

PRESS RELEASE

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Hospice Cup XXV Trophy Winners Announced

[ANNAPOLIS, MD] Seventy boats and hundreds of sailors from the Maryland, Virginia and DC Metro areas participated in the Chesapeake Bay's 2006 Hospice Cup, America's largest fundraising regatta, on Saturday, September 9, as the race celebrated its 25th anniversary. In addition to class trophies, the boats competed for ten sponsored perpetual trophies that were awarded for both exceptional racing and special achievements.

John White and Tom Ballard of Severna Park with their "*no name*" boat (US 999) were the winners of the **2006 Hospice Cup Trophy** recognizing the skippers for sustained high performance across three racing years (2004 – 2006), and qualifying them to represent the Chesapeake Bay regatta in May 2007 at the Hospice Regattas National Championship against representatives from each of the 24 other hospice regattas held this year nationwide.

The Hospice Cup Trophy, sponsored this year by Robison International, Inc., is one of the several special trophies underwritten by companies or individual contributions to the hospices benefiting from the Hospice Cup event.

The **Hank Lawton Trophy**, sponsored by Hospice of the Chesapeake in honor their top fundraiser, was presented to Barbara & John Gehrig, of Pasadena, MD, of *Full Deck* (US 93302) for Top Crew Fundraising. *Full Deck* also placed second in their class (PHRF N).

The **Hospice Class** is a special nonspinnaker class for sailors who are less avid racers. In 2006, many of the Hospice Class skippers invited hospice caregivers to race with them as a way to recognize what those caregivers do for so many.

During Hospice Cup XXV, Hospice Class entry *Valkyrie* skippered by Mike McDonough and Bobby Muller of Annapolis, MD, with their crew of three caregivers was recognized with a first place honor and two special awards. The skippers won the **Martin F. McCarthy Trophy**, sponsored by family and friends in his memory, was awarded for first place in the class, and the **Lovelace/Sniegon Memorial Trophy**, sponsored by Bill and Rose Lovelace, in recognition of the best performing Hospice Class boat with a hospice caregiver aboard.

The hospice caregivers aboard *Valkyrie*, Karen Bryant, Marianne Randon, and Bambi Sturgeon were each awarded the **Allan C. Westcott Trophy**, sponsored by Bob and Cindi Gibson in memory of Bob's sailing mentor who benefited well from Hospice care.

The **Sajak Family Foundation Trophy**, sponsored by the family foundation of 1999 Honorary Chairman Pat Sajak and his wife Lesly, for best performance in Cruising One-Design was presented to Dennis Seynhaeve of Annapolis, MD, aboard his J/105 *Mopelia*.

The **de Castro Trophy**, sponsored by Ruth's Chris in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Earl S. Long, honoring the most competitive *second place* boat in a Cruising One Design boat was awarded to Lewis and Salvesen of Annapolis, MD, aboard their J/105 *Mirage*.

The **Hal Kass Memorial Trophy**, sponsored by Hospice Cup, Inc. honor of this long-time sponsor, recognizes the best in the PHRF Fleet was presented to Lee and Pauline Jerry of Crownsville, MD, of *Chain Shot* in PHRF A1.

The crew of *Chain Shot* was also honored with one of the oldest sponsored trophies, the **Running Tide Trophy**, which recognizes overall fleet performance. This trophy is sponsored by the Hospice Cup founders and Hospice Cup XXV Honorary Co-Chairs, Joan and Al Van Metre.

The **Ralph A. Beeton Memorial Trophy**, sponsored by BB&T for superior helmsmanship by a midshipman on a U.S. Naval Academy boat, was presented to Midshipman Tim Burchett aboard *Lively* (NA-10).

In 2005, more than \$550,000 was raised by Hospice Cup sponsors. Supporting Hospice Cup means that there will continue to be no out-of-pocket expenses for any patient or family seeking the services of one of the participating hospices. Hospice Cup funds help pay the 25 to 30 percent of the expenses not covered by Medicare or private insurance. These dollars enable the hospices to provide skilled compassionate care, comfort and dignity to the terminally ill, their families and friends, regardless of their ability to pay. Hospice enables patients to carry on alert, pain-free lives so their last days may be spent in comfort, at home or in home-like settings. Hospice care concentrates on care, not cure. Bereavement counseling and support groups are part of hospice services after the loss of a loved one.

Many hospices participate in and benefit from Hospice Cup XXV: Hospice of the Chesapeake, Capital Hospice, Montgomery Hospice, Calvert Hospice, Hospice of St. Mary's and Community Hospices. To do so, all must meet the standards of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. Hospice Cup XXV was the original hospice regatta and is now a proud member of the 25-regatta National Hospice Regatta Alliance, www.hospiceregattas.org.

Sailors are attracted to Hospice Cup because many have hospice stories and because the race counts for Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association season-long High Point competition.

More information on the Hospice Cup event and even? it is available online at www.hospicecup.org. Racing and final results information are available online at www.shearwatersc.org.

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Photo Attached is FPO-only. Contact jbpturner@aol.com if you would like high-res version for your publication