

CREW GIVE BACK – BIG FISH, TRIUMPHANT LADY AND SARAFSA'S PHILANTHROPY

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Crew antics at the
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Refit Yacht Sinks on Launch

AFTER UNDERGOING A MAJOR REFIT, THE 60-METER M/Y FOX PARTIALLY SANK IN THE THA CHIN RIVER IN BANGKOK'S SAMUT SAKHON'S MUANG DISTRICT ON DECEMBER 10 AS SHE WAS LAUNCHED AT A LOCAL SHIPYARD. >>>

According to *Thaiphotoblogs.com*, despite efforts from the yacht builder's workers, who attempted to adjust the cables to prevent the incident, the yacht "tipped sideways and water gushed into its interior. The yacht was sinking while the workers erected buoys in the hope of keeping it

afloat." The buoys ultimately were not enough to keep the vessel from sinking.

"All parties concerned in the refit who have expended a huge amount of time and effort into the project are devastated," Yacht Solutions said in a statement issued after the incident. "At this point in time there is little point in surmising, speculating or guessing what went wrong as a full investigation is still ongoing and a full report of the facts will be known upon conclusion of that investigation."

A Yacht Owner Who Cares



THE INAUGURAL PERSEUS AWARD, created to recognize yacht owners who have shown exemplary dedication to marine wildlife conservation, was presented at last October's Fort Lauderdale boat show. The first owner honored was Paxson "Packy" Offield, a conservationist who's played a major role in the Galapagos National Park's shark-tagging program. He's also the chairman of the Offield Center for Billfish Studies, a nonprofit dedicated to conserving and enhancing billfish populations, a director of the Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies and a lifetime member of the National Coalition for Marine Conservation, Pacific Region.

Offield accepted his award during a congenial evening at the Museum of Discovery and Science, hosted by Pacific Bound Yachts, which also donated the award, a glass sculpture by artist Latchezar Boyadjiev. Guests also were treated to an IMAX Galapagos 3D movie and an art show by photographer Bryce Groark. www.pacificboundyachts.com

Win a Paint Job at Bradford Marine

WANT TO MAKE THE OWNER forever look favorably on you? Win the vessel a free bottom paint job at Bradford Marine's Fort Lauderdale shipyard and you may have a job for life. Just submit an entry at the Bradford Marine booth during the Miami boat show, February 17-21, 2011, and the winner will be selected by raffle on February 22. For a full list of the rules, go to www.bradford-marine.com.

Congratulations to Capt. Gunnar Watson of M/Y *Sun Ark*, who won a bottom paint job in Bradford's raffle after the Fort Lauderdale boat show.

CREW FOR A CAUSE *BIG FISH* TO THE RESCUE



Suki Finnerty

Big Fish Capt. Winston with Dhardra of YAG

The coastal village of San Juan Bautista on Chile's Robinson Crusoe Island was hit hard in 2010. Minutes after mainland Chile was struck by an 8.8-magnitude earthquake on February 27, 2010, the island, approximately 400 miles out to sea, was hit

by a five-meter tsunami with virtually no warning. It destroyed houses, government offices, businesses and the village's only school. Later, government officials admitted that the navy should have sounded the tsunami warning immediately.

The island has struggled to recover. The Chilean government reportedly has been slow to respond and outside aid has trickled in. Capt. Winston Joyce-Clarke of M/Y *Big Fish*, which was traveling from Fort Lauderdale to the Antarctic Peninsula, learned of the situation from Capt. Mark Drewelow, a former yacht captain who founded YachtAid Global, an organization dedicated to providing aid to remote populations with the help of yachts.

The crew of *Big Fish* are no strangers to philanthropy, however – they have their own grass-roots charity called Crew-4Change. Through the charity, the crew solicits donations to put toward charities they deem suitable. Capt. Joyce-Clarke immediately was interested in helping the villagers on Robinson Crusoe Island. The crew agreed to purchase and distribute needed goods, ultimately donating more than \$8,400 worth of items, including laptop computers, numerous school supplies and sports equipment, for the 150 children left without a school. mybigfishcharters.com; www.yachtaidglobal.org

IN BRIEF



■ **Moore Stephens Crew Benefits** has appointed Melanie Langley as its new sales manager in the Mediterranean. Langley, who is fluent in Spanish, will be based in Mallorca. She previously worked as a financial broker for one of the world's largest insurance brokerages. www.mscb.im

■ FJORD, the manufacturer of **Chafe-Pro** Chafing Gear, has hired Keith Lorigan as national account manager. Lorigan's primary responsibilities will be to increase market share for Chafe-Pro's chafing gear in non-government sectors. www.ChafePro.com

The BVIs: New Regatta, New Marina



Courtesy of Oil Nut Bay

KNOWN BY MANY AS THE “YACHTING CAPITAL OF THE CARIBBEAN,” THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS ARE ALMOST POSTCARD PERFECT IN MANY RESPECTS. NEED ANOTHER REASON TO VISIT? BOAT INTERNATIONAL MEDIA IS HOSTING A NEW SUPERYACHT REGATTA, MARCH 16–20, 2011, IN VIRGIN GORDA. >>>

The Caribbean Superyacht Regatta & Rendezvous will incorporate both sail and motor yacht events during the four-day affair that is jointly organized by Boat International Media and

the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda. The event also marks the launch of a new superyacht marina, the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda Virgin Gorda. Developed by Victor International and located in the North Sound’s protected waters, the yacht club will be linked to the new Oil Nut Bay luxury resort community and Biras Creek, a Relais & Châteaux property.

The three days of racing will be organized by the international race committee at the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda under IRC rule. A daytime program encouraging owners and guests to use their yachts and toys for on-the-water entertainment includes a Cruise-in-Company and a tender-based treasure hunt around North Sound, along with watersports and family entertainment. Crew can join the fun with chef and cocktail competitions.

Guests also can partake in yacht hops, shopping and spa beauty treatments, cocktails aboard the host yacht *M/Y Resolute* and visits to some of the island’s attractions. Cocktails, beach parties and gala dinners round out the evening entertainment options. www.superyachtregattaandrendezvous.com

Caribbean Agents Join Forces

SOME CHANGES ARE COMING to the Caribbean this season. For one, a new association of Caribbean yacht agents formed after the last winter season. “With all these growing changes in the demands requested by owners, cascading down to the management company, captains, etc., we felt it was time that we formally formed an association,” says Jane Midson, managing director of Jane’s Yacht Services in Antigua. “[Now] Caribbean yacht agents can come together, [share] business practices, form synergies, transparencies and establish credibility towards our customers, our members and respect each other’s domain.”

The Caribbean Yacht Agents Association’s (CYAA) aim is to provide a list of agents who have agreed to a code of ethics, share a similar pricing structure and provide total transparency to their customers.

Yachtsam and Jetsam

SURROUNDED BY STUFF you no longer use but you don’t quite know what to do with it? Don’t just chuck it, consult www.yachtsam-and-jetsam.com to figure out where you can responsibly dispose of old or unused items – they might find a second home or even do some good.

The website, a recycling and disposal resource guide for yachts and yacht-related businesses, was created by Haley Heathman, a five-year crew veteran. “This is strictly a non-profit venture for me. I’ve seen a need in the industry and I’m trying to fill it. I’m hoping to mobilize the South Florida yachting community,” Heathman says. Her website is divided into sections for each department, including information where engineers can dispose of oily rags, old filters and hazardous material.

So if you’re scratching your head over what to do with your old fenders or old crew uniforms, do yourself – and the planet – a favor and do the responsible thing. www.yachtsam-and-jetsam.com



DEAR STACEY,

The first mate just had his fiancée hired on board as a fourth stewardess. I am the chief stewardess and it's my job to train and manage the junior crew as well as keep the boat and service up to the owners' and charter guests' high expectations. Both duties are immense and high pressure at the height of the busy season. My problem is this: What do you do when the good old boys (the captain/first mate/engineer) decide that their significant others are experienced enough to be employable on the yacht they're working on? I have had a couple of good experiences, but most of the time as the chief stewardess, I get suckered into babysitting. When I present my problems to the captain I am usually met with "take it easy, she's new, don't be so hard on her, etc., etc." only to have wasted my time when they both leave and, of course, she remains on shore where she should have been in the first place. I feel like I am completely wasting my time and the other stewardesses suffer as well, working harder to pick up that one person's slack. In a group of four on a busy yacht, that makes a big difference. My question is...how do I make this situation work for the rest of the season? How do I manage the unmanageable?

I can understand your frustration and, unfortunately, once the person is hired on for the season there is probably very little you can do. Stamping your feet, getting angry and complaining are things you shouldn't be doing; it wastes your extra energy and annoys everyone else. Look at the situation logically and work with what you have. Even though this stewardess was hired against your will, you are still responsible for making the situation work, which is why you are the manager. Being organized with the stewardess's daily tasks and checking to see that they are done each day accordingly are some of your responsibilities. If her daily tasks are written out and signed off by you, at least you know the bare minimum is being done. The attitude is not something that you should be worried about dealing with at this point; getting the job done to an acceptable standard is now your only concern. If the other stewardesses are interested in excelling, they will be aware that putting in the extra effort will get them noticed by you and the captain. Manage your responsibility. Delegate. Can you have the second stewardess work with the third, while you keep an eye on the fourth? This is all about business and accomplishing the goal of running a successful interior and completing a successful season. You're the manager, make it happen.

Dear Stacey is written by Stacey Smith, an eight-year veteran crewmember. Email crew concerns to askstacedockwalk@yahoo.com.

YARD NEWS A NEW OFFERING IN THE NETHERLANDS



Mulder Shipyard's new yard

Mulder Shipyard in The Netherlands is expanding into a second yard, which is being constructed in Zoeterwoude Rijndijk, just 10 kilometers from its current facility. The new yard will span 7,000 square meters and will be dedicated to the maintenance, refit and building of vessels from 18 to 40 meters. The yard currently is projected to open in 2012 with the first vessel expected to launch in 2013.

The first hall of the new yard will be equipped with two dry docks measuring 55 x 13 meters and the second hall will be able to accommodate simultaneous construction of four vessels up to 30 meters. The new facility will also include a 100-tonne boat lift.

The existing Mulder yard in Voorschoten will remain open and will service vessels under 18 meters. www.muldershipyard.nl

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