



Marion Bermuda— Leader hits the Happy Valley

Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club, Paget BERMUDA— 1600hrs ADT/1500 EDT, June 16, 2013: Little has changed in the race for line honors on the 2nd full day of racing in the 2013 Marion Bermuda Race. It is just wait and see... and enjoy the pink beaches and the bright Bermuda sunshine or a round of golf while you're at it. Today, the Bermuda fitted dinghies are match racing in Mangrove Bay. Monday is a Bermuda holiday— Hero's Day— and they have fleet races there, too. Many of the Race officials from the US are traveling to Bermuda today.

At 1600hrs Sunday in Bermuda, the Yellowbrick tracking site reported that the closest boat to Bermuda was *Shindig*, Mass Maritime's Andrews 68 that has led from the start. She was 161 nm out and doing 6.9 knots for the previous hour, well below the record pace she had carried for the first 48 hours. *Shindig* may finish Monday afternoon while the volunteers and guests are having cocktails at St David's Lighthouse overlooking the finish line.

Shindig would have to finish before 10:13:45 Monday EDT/ 11:13:45 ADT to break the record. The furthest racer was *Regulus*, a Class C Hinckley SW 51CB, 357 miles North west of Bermuda. She is skippered by Emmett Harty from Stonington CT.

Early wind in the Bermuda ocean races often dangles race records like a time carrot in front of the bows of the big boats. But the record is very elusive. When the top of the course has pressure and speed, the system that is producing the wind is already moving out into the North Atlantic.

A high pressure expands from the West and the South of the original windy area. A 'parking lot' grows right in the middle of the last 100 miles of the course. Racers call it the "happy Valley. A boat would have to average over 9 knots to break the current record from Marion.

Boats behind *Shindig* are moving faster now compared to the leader, still carrying the pressure. On corrected time at this stage, two boats have moved ahead of *Shindig* in Class A. *Alibi* stands first and *Lady B* has moved up to 2rd. This trend should continue through Sunday evening until they, too, find their parking place.

Integrity, a Navy 44 skippered by Mario Avila of the USNA, leads Class B. *Roust*, a

Sea Sprite 34 (the smallest boat in the fleet) leads Class C on corrected time. Roust's Skipper is Ian Gumprecht from Oyster Bay NY. George Cubbon's *Alice Kay* from Bermuda has moved up to 2nd in that class.

The second nearest boat to Bermuda was the Class A *Lady B*, John Madden's Swan 62 from Newport RI. She was 214 nm out. *Kismet* was 3rd 253 miles out while the local Bermuda favorite, *Spirit of Bermuda*, had fallen back to 9th. On YellowBrick boats look like they are piled on top of each other. It is a close race with many more miles to go.

Positions are updated every hour on the hour on the YellowBrick tracking map. Spectators at home or on mobile devices with the proper app can follow all the yachts in the Marion Bermuda Race on the YellowBrick tracker program sponsored by Kingman Yacht Center. Go to the Marion Bermuda web site—<http://www.marionbermuda.com/> and click on the brick.

About the Marion Bermuda Cruising Yacht Race Association

Since its inception in 1977, the biennial Marion Bermuda Race has been a premier 645 mile ocean race and sailing event which appeals to a broad range of cruising and racing enthusiasts. The spirit of the race is one focused on Family and Fun, and all yachts and crew are participating for the joy and pleasure of sailing, competition, and the camaraderie that accompanies such an offshore event. The Marion Bermuda Race encourages the development of blue water sailing skills on seaworthy yachts that can be handled safely offshore with limited crew. The Marion Bermuda Race is a 501(c)(3) organization and among other educational efforts, supports and encourages [Youth Sailing](#) programs. The Marion to Bermuda Race is organized and run entirely by hundreds of volunteering members of The [Beverly Yacht Club](#) (BYC), [The Blue Water Sailing Club](#) (BWSC) and [The Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club](#) (RHADC) for the Marion Bermuda Cruising Yacht Race Association.

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2011 Race PHOTOS: <http://www.spectrumphotofg.com/marionbermuda/index.html>

2011 Race Results may be found here:

<http://www.marionbermuda.com/index.php?page=results>

Website: www.marionbermuda.com

Race Forum/Discussion: <http://racetobermuda.ning.com>

BLOG: <http://marionbermuda.wordpress.com>

