbing handfuls of cash in both the Canaries and Sint Maarten this year. (He anchors his boat just in front of the local sailor’s bar—and word spreads fast that he’s in town.)

I was amused to discover the yacht Shoe String was owned by a former cobbler—who was now sailing on the money he earns from lacing kid glove leather to wheels, making custom turnbuckle covers, and creating other fancy rope-and-leather work aboard.

The number of professions that can be engaged in aboard is almost limitless. Barbi Devine (she is divine!) refused to stop teaching piano when her hubby lured her aboard their Whitby 42—which now has a state-of-the-art Roland piano built right in.

Ann Miller, the famous marine watercolorist, made her living off her art for many years—keeping the husband and three children busy wrapping and shipping her delicate work all over the world.

Floating jewelers abound. When I manufactured jewelry aboard Corina in the late 1960s—I couldn’t make it fast enough. So, if you wanted to buy an original Goodlander piece, you had to not only pay—but help make it! (At first, I thought my customers would balk—not so! They wanted to be a part of the coolest, silliest scene in Saugatuck, Michigan—and they were.)

We know a very well-known Caribbean sailor who is also a

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(less well-known) professional transvestite—who is constantly moaning about how difficult it is to keep his gowns nice. (He shock-cords them while on passage, so they don’t chafe.)

A lot of boaters earn in unusual ways. For instance, I just sold my Hughes 38 to a male stripper … who offered a check on the spot. We all know that you can’t learn in a day or two. (The diesel engine is, of course, another matter.)

There’s a ton of other, more traditional yachting jobs: I often survey boats for people—especially if they want a thumbs down! Yacht delivery jobs are often hired on a ‘who’s around’ basis—(often with horrible results).

Larry Pardey, of course, has worked as a ‘have saw & caulking mallet; will travel’ shipwright to finance his voyages. (Lin wields the pen, not the adze!)

Many copy editors, prose editors, and proofreaders are going mobile. One of the publications that I’ve worked with for many years—doesn’t really exist anywhere specific anymore. The editor is sailing in one country, the graphic designer is windsurfing in another, and the proofreader is kayaking in a third. No, the land-locked person mailing out the subscriptions has never met anyone they work for—and never will.

If large flourishing businesses don’t need a physical address—why do you?

Lots of yachts play music—for food, drinks, or cash money. Some work as buskers when broke—especially in New Zealand, where Kiwis like street musicians so much that they have an annual festival for them.

We know a number of sailing divers who supplement their cruising by collecting and selling tropical fish—the real secret here isn’t catching the fish, it’s logistically getting them to their buyer alive. (“I spend more time in airports than in the water,” lamented our friend.)

Much of Asia hasn’t gotten the memo there’s a worldwide recession—and are currently expanding their exports like crazy. This often means they need translators and proofreaders to produce their manuals—and they also need American-style models (for ads, videos, etc).

Often, Asian advertising companies seek Western models in marinas—which makes sense. We know two couples (handsome, mid-30s) who are refilling the cruising kitty in Hong Kong and Singapore by being both hardworking and photogenic.

We are also friends with a French dentist who travels to the more remote Pacific islands aboard his yacht—and gives high quality dental care five days a week to those who can afford it, and accepts fish and coconuts on the weekends for those who can’t.

There’s nothing on the electrical side of a marine generator that you can’t learn in a day or two. (The diesel engine is, of course, another matter.)

A growing number of floating repairmen specialize: one services a specific watermaker, another interfaces a certain type of NEMA instrument line, yet a third specializes in windlass rebuilds.

We’ve only run into one RIB (rigid inflatable boat) re-builder in our travels—but he was booked until the Second Coming.

My British sailing buddy Peter Thurlow of Antares fixes outboards as he wanders the Atlantic basin. I always thought that might be complicated and require a lot of tools and parts—but he disagrees. “Mostly, I drain the water out of carburetors,” he says. “Occasionally, something is really wrong—but 98% of the time, it is water in the carb!”

I used to swing compasses (with the WWII Astrocompass my father passed on to me) and adjust sextants—neither of which will make you rich today.

Right now, the hottest ‘handy man’ on the waterfront is the ‘marine refrigeration dude’ even if he’s only been on a boat once or twice. Ditto, gel-coat touch-uppers. (And for the record,—one of the most popular refrigeration repairmen is a she!)

If you’re handy with tools and want no competition, you can emulate my buddy Robin, the famous ‘Head Hunter’ of Florida—who reports his marine job stinks, even though he’s #1 in a #2 business!

Doing transom lettering isn’t such a stretch for many graphic artists—nor is hair-cutting.

One yacht-Addled ‘hair stylist’ in Opua, New Zealand, used to see a dozen customers a day behind the marina office—and make a fortune from the ladies. (Yes, good patter and a sympathetic ear are important.)

In essence, the ability to earn money while sailing around the world—is only limited by one’s imagination, grit, and sweat.

Some people, of course, bristle at the above. They think only professional people who have amassed sizable fortunes should be able circumnavigate—not the money-grubbing workers.

I respectfully disagree.

Yes, I’ve led a varied life. And, yes, I’ve done things I’m ashamed of—but working my way around the world isn’t one of them.

Editor’s note: Fatty and Carolyn Goodlander are enjoying their new Perkins M92B diesel, which, they assure me, is paid for!

Cap’n Fatty Goodlander has lived aboard for 52 of his 60 years, and has circumnavigated twice. He is the author of Chasing the Horizon and numerous other marine books. His latest, Buy, Outfit, and Sail is out now. Visit: fattygoodlander.com
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The world continues to be in dire straits economically, we are told. But this season the Virgin Islands charter boat industry has been booming. Charlie has never seen more boats in the anchorages and more and more folks are coming to learn how to sail and eventually go cruising. So is the economy not as bad as we are told or is it so bad that people are looking for a desirable alternative?

Jimmy Buffett is the champion of Caribbean escapism – he’s made a fortune at it. His message is that a change in latitude will bring a change in attitude. If life gets to be too much of a burden ‘Why Don’t We Get Drunk and Screw’ or how about a ‘Cheeseburger in Paradise’...?

Cheeseburger in Paradise actually relates to how Jimmy ran out of fresh food on a voyage to the BVI and subsisted on peanut butter and a few leftover cans. He started dreaming of that American iconic dish and when he finally tied up at the new Village Cay Marina (1978) in Road Town, he headed straight to the restaurant. “We gave particular instructions to the waiter on how we wanted them cooked and what we wanted on them – to which little attention was paid. It didn’t matter. The overdone burgers on the burned, toasted buns tasted like manna from heaven, for they were the realization of my fantasy burgers on the trip.” The song made him an international megastar.

Charlie remembers arriving in St Thomas in the early 70s. “It was paradise. The weather was warm, the sun shone nearly all the time, clothes and shoes were unnecessary, rum was cheap, the girls were easy and you could buy 25c cans of cold beer from vending machines. Not only that, the Caribbean work ethic was ‘laidback’. But the one essential item was a boat: a boat on which to live and a boat on which to sail. Hey, warm trade winds blow nearly all the time – from the same direction; the Caribbean is made for sailors.”

In the early 70s it was necessary to know navigation the traditional way – with compass, RDF and sextant. Nowadays, navigation is done for you with high-tech devices. To enjoy the boating life in the Caribbean today your expertise must change. It would be wise to know how to find and fix problems yourself because there are numerous gadgets, gorbles and gilhickies. If you have unlimited time and riches, you can get someone else to do it but that is a dubious option if you’re miles from anywhere.

If you’re a musician or budding songwriter perhaps you could take a leaf out of Jimmy Buffett’s book. Charlie has been racking his brain to find a potential hit song to make millions to finance his sailing lifestyle ... and he came up with: ‘Horsemeat Pattie, GM Pickle and High Fructose Ketchup’. Irresistible, eh? But just in case this doesn’t hit the No. 1 spot, he plans to find a rich and sexy first mate itching to spend her bulging bank account on their new life in paradise.

Charlie admits it may take a while!

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You might have heard the rumor that coral reefs are disappearing. I wish I could say it is just a bad rumor with no substantiation, but good science points otherwise. The reasons for global coral reef decline are complex, so let’s start with a basic primer on corals and then take a look at an area that has a long monitoring history.

Coral are animals that have a simple anatomy consisting of a cup shaped body with a central opening that is ringed by tentacles. The entire coral contains stinging cells called nematocysts and the whole thing is called a polyp. Corals can

Before: This brain coral has bleached due to high sea temperatures

PHOTO: CAROLINE ROGERS

After: This is the same coral that has recovered from bleaching – coral can recover from bleaching events if they are not severe and prolonged

PHOTO: ADAM GLAHN
be divided into two main types: hard and soft corals. Most corals have single-celled algae called zooxanthellae that live within the coral tissue. The coral and zooxanthellae enjoy a symbiotic relationship. Zooxanthellae ‘fix’ large amounts of carbon and sugars through photosynthesis, some of which are passed onto the coral. These chemicals are used for metabolic functions and to help the coral synthesize calcium carbonate for their skeleton. Zooxanthellae also give coral their colors. The coral in return provides protection as well as a nutrient rich environment for algae growth. The relationship with the zooxanthellae is vital to the survival of the coral. Coral reefs cannot exist the way we see them today without this relationship with the zooxanthellae. Although most of the coral’s energy comes from the zooxanthellae, corals do use their tentacles to feed upon plankton but mostly at night, when plankton is more abundant.

During the summer of 2005 the reef-depth water temperatures at the study sites at St. John and at Buck Island, St. Croix, hit a record high, peaking in September.

To better understand the decline of coral in the Virgin Islands National Park I spoke with Jeff Miller, a marine scientist with the National Park Service (NPS). Miller told me about a catastrophic coral die-off that began in 2005. During the summer of 2005 the reef-depth water temperatures at the study sites at St. John and at Buck Island, St. Croix, hit a record high, peaking in September. During that time, over 90% of the coral surveyed began bleaching. One degree above the summer maximum is enough to trigger coral bleaching.

When the coral is stressed (anomalies of temperature, salinity or increases in sedimentation or pollution) it can expel or digest the Zooxanthellae, causing the coral to turn white in a process called coral bleaching (recall the Zooxanthellae give the coral their color). As seawater temperatures have warmed, thermal induced bleaching has become more common, and while bleached corals are alive, prolonged bleaching can weaken corals, causing eventual mortality from energy deprivation or disease. The 20 years of NPS monitoring data has shown an increase in reef depth water temperature at study sites around the Virgin Islands National Park.

Coral can recover from bleaching events if they are not severe and prolonged. But bleaching events like in the northeast Caribbean in 2005 and the Southern Caribbean in 2010, with temperatures much warmer than normal for over a month, are often followed by outbreaks of
Coral reefs buffer our shorelines, but can only do that when the reefs are alive. Dead reefs crumble during storms and provide no protection for adjacent land.

coral disease. In the Virgin Islands, coral cover declined by over 60% following the 2005 bleaching and disease event. These losses reinforce that every living coral in the Caribbean is important and just a few degrees increase of sea temperature can have a profound effect upon coral reefs worldwide.

Rising sea temperature and coral bleaching are not the only significant threats to coral reefs; ocean acidification, carbon dioxide in the air, pollution, sedimentation, coastal development, destructive fishing practices, coral mining, ozone depletion and careless tourism all contribute to the global decline of coral reefs.

Coral reefs are so much more than pretty structures in the sea where colorful fish hang out. Many fish are spawned and fed in waters surrounding reefs. Coral reefs are home to more than one million diverse aquatic species, including thousands of fish species. These fish hold up the bottom of the food chain of the sea and may hold cures for medical maladies in humans. Losing reefs means losing those cures. Healthy seas and coral reefs generate billions of dollars through tourism and millions from commercial fishing. Coral reefs buffer our shorelines, but can only do that when the reefs are alive. Dead reefs crumble during storms and provide no protection for adjacent land, and fish go elsewhere. Ecosystems such as mangroves, which are the nurseries for many fish and other sea life, would be in jeopardy.

Devi Sharp is a retired wildlife biologist currently exploring the Caribbean with her husband, Hunter, on their sailboat Arctic Tern.

Jeff Miller is a fisheries biologist with the National Park Service, Inventory and Monitoring Program stationed in St. John, USVI. He is monitoring the effects of rising sea temperatures on coral.

Caroline Rogers is a Marine Ecologist with the USGS Caribbean Field Station in St. John, USVI, and has been conducting research and taking photos in the Virgin Islands since 1984.
WHAT YOU CAN DO:

DON’T ANCHOR IN AREAS WITH CORAL – this includes sand patches with small coral heads that might be in the way of the movement of your chain or rode.

DON’T TOUCH OR STEP ON CORAL WHEN YOU ARE SNORKELING OR DIVING. Watch your fins and don’t kick sand on the coral. Fasten your equipment and gauges so they don’t drag on the reef.

IN SENSITIVE AREAS, USE YOUR HOLDING TANK AND AVOID CLEANING THE BOTTOM OF YOUR BOAT which activates the antifouling paint and is toxic to fish and other sea life.

The following websites provide more information about threats to coral reefs:

http://www.coral.org/resources/about_coral_reefs/threats_to_coral_reefs

http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/kits/corals/coral09_humanthreats.html
This year’s 33rd running of the annual St. Maarten Heineken Regatta concluded in spectacular style, with scores of racing boats flying down the coast of St. Maarten on the final race from Marigot to Simpson Bay. It was classic Caribbean sailing, fueled by the pumping trade winds and conducted on turquoise seas flecked with whitecaps. And it’s precisely what the crews of the 203 boats entered in the event came looking for.

The usual stellar sailing conditions, however, weren’t the only reason there was a familiar feeling in the salty air. The final results also had an aura of déjà vu. And that’s because for the second time in three years the St. Maarten Cup, awarded to the team that records the ‘Most Worthy Performance Overall’, was presented to British Virgin Island skipper Mark Plaxton’s Melges 32, Team INTAC.

As they did when winning the ‘overall’ title in 2011, Plaxton’s crew dominated their class—the highly competitive CSA 8 division comprised almost entirely of Melges 32s and 24s—with four consecutive victories in the four-race series. The all-star team had a strong Virgin Islands contingent, including St. Thomas native Taylor Canfield, as well as Canadian Olympic sailor Richard Clarke. It was an especially successful week for the trio: with Canfield at the helm, they also won the Budget Marine Match Racing Cup that has become the kick-off event each year prior to the Heineken Regatta.

“I have an awesome crew, some of the best sailors in the world,” said Plaxton after receiving his trophy. “It’s a real pleasure to sail with them.”

Once again in 2013, the three-day event in early March began with the traditional round-the-island race. On the
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second day, most of the fleet sailed two races: a round-the-buoys contest and a point-to-point distance race to Marigot. The third and final day, starting on the windiest morning of the regatta, brought the competitors back to Simpson Bay.

As usual, the marquee division was CSA 1, and this year the Grand Prix class brought together two heavyweights—Jeremy Pilkington’s Baltic 78, Lupa of London, and Jan Rupert’s Tripp 75, Blackbird. The two boats came into the final day of racing with identical scores, setting up what became a tightly contested boat-to-boat match race. In a superb display of boat handling, at the end of the day Lupa fended off Blackbird for a well-earned triumph in the big-boat field.

One of the best things about the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta, however, is that it’s not merely a showcase for the grand dames of yacht racing. In fact, rarely has there been more diversity in the ranks. Yes, the ‘scratch boat’ in the fleet was an epic hundred-footer, Tomek Ulatowski’s Swan 100, Varsovie. But at the other end of the spectrum, sailing the most diminutive vessel on the water, was young Belgian skipper Dimitri Brouhns’ home-built 21-footer, Liberté. Brouhns spent 65-days crossing the Atlantic to race in St. Maarten, and perhaps fittingly, at the conclusion of the event, he was awarded the ‘Most Rum-worthy Performance’, naturally sponsored by Captain Morgan. Between these extremes, in another noteworthy performance, was a pair of mid-size boats—a Catalina 36, MoonDance, and
a Beneteau 30, Vanille—sailed by 10 youthful sailors from a St. Maarten high school, Milton Peters College. Thanks to an innovative scholarship program sponsored by the regatta, the St. Maarten Sailing School, and IGY Marinas, the Heineken Regatta rookies received extensive training before the event and made their competitive racing debut during it.

“We supported the project because it’s key to us to get the local community involved, especially the younger ones,” said Regatta Director Michele Korteweg. “Getting them to go sailing is more than we could have hoped for and hopefully their enthusiasm will be infectious and we will see more local kids sailing in the coming years.”

Another major story line for the 33rd Heineken Regatta was the exceptionally strong multihull fleet, with nearly thirty boats in five of the event’s 19 classes. It was one of the largest dedicated gatherings of catamarans and trimarans in the long history of Caribbean racing. Among the big winners were the Gunboat, Elvis, in Multihull 1, and Nils Erikson’s scorched Formula 40 cat, Soma, in Multihull 2.

For full results and more, visit: http://www.heinekenregatta.com

Herb McCormick is the senior editor of Cruising World magazine and has served as the press writer for the Heineken Regatta for five years.
It was make or break time on the third and final day of racing at the 40th International Rolex Regatta (IRR). Rick Wesslund, who pocketed a precision Rolex time-piece for his class win in CSA Racing 1 aboard his J/120, El Ocaso, summed up the fun: “After three days and six races total, it came down to the last race on the last day to determine the winner in our class. In the last race, we were in a dead heat with Lazy Dog. Sometimes we were in the lead, and other times they were. It was a real emotional roller coaster, but we just hung in there. We stayed on it and we won.”

The 72 boat international fleet revelled in the 12 to 15 knots of breeze under clear sunny skies. The one-design Melges 32 class and the one-design IC-24 class, along with the beach cats, all competed on their own one-design courses, while the rest of the fleet raced round-the-islands in Pillsbury Sound.

Youth triumphed in the Melges 32 class where 21-year-old Dalton DeVos, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, held his first day lead straight through to the finish aboard Delta. “Getting into clear lanes and around the top of the fleet first...”
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was the formula we used all three days. It worked,” says DeVos, who developed his love of sailing from his father, Doug DeVos, who took him sailing as a youngster aboard one-design 35s and 48s.

Kid-power prevailed in CSA Racing 2 where Saint Croix’s Jack Bishop, with a crew of 14 to17-year-old sailors aboard the J/100 Bad Girl took home the prize. “The boat was out of the water for a few years. The owner, Rob Armstrong, wanted to get it back in primarily so the kids could sail,” says Bishop, the lone adult who drove. “We finished the first and second days with a one point lead. Today, it was good crew work and staying out of the currents that paid off.”

A double bullet day secured the lead for the J/39, Crystal, in the CSA Non-Spinnaker class. “The first day we were in a three-way tie for first with Three Harkoms and Paladin,” explains Puerto Rico’s Jerome O’Neill, who skippered Crystal. “The second day, we won the only race of the day and it eked us into first. Our mission today was to cover Three Harkoms. We got another two firsts and that put the nail in their coffin.”

In the sleek-sailing IRC class, it was the UK’s Jeremy Pilkington’s Baltic 78, Lupa of London, which finished with a flawless series of six wins. “We’ve always cruised, but this season we decided to race,” says Pilkington. “We came to the Rolex because of its reputation, the prominence of the event, and good boats that put us through our paces.”

Puerto Rico’s Efrain ‘Fraito’ Lugo picked up his tenth Rolex timepiece. This year, it was in the IC-24 class. “The boats from Puerto Rico, and all the kids here, make this class really competitive,” says Lugo, who drives Orion.

“The first two races today we didn’t do too well and we lost our advantage. The last race we concentrated on doing all the right things like good starts, good crew work and boat speed.”

It was the father-and-son team of St. Thomas’ John and 14-year-old Kai Holmberg that championed the Beach Cat class aboard their Hobie 16, Humbug. “In the early 70s, when Rolex started, I was his (Kai’s) age doing the exact same thing,” explains John Holmberg. The duo has been sailing together since 2010, including representing the U.S. Virgin Islands at the Central American and Caribbean Games in 2010.

Lastly, the BVI’s Peter Haycraft was awarded the Commodore’s Trophy. Haycraft’s boats, including his current Sirena 38, Pipedream, have raced in all forty IRRs. “I have only raced 39,” says Haycraft, 80, who will retire from racing after next weekend’s BVI Spring Regatta & Sailing Festival. “My son, Chris, sailed the boat the year I didn’t and he won a Rolex. This regatta is always great fun.”

The St. Thomas Yacht Club-hosted IRR is the oldest regatta in Rolex’s portfolio of international sailing events and dates back to 1974.

For more information, results and video produced by T2P TV, visit: www.rolexcupregatta.com

Report by Carol M. Bareuther
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LIVING THE DREAM WINS GOLDEN HOOK CHALLENGE

BY CAROL M. BAREUTHER

Living the Dream proved they were the ‘Dream Team’ by winning the 20th Golden Hook Challenge, hosted by St. Croix’s Golden Hook Fishing Club, February 23 – 24. The 65ft Hatteras was the only one in the six boat tournament fleet to catch a billfish, two in fact, to triumph.

The Living the Dream team headed north and east of Buck Island on the first day when angler Matt Ridgway landed a blue marlin. The second day, they headed east and David Ziemer reeled in a rare short-billed spearfish. Both fish were tagged and released.

The fish were really biting; just not the right ones, explains David Johnson, owner and one of the captains aboard Living the Dream. “We were chasing birds and trying to stay on the outside of the mahi and tuna schools when we ended up getting too close and all of our gear went crazy with a triple header of mahi and separately a double header of tuna. Since we were in a billfish tournament, everyone was ribbing the anglers to hurry up and reel in the fish so that we could get back on the billfish!”

Secrets to Living the Dream’s success were preparation and a stacked crew of experience fishermen.

“Our captain, Austin Schneider, did an amazing job,” says Johnson. “A couple of crew members from St. Thomas – Dean ‘Rasta Dean’ Dunham and Captain Spike Herbert – were great to have on the boat. They not only helped us get the right gear and teach our anglers how to be successful when catching billfish, which is very different than other types of sport fish. We also learned a lot about tagging and conservation programs.”

Peter Chaibongsai, director of science and policy for the Ft. Lauderdale, FL-based billfish conservation group, The Billfish Foundation (TBF), traveled to St.
Croix for the tournament.

“We applaud clubs and tournaments that report all their billfish data and allow us to attend to create more awareness of billfish conservation,” says Chaibongsai. “Allowing locals to understand that their clubs and tournaments (big or small) are essential in voicing their sport fishing concerns in the Caribbean and providing valuable billfish data is one of the main goals for TBF.”

“We applaud clubs and tournaments that report all their billfish data and allow us to attend to create more awareness of billfish conservation”

At the awards ceremony, Robert Mackay was presented with a lifetime achievement award and granted lifetime membership in the Golden Hook Fishing Club. Mackay was a founding member of the Club, Board member and participated in every tournament, winning many of them aboard his 48ft Bertram, Leisure Lady.

For information, visit www.fishstx.com

Carol M. Bareuther, RD, is a St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands based marine writer and registered dietitian.
They don’t have passports or visas. They don’t clear customs and immigration. Yet they are welcomed like royalty and Hollywood celebrities everywhere they visit. In fact, there is hardly an island in the Caribbean that doesn’t pay homage to the blue marlin and its fellow billfish by way of hosting a tournament. Here is a sampling of upcoming sports fishing contests.

May 17: The 3rd Antigua and Barbuda Marlin Classic
Release the most or reel in the largest blue marlin over the 500lb minimum and win. In the spirit of conservation, if you bring a marlin back to the scales that weighs under 500lb, 500 points are deducted from your score. The tag and release of other billfish species earns 200 points apiece. Entry fee is $1,000 per team. The winner pockets a trophy plus 80 percent of the entry fees. Skipper’s briefing on May 16 at 7pm in Nelson’s Dockyard. www.antiguabarbadasportfishing.com

May 18 - 19: The 47th Antigua and Barbuda Sport Fishing Tournament
Some 40 sports fishing boats from Antigua, Guadeloupe and St. Maarten will compete for nearly US $15,000 in cash, trophies and sponsored gifts. There’s a Marlin Division for billfish and Sporting Division for tuna, wahoo, dolphin and kingfish. “There’s a family atmosphere,” says organizer Alison Sly-Adams. “The location in Nelson’s Dockyard, where all the boats are anchored stern-to, means you can go straight from your boat to the bar and excellent seafood.” www.antiguabarbadasportfishing.com
May 28 - June 3: International Cap Cana Billfish Shootout
Last year 17 boats released 106 whites, 17 blues and a sailfish in three days of fishing. Double the entries are expected this year. Teams can fish in one of two divisions: The Chivas Regal Division has its set of team and individual angler awards for boats participating in the Calcuttas, while the Brugal Rum Division is similar but with no money. This is the first leg of the Spanish Main Series. www.intlbillfishtours.com

June 4 - 8: St. Martin Billfish Tournament
New - the tournament returns to Marina Fort Louis, the minimum weight to land a blue marlin is raised to 400lb in the interest of conservation, and first-ever fun categories for largest tuna, dolphin and wahoo are added. Forty entries are expected. Over $100,000 in cash and prizes awarded. www.billfish-tournament.com

July 19 - 21: The 50th July Open Billfish Tournament
“Entries are limited to the first 25 boats so we encourage all anglers to register online as soon as possible,” says tournament director, Jeffrey Kreiner. “The early bird special of $3800 is for entries made by July 1st 2013. After that, it will be $4000. This is the July full moon and the fish should be biting in large numbers. There will be an extra-large monetary prize this year in honor of our 50th Anniversary.” www.vigfc.com

August 14 - 15: The BVI Open
Leg 2 of the Spanish Main Series (SMS) is a two-day tournament up to the Bitter End Yacht Club, in Virgin Gorda, and back. At BEYC, fishermen will enjoy a steak and lobster dinner. The SMS is scheduled at the same time as the ‘Fish for Haiti’ tournament, so boat owners can contribute to this beneficiary, if they desire. Boats that fish both tournaments get 25 percent off entry fee. www.abmt.vi

August 18 - 22: USVI Open/Atlantic Blue Marlin Tournament
New – the ‘Super Bowl of Sports Fishing’, also known as the ‘Boy Scout Tournament’ for the event’s chief beneficiary,
Fishing

hosts its inaugural Marlin Fest. “Fun week-long vacation packages are now being created,” explains tournament director Jimmy Loveland. Twenty to thirty boats are expected to compete for cash, prizes and bragging rights. This is also Leg 3 and the finale of the Spanish Main Series. www.abmt.vi

September 15 - 21: Club Nautico de San Juan’s International Billfish Tournament (IBT)
Celebrate the tournaments 60th Anniversary with a special offer: pay for two and the third team member is Free! The IBT is an all-inclusive tournament. Offer good until July 31. “We invite you to enter our event that last year broke its own record with 102 releases in four fishing days, an average of 2.5 releases per boat,” invites chairman, Miguel Donato. “Satellite information on water temperature and currents are proving to be a great guide!” www.sanjuaninternational.com

September 30 - October 4: Saint Lucia International Billfish Tournament
In addition to fishing fun offshore, new this year is a Fishing Expo during tournament week that will include a Kids Fun Fishing Day, IGFA observer course, workshops, and the first annual Miss Billfish St. Lucia Bikini Contest. “Prizes include a vehicle for the angler who breaks the island’s blue marlin record of 707lb by 1lb,” says tournament director, Annie Hamu. “Other prizes include reels, rods, clothing, fishing gear, trophies and cash, cash, cash.” www.billfishstlucia.com

October 5 - 12: The 50th Port Antonio International Marlin Tournament
Nearly 40 boats with teams already confirmed from Jamaica, Haiti, Barbados, Canada, Florida, France and Holland are expected to fish this Golden anniversary. “We have 30 trophy categories including an invitation to the 2014 World Offshore Championships in Costa Rica,” says Dr. Ron DuQuesnay, chair of the Sir Henry Morgan Angling Association. Total prizes are valued at US $15,000. www.jamaicasportsfishing.com

October 26: Nevis Sport Fish Tournament
Twenty-five boats from St. Maarten, Antigua, St. Barths, Saba, St. Croix and Montserrat will compete for prizes such as cash and sponsored gifts in kingfish, tuna, dolphin and wahoo categories. Captain Clivin Christmas, aboard the 31ft Blackfin, has won eight times and is the boat to beat! www.nevisyachtclub.com

Carol M. Bareuther, RD, is a St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands based marine writer and registered dietitian.
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The sparkling Rio Dulce (Sweet River) may not be the longest river in Guatemala but it is arguably the most famous amongst cruisers and the sweetest of them all, with no pollution from heavy industry, just clean fresh water. This makes it an ideal habitat for a myriad of different wildlife and vegetation and of course a great, protected cruising ground for sailors.

Spanning a distance of 26-miles, the Rio Dulce begins at Lake Izabel, the largest body of fresh water in Guatemala. On the lake’s north shore is El Finca, a working ranch. Strolling through the verdant pastures and meadows you come to a 12-meter high Agua Caliente (hot water) waterfall where you can bathe in the cool water of the river while the warm water of the springs pour down on you from above.

To the east of the lake, the Rio Dulce is guarded by El Castillo de San Filipe, which was built in 1652 to protect against pirates entering this part of Central America, an important staging point for ships at that time. In 1686 the fortress was captured and burned, by the turn of the next century the fort was used as a prison. Later restored and protected, the fortress now forms part of a park.

As the river flows out of Lake Izabel it narrows and the sister towns of El Rellenos, to the south, and the slightly larger town of Fronteras, to the north, can be found on either side. Fronteras is a vibrantly shabby town where street vendors sell their wares on the dusty road. Colorful vegetable markets arouse your senses and a plethora of small tiendas (stores), selling an assortment of odd items,
will cover most of your needs. The town also boasts a reasonable hardware store and good supermarket. Traditionally dressed Mayan women going about their daily business adorn the streets. The towns are linked by one of the largest bridges in Central America designed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. These towns have the only access roads, thus many waterfront properties along the river have a dock and a boat attached. The preferred mode of transport is boat rather than bus. Mayan women and children wash clothes at the river’s edge and surly men fish with hand-lines under the bridge. Fast launches (pirogues) jet about carrying people across the river.

From here, small hotels and some of the most reasonably priced marinas in Central America dot the shoreline as the river runs northeast. Eventually, the river opens into El Golfete (The Little Gulf), a ten-mile long stretch of bay, past the luxurious villas of Guatemala’s oligarchy and home to a dwindling manatee population with less than 100 now thought to be inhabiting the waters. These great aquatic creatures are protected by Chocón Machacas Biotope (protected nature reserve) on the northeast corner of the bay where the 186-square-kilometer park, run by CECON, have waterways through several jungle lagoons as well as a nature trail running through the park and its protected forests.

The river then twists and turns past sulphur springs and through spectacular scenery, which over millennia has carved its way through the mountains leaving behind the deep gorges. These magnificent lime-scale cliffs are bordered by thick walls of dense tropical jungle. Mayans paddle below in wooden Cayucos to a cacophony of tropical bird song and the screech of howler monkeys in the lofty vines above. Names carved into the lime-scale cliffs from centuries ago still leave their mark today.

The Rio Dulce now flows into the Bahia De Amatique (Honduras Bay) and into the Caribbean Sea where you come across the town of Livingstone and the only Garifuna settlement in Guatemala. Local cafes and restaurants give the place a laidback feel—where not much goes on. This colorful town is the gateway between the river and the Caribbean and can only be accessed by boat. The sandbar at the entrance to the Rio, with depths of 6-7ft at MHWS, limits the number of boats that enter, making it even more appealing to visit.

For more information about the Rio Dulce and what it has to offer, visit: www.mayaparadise.com and www.riodulcechisme.com

Rosie and her husband Sim Hoggarth, both from the UK, have cruised the Caribbean and North America for the last seven years on Alianna their Corbin39.
In the first two parts of this amazing adventure, Thomas and his family sail south aboard their old Puerto Rican fishing boat Oasis. The plan is to reach Brazil before Thomas' wife Christina gives birth to their second child. Heavily pregnant and suffering from constant seasickness, Christina asks her husband to change course for British Guyana. Thomas agrees and they sail on …

Gaston was quite seasick at first but got used to it by degrees, sleeping a lot and playing with his Lego or looking at pictures in his books. The rule on board for safety is he must remain inside as soon as the anchor is up, although he can sit on the first step with his head out to look around.

On the fifth day, we came across vast mats of Sargassum and saw an unusual amount of sea life, which made me check the still empty fishing line often. Eventually, I pulled it in and it had broken; a fish had obviously been caught but must have been too big for 60lb line. I must admit I have never had much luck with fishing.

On two different days we had periods of very light wind, so light that the mainsail would slat annoyingly with the rolls. This is unusual on Oasis since she has a generous amount of sail and the big keel damps down the rolling very effectively. About halfway, the familiar and gorgeous deep blue gave way to a duller green color. As we sailed through whorls on the edge of the North Brazil current, the blue returned for a day—although not as deep as normal—and then it was back to green.

This also marked the transition to the zone of stronger current, regularly reaching two-and-a-half knots, which would therefore set me downwind up to 60-miles a day, but more usually about 50.

As the days went by my wife started acclimatizing somewhat and when the waves were calmer she would even go outside for some fresh air in the afternoon. But still, she was definitely rather impatient for our arrival. She would anxiously await the noon sight when I would quantify the previous 24-hours’ progress and would ask me over and over how much longer it might be. I would say that the current was stronger than I had thought, or that it was hard to estimate, because I can’t guess what the wind will do tomorrow, or I would just say we’ll get there when we get there, stop asking me that!
On the 23rd of April, we were getting very close, the water had turned a light brown color, and I eased the sheets slightly. The boat roared ahead, in between and through squalls. We were fast approaching land! I took sight after sight to get as accurate a position as possible. I started taking soundings. Eventually the lead struck bottom. We had around 12-meters of water, and still no sight of land …! River mouths can be extremely treacherous places and more so when the land is so flat that you have to get very close before being able to verify your position with landmarks.

The sun was starting to sink and I kept on putting reefs in and taking them out, in response to the many squalls, whilst trying to go as fast as possible. Eventually, land ho! A thin, grey strip hardly visible at first and then quite quickly resolving into an unbroken stretch of trees disappearing into the distance in both directions. Oh, to get inside the river before nightfall!

This river mouth is vast, and it took another two hours before I could just make out the other bank. There was the lighthouse and, by now, in the fast fading light, I could count the flashes and sure enough we were right where I had calculated. On and on I pushed, in six and seven meters of water until it became quite dark and I figured we might as well throw in the hook for the night.

We spent quite a rough night anchored at the entrance in the middle of this immense estuary, with the current against the wind creating small breakers which would, periodically, wash right over the boat.

At dawn I set sail and we came across a fishing boat called Natureza and I passed very close so I could ask in Portuguese the state of the tide. We carried on for two more hours and every time I took a sounding it came as six meters, so I started becoming a bit nonchalant and only sounded every ten minutes. Suddenly, we went aground! And the tide had started to ebb already. I tried and tried to break us free but after five minutes it became clear that we would dry.

A couple of fishing boats came to satisfy their curiosity and they waded across the sand bar and gave us a visit. I asked for as much information as possible in Portuguese regarding the channel up river. Christina eventually looked at me and I knew she had finally figured it out; we had never been sailing to British Guyana, we had arrived in Brazil after all!

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Two Thousand Miles to Brazil: Part III

No wonder it took two weeks to sail here. It took us another five days to travel with the tides up the Oiapoque River to the town of Oiapoque. The current runs generally at about four knots. The entire way is completely deserted, apart from three tiny Indian settlements of hardly 50 people. The rest is all just towering Amazonian jungle rising straight out of the water on both sides, harboring millions of colorful parrots and red ibis. There was also the eerie call of the howler monkeys, which sound a bit like the wind in a powerful hurricane. Every day we would see a dozen or more fishing boats and canoes going out to fish or returning with their catch. Towards the end, the rising tide becomes rather weak and does not last long, so I got a fishing canoe to tow us the last few miles.

Oiapoque is a bustling fishing town of 50,000 people, with shops everywhere selling everything and anything, making quite a contrast with the quiet solitude of the river. Oiapoque nets over 3000 tons of fish a month, most of which gets trucked all the way to the booming state capital of Macapá.

Early on May 1st, our third day in Oiapoque, my wife woke me up and said, “I can feel the baby coming now.” After several hours of increasingly frequent and strong contractions, she decided to go outside. I hung some sheets from the boom to preserve her privacy. She alternated between standing and squatting to help push. After an hour more, at around eight o’clock in the morning, the baby was born to the sound of applause from the neighboring fishing boat.

We gave him the appropriately Brazilian name of Lucio and got him his birth certificate straight away.

So it all worked out in the end; we are now four, looking forward to our new life in beautiful Brazil. And apparently, sailing from the Caribbean to Brazil is perfectly possible after all!

Editor’s note: You can read all three parts of this amazing adventure online by going to www.allatsea.com

Thomas Tangvald is a naval engineer and is sailing with his wife and boys to where he can settle down and set up an office and workshop.
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The Renaissance Marina, located in the heart of Oranjestad is part of the Renaissance Aruba Resort and Casino and can accommodate more than 50 yachts. Located at 12°31’ N and 70°02’ W, Renaissance Marina is the island’s most beautiful marina, part of the Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino, it stretches over much of this picturesque waterfront community combining the largest entertainment and shopping facility in Aruba with the natural beauty of the Marina. Renaissance Marina can accommodate yachts up to 200’. The marina supplies fresh running water and 110/220/360V 60Hz electricity, satellite TV with security guards on duty 24 hours a day.
Experience matters ...

This is the perfect time to Refit, Upgrade, Fix or simply place your beloved boat into hibernation for the hurricane season. Who are you going to trust to take care of your prized possession?

Take a moment ... The selection of a boatyard to meet your needs and exceed your expectations can be a daunting challenge.

We’re making the choice easy for you. Here’s a spotlight on several of the Top Boatyards in the Caribbean.

This special section will provide an inside look at their capabilities and help you create a relationship to get the job done.

We welcome recommendations for yards to include in next year’s edition!
BOBBY’S MEGAYARD
Sint Maarten

The Megayard in Sint Maarten has been open now for 3 years and is located in Cole Bay across the lagoon from Simpson Bay yacht Club. This branch has 2 Travelifts: a 150 metric ton (165 US ton) machine that can haul vessels up to 33 feet wide and a second machine of 75 tons for the smaller sailboats. This machine can accommodate a 19 foot wide vessel.

This Yard has 24 hour security guard and a 3 meter security wall surrounding the yard with night security lighting. In near proximity to the yard all within walking distance are a full array of the best vendors of marine parts and equipment in the Caribbean. In addition to this there is a full selection of vendors supplying all the services one might need performed from sail makers to rigging, welding, mechanical, refrigeration and electrical all within easy walking distance of the Megayard.

There is a second location of the Megayard alongside the airport. This yard has a 50 ton Travelift for the smaller vessels here we accommodate the vessels that wish to stay out longer and allow long term live aboard customers, while this yard has a security fence and lighting there is no security guard on duty. At both the facilities professional assistance is available to solve your boating problems and we have an array of subcontractors that can assist with any work needed to be performed from welding to electrical.

The Megayard is experienced at doing your bottom painting and as we use environmentally friendly dustless sanders we do all work below the waterline without any dust. We offer very competitive pricing and estimates are available upon request for the sanding and painting of the bottom.

As we here in Sint Maarten are in the hurricane belt we of course offer hurricane storage this is between the months of June to November inclusive this is a very popular service and early booking is essential. The boats are chocked and cross braced for security with the masts of keel boats removed as a precaution, many owners take the opportunity to inspect both rigging and mast at this time. Catamarans are offered hurricane concrete hold down blocks and are chocked both forward and aft to prevent any movement during a storm.

We at the Megayard feel that we will offer you our customer a satisfying and professional stay in our yard and we look forward to being of service to you.

Bobby’s MegaYard
Bobby’s MegaYard • P.O. Box 8252, Wellsburg Road, Cole Bay, Sint Maarten
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When Curacao Marine started in 1998 there were few or no yachting maintenance-, repair or storage facilities on the Caribbean island of Curacao. In just a couple of years, due to Curacao’s ideal location outside the hurricane belt, Curacao Marine grew to become the biggest yard in the lesser Caribbean.

The Southern Caribbean island of Curacao is situated in front of the coast of Venezuela and is part of the Lesser Antillean islands, Aruba and Bonaire. Because of this southern Caribbean location the island enjoys a very quiet Hurricane Season. Besides having a stable economy, a great climate and an international airport, being “hurricane safe” is still the main reason why Curacao has been getting more and more hurricane layovers than any other island.

Curacao has great restaurants bars and supermarkets. As a tourist you will find everything you are used to when doing groceries or going out. The island has very nice beaches and a big sheltered lagoon called “Spanish Waters.”

Curacao Marine hauls yachts with a specially designed 38 T trailer by Roodberg. This allows Curacao Marine to do the job with precision and care. Multihulls are not a problem. The trailer extends to the width and length of your yacht or multihull. The large soft pads make sure that your hull will not experience any damage or stress during the haul out.

At the end of 2013 Curacao Marine will raise their haul out capacity to 60 tons.

Curacao Marine now offers 122 dry storage spaces and 45 marina slips for yachts 30 to 100+ ft. Over time the team expanded and more and more skilled and experienced personnel were hired to increase quality and service.

Some of our services include hull repair and maintenance, dry storage, stainless steel welding, specialty wood work, diesel engine maintenance and repair.

We recently opened our Spray Cabin where we spray paint yachts up to 60ft in an enclosed environment.

We would like to invite you to visit us THIS year. Curacao Marine ensures you a great time. For special Hurricane season offers please visit our site, www.curacaomarine.com or like us on facebook.
Grenada Marine is a full service boatyard providing international standards of service in yacht storage, repair and maintenance. The boatyard is located on Grenada’s southeast coast, in the parish of St. David, and occupies ten acres of beachfront that embraces the well-protected St. David’s Harbour.

Grenada Marine offers a range of services: Osmosis Treatments, Composite/Exotic Material Fabrication & Repair, Topside Paint & Finishing, Marine Woodwork, Rigging, Mechanical, Marine Systems (Electrical, Electronic, HVAC), Metalwork & Fabrication, Brightwork and Antifoul Application. The yard is a certified Awl-Grip & AwlCraft and Seahawk application center. Onsite there is an Island Water World store and a Turbulence Sails loft and canvas shop. The boatyard is a sales and service agency for a number of premium parts and equipment such as Volvo Penta, Raymarine, Yanmar, Northern Lights, Mastervolt, Dessalator, GMPCS, Dometic, Maspower, Cristec, Balmar, Seatalk, Navionics and many others.

The boatyard currently provides hurricane storage for approximately 250 yachts. The yard hauls and launches vessels using a custom-designed Marine Travelift hoist, which makes them unique among boatyards in Grenada and the lower Caribbean. The Grenada Marine hoist has a capacity of 70 tons and accommodates multi-hulls as wide as 31.5’. On land a Marine Travelift transporter is used to park a variety of boats, some up to 60 tons, in a safe and space-efficient manner. The draft of the travelift slip is 12’ at high tide. Recent facility upgrades include construction of a new floating dinghy dock and three stern-to service berths complete with utilities. The yard is fenced and gated with 24-hour security. There is a restaurant and beach bar, showers and toilets, laundry facilities, diesel pump and free wifi.

Apart from world-class technical work produced, Grenada Marine has developed a reputation for stellar customer service. The staff of 90, headed by Yard Manager Jason Fletcher, provides pleasant and helpful support to their guests and customers, in a warm and welcoming manner. Grenada is known for being a safe and friendly island and the employees at Grenada Marine are no exception.

Whether you are looking for summer storage, a topside re-spray, a simple bottom job, re-powering or a complete refit, Grenada Marine is the ideal choice for you. As the tagline says We love boats! And it shows.
Finally, a full-service yard capable of drying yachts of any size has arrived in the heart of the Caribbean. Between its facilities in Guadeloupe and Martinique, IMM brings European quality refit and repair to yachts of all sizes. In Guadeloupe, International Marine Management has a new 45-meter floating capable of drying yachts up to 700 tons, 50 meters in length, and 20 meters beam. In Martinique, IMM is able to dry even the largest yachts with a dry dock that is 180 meters long, 23.5 meters wide, with a draft of 7.6 meters. IMM will manage all works on board, working with some of the most well known European contractors as well as local resources. IMM can assist with all technical issues... whether it be emergency repairs or planned technical stops, full paintwork, etc. With experienced and knowledgeable teams available in all areas of technical works, IMM is truly a complete technical solution.

With its significant quay space available in Guadeloupe and Martinique (depth of 8 meters), IMM also provides afloat repairs for yachts of any size.

IMM has been operating in the yacht refit market for many years in Europe, and has now arrived in the Caribbean. Fabrice Maitre, the manager of IMM, has in the last several years supervised refits of 96 and 126 meter yachts on the Atlantic coast of France, and in Marseille, along with numerous other refits on yachts between 55 and 90 meters in France and the Caribbean. Fabrice himself manages IMM's technical operations in Martinique and Guadeloupe.

IMM has successfully treated numerous yachts both in and out of the water in Guadeloupe and Martinique. These jobs are completed on time, on budget, and to the full satisfaction of the Captain and Crew. In Martinique, the Captain of a 75-meter yacht in dry dock for a technical stop, stated that the Martinique Dry Dock was “clean, efficient and well presented, and as good as [they] had experienced in any location,” and that “all phases of the project went smoothly,” with the entire project being completed “on time, within budget.” IMM’s team is available for you 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

International Marine Management • Contacts: Fabrice Maitre and Norina Edelman
Tel: +(590)(0)690 418641 • Tel: +1 202 255 7488 • Tel: +(33) (0)624750186
Email: nedelman@imm-yachting.com • Email: fmaitre@imm-yachting.com • Website: www.imm-yachting.com
Professional Awlgrip® paint applications. Specialized electrical installations. Custom fiberglass fabrication. Experienced marine carpenters. Solid welding work. These are just a few of the services that bring boaters from throughout the Caribbean and beyond to our master yacht facility at Island Marine, Inc. located in Puerto Del Rey Marina. After building advanced composite racing sailboats for ten years in New England and providing consistent quality service for 24 years in the Caribbean, Island Marine, Inc. has developed a professional philosophy that we put into practice on every yacht. Our team of 15 craftsmen is ready to deliver the kind of quality service every boat owner deserves, from dinghies to megayachts.

Power or sail, mono or multihull, we can haul and repair or refit a variety of vessels up to 125 L.O.A. With access to three Travelifts, including a 165-ton with a 32-foot beam, 77-ton with 23-beam and 35-ton with 17-foot beam, the options are endless.

Our paint crews have been applying Awlgrip products for more than 30 years. Our painting experience includes complete paint works on a 110ft Cantieri de Pisa and a 105ft Hatteras motor yacht.

The technicians at Island Marine have installed Atlas and ASEA frequency conversion systems.

We install large and small main engines, as well as, large and small gensets.

Island Marine, Inc. has been installing and servicing bow thrusters and stabilizers from American Bow Thruster for nearly twenty years. We service Sidepower and Wesmar systems as well.

Our experienced carpenters take raw lumber and craft custom cabinets and interiors to your design. Our fiberglass technicians are limited only by your imagination when it comes to custom designed and built components. Our most recent creation being the custom hardtop on board “La Buscadora” of Tortola which was delivered last fall.

Island Marine, Inc. now offers that latest technology in anti-fouling removal with the purchase a mobile HVLP wet blasting system. This advanced blasting system removes anti-fouling from gelcoat, steel, or aluminum and leaves behind the perfect profile for barrier coat and new paint application. Not only is the system fast and effective, it’s environmentally friendly using a blasting media that contains no heavy metals or silica.

If you need basic annual maintenance, a complete refit or maybe something in between, you’re in capable hands at Island Marine, Inc. Located on the East coast of Puerto Rico in Puerto Del Rey Marina.
Nanny Cay's full-service boatyard currently has storage for 230 yachts but is in the last stages of expanding the boatyard by approximately two acres allowing for the additional storage of the equivalent of 50 catamarans.

The boatyard is accessed via Nanny Cay's naturally sheltered marina with berths for 180 yachts and high-speed fuel dock. In the Summer of 2012, five new superyacht berths, each capable of taking yachts up to 40 metres in length, were installed by Walcon.

Nanny Cay has two boat lifts: one is a conventional Acme Marine Hoist capable of lifting monohulls up to 68 feet long, 10 feet draft and weighing up to 50 tons; the other is a wide-body Marine Travelift, capable of lifting and moving catamarans up to 32’ beam and 70 tons in weight.

Nanny Cay offers a highly secure ‘Yacht Leg & Cradle Company’ cradle storage system for monohulls that earned it status as an approved hurricane storage facility by Pantaenius, one of the world’s leading insurer of luxury yachts. Nanny Cay also has 80 cradles for catamarans and every catamaran stored in the boatyard is secured with four five-foot sand screws.

Wide ranging on-site services include shipwrights, fiberglass and Awlgrip experts; yacht fitting; technical, electrical and mechanical marine engineering services; yacht surveying; rigging, and a sail loft.

Equally, boatyard guests are able to stay onboard, undertake their own maintenance work, and use the marina bathroom and shower facilities. Nanny Cay also has hotels rooms and offers 20% discount to boatyard guests.

Amenities for boatyard and marina guests include: 120/220V electricity with 100% site-wide backup power; luxury shower facilities and restrooms; potable water and ice from Nanny Cay’s own R/O plant; free garbage disposal; laundry; free WiFi internet access; provisioning store; yacht sales; yacht management.

Nanny Cay also recently installed a waste oil storage unit with 64 square foot containers and emergency trap.

Nanny Cay also operates a 2,800 square foot Budget Marine Chandlery which has over 6,000 products in stock and a special order service. Nanny Cay is the BVI dealer for AB Inflatables and Tohatsu outboards.

In March 2013, construction started on a new commercial building in the corner of the boatyard behind the supermarket. It will be a two-storey, 80 by 40 foot steel framed structure. The ground floor will be used for commercial and retail space while lockers will be upstairs. Cay Electronics will be moving from Road Town into this new building.
With a 150-ton travel lift and storage capability for over 350 boats, we have handled luxury sailing and motor yachts, racing maxis, survey vessels and heavy-duty tugs. We also cater to craft up to 31-foot beam. We have taken equal care and pleasure in looking after a 16-foot sloop that sailed around the world three times.

Our secure, beautifully landscaped yard is situated in the Chaguaramas National Park in the lush north-west peninsula of Trinidad. We are located at 10 degrees 41 minutes north latitude, which places us below the hurricane belt.

From antifouling to woodworking to boat building, we offer a vast range of on-site services that cater to all your boating needs.

If you’re interested in selling your boat or perhaps buying another, our brokerage can help you. We can find the right person for your boat or the right boat for you. If the boat of your dreams is not on our list, we can help you find it.

After a hard day’s work, you can relax on the terrace of our ocean-view restaurant for a drink or a delicious meal. Need a good night’s rest? You can check into our hotel for air conditioned comfort and a worry free stay.

We hope to have the opportunity of looking after your boat and making your stay with us as satisfying as possible. We invite you to email us your questions, comments or suggestions. We would be happy to hear from you!

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Spice Island Marine Services, Grenada, has been in operation in the south of the island for almost 30 years. We offer complete yacht refurbishing and major fiberglass repair work. Our team of employees pride themselves in making sure our valued customers are completely satisfied with any job done.

Glyn “Junior” Evans is the Managing Director of the Company and has a very hands on approach with the staff and customers. His open door policy is welcomed by customers and staff alike.

Our top team members have been with Spice Island Marine Services for over 20 years. Michael “Micey” Scott, our chief Travelift Operator, has been with the Company since its inception. Franklyn “Frankie” Williams is our Yard Supervisor and specializes in Awlgrip work. Annabelle Belmar, our Office Manager, runs the day to day business of the Company and is the go-to person whenever there is a problem. Annabelle, or Annie as she is known, started working with Spice Island Marine Services a year after it opened and is knowledgeable in all aspects of the business. Other team members include Hilton “Snaggy” Snagg, who oversees the organizing of the yard and has been with the Company for many years. Susie Grey, our friendly Customer Services Person handles most of the communications and reservations and Solomon Jeremiah, who is not only the Company Driver but also the Company Broker and is always willing to help with whatever he can.

Budget Marine, Grenada, has a large chandlery on our premises and there are various Contractors operating out of the Spice Island Marine Services. Turbulence Sails, TechNik and De Big Fish all contribute to making this a full yacht service facility.

In addition, we offer free wi-fi to our customers ashore and there are washers and dryers, bathroom facilities and ice and 24-hour security. Transport to and from the airport is easily arranged and there are budget-friendly accommodation options nearby. Shopping, restaurants, supermarkets, the airport, beaches, etc are very accessible as we are less than 5 minutes to the bus routes.
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Our facility boasts two floating drydocks - 350 Tons and 1,000 Tons! We are also home to a full service machine shop and welding shop. We can handle anything from a simple spot weld to a full custom fabrication project.

We carry the largest inventory of stainless steel and aluminum on the island, and have a full service rigging shop and sail loft on premises. Carpentry, fiberglass and carbon fiber work are all within our areas of expertise. We can also machine shafts up to 12” and perform engine alignments.

We can provide you with a list of references, local accommodations, and other marine specialists. Call or email today to request a quote for your next haulout.

**Location**

Subbase Drydock is located on the south side of St. Thomas in the area known as “Subbase.” We are adjacent to the Crown Bay cruise ship terminal and have deep water approaches. Our 1,000 ton and 350 ton drydocks can handle large yachts and vessels.

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We carry a wide variety of paint products including Ameron, Micron and SeaHawk. Need something special? We can order it and arrange shipping for you.

We work closely with a variety of vendors and can get most standard items on island within three days. What can’t be ordered can often be fabricated in our full service machine shop.
You can relax, knowing that your boat is protected. The ‘Hurricane Pitt’ boat service at the Virgin Gorda Yacht Harbour, is a signature, insurance approved, boat protection system and is the best offer for boat storage. Over the years, many of our customers have repeatedly used this service and they continue to show extreme satisfaction with it by their continued patronage. Some have been using this service since 1983 and swear to its effectiveness. Due to the location of the ‘Hurricane Pits’ on the west side of Spanish Town, you will receive the benefit of a reef located approximately 400 feet in front of the shore line, which acts as an additional barrier providing extra protection during adverse weather.

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RECORD ATTENDANCE AT CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW

BY CAROL M. BAREUTHER

There was something for everyone at the 2nd Chrysler Caribbean International Boat Show (CIBS), held at Puerto Rico’s Puerto del Rey Marina, March 8-10. Over 14,000 avid boaters from the Caribbean and U.S. came to check out the array of extraordinary yachts and nautical products at the largest boat show in the Caribbean.

“Puerto Rico has an opportunity to promote itself through this event as the premier nautical destination in the Caribbean, providing an opportunity for international visitors and buyers to explore and see everything the island has to offer,” says Arturo Guzmán, chief executive officer and producer of the AG Group, which orchestrated the event.

Roger Casellas, of Yacht Center of the Caribbean Inc., which represents Bertram Yachts, Maritimo, and F&S Boatworks, says, “Puerto Rico and the Caribbean International Boat Show should be the hub for the Caribbean as well as parts for Latin America. We are seeing more manufacturer presence and support to the local vendors.”

The chance to advertise, reach new customers, showcase new and pre-owned yachts and support the boating industry and economy of Puerto Rico are reasons why Carli Rodriguez, of CRF Yacht Sales, who represents brands such as Viking, Princess, Edgewater, Silvertone, Davis and Egg Harbor, participated in the show. “The benefits of buying a boat in Puerto Rico are that the boats are well kept and available at good prices.”

Pluses for CIBS attendees are the opportunity to see the latest models, both power and sail, without having to travel all the way to the U.S. or Europe.

Jim Veiga, of Atlas Yacht Sales, illustrates this with the brands he represents. “Lagoon and Jeanneau are constantly innovating and coming out with amazing models at incredibly reasonable prices. Prestige is a pretty new line of motor yacht that is having incredible success in Europe. Prestige Yachts are very stylish and have performance and comfort features that you just don’t find on boats in their competitive market range. Hunter was just purchased by David Marlow, known for Marlow Yachts. They are in their first year and the quality improvements to the line are not only impressive but evident.”

In addition to viewing yachts, CIBS attendees were treated to over one million square feet of nautical exhibitions throughout the marina that showcased activities such as power boating, sailing, fishing, scuba diving, marine electronics, water sports, travel and much more. Exhibitors such as Flyboard, which market a device that lets the user ‘fly’ up to 35 feet in the air supported by streams of water generated by a jet-ski engine, gave live demonstrations. The Power Squadron hosted a seminar for kids about boating safety. Other highlights were the Ulysses Nardin International Regatta, in which over 40 sailboats raced, and the CIBS Offshore Cup, which featured over 60 racing power boats.

For more information, visit: www.cibspr.com

Carol M. Bareuther, RD, is a St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands based marine writer and registered dietitian.
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Eighteen Swans representing nearly ten countries and territories took flight in the first Rolex Swan Cup Caribbean, held out of the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda’s (YCCS) new clubhouse in the British Virgin Islands, March 11 - 15.

“The event was organized by Rolex, Nautor’s Swan and YCCS, who have established close ties through organizing the Rolex Swan Cup in Porto Cervo, Sardinia, since the early 1980s,” explains Jill Campbell, YCCS press officer. “The event was open to all Nautor’s Swan Yachts. We had 21 boats enrolled, although three didn’t race and instead decided to watch the racing and enjoy the social events. This is a good turnout for an inaugural event and is what we expected.”

Swans were divided into Maxi, IRC-rated and Cruising classes. Light winds prevailed over the four days of racing. This made the tactician’s job harder and competition keener. The entire fleet sailed one race per day on courses set around islands, cays and rocks between Virgin Gorda and Anegada, which included Sir Richard Branson’s private Necker Island.

In the end, it was the USA’s James Madden’s Swan 601, Stark Raving Mad, which won the Maxis. The victory over the Cayman Islands’ Wendy Schmidt’s Swan 80, Selene, was super sweet for two reasons. First, Madden had had to settle for second place in last year’s Rolex Swan Cup in Porto Cervo, when a broken spinnaker in the last race dashed his hopes for a win. Secondly, it came down to Madden driving to a first on the last race on the last day to give his team the victory in
what ultimately was a tie breaker between Stark Raving Mad and Selene, which both finished with six points apiece. The USA's Philip Lotz's Swan 42, Arethusa, beat the UK's James Blakemore's Swan 53, Music, in the IRC class. Both Madden and Lotz received Rolex timepieces and the opportunity to keep their Rolex Swan Cup Caribbean trophies for a year.

Finland's Matti Rajala won the Cruising class aboard the Swan 46, Eclipse.

The Swan crews that didn’t take top prizes did win in another way. That is, the opportunity to enjoy more great Caribbean racing.

Peter Hautzagers, who chartered a Swan 45 and named it Island Water World, explains, “I use to live in St. Maarten, but have called Holland home for the past 18 years. I've raced IC24s, Melges 24s and this year decided to charter a Swan. The Rolex Swan Cup allowed us to do three competitive regattas – the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta, Rolex Swan Cup Caribbean and International Rolex Regatta – in the space of three weeks. I love sailing, but I don’t like to take too much time. I have six children at home.”

Hautzagers added, “The hospitality and organization of the Rolex Swan Cup Caribbean was outstanding. There was a nice mix of long and short courses, which we enjoyed.”

The same theme held true for Northern Child, a race-charter Swan 51 owned by the UK’s Christian and Lucy Reynolds.

“ We came over on the ARC, and do the RORC Caribbean 600, St. Maarten Heineken Regatta, International Rolex Regatta, BVI Spring Regatta and Antigua Sailing Week, before returning to the UK for the Fastnet and Cowes,” Reynolds says. “The Swan Cup made a nice addition to our Caribbean calendar.”

The Rolex Swan Cup Caribbean will be held biennially on alternate years to the Mediterranean regatta. The Rolex Swan Cup in Porto Cervo will take place in September 2014.

For full results, visit: www.yccsresults.com

Carol M. Bareuther, RD, is a St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands based marine writer and registered dietitian.
On the final day of racing at the Loro Piana Caribbean Superyacht Regatta & Rendezvous, there was a palpable sense of expectation on the dock. Not only were the owners of the 20 sailing Superyachts and their guests and crews looking forward to another classic day on the water, all was to play for with victory up for grabs in all classes.

With a breeze of 10 to 12 knots, the race committee chose a long course clockwise around Virgin Gorda and outside all the Dog Islands, with the Division B yachts rounding inside Ginger Island and the Division A yachts heading outside Ginger. With most of the yachts heading left on the first beat, the first real test was at the northeast corner of Virgin Gorda. Here the kites were hoisted and the yachts were set for an epic gybing battle all along the south side of the island.

By the time the Division B yachts reached Round Rock, the 62m Athos was out in front with the 23.5m Wild Horses just three minutes behind. The 25.2m Sejaa was also having a good day, rounding third.

Meanwhile, the Division A yachts were fighting tooth and nail and by the western end of Ginger Island, it was Indio that had made the best progress on the run. She dropped her kite and hardened up for the reach to the Dogs a minute ahead of Salperton and Cape Arrow, who were separated by just ten seconds. Hanuman, P2 and Rebecca were not far behind.

From the Dogs it was a final beat to the finish, and it was Indio who took the final line honors.

With so many close finishes, there were tense moments as the yachts headed back to the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda marina while the race committee crunched the numbers to see who the victors would be.
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In the end it was the 45m Fitzroy Salperton that took the lion’s share of the glory, nailing a bullet in the last race on corrected time to secure the win in Division A overall, Division A’s cruising division, and the Boat International Media Trophy.

In Division B, a strong third race – and a second bullet – meant that the classic 22.4m ketch Bolero took the series.

“We did well today,” said Ian Walker, double Olympic silver medalist and tactician aboard Salperton. “We were one of the most offshore yachts on the run and I think we had a bit more wind. It was a good course today – the first day was a reaching course, which was good for us, and the second day was a bit light. Today was a good mix. We just had to sail as clean as we could and we had great crew work. You could argue that it was yesterday that won it for us with a sixth place – it was all about keeping in touch.”

Ed and Marty Kane, owners of 63-year-old Bolero – at 22.2m the smallest the oldest boat in the fleet – won Division B by scoring bullets in the final two days of racing after starting with a fourth.

Commodore Riccardo Bonadeo of YCCS was understandably pleased. “It was amazing to see this fleet sailing together on the waters of the British Virgin Islands. The owners should be really proud of how they raced these huge superyachts. Feedback from the owners and crews and from the sponsor Loro Piana has been excellent and we can expect to see an even more impressive fleet gathered at YCCS Marina this time next year.”

Once all the yachts were safely back on the dock, their owners, guests and crews congregated on the YCCS lawn for the prize giving ceremony and the final moments of what has been a spectacular event.

For further information about the Loro Piana Caribbean Superyacht Regatta & Rendezvous 2013, visit: www.loropianasuperyachtregattaandrendezvous.com
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Two prizes were up for grabs at the BVI’s West End Yacht Club’s annual Dark ’n Stormy regatta. The March 9 – 11 ‘funkgatta’ featured races west to Anegada from Tortola and back east again with a lay-day in the middle. In addition, the Dark ’n Stormy was the finale of the six event second annual Goslings Black Seal Rum Regatta Series that kicked-off with the Firecracker 500 last July.

Though excitement ran high and so did the seas, the winds didn’t cooperate. The 31-boat fleet ultimately motored or was towed to Anegada. The race back was pursuit-style with each boat assigned an individual start time based on its handicap. This meant that the first boat across
the line took the prize. This year's trophy went to Henry Leonnig driving his yacht Firewater.

“I have no secret,” says Leonnig. “My boat, a Melges 24, was built to go down wind fast. And that is the race back to Nanny Cay. If all races were down wind, I would probably have a lot more success.”

Firewater’s finish position in the Dark ’n Stormy was good enough to secure Leonnig third place overall in the Goslings Series. First and second were awarded to Jon Charlton’s C&C 41, Reba/Team Red Stripe and Kevin Rowlette’s Olson 30, Rushin Rowlette, respectively. It all came down to a razor close finish between these two top contenders.

Reba/Team Red Stripe’s Charlton says, “We were in the lead by one point over Rushin Rowlette after completing five of five races in the series. Kevin had to beat us and put one boat in between us to win outright. If he would have come in first and us second, we would have been tied. After the tie breaker, we both still would have been tied, and then be co-winners of the series. That is how close it was. It made it fun and exciting. It marked the culmination of doing well over a number of races, which is difficult to do.”

The race back was pursuit-style with each boat assigned an individual start time based on its handicap.

Rushin Rowlette started a few seconds behind Reba/Team Red Stripe in the last race of the Dark ’n Stormy. Therefore, Charlton’s strategy called for keeping his chief competitor covered. “We felt we had very similar speed in the given conditions, so we just tried to stay between him and the finish line,” says Charlton. “It worked, we finished second and Kevin third, which meant that we won the series with Kevin just two points behind in the series’ final standings.”

There’s always next year as far as Rushin Rowlette is concerned. “We were close all the way through, but that last race just wasn’t our kind of race. We do better upwind in the light wind. The concept of a Series is a great idea though as it gets more people out. We’re looking forward to the next one.”

Wildfire ended 4th in the Gosling’s Series and Girasoli rounded out the top five.

A total of 97 yachts sailed in the series, up from 72 yachts last year. For more information about the 2013-2014 Goslings Black Seal Rum Regatta Series, contact: martin@sail-sistership.com

Carol M. Bareuther, RD, is a St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands based marine writer and registered dietitian.
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In a stunning preview of coming attractions, forty-five boats in four spinnaker-flying divisions set sail in the sparkling waters of St. Maarten to race in the Gill Commodore’s Cup, the tune-up event to the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta. The traditional warm-up series is sponsored by Gill, the regatta’s official technical apparel supplier.

On a day that appeared to have been ordered up by the St. Maarten Tourist Bureau—with crystal clear skies and an ideal 10-12 knot east-southeast breeze—the race committee conducted three windward leeward races in the waters off the island’s southern shoreline. Some crews fared better than others, performing crisp spinnaker sets and douses and displaying excellent boat-handling skills. But there were also the usual gaffes and mistakes to be expected from other teams that are ramping-up programs after some time off the racecourse; those crews took advantage of the venue and the ideal conditions to get in a strong day of practice.

Among the boats that were in top form and served notice that they would be forces to be reckoned with in the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta and elsewhere this year were Jan Rupert’s sleek Tripp 75, Blackbird, and John Wilson’s 78-footer, Idea, in the Gill 1 class. In Gill 2, Greg Slyngstad’s J/125, Hamachi; perennial contender Sergio Sagramoso’s J/122, Lazy Dog; and Richard Wesslund’s J/120, El Ocaso, were all in fine fettle. Gill 3 standouts included Lawrence Aqui’s pretty blue Dufour 40, Wild T’ing, and Raphael Mangras’s X-Yachts 34, Maelia. In Gill 4, all-star crews aboard a pair of Melges 32s, Mark Plaxton’s Team INTAC and Jaime Torres’s Smile and Wave waged a wicked duel.

When the preliminary scores were tallied, and the cream had risen to the top, Blackbird was the winner of Gill 1 with three consecutive first-place finishes.

The hard-fought Gill 2 was packed with the most competitive boats in the fleet and when the dust settled, Wesslund’s El Ocaso picked up where she left off at last year’s St. Maarten Heineken Regatta, when she won her class and the title of Most Worthy Performance Overall. El Ocaso was joined on the Gill Commodore’s Cup division 2 podium by Lazy Dog and Hamachi, respectively.

In Gill 3, Maelia nipped Wild T’ing by a single point to take top honors in the 16-boat class. And finally, in Gill 4, Team INTAC was the winner by virtue of three consecutive bullets, with Smile and Wave second. In third, Andrea Scarabelli’s Melges 24, Budget Marine/Gill, was the top finisher among the half dozen 24s in the field.

For more information, visit: www.heinekenregatta.com/
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Fleet racing, match racing and junior racing offered something for everyone at the 5th South Grenada Regatta (SGR), hosted by Le Phare Bleu Marina & Boutique Hotel, February 21 – 24. The fleet racing kicked-off first, with two races each on the first and third day of the regatta. Match and youth racing taking place on the day in-between. Fleet racing courses took the cruising and fun classes around buoys and bays on the island’s south side, while match and junior racing took place closer to shore. Winds ranged from 18 to 25 knots creating perfect Caribbean sailing conditions.

Try hard and never give up! This was the secret to success for Jason Fletcher, who skippered his Albin Stratus 36, Apero, to an overall win of the 2013 SGR. “The crew worked well and with Rasmus not showing up, the battle between ourselves, T2 and Bloody Mary was very close but we managed to inch them out by mere seconds. I would say that a bit of luck, favorable conditions, good crew work and a solid boat is how we managed to win.”

In the four individual fleet races, it was Richard Szyjan’s Category 6 that won the North South Wines ‘Veuve Clicquot’ Cup, Jerry Stewart’s Bloody Mary the Westerhall Cup, Robbie Yearwood’s IWW Die Hard the Netherlands Insurance Cup, and Fletcher’s Apero the Island Water World Cup.

Frank Pearce, vice president of the Grenada Sailing Association and owner/skipper of the 50-foot schooner, Samadhi, bested the Fun Class in three out of four fleet races. “This has been the second year running that we have entered this regatta,” says Pearce. “We just had to return. Not only is the sailing great with interesting courses, plenty of wind and a good turnout, but the social events and the generosity of the organizers, have been almost without equal.”

Eight teams battled it out in match racing aboard Moorings and Sunsail 39-foot charter boats. Competition proved tight and weather conditions challenging, with light rain plus strong breezes one minute and sunshine and windless pockets the next. The final match saw the winning team aboard, Bloody Mary, prevail over the under dogs, Sailing School Grenada.
“We won by pure good fortune,” explains Stewart, who helmed for the Bloody Mary team. “Our regular crew (the youngest of which is age 58), that sails my S&S Hughes 38, did their regular jobs, except in the absence of foredeck work, the foredeck crew sat next to the driver. Robbie Yearwood, Grenada’s outstanding J/24 sailor and Sailing Week winner, was our toughest competitor. We beat him by eight-inches in the semi-finals.”

Stewart adds, “As the winner we get bragging rights. However, there is an element of chance in Clarks Court Bay, just like in Grand Anse. No regatta can be won by a crew that isn’t enthusiastic and hard-working.”

Fourteen junior sailors, of which six were from St. George’s and eight from Gouyave, sailed in the Junior Regatta. There were two categories of sailing dinghies, Optimist and Mosquito. In the Optimist, Noah Bullen took first, Ralph Francis second and Michael Derrick third, while in the Mosquito, Kevi James won, Kazim James placed second and Shakeem Robertson third.

“The interest in junior sailing in Grenada is on an upswing,” says James Benoit, who served as Race Officer and runs the program out of the Grenada Yacht Club. “This program will provide the skills needed for the future economic development of our growing marine and yachting sectors.”

The SGR kicked off with one of Le Phare Bleu’s signature free concerts. The musicians perform on a tug boat and sailors raft up in their dinghies to listen. Nightly entertainment included the Rocking Pontoons, The Wizards and the Royal Grenada Police Force Band.

For full results, visit www.southgrenadaregatta.com

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If you’re looking for a paradisiacal port stop before or after transiting the Panama Canal, then head to Bocas del Toro. This 68 island archipelago – located in northwest Panama in the Caribbean Sea, out of the hurricane belt and only 133 nautical miles from the Canal – features picture-postcard-perfect white sand beaches, lush rainforests, mangrove-lined bays and coral reefs brimming with sea life. Nature, not the neon lights of more cosmopolitan destinations, is the highlight here. This is especially true on Isla Bastimentos. Sea turtles nest, parrots fly and two-toed sloths hang upside down in the trees in the National Marine Park, while there are no cars, roads or airports anywhere on this 20-square-mile island. Access
to Isla Bastimentos is only ten minutes by boat from the charming eclectic Caribbean town of Bocas with many restaurants, bars and airport. That’s a plus for many, especially since this idyllic island offers an oasis of services and amenities for superyachts at Island Global Yachting’s (IGY) Red Frog Beach Marina, part of the Red Frog Beach Rainforest Resort.

What makes Bocas del Toro such a great yachting destination? Dan Cranney, Red Frog’s vice president of marketing, answers, “It is safe and well-protected. It’s a unique secret paradise not yet discovered by all. It’s remote, yet civilized, tranquil, fun and very friendly. There’s a little bit of everything here, a jungle paradise with many different islands to explore – some with people and some virtually uninhabited. It’s a place you will want to stay for a while.”

‘Must-see’ attractions are many. For example, take a 20 minute hike from Isla Bastimentos’ main village of Old Bank to Up in the Hill, a small organic farm nestled in the rainforest. Here, organic cacao, coconuts, tropical fruits and fragrant herbs grow. They are hand-made into food and natural body products. These, along with juices, herb teas, baked goods made with home-grown chocolate and coffee are sold in the farm’s small shop. Nature lovers will enjoy bird-watching, cave tours, botanical gardens complete with capuchin monkeys, and beach walking, swimming and surfing. Red Frog Beach is the easiest to reach from the marina. It’s named for the strawberry-colored frog that lives in the nearby forest, yet the seas are a breath-taking turquoise. Watersports here and around the island include kayaking, scuba diving, snorkeling, and fishing. Those looking for more excitement can try the new zip-line canopy tour located at the top of the island. The two-hour tour features up to 1000-foot long zips, up to 150 feet high at speeds up to 42 miles per hour. There’s also a Tarzan Swing and Traversable canopy net, Treetop Challenge Course and Swaying Sky Bridge.

At night, there are a number of different dining options located three minutes away by boat in Bocas Town. Roots is a favorite local restaurant that serves great-tasting, inexpensive Creole food. There are a few local nightclubs here too. Ten minutes away by boat in Bocas Town, on Isla Colon, there are all types of restaurants serving everything from Italian, Mediterranean, Panamanian, American and Chinese to Vegan. Bocas Town is the capitol of Bocas del Toro and home to over 13,000 people.

When arriving at IGY’s Red Frog Marina, captains will find deep water all the way in. There are a number of waypoints that make navigation safe and easy. There are 84 slips, 15 for superyachts up to 250 feet in length with a 25-foot draft, on floating docks equipped with 30, 50 and 100 amp power, metered water, complimentary Wi-Fi and new fuel dock. There are brand new shower and laundry facilities. Three phase 480-volt 200 amp shore power for superyachts will be available this spring. A marina bar and grill are in the planning stages. Crew will find provisioning is available on the main island of Isla Colon.

IGY’s Red Frog Marina offers general labor for such as boat washing and waxing, stainless steel polishing, and interior cleaning, as well as customized yacht maintenance programs. There are a few repair technicians available throughout the Bocas and parts can be shipped, however their arrival might not be fast due to the remote location. The marina also has 24-hour security.

Marina guests enjoy full access to beautiful Red Frog Beach Resort’s restaurants/bars, hiking and nature trails, luxury vacation villas that come with a private pool and surf lodge with private suites. Jungle cart rentals are available for exploring.

Those not arriving by boat can fly into Panama City. Air Panama makes a 45-minute flight to Bocas Town daily. There are water taxis to Isla Bastimentos. IGY’s Red Frog Marina also has its own helipad.

www.redfrogbeach.com/marina.html

Carol M. Bareuther, RD, is a St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands based marine writer and registered dietitian.
**CARIBBEAN MARINAS**

**ALL AT SEA’S CARIBBEAN MARINA GUIDE**

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OUTSIDE OF CARIBBEAN:

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<th>Marina Name</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
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<th>Cable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>Boston Yacht Haven</td>
<td>617 367 5050</td>
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<td>Cable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabo San Lucas, Mexico</td>
<td>Marina Cabo San Lucas</td>
<td>+52 624 173</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Marina Santa Marta</td>
<td>+57 5 421 5037</td>
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<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>Marina Papagayo</td>
<td>+506 2690 3600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montauk, NY</td>
<td>Montauk Yacht Club</td>
<td>631 668 3100/888-MYC-8668</td>
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<td>NY Harbor - Jersey City</td>
<td>Newport Yacht Club/Marina</td>
<td>201 626 5550</td>
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ASK ABOUT ADDING YOUR MARINA TO THE ALL AT SEA MARINA GUIDE CONTACT ADVERTISING@ALLATSEA.NET
<table>
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<th>Boatyard</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Maximum Draft</th>
<th>Maximum Length</th>
<th>Maximum Beam</th>
<th>Maximum Air Draft</th>
<th>Power Supply</th>
<th>Arrival Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jolly Harbour, Antigua</td>
<td>17°04'46.4&quot; N</td>
<td>61°54'37.0&quot; W</td>
<td>(268) 462-6014</td>
<td>10' 80' 18'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>110/220</td>
<td>8am-5pm</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>8am-4pm</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aruba Varadero Caribe</td>
<td>12°32'0&quot; N</td>
<td>70°02'0&quot; W</td>
<td>297-588-3850</td>
<td>7' 85' 23'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>120/240</td>
<td>7am-6pm</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>8am-4pm</td>
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<td>Tortola, BVI Nanny Cay Hotel &amp; Marina</td>
<td>18°25'0&quot; N</td>
<td>64°37'0&quot; W</td>
<td>(284) 494-2512</td>
<td>11' 160' 45'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>110v 30amp/220v 50amp/3 phase 100 amp</td>
<td>7am-6pm</td>
<td>8am-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tortola, BVI Soper's Hole</td>
<td>18°25'0&quot; N</td>
<td>64°37'0&quot; W</td>
<td>(284) 495-3349</td>
<td>7' 65' 18' and 40'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>110/220</td>
<td>8-5, Mon-Sat</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>8am-4pm</td>
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<td>Tortola, BVI Tortola Yacht Services</td>
<td>18°25'0&quot; N</td>
<td>64°37'0&quot; W</td>
<td>(284) 494-2124</td>
<td>10' 68' 20'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>220V, 50A, 110V, 30A</td>
<td>7-4, 7days</td>
<td>8am-4pm</td>
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<td>Virgin Gorda, BVI Virgin Gorda Yacht Harbour</td>
<td>12°01'0&quot; N</td>
<td>61°40'05&quot; W</td>
<td>284-495-5318</td>
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<td>150 34</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>110/120</td>
<td>6am-6pm</td>
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<td>Curacao Curacao Marine</td>
<td>12°01'0&quot; N</td>
<td>68°59'9&quot; N</td>
<td>599-9-8000</td>
<td>9' 120' 33'</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>110/220/380</td>
<td>8am-5pm</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8am-4pm</td>
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<td>Boca Chica, D.R. IBC ZarfPar</td>
<td>18°26'4.4&quot; N</td>
<td>69°37'23&quot; W</td>
<td>(809) 523-5858</td>
<td>7.5' 65' 28'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>110/220</td>
<td>9am-5pm</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>8am-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>La Romana, D.R. IBC Shipyard</td>
<td>18°23'55&quot; N</td>
<td>58°51'55&quot; W</td>
<td>+809 449-3321/3323</td>
<td>12' 110' 26'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>110/220/380</td>
<td>8-5 M-F</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>8am-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grenada Grenada Marine</td>
<td>12°01'20&quot; N</td>
<td>61°40'42&quot; W</td>
<td>00-1-473-443-1667</td>
<td>12' 75' 31.5'</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>110/220</td>
<td>8-5 M-F; 8-12, Sat</td>
<td>70</td>
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<td>Grenada Spice Island Marine Center</td>
<td>12.5 37' N</td>
<td>61 43 W</td>
<td>473-444-4257</td>
<td>12' 70' 25.4'</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>8am-4:30 pm</td>
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<td>Puerto Rico Varadero @ Palmas</td>
<td>18°04'37&quot; N</td>
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<td>787-656-9211</td>
<td>11' 110' 26'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
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<td>8-5 7, days</td>
<td>110</td>
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<td>Sint Maarten Megayard</td>
<td>18°02'13.24&quot; N</td>
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<td>St. Lucia Rodney Bay Marina</td>
<td>14°04'32.72&quot; N</td>
<td>60°56'55.63&quot; W</td>
<td>758-452-0324</td>
<td>14' 275' 55'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>110v/60, 220v/50, 480v 3 phase; 100 amps/leg; 220v 3 phase; 100 amps/leg; 220v40 amps; 100v 30amps; 50 &amp; 60hz</td>
<td>8am-5pm</td>
<td>8am-4pm</td>
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<td>St. Croix, USVI St. Croix Marine</td>
<td>17°45'1&quot; N</td>
<td>64°42'2&quot; W</td>
<td>340-773-0289</td>
<td>11' 68' 13' 8&quot;</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>110v 30amp; 220v 50amp; 3 phase 100amp</td>
<td>8-5, Mon-Sat</td>
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<td>St. Thomas, USVI Subbase Drydock</td>
<td>18 N</td>
<td>65 W</td>
<td>340-776-2078</td>
<td>16.5' 190' 50'</td>
<td>no limit</td>
<td>440 three phase/220/110</td>
<td>8-5, Mon-Sat</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>8am-5pm</td>
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Classifieds

MAY 2013 ALLATSEA.NET 103
May is a fun month and there are many things to celebrate – Mother’s Day, Cinco de Mayo and Memorial Day, to name a few. By now your farmers markets should be up and running. Taking a Saturday morning stroll through the market is a delight. Pick up some seasonal supplies and head for your boat. I was chatting with the chef, David Russell, at the St. Thomas Yacht Club, and he gave me the Tomato Cup recipe and suggested I try the recipe with those freshly picked tomatoes.

**SHRIMP AND AVOCADO SALAD**
Prep time: 20 minutes. Serves: 4

- 1 lb large shrimp, peeled & deveined
- 1/2 tsp paprika
- 1/2 tsp black pepper
- 1/4 tsp salt, divided
- 1 fresh lemon, squeezed (about 2-1/2 tbsp juice)
- 2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tsp whole-grain Dijon mustard
- 1 (10 oz) package romaine salad

Coat sauté pan with cooking spray and heat to medium-high. Sprinkle shrimp with paprika and pepper. Add shrimp to pan; cook 2 minutes on each side or until shrimp turns pink. Sprinkle with salt; toss to coat. While the shrimp cooks, combine lemon juice, oil, and mustard in a large bowl, stirring with a whisk. Add lettuce; toss to coat. To serve: Arrange about 1-1/2 cups lettuce mixture on each of 4 plates. Top each serving with about 6 shrimp, 1/2 cup tomatoes, 1/4 cup carrot, 1/4 cup corn, and 4 avocado wedges.

**TOMATO CUPS**
Prep time: 20 minutes. Serves: 4

- 4 large beefsteak tomatoes
- Chiffonade of Basil
- Balsamic Vinegar
- Olive oil
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

Cut tops off tomatoes with a knife. Remove flesh from inside of tomato, chop and place in a bowl, pour a little balsamic vinegar and olive oil over, sprinkle with salt and pepper, toss lightly. Fill the tomatoes. To serve: Pour a stream of balsamic reduction across plate; place tomato on top with two basil leaves, a crostini and sprinkle with Chiffonade of Basil.

**FRESH FRUIT SALAD**

5 to 6 cups of variety of fresh fruits (be creative):
- Bananas, peeled & sliced
- Blueberries
- Blackberries
- Cherries, pitted
- Raspberries
- Strawberries
- Green &/or red grapes, halved
- Kiwi fruit, peeled & sliced
- Pears, peeled & sliced
- Peaches, peeled & sliced
- Mango, skinned, cored & sliced
- Oranges, skinned & cut-up
- Pineapple, cored, peeled & sliced
- Watermelon, flesh removed & cut into bite-size pieces
- Melon (cantaloupe & honeydew), flesh removed & cut into bite-size pieces.

Make Fruit Dressing (recipe below); set aside to cool until ready to use. In a large bowl or container, combine all the mixed prepared fruits. Pour prepared Fruit Dressing over the cutup fruits; gently toss to coat all the fruit. Serve family style or for a gourmet look, serve in chilled cocktail glasses. To store, cover and refrigerate for several hours before serving.

**FRUIT DRESSING**
Fruit Salad Dressing cooking time: 5 minutes.
Fruit Salad Dressing Cooling time: 30 minutes

- 1 lemon, grated zest (rind) and juice
- 1 lime, grated zest (rind) and juice
- 1 orange, grated zest (rind) and juice
- 1 egg, well beaten
- 1 cup granulated sugar

Note: grate the zest off of the citrus fruits first before juicing them. In a saucepan over medium heat, combine the zest and juice from lemon, lime and orange. Add the beaten egg and sugar. Cook, stirring constantly, until mixture comes just to a boil; let boil 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and let cool before tossing with the fruit salad.
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