



Snake Bytes

Viper 640 Class News | August 15, 2016



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Words from the Prez

Yup, it's hot out here in SoCal but the Viper 640s are racing in our waters just like they are around the globe. Of note, although it's winter down there, the Australians are still racing. And there is a Viper/K6 Championship scheduled in the UK gathering boats from around Europe to hone their skills pre the International Championship in November (more about that below). The northeast, with its Long Island Sound and Marblehead contingents, have been sailing hard with numerous major regional regattas every month.

Perhaps the best indication of the Class's growth is spurt of regatta activity in the Pacific Northwest, the Great Lakes, and eastern Canada. Don't we all wish we had the time to travel to those northern latitudes for some (relatively) cool sailing (pun intended)?



In this issue of Snake Bytes there are a number of key topics warranting your particular attention: a reminder of the Class Rules change proposal deadline, an update on our World Sailing application, and some logistical notes on the International Championship in Bermuda. Also, we have what the Navy would call a Hail and Farewell as we bid goodbye to our friend and former EFG International sponsor, Keith Gapp, and welcome aboard his replacement, Andy McQuillan.

See you on the racecourse,

Jimbo

Dr. Jim Sears
Viper 640 Association Class President

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IMPORTANT NOTICES

1. **Proposed changes to the Class Rules** are due to the Technical Committee by August 19. To review the current Class Rules click [HERE](#).

To learn more about proposing a Rules change, click on the following link to the Class Constitution and scroll down to section 8.0.

[Class Constitution](#)

2. Please **update your profile** in the Viper database. Simply scroll to the bottom footer of this newsletter and click on Update

3. Got old Viper sails? There are still clubs in the GYA looking for practice sails. If you have extra Viper sails, please post that information in the Viper Forum [HERE](#).

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VIRTUAL SEMINAR

North One-Design's Zeke Horowitz gave some excellent Viper tuning, sail trim, and boat handling seminar at the GYA Opening Regatta at the Fairhope Yacht Club.

Those of us who have sailed against Zeke know that whatever he's doing is working and he has put together a great overview of his seminars including photos to help us visualize his points. Before you sail your Viper again, click on the following link and read what Zeke has to offer.



Zeke Horowitz

Editor's note: Yes, Zeke works for North Sails...but he's stepped-up to offer this learning tool. Other sailmakers or sailors are welcome...in fact encouraged...to submit tips, techniques, and other smart sailing points that we'll share on the site and in Snake Bytes. Send submissions to epadin@padesta.com. And, yes, photos showing what you're describing are highly suggested.

[Zeke Horowitz's Seminar Notes](#)

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REGATTA RECAPS

Tim Carter Takes 2016 High Sierra Regatta

Fresno Yacht Club

July 9-10

The fish that got away! Fresno Yacht Club July 9-10 Reported by Tim Carter This was an amazing adventure, Steve Bloemeke, Jennifer Weisman and I set off 12:30 Thurs afternoon for our trip up to Huntington Lake...

Yes! It's true the lake is full, it's

been three long years since we could sail here.

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Ron Schute Wins 2016 Nepean One-Design Regatta

Nepean Sailing Club
June 19-20

For the Great Lakes Vipers, heading to Nepean Sailing Club near Ottawa in June has become a tradition. Since 2005, NSC has hosted the annual event which attracted 81 boats in 2016, including 10 Vipers. Despite the light winds which dominate at this time of the year this is a very popular event.



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Steve Chapman Wins 2016 Viper Canadian Championship

Kingston Yacht Club
July 9-10

Kingston Yacht Club hosted the Great Lakes Viper fleet for our 3rd annual Canadian Championship. Famous for great sailing with good thermal winds, 10 boats arrived Friday to a warm welcome. Lots of beer and good food Friday night at the Kingston Brewing Company



helped the fleet prepare for the excitement ahead. Saturday morning we had great conditions, sunshine and a nice 12-15kt SW breeze. Racing was tight and the RC got off 3 good races. With each hour the winds increased as the promised thermal kicked in.

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John Leyland Rocks at 2016 SOAR Regatta

Squamish Yacht Club

July 23-24

Well the little boat that we all love did its thing up Howe Sound at the SOAR Regatta in Squamish, BC. Howe Sound is essentially a fjord with mountains all around making for a great place to sail. [READ MORE](#)

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David Owen and Peter Beardsley Win Larchmont Race Week

Larchmont Yacht Club

July 16-24

Sailed over the weekends of July 16-17 and 23-24, the historic 118th running of Larchmont Race Week concluded Sunday afternoon with the Viper class participating in the second annual Around Execution Lighthouse Race - a winner-takes-all event with Vipers, classic Herreshoff S-Boats, PHRF racers, and a Gunboat 62 sharing the same starting line.

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Peter and Rachel Beardsley, James and David Owen

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Zeke Horowitz Wins YRALIS Viper Champs

American Yacht Club

August 6-7

Thirteen boats made it out for part or all of the weekend to sail 6 races over two days. They faced a light but fairly steady southwester on Saturday, and a puffy northerly Sunday with racing at the mouth of Mamaroneck Harbor once the breeze filled.

Zeke Horowitz's Jenny and **Peter Beardsley** and **Jay Rhame** on Ghost Panda traded firsts and seconds over the weekend, with Horowitz's Team Jenny, with **Ian Coleman** and **Chris Klevan**, prevailing. **Ted Ferrarone**, **Charles Swanson** and **Kendra Emhiser** on #88 stepped it up on Sunday to place third after **Christian Manchester's** Vicious Panda and **Byron Lamotte's** and **Andrew Weiss's** Dragon Fire showed good speed on Saturday.

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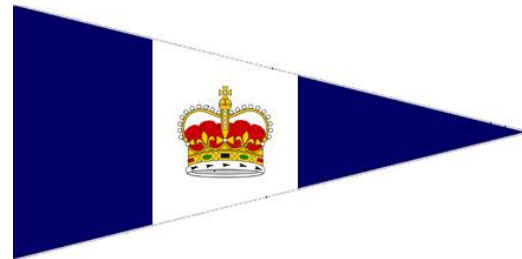
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UPCOMING REGATTAS - Mark your calendars

Royal Torbay Regatta

Royal Torbay Yacht Club, UK
Aug. 20, 2016 - Aug. 23, 2016

Following the successful conclusion of their new format 2015 event, The Royal Torbay Yacht Club is pleased to announce the dates for sailing events at Torbay Royal Regatta 2016. Racing will take place over four days for all yachts, sportsboats, dinghy and junior classes between Saturday 20th to Tuesday 23rd August.



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NEW: The Queen Mary Race

August 20
Redondo Beach Yacht Club

Replacing the Catalina Cruise, the Queen Mary Race starts off of Redondo Beach, sails around Palos Verdes Peninsula, and finishes in Long Beach Harbor off the stern of the Queen Mary. Sailing through the infamous Hurricane Gulch area, it's about 25 miles of open water and most of it is downhill.

This will be a Pursuit Race with the 7+Vipers getting a one-design start. Sounds like a hoot!

Information on the Queen Mary Race [HERE](#).

Viper 640 Great Lakes Championship

Aug. 27, 2016 - Aug. 28, 2016
Chicago Yacht Club - Belmont Harbor Station

The Great Lakes Viper Region will be holding its 2016 Championship Regatta as part of Chicago Yacht Club's Verve Inshore Regatta. The Viper

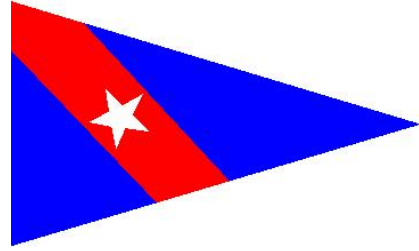
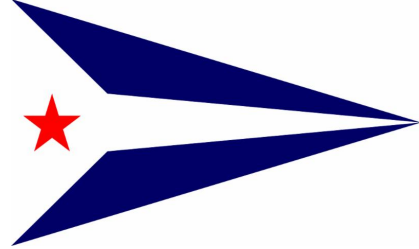
will be one of the one-design classes included in this prestigious event sailing two days, Saturday the 27th and Sunday the 28th.

[READ MORE](#)

New England Championship / ONE Regatta 2016

Eastern Yacht Club, Marblehead, MA
August 27-28

Part of the ONE Regatta 2016. Fourteen Vipers already signed-up. Looks like this will be a good one! [READ MORE](#)



REGATTAS A BIT FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD

International Championship

Hamilton Bermuda Nov. 16-19 2016

This will be a Bucket List regatta you won't want to miss. Entries up to 53 and more are expected. Information and registration [HERE](#).



Viper 640 International Championship & North American Championship

November 16-19, 2016
Hamilton, Bermuda

2016-17 Sarasota Viper Winter Series

This 3-weekend event has become one of the jewels of the Viper 640 calendar. Sailed on the Gulf of Mexico right off the clubhouse, this is a series not to be missed. Sail one weekend or sail them all. Great logistics, hospitality, and Viper racing. Specific information is yet to come from Travis Yates and team, but the dates have been set. Mark your calendars:

Series #1 - December 17-18

Series #2 - January 7-8

Series #3 - February 4-5

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TIPS FROM THE MIDDLE OF THE BOAT

Spinnaker Halyard Block "Fairleads"

The lines for the Cunningham and GNAV run vertically from the deck and up the aft side of the mast beside the spinnaker halyard cleat don't always behave. When not loaded-up, those two sets of slack lines will swing around and can (and often do) get tangled-up with the spinnaker halyard block. The GNAV lines can actually straddle the fixed halyard cleat and, if trimmed without being cleared, can break the spin cleat off the mast. Minimally, having to clear the lines away from the spin halyard when you're about to set the chute is just one more thing you'd rather not worry about.

Here are two simple solutions that work:

1. If you have the Cunningham on one side of the halyard cleat and the GNAV on the other, simply take a small piece of shock cord/bungee and wrap it around the mast (above the spin cleat and below the gooseneck) capturing in both sets of vertical lines. This easily holds the slack lines away from the spin cleat until they are loaded-up. When the GNAV and/or Cunningham are loaded-up, this problem goes away.

2. If you have both the Cunningham and the GNAV lines to the port side of the spin cleat, or can adjust your set-up as such, dead-end a piece of bungee through one of the spare holes in the spin cleat fitting and run it around the starboard side of the mast to the eye strap on the front of the mast for the stock Cunningham system. Doing this will orient the spin cleat to starboard, away from the other running rigging and, when it's time to set, with the load of hoisting the halyard the cleat will swivel to the proper position.

Two simple solutions to eliminate a potential headache on the course.

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VIPER FUN STUFF

The photo atop this newsletter (and ironically in the Canadian Champs section) shows Canadian Viperer Adrian Lamen's boat on its trailer. Great name and, as seen earlier, reads well regardless of the boat's orientation!



Do you have a great boat name or some special graphics to show off? If you do, send a pix to epadin@padesta.com

There are still some Viper RC Class flags available for \$40. Contact Buttons Padin if you want one at epadin@padesta.com.



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DO YOU HAVE A REGATTA COMING UP?

If so, send to Buttons Padin the following: Name of the event, location (host club), dates, a brief description of the event (promoting why someone should participate), and links to the NoR and online registration. Buttons will post on the website's Events listing and include in future newsletters.
epadin@padesta.com

GOT GREAT VIPER PIX OR VIDEO?

If you do, we can use them on the Viper website or in future editions of Snake Bytes. Share your great images and video by sending the files to Buttons Padin

at epadin@padesta.com.

DID YOU HAVE A REGATTA?

If so, send a recap of the event and a link to results to Buttons Padin and he'll post online and may include in a future newsletter. epadin@padesta.com

DATABASE CLEAN-UP

If you wish to be taken off the Viper 640 Class Association's database, please send an e-mail to Buttons Padin at epadin@padesta.com and simply put UNSUBSCRIBE on the subject line. If you're getting multiple copies of Snake Bytes, shoot Buttons a note and say **MULTIPLE COPIES**.



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