

Winter Circuit - 1997

1997 Midwinters

March 8-11, 1997
Clearwater, Florida

Here are the long awaited details of circuit stops one and two, for those of you not lucky enough to be there....

Clearwater showed her true colors this year. The Gulf was 76 degrees, air was in the 80's, and we had breeze from a variety of directions the whole time. First day was "condo breeze", easterly, so we had to dodge buildings at the top of the beat. Second day was southwest for the first race, steady 6-10, hiking a bit but nothing too exhausting. Race 2 a beautiful northwester came in for a tasty bit of planing on the reaches. Day 3 was north northwest, again steady, and still warm. The RC did a great job of escorting us in and out of the cut, and since there were only 19 boats the crash boat/competitor ratio was very high.

George and I had excellent boatspeed and managed to post all bullets, then chose not to sail the last race. Jack Franco got a lot of satisfaction out of telling us later that the Zimmerman Trophy score counts ALL the races, so we had just given away 20 points. (I think he was just jealous he couldn't sail the whole circuit.)

The race for second place came down to the final heat; Franco/Mike Sturman had to put a boat between them and Hal Gilreath/Jeff Beck (who were sailing fresh-out-of-the-box #30000) to beat the new boat, so they drove Gilreath/Beck back behind a pack of boats that included Craig/Mimi Beardsley, Birger Jansen/Carinne Juliussen from Norway, and Gonzalo Diaz Jr/Billy Vadia. By squeaking in ahead of the same pack to win the race, Franco/Sturman earned a comfortable margin for second.

Shoreside highlights included the grapefruit party, followed as always by delicious pizza with the Welch's on SAILS. This year's favorite video was the Australian 18 crash and burn tape.

Again, thanks to the Clearwater fleet and Clearwater Yacht Club members who made this another great stop on the Winter Circuit.

—Carol Newman



George Szabo and Carol Newman with Clearwater Fleet Captain Bob Foster.

Midwinter - Results

1. George Szabo/Carol Newman	Mission Bay	1-1-1-1-1-dnc	3 3/4
2. Jack Franco/Mike Sturman	Alamitos Bay	4-3-2-(7)-4-1	13 3/4
3. Hal Gilreath/Jeff Beck	Lake Lanier	3-2-(6)-3-3-5	16
4. Commodore Gonzalo Diaz Jr	Miami	(5)-5-3-4-3-4	21
5. Stu Robertson/Jeff Baker	Alamitos Bay	2-6-5-5-(7)-6	24
6. Pete/Connie Commelle	Miami	(13)-4-4-2-10-p20 7	27
7. Birger Jansen/Carinne Juliussen	Norway	(11)-8-8-10-2-3	31
8. Craig/Mimi Beardsley	Lake Lanier	9-(10)-7-6-9-2	33
9. Old Man Diaz/Aaron Heller	Miami	7-9-11-8-(13)-8	43
10. Marc Davesin/Alan Capellen	Atlanta	(14)-7-10-9-8-9	43
11. Jerry Thompson/??	Alamitos Bay	6-(13)-9-13-10-10	48
12. Don Hackbart/Nancy Gilreath	Atlanta	8-12-(14)-12-11-12	55
13. Bob Fuster/Carley Franklin	Clearwater	10-14-12-11-(16)-13	60
14. Gordon/Cindy Hackstaff	St. Pete	dnc dnc-15-14-12-11	71
15. Bill/Sherry Welch	St. Pete	(17)-15-16-15-14-14	74
16. Sam Moller/??	Portage Lake	15-11-13-16-(pms)-dnc	74
17. Steve/Scott Lang	St. Pete	16-17 dnf-17-(18)-15-15	
18. Dick Edwards/??	St. Pete	18-(19)-dnc-dnf-17-16	85
19. Alex/Lisa Pize	Annapolis	12-17-dnf-19-dnc-dnc	

1997 U.S. Masters

September 26-28
Gull Lake Yacht Club
Kalamazoo, Michigan

contact: Tom VanderMolen (d)616-629-0820

*Snipe sailing,
golfing,
car museums,
fun!*

Winter Circuit - 1997

1997 XXXI Don Q Rum Keg Regatta

March 14-16, 1997

Cocoon Grove Sailing Club

DON Q results

George Szabo and Carol Newman, representing San Diego Yacht Club and the Mission Bay fleet, won the XXXI Don Q Annual Regatta in a fleet of 38 boats with a margin of 1/2 point over Norwegians Birger Jansen and Carine Julissen and 2 points over Miami Snipe fleet member and 1996 US National Champion Peter Commette and Erik Bernstein.

Weather was rough on Friday with winds gusting above 25 knots and a storm threatening, keeping half of the fleet in port. The Race Committee postponed for an hour and finally started the fleet in 20 knots of breeze. Saturday turned out to be a good day and we were able to have 3 races. The first two with Northwesterly winds, 10-12 knots and a final race with Easterly winds of 15 knots. On Sunday, the wind went back to Northeast 20 knots and again we had an excellent race to complete the five race series.

We had 3 boats from Norway, one each from Belgium, Finland and the Bahamas and from all over the United States.

Dick Reinke with his boat "True Love" conducted an excellent series with Phil Richmond as the SCIRA Representative. Cocoon Grove Sailing Club members that helped the Race Committee were: Al and Wendy Chapin, Art Auwaerter, Bill Page, George McCullough, Marvin Schenker, Will Bourne, Bruce Schneider, Jack King, Art, Alice, Duck and Sarah Ahrens. Ken and Kay Voss did the scoring. Friends and visitors that helped: Dalton Guimarães and Carlos Panacchi from Brasil, Matthew from Finland and Roman Diago from Miami. Our thanks also to the Club staff, Nick, Sandra, Carmen, Gabe, Tommy, Rober, Bill and to Alma Reinke for their support to this Snipe regatta.

And, of course, we had the Don Q party on Saturday after the races organized by Carmen Diaz and Marianne Hackbarth with the help of Connie Commette and friends that delivered daiquiris to the sailors at their arrival from the Saturday races. Great Party!!

Please come back for the 1998 XXXII Don Q Rum Keg Annual regatta.

—Gonzalo Diaz, Sr.
Regatta Chairman
Miami Fleet 007 Fleet Captain

1 28672 64 George Szabo/Carol Newman	4-1-2-1-5	12.50
2 29210 88 Birger Jansen/Carine Julissen	2-2-4-3-2	13.00
3 29114 55 Peter Commette/Eric Bernstein	1-6-5-2-1	14.50
4 27054 62 Lee Griffith/Lorie Stout	5-12-8-10-3	38.00
5 23044 52 Robb Walker/Kawena Carlson	8-3-12-8-17	48.00
6 29109 66 Stu Robertson/Jeff Baker	9-15-6-5-16	51.00
7 28811 63 Jimmie Lowe/Gavin McKinney	3-40PMS-3-7-4	57.00
8 28156 66 Jean Griza/Yves Ratineck	6-16P20-14-16-6	58.00
9 24776 39 Kevin Downey/Cristi Stroud	12-10-20-13-7	61.00
10 29222 64 Rick Merriman/Alan Coppelia	10-17-10-15-11	61.00
11 28812 58 Gonzo Diaz/Albert Suarez	DNC 9-9-4-8	68.00
12 28814 69 Gonzalo Diaz/Gregory Saldaña	11-21-17-17-12	78.00
13 23602 53 Mark Lavine/Patrick Downby	DNC-7-1-20-14	79.75
14 29014 67 Don Hackbarth/Becky Killough	16-12-22-15-27	94.00
15 29200 56 Woody Norwood/Alison Simmons	13-25-26-21-9	94.00
16 26900 61 Ken Voss/Kay Voss	17-18-15-DNF-15	95.00
17 27363 53 Roberto Lizama/Mmanuel Remosa	DNC 5-11-25-19	98.00
18 27364 46 Curt Moody/Greg Enos	14-40PMS-16-14-15	99.00
19 24702 11 Jerry Thompson/Lari Laws	DNC-4-13-9-DNF	101.00
20 29019 47 Claus Carpelan/Fredy Wegelius	7-31-19-18-33P20	108.00
21 28714 15 John Simais/Dana Moore	DNC-22-7-6-DNC	111.00
22 27276 51 Steve Carr/Jillie Carr	DNC-19-25-11-31	124.00
23 28791 65 Ian Janda/September	DN-28-18-25-20	125.00
24 24995 42 Montarroyos/Montarroyos	DNC-29-21-24-18	130.00
25 24895 54 Linda Wannerstrom/Fabiano Lube	DNC-DNC-22-22-10	130.00
26 27413 88 Halvor Paulsson/Asger Oluf	15-20-32-29-DNF	133.00
27 24087 40 Sam Miller/Alex Adams	DNC-11-26-19-DNF	134.00
28 269 41 Ferrante DeCandena/DeCandenna	DN-27-28-30-32	136.00
29 22851 50 Pam Kelly/Ed Kelly	DNC-16-34-28-21	137.00
30 26387 60 Robert Foster/Carley Franklin	DNC-24-33-27-23	142.00
31 29110 44 Terry McSweeney/Beth Bowden	DN-33-27-24-24	145.00
32 27027 49 John Hagman/Dawn Hagman	DNC-28-24-DNC-22	152.00
33 26457 59 Ernesto Rodriguez/Naomy Baste	DNC-14-PMS-DNC-30	152.00
34 28319 85 Dendix Jorgensen/Nina Skoglund	DNC-26-35-DNC-25	153.00
35 25852 43 Matt Koblenzer/Jody Koblenzer	DNC-32-36-DNF-29	170.00
36 25274 48 Tak Uehino/Daisy Ortiz-Lent	DNC-DNC-31-31-33	171.00
37 26109 59 Douglas Brooker/Grant Brooker	DNC-30-33-32-DNC	171.00
38 27903 45 Diego Martinez/Fernan Martinez	DNC-DNF-PMS-DNF-28	182.00

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Winter Circuit - 1997

1997 Bacardi/Gamblin Series

Yesterday I rolled into town after spending the last 45 hours in a pick-up truck driving from Miami to San Diego and I saw that no-one had posted anything on the circuit in Nassau yet so I thought I would give my version.

This was my first Saipe circuit and there was some learning going on. Usually if you go to a major event there isn't any problem going out late every night because there is always the week after to recover. I quickly found that there was no week after here and I spent all of my time between the Don Q and the first race of Bacardi sleeping by the pool (with a few other last timers) recovering from Ed Crook's blender drinks and other self-inflicted punishment.

The Bacardi regatta started on Wednesday and we had two great races in choppy water and 8-12 knots with the current going the opposite direction of the wind. Jimmy Lowe showed us how to sail in his home water and won both races. We had two seconds while Robert Dunkley (who was having a great day but was slow in the corners) and Birger had a 3&4 each. It was a frustrating day. Several times when the fleet was down and pointing towards our start we would tack and cross only to find ourselves behind when we tacked back moments later. Local knowledge would have been good.

Day 2

Going into race number three, we had to win the race and Jimmy had to be fourth or worse for us to win the regatta. The race started in 3-7 knots and puffy/shifty conditions. Often we would find ourselves headed while the boats above and below us were lifted. Unfortunately for Jimmy and Gavin, they were over early at the start and had to go back. They spent the whole race maneuvering and were beginning to get where they needed to be, but they decided to gamble it all on the last weather leg. At one point they had about a half a mile of leverage and they looked like they could have everything but... it didn't work. We won the race, Birger was second, Dunkley third, Robb Walker was fourth, the Finnish team of Freddy and Klaus had a great race and were fifth even though they weighed almost 350lbs together, and Jimmy Lowe was 7th.

After the lunch break we went back out for the second race of the day and the first race of the Gamblin. The wind got lighter and the race was canceled. Robert Dunkley tried to stay out and practice with a new crew but within one hour the boys went to glass and he had to be towed in. These races were scheduled for the next day.

Day 3

Race #1 of the Gamblin series started at 10am in 10-15 knots of breeze with puffy breezes coming off of the hill. I think we were still feeling the effects of the Bacardi party the night before and had some problems finding the wind shifts that first race. Jimmy won the race with Birger second, us in third, and Stu Robertson (the man who usually has a fish on his hat) sailing with his daughter was fourth. Stu was going fast and was hitting all the shifts better than we were. He should have beaten us that race but Birger tacked on him just before the finish and we were able to pass him. Race #2 was even more exciting. The wind was increasing and the race committee put up the double triangle flag. All was looking great. There was good wind and four reaches ahead until I was over early and had to go back. Oops! We spent the first hour looking at a lot of transoms and Jimmy Lowe leading. Fortunately we were saved by a few good shifts and some really fun reaches (not hard to do in a tee-shirt and shorts in warm wind and water). Jimmy won another race, we were second, Robb Walker was third and Birger was fourth. Back to the YC for

lunch.

On a planning reach out in the race course for race three we passed the Belgians very close to weather. The Belgians were still warm and dry from their relaxing lunch break until we came by. Our bow hit a wave and they were both instantly drenched. As we went by we got a long barrage of words in another language that my mom would never want me to hear. All we could do was laugh. They got back at us just before the start though. As we sailed by they squeezed their suntan lotion tube hard and it shot 15 feet and sponged all over our jib and rafterack. It was everywhere. As we were cleaning it off they were hoping that we would slide off the boat.

Race 3 was a double triangle in good breeze and fast warm reaches. Once again we watched Jimmy lead the race in the beginning but we managed to beat Jimmy Lowe for a change. Robb Walker had a great last race and finished third in front of Birger.

Day 4

There was no racing because of too much wind but no one seemed to mind. We were happy to use our drink tickets as we packed our boats.

Another successful Circuit had ended. The fortunate sailors that have attended always come back (or at least want to). Pencil it in on your schedule for 1998 - you won't regret it!!!

--George Sando



Bacardi Series

Skipper/Crew	Boat	Finishes	Total
George Sando/Jeff Baker	28672	3-2-1	4.75
Jimmy Lowe/Gavin McKinnay	28811	1-1-7	8.50
Birger Jansen/Carina Juliusen	29210	5-3-2	10
Robert Dunkley	27800	3-4-3	10
Robb Walker/Rowena Carlson	25044	6-10-4	20
Claus Capelin/Freddy Wegelius	29019	8-6-6	20
Stu Robertson/Eira Robertson	29105	7-5-12	24
Woody Norwood/Alison Simmons	29200	9-3-10	27
Jean-Martin Gizon/Yves Razinckx	28136	13-9-5	28
Don Hackforth/Eila Hennema	29014	4-7-17	28
Peter Christie/Tony Wallis	28693	11-11-8	30
Loel Lowe/Matthew McCoy	25235	12-13-13	38
Halvor Poulsen/Aagein Ohr	1	10-14-15	39
David Cantell/Jonathan Carroll	25395	14-12-14	40
Basil Kelly/Travis Kelly	25088	16-dnf-11	43
Johnny Christie/Carol	8693	dnf-dnf-9	43
Bendix Jorgensen/Nina Skoglund	28219	15-15-16	46
Leo Murphy/Dale Smith	5235	dnf-dnf-18	54

Gamblin Series

Skipper/Crew	Boat	Finishes	Total
Jimmy Lowe/Gavin McKinnay	28811	1-1-2	3.5
George Sando/Jeff Baker	28672	3-2-1	5.75
Birger Jansen/Carina Juliusen	29210	3-5-4	11
Robb Walker/Rowena Carlson	25044	6-3-3	12
Stu Robertson/Eira Robertson	29109	4-7-5	16
Claus Capelin/Freddy Wegelius	29019	10-4-6	20
Robert Dunkley	27800	5-10-7	22
Woody Norwood/Alison Simmons	29200	11-6-8	25
Jean-Martin Gizon/Yves Razinckx	28136	9-8-9	26
Halvor Poulsen/Aagein Ohr	1	7-9-11	27
Don Hackforth/Eila Hennema	28702	8-11-10	29
Johnny Christie/Carol			

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