



NEWSLETTER – FEB 2019

As it has been some time since our last Newsletter (April 2018) there are many things to report upon. So, in chronological order:

The NSA now has students who have achieved the following:

Stephon Dundas – Ex Ottos Comprehensive School, now an RYA Yachtmaster (via Miramar Sailing) and working as a captain for Dream Yacht Charters.

Ryan Tonge – Ex All Saints Secondary School, now an RYA Day Skipper (via OnDeck Sailing) and working at OnDeck Sailing as first mate.

In September Joshua Daniels (ex All Saints Secondary School) who has achieved his RYA Dinghy instructor qualifications at NSA, went to UKSA in Cowes, UK to undertake his Dayskipper Theory, Dayskipper Practical, STCW and ENG.1 Courses. We are delighted to say that he passed all of them with flying colours. He is now appointed as the captain of our pea green yacht 'Feanor' and is aiming at the next rung on the ladder ie. RYA Coastal Skipper.



The STCW course Fire-fighting day. Guess who got himself centre stage?

Unfortunately Maliek, who is Jamaican, was refused a visa by the UK so could not go at the same time as Joshua. He has now, however, been granted Antiguan citizenship and will be going to UKSA this summer. The funds for the advanced overseas training for these 2 students were donated by The Mill Reef Foundation and Mr Stefan Jentzsch (S/Y Black Pearl)



Also in September, in conjunction with AYC, we held the 5th edition of the Bart's Bash. This was a highly successful day with over 20 sailors taking part.

In October The Academy hosted the first 'Resort Instructor' training course for 8 candidates. This course has been developed as a response to the requirements of the Antigua and Barbuda Small Craft Control Act of 2015 which requires all watersports employees in resorts and sailing schools to have appropriate certification. This course was delivered by Sylvester Thomas from NSA and Shawn Ambrose (Turban) from AYC - both of whom previously underwent the training to deliver the course. The demand was such that a second course was run in December.

In November the NSA held a very successful Open Day with approximately 150 people attending throughout the day many of whom took the opportunity for a free sailing experience with one of our team of instructors.



In December the work of the Academy was recognised by myself receiving an honour from our Governor General Sir Rodney Williams.

Also in December we hosted a concert by the Antigua String Orchestra. It was very well attended and was inspirational to see so many young Antiguan becoming involved with classical music.



In January, thanks to the generosity of the Jumby Bay Homeowners Fund, we completed the works to our slipway to provide a new access for disabled sailors, particularly those who need access for wheelchairs.

We thank C. G. Construction and Consultancy Ltd for achieving this work in time for us to have a formal opening of the facility by the Governor General Sir Rodney Williams.



This was followed by Sailability Antigua, (run by Mr Bob Bailey and his team), hosting the first ever Paralympic Development Programme to be held in our region - Caribbean and Central America. The PDP is supported by World Sailing, the governing body for our sport. The boats used were HANSA 303s which are one of the designated boats for disabled sailors.

Our thanks to the HANSA team for temporarily importing 20 boats for the PDP and Regatta. Sailors and coaches from 12 countries attended the PDP which was followed by the first HANSA championship Regatta which saw 20 boats on the water and was won by Mauriceon Valentine – an instructor at NSA.



The next event is Sailability Super Sunday on the 10th March which includes the 4th Annual Charity Walk. This event comprises of a Family Fun Day from 3pm and an ‘Evening Bash’ from 5pm.

We will also be hosting the ‘AYC Marina SuperYacht Crew Challenge’ from 1pm.

In February 2 of our Cork 1720 race boats took part in the Valentines Regatta at Jolly Harbour. They were skippered by Jules Mitchell on 'NSA Spirit' and Joshua Daniels on 'NSA Valiant' and achieved 2nd and 3rd places respectively.

We are also planning to re-launch Cork 1720 'NSA Challenger' in time for Antigua Sailing Week. This boat was dismantled in a Regatta sometime ago and has been out of action ever since. Thanks the Miley Foundation we now have the funds to re-commission her.

This week we held the All Saints Secondary School Regatta, which was won by 'Red House'. There was some very enthusiastic racing and a large body of support from the non-sailing students. The Regatta was managed by our NSA instructors, Joshua Daniels, Junella King, Xavier Athill and Mauriceson Valentine all of whom are Ex All Saints students.



We would also like to thank the Boltini Trust for their support for us to acquire 2 more RS Fevas bringing our fleet up to 7 in total.

Breaking News.....

The Opera Concert is back this year. It will be at The Academy on Sunday 24th March. A picnic meal and bar will be available from Island Fusion Restaurant, tickets will be on sale soon.



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