

LAUREL NASH, WOMEN AT THE HELM TROPHY



Laurel Nash was a long time member of the Hudson Beach Yacht Club and an avid sailor. Before moving to the Hudson area, Laurel and her husband operated an offshore sailing school in the Miami area. Laurel was also a certified Delivery Captain and did numerous deliveries of yachts around the world.

After becoming a member of the HBYC, Laurel began conducting classes to teach the women of the HBYC how to sail and handle sailboats by themselves.

In 2007, she conducted a special race for women only, so that the women could experience the fun of competitive sailing. In the early years of the regatta, women were required to skipper the boat and only women crews were allowed. In later years, the rules were modified to allow men to crew, but the skipper had to be a woman. The men were required to keep silent and follow the orders of the skipper!

The Women At The Helm Annual Regatta was held each year from 2007 until 2011.

In 2010, Laurel decided to set out on her last great adventure. She spent approximately 3 years single handing her 39' catamaran, "*HERE TODAY*", throughout the Caribbean.

When she returned from her adventure, she again became active in the HBYC and was elected Vice Commodore in 2014. Sadly in early 2015 Laurel became ill and passed away.

Laurel was a world class cruiser and fearless sailor. Her Women at the Helm classes turned a number of ladies in the club from sitting on the sidelines, to loving to sail and cruise.

In 2015, the HBYC women decided that as a memorial to Laurel and in appreciation of her dedication to promote women's sailing within the HBYC, they would like to hold the regatta again, in Laurel's honor.

Listed below are the winners of the "*Laurel Nash, Women At The Helm Perpetual Trophy*".

WINNERS:

2007	CHRIS MICHAUX	"LADY IN RED"
2008	DEB HARRISON	"PURE JOY"
2009	CHRIS MICHAUX	"LADY IN RED"
2010	BRENDA KUHLMANN	"SOIRÉE"
2011	CHRIS MICHAUX	"LADY IN RED"
2015	SUE GELINEAU	"FINE ALEE"
2016	LORI NUNES	"PLATYPUS"
2017	SUE GELINEAU	"FINE ALEE"
2021	LARA BARCHARD	"AIRBORNE"