

# ★ BULLSEYE ASSOCIATION ★

Fall Newsletter

October 1997



*Glorious racing during the Nationals at Fishers Island.  
From left to right Beaver II (Emily Wick), Gannet (Jim Runkle) and Neptune (John Brim).*

## RUGGS, FATHER AND DAUGHTER, WIN NATIONALS

Peter and Caroline Rugg sailed Pegasus to three, first-place finishes and decisively won the 36th Annual Bullseye National Championship Regatta at Fishers Island July 26, 27, 1997, competing in a fleet of 19 boats.

Second place went to Osprey skippered by J. T. Thompson with his dad Jim pulling the ropes. Their 14 points edged out Ed Desmarais and Frank Berson of Rockport, Massachusetts, winners of Race #1 in Acadia, with 16 points. Veteran Rockport skipper Jim Runkle, with Jo-Ann Lavigne, sailed Gannet to victory in Race #5 finishing 4th overall with 19 points. Fishers Island's Charlie Ferguson and Tim Patterson also had 19 points but finished 5th in Laughing Water as Runkle's triumph in the last race served as a tie breaker.

The festivities began July 25 when Harris Parsons and Eliot Porter towed in 10 visiting Bullseyes launched at Spicer's Marina in Noank, Connecticut. Seven hailed from Rockport and one each from Marblehead, Massachusetts; Marion, Massachusetts; and Southport, Connecticut. Commodore Sarah Rose welcomed all Bullseye sailors at the annual Commodore's Reception, conveniently planned for July 25. Everyone enjoyed Charlie Ferguson's slide presentation on the history of FIYC.

On Saturday morning, July 26, an excited group of sailors arrived at the 0830 skippers' meeting to receive final instructions from Charlie Van Voorhis, chair of the Race Committee. A pleasant southwest breeze made it possible to run two triangle-windward-leeward races before lunch break.

The first race developed rather quickly into a Dave Burnham/Ed Desmarais duel. The former led most of the way but was outsailed by Ed on the final beat. Peter and Caroline after a bad start had moved steadily through the fleet into third place. Fourth was won by Phil and Cheryl Nutting and the Thompsons came in 5th.

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## President's Message

It's time to haul out for the season. How quickly summer flew by! It was a great sailing summer with favorable winds. Halfway through it we had had more good sailing days than in the entire previous summer. Now, some of you will be returning to your favorite sunny "winter" areas leaving the rest of us to deal with the ice and snow.

The Beverly Yacht Club has graciously invited all Bullseye sailors to come to the 1998 Nationals in Marion. More information will follow as plans develop, so watch the newsletter for the latest information.

Thanks to all the Fishers Island residents who made the 1997 Nationals such a memorable event! We all know that

so much of the success depends upon those behind the scenes. A well put together team was quietly evident. Great racing, wonderful weather and renewed friendships will remain with us through the winter months ahead.

It has been encouraging to have people call and ask for information on new and used Bullseyes. There is definitely an interest out in the boating world for our seaworthy craft. If you know of any boat that could be put back into service, I would appreciate hearing about it. In subsequent newsletters we will list boats for sale. My phone number is (508) 546-2071 and my home address is 28 Parker St., Rockport, MA 01966

Connie Lavigne

## Thank You, Emily Wick

I speak for all Bullseye lovers when I express appreciation to Emily Wick for the great job she has done as Secretary of the Bullseye Association and Editor of the Newsletter. She has just retired after 13 years of stellar leadership in these positions.

With humility I assume these responsibilities. A few weekends ago my wife Anne and I visited Emily at her home overlooking Rockport Harbor. What a view! We loaded into our car Emily's neatly labeled Newsletters and records of previous Nationals. I learned something of the art of maintaining an

up-to-date membership list, putting a Newsletter together, and handling a mailing.



*A group of leaders! Emily Wick, retiring Secretary, out ahead at Fishers Island in Beaver II (670) followed by President Connie Lavigne in Whisper II and Vice President Ed Desmarais aboard Acadia.*

Emily started sailing Bullseyes in the early 1960's. Always a tough and respected competitor, everyone was thrilled when she won the Nationals in 1996. Downplaying her own accomplishments, Emily unfailingly plays up those of others. Friendliness and humor are other underlying qualities. She has been too often unsung for all her record keeping and for the production of over 40 editions of the newsletter. Thank you, Emily!

Dave Burnham

## Looking Ahead

This issue concentrates upon the 36th Bullseye Nationals at Fishers Island. As I look it over, however, I am much aware that it may provide only marginal interest for the majority of owners who use their Bullseye for family day sailing. I hope to rectify this imbalance in future issues.

My intention is to produce a January Newsletter which will provide great fireside dreaming and visions of summer sunsets while the snow falls outside. In April another issue will serve as a wake up call reminding us to unwrap the tarps from our craft and prepare for launching. A late June issue will enclose a Registration Form for the next Nationals and prepare us further for another summer of joyous sailing.

And then, too soon, it will be October again when with your help we will not only recap the Nationals but also the sailing season at different locations. I do not forget that Key Largo Bullseyes are waking up now just when the majority are settling into hibernation.

The Newsletter needs your articles, photographs, anecdotes and suggestions. With your help we'll provide some good reading and attract new members to our special family of Bullseye lovers. Contact me at 44 River St., Rehoboth, MA 02769. Tel. (508) 252-3442. E-mail: Awburnham@aol.com.

Dave Burnham, Editor



## The 1997 Nationals at Fishers Island *(continued)*

The morning wind had been fairly steady in direction but uneven in strength, and the tide had shifted from ebb to flood necessitating some challenging decision-making regarding whether to go left or right on both upwind and downwind legs. Dave Burnham got off to a remarkably fast start in the second race and stretched his lead all around the course only to receive a no-gun salute at the finish line. It turned out his start had been a little too fast, a portion of Querida had edged over the starting line prematurely thanks to the freshening flood tide. Once again the Ruggs had made their way through the fleet and this time the gun was theirs. The Nuttings were just behind followed by Brad Burnham in Peregrine, Gib Patterson in Gondolier and Jim Runkle in Gannet.

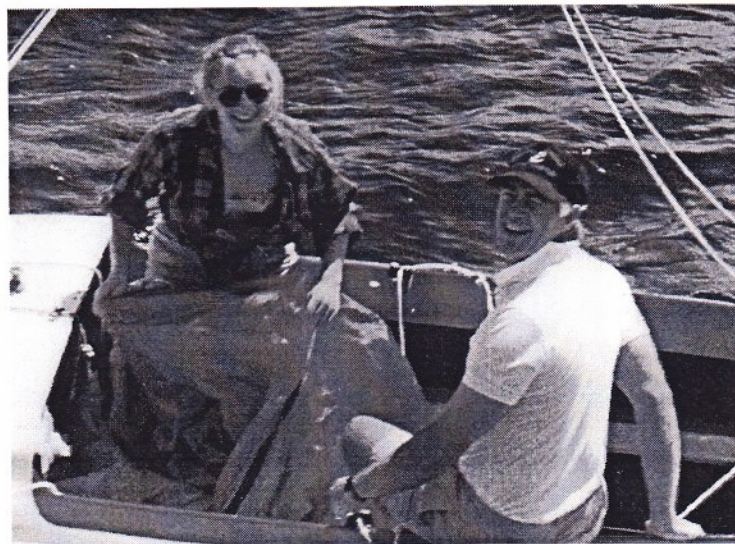
We now dropped our jibs, relaxed our mains, and delved into our bag lunches, some rejoicing, and some licking wounds, but all exulting over the joy of friendly competition on a beautiful day. The 3rd race was what Fishers Islanders have come to call a magic carpet affair. The Ruggs flew over the water leading all the way. Second place went to the Thompsons. Mark Cohen in Tradewynde came in 3rd, followed by Red All Over skippered by Wendy Goodwin-Kelley in 4th, while the canny Scot Charlie Ferguson directed Laughing Water into 5th place.

Saturday evening, Bullseye sailors were treated by Kathy Weymouth to a wonderful cocktail party at her home, Grey Gulls. After watching the beginning of sunset there, everyone proceeded to the Hay Harbor Club to watch the finale and to enjoy dinner and camaraderie. Wendy Goodwin-Kelley, in charge of customer service at Cape Cod Shipbuilding, gave an excellent presentation of the history of the company that manufactures our 15'8" Bullseyes.

Fog on Sunday morning did not dissipate until 1000 when Charlie Van Voorhis said, "Enough is enough" and fired the harbor start cannon to clear the air. It worked, though boats arrived at the starting line gradually, thanks to a continued absence of moving air. Pufflets from the south encouraged the Race Committee to attempt a start, but when the boats idled into a vacuum, there was a further postponement.

About 1130, a short, windward-leeward, twice-around race began. Tom and Jessica du Pont in Shamrock mastered the light air well, finishing 3rd behind Pegasus and Osprey. Charlie Ferguson and crew Tim Patterson secured 4th and the Goodwin clan guided Red All Over across the line in 5th place.

For the 5th race the wind was a trifle stronger, and Chair Van Voorhis successfully started it one minute before the "no races will begin after 1300" deadline. This was another windward/leeward race but in a slightly better breeze. Mr. Bullseye himself, Jim Runkle, showed us the way with Ed Desmarais 2nd, Charlie Ferguson 3rd, Gib Patterson 4th, and J. T. Thompson 5th.



*Caroline and Peter Rugg, father and daughter, Bullseye champions, aboard Pegasus.*

The best breeze of the day arrived as the boats sailed in for the awards ceremony where Peter and Caroline Rugg received not only the Les Goodwin Perpetual Trophy but also a beautiful "keeper" painting by Charlie Ferguson for their outstanding accomplishment in winning the 36th Nationals.

The Bullseye Association wishes to thank all those at Fishers Island who helped present a great set of races and fine hospitality. All aspects of the race committee work of Van Voorhis; John, Liz and

David H. Burnham; Andrew Rose; Beth Scholle; and Jerry Beauchamp were outstanding. Thanks also to Brad Burnham, Sr. for the use of Little Toot as Committee Boat.

Everyone went away with the hope that fair winds in their own lives will put them on the starting line at the 37th Nationals scheduled for Marion, Massachusetts next summer.



*We're ready! After the Skippers' Meeting the first morning. All aboard!*





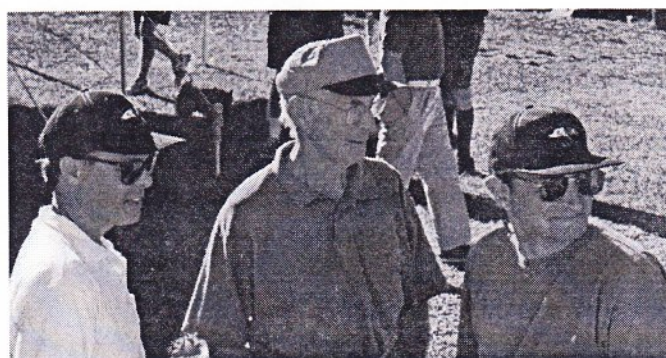
The Thompsons and *Osprey*. Steady, competent, well deserving of second place.



Third place winners Ed Desmarais and Frank Berson aboard *Acadia*, *On Target*, Laurie Rubinow and Steve Burnham to the left, and *Red All Over* sailed by Wendy Goodwin-Kelley, her father Gordon and sister Andrea on the right.



Tom DuPont leads the way in *Shamrock* followed by Emily Wick in *Beaver II* and Mark Cohen sailing *Tradewynde*.



A relaxed moment on the Yacht Club lawn. From left to right, Ed Desmarais, Brad Burnham, and Frank Berson

### The 36th Annual Bullseye Nationals Fishers Island New York ♦ July 25-27, 1997

Standings	Sail #	Boat	Yacht Club	Skipper	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Sat. Totals	Race 4	Race 5	Corrected Total
1	94	Pegasus	FIYC	Caroline & Peter Rugg	3	1	1	5	1	11	6
2	81	Osprey	FIYC	Jim Thompson	5	8	2	15	2	5	14
3	416	Acadia	SBYC	Ed Desmarais	1	10	6	17	7	2	16
4	265	Gannet	SBYC	Jim Runkle	6	5	7	18	15	1	19
5	140	Laughing Water	FIYC	Charles Ferguson	7	12	5	24	4	3	19
6	696	Dream Days	SBYC	Phil Nutting	4	2	9	15	13	7	22
7	790	Red All Over	BYC	Wendy Goodwin-Kelley	8	11	4	23	5	6	23
8	63	Gondolier	PYC	Gib Patterson	15	4	11	30	9	4	28
9	741	On Target	FIYC	Laurie Rubinow	10	6	8	24	14	8	32
10	285	Tradewynde	MYC	Mark Cohen	13	9	3	25	12	16	37
11	128	Peregrine	FIYC	Brad Burnham	9	3	13	25	16	13	38
12	80	Querida	FIYC	Dave Burnham	2	20	18	40	10	9	39
13	491	Mistress	SBYC	Tim Wright	11	13	16	40	6	10	40
14	141	Shamrock	FIYC	Tom du Pont	18	20	10	48	3	15	46
15	4	Neptune	FIYC	John Brim	14	16	14	44	8	12	48
16	670	Beaver II	SBYC	Emily Wick	12	7	19	38	18	17	54
17	557	Whirlwind	FIYC	John Nielsen	17	15	12	44	11	DNS	55
18	291	Whisper II	SBYC	Connie Lavigne	16	14	15	45	19	14	59
19	359	Dayspring	SBYC	Dan Karr	19	17	17	53	17	18	69