

It's time to do some warm weather sailing...

# Snake Bytes

January 18, 2019

Regatta Planning Issue

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## WORDS FROM A PREZ

### Get your Vipers ready to travel!

With the holiday season behind us the reality of getting on with the new year has begun to settle in. Winter is very much upon us, which for me means lots of snow, skiing and a monthly escape to Florida to keep up my Viper life!

Over the last four years the **Sarasota Winter Series** has become a fixture in our schedule. The sailing is great, **Travis Yates** and the gang at the Squadron put on a sterling event; but most importantly we get to see our

Viper friends in a very relaxed environment with the time to enjoy each other's company as much as the competition on the water.



In early January, I usually take the time to plan out which events I'll travel to in the coming year. The 2019 season is looking very exciting as we have the combined **World Championship and North American's** in Long Beach, California in August. This is shaping up to be a great event. The west coast gang led by **Tim Carter** and **Geoff Fargo** have laid out a nice program making it very worthwhile to make the trip. With the Pacific Coast Championship the weekend of Aug 10-11 in Santa Barbara, followed by the Worlds warm-up Aug 17-18 and then the main event Aug 19-24 we will be making a full vacation of it. I am looking forward to visiting wine country and touring around southern California.

I know that owners in the **northeast and Great Lakes regions** are working hard to organize transport for boats. With good planning costs are reasonable, so reach out to your Regional VP and find out how you can get to the Worlds.

Vipers are invited to return to **Miami** in 2019 with the **Winter Cup** and as part of the **Bacardi Invitational Regatta**, details below.

There are key championships to attend on the east coast this year:

- April 12-14 - Atlantic Coast Championship – Charleston Race Week
- May 18-19 – Mid-Atlantic Championship – Eastport YC, Annapolis
- June 29-30 – New England Championship – Boston YC, Marblehead

Have fun, sail fast!

Steve Chapman  
North American Regional President

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## UPCOMING REGATTAS

### ARIZONA YACHT CLUB BIRTHDAY REGATTA - February 8-10

This is a real fun regatta sailing on Lake Pleasant just north of Phoenix. Tony Chapman and the rest of the AZYC Viper crew host a gracious and unique event...one not to be missed. All you SoCal guys should pack up your Vipers and drive east for this one. Eight Vipers already registered with a target of over a dozen!

Information and online registration [HERE](#).



## VIPERS RETURN TO MIAMI



After a year's absence due to hurricane damage to the Miami waterfront, the Viper fleet is returning to Miami for two regattas:

**The Viper Winter Cup** – March 3-4 Information and Registration [HERE](#).

**The Bacardi Invitational Regatta** – March 6-9 Information and registration [HERE](#).

It cannot be overstated how important these two Miami regattas are to the Viper Class. The Winter Cup gives us a low-key, two-day to get back into shape before the Bacardi Invitational. And it was Bacardi that put the Viper on the map by inviting us to sail with them years ago.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER** for the two Miami Viper events. **Bacardi Early Bird registration** ends February 2 so register now and save \$100!

We already have 14 boats registered so far for Bacardi and are expecting over 25 on the line. Don't delay...**register TODAY!**

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**CHARLESTON RACE WEEK** – April 11-14



**The Mother of all Springtime Regattas**, CRW has returned to the Viper regatta schedule in a big way. In addition to being an outstanding event, this year the Viper Atlantic Coast Championships return to CRW. Plus, CRW has the reputation for the best shore side parties, wonderful regional food, and great historic sightseeing.

We are expecting well over 20 Vipers on the starting line, **Tom Loutrel** and **Jon & Sarah Colarusso** have arranged for rock star docking at the College of Charleston's Sailing Center, and Goslings is serving Dark 'n Stormies. That's a win-win-win! CofC docking information is available [HERE](#).

Information and online registration [HERE](#).

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## PALMA VIPER SPRING SERIES

The Viper Class and Rondar Raceboats have cracked the code and launched the Class' first Mediterranean regatta circuit. If you've ever been to Palma, Majorca off the southern coast of Spain, you know what an outrageous venue this is to sail, sightsee, dine, and generally have a good time. Being sailed out of Palma's **Real Club Nautico Palma**, this is a series that you should attend. There are charter boats available and the key contact is [Peter Bresnan](#). More information [HERE](#).

26/27 January – Trofeo Sant Sebastian

23/24 February – Trofeo Noli

29-31 March – SAR Trofeo Princesa Sofia

10-12 May – Palma Vela

17-21 June – Viper 640 European Championship

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## THE VIPER 640 WORLD, NORTH AMERICAN AND PACIFIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIPS

**“I went on vacation and some Viper regattas broke out”**



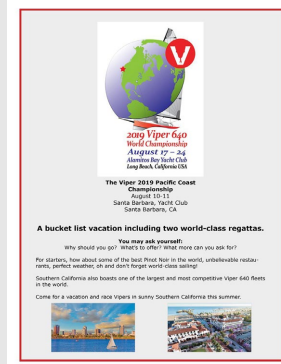
The Viper 2019 Worlds being hosted by Alamos Bay Yacht Club in Long Beach, CA, August 19-24 has turned into a three-regatta opportunity:

**Viper Pacific Coast Championship** – Santa Barbara Yacht Club – August 10-11

**Viper Worlds Warm-up Regatta** – ABYC – August 17-18

**Viper 2019 World Championship** – ABYC – August 19-24

SoCal is a great area for sailboat racing...but it's an equally great area for vacationing and tourism. If you're coming from out of the area, plan to stay a few days before or after and enjoy the many unique experiences to be found in the Santa Barbara and Long Beach areas. For a sampling of what's in store for you, click here for the [VIPER SOCAL REGATTA VACATION GUIDE](#).



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## Vertical Rudder Brackets

If you haven't yet ordered your vertical rudder bracket, it is highly recommended that you do so.

To have one for the upcoming summer season, it's really important that you place your order asap.

In North America you can order your bracket on the [Rondar website](#).

Contact **Tyler Moore** for delivery information at [tyler@rondarboats.com](mailto:tyler@rondarboats.com).

Members are reminded that these are a mandatory upgrade by March 2020 (??verify date??).

For owners of Bennett Mark 1 and Rondar Mark II boats with that still have small rudder towers, the Technical Committee advises that the only upgrade path is to order a slanted rudder tower (copied from the Mark III) from Whitecap Composites (contact Ben at [Ben@whitecapcomposites.com](mailto:Ben@whitecapcomposites.com)) and then fit this with the Rondar vertical tower upgrade.

Please note that two efforts to find a parts maker to provide a vertical tower in fiberglass for retrofitting to older Mark I and II boats have not been successful. A big thanks to **Geoff Ewenson** and **Brian Johansen** for the time they spend pursuing this. There have been two challenges, the underlying investment economics and the the technical issues of securely attaching the vertical face of the tower to the unique sloped transom on these boats.

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## Welcome to the new Class Governor and North American Executive Committee

We send great thanks and appreciation to **Kay vanValkenburgh** as his term as Governor of the class came to a close. We welcome **Peter Beardsley** as a new



Governor of the class joining Tim Carter who serve on the International Board.

We have a new team ready to serve the Class. Here is the 2019 Class Officer line-up. Please welcome:

### **International Board**

**Justin Scott** - Chairman

**Graeme Monkhouse** - Australian Regional President

**Ian Nicholson** - European Regional President

**Steve Chapman** - North American Regional President

**Tony Chapman** - Treasurer

**Dave Nickerson** - Technical Committee Chairman

**Tim Carter** - Governor

**Peter Beardsley** - Governor

### **North American Executive Committee**

**Steve Chapman** - President

**John Leyland** - Secretary

**Tony Chapman** - Treasurer

**Peter Beardsley** - VP Northeast

**Geoff Fargo** - VP West

**Brian Johansen** - VP Great Lakes

**Somers Kempe** - VP Bermuda

**Ken Kleinschrodt** - VP South

**Bob Matthews** - Technical Committee Rep

**Ed "Buttons" Padin** - Class Administrator

**John Farris** - At large - Regatta Support

**Sam Vasquez** - At large - Youth & Women's Sailing

**Fletcher Boland** - Website support

### **Australian Executive Committee**

**Graeme Monkhouse** - Australian Regional President

**John Learmonth** - Vice President

**John Park** - Secretary/Treasurer

### **European Executive Committee**

**Ian Nicholson** - European Regional President

**John Bresnan** - European Vice President

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## **CLASS DUES ARE DUE**

If you haven't paid your 2019 Viper 640 Class Association dues yet (either by making payment or via auto renewal), you should have received an online invoice in the past few days from Wild Apricot. Please follow the instructions to pay your invoice as well as update your Viper profile. Questions, email [Buttons Padin](#).

## **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](mailto:epadin@padesta.com).

