Who's Who

May 2020 Edition



Who's Who of LMSA

This month I had the pleasure of Interviewing Bill Blalock

LMSA: Hi, Bill could you tell us a little about how you got in to sailing:

Bill: How did I get into sailing? Wow, that goes way back. I grew up in Melbourne, and we were always on the water. Surfing, sailing, fishing, you name it. Some of my earliest sailing was in High School on a Hobie 16 that was neighborhood property, and was kept hidden in the trees down by the Indian River. Go borrow the sails, and have fun.

LMSA: Where did you learn to sail?

Bill: Melbourne. On that Hobie and the first generation of windsurfers. Later on I worked at the Anchorage Marina on Eau Gallie Causeway, and drove or sailed every kind of boat there.

LMSA: Who are some of your mentors?

Bill: I never had a mentor teach me to sail, but Susan and I had fantastic racing mentors in Tom McNally and the Haydens. Amazing teachers and sailors. As kids, we just went out and flailed around until we got it. Once the Navy taught me how to fly, I realized a keelboat was a plane turned sideways, and all those intimidating strings were just to control the wing.

LMSA: What's your most memorable race?

Bill: Any Mug Race. Seriously.

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LMSA: What are your future sailing goals?

Bill: The immediate goal is to get our S2 7.9 Dawn Patrol in a slip at Lake Monroe so we can race her more.

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

Bill: Lake Monroe! We also dream of sailing in Greece, and we both want to take Dawn Patrol to the Bahamas

LMSA: What boats do you own/sail and their names?

Bill: Well, the S2 7.9 is Dawn Patrol, which is a surfing reference. Surfers get up early to catch favorable conditions at sunrise, and we call that Dawn Patrol. The F-16 catamaran is made by Falcon Marine, and we'd had a few one night, and thought Millennium Falcon was hilarious. At the time.

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

Bill: Mookie

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

Foot note from the Reporter:
Although I tried I could not pry out of Bill why his nicknamed is Mookie, so I had to look it up: a giant fluffy cookie the size and shape of a muffin top with lots of crunchy mix-in's. No two batches of Mookie's were the same because the mix-in's were whatever leftover cereal, nuts and potato chips were in the kitchen. Ok sounds good to me!

On another note, one day the Reporter was at a metal supply store and walked in to a swarm of bee's all congregating on a metal storage rack. The metal shop employees were contemplating spraying the bees to get rid of them, so I said "wait a minute let me get in touch with a Bee Keeper I know". Within an hour Bill came to the rescue, gathered the traveling bees up and gave them a new home. No doubt they are busy bees making Mead Honey!

Members that concludes our Who's Who of LMSA for May 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 2020 Reporter
Jim Goempel

The sailing news you want to read.



Bill and crew after a long Mug Race on Dawn Patrol