

HEMINGWAY INTERNATIONAL YACHT CLUB OF CUBA NEWS LETTER

JANUARY – JUNE

2016

On behalf of Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba and on my own I have the pleasure to greet you and to announce the first edition of the News Letter of our nautical institution, which will be issued periodically.

This first edition will cover news, among others, about the events celebrated in the frame of “The Friendly meeting among the Florida Yacht Clubs and Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba” that started on January 28th with the Conch Republic Cup Regatta and ended on June 26th with the Key West-Havana Challenge Rally.

COMMODORE ESCRICH VISITS NAUTICAL INSTITUTIONS OF FLORIDA

During a visit carried out to the state of Florida from December 19th to the end of January of this year, Commodore Escrich made a fruitful tour around the yacht clubs of Florida, United States, and held meetings with numerous representatives of nautical institutions of that country.

The nautical institutions visited were St. Petersburg Yacht Club, the Key West Yacht Club, the Coral Reef Yacht Club, the Pensacola Yacht Club, the Isles yacht Club, the Tampa Bay & Yacht Club, the Coconut Grove Sailing Club, the Stuart Sailing Fish Club, the Stuart Sailfish Club, the Lauderdale Yacht Club, the Captive Island Yacht Club, the Isles Yacht Club and met the representatives of Florida Council of yacht Clubs, the Southern Ocean Racing Conference and the international SeaKeepers Society.

He signed friendship agreements with St. Petersburg Yacht Club, the Stuart Sail Fish Club, the Coconut Grove Sailing Club and with the International SeaKeepers Society. Besides he delivered a conference about the Cuban nautical recreation at the headquarter of the International Marina & Boat Yard.

COMMODORE ESCRICH PARTICIPATES IN THE MIAMI BOAT SHOW

Commodore Escrich accompanied by Thomas J. Dammrich, President, and other executives of the National Mariners Manufacturers Association, made a tour along the stands of Miami Boat Show that is celebrated annually in Florida.

Commodore Escrich made a short visit to Miami in the first half of February on the occasion of the boat show and the start of Miami – Havana Regatta.

COMMODORE ESCRICH SAYS GODD BYE TO THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE MIAMI- HAVANA REGATTA.

With the presence of Commodore Escrich and his colleague Henry Chau, of Coral Reef Yacht Club, on February 10th starts Miami- Havana Regatta, first regatta in the history of nautical recreation between Miami and Cuba, with the participation of 46 vessels and 342 yachtsmen in representation of more than 30 American clubs and nautical institutions.

FRIENDLY MEETING AMONG YACHT CLUBS OF FLORIDA AND HEMINGWAY INTERNATIONAL YACHT CLUB OF CUBA.

With the beginning of the Historical Regatta Conch Republic Cup last January, which was not carried out since 2003, when the administration of President George W. Bush banned recreational boating between the United States and Cuba, the "Friendly Meeting among yacht clubs of Florida and the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba" which lasted until June 26th.

In the nine events held 211 boats participated with 1 450 yachtsmen representing 43 nautical clubs and institutions throughout the United States.

THESE NINE EVENTS WERE:

1. Conch Republic Cup Regatta, organized by the Key West Yacht Club. This sailing event includes the circuit Key West-Havana-Varadero- Key West. In Varadero was held the "Varadero Cup Regatta" and in Havana, the "Regatta Morro Castle of Havana". Vessels from the United States and members of Hemingway international Yacht Club of Cuba participated in this regatta.

2. Miami-Havana Regatta, organized by the Coral Reef Yacht Club.

Taking advantage of the presence of the vessel of this race, the Morro Castle of Havana Regatta was celebrated with the participation of those vessels and from the members of Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba.

3. Big Sail Challenge, organized by the Key West Yacht Club.

With the vessels participating in this event and from the members of Hemingway international Yacht Club of Cuba, a nautical parade was held from Marina Hemingway up to the interior of Havana bay.

4. Sarasota-Havana Regatta, organized by the Sarasota Yacht Club.

Another edition of the Morro Castle of Havana was held, taking advantage of the presence of the American vessels.

5. Rally to Cuba: Learn the Lingo, organized by AIM Marine Group.

A group of 16 Americans received a course at the headquarters of CNIH of Cuba where they were taught vocabulary in Spanish to communicate with Cuban port authorities.

6. Havana Cat Challenge Regatta, organized by the Key West Yacht Club.

Once in Havana, the American vessels and Hobbie Cats from both countries participated in the Friendship Cup Regatta in front of Havana Malecon.

7. Florida-Havana Powerboat Rally, organized by the Florida Powerboat Club.

17 speedboats from Key West reached the interior of Havana bay and in subsequent transit to Marina Hemingway, made a speed parade in front of Havana. In the frame of the event, Stu Jones President of Florida Powerboat Club and José Miguel Díaz Escrich, Commodore of Hemingway International Yacht Club signed a friendship agreement.

8. Key West –Havana Challenge Rally, organized by Key West Yacht Club.

A group of 16 vessels participated in this event and later on made a nautical parade from Marina Hemingway to the interior of Havana Bay.

Meanwhile, a rally of three aircrafts, members of the air section of Key West Yacht Club arrived at “José Martí” International Airport of Havana, an event that contributed to strengthen the friendly relations between Key West Yacht Club, the aviation Club of Cuba and Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba.

Mr. Craig Cates, Major of Key West, accompanied by his family sailed aboard his boat Cates's Girls. It is the second time he visits the headquarters of CNIH of Cuba. As he had done it on May 2015, on the occasion of the Havana Cat Challenge Regatta.

Also Mr. Robert Harvey, Commodore Key West Yacht Club was present. From May 2015 up to the present, he has sailed to Hemingway Marina on 4 occasions. He has been the main promoter of nautical events between KWYC and CNIH of Cuba and has contributed to make nearly 100 members of KWYC become members of CNIH of Cuba.

9. TMCA Rally to Cuba, organized by the Texas Mariners Cruising Association.

On June 24th arrived 14 boats to Marina Hemingway with about 80 members of Texas Mariners Cruising Association, including Commodore Jerry Simoneaux, the Vicecommodore Charles Parette and Rear Commodore Ladye J. Stone.

CNIH of Cuba is honored to represent in Cuba that Cruising Institution. In addition, Cuba represents the Seven Seas Cruising Association, also from US, which is the world's largest cruising association.

The US vessels, along with members of CNIH of Cuba participated in a Nautical Parade from Marina Hemingway to the interior of Havana bay. Upon its conclusion, the boats gathered north of Morro Castle in Havana, to perform for the first time in history, the Chorrera Tower Regatta, parallel to the Malecon in Havana.

La Chorrera is a small colonial fortress at the entrance of the Almendares River that had the mission to prevent pirates and corsairs enter the mentioned river and attack Havana city.

THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT DELIVERS THE ORDER TO THE SPORT MERIT.

On February 24th, the government of the Republic of Cuba gave the German Roger Klüh and his team the distinction "Order of Sport Merit" as a reward for the historic feat of setting a speed record of 1 hour and 30 minutes between Key West and Havana.

On August 1st, 2015, German Roger Klüh, the French Arthur Savage and the Americans John Pompei and Mark McManus, aboard the boat "Apache Star" made the aforementioned nautical and sporting feat.

THE COMMODORE OF STUART SAILFISH CLUB IS RECEIVED IN CNIH OF CUBA.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, February 24th, Commodore Escrich received his colleague Tom Dyer, who visited Cuba to coordinate the participation of the members of Stuart Sailfish Club in the 66th International Billfish Fishing Tournament "Ernest Hemingway".

Most Americans interested in participating in this event had to first register as members of Stuart Sailfish Club.

THE PRESIDENT OF ROYAL YACHT CHARTERS VISITS CNIH OF CUBA.

Accompanied by María Romeu, member of Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba and General Manager of Cuba VIP Yachts, Mr. Andrew Harris, and President of Royal Yacht Charters was received by Commodore Escrich. During the meeting they exchanged ideas about the goals of their respective institutions.

COMMODORE ESCRICH RECEIVES HEMINGWAY'S GRANDSON

On March 18th, Commodore Escrich received, at the headquarter of HIYC of Cuba, Patrick Hemingway, Ernest Hemingway's grandson. During the meeting they talked about the life and work of the American writer and about the actions carried out by HIYC of Cuba to keep alive the memory of the author of the "Old Man and the Sea".

THE COMMODORE OF ROYAL SELANGOR YACHT CLUB IS RECEIVED AT THE HIYC OF CUBA.

Last March 28th, Mr. Jeff Harris, Commodore of the Royal Selangor Yacht Club, along with relatives and members of this nautical institution were welcome at the headquarters of HIYC of Cuba, where he received detailed information about the history of the institution, and its main goal, consisting in the establishment of friendly relations with the international nautical community.

Commodore Harris expressed his wish to strengthen the relations of friendship between the Royal Selangor Yacht Club and its counterpart in Cuba.

MEMBERS OF SANTA BARBARA YACHT CLUB VISIT CNIH OF CUBA

A group of members of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club, California, led by Shellie Pratt visited last April 14th the headquarters of the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba where Commodore Escrich gave them a warm welcome.

SAILBOATS FROM FLORIDA YACHT CLUBS ARRIVE TO MARINA HEMINGWAY.

During the month of April arrived to Marina Hemingway sailboats from Bradenton Yacht Club, the Isles Yacht Club, Charlotte Yacht Club and PG Islander Cruising Club, whose representatives visited the headquarters of CNIH of Cuba and said they will work to strengthen the bonds of friendship with this Cuban nautical institution.

COMMODORE ESCRICH HOLDS A MEETING WITH THE ORGANIZATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CONCH REPUBLIC CUP REGATTA.

In the morning of May 30th, Commodore Escrich received at the headquarters of CNIH of Cuba Mr. Peter Goldsmith, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Conch Republic Cup Regatta, and the other three members of the Committee. At the meeting they discussed organizational details of the event which starts on January 23rd, 2017.

HAVANA NAO OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF THE COAST OF CUBA WAS LAUNCHED.

The National Captain of the Brotherhood of Chile Coast; Luis "Mac Giver" Pellegrini, assisted by the National Officers Lieutenant Renato "Abracadabra" De Luca, Escribano Rafael "Argonauta" Garbarini, Condestable Antonio "Toñoopalo" Varas and brothers from various stashes of the brotherhood of Chile Coast and Uruguay traveled to Cuba to comply with one of the last decisions of the International Assembly of Captains made in Honfleur, France, during the International Zafarrancho "France 2014", which was to legalize the founding of Havana Nao of Cuba, which occurred last May 30th in a ceremony held at the headquarters of the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba.

Nao Havana began sailing with 13 Brothers, as its first Captain, Jose Miguel Díaz

Escrich, better known in the international nautical community as Commodore Escrich.

Once finished the founding ceremony, the first Zafarrancho was made with bucan, a Caribbean fashioned dinner and with the best rum of Cuba.

CNIH OF CUBA WELCOMES THE APPOINTMENT OF HAVANA AS WONDER CITY.

With a Nautical parade from Marina Hemingway to the interior of Havana bay, with the participation of CNIH of Cuba vessels and members of this institution, as well as a racing exhibitions of jet skis and water skiing in front of La Punta fortress, the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba welcomed on June 11th, the granting to Havana of the status of Wonder City.

MEMBERS OF CNIH OF CUBA PARTICIPATE IN 66TH HEMINGWAY TOURNAMENT.

Messrs. Joseph Collabela, Jhonnie E. Jacobs, Fred Collins and Dallas Leo Harrys, participated aboard their vessels, in the 66th International Tournament Bill Fish Fishing Tournament "Ernest Hemingway" held between 13th and 18th of June.

This 66th edition involved 81 boats of United States with which they broke the record of participating teams of the referred country in the aforementioned tournament Hemingway, which dated from 1979. Among the fishermen from the United States and other countries, participated 97 teams, this is also a record.

MR. PENNINGTON OF ST. PETERSBURG YACHT CLUB VISITS CNIH OF CUBA.

Ending June, Mr. George P. Pennington III, Chairman of the Committee Regatta of St. Petersburg - Havana Regata, which begins coming February 28th, met Commodore Escrich; during the meeting they analyzed organizational details of this sailing event.

Previously, Richard Winning, Commodore of the St. Petersburg Yacht Club sent a letter to Commodore Escrich, where he recalled that the first edition of the St. Petersburg-Havana Regata was held in March 1930 and with the current changes in relationships US-Cuba was possible to restart this event which was held until 1959.

In this first edition 11 boats were involved. For next year's edition an amount of 50 boats are expected. We are working so that a sailboat with Cuban flag, owned by a member of the Cuban CNIH of Cuba, sails to Tampa and joins the fleet.

EXCHANGE OF BURGEEES WITH AMERICAN YACHT CLUBS

Members of The Field Club from Sarasota, and the Lauderdale Yacht Club exchanged burgees of their yacht clubs with Commodore Escrich.

PENDING NAUTICAL EVENTS WITH AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Is expected that in late August or early September, Mr. James DeNooyer, accompanied by his son Thomas DeNooyer, try to set a new speed record, less than one hour, between Key West and Havana, for which they work in a specially equipped boat for an event of such special features.

Moreover, American Teresa Diehl prepares for a journey from Havana to Key West on board of a kayak, which, if successful, would be the first woman to make such a historic feat.

THE FAMILY OF MEMBERS OF CNIH OF CUBA GROWS.

During the first half of this year, 195 new members joined the family of the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba. It is outstanding the figure of 164 US members. The rest comes from Slovenia, Italy, Canada, Uruguay, Angola, Argentina, Germany, France, Norway, Monaco, China and United Kingdom.

Since its founding, May 21, 1992, 2774 people from 65 countries have joined the family members of the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba.

NEW SAILING EVENTS WITH AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN 2017

As a result of the expansion and strengthening of friendly relations and cooperation with the American sailing community during the past year, the Hemingway International Yacht Club of Cuba have been receiving up to the date, 8 proposals of regattas and rallies of the Key West Yacht Club, the Coral Reef Yacht Club, Key West Community Sailing Center, the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, Pensacola Yacht Club, the Tampa Yacht & Country Club and the publication "Cruising World Magazine".

Meanwhile, the Montego Bay Yacht Club organizes Montego Bay-Havana Regatta, with the participation of boats from the Pineapple Cup Regatta, previously made between Fort Lauderdale, United States, and Jamaica.

