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## **Silhouette takes first in Fleet** Wind's up, Boats finish

David Caso will take home the Gosling's Rum Founder's Trophy for 1<sup>st</sup> overall in the monohull fleet to be awarded to for the first time this Saturday at the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary Marion to Bermuda Cruising Yacht Race. The new trophy is a wood tower with brass trim featuring an etching of the western Atlantic with a compass rose over the Bermuda area.

Caso's Cherubini 50 Silhouette from Duxbury MA finished at 19:15:47 on Tuesday and has taken 1<sup>st</sup> place overall and 1<sup>st</sup> in Class D in the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Marion to Bermuda Cruising Yacht Race. Kathleen a classic 72-foot yawl sailed by Jim Feeney finished 1<sup>st</sup> in Class A and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Fleet.

Silhouette is a ketch and looks much like a classic Herreshoff design. Herreshoff said that gentlemen don't sail to weather and since the race was a run and a reach, this boat really sailed. They piled on the mizzen, mizzen staysail, main, staysail and jenny or asymmetrical spinnaker. And they hit every puff just right.

Kathleen, a yawl, followed suit and had a battle with Preston Hutchings' Morgan's Ghost and Peter Savage's Venture for first to finish on elapsed time. Kathleen sailed non-spinnaker, and in the reaching conditions that prevailed for most of the race, she powered along at an even pace with Morgan's Ghost. A wind shift in the final hours of the race allowed Morgan's Ghost to fly her chute for 5 hours, gain needed speed and take the honors.

Since the wind died Tuesday, many boats turned on the 'iron genny' and motored to Bermuda for the festivities at The Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club. By late Wednesday morning only 22 of 72 boats had finished. It was a slow race for the smaller boats that couldn't finish before the wind dropped out.

Results, stories and photos are on <http://www.marionbermuda.com/index.shtml>

In Class A, the fastest group, all 14 boats have finished. Kathleen won that class on corrected time. Venture an Oyster 62 sailed by Peter Savage of Palo Alto California was 2<sup>nd</sup> and in 3<sup>rd</sup> was Visions of Johanna a Chuck Paine/Morris Yachts 62 footer double-handed by Bill Strassberg of Northport Maine and Gram Schwekert of Newport Rhode Island.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest group, Class B, 12 of 14 boats finished and 2 withdrew. A Swan 44 MKII Triple Lindy sailed by Joe Mele from New York was first on corrected time. Cetacea, a Hinkley Southwester 51 sailed by Chris Culver was 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Bermuda entry Babe, a Swan 46, owned by Colin Couper and sailed by a Bermuda Crew including sir John Vereker, the Governor of Bermuda was third. In earlier reports Babe appeared to be 2<sup>nd</sup> but Cetacea was awarded 90 minutes compensation for stopping enroute to jump-start Anjaneya, a fellow competitor blacked out with dead batteries.

Eight boats in Class C finished and five withdrew. Barry Feldman's Baltic 43 Avalon from Newton, MA stands first while the US Naval Academy's McCurdy 44 Swift sailed by Midshipman Mark McClure was second. Ian McCurdy's Selkie another 38-foot McCurdy, designed by the skipper's father Jim, was third.

In Class D all 15 boats finished, Silhoutte was first. Fiona Rois, a Cape Dory 45 owned by Mike Ryan was 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Beneteau 42 Anjaneya skippered by David Swartz-Leeper came in third.

Fifteen boats started in Class E, 4 withdrew and 2 are still racing. The Valient 42 Cordelia owned by Roy Greenwald was first, Bermuda Oyster, an Oyster 435 skippered by Bermudian Paul Hubbard was 2<sup>nd</sup> and Chase, a Swan 40 sailed by Peter Stoops was 3<sup>rd</sup>. At 13:30 Thursday, Lucy was 5 miles out and Nightwind was 30 miles from the finish. If they are still racing, they will have to take their own time since the finish line operation has been shut down.

Friday sailors will enjoy the traditional Gosling's "Friends and Family" regatta followed by a Gosling's Rum party and prizegiving.

The prizegiving for the Marion to Bermuda Race will be held Saturday at Government House. Festivities start at 5:30. A Gala Dinner follows at the Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club.

The Bermuda Department of Tourism, Globalstar, Gosling's and Kingman Yacht Center have supported the 2007 race as presenting sponsors for this year's event. As in 2005 be sure you, your friends and family review a replay of your race on-line through iBoattrack from Horizon Marine.

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Captain's Blogs on Marion to Bermuda's iBoattrack Web site  
Five skippers in the 2007 Marion to Bermuda Race have agreed to post "Captain's Blogs" on the Discussion Board. Yachts asked by the committee to write and post reports include Cetaca, Checkmate, Galileo, Kathleen and Seaflower. The Captain's Blogs are posted at <http://www.iboattrack.com/forum/index.php>

Spectators can follow the race on iBoatTrack <http://www.iboattrack.com/>