

NEWSLETTER

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JANUARY
2009



AYSS Banners up in Antigua

many thanks to Antigua Yacht Services

Report from George Clark of Antigua Yacht Services on how world economics are affecting the Yachting Industry in Antigua....

"The first indication is that there are some of the regular sailing yachts missing from Antigua. Also there is a drop in the number of yachts' own containers that have been shipped to Antigua.

As far as charters go, we have not received as many APA (Advance Provisioning Allowances) as in previous seasons, and yet some of the larger charter yachts are still very busy. There is definitely far less going on as far as Crew Placement is concerned.

The procurement side of the AYSS business has been very active - Tracey even organised a terrific fireworks display for the birthday of one owner's daughter!

The "front line support companies" (boat builders, sail lofts, riggers, engineers, electronics companies, etc.) are extremely busy. The economic situation has had little effect on that aspect of the Yachting Industry in Antigua.

Such events as the new Caribbean 600 have attracted some very serious sailing yachts!

So a bit of a mixed reaction to the global scene.

I would say that the hotel sector has been hit harder than the yachting sector"

Regards, George

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Feb 1st – US Coast Guards to stop monitoring 121.5 or 243 MHz EPIRBs

US Coast Guard and other search-and-rescue personnel in the USA will ONLY monitor distress alerts broadcast using digital 406 MHz EPIRBs with effect from 1 February. Search and rescue satellites will no longer process older model analog EPIRBs that only transmit on 121.5 or 243 MHz.

The 406 EPIRB's signal is 50 times more powerful than the 121.5 beacon's, allowing satellites to better detect its signal and provide a more accurate search area for rescue crews. A GPS-embedded 406 EPIRB can shrink a search area to about 100 yards and can also pinpoint the position of a distressed mariner within minutes.

Additionally, the number of false alerts with digital beacons is significantly lower than analog beacons, for which the only way to determine if an alert is an actual emergency is to send rescue crews to the area.

Bermuda Celebrates 400 Years



From June 11 - 15, 2009, the Tall Ships will be in Hamilton to help celebrate Bermuda's 400 years of permanent settlement. The "Atlantic Challenge 2009" begins from Vigo, Spain and ends in Belfast, Northern Ireland - a true race around the Atlantic and the first since 2000. Each port will host the fleet, with various festivals and activities taking place at every stop along the route.
www.tallshipsbermuda.com

Please note
New Contact details for Paul Kjelsrud and Roar Gjertsen of TR Shipping Norway AS
Rosenkrantzgate 7,
N-0159, Oslo, Norway.

Tel: 47 224 77000



Message from TR Shipping Norway.... Scores of Dutch yachtsmen will gather early this summer for a mock raid celebrating their illustrious and sometimes troubled maritime history. The Radboud Raid, named after the fearless Frisian king who fiercely fought the Franks around 700, will take place in Grou on 16 -17 May. Foreign raiders are cordially invited to join the fleet this time. No weaponry allowed ashore, nor horses on board, but they may try traditional native Frisian craft, like tjotters or scows. It saves dragging a trailer all over Europe and is more historic fun!

New AYSS Members

We have some new members, providing support in Newport and Bermuda

A warm welcome to the following:-

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