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Viper 640 NAs - Register for the Big Dance

Snake Bytes

April 24 2018



VB2 brackets being welded in the UK.

In today's Snake Bytes:

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WORDS FROM A PREZ:

I am often jealous* of those of you who live far enough south that your sailing season runs year round. On the other hand, I love the early season activities that come with spring – the anticipation, dropping by the club to see fresh activity, the ice breaking up (ya, up here in Canada), getting covers off the boats, spring maintenance, the first race of the season....



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...erms, then their very professional race management team and excellent harbour facilities. Kingston is a very historical town with universities and colleges (read: great pubs and taverns). In short, a wonderful place for a regatta. The folks at Kingston Yacht Club will be our hosts. They certainly know how to make visiting yachties welcome.

Early bird registration ends soon – sign up [HERE](#).

The Viper 640 Class Association is run almost entirely by volunteers (thankfully we have our Class Administrator to keep us on an even keel...) and there are many and disparate things the Class does...and areas in which the Class could use help. In the article below on Wild Apricot, you'll see that you can update your profile with your professional experience so we can tap you if needed. And, if you have some time and you'd just like to be more involved with the Class you can reach out to anyone on the Class Board or Regional Executives and volunteer your services.

Steve Chapman,
North American Regional President

* Steve has the audacity to write about jealousy as he put together his notes in a hotel room overlooking English Harbor, Antigua where he's chartered the Grand Soleil 43 *Quokka* to sail in Antigua Sailing Week!

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VIPER 640 NORTH AMERICANS

CORK, Sail Kingston, Kingston, Ontario Warm-up regatta – July 2-3
Measurement and festivities – July 4
Championship Racing - July 5-8

It's North America's "Big Dance."
Don't miss it

The 2018 Worlds are behind us and now it's time to get ramped-up for the North Americans being hosted by the Kingston (ON) Yacht Club July 5-9. Much has

already been written about (or as Canadians would say "about") this great event ranging from gracious hospitality, a Viper street hockey tourney, and...yes...wonderful racing venue and conditions. If the 2018 NAs are even the slight bleep on your radar scope, NOW is the time to register as the Early Bird discount expires soon.

Completed entry form and fee received on or before May 1, 2018 - CAD \$600

Regular entry fee, received on or before June 1, 2018 - CAD \$700

Late entries received after June 15, 2018 - CAD \$835

As of today there are 39 boats registered. Save yourself a few hundred dollars and register now by clicking [HERE](#).

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CRW AND SAILING INSIDE

CRW Viper Champ Geoff Ewenson tells the tale of this year's regatta

This was my first CRW sailing a Viper and sailing for the fun of it. Typically I am stuck sailing some big boat outside and kicking myself seeing how much fun the fleets are having racing inside the harbor. This year I decided I was no longer going to be looking from the outside in. Literally! All of my expectations were met. The sailing inside was epic and the poor sods outside complained of light, mealy winds and generally uninspired racing.



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...sphere... to rig and... prepping...
 space prior to the event. The ramp launch meant there was nobody with a hand out asking for a fee, and the small ramp is situated in a small bend in the river where the current is negligible. [READ MORE](#)

Results [HERE](#).

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NEW COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Viper 640 Class and its members have always put a lot of effort into promoting the growth of the class and communicating among its memberships. We do a good job and much better than most. **Buttons Padin**, as Class Administrator (and as a Madison Avenue veteran) has taken us to a higher level; but the world is constantly changing and we want to raise our game again.

Buttons proposed a new marketing and communications initiative which the Board and The ECs have enthusiastically endorsed. Buttons and **Cole Constantineau** will co-chair a new Viper Communications Committee and are charged with taking class promotion and class communication to the next level. The "voice" of the Class has always been upbeat, positive, and inclusive; but with so many messaging options available today, a new, strategic structure will help us communicate more effectively and efficiently.

Working with Buttons and Cole will be a committee comprised of Viperers who have specific skills as well as others that will be bringing regional information and insight to the process. Currently on the CC are: **Fletcher Boland** (web), **Peter Fernberger** and **Brian Johansen** (video), **Dan Tucker** (social media), and **Christian Manchester** (editing). Regional input will be provided by: **Jon Stubbs** and **Kim Leuning** (Australia), **David Pittman** and **Heather Chipperfield** (UK and Europe), and the four North American Regional VPs (**Travis Yates** – Southeast, **Darren Gilbert** – Great Lakes, **Geoff Fargo** – West, and **Peter Beardsley** – Northeast). If you've got some marketing communications chops and you'd like to be part of this new initiative, shoot [Buttons and Cole](#) a note describing what you're thinking.

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PhotoShelter SAILING VIPERS

New Viper Photo/Video/Document Sharing Partnership

In recent years, the Class has achieved some major accomplishments. In 2015/16 we were adopted by the GYA, in 2016 we became a World Sailing Class, and in 2017 we had our largest regatta ever and began the migration to a vertical rudder. In 2018 it's going to be creating cloud-based digital storage for Viper photos, images, and more.

The nascent Communications Committee has taken its first important step with [PhotoShelter](#), a cloud-based digital asset management tool that will allow us to store images, video and other class media whereby everyone can access it. The core element will be a curated library of Viper media that sparkplugs and members can use to help promote the Class. We intend for it to become the "go to" destination for Viper images. We will encourage regatta photographers to store their images on the Viper640 PhotoShelter account so that you will always be able to find that "keeper" image of your boat.

The "process" for creating our PhotoShelter library is still being formulated but start looking for your great Viper pix and videos-not the small white triangles on the horizon, but the kind of great action and fun shots you'll find on the website.

We are very excited about this development and pleased to announce that Class Association is now a customer of PhotoShelter and they are now our newest sponsor!.

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SPEAKING OF SPONSORS

The Viper 640 Class is looking for new underwriting sponsors. With the departure of EFG, the we have the opportunity to tie our brand name to

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...these and assessments to upper and secondary,

If you work for a company that would like to become involved with the Viper 640 Class Association on a long-term or even single, major regatta basis, please contact the [Class Administrator](#) to discuss your lead. And, if you open the door that leads to a new Class sponsor, you will be entitled to one free port tack crossing at the Kingston NAs!

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WILD APRICOT

Update Your Viper Profile



Over the past three years, the Class has made a concerted effort to upgrade and maintain an accurate database of Viper owners and Viper enthusiasts. But some things change (people move, change phone numbers, join new clubs, buy/sell boats)...and things stay the same (those people's records in our database). Your Class Administrator would bet the under on how many Class members, let alone Viper enthusiasts in the database, have ever looked at their profile in Wild Apricot. No, we're not looking to sell your personal information to Russia nor are we looking to track your every Facebook post. However, if we do need to reach you, or if we do need to find someone in your area or with your skills, having an up-to-date profile would help.

You: So how do I update my Viper profile in Wild Apricot?

Me: Simple. Just go to <https://v6ca.wildapricot.org> and log in using the email from which you received this newsletter as your password. If you don't remember your password or never set one up, click on Forgot Password and follow the prompts. You can then view and edit/update your profile as necessary. You'll note that we've added a new field (Professional experience) so we can source people within the Viper Community with specific skills when needed.

And, as always, if you have any questions, contact CA [Buttons Padin](#).

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Link to Class Rules Vote Tallies

Live by technology...die by technology. In the last issue of Snake Bytes a link was provided for Members to see the outcome of this year's Class Rules voting. Trying again, here is a link to the outcome of that vote. Again, all proposals were approved except the ability to sail with tapered sheets. Members can see the results in the Member Section of the Viper Forum [HERE](#).

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Questions or comments?

Have a something to share? Have a question or comment? How about a great Viper photo? Contact Viper 640 Class Administrator Ed "Buttons" Padin at epadin@padesta.com.

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Viper 640 Class Association Website: www.Viper640.org [Facebook](#) [Unsubscribe](#)