

R. J. Cooper & Courtney Cooper Cumberland

R. J. Cooper and Courtney Cooper Cumberland are a brother and sister duo from Panama City, Florida. Cooper & Cumberland sailed together extensively throughout their youth and while both on the sailing team at the University of Florida. The pair has teamed up for a bid to represent the United States at the 2024 Olympics in Paris for Mixed-Gender Double-Handed Distance Sailing. Their goals are: Goal 1 – Get Involved (2019-2020); Goal 2 – Qualify for the US Sailing Team (2021-2022); Goal 3 – Qualify for the Olympic Team (2023-2024); Goal 4 – Win Gold (2024). Returning on the same boat they raced last year, R. J. and Courtney will be aboard J105 *Tenacious*, sail #501, which belongs to brothers and AYC members Carl & Scott Gitchell. [You can read more about them here.](#)



Christina (Chris) & Justin Wolfe

Christina (Chris) & Justin Wolfe have been racing together for 25 years. Starting with collegiate racing, they owned and raced a 49er and have completed more than 10,000nm of offshore doublehanded sailing together, including an Atlantic crossing, eastbound from Annapolis, and two races from San Francisco to Hawaii. Since 2015, they have raced extensively in the Salish Sea, while focusing primarily on long-distance, short-handed racing. They currently own and race *Raku*, a J/111. Chris & Justin will be aboard J105 *Firebrand*, sail #527, which belongs to AYC member Jon Slabaugh. [You can see more of their racing history here.](#)



Francesca Clapcich & Jesse Fielding

Francesca Clapcich and Jesse Fielding are co-skippers of the State Street Marathon Sailing Team, a program of the USMMA Sailing Foundation, Inc. Demonstrating the power of diversity in leadership and the importance of resiliency are goals of this team. They make important decisions – at times together, at times alone – requiring a higher level of trust and collaboration on their way to qualifying for the Mixed Two Person Offshore Olympic event at Paris 2024. Francesca has a degree in Sport Science and served in the Italian Air Force. A two-time Olympian in the Laser Radial and 49er FX Class she also won both the World and European Championships in the 49er FX. Jesse Fielding from Rhode Island began sailing as a child and was part of the cast of *Morning Light*, a Walt Disney documentary that followed the youngest crew to compete in the Transpacific Yacht Race in 2007. With a degree in Political Science and a career in finance Jesse managed to finish third overall in the 2011 Rolex Fastnet Race. They will be sailing the Figaro 3 *Fearless*. Their team's website is: <https://www.statestreet.com/values/mixed-marathon-sailing.html>



Morgen Watson & Meg Reilly

Morgen Watson & Meg Reilly are co-skippers of Pogo 12.50 *Hermes*, a Class 40 racer-cruiser. The duo manages Ocean Racers, an international offshore race team and network that trains and races around the Atlantic. Together they have logged over 180,000 NM offshore, including circumnavigating and winning the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race in 2014. While they typically race with a team, Meg & Morgen have sailed across the Atlantic and thousands of miles on their Pogo double-handed. Their goal is to compete in more double-handed offshore races together such as the Atlantic Cup. Ocean Racers is active on social media and will be sharing their training, preparation, and racing stories, on the team's Instagram and Facebook @oceanracers.



Credit goes to
@oceanracers and
Annie-Claude Roberg
for their photos.

Tobias Stoerkle - Photography
www.sailing-photography.com

Erik Haaland & Andrew Waters

Erik Haaland and Andrew Waters will be returning to the race in the Italia Yachts 9.98 sport boat named *Vichingio* (Viking), sail #998, as the defending champs for the ORC class. Erik Haaland is the Sales Director for Italia Yachts USA at David Walters Yachts. He has sailed his entire life and currently races on performance sport boats including the Farr 30, Melges 32 and J70. Andrew Waters is a Sail and Service Consultant at Quantum Sails in Annapolis. His professional sailing career began in South Africa and later the Caribbean and includes numerous wins in large regattas.



Will Bomar & Bri Grenier

Will Bomar and Bri Grenier will be sailing *Peregrine*, owned by Bill and Lesley Carruth. Will is a North Sails Expert who lives in Annapolis and learned to sail on the Bay growing up in Hampton, VA. He has competed in Down the Bay, Block Island, the Vineyard, and the Ida Lewis distance races. He is an accomplished sailor in the J/105 and J/24 class, most recently winning the 2020 J/24 Midwinters. Bri is another Annapolis transplant who moved here from the Boston area. There she competed in J/24s, J/80s and a Columbia 32 in a variety of one design, offshore and distance events including Block Island, Off Soundings, Beringer Bowl, and many NOODs. Since moving here, she has gained local experience sailing the Miles River Race, Boomerang, the NASS Race to Oxford in 2019, and the Annapolis NOOD events. This will be Bri and Will's second year competing in this event and they look forward to sailing another 2020 double handed regatta, having recently won the J/24 class at the AYC Two Bridge Fiasco.



Allan Terhune & Cate Muller-Terhune

Allan Terhune and Cate Muller-Terhune will be sailing a new Italia 9.98 *Das Boot*, in the ORC class.

Allan, an accomplished inshore sailor having won multiple North American Championships and a J22 World Championship, is excited for his first double-handed race. Allan is a North Sails expert and has a focus on Offshore One-Design. He has been involved with this Italia project from its onset as well as the Jeanneau Sun Fast 3300 to name a few.

Cate Muller-Terhune is an accomplished inshore and offshore sailor who tried her hand at double-handed sailing for the first time in last year's event and had a blast. She has also completed 17 Chicago Mackinac races all in One-Design format, finishing on the podium six times. They are both excited about double-handed racing and the new Olympic event.



Ben Capuco & Matt Garner

Ben Capuco and Matt Garner will be competing on *Zuul*, an Aerodyne 38, in the ORC class and seeking vindication from last year's race! Ben and Matt are both naval architects at Gibbs & Cox supporting the design of almost everything but sailboats. Ben has sailed his entire life, settling in Annapolis but now living in Alexandria, VA. He previously campaigned a J/24, Etchells, and Humphreys 38. Matt grew up sailing on the Chesapeake Bay and raced his own J/22 before joining Ben 5 years ago. Sail #38012.



Scott Dodge & Nick Finucan

Scott Dodge and Nick Finucan will be sailing their new L30, *Infringer*, sail #10, in the ORC class. The L30 has been selected as the double handed boat for the 2020 World Sailing's Offshore World Championship.

Scott, an Annapolis yacht broker with Martin Bird, has been racing on the Chesapeake Bay and offshore for over 5 decades. He has raced on One design boats from J22's to TP52's as well as custom offshore boats. He has been a member of some of the most prominent teams from Annapolis, including *Goldfish*, *Infringer*, *Uarshek*, *Sjambok*, *Ramrod*, *Blockade Runner*, and *Donnybrook*, to name a few. Along the way these teams have won 3 Annapolis Newport races, 3 Annapolis Bermuda races, 1 Pineapple Cup, 3 Fort Lauderdale to Key West races and pretty much every distance race on the Bay.

Nick, from Alexandria, VA has been a sailing instructor in the Washington DC/Virginia area as well as racing on the Chesapeake Bay and offshore. He is the bowman on the Farr 400 *Jeroboam* and has Annapolis to Newport and Block Island Race Week victories to his credit. As well, he is known in local PHRF racing on the Bay with the Farr 30 *Blockade Runner*.



Fredrik Salvesen & Molly Wilmer

Fredrik and Molly have been sailing together since 2001 and have been friends even longer. They will be racing *Mirage*, sail #328, in the One Design division.

Both grew up sailing on the Chesapeake. Fredrik started at West River Sailing Club and Molly at Severn Sailing Association (SSA). Both Molly and Fredrik started sailing big boats with their parents, Fredrik on the Peterson 34 and later Beneteau 42, both *Streaker*, and Molly on the Pearson 30 *BLAM*. Both have taught sailing, Fredrik at SSA, where he and Molly first met, and Molly at Annapolis Sailing School and then Outward Bound.

Fredrik has campaigned *Mirage* with partner Cedric Lewis since 1985 starting as a J-29 then a Mumm 30 and now a J105. Molly joined the team in 2001 and while they have a lot of experience on a J105 with 6 or more crew it is very different with only 2.

In addition to sailing on the Chesapeake, both have raced offshore, against and with each other. Combined, they have competed in multiple Annapolis to Newport, Marion to Bermuda, Newport to Bermuda, and Marblehead to Halifax races.

Both Fredrik and Molly enjoy cruising and have chartered in New England and the islands.

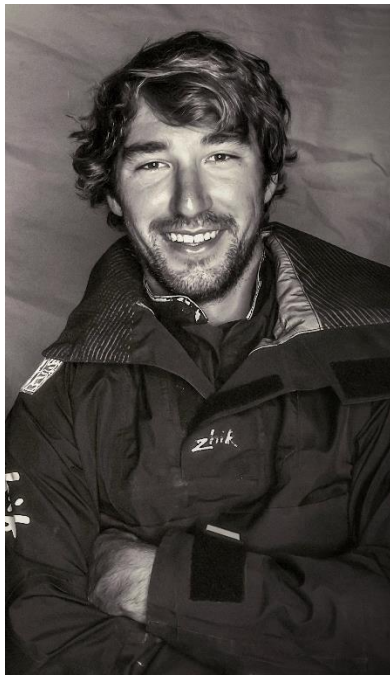
Fun facts: Molly has sailed tall ships in Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean. Fredrik started racing A dinghies in Norway that his dad and uncle built.



Ethan Johnson & Sydney Monahan

Ethan Johnson age 26, has been sailing for 16 years from inshore to offshore. Ethan learned how to race in high school, and shortly began coaching sailing. Before Oakcliff he spent each season coaching high school sailing, racing keelboats, and expanding STEM sailing in his hometown of Southern Maryland. Wanting to follow his dreams of winning an Around the World Ocean Race, he left everything behind to pursue the professional field of sailing. Specializing in offshore racing and navigation, his passion is Offshore however Ethan continues to share his knowledge of Foiling, Match Racing, and Physical Fitness with trainees as Training Program Director at Oakcliff Sailing.

Sydney Monahan is a 20-year-old sailor taking her first foray into short-handed distance racing. Currently a Sophomore at the University of South Florida majoring in Health Sciences and minoring in Nutrition, she grew up sailing lasers and 420's in her hometown of Fort Myers, FL. Sydney competed in the Laser North Americans and has an extensive small boat background. She plans to expand her experience to get more offshore and short-handed miles in the next few years. Sydney has competed in the Newport to Bermuda Race, Redbull's Foiling Generation series, and Hobie 16 worlds. Her ultimate goal is to sail in the Ocean Race.



Arthur & AJ Libby

Arthur and AJ Libby are a father and son team living in Annapolis, MD. Both grew up sailing on the Chesapeake Bay. They will be racing on the family's J105 Dog House in the ORC class.



AJ is an accomplished Junior Sailor in the 420 class, now racing his J22 locally in Annapolis. His love for the water has continued in his work life where he finds himself working as a 3rd Mate on a merchant ship running between Anchorage Alaska and Tacoma, WA.

Arthur has been racing his J105 locally for over 15 years. His love for boating and family is key to his success on the water, sailing with his wife and the same crew for years. Arthur is excited to share his love for distance sailing with AJ. "Double handed keelboat sailing is a new experience for both of us. I look forward to spending time with AJ who is back in town after over 100 days at sea."



John Tis & Randy Gray



John Tis and Randy Gray will be co-skippers racing *Bare Bones* for Sunfast Racing Baltimore.

John is an experienced cruiser and coastal racer and the owner of *Bare Bones*, a 2019 Sunfast 3600. His first offshore race was as the skipper of a Pearson 39 that completed the Annapolis to Bermuda Race in the ORR cruising class. He is a 23-year U.S. Army veteran and has served as a surgeon in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Randy is an experienced offshore racer, having completed numerous Newport to Bermuda, Marion to Bermuda, and Annapolis to Newport races, including a class win aboard the J-42, *Allegiant*, in 2019. Aside from racing, Randy is a skipper and instructor for the Downtown Sailing Center in Baltimore and holds a USCG 100ton Master license. When not sailing, Randy is a Civil Engineer, and for fun a scuba diver for the National Aquarium.

Both Randy and John are looking forward to honing their double-handed skills against the world-class competition in their first AYC Double Handed Distance Race.



Patrick Gavin-Brynes & Cole Brauer

Patrick Gavin-Brynes (Lake George, NY) & Cole Brauer (Charleston, SC) are both professional sailors with diverse technical backgrounds working at the pinnacle of sailing technology. Combined they have over 55k ocean miles spanning events such as the Sydney-Hobart, Fastnet, and transoceanic races on both coasts. Patrick and Cole met delivering a Class 40 back from Key West to Charleston SC, they immediately clicked and have come together to compete as co-ed skippers for the American Ocean Racing Project. American Ocean Racing Project was created with one goal in mind: "To become North America's most competitive, mixed gender, short-handed sailing team." The team is working to compete internationally in the Class 40 circuit and has goals to race around the world double handed. The team is very excited to be competing in the J105 class on the borrowed *Better Mousetrap*, graciously offered up by Bob Putnam. Follow along!



Laurent Givry & Sara Stone

Laurent Givry and Sara Stone will be racing on the Figaro 3 *Opportunity* (FRA40) for State Street Marathon Sailing Team.

Sara Stone is a professional sailor from Marion, MA. Stone has sailed over 17,000 offshore miles and has experience racing doublehanded and fully crewed boats ranging from 24- to 80-feet. Sara has both fleet and match racing experience, and her aspirations include competing in The Olympic Games and racing around the world in The Ocean Race.

Originally from France, Laurent lives in Virginia and has been sailing in the Chesapeake Bay area and along the East Coast for the last 5 years. He loves long distance races and shorthanded sailing and has been very active in both for the last year and a half. He is looking forward to the AYC Double Handed Distance Race.



Pat & Amy Teeling

Pat and Amy Teeling are a husband and wife team and well-known local sailors. Amy and her sisters grew up racing on the family's Cal 36 while Pat's introduction to racing began with his older brother at the local dinghy club before moving on to larger boats. They will be sailing their Pearson Flyer, *Blaze Star*, in the ORC class, sail #83348. Pat and Amy have owned their boat for more than 20 years and have enjoyed double handing her locally and for multiple cruises to the Bahamas and other places. They recently competed in the 46th annual St. Mary's College of Maryland Governor's Cup finishing first in PHRF B, beating the four fully crewed boats in their class that finished. Pat and Amy enjoy cruising and racing together without other crew and look forward to the Double Handed Distance Race, which is perfect for them. From the pictures it looks like Amy gets to do all the fun stuff and Pat does the hard work!



Randy Smyth & Christina Persson

Randy Smyth and Christina Persson will be sailing J105 *Bat IV*, owned by AYC member Andrew Kennedy. Randy is one of North America's top multihull sailors and a member of the National Sailing Hall of Fame. Residing in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, Randy is a five-time U.S. Multihull Champion, two-time Olympic Silver medalist, two-time Tornado World champion, and won the America's Cup as helmsman for *Stars & Stripes* in 1988.

Christina started sailing on Martha's Vineyard and sailing has since taken her around the country and around the world. Accomplishments include winning the 2016 New England 100 distance race in an F18, third place in the 2016 Snipe Masters in the Bahamas, top American at the 2018 Miami World Cup in the foiling Nacra 17, international campaigns in a Laser Radial and the foiling Nacra 17. A multi-sport athlete, Christina also competes in triathlons and obstacle course races.



Kyle McLaughlin & RJ Bay

Kyle McLaughlin and RJ Bay will be borrowing Dave and Beth Scheidt's J105, *Smoke 'N Oakum*, to compete in the ORC Division.

Kyle grew up in Ohio racing Optis and Lasers on Lake Erie. Since moving to Annapolis, Kyle has been regularly racing on J22s, J105s, and an XP44.

RJ Bay has grown up racing Optis, Lasers, Jet 14s, and Finns on the Chesapeake Bay, while also racing on his family's SR33 *Wildfire*. In recent years he has been crewing on a wide range of boats such as 505s, Log Canoes, J105s, and *Wildfire*.



RJ & Kyle would like to thank the Scheidt Family for offering their boat and allowing them to compete in their first doublehanded race together.



John Bell & Ryan Treat

Hiwassee is derived from the Cherokee Native American word “Ayuhwasi” which literally means “savanna” or “large meadow.” It’s also the name of the lake where John Bell grew up in Oklahoma. He learned to sail as teenager racing on Lake Hefner at OK City Yacht Club events on board his high school sweetheart’s father’s boat, a Victory 21. Things didn’t quite work out with the sweetheart, but her father taught him to sail and a whole new passion was born! Since then, there have been many a *Hiwassee* – 14’, 16’, 25’, 33’, 35’, 36’, 40’ and 42’. The iteration that will be sailed in the Double Handed Distance Race is a J100, sail number 52296.

Bell and his co-captain Ryan Treat met at an AYC prospective member event in 2018 and have been friends ever since then, racing and sailing on each other’s boats. John has been a 20-year Chicago Yacht Club member and competed in numerous regattas and offshore distance races on Lake Michigan including 14 Chicago to Mackinac Races resulting in 1st, 3rd and 4th place podium honors. He and his wife Jan relocated from Chicago to Maryland a few years ago and are in the process of joining the Annapolis Yacht Club where they are currently on the member waitlist.

Ryan Treat is currently an AYC member and races his very Fast 40 in various regattas on the Chesapeake Bay. He and his wife Bess recently married and settled in Chevy Chase, MD. Ryan has many years of offshore experience and is an excellent sailor and co-captain.



Tony Moynagh & Tom Pfeifer

Tony Moynagh and Tom Pfeifer will co-skipper *Joysea*, sail number 61095, a classic Dickerson D37 built on the Chesapeake many years ago. Tony, Tom, and several friends sailed *Joysea* in the Chicago Mac Race in 2018 and 2019, finishing 2nd and 1st in her class in respective years.

Tony grew up sailing in New England with highlights that include crewing on David Steere's S&S *Yankee Girl* in various New England and Chesapeake regattas. In 1995, Tony purchased the Pearson Flyer *Elvis* and has participated in numerous Chesapeake Bay Racing Association events over the years including the Solomons Race, the Screw Pile Regatta, the Annapolis Yacht Club Race Week, Annapolis to Baltimore Race, the Oxford Regatta, and the AYC Two Bridge Fiasco. In 2014, *Elvis* was the CBYRA high point winner in her class.



Tom grew up boating on local waters. His sailing experiences have come full circle. First, he raced Lasers in a frostbite league on the Potomac. As time progressed, he bought *Joysea* in 2012 and settled into the cruising life on the bay. Before long, the cruising life gave way to double-handed passage making of ever-increasing distances. In 2015, Tom double-handed *Joysea* on a Trans-Atlantic/North Sea odyssey while on a 90-day sabbatical. Over the last few years, Tom has returned to his racing roots with the Chicago-Mac races mentioned above.



Tony and Tom are excited to participate in the AYC Double Handed Distance Race.



Sloan Burns & Jeffrey Kennedy

Team Artemis USA 21 – Sloan Burns and Jeffrey Kennedy will be sailing on the Italia Yachts 13.98 *Artemis*. *Artemis* was planning to race the Newport to Bermuda 2020 event with Jeff as skipper and Sloan as navigator.

Jeff has been sailing and racing since the age of ten. As a St Mary's College sailor, Jeff competitively raced nationally in windsurfers, dinghies, and keelboat classes. Following graduation Jeff worked as a sailmaker and rigger in Annapolis, racing performance keel boats from J24s to offshore racers. Jeff transitioned into the software business and has since owned and raced on J105s and J120s and on large performance catamarans internationally.

Sloan started sailing in 2014 in his hometown of Dahlgren, VA. He quickly found a passion for the challenge and adventure of offshore racing. Sloan has since been on the class winning team for many offshore races including Annapolis to Newport 2017, Newport to Bermuda 2018, and the Miami to Havana 2018. Sloan is a lead mechanical engineer in the Test and Evaluation Division of Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division with expertise in structural dynamics and data analysis.



Austin Powers & Frank McGowan



Austin Powers and Frank McGowan will be racing in the ORC Division as co-skippers of *Querencia*, a 2018 X Yachts X-4³. This is their first double handed race together.

Austin, a sailing professional who also works for North Sails, has been a key part of the *Querencia* team since its inception. He is an accomplished one-design helmsman and tactician with numerous podium finishes in regional and national Viper, Waszp, and VX One regattas, as well as big-boat events such as A2N, Lauderdale-Key West, and Miami to Havana.

Frank has cruised and raced a wide range of boats for nearly 40 years and has more recently become (along with his wife Nancy) more passionate about the joys and challenges of distance racing. Frank and Austin are excited to join a very talented group of sailors in this great event, and hope to make the other members of the *Querencia* family proud.



Tim Zimmermann & Rob Young

Tim Zimmermann and Rob Young started racing doublehanded together this season, with the AYC Doublehanded Race a goal from the start. Tim always swore he would race only one-design (mostly in the J/22 and Laser fleets before he had kids), but after 5 years of family cruising in *Moondust*, the lure of shorthanded racing proved too great. Rob, a cybersecurity expert, professional mariner, and retired Navy Captain, quickly found Tim's Spinsheet ad looking for a doublehanded co-skipper and the team was born.

Tim and Rob have some unique sailing experiences (Tim was aboard Steve Fossett's *Playstation* as a journalist during its East-West Transatlantic record run in 2003, and Rob was a bowman/medic in the 93-94 Whitbread), but both are truly enjoying the unique and demanding challenge of learning how to race a boat fast with just two crew. If all goes well, they are looking to take the program offshore and race the Annapolis-Newport and Annapolis-Bermuda races doublehanded.



Renee Mehl & Chris Tutmark

Renee and Chris know each other from the US Sailing Safety at Sea Committee. This will be their first race as a team. They will be sailing in the J105 class aboard 'Santas Reign, Dear', sail number 523. The pair would like to thank to AYC member Don Santa for making his boat available.

Chris Tutmark has raced in an array of notable regattas: Rolex Big Boat Series (San Fran), Key West Race Week, Newport-Bermuda, Block Island Race, Block Island Race Week, Vic-Maui, Pacific Cup, San Diego-Puerto Vallarta, MEXORC, and too many races in the Pacific NW to list. Some of his finishes include 4th at 2016 Farr 30 Worlds and Top American at 2009 Mini TransAt.

Renee Mehl has been living in Annapolis for 30 years and currently works at the Naval Academy training midshipmen on offshore cruises. She sailed dinghies in college and owned a Vanguard 15 for about 10 years. Mehl competed in Santa Maria Cups and other match races as crew, including winning the first Women's Match Racing Worlds, and won J-22 Worlds as crew as well. Her local racing has primarily been in



the J24, J22, J80, and J105 fleets, along with occasional log canoe events. Class racing includes Int'l 50s, Mumm 30s, Farr 40s, Mumm 36s.

Renee has competed in Annapolis-Newport, Annapolis-Bermuda, Newport-Bermuda, Chicago and Bayview Mackinac Races, Block Island, NYYC Cruise, ALIR, Edgartown Race Week, Around Martha's Vineyard, Key West, SORC, a Whitbread Race, and the Tour de France a la Voile. She has been on lots of deliveries – in the Great Lakes and the East Coast and a Transatlantic – as both a boat captain and crew. Renee hasn't done any double-handed racing yet though, so she's really looking forward to it!



Mike Beasley & Chris Conway

Mike Beasley grew up in New Zealand and is currently a member of the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron. He completed the RNZYS Youth Scheme at 19 and has raced everything from Lasers to Maxi Catamarans. Mike was Technical Shore Manager for two Volvo Ocean Race teams (Kvaerner and SEB), built and sailed on three America's Cup Teams (Aloha, Le Defi, and Alinghi) in 2000 and 2003, respectively.



Beasley circumnavigated the World with Steve Fossett aboard his Maxi Catamaran *Cheyenne* in 2004, beating the old record by 6 days and setting 7 world records along the way including a 626nm day. He has been involved in multiple Farr 40, TP52, and offshore campaigns, primarily as a Main Sheet trimmer, Helmsman, and Watch Captain, and has sailed over 100,000 ocean miles. Mike campaigns his GP26 *Rattle 'n' Rum* on the Eastern Seaboard, at local events, and here at the Annapolis Yacht Club.



Chris Conway grew up in Annapolis. As a youth sailor he participated in the SSA Junior sailing program sailing Lasers, i420s, and the occasional keel boat regatta. Conway attended Old Dominion University where he was on the sailing team. After graduation Chris moved back to Annapolis where he raced on a number of different boats, but mostly on the J-35 *Three Cheers* and J-30 (then Farr 30) *Sea Biscuit* with the late Dorsey Owings as his main trimmer and tactician.

His focus changed to distance and offshore racing with the J120 and then TP 52, *Irie*, where he was a trimmer and helmsman. Conway has completed 5 Annapolis to Newport races on a J-35, J-120 and TP 52. Most recently, he has been racing with Mike on *Rattle 'n' Rum* and looks forward to the challenge of shorthanded distance racing.



Steve Hale & Tyler Waldron

Steve Hale and Tyler Waldron will be racing Steve's Salona 380 *Cookie Monster* in the ORC class. Steve is originally from the Chicago area and before getting *Cookie Monster* last year, had raced on J/105s, J/109s and a GP26.

Tyler is from Annapolis and has raced a variety of one design and distance races, as well as many shorthanded offshore deliveries, which sparked his interest in the double-handed format. Steve and Tyler competed in the AYC Double Handed Distance Race last year and are looking forward to another great race.



Richard Born & Guillaume Seynhaeve

Guillaume Seynhaeve and Richard Born met coaching at J-World over summers during college. They have sailed together since and look forward to competing in the ORC class of this regatta aboard *Windborn*, a J120.

Richard is from Baltimore but grew up sailing in Annapolis and then sailed in college at Tulane. He continued to sail after college and has done multiple offshore races in *Windborn*, but this will be his first doublehanded overnight race.

Guillaume has been sailing since he could swim (2 years old). He was 12 years old when his family circumnavigated the globe over a 2-year period. In total he has over 15,000 ocean cruising miles. Seynhaeve has also competitively raced since the age of 16, including sailing for the nationally ranked Boston College Team (tied 1st for Nevins Trophy) in both fleet and team racing. His experience includes both ocean (multiple Newport Bermuda Races) and one-design racing, including Annapolis NOODs (multiple top 5), Block Island Race Weeks (top 5), Annapolis Race Weeks (multiple top 5 finishes), two J22 Worlds, one J80 Worlds (top ten), and multiple national championships (J24, J80, J-105).



Keith Cole & John King

Keith Cole and John King are neighbors in Annapolis and will be racing on Keith's J/124 *Lucky Eights*, sail #60888, in the ORC class.

Keith grew up sailing a Mobjack on the Potomac and previously sailed a Jeanneau 39i out of Solomons Island. Keith and his wife, Deborah, moved the family to Shanghai, China in 2010, where the sailing scene revolved around dinghies on nearby Dianshan Lake and occasional races in Hong Kong. *Lucky Eights* reflects this time in China - where the number 8 or "Bā" is considered auspicious. Keith now races *Lucky Eights* regularly on the Chesapeake including the Race to Oxford, the Race to Solomons, the Miles River Race, the Boomerang, and Frostbite races.

John King began his sailing career as a boy on Lake St. Claire, outside Detroit. He raced on the first TrasSuperior race in 1969, and four Port Huron/MacInaw races with a first place amongst them. In 1980 his career took him to San Francisco where he raced in the Santana 35 fleet. John and his new bride, Julie, campaigned their Santana throughout Southern California for several years, and then bought a Soverel 30 which they raced out of Newport Beach. This was followed by a Beneteau First 38 which they raced in SoCal waters for over 10 years.

In 2011, John raced aboard a Morris 47 named *Gracie* on the Transpac, earning a first place. In 2015 John and his wife sold their racing boat and bought a Moody 44 and set off south on the Baja Ha Ha Rally to Cabo San Lucas. They continued cruising in Mexico for three more years before venturing through Central America and then the Panama Canal and on into the Atlantic, before settling in Annapolis.

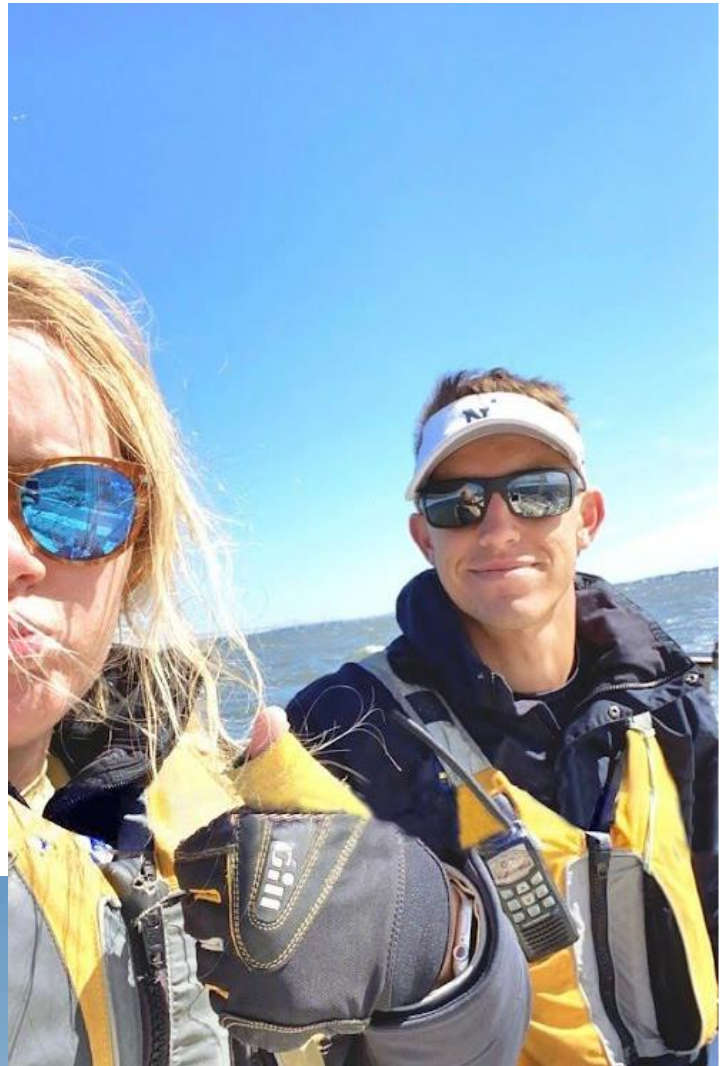


Paul Jervis & Grace Vandegrift

Paul Jervis and Grace Vandegrift are representing the US Naval Academy's Offshore Sailing Team.

Paul is a 1/C midshipman majoring in Cyber Operations from Gilbert, AZ. In his time at the Academy he has competed on several boats, including the Farr 40 *Ranger*, numerous J/105s, Navy 44s, and the J/133 *Wasp*. While on the team Paul has served in a multitude of capacities ranging from main trimmer, to navigator, and now filling the Skipper/Tactician role in his Senior season.

Grace, a 1/C midshipman also majoring in Cyber Operations, is from Jacksonville, FL. She has competed on a variety of boats with the team, which include the Farr 40 *Ranger*, Kerr 50 *Wahoo*, Melges 32, Navy 44, and Catalina 37, all as the primary pit. Now in this fall season she serves as the XO and bow on the Farr 40, *Zephyr*.



The pair competed together on *Ranger*, winning their class in the 2019 Annapolis to Newport race as well as 2019 Block Island Race week, and most recently took 5th in the 2020 NOOD regatta onboard the J/105 *Dreadnought*. They will be sailing this race on *Dreadnought* (USA 586).



Katie Boyle & Matthew Gillcrist

Katie Boyle and Matthew Gillcrist are representing the US Naval Academy. Both are 1/C midshipmen finishing their senior year at USNA.

Katie hails from Basking Ridge, New Jersey and is an Ocean Engineering major. Katie has served as a primary helmsman/tactician on the team. She was the helmsman aboard the Navy 44 *Defiance*, competing in the New York Yacht Club Annual Regatta and the Newport to Bermuda Race. Last summer she helmed the Kerr 50 *Wahoo* to a first-place finish in the Around Long Island Race.

Matthew is from San Diego, CA and is majoring in Mechanical Engineering. He was mastman aboard the Navy 44 *Defiance*, competing in the New York Yacht Club Annual Regatta and the Newport to Bermuda Race. Last summer he was Bowman on the Farr 40 *Zephyr*, where he competed in the Annapolis to Newport Race, the New York Yacht Club Annual Regatta, and Block Island Race week.

Katie and Matthew will be sailing aboard the J105 *Constellation* (USA 215).



Don Poirier & Ashley Koenig

Don Poirier and Ashley Koenig are representing the US Naval Academy. Both are 1/C midshipmen finishing their senior year at USNA.

Don, from Lincoln, RI, is majoring in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. He has been a primary helmsman/tactician for Navy's Offshore sailing team and competed on a Navy 44 in the Newport to Bermuda race. Last summer he helmed *Zaraffa*, an R/P 66, to overall honors in the Marblehead to Halifax race. He currently serves as the Navy's team captain.

Ashley, from Seaside, CA, is majoring in Ocean Engineering. She has served as the pit/navigator on a Navy 44 for the Annapolis to Bermuda race and the Annapolis to Newport Race. Last summer she was the primary navigator for the celestially navigated Marion to Bermuda Race.

Don and Ashley will be sailing aboard the J105 *Avenger* (USA 676).



Tapio Saavalainen & Mike Oh

Tapio Saavalainen, a native of Finland and a retired IMF economist, started sailing as a sea scout. As a young man he crewed in Snipe and Lightning races until he bought his first own boat in 1974 – a seaworthy junior keel boat that took him around the Finnish archipelago. Since 1978 he has owned a classic 36ft wooden boat which he keeps in Helsinki and still races every summer. His current boat in Annapolis is a Grand Soleil 37 designed by M. Botin and S. Carkeek. The boat has logged a good 15,000 nautical miles offshore. These include four Newport to Bermuda Races and eight Annapolis to Newport Races. In addition, Tapio has taken *Kalevala II* down to Key West Race Week several times as well as to regattas in Newport, RI. He is a member of the Annapolis Yacht Club and the Storm Trysail Club. This is his first real doublehanded race.

Kalevala II's co-skipper is Mike Oh. Mike's experience in shorthanded sailing began with offshore coastal deliveries, providing ground support for a Tybee 500 campaign, and a transatlantic passage. He and Tapio have been racing together aboard *Kalevala II* for 14 years. Mike is a former skipper of the Schooner Woodwind of Annapolis and currently works as the fleet captain for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.



Roger Lant and Michael Welin

Roger Lant and Michael Welin will be sailing the J35 *Abientot* in the ORC class, sail #42979. Returning this year from ORC Line Honors and 2nd Place in 2019, *Abientot* had a troubled start to the 2020 Season, losing her rig while warming up pre-start for 1st AYC Wednesday Night Race of the Season. Having a new rig installed in late August, *Abientot* went on to win the J35 Class at the 2020 NOOD Regatta.

Roger grew up sailing in the North Sea on dinghies and benefitted from the RYA Youth development program before graduating to cruiser/racers including extensive Sigma 38 One Design Racing on the West Coast of Scotland and was a regular participant at Cork Week. Since moving to the US, Roger has raced Trip 26, 36.7, Farr 30, J80 and J35's.

Michael grew up on a liveaboard during his childhood and returned to sailing when moving to Washington DC in 2006. Since then he has crewed on the bay and completed the 2007 Annapolis to Newport, where he met Roger.



Jim Demarest & Dobbs Davis

Jim recently retired after 40 years in the oil and gas exploration business. He has many years of experience with cruising and racing. His current boat, *Sodalis III*, is a J46 and he and a crew of friends recently sailed from Houston, TX to the Wye River, where he and his wife Jan now live in retirement. Jim was an active member of Lakewood Yacht Club in Seabrook, Texas and was Chairman of J-Fest in 2019. Three-time class winner of Harvest Moon Regatta, two-time winner of Heald Bank and LYC Yacht of the Year honors for *Sodalis III* in 2018. Jim's cruising has taken him to Spitsbergen & Iceland (on local legend *Reindeer*), Bermuda, Caribbean, and Martha's Vineyard as well as lots of Chesapeake Bay gunk holes.

Dobbs has many intersections in the sport after 40 years of competitive big boat racing: among his current titles are USA Editor of Seahorse Magazine, Communications Director for ORC, US Sailing certified measurer, and Communications Director for the Sailing Yacht Research Foundation (SYRF). He sits on many panels and committees, ranging from Junior Sailing to the World Sailing Categorization Commission.

Back when he used to have time for his own sailing (rather than everyone else's), his most recent racing preference has been for Double Handed sailing: he won the Bermuda 1-2 with Joe Harris on his Open 50 *Gryphon Solo*, the Bayview-Mac Race with Cheryl Cameron on her Class 40 *Sea Spray*, and other subsequent races with Joe on his Class 40 *Gryphon Solo*.

Although they have not raced together before they have a lot in common. When Jim and Dobbs first met a few years ago they discovered they both have PhD's in Geology and expect "shaling" together will be "gneiss" so long as they don't take each other for "granite".



Ben Corson & Steve Pickel

As of this writing, the team of Ben Corson and Steve Pickel have never sailed together and their boat, the Dehler 30 OD *Narrow Escape III*, has yet to touch the water. Due to Covid related delivery and other delays, a project that was supposed to start in May began only recently. Ben and Steve anticipate sailing together for the first time on Wednesday, Sept. 30, and hope to squeeze in three days of tuning and training before the start of the AYC Regatta on Oct. 3.

The Dehler 30 won 'European Yacht of the Year' in the 'Regatta



Yacht' class at the 2020 Dusseldorf Show. *Narrow Escape* will be the first example to compete in North

America. Steve has been overseeing the commissioning and race prep of the Dehler as a principal with Pelorus Yacht Consulting, an Annapolis based training and management company. Before joining Pelorus, Steve spent 17 years working for North Sails in San Diego and Annapolis, earning multiple top finishes at National, North American, and World Championship events. Ben grew up racing in the Gulf of Maine and ran the racing program at the Portland Yacht Club for four years. He has been racing monohulls and multihulls in the Bay since 1990, most recently doublehanding a Dragonfly 25 for the last three seasons with the Chesapeake Multihull Association.



Cailyn Gray & Reeves Hollar

Cailyn Gray and Reeves Hollar are a husband and wife team who will be sailing the Open Sailing Pogo 2 *Trouble No Trouble* owned by Brian Gray. Cailyn grew up sailing on the Chesapeake and the Caribbean with her family. She also spent summers as a sailing instructor on the coast of North Carolina. Reeves grew up in North Carolina sailing Hobies, Lightnings, and J22s. He has competed doublehanded aboard *T.N.T* in both the Annapolis to Bermuda race and the Bermuda 1-2. Cailyn and Reeves met while sailing on the Auburn University Sailing Team. The newlyweds look forward to competing in this year's AYC Double Handed Distance Race.



Buster Pike & Pete Colby

Buster Pike and Pete Colby will be racing the Farr 30 Evo, *Bully Circus*, in the ORC class. Buster and Pete both raced together at the University of Rhode Island and have also raced in several New England Solo/Twin races since. Buster ran race and charter boats up and down the East Coast, Caribbean and trans-Atlantic. Currently Buster is President of Park City Sailing in Utah where he helps to run a sailing program in the mountains, along with racing Lasers and Elliot 6m's. Pete has a long history racing in the Rhode Island area, Transpac, Caribbean, and more on grand prix racers and cruisers. Both had some fun deliveries recently – Pete to St. Lucia and Buster to Panama.

Fun facts:

- Buster has lots of experience ramp launching the Farr 30 - ughh
- Pete moonlights as a satirist on Facebook and lives on a dead end in North Kingstown, RI

