

Shackles and Cotterpins – October 2005

July 3rd, 2006 – Just over nine months to go! .. And a hearty welcome to entry No. 1, David Sutcliffe with his Beneteau First 47.7DK *Kinetic*.

It seems like a long way in the future but time sure flies when you're having fun. Although it's a lot of work to prepare a boat and crew for a Vic Maui, it must be fun because so many sailors, and many past participants, have indicated they will be entering the 2006 race. To date there have been thirty nine requests for race entry packages; 14 from former competitors and some interesting new faces.

There will be a Vic Maui Information Night held at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club on Wednesday, November 23rd, 2005 at 1930. Come and hear former racers and Race Committee Members talk about all aspects of the race, show pictures from former races and answer your questions.

The Safety at Sea Seminar will be held at a location yet to be published (probably near Seattle) on February 25, 2006. It is an ISAF Special Regs requirement that 30% of each crew including the skipper shall have taken an ISAF approved safety seminar in the five years preceding the race.

Of course, everyone will arrive safely, and the date for the Awards Banquet has been set for Saturday, July 22, 2006, so put this date on your calendar.

The Notice of Race, Amendments, and Appendices are posted on the website at www.vicmaui.org. The Crew Sign up and Safety Checklist should be available soon.

New to the website is the Discussion Forum. To participate, you need to create a User Profile and then you can contribute to this useful information tool. The first question posted seeks insight into what crew might expect on the return voyage – any answers out there?

Also on the website are links to a number of other interesting sites – past competitors, yacht clubs and associations, sailing magazines, yacht races – a incredible source of information.