July 2020 Edition

Who's Who

It's hot here at LMSA in July, so this month's edition had to feature not only a rock-star sailor but a beautiful one inside and out too; Lia Ku!



LMSA: Hi Lia Ku could you tell us a little about how you got in to sailing:

Lia: I had an ex-boyfriend from Italy who grew up sailing and got me into it. I really had no idea about sailboats, sailing, or anything to do with it. The first time that I got on a sailboat and it heeled over – I asked the others on the boat if it was supposed to actually do that! Needless to say, I have since then gotten hooked.



LMSA: Where did you learn to sail?

Lia: Central Florida and the West Coast of Florida. Specifically, Lake Fairview, Lake Monroe, and St. Petersburg area. I actually learned on the water and after a few years took the ASA Basic Keelboat class.

LMSA: Who are some of your mentors and how did you come to sail at LMSA?



Lia: Alex "Tizer" for getting me into sailing and teaching me a ton, Steve Dorris for being my instructor for the ASA 101, Ray for taking me on my first race and all the gnarly times on the Nacra, Tony Porterfield for introducing me to the Flying Scot, and really everyone at LMSA who are both mentors and friends. I had not sailed for about a year and really missed it – so I showed up one Wednesday before the rum race, introduced myself and asked if anyone needed crew.

LMSA: What's your most memorable race?

Lia: I would probably say the Ladies on the Lake for several reasons – it was my first race at the helm, I was on a boat that I have never sailed (thank you Fisk), with a crew I have never sailed with, and a crew member who had never been on a race. With these factors, we decided that communication was a key component to a successful race, to which we took 3rd place ☺

LMSA: What are your future sailing goals?



Lia: Well, I love racing and desire to get to the point where I have a couple boats that I focus on – so I can crew on those boats for regattas locally or wherever the race may be. And at some point, I would like my own boat(s). I would also like to take extended trips and possibly live aboard.

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

Lia: Florida for sure, definitely the Caribbean, maybe the South Pacific or Europe too?



LMSA: Your Boat Name/alias is_____how did you earn that name?

Lia: To be determined haha, depends on the boat!

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

Note from the Reporter: Lia is as solid as a sailor can be, I see here out there consistently in all conditions, ready for any challenge. I'm not the only club member that thinks she can handle any given situation on the water. Lia has been an asset to the club not only as regular crew; she is now the LMSA Social Coordinator. We are grateful she stopped by for the first time at a Wednesday Rum Race.
FYI guys she is single too, but I think only Rock-star sailors need apply. ☺

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