Who's Who

March 2020 Edition



Ahoy Sailors!
This month I had the pleasure of interviewing “Speedy” Andy Forrest!

LMSA: Hi Andy Forrest could you tell us a little about how you got in to sailing:

Andy: I have sailed since a kid with cousins and as an adult off the beach. When we moved to Sanford Show Me (my current boat) was owned by friends. We bought her and we encountered LMSA, the rest is history.

LMSA: Where did you learn to sail?

Andy: On my Aunt's lake in Michigan on a ganue with removable leeboards and mast. They also had a Hobie 14 we sailed on. No instruction just sailing until we could figure out how to tip it over. Later when I moved to Daytona my friend had a Hobie 16 we sailed off the beach, also tipping over as much as possible. I really learned to sail on Lake Monroe with LMSA. Before that I didn't know the terms or the reasons for things.

LMSA: Who are some of your mentors?

Andy: My first mentors were Willie and DJ. Willie helped me with my first sail purchase and the basic boat setup. DJ also a skilled Precision 23 sailor showed me what was what on the boat. Later Willie asked me to crew on Loose Cannon on the panhandle for a national multihull event with Kyle Everly. I didn't understand much on what they talked about during the racing, I just pulled on the lines when directed. Slowly over the next year it started sinking in, and during my first Mug Race, idiotically sailing solo in 15 steady, I had a moment of clarity and it all made sense. Later, in addition to Willie, Fisk took me under his wing. It can't be overstated how important it is to listen to and sail with Fisk whenever you can. Two very different teaching methods but I still go to them when I need to figure something out.

LMSA: What's your most memorable race?

Andy: So many memorable races. First Mug Race, multihull nationals, the Chicago Mac Race last year Trans-Monroes, SJ21 North Americans last year. I can't choose just one favorite.

LMSA: What are your future sailing goals?

Andy: My future goals include more Great Lakes sailing thanks to Jim G. I would like to make an Atlantic crossing followed by an extended Mediterranean cruise. Charter in Lake Superior, who knows what else.

LMSA: Where do you see yourself sailing in the next 5 years?

Andy: Here and wherever time permits. If I can retire from work and Diane is willing, we may disappear for a while. Any suggestions?

LMSA: Your Boat Name is Speedy, how did you earn that name?

Andy: Speedy showed up on the internet one day, I hadn't heard it before. I've had others: Skippy, Droid, Monkey boy and Diane has a few that I won"t repeat for when i am particularly short and bossy on the boat. I do tend to move quickly around the boat some say haphazardly.

Question from Rich Gailey: How to you manager to stay on the boat with bare feet:

Andy: I just can't wear shoes on a boat. It makes me feel unsteady or disconnected. I can feel if the surface is wet or slippery better. I also use my toes to grab lines sometimes. Odd but true, the secret to my quick, haphazard movements.

LMSA: Thank you Andy for your time and comments. Good luck and safe travels!

Foot note from the Reporter; Andy is the kind of guy you want on a boat with you, he's laser focused and not afraid to go fast in heavy air. All qualities I admire for not only a short course racer but especially in offshore multi-hull distance racing. I personally have seen him in action when it's blowing, wet and cold (yes he actually wears foul weather gear)! A stand up guy all around.

Members that concludes our 3rd edition, Who's Who of LMSA for March 2020. LMSA will be reaching out to sailing members and crew for interviews every month over the coming year. Please share your story (s) when LMSA coming tapping on your hull. Sharing knowledge and sailing information has been a long standing tradition here at LMSA. Let us know how you got here and where your sailing is going!

Cheers to a new and exciting year here at LMSA 2020!

LMSA Reporter 2020
Jim Goempel

The sailing news you want to read.



Chicago Mac Race 2019
Andy on the high side beam