

JIBS & GYBES

Planning the FACS 2009 Spring Thaw

NEWSLETTER



Spring Thaw Planning Meeting

A meeting was held by the planning committee for the 2009 Spring Thaw.

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Introducing the Spring Thaw at the FACS February meeting

The Co-Directors, Frank and Brad gave a brief outline of the Spring Thaw Itinerary.

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Spring Thaw Participants Meeting

A meeting was held for the unveiling of the 2009 Spring Thaw Itinerary.

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FACS 2009 SPRING THAW ON THE SUNSHINE COAST

The planning crew have reviewed the criteria for this year's event and decided that based on the experience of the planners, it would be best to pick a previous ST destination and plan this years event around it.

Work on this years expedition started with a meeting of the planning committee, Cruising Co-Directors Frank and Brad flanked by past CDs Bruce Powell and Rob Dyer. Bruce and Rob provide direct planning experience from which to draw. A number of previous cruises were discussed and the planning options associated with each. Also attending were Bill Dyer and Carlos Samur who are providing planning and logistical support to the directors. Charts were referenced as were sailing instructions and tide tables. There was a discussion to determine what could be expected in regard to the number and type of craft, whether there would be a lot of trailerable boats from Calgary and how many could be expected to charter from the various charter companies on the west coast. The brainstorming considered the time of the season in terms of available services and amenities, what time offers the best sailing conditions, where would trailerable yachts launch from, when does the high season for chartering start and other important considerations. Various marinas and anchorages were discussed, the conditions that prevailed in 2003 and what has changed since then.



Sailing the Sunshine Coast

The picture above represents some of the conditions that can be expected while sailing on the Sunshine Coast. Of course it's always wise to plan for the worst of conditions and revel in the sunshine when it presents itself. It goes without saying that the wind is ever present in our thoughts when planning a sailing holiday.

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Sailing Conditions

As with any trip it is always important to plan for all sailing conditions whether you are becalmed on a partially overcast day or racing along on a reach. Always ensure that you have adequate sunscreen and be prepared to wear your life jacket, not just use it as a seat cushion.

Planning Co-Directors outline the plan for the 2009 Spring Thaw

At the February 20, 2009 FACS meeting Frank and Brad outlined the plans to date for this year's Spring Thaw. This year's destination will be the Sunshine Coast. Sign up sheets were provided for those interested in joining the two boats that were already signed up as well as a list for those who are looking for a berth as crew. Brad and Frank explained that the cruise is planned to run between Thursday June 4th and Sunday June 14th. This is to accommodate trailerables, which will be towed out from Calgary and launched at one of the nearby sites. There will be a meeting on Saturday,

March 7th at Brad's and anyone interested in participating is welcomed to attend. There will be a follow-up meeting TBA where final plans and skippers/crew can get together. In the interim this newsletter is to be added to the website for people to be informed. The central photo below shows Frank and Brad outlining the plan at the February FACS meeting.



Date of Next Planning Meeting: *April 18, 2009 at 7 pm at 139 Hamptons*

Gardens NW - at Brad Lowell's.



Photos

Please bring your cameras on the cruise along with the cable for downloading your pictures to a laptop computer.



Charter Discount

Thanks to the efforts of our Bosun, Bruce Powell, Island Cruising is offering a fifteen percent (15%) discount to qualifying FACS members. Don't forget to mention Bruce's name when you call Island Cruising.

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Participants Meeting March 7th.

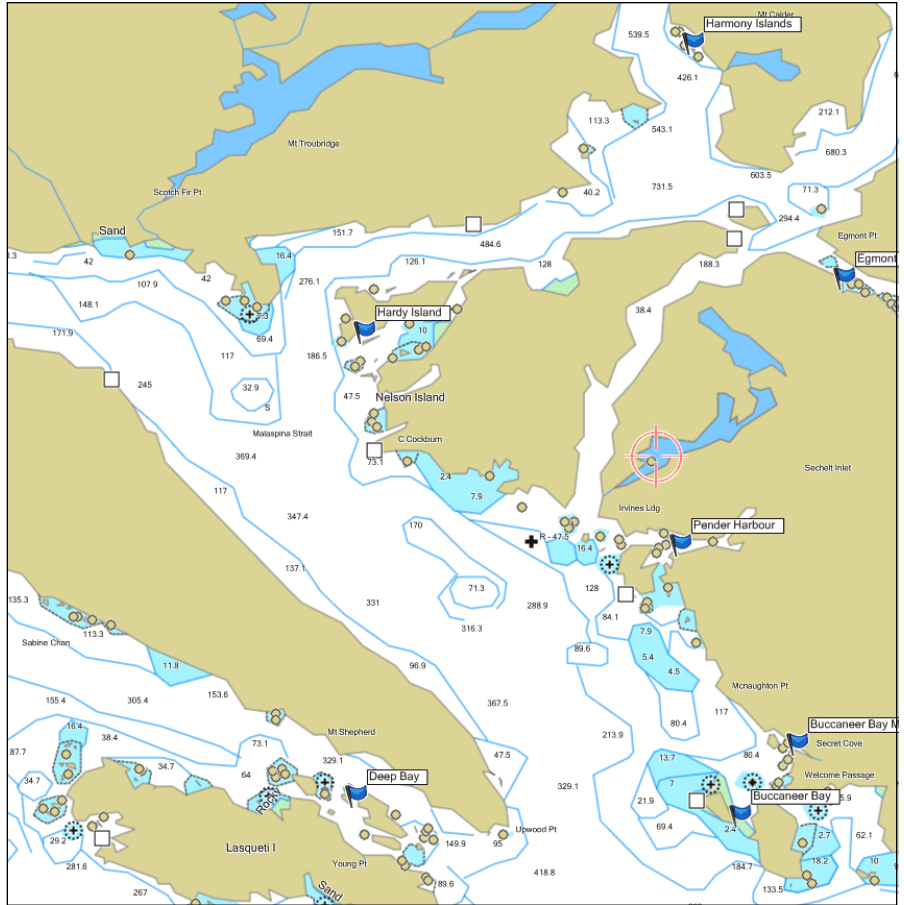


The premier participants meeting was well attended by no less than eighteen interested parties. The planned meeting

points for the flotilla was discussed along with launch locations of the various trailered yachts from Calgary.

The Outline for the Cruise

- **June 6th.** All sailors to meet in **Buccaneer Bay Marina for dinner and final route planning. Overnight at this Marina.**
- **June 7th.** **Jedediah Island – Deep Harbour.**
- **June 8th.** **Pender Harbour – choice of Marinas.**
- **June 9th.** **Race Day to Hardy Island for lunch then on to Harmony Islands anchorage.**
- **June 10th.** **Egmont and hike to Skoocumchuck rapids.**
- **June 11th.** **Buccaneer Bay on Thormanby Island.**
- **June 12th.** **Optional – Free Sail Day.**



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Boats and Skippers to Date:

- Skipper and 3 crew - "Firefly"
- Skipper and two crew - "Troubadour"
- Skipper and one crew - "Two Degrees Out"
- Skipper and one crew - "Dragon Fly"
- Skipper - "Yet to be Named"
- Skipper and one crew - "Nauticare"
- Skipper and two crew - "Prairie Dream"

A couple of others showing interest in joining plus six additional interested sailors looking for a hammock!

Great first meeting on Saturday with the proposed route being well received. Current routing with dates is included as attachment - general idea is to have alternating marina night and anchor out night. Anchor out nights have been chosen to provide sites of interest or hiking. The trip will also include a skippers information session each night for the following day's sail, a pot luck dinner ashore, a group hike to the Skoocumchuck Rapids (large standing

waves), a race day and a photo contest and group golf shirts!

Organizers:

- Pot Luck Dinner - Theresa Voigt
- Skoocumchuck Hike - Brad Lowell
- Golf Shirts - Greg Trout
- Race Day - Jeff Allan and Gord Andrew

Suggested Charts

Mid Sized: 3512 Vancouver to Nelson Island with Jedediah Island

3514 Nelson Island / Harmony Island / Princess Louisa Inlet

Large scale: 3535 Pender Harbour/Secret Cove/Thormanby Island

3536 Lasqueti Island

3526 Horse shoe bay to Gibsons

3534 Gibsons/Shoal Channel

Suggested Cruising Guides

Wagonner Cruising Guide – marinas/ anchorages

Dreamspeaker Vancouver, Howe Sound & the Sunshine Coast (Anne and Laurence Yeadon-Jones)

<http://www.sunshinecoastbc.com>

Boaters Blue Pages Marina Guide from Pacific Yachting Best Anchorages of the Inside Passage by Anne Vipond and William Kelly

Anchorages and Marine Parks by Peter Vassilopoulos

Hiking trails for boaters in BC: <http://www.island.net/~bcamp/>