



Dawg Tales Newsletter



SV Gemeaux

*10th
Anniversary
Salute Issue*

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From the Helm

This is a very special issue. We are approaching our 10th Anniversary as an organization, since running our very first Salty Dawg Rally in 2011. This issue is a salute to that special occasion.

It all first started as single rally of cruising in company in 2011. It then morphed the next year into the Salty Dawg Rally organization focusing on the Fall Rally to the Caribbean and a Spring Rally return, plus a summer 4th of July celebration in Bristol RI for the next 4 years. Then in 2016 it officially became the Salty Dawg Sailing Association to include over the years Members, several local rendezvous, seminars and numerous webinars, special recognition of sailing accomplishments with World Class and Ocean Class registers, and more rallies, like to Maine, Nova Scotia, Cuba, and DelMarVa. What a change in 10 years.

Our largest event, and the premier means of getting experience with a serious offshore passage, is our Salty Dawg Caribbean Rally. Over the years, close to 800 boats and over 2,200 sailors have participated in the Caribbean Rally, and we are in the final run-up to this year's Fall Rally.

And, underlying all of the activities, the core of the organization is its members and volunteers, from its Founders, to the many volunteer Directors, event organizers, hundreds of volunteers over the years and our dedicated, small staff – thank you and kudos to all! The result are supreme events by sailors for sailors – helping each other, building friendships, and enjoying adventures together.

Yes, it has been an amazing 10 years for this organization. Enjoy the articles and photos contained in this issue.

Hank J George, President, SDSA



Thank You Members!



Cheers Salty Dawgs!!

Giving Thanks on our 10th Anniversary!

This time period marks our 10th Anniversary, and we would like to give thanks to those who have made this organization a success.

We give much thanks to our Founders, primarily Bill and Linda Knowles, and others who supported the Salty Dawg concept from day one. Thank you for creating this great sailing organization!

Thank you to our numerous Volunteers, including our Board of Directors, who maintain the passion and dedication to support the Salty Dawg Mission. You are the heart of our organization!

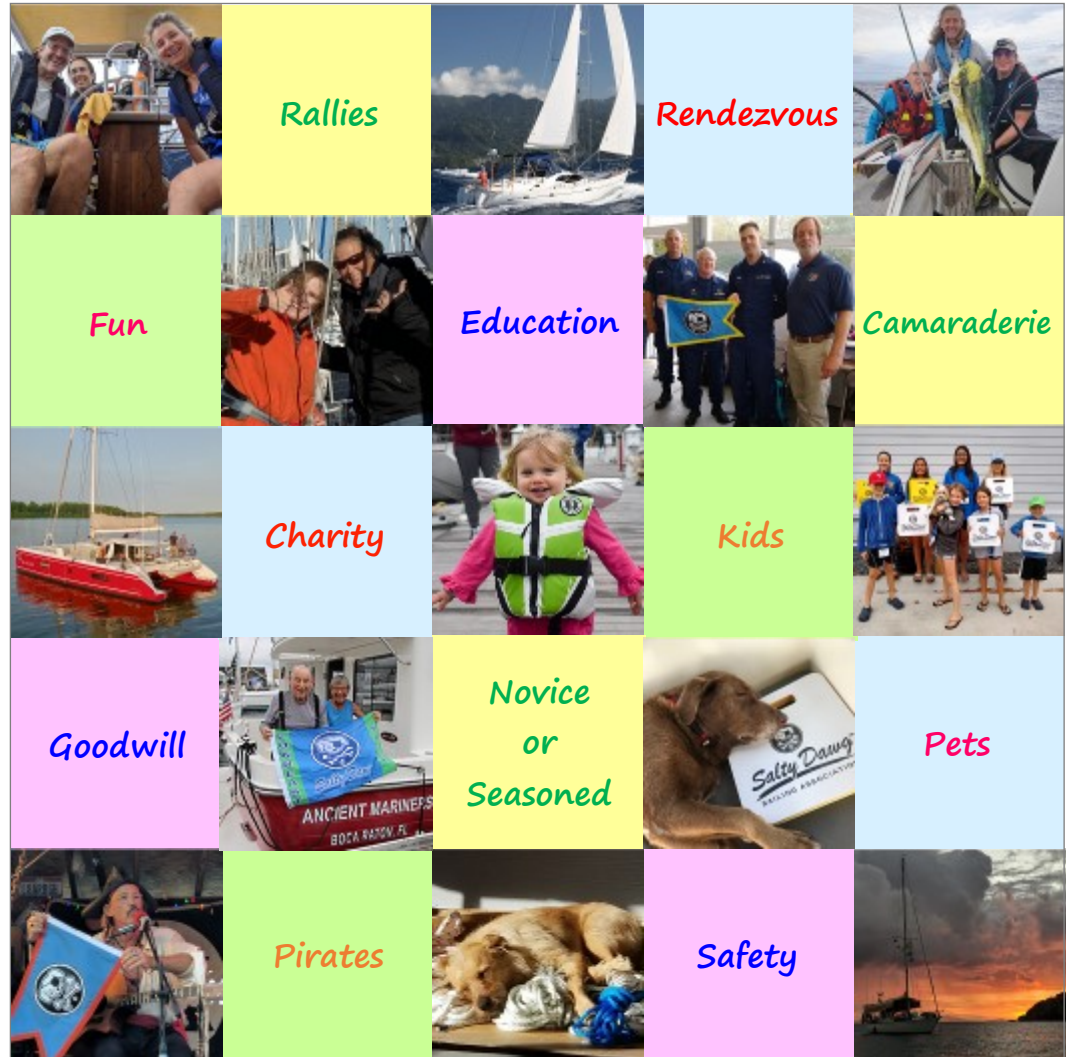
Thank you to our support staff who keep things running smoothly behind the scene.

Thank you to our Members and participants who come together to share a common dream. You are the bond that holds us together and the reason we exist.

Thank you to our sponsors and contributors who provide knowledge and resources for our participants. You help provide a safe and fun experience.

Thank you to everyone who has made this non-profit volunteer charitable sailing organization a success. This may not have been possible without you. Let's keep it going for another 10!

All Ages - All Kinds of Boats - All Types of Dreams
Everyone Welcome!



The Salty Dawg Sailing Association (SDSA) is a non-profit educational and charitable sailing organization made possible by Volunteers, Members, Sponsors and Contributors. We conduct rallies, rendezvous and educational events to assist sailors realize their sailing dreams. Thank you for your support!



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Interview with Our Founder

The Salty Dawg 10th Anniversary!

An Interview with Founder Bill Knowles

by Ken Gelao, SDSA Director of Membership

Congratulations to the Salty Dawg Sailing organization and its numerous volunteers who have been providing rallies, rendezvous and educational services to sailors for ten years! This is a remarkable accomplishment for a non-profit charitable volunteer organization and is a testament to their motto of *Sailors Helping Sailors*.

To commemorate this accomplishment and the Founders, we interviewed Bill Knowles who provided insight about the development, Mission and hope for the Salty Dawg Sailing Association (SDSA).

Bill, a big question many of us have is how you are doing? Could you please summarize what has happened in your life over the past year and what you are doing now?

Linda and I sold Sapphire in January of 2020 to Will and Becky McCammon who have 3 children and plan to take Sapphire around the world in 2021. They have retained the boat name Sapphire and the boat color. Linda and I bought a house in Vero Beach, Florida and moved in on May 14, 2020. Unfortunately, I am saddened to say that Linda suddenly died of a heart attack on Nov14, 2020. I became involved with the Youth Sailing Foundation of Indian River County and we have donated a new 420 sailboat to the organization and named it Sapphire in recognition of all Linda has contributed to both youth sailing and the world of cruising.



Bill & Linda on SV Sapphire

Who founded the Salty Dawg organization and what was the original purpose and Mission?

The Salty Dog Rally (SDR) was founded in the summer of 2011. We originally planned on taking a few others with us to the Caribbean. However, George Day of Bluewater Sailing Magazine called me and asked if Linda and I were starting a Rally to the Caribbean. He then said I will sponsor you guys, let's have lunch. We then agreed to have Chris Parker be our weather router and Bluewater Sailing Magazine would Sponsor Chris Parker.

George Day then advertised in Bluewater Sailing and online with Cruising Compass that a non-profit Rally to the Caribbean has been developed which then took our Fall cruise from 4 boats to 36. In the Spring of 2012, we brought back 15 Cruisers from the Caribbean and changed the name to The Salty Dawg Rally. We then wrote our Mission Statement which was based on Safety, Education and Camaraderie. In May of 2012, we applied for our 501 (C) 3 Federal Tax-Exempt Status. We were granted this status in August of 2012.

Our original Mission and purpose was to enable sailors to take full responsibility for the safety of their vessel. We would not conduct inspections but we would educate participants prior to departure as to why they needed various safety items and what to expect while offshore. We would set a general departure timeframe and provide



Bill & George Day at the Seminars

captains/crew the flexibility and independence to decide when to depart and what course to take. We would not force them to depart on a certain day or at a certain time or take a certain course. It was up to the captain/crew to make those decisions based upon their readiness and information provided.



Bill & Linda at the Salty Dawg Booth



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Pics & Fun



Hank George
SDSA President



Barb Theisen
SDSA Admin Support

Interview with our Founder (cont.)

All we required is that they stayed in contact via SSB at prescribed times and upon arrival they were required to close out their papers.

The ability to achieve a 501 (C) 3 status enhanced our opportunity to seek both private and corporate donations which were available. We gained enough private donations to cover normal business expenses. A bonus was the corporate donations which provided great benefits to the participants, such as free moorings at the Bitter End Yacht Club, BVIs from the time of arrival to Dec. 20 (approx. 30 days).



Salty Dawgs on Moorings at the Bitter End

The normal cost was \$30 per night and many participants realized a savings upward of \$1,000. During that time, many social events were planned and everlasting friendships were formed.

Can you explain who thought of the name Salty Dawg and who thought of creating that unique logo?

The original name of the organization in 2011 was the Salty Dog Rally. However, that name was later taken and registered by another organization before we could officially register it. In 2012, an article was published in a sailing magazine about our organization using the words Salty Dawg instead of Salty Dog. Linda and I approved of the name and we sought official registration for the name Salty Dawg Rally.

Our logo was designed from ideas between my wife Linda and a crew member/artist who participated in our 2011 rally. The dog in the logo represents Brie, who was our dog during that time period.



Bill & Brie

How do you feel about the progression and development of the SDSA?

The Salty Dawg Rally was a great start up organization. Linda and I worked many hours trying to develop what we felt was needed in the world of blue water cruising. We felt strongly that blue water sailors were not all about yacht clubs, but are about independence while cruising. Once lines are cast free, the anchor pulled, or the mooring line dropped, we are now one, regardless of who you are, where you're from or what kind of boat you have. When the SDSA was developed, it took the Salty Dawg Rally to the next level with long term goals while maintaining the same Mission. This was essential in assuring that what was founded in 2011 was to continue to the benefit of all blue water sailors worldwide.

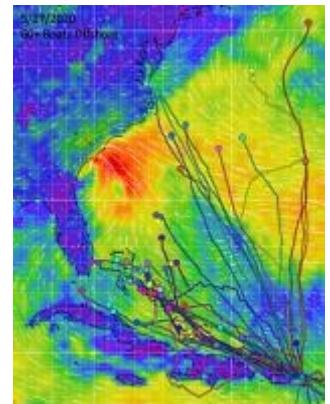
What do you feel is the proudest accomplishment of the SDSA?

I believe one of the major accomplishments of the SDR & SDSA is the confidence, the belief and the trust that blue water sailors from around the world have gained in dealing with or being a part of the organization. This was proven by the remarkable success of the SDSA in the Spring of 2020 that brought nearly 200 boats home from the Caribbean in their Homeward Bound Flotilla as a result of the pandemic. It was a remarkable accomplishment by many Salty Dawg volunteers which to me solidifies the strength of the organization.

If you had to choose one thing to account for the success of the SDSA, what would it be?

There were and are several factors for success:

The Salty Dog Rally, Salty Dawg Rally and Salty Dawg Sailing Association were accepted from day one by corporate marine America as a non-profit organization with a mission of education, safety, and camaraderie for the everyday blue water cruiser. It did not matter what nationality they were, where they came from, who they were, what kind of boat they owned or who they were affiliated with.



Offshore Tracking During the Homeward Bound Flotilla



Interview with our Founder (cont.)



Jo Ella Barnes
SDSA Director & Secretary



Much credit during the growth of the organization must be given to the many volunteers and participants who support this great sailing organization. As a non-profit educational and charitable organization, the SDSA relies upon volunteers to support the cause and many of these volunteers share the common dream and believe in the Mission.

I must pay special tribute to my wife Linda who was very dedicated to the Salty Dawg organization and spent many hours with participants during events and behind the scenes supporting the Salty Dawg infrastructure. Linda loved the Salty Dawgs!



Linda, Bill & Zoe

Moving forward, what are your hopes for the future development of the SDSA?

I can't think of anything except education, safety and holding a close course to our original Mission. Those are key for continued development of the SDSA. The introduction of webinars has been brilliant.

**Education
Safety
Camaraderie**

In closing our interview, do you have any additional thoughts to share with our readers?

Always remember that once you have cast your lines from the dock, or released your mooring line, or have pulled your anchor, you are now one when entering into that wonderful world of blue water cruising!

In ending our interview, Bill remarked that there has been nothing negative about the Salty Dawg organization and it has been a boost to world of blue water sailors. Thank you to Bill and Linda, and to the extensive network of volunteers and participants who have made this organization a success!

Happy 10th Anniversary Salty Dawgs!



Bennett Kashdan
SDSA Development Manager

President's Message

Editor's Note: In 2017, Bill Knowles's term as President on the Board of Directors expired and Hank George accepted the role as President. Much of the continued success of the SDSA can be attributed to the structure and organization established under the direction of Hank George, while holding a close course with the original Mission. Below is a historical recollection from Hank about the growth of the SDSA along with some thoughts on moving forward.

Salty Dawg Growth, Camaraderie and Accomplishment

by Hank George, SDSA President

Early one morning while on anchor with our Tayana 52 in Dutch Harbor, Conanicut I., RI, a voice from a boat 50 yards away hollered over – "Greetings Hank & Seale!! Come on over at 5 tonight for sundowners!" I answered back we'd be there. Charlie and Jennie McNamara on *Lady* were friends we had met in the Caribbean the winter before, and knew they were near us, as we were both on our way to Maine. So, it was not a surprise to find them anchored nearby. What did surprise us was their message that evening about a new sailing group being formed to run a free rally to the Caribbean. This was 2012, and they described that a group of friends had done this the year before and enjoyed it enough that they planned to open it to other interested sailors. The rally would be run by sailors, would be free, and only experienced sailors were permitted. And then Charlie threw in, "Oh yeah, they are calling it the Salty Dog Rally." I thought how perfect! I had known the old term used around seaports of old sailors being called "salty dogs." The name fit perfectly with Charlie's description of the rally only permitting experienced sailors (of course that relaxed a little over time, requiring at least one very experienced crew aboard).



Hank & Seale on SV FLASH



Mindy Piuk (and Reinhart),
SDSA Shoreside Communications
Manager





Alex Helfand
SDSA Education Manager



Tim Metcalf
SDSA Director & Rally Safety Mgr.



Ken Gelao (on right),
SDSA Director & Membership Manager



Bob Osborn
SDSA Director & Rally Manager

Seale and I had two cocker spaniels, Breezy and Misty, who had already visited 20 countries by then, and we regularly referred to them as salty dogs. So, the Salty Dog name already had a good ring and feeling for us.

By the time we came down to Hampton a few months later and met Bill and Linda, the name had changed to the "Salty Dawg Rally (changed Dog to Dawg)" because of a tiff with another sailing organization that heard what Bill and Linda were doing and the name they planned to use. This other organization went out and purchased the "Salty Dog Rally" domain before Bill and Linda could (cash flow was slow when one did a free rally and depended on sponsors for funding). No problem – they promptly switched the name to the "Salty Dawg Rally" after purchasing the domain with George Day's help.



Seale and I had a lot of ocean miles experience sailing, including taking our Tayana 52 to the Caribbean and back a few times, never as part of a rally. We didn't feel we needed the hand-holding of a rally, but we were interested in the opportunity to build friendships and be connected to a larger sailing community as we cruised. Bill and Linda assured us that we would have the flexibility to sail as we wanted, picking our own weather window and departure date – no starting gun and no arbitrary start for a photo-op. And, Linda had things perfectly organized (with Tatja of course) – the details of registering all the boats, selection of cruise guides, pig roast and grilled chicken dinner, purchasing shirts and caps and burgees, and more. Bill was the perfect MC. That first year with the Salty Dawgs (first for us, second for the concept as the prior year the informal passage became the inaugural version of the Salty Dog/Salty Dawg Rally), we developed many lasting friendships, and enjoyed the pre-departure activities in Hampton, the Arrival Dinner and then the Bamboushay Rendezvous before boats departed on different itineraries for exploring the Caribbean.



BVI Arrival Dinner 2015

We regularly caught up with Salty Dawg friends all down the island chain and on our way back up in the spring. It was a delightful experience, we were sold on the Salty Dawg concept, and we were certain we'd do it again the next year.

In 2014 Bill and Linda asked for some help, and Seale and I pitched in to plan and lead a full week of activities in Virgin Gorda Sound after arrival. Well, that led to a request to join the Board and I was elected the fall of 2014. Bill asked me to take the lead on Communications, in building a better website, regularly publishing a newsletter, issuing Press Releases and getting some articles in magazines. Well, one thing led to another and by 2017 Bill's two, two-year terms as President following two years of general leadership before we incorporated as a 501(c)(3), had come and gone (we have term-limits, don't you know), and I was elected President. And, doing the math, my two, two-year terms will be completed this December. So over that period of 10 years we have seen considerable growth and changes.

We created the Salty Dawg Sailing Association, our number of Members have grown from 300 to over a thousand, contributions by sponsors have grown from a few thousand dollars to over \$25,000 each year.

We have conducted 3 to 5 rallies each year, and even did a special one with a Rally to Cuba one year. Our social media pages are blossoming with activity. And, at the core of that growth are our volunteers, jumping from a handful in the early years to now dozens each year. Our Fall Rally, now named the Salty Dawg Caribbean Rally, is our crown jewel, and has had from 75 to 120 boats, but then only 50 in the time of Covid – clearly an anomaly. We all look forward to more normal times, and expect the ...



Dawgs at Saba Rock 2015





Kathy Kubic
SDSA Volunteer Coordinator



Lynn Hoenke (with Mark),
SDSA Communications Manager



Tatja Hopman
SDSA Admin Support



Caribbean Rally will get back to those larger numbers in due time. And, of course our very successful Spring 2020 “Homeward Bound Flotilla” was a crowning achievement by the organization and a team of 24 volunteers, helping 184 vessels get to the US after being stranded in the Caribbean with the outbreak of COVID-19. It has placed the organization at the epicenter of blue water cruising, with lasting respect from the sailing community.

So, what does the future hold for the Salty Dawgs? I have no doubt the organization will continue to thrive and grow. I expect we will see more local, informal Salty Dawg social events as the curtain is lifted on the pandemic. And we’ll see those special rallies every few years. And, of course our membership numbers will continue their steady climb. While we have a small staff to take care of the administrative responsibilities, at our core we will continue to depend on volunteers – for a few hours or a few days. It is fun and rewarding to help other sailors and share knowledge and experience. That is the underlying example Bill and Linda set, and many others have continued. Please jump in and volunteer.



Sharing the Passion

by Julie Palm, SDSA Member

Virgin Gorda, BVI, November 2015...

High above Gorda Sound at a local ribs place, aptly named Hog Heaven, the Salty Dawgs gathered for a safe Arrival Party celebrating the completion of the ocean passage from Hampton VA.

Ear-to-ear grins framed by brightly colored Salty Dawg hats captured the exuberance and universal sense of accomplishment of the occasion. Sea stories and fish tales dominated the conversation among friends ...new and old. For us, that year’s Salty Dawg Rally was our first. We had been doing ocean rallies on and off for years, but had joined the Salty Dawgs because many of our friends sailed with the group and we thought we would enjoy the less structured atmosphere in comparison to other rallies.



Dawgs in Hog Heaven, Virgin Gorda

The passage had been special. Crew was great; SSB conversations among the Dawg boats were wide-ranging; weather was the best; freshly-caught Mahi was terrific....and we arrived Virgin Gorda in less than seven days!

Soon after that happy day at Hog Heaven, we joined Hank and Seale George for dinner at Saba Rock. We had met Hank and Seale about a year earlier when we were transitioning from our monohull to a catamaran, and instantly became the kind of friends that the cruising life spawns. Hank shared with us his vision that the Salty Dawg Rally which had been successfully running for several years at that point could grow into an organization with a broader mission One dedicated to capitalizing on the knowledge and skills of experienced passage-makers to expand the horizons for coastal cruisers. He talked about a strong educational program with an emphasis on safety coupled with a growing calendar of offshore events All run by volunteers who had a passion for ocean sailing. We were hooked.



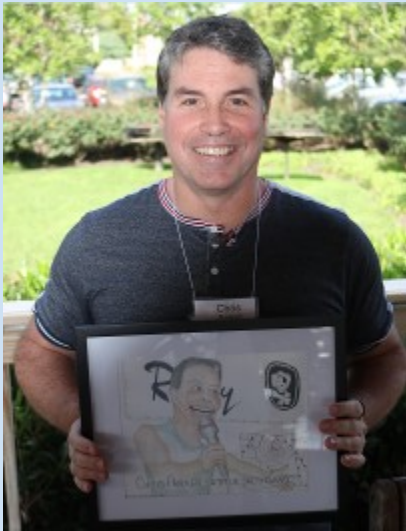
Rick & Julie Palm

The draw for us was multi-faceted. We loved speaking to sailors at seminars. Rick translated weather into terms the average person could understand. He loved talking about the preparation and planning required to face rough weather offshore.... without scaring the least experienced in the audience. For Julie, the Ladies Roundtable was a terrific time to talk about enjoying life at sea and in the islands...knowing that the connections made there would lead to lifelong friendships.





Rick & Julie in Dominica



Based on his small business experience, Rick was eager to help develop the organizational structure and financial platform which would be needed to create what soon became the Salty Dawg Sailing Association. Julie thought a lot about what would be the most effective ways to communicate the expanded organization's mission and attract more sailors to the world of offshore sailing adventures!

As the years went on, Rick concentrated on rally management and financial systems. Julie had a great time revising the web site, writing press releases, and helping at events until 2018. Working with Hank and Seale, Tatja Hopman, Ken Gelao, Tim Metcalf, Bob Osborn, and the hundreds of volunteers who rolled up their sleeves was a spectacular experience for us both.

The culmination of our experience with the Salty Dawgs was Rick's management of the Offshore Emergency Team during the 2020 Homeward Bound Flotilla when the SDSA organized a one-time event to help cruisers bring their boats back to the US at the start of the pandemic. His team excelled in trouble-shooting boat problems, coordinating Coast Guard communications, and negotiating entry permissions and fuel stops in the Bahamas.....helping to ensure the safe arrival of all 184 boats during a six-week period.



Rick & Julie aboard SV Archer

Our participation in the growth of the SDSA was a gratifying experience that helped us "give back" to the community of sailors...past, present, and future....who share the passion we have for ocean adventuring. Congratulations to those who are still actively building and growing the Salty Dawg Sailing Association. Ten years is a great milestone. Those of us who have participated in the past are thrilled to see the continued success of the SDSA!

Editor's Note:

Rick and Julie have sailed together for over 40 years, participating in rallies around the world, across the Atlantic and back and forth to the Caribbean a dozen times. When they retired, they began volunteering for Steve Black's Caribbean 1500 in 2002. Rick served as Chief Safety Inspector and Director of Education. Julie helped Steve with his communications and sponsorship programs. In 2015, Rick was invited join the Board of the Salty Dawg Rally. He served as Treasurer and Director of Rally Management during his tenure as the organization transitioned to the Salty Dawg Sailing Association. He retired from the Board in 2020. Julie volunteered as the Communications Coordinator for the SDSA until 2018. Many thanks goes out to Rick and Julie for their extensive contributions to fellow sailors!

Blessed By The Stars

by Ken Gelao, SDSA Director of Membership

I write to you tonight from a dark sky filled with a thousand stars. How lucky and blessed I feel!



I am currently anchored near my home port on Lake Superior under the Milky Way counting the stars and my blessings. One of those blessings is the opportunity I have been provided by fellow sailors who share a common dream.

It was 2015 when I accidentally joined a Salty Dawg Rally via a captain searching for crew. At that time, I knew I needed to expand my horizon and gain more blue water experience, so I replied to an advertisement by a captain searching for crew. It was a very good decision on my behalf.

Since that time, I have crewed on several Salty Dawg Rallies and made lifetime friendships with those sailors. Those friendships extend outside the sailing community and into other areas of my life. I also was provided an opportunity to become involved as a volunteer with the Salty Dawg organization and am still active in that capacity. I can't say enough about the opportunity and friendships encountered through the Salty Dawg organization and fellow sailors.

Chances are that you joined a Salty Dawg Rally to sail to a destination in safety and





in the company of like-minded sailors. You made the right choice. The great thing about the Salty Dawg organization is that it brings people together to share dreams and provides opportunity for anyone to participate, regardless of what star-filled sky you call home port.

As I count my blessings, I am grateful for those opportunities and friendships, and I look forward to new dreams and horizons with other sailors. Thank you, SDSA and fellow sailors, for the opportunity to expand my horizon and share our dreams!

thankful
grateful
AND
Blessed

Technical Article

An Interview with Hylas Yachts

by Hank George, SDSA President

The Salty Dawg Sailing Association is proud to highlight [Hylas Yachts](#) as a Platinum Sponsor!

Hylas

Third-generation family owned and operated for three decades and counting, Queen Long marine shipyard and Hylas Yachts have been built on decades of dedication and commitment, producing boats that are both imbued with history and tradition while staying adapted for the world today and beyond. From the elegant designs down to the meticulous internal wiring, the quality of a Hylas Yacht is evident throughout.

Salty Dawg President Hank George recently had the chance to interview Peggy Huang and David Crafa from Hylas to discuss their relationship with the SDSA and trends/features in the boating industry.

Q: (Hank) Has Hylas been comfortable to refer new Hylas owners to the SDSA?

A: (Peggy and David) Yes, we regularly encourage our owners to get involved with the Salty Dawgs. It helps us to illustrate the sailing lifestyle. It is not just about buying the boat—they have to realize they are buying the boat to participate in the lifestyle. Travel with others, building friendships, and get comfortable with blue water sailing. Doing it with SDSA is a great way to experience what it is like and meet others who share that passion; like-minded, good people that create an amazing community. You'll find these become the best friends you've ever had. We are happy to hear from a new owner that they are going with the Salty Dawg Rally. It gives them a lot of support, a lot of resources.

Q: (Hank) Do you think what we are doing to promote blue water sailing is right, or are there other things we could do?



Looking forward to rubbing shoulders & having fun again!

A. (Peggy and David) I think what the organization is doing is about right. You are expanding a few rally options and adding webinars. These are good steps. But, I think once we are out of COVID, people do like to get together with other sailors, rub shoulders, have some parties, and have some fun. Hopefully, we'll see more of those type events by the Salty Dawgs when the time is right. Some of our best friends, we haven't seen in a long time, we then really enjoy catching up. We miss during COVID.

Q: (Hank) How does the SDSA fit in with your personal desires?

A: (Peggy and David) We find it perfect for us. As we are working, we like to have a great sailing experience in the periods when we take a break. We find that if we schedule those breaks to coincide with a rally, we can fully enjoy that experience with some great people; it is more casual and not like work. It is a nice match for us. We plan to sail in the Caribbean Rally, going to the Abacos. It works for us to have the boat there, close to Florida, so we can work and have our fun too even if we just fly out for the weekend.



Peggy, David & Dawgs in the Bahamas





Q: (Hank) What trends do you see coming in the boating industry?

A: (Peggy and David) Well, we don't have a crystal ball for what might be coming, but here are some recent developments we have taken advantage of on our own Hylas 57.

One we really like is having a large Lithium battery bank with Termodinamica, high efficiency, compressor air conditioning system. One doesn't need shore power to have air conditioning. To power that we have 2,000W of solar power, with 900Ah of 24VDC battery capacity (1,800Ah at 12VDC). Another great feature that has improved our sailing performance are twin rudders. It really stabilizes the boat, tracks better when close reaching, and helps us point a few degrees higher. We also have a "supercharger" for our batteries, using a series of 24VDC battery chargers to recharge our Lithium batteries in a matter of a few hours with our generator. Another interesting device is a Torrid water heater, Explorer model, with two heating elements of 24VDC and 120VAC (heat from batteries, shore power, or generator), plus loops for engine heat or air conditioning condenser heat. And, we added controls so that excess solar (when batteries are charged) can feed directly to water heating. It is a very creative and efficient water heater. We always have hot showers.



[The New H57](#)

Q: (Hank) Are there any other equipment features you have come across at Hylas that might be of interest to other cruisers?

A: (Peggy and David) Another one that we like is the "Glendinning." It is a spooling device for the shore power cord. Instead of the shore power cord being a bundle that covers other gear in a locker and the cord can easily be spooled with a power drive. It is very compact and offered in different sizes so should work for most cruising boats.

Closing (Hank) That is a lot of great information and feedback for SDSA and our Members. Peggy and David, thank you and Hylas for the information. Safe sailing!

Coming Events

Rallies

The Caribbean Rally

Here we go Dawgs! Get strapped in for a great ride to the Caribbean this November with the Salty Dawgs. We have again established safety protocols and precautions to make our Caribbean Rally a healthy and safe passage for everyone involved. All participants must be vaccinated.



Sign-up now to join our 60+ boats departing for one of two great destinations; breathtaking Antigua or the beautiful Bahamas! Events begin on October 28th in Hampton, VA with an anticipated departure date of November 1st. We want you to join us, so get your registration in now before it closes on October 17th.

The Rally includes weather routing by the Marine Weather Center, position tracking by PredictWind, extensive shoreside communication, and support from veteran Salty Dawgs before and during your passage. The fee includes your first year of Membership which provides numerous Member benefits such as product and event discounts, access to expert educational resources, port reference assistance, our crew service and more.

[Register Now](#) [More Information](#) [Contact Us with Questions](#) [Watch the Video](#)

Preliminary Rally Stats

- Destination: 61% Antigua, 24% Bahamas, 15% Undecided
- Rally Participation: 63 % Have Not Participated in a Past Rally
- Boat Size: 30-63 Feet, 5 Foreign Flagged Boats.
- Boat Type: 69% Monohulls, 31% Multi-Hulls



Follow the Fleet
[HERE](#)

after November 1st





Rendezvous

Annapolis Rendezvous by Hylas

October 14th - Annapolis Yacht Club, Annapolis, MD

Our 9th annual event is open to all those interested in blue water sailing and will begin at 1700 hours. Join us for a Happy Hour, buffet dinner, speaker Bobby White of *Sailing Doodles*, and lots of fun among Dawgs and Doodles. [More Info](#)



We normally schedule a series of Rendezvous events for sailors to get together through the year. With the issue of COVID-19 and difficulty in holding events with a large group of people, we will not be able to conduct such large social gatherings until this pandemic is resolved.

The Tail End

Utilize and Enjoy Your Member Benefits!

We encourage Salty Dawg members to utilize their Benefits by accessing the Members-Only features on our website. Many added links become available to you from the Drop Down tabs once you log-in as a Member. Login from any page on our website with your Username, which is often your Email address, and your Password. [Click Here](#) to get started and contact us at [Membership](#) with any questions or if you have lost your Password. Some of the Benefits you enjoy as a Member include:

- *A Unique Network of Sailors Helping Sailors & Lifetime Friendships*
- *Expert Education and Offshore Resources*
- *Extensive Webinar and Document Library*
- *Port Reference Program*
- *Crew Service*
- *Member Directory*
- *Get Listed in the Ocean/World Class Registers*
- *Discounts on Rallies, Rendezvous and Education Events*
- *Discounts on Marine Products and Ship's Store Merchandise*



For our non-members, we invite you to join our organization and broaden your knowledge while partaking in the camaraderie and friendship shared among our family of sailors. [Become a Member](#) today. Contact [Membership](#) with questions.

Salty Dawg Crew Service

The SDSA maintains a crew service which includes approximately 100 crew candidates seeking opportunity to crew with captains. This service is free to Member Captains to use at any time for any sailing purpose. Use the service to find crew to assist on longer offshore passages or to find a local cruising buddy. If you have well experienced crew but could use one more, please consider being a mentor and taking a less experienced candidate. We hope this service will be used to assist captains and provide crew opportunities while fostering long term relationships among sailors.

Member captains may access the Crew Service from any page of our [website](#) by using their Username and Password. Once logged in, select the Member Directory page and navigate to the Crew Service. Crew Candidates may update their Availability Status and resume by logging in from any page of our website with their Username and Password then navigating to their Profile page. If you desire to join as a new crew participant, please [click here](#). Feel free to reach out to the Crew Coordinator with [questions](#).

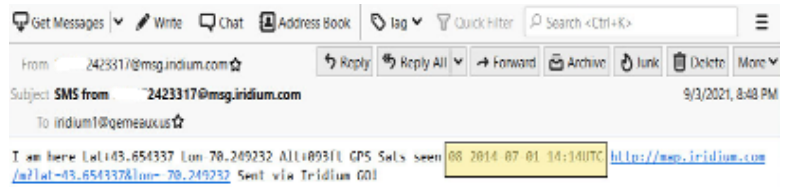




Tech Tip

Check Your Batteries!!!

Many of us Dawgs have Iridium Go! for offshore communications. A Salty Dawg noticed the bottom panel over the battery of the Iridium GO had swelled up and was pushing the door off. This may produce an incorrect data display and is a hazard. This condition occurs with the type lithium ion batteries used in electronic devices when the battery is at end of life, and one attempts to continue to charge the battery for a long interval. The SDSA recommends that batteries be replaced regularly, including rechargeable batteries at an appropriate interval, so one has confidence in their offshore tracking and communication devices. It is an issue for all battery powered devices.



Member Boats & Gear for Sale

*Some great salty gear for sale from Hank: www.captainharrysboatshed.com

*Are you a Member? Send us a brief description of your boat for sale.

Our Sponsor Highlights

M Yachts:



Two Annapolis based businesses in one, M Yacht Services provides quality workmanship and attention to detail for all your Electrical, Electronics, Plumbing, Carpentry, Fiberglass & Paint, and Systems Projects. M Rigging is your expert source for Boom Furlers, Architectural Fabrication, Rigging & Spars.

Fiorentino Para Anchor:



Established in 1958 on the US West Coast, Fiorentino has become a world leading authority and U.S. manufacturer for underwater parachute sea anchors and storm drogues as well as other safety products and accessories.

Hydrovane:



Hydrovane has been steering dreams for over 50 years. Whether it's ten miles or thousands of miles, Hydrovane will steer you safely. For ease of use, versatility, and reliability, Hydrovane surpasses all other systems.



Thank You for Your Participation!



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