



MultiMedia

November 2004

The Newsletter of the Florida Offshore Multihull Association

The Editor's Corner

by Colin Povey

Well, if you missed the October FOMA meeting, you missed what was probably the best FOMA meeting in five years, and I am not kidding.



World voyager Dick Santos

If you missed the meeting, you missed hearing Dick Santos literally captivate us with tales from his 11-year circumnavigation of the Earth in a catamaran he built. With his wife Jane, and a cat they adopted along the way, they dealt with pirates, storms, sea snakes, wild cats in the jungle, and a host of other situations.

To put it bluntly, Dick is a marvelous speaker. He

made you feel like you were there while he was talking about visiting lands and islands along their route, traveling up rivers to visit people and places seldom visited even by other circumnavigators.

Here are some highlights from his talk.

Dick is, to say the least, a very highly qualified sailor. In addition to a previous circumnavigation under sail (that time in a monohull), Dick was a navigator on US submarines, and holds a submarine endorsement to his 100-ton Coast Guard license. This came in handy on their trip, as he was able to get a job during their trip running submarine tours, while his wife worked as a teacher.

In spite of his tremendous navigational experience, on this trip he never used his sextant! Shortly before they set sail, the price of GPS units had dropped to the point that Jane convinced him to buy one, as she cannot navigate via sextant. After using the GPS once, he decided to navigate traditionally (using a running fix on charts) and

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The Editor's Corner

to take a daily position fix via GPS instead of with a sextant. He became so impressed with a GPS for obtaining a fix that he bought a second as a backup. Note that he does **not** navigate by GPS, but uses them only for obtaining fixes. He navigates the old-fashioned way, via charts. He feels this combination is the best, most reliable system of navigation.

They ended up at the same dock in the same marina from which they started, eleven years later. Of course, they managed to return in late summer, just in time for our four hurricanes. As he said, they spent 11 years circling the globe, and managed to avoid all serious storms until they returned to their home marina!

After returning, they sold their boat (a 40 some-foot Warrham Tiki design) to her new owner. Since he has circumnavigated in both a monohull and a multihull, he is convinced that multihulls are the only way to go!

Great News! Dick and Jane have agreed to return to FOMA and give another talk for our January meeting! So, if you saw them the first time, and especially if you did not, be sure to come to the January FOMA meeting. It will be a real treat!

Our Next Meeting

The November FOMA meeting will be held on November 16th at Applebees, located at 5110 East Bay Drive, just West of US 19 n Largo. This is in the Tri-City shopping center.

Our speaker will be another long-distance voyager: Captain John Waite. Captain John has sailed more than 25,000 miles single handed.

As usual drinks start at 6:00 P.M., with Dinner at 7:00 P.M. We will order from the full menu. Look forward to seeing you there!

For our December meeting, we will be back at Steak and Ale on Wednesday, December 15th. Incorrect information was printed in last months *MultiMedia*. Mark your calendars now!

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Chinese Gift Exchange

We are having our usual Chinese Gift Exchange at our December meeting. Here are the rules:

1. To participate, you must bring a wrapped or bagged gift to exchange.

THIS MEANS THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL THAT WANTS TO PARTICIPATE MUST BRING A GIFT. For example: if you are a couple and both of you would like to participate, each of you must bring a wrapped gift.

2. Participants will pick a number out of the hat.
3. This number indicates when you will take your turn to pick out a gift. For example: The person who draws the Number 1 goes first, the person who draws the Number 2 is second, etc.
4. The person with Number 1 goes first. They will select a wrapped gift, open it and allow all to see it.
5. The person with Number 2 then may pick a wrapped gift **or** may delicately, or indelicately, claim Number 1's treasure.
6. If Number 1 becomes giftless, then they must open another gift. Number 1 cannot immediately "snag back" their first choice. However, as the exchange progresses Number 1 could have the opportunity to retrieve an earlier gift. This happens if someone should take Number 1's current gift.
7. These basic principles apply to Number 2, then 3, and so on and so on.
8. "Number Last" has the opportunity to take the remaining unwrapped gift or to "snag" a gift, in which case the "snagee" must take the remaining unwrapped gift.

IMPORTANT: A gift may change hands a maximum of 3 times. After 3 changes of hand, a gift is "Out Of Play".

Members Update

We have several things to report on some FOMA members, sort-of a FOMA gossip column.

First, Uncle Sid is doing fine. The operation went very well, and was done arthroscopically, meaning no large incision, just several small punctures. He spent a couple of days in the hospital, and came home looking forward to becoming active again.

Next, a potentially serious accident occurred to Bob and Delores Jorgensen on their way to our October meeting. They had just started to enter an intersection when another car hit theirs. Quick reactions by Bob prevented any injuries, but their car received about \$7,000 in damage.

Kurt Gregory has had to relocate to Colorado, as a result of a job change. Here's hoping he can find a lake big enough for his F-31.

Lastly, next month, look for an article on updates to the GPS system and on a comparison sail between a cat and a monohull.



World voyager Jane Santos

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