



## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Expert John Rousmaniere selected as Moderator of March 2011 Safety at Sea Symposium

Marion, MA – The Marion to Bermuda Cruising Yacht Race committee announced the selection of John Rousmaniere as the Moderator of the U.S. Sailing sanctioned Safety at Sea Symposium on Saturday, March 19, 2011. The Symposium is open to all sailors interested in offshore preparation and safety, though topics will be geared to those racing in June 2011 in the Marion Bermuda Race, and in the Marblehead Halifax Race.

Rousmaniere has sailed more than 40,000 miles, including nine Newport Bermuda Races (two in the second-place boat), two Fastnet Races, three transatlantic races or cruises, other long races or cruises, and extensive day racing that included winning championships. His sailing experience, and his writing about the 1979 Fastnet storm, led Rousmaniere to speak at or moderate more than 100 safety at sea seamanship, or Suddenly Alone seminars under the aegis of the U.S. Sailing Association and North U (the educational arm of North Sails). Rousmaniere writes on a wide range of topics but is best known for his books on storms at sea, yachting history, and sailing instruction.

The ISAF has recently updated rulings regarding Safety at Sea attendance requirements: 30% of crew (including skipper) need to have completed a Safety at Sea symposium within the past 5 years (no longer within 3 years).

As during the 2009 Safety at Sea weekend, the Marion Bermuda Race committee expects to include a second (optional) day on Sunday, March 20, 2011, covering in depth Weather and Medical education modules, and In-Water safety procedures. Symposium Registration will open by early January 2011 on [www.marionbermuda.com](http://www.marionbermuda.com).

Registration for the June 17, 2011 Marion Bermuda Race opened on September 1, 2010 with 27 boats currently registered. Visit the updated Race website [www.marionbermuda.com](http://www.marionbermuda.com) to download the Notice of Race, Inspection Check-Lists, find a Mentor, read about past and new race participants, and learn about upcoming safety and weather seminars. Join the conversation on the Race Discussion Forum: <http://racetobermuda.ning.com>.

Since its inception in 1977, the Marion Bermuda Race has been a Corinthian event (amateur yachtsman who sails his own yacht without a professional skipper) and yachts are accepted by invitation. The spirit

of the race is that all yachts and crew are participating for the joy and pleasure of sailing, competition, and the camaraderie that accompanies such an offshore event.

The Marion to Bermuda Cruising Yacht Race is organized by [The Beverly Yacht Club](#), [The Blue Water Sailing Club](#) and [The Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club](#) for the Marion Bermuda Cruising Yacht Race Association, Inc - a 501(c)(3) organization which among other activities supports Youth Sailing programs to encourage teamwork, skill enhancement and confidence.

Website: [www.marionbermuda.com](http://www.marionbermuda.com)

Race Forum/Discussion: <http://racetobermuda.ning.com>

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