



GBCA Cannon



Photos: Bill Tarnick & Mary Iwanicki

A Note from our Commodore

By Commodore Scott Tuma

Well, that was a quick and busy year. I want to thank everyone who was involved in helping GBCA through the 75th anniversary year and everyone that has dedicated their time the last 75 years. I would love to thank everyone by name, but there are too many that are behind the scenes and I'm not aware of and some that do not want to be recognized. I have been blessed to have worked with so many passionate, dedicated, and ambitious people all the years I have been involved with GBCA. My first experiences with GBCA was at the "old yellow clubhouse" when I was 5 years old. When we went to the parties, I played around under the building and scurried around the rip-rap at the water's edge. About a decade and a half later, I was brought on the Board for Membership. One



never knows or appreciates how much time and effort goes into these organizations until they are directly involved. My first regatta I ran was a disaster. I thought; how hard could it be? This year, I was lucky enough to assist with the Race Committee for 3 World Championships and a North Americans, but our members represented us best as they sailed and raced all over Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Colorado, Washington, Chesapeake Bay, Connecticut, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Cayman Islands, BVIs, and Jamaica. GBCA is a well traveled group and I look forward to seeing everywhere our members travel next year and their successes. I humbly invite you and your crew to join us after each of our events. It's a good time to visit with friends and enjoy the camaraderie. If you do not know many people, that's ok.. Come find me. I've been told I can talk to anyone... .

Have a Merry Christmas and happy holidays my friends...

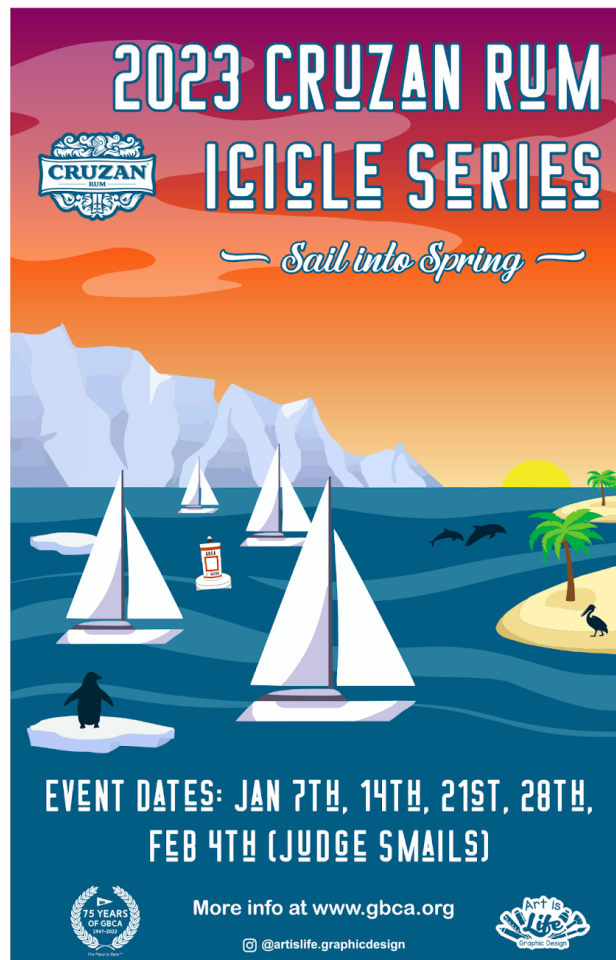


Racing with GBCA...

Hot off the Press! **SAVE THE DATES**
Check out the 2023 [GBCA Racing Calendar](#)

2023 Cruzan Icicle Series

Save the dates! The **2023 Cruzan Rum Icicle Series: “Sail into Spring”** will be held every Saturday in January. The fifth and final race of the series is February 4th and the Judge Smails Regatta.



Who is Judge Smails?

He is the rather pompous yachtman featured in the movie 'Caddy Shack' played by Ted Knight! To join in the fun for Icicle #5 all that is required is a blazer, ascot and yachtie cap...preferably worn while racing. It's a chance to poke a little fun at (ourselves?) and the yachtie lifestyle. Be warned, it's not uncommon to see other Caddy Shack movie characters (even a gopher or two) around Galveston Bay and the GBCA Clubhouse at the awards ceremony.



2023 Wednesday Night Races by GBCA



2023 Wednesday Night Races are planned to start up the first week of April. There will be a similar format as last year, except that the start sequence will be supported from shore. All rounding marks will either be fixed, pvc pilings, or drop marks. More information to follow as we get closer to the Spring season.



Photo: Mary Iwanicki

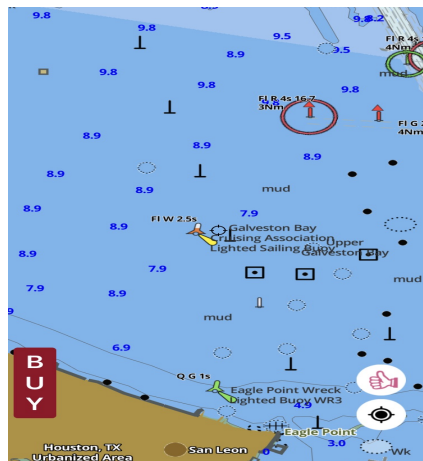


2023 TORC

The three club Fleet Captains met to discuss TORC and format possibilities. GBCA will host an Offshore Kick-off March 18th that will hi-light each of the three offshore races that will make up the TORC. Each of the events will be run and scored by their respective club, but HYC, LYC, and GBCA are committed to support each other's events.

GBCA J Mark

The GBCA J Mark has survived its first year! The USCG permitted buoy is located at 29°31.345'N 094°55.490'W with a flashing light upgrade made possible by generous GBCA members. In the effort to promote sailboat racing, **all clubs** are welcome to use the mark. A huge thanks to all who donated their time, money, labor and boats to make J Mark happen!



Buoy maintenance donation QR



GBCA Socially...

2022 was the 75th year of GBCA and a very BUSY year!



2023 promises to be another fun filled year of quality racing.

All of these events were made possible by GBCA volunteers and sponsors. If you're interested in helping in future events let us know at BOG@GBCA.org



Membership/Volunteer Opportunities...

Make it a New Years resolution! Have you ever wanted to help out with GBCA, and were just not sure how? We will be updating our volunteer list this winter and recoding some of the opportunities available. Some of these opportunities will include:

- Race Committee (We'll train ya)
- Party set-up
- Awards
- Promotion
- etc...

Membership

Why be a member of GBCA? Membership dues are what keeps the club going and keep the lights on. Our Rum Race Series, Icicle Race Series, and Fall Series races are funded by membership. The food, drinks, and supplies for each of these events are all dependent on member dues and donations. Our membership per year is considerably cheaper than any of the more formal yacht clubs' monthly dues. Also, we don't have a monthly minimum to meet. For more information about membership and renewal, follow this [link](#), or talk to one of our seasoned board members at the next party! We are always happy to share our reasons for supporting such a great club, and can help you find your place at GBCA, too.

2023 TO DO list...

- Call your crew or Captain: and say "Let's sail every Saturday in January!"
- Stop by <https://www.redbubble.com/people/G-B-C-A/> and buy some cool stuff
- Raid the GBCA ships store <https://www.gbca.org/ShipsStore>
- Update your member information! <https://www.gbca.org/MembershipPublicDirectory>
- Have your business sponsor GBCA for 2023! bog@gbca.org
- Find an old navy blazer (Goodwill), ascot (bandana) and yachtie cap (party store)
- Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GBCAsailing>
- Follow us on Insta <https://www.instagram.com/gbcasailing/>
- Like the GBCA YouTube Channel! Check out those awesome vids <https://www.youtube.com/@gbca-galvestonbaycruisinga4803/featured>
- Volunteer some of your mad skills to GBCA in 2023!



COMING UP...

Races:

- [Icicle #1](#): January 7th
- [Icicle #2](#): January 14th
- [Icicle #3](#): January 21st
- [Icicle #4](#): January 28th
- [Icicle #5 \(aka Judge Smails\)](#): February 4th

Race Management/Seminars:

- [Rules from Start to Finish with Dave Perry](#): January 19
- GBCA Seminar: February
- Race Committee: Contact LYC office for registration: February 11
- GBCA Seminar: March
- [US Sailing Basic Race Management Seminar](#): March 25
- GBCA Seminar: April

Racing Seminars...

Do you have that one competitor that you have been chasing for years and not quite sure how to get THAT edge to beat them?

GBCA will be hosting 3 of Dave Christensen's seminars that cover **Sail Trim**, **Racing Rules**, and **Sailboat Racing 101**. Details will be posted on our website and social media outlets.

Visit Galveston Bay's [Racing Calendar](#) for more events

Merchandise



Check out <https://www.redbubble.com/people/G-B-C-A/shop> Search for artist G-B-C-A. Make it a favorite! Get essential GBCA gear delivered to your door. You'll find everything - hats, hoodies, mugs, pillows, throw towels, dresses and even leggings. G-B-C-A has uploaded quite a few line drawings of local boats. Your favorite boat might be featured! Do you want your boat added to Redbubble? Contact **Chris Kelley** Your purchase from artist G-B-C-A helps spread the word and contribute to the club.

Also, be sure to check out the www.GBCA.org Click the **"Ships Store" tab** and you'll find another spot for your online shopping. It's the place to go to get our high quality locally made burgees and other merchandise.

Looking for an 2023 Icicle Series Shirt? The snowflake shirts are back!

Preorder & USPS delivery only. Performance poly? DUNNO. \$XX plus USPS delivery. 2XL extra. Womens and mens available. Your whole crew deserves one!! Contact [Chris Kelley](#) for ordering.



Sponsors for 2022!



The sponsors really do take care of us, so let's take care of them...support the following business for 2022 and mention that GBCA sent ya!



Sponsors for 2023!

Banner Sponsors for 2023. Are you interested in being a sponsor? Gold, Silver and Bronze level sponsorship levels are available for next year. We have added another sponsor opportunity for boat owners.

Contact [Chris Kelley](#)

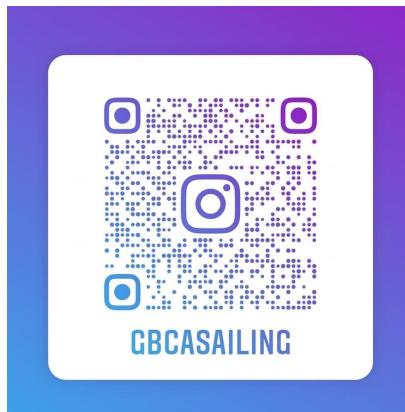
Also, it's a great time to update your 2023 mailing address and contact information

<https://www.gbca.org/PublicMemberDirectory>



Social Media

Follow us on Instagram



Follow us on Facebook, look for our posts, reels and stories!

<https://www.facebook.com/GBCAsailing>



Enjoying the newsletter?

We appreciate your donation

Have some news to share? Or do you know someone who deserves a little limelight? Nominate our next member spotlight by emailing BoG@gbca.org - it's an opportunity to get to know some of the sailors in the community and promote sailboat racing on Galveston Bay.



