

channel



MARCH 2015

LARGEST REGATTA EVER AT COCONUT GROVE SAILING CLUB!

Coconut Grove Sailing Club's Annual MLK Weekend Regatta has grown since inception in 2011 to be the largest regatta event in Club history. This year, some 217 boats and Boards sailed on five circles as a part of this Olympic sailing lead up to the annual ISAF Sailing World Cup – Miami (see separate report in this issue of the Channel). Racing was conducted on five separate circles over the January 17-19 period – starting in the NE part of the Bay and continuing south from there, the Olympic Men's 49ers, Women's 49er FX, the Nacra 17 Catamaran, and then moving west the Women's/Youth RS:X 8.5 Windsurfers and Men's 9.5 Windsurfers, and then moving south from there, the Men's/Mixed and Women's 470's and

470 youth trainer International 420'S.

Racing was a bit problematic with widely variable NW winds predominating. Those winds are cyclical, but cover a wide range. This confronts the Race Committee with the choice of striking a course in the middle vs. chasing the shifts from one extreme to the other.

All in all, things worked out fairly well. Olympic Gold Medalists rose to the top in several classes. After all, "the cream rises to the top." This includes the Men's/

Mixed 470 Class where Australia's Matt Belcher claimed the North American Championship event associated with this regatta. Among the 470 Women, the Austrian team of Lara Vadlau and Jolanta Ogar won by seven points over a British team. The international field was extremely





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*Banner: 29er provided by Carol Stout-Ewing
 and Melges provided by Marylinda Ramos.*

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www.cgsc.org

Volume 70 Issue 8

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Over the years CGSC's Strip has gone from casual and laid back to competitive and highly sought after. This year we formed a committee to sort out the details and policy once and for all to clarify who exactly can keep a boat on the strip. While I had planned to detail the new policy in this month's article, we are in the final stages of approval by the Board of Directors. Many thanks go out to Strip Chair Bud Price, Fleet Captain Susan Walcutt, Rear Commodore Geoff Sutcliffe and Vice Commodore Jeff Flanagan for putting their heads together to come up with an equitable policy that is inclusive, fair to all and is clarified with regard to our club's mission. This waiting list is posted outside the office for those wish to get a spot and it not short. Please be advised that boats that sit idle collecting water are likely to soon be asked to vacate so that active sailors and racers can take advantage of our precious little launch site. More on this next month.

It was not hard to notice the pile driver putting down channel markers to the south side of our mooring field this past month. This new channel has been in the works for some time now and feeds into a 35' – 50' wide passageway on the inside edge of Clarington Island. The channel allows access to Camp Biscayne residents as well as FWC emergency vessels through a natural depression in that area and on the outside of our mooring field to Brennans Channel. Please note that we may move a few boats and/or moorings to facilitate this immediately. The new locations will conform more closely to our established boundaries and we are working to be able to temporarily re-install our regulatory boundary markers to help define the channel until the marker's screw down anchors are put into place along with the new moorings.

While many of my articles deal with technical issues at the club, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate CGSC Opti sailor William Adams for coming in first place in White fleet at this year's Boomerang Regatta at the Ft. Lauderdale Yacht Club. William, who is ten, went on to qualify for this year's US team trials with a 21st overall and a second place in White fleet at the Valentines Day Qualifier in St. Petersburg. William is being coached by our new rock star youth director Diunieski "KOKY" Gutierrez. Koki started at the beginning of this year with the spring session and brings with him much experience in Opti and Laser coaching. While this year has been transitional for our waterfront programs, we are on solid footing with our staffing and programs. The youth programs continue to burgeon. We are proud of the team and the fine youth sailors like William who continue to represent CGSC in the finest light.

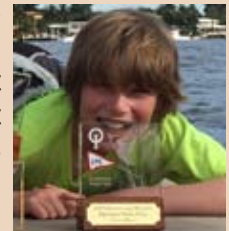
Lastly, Please get involved with our Flip Flop Fete again this year and do plan to attend. This is our main youth team fundraiser and it allows us to continue giving neighborhood outreach in the form of scholarships, summer camp sessions and special activities which allow kids who may have never gotten the chance to get out and enjoy our treasured bay. Perhaps you have a special donation or skill to auction off. Or perhaps you can plan to be a sponsor. Sponsorships start at \$250 and help defray the costs associated with making this event a night to remember. Buy Tickets and bring friends this year! There will again be dancing on the lawn, great food and drinks and the daiquiris will flow on the main dock as usual. Make your reservation now at cgsc.org/flipflop.

I like to say that the reward for living in Miami is getting out on the water so get to it and I'll see you out there!

Paul van Puffelen, Commodore

Commodore@cgsc.org

Sweet Lime – C&C 30MK-2



VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

The busy season is in full swing! If you've been anywhere near the Club recently you've witnessed more activity than I think we've ever had. I'm glad everyone is using the Club and enjoying all the benefits. And thank you for all your patience during this busy season. It's never easy when you can't find a parking spot; can't find an open bike rack; and can't find a clear path across the lawn or under the building. But that tells me that we are fulfilling our mission of getting people out on the water and out sailing. If you want to go out sailing but don't yet own a boat, remember we have boats available for members to use. You need to be certified to use the boats and if you haven't yet taken a class, they are plentiful but they also fill up quickly. So, check with Lauren or Adriana in the main office for schedules and openings.

March brings us towards the end of busy season in south Florida. In addition to the regattas in February we also hosted booths and seminars at the Boat Show and the Arts Festival. Thank you to everyone that volunteered your time to be at the booth at either event and thank you to Richard Crisler, Bill Stewart and Doug Hanks (PC) for doing the "Buying Your First Boat" seminar at the Boat Show and to Janice and Alyn Pruett (PC) for doing the "Cruising Biscayne Bay" seminar - both seminars are very popular and were well attended. As we slow down in March, please know that the City is planning

to reconfigure the parking circle between the Club and Peacock Park. They are re-engineering the entrance and will be removing the middle landscaped island and adding angled parking. While they are adding more parking spaces, this may help to improve our mobility through the circle and will increase the turning radius at the U-turn, near the anchor. And the anchor will be moved up closer to Bayshore Drive. We have met with the City regarding the timing and the impact to the Club. As of now, we anticipate construction to start soon and there will be some difficulties to us getting in and out of the Club. But, we are working to minimize the negative impacts to all of us during the construction. Needless to say, we'll have to continue to dig deep for some more patience. From one Irishman to everyone who's Irish on St. Patrick's Day, I hope to see you at the Club on St. Patrick's Day for corned beef and cabbage for that Tuesday's Social Night.

Cheers!

Jeffrey Flanagan, Vice Commodore
ViceCommodore@cgsc.org
Golden Greek, Catalina 27



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Hello Sailors!
As winter recedes we'll be waving sad farewells to the many visitors from up north whom we have had on the mooring field - thanks for coming, and we hope to see you again next year. Joyously, our other winter visitors, the pooping birds, are also leaving, so it's time to scrub the deck one last time and get ready for sailing in the sunshine. All the fair-weather sailors can come out of their closets, and I'll see you out on the bay!

Most of our thoughts revolve around human sailors, but there's rarely a launch ride that doesn't have a canine sailor on the trip. In summer the club hosts the "Dog Day Afternoon" so we can meet them all, and it's always fun to pet a pooch that's waiting at the bottom of the stairs while the owner is upstairs having a few cold ones. Don't be shy of taking your puppy sailing - if you need advice about life jackets, etc., there are plenty of club members with experience to ask. (When you bring your doggy to the club, be sure to pick up any deposits on the lawn, and doggies are not allowed upstairs.) If you have any great photos of your canine companion onboard your boat, email them to me and I'll produce a fun article for next month's Channel.

There are two great club events coming up, so mark your calendars for the Flip-Flop-Fete on 14th March, and the Annual Rendezvous April 17th-19th.

The Flip-Flop-Fete is a fund raising event of the CGSC Youth Program, raising money to help support and build the program. We'll eat, drink, dance, bid (in the silent auction), and be merry. The Annual Rendezvous is our yearly sailaway trip, this year to Boca Chita. The theme this year is the "Sixties

Surfing Scene", so wax your old surfboard, get out your board shorts and bikinis, and prepare for a great time! If you'd like to help organize the rendezvous, send me an email - we have fun! See you out on the bay!

Geoff Sutcliffe
RearCommodore@cgsc.org
Moon Glow - Bristol 30'



NOTICE

Upcoming CGSC Regattas

Audi Melges Winter Series #3
March 12-14, 2015

Don Q Snipe Regatta
March 20-22, 2015

Spring Break Youth Sailing Festival
March 27, 2015

SEE NOTICES OF RACE AND REGISTRATION FORMS
ON RACE BULLETIN BOARD DOWNSTAIRS
OR AT WWW.CGSC.ORG
FOR BBYRA 2013-14 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
VISIT THEIR WEBSITE @ WWW.BBYRA.NET



Photographs compliments of US Sailing.

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impressive for our little Club on Biscayne Bay. To put this event together, it took a dedicated team of CGSC Member-volunteers working together to produce a good result.

On the Race Committee were Signal Boat owners Marc (PC) and Cathy Buller with their Beneteau 35 Otra Cuba Libre. Signal Boat personnel included PRO Ross Cameron from Kingston, ON, DRO and CGSC professional Race Manager Blake Middleton, Timer Dottie Rostorfer, Flag Signalers Veronic Aghayan and Connie Bradley and Records Marlene Erven, Marylinda Ramos and Nicole Barton. Jo Ann Mathieu handled the all-important task of Scoring.

Up to windward on CGSC's Clearwater were Skipper and RC Chair Susan Walcutt, with Sicotte Hamilton, Philippe Dusser, and Zach Elliott. The Pin Boat was skippered by Debbie Ryder, with Race Officer George Bradley, Denise Schneider and Larry Kron. The Outer Gate/Finish Boat was skippered by Ron Rostorfer (PC) with Nancy Rogachenko, Paul Sarvich, Bonnie Padgett, Ev Hoffman and Rick Klein.

Special thanks to Chief Judge Rick Mallinson, and Judges Mike Dawson, Nancy Glover and Baird Lobree. More special thanks to chief organizer Carol Ewing – a truly invaluable presence at our larger events.

Shore-side Regatta Committee Chair Sandrine Quenee did another outstanding job for this event. She was assisted at Registration by Michelle Kesser Posse, Julia Shestopalov, Rick Klein, Marina Jaudenes, Maryann Etkin, Karen Young, Denise Schneider, Lynn O'Brien, Carol Ewing, and Liz Balbin. Assisting with launching at the US Sailing Center were Richard Etkin, Gonzalo Diaz, Sr., Karen Young, Madeleine Rowe, Matthew Lorente, Giovanni Battista Arista and Larry Whipple. In addition, the Regatta Desk was covered by Suzanne Roberts and others named above.

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RECORD BOARD FLEET AT CGSC FOR SAILING WORLD CUP

It's the Olympic Cycle! With many countries using the ISAF Sailing World Cup Miami regatta this year as part of their Olympic selection process, the turnout across all Olympic Classes at this event January 26-31 was huge. CGSC traditionally hosts the Men's and Women's RS:X Olympic Windsurfers, and this year was no exception. 66 Men and 38 Women competitors totaling 104 "Boards" were shore-based at CGSC during that period.

Instead of the usual Boards on the lawn and lower level of the Clubhouse, this year US Sailing paid for and CGSC ordered and set up scaffold racks where the Boards lived – on the Strip and out in Myers Park through the North Gate. It worked – the Club lawn and lower level were essentially Board-free except during rigging and unrigging. Huge thank-you's to our two Member-builders – Brian Duplisea and Duffy Samuel for the set up and tear down.

It was a great regatta for wind. In fact, Monday, January 26, the first day of racing was almost too windy – gusting into the high 20's. Racing went on. The wind stayed up in the mid-high teens thru Thursday, then lightened for the final fleet races on Friday. If there are not planing conditions, the Boards can only sail two "pump-fest" races per day. So, Friday was short. Medal Races for the top ten boats in

each of the Olympic Classes were sailed on Saturday.

The Men's event was won by Olympic Gold Medalist Dorian Van Rijsselberghe from the Netherlands. The top US Man was Carson Crane in 41st! Olympic Bronze Medalist Bryony Shaw from Great Britain easily won the Women's Class. The top eight were all from different countries. The USA's Farrah Hall was 18th. Clearly, the US has a long way to go prior to the 2016 Rio Olympics.

CGSC's Race Committee did another excellent job running the Trapezoid Course that the Boards sail to keep the two

fleets separated. This takes a Signal Boat and four support boats. The course requires seven marks plus the Pin Boat and Finish Boat. If there is a slalom at the end, then it's 10 marks.

The Signal Boat was again Carl and Mercedes Updyke's Gemini 34 catamaran, Cool Obsession. Signal Boat crews included Blake Middleton, Sicotte Hamilton, Saralee Lamb, Connie Bradley, Jim Waldron, Veronic Aghayan, Bill Braddon, Barbara Safiullin, and Jo Ann Mathieu.

Up to windward was David Kurtz (PC), RC Chair Susan Walcutt, Rick Klein, Steve Schwartz, Ross Cameron and Denise Schneider. The Pin Boat Race Officer was George Bradley with Paul Sarvich, Larry Kron, Bonnie Padgett Debbie Ryder and Cathy Buller. The Finish Boat RO was Dottie Rostorfer with Skipper Julie Hanrahan, Ryan Alexander, Don Poole and Suzanne Roberts. The Gate Boat RO was Ron Rostorfer (PC) with Skipper Patrick McLister.



CGSC installed racks on the Strip and in the Myers Park area outside our North Gate to accommodate a record fleet of over 100 Olympic RS:X Windsurfers during the second half of January, 2015. The Club lawn remained quite open through both events.

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Sandrine Quenee did another spectacular job as Shore-side Chair. She loves these sailors and had them very well organized throughout the week. Michelle Kesser-Posse was also a big help as was Denise Schneider.



Photos by MaryLinda Ramos and John Donnelly.



KISS-OFF...AND RUNNING AT MELGES 20 SERIES EVENT No. 2

CGSC's Michael Kiss with tactician Mike Buckley started the February 6-8 International Audi Melges 20 Event No. 2 with a so-so seventh place finish, but that was the lowest score they posted as they went on to win the regatta by nine points over the Italian team STIG with helm Alessandro Rombelli and America's Cupper Terry Hutchinson on tactics. 37 boats were entered and sailed in the regatta, up from 31 in December.

It was another case of great wind on the Bay, with a hard breeze on the first two days followed by a light to moderate air finale on Sunday, February 8. All in all, 37 Melges 20's contested the event. Bacio, Michael's boat, finished up Day 1 with a 3-2 to hold the lead. In Day 2, also with big breeze, they scored a 2-5-3 to maintain the lead, but the day was won by CGSC's Marc Hollerbach with Olympic Gold Medalist Jonathan McKee on tactics aboard Fu scoring a 3-3-1 following a tough Day 1 in the high 'teens-low 20's.

The real news after Day 2 was the second place standing of 11-year old Liam Kilroy and his top notch crew who had compiled a 8-4-4-[10]-1-5 to hold second place going into the remaining two races on Sunday. His dad, veteran and champion racing competitor John Kilroy had won two races but also counted 13th and 18th places and was also in the hunt.

Kiss held on for the two races on Sunday with a 5-[14] for the win; Rombelli had a 2-11 for second, John Kilroy squeaked ahead of son Liam for third by one point, and Marc Hollerbach won the last two days of the event

with a 3-3-1-4-1 to take 5th overall.

They were happy competitors with great racing conditions and great racing. The fleet held "press conference" post race de-briefs on both Friday and Saturday on the CGSC lawn, and then gathered for the awards presentation at Shake-a-Leg on Sunday where they haul and store for the "Melges Rocks" finale in

March to end the Miami Winter Series for the 2014-15 season.

CGSC's Race and Shore-side Regatta Committees did another excellent job this weekend. Sandrine Quenee and her crew did another great job on the Shore-side Regatta Committee, in conjunction with Melges 20 Class Administrator/photographer/publicist/Girl Friday, Joy Dunigan. They're a great team.



The CSGC Race Committee Signal Boat was Jim Green's Bali Ha'i skippered by Bob Welbon on Friday, Ev Hoffman on Saturday and Jim on Sunday. Aboard were Blake Middleton, Veronic Aghayan, Conie Bradley, Emy Martinez and Jo Ann Mathieu. To windward with RC Chair Susan Walcutt on her Contender 27 were Navigator Dottie Rostorfer, Marylinda Ramos, Ryan Alexander, Suzanne Roberts and Dick Poder. Julie Hanrahan skippered the Gate Boat with Race Officer George Bradley, Andi Hoffman and Philipp Dusser. The Pin Boat was skippered by David Kurtz (PC) and Debbi Ryder, with Race Officer Ron Rostorfer (PC), Nancy Rogachenko, Cathy Buller and Joao Guetter.

FOR SALE: Classic Tartan 34, *Grace*, \$12,000 OBO,
305 546 6727.

2015 Commodoro Rasco Regatta

Once again, Coconut Grove Sailing Club and regatta chief Gonzalo “Old Man” Diaz put on a spectacular regatta that provided a convenient midwinter escape for those of us from up north.

Three races were held on Saturday, and the fleet sailed out into a gorgeous sun-sparkled 10-15 knot northeasterly. Hiking muscles were tested all day, and the shifty conditions meant that no win was completely safe until the finish—even the rather substantial leads built by Ernesto Rodriguez/Eddie Mintzias in all three races.

Peter Commette/Hilary Noble gave chase with two seconds and a fourth, and Carol Cronin/Kim Couranz filled in the top 3 in two of the races. Other podium finishers for the day included Esteban Echavarria and crew, who finished 2nd in the first race of the event, and Andre Guaragna/Jensen McTighe who improved throughout the day (8,6,3).

The highlight of this event is always the Saturday night lasagne dinner, hosted by Old Man and Carmen Diaz. And the highlight of that evening (at least for me) is listening to the Old Man’s stories about sailing Snipes over the past seven decades. With color commentary provided by Peter Commette and a few others, we enjoyed the annual replay of Diaz home movies, featuring 1950s Snipe sailing at the Miramar Yacht Club in Havana. “Commodoro Rasco!”

This year, we also toasted and shared memories of Jerry Thompson, who (as Ken Voss put it), was “always at every Snipe regatta, everywhere.” Old Man closed out the storytelling with a remembrance of the 1956 Western Hemisphere championship, when Jerry (at age 17) tacked too close to him. Old Man threw him out of the race, which cost JT the overall championship. “Last year I told him I still consider him the true 1956 Western Hemisphere Champion,” Old Man said. And what greater tribute could a Snipe sailor receive?

Back on the Serious Sailing side of the equation, Sunday’s forecast was for a bit more breeze than we had on Saturday and we sailed out to the race course ready for another two races of full-out hiking. Toward the end of the first race, however, the breeze started to fade off, and crews were rewarded for changing gears and believing their eyes instead of the forecast.

Ernesto teamed up with a new “supercrew” for Sunday to win race 4, on his way to a perfect regatta. But a bad start in the final race forced them to play catchup, and though they climbed back to second halfway through the race (behind Carol Cronin/Kim Couranz), a shift and some bad luck just before the finish pushed them back to seventh. It was still enough to win the event, an impressive performance.

After racing and packing boats, we all gathered to sing “La Bomba” and even got Old Man to sing (or rather drink) a verse. Here’s to many, many more Commodoro Rasco events, and thanks again to Old Man and Carmen for carrying on this tradition.

Carol Cronin

The Fleet



RESULTS:	
POS	SKIPPER
1	Ernesto Rodriguez
2	Carol Cronin
3	Peter Commette
4	David Hernandez
5	Andre Guaragna
6	Hal Gilreath
7	Kyle Comerford
8	Emily Hill
9	Esteban Echavarria
10	Bridget Wiatrowski
11	Jefferson Hall
12	Robert Guaragna
13	Ken Voss
14	Gregory Saldana
15	Evert McLaughlin
16	Kristen Herman
17	Sharon Seymour-Johnson
18	Lisa Pline
19	Gonzalo Diaz
20	Nick Voss
21	Marina Gallego



First Place skipper Ernesto Rodriguez and crew with Fleet Captain Gonzalo Diaz, aka “the old man”.



Second Place Carol Cronin and crew with “the old man”.



Third Place Peter Commette and crew.

ADULT SAILING REPORT

Our Adult Instructional program here at CGSC continues good attendance and growth in the new year, with regular scheduled classes being at or near capacity for January and February, as well as an increase in complete private classes, especially for the Ensign keelboats. Phil's Sunfish group classes and clinics continue to be well attended with some new hulls making room for even more participation. We are very thankful to have certified cruising instructor, Capt. Bruce Penrod, continuing to assist us with the larger boat cruising classes. For those already BASIC KEELBOAT Certified and wanting to get their BASIC CRUISING and BASIC BAREBOAT Certifications, Bruce has agreed to upcoming back-to-back classes for each. BASIC CRUISING will be offered on March 6-7-8, followed by BASIC BAREBOAT on March 9-10-11-12. Class size is limited, so contact Bruce (bapenrod29@msn.com) at your earliest convenience to get registered for either or both classes. Basic Cruising or Basic Bareboat certifications are required for member-use of our Beneteau cruising boats.

Our Member-Use program which offers boat use privileges to qualified members (certified or endorsed), is continuing to experience increased usage as the number of members being certified (or endorsed in some cases) continues to grow. Though we have a limited number of boats, most members are able to reserve boats when they want them, except when the boats are being used in regular organized classes. Members also

need to continue to respect each other and the club when making reservations. Boat usage hours reserved need to be complied with and any reservation not kept and not cancelled in advance will result in the member being billed for that usage time, as the boat is not available to anyone else during the time they reserved, but failed to show or cancel. This is rare, but with a limited number of boats, it becomes a significant issue. If you can use the boats on weekdays, you will rarely find boats not available. Weekend usage, of course, is busier, and more demanding of the users regarding time reserved. If you reserve the boat, for example, for four hours, but only use it for two, you will be billed for the complete four hours. This is only fair, as others are denied usage during the time you have reserved. Please help us keep this issue simple and respectful of the club and your fellow member sailors.

As our programs grow, we are in need of additional adult certified instructors. If you have interest in getting involved or learning more about the opportunities and benefits of becoming a certified instructor for us, please contact me at your convenience. As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns regarding our sailing instructional programs.

Sail Often Sail Safely Enjoy and
Protect Our Beautiful Bay

Richard Crisler, Chairman

Adult Training
305-342-4775 cell
richardc@cgsc.org





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Spotlight on Youth Sailing

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FOR THE

Flip Flop Fete

To benefit the Coconut Grove Sailing Club Instructional Center's sailing, outreach & scholarship program

DINNER, DAIQUIRIS, DANCING.

ON SATURDAY

03.14.15
at 8pm

40 per person
members & their
guests welcome
RSVP
adriana@cgsc.org

SILENT
AUCTION
RAFFLE
DRAWINGS
LIVE MUSIC
DAIQUIRIS ON
THE MAIN DECK

because life is better in flip flops



Miami, FL — Exciting news from CGSC's youth sailing team! Our very own William Adams scored 2nd place in white fleet during the Valentine's Day Regatta. Adams scored 21st overall in this regatta and qualified for the US Team Trials this year in Miami!

William has been doing consistently well on the water, scoring 1st place in January's Boomerang Regatta. Backed by CGSC's new Youth Director, Diunieski "Koky" Gutierrez, he is sure to go far this season. We are so proud of his hard work and dedication!

CGSC's youth sailing program accepts children beginning at age 6 and turns them into competition level athletes.

We are pleased to once again offer recreational sailing camps during the upcoming Spring Break and all throughout the summer.

Find out more about CGSC's sailing camp visit www.cgsc.org/camp

Each year we sponsor children who wish to sail through our outreach program, which is funded by donations received during our annual Flip Flop Fete on March 14th 2015 at CGSC. You can learn more about the event at www.cgsc.org/flipflop

To make a donation, or for information on sponsorship opportunities, sailing lessons, regatta updates, membership, and club activities, visit us on the web www.cgsc.org, FOLLOW US.

GroveSailing @grovesailing @cgscsail

See you on the warm waters of Biscayne Bay!

Congratulations to William Adams on job well done!