**BYRA / PPYC 50K “AROUND THE LAKE YACHT RACE”**

**SATURDAY MAY 21, 2016 (Full Moon)**

**START TIME: 10:00 AM Saturday**

**TIME LIMIT: 1:00 PM Sunday**

**DISTANCE: 33 miles (53.5K)**

**The Blackwater Yacht Racing Association (BYRA) and Pelican Point Yacht Club will host an epic sailing event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of SML and benefit the National Kidney Foundation (NKF). This race will begin at Pelican Point on the Blackwater River and extend up and down the Roanoke and Blackwater Rivers. The race duration is entirely weather dependent lasting between six and twenty-seven hours.**

**ENTRIES:** Open to all keel boats

**COURSE:**

* Race begins at Pelican Point Marina in Union Hall, proceeds to Roanoke River and to a turning mark at the Bridgewater Marina just before the Hales Ford Bridge.
* Head downriver to Marker R8 and follow Roanoke River to SML Dam and round Rock Island.
* Sail west to Marker B-1 and proceed up the Blackwater to Marker B-13. Leave B-13 to port and sail around the three islands below Gills Creek near Contentment Island, leaving the last island to port.
* Sail back around Contentment Is. at Marker B-11 and head to finish off Pelican Point.

**GPS TRACKING:**

Competing yachts are requested to obtain an MMSI number for their vessel and the MAIS App on their phone. This identifies your vessel and will display your position on the web when the tracking app is turned on. Competing yachts are requested to have the cell phone MAIS App. turned on during the race. The position of all competing yachts can be monitored by anyone by logging on to [www.marinetraffic.com](http://www.marinetraffic.com)

The GPS tracking will provide a safety feature to the race and also provide opportunity to involve the media in following the race and reporting on the progress.

**SPONSORS:** BYRA has enlisted local businesses as sponsors which are listed on our Notice of Race (NOR) as Gold or Silver Sponsors. The NOR contains the sailing instructions for the race and will be widely distributed in the community. Sponsor donations will defray cost of publication, awards, and award functions. Excess funds will be donated to the NKF.

**AWARDS:** Top fifteen finishers will receive a commemorative award with the event inscribed. First five places will be noted.

**ENTRY FEE:** $25 must be received by May 15th. A late entry fee of $50 will be charged after May 15. No Registration will be accepted on Race Day.

**CHARITY:** The National Kidney Foundation has set up a website for race teams to obtain contributions.

The National Kidney Foundation has a wide ranging appeal that extends beyond our community. The National Kidney Foundation’s Southwest Virginia Kidney Walk raises awareness of kidney disease, organ donation and the importance of early screening and healthy lifestyle for those at risk. In Virginia alone, over 11,000 are being treated for kidney failure and nearly 2,000 are awaiting lifesaving transplants. Each year, more than 75,000 walkers join the NKF to raise over $8 million to help kidney patients and their families. More than 80 cents of every dollar donated directly supports NKF programs and services. **Quick Kidney Facts:**

* 1 in 3 American adults is at risk for kidney disease.
* 1 in 9 American adults has kidney disease –– and most don't know it.
* High blood pressure and diabetes are the two leading causes of kidney disease.
* Kidney disease is the 9th leading cause of death in the United States.
* Every year, kidney disease kills more people than breast or prostate cancer.
* 13 people die every day waiting for a life-saving kidney transplant.

The NKF web site link is <http://donate.kidney.org/goto/aroundthelake>. This link allows participants to register their boat and obtain donations from friends, relatives, and business associates and easily track this through the website.

There will be a deduction in elapsed time of 30 seconds for every dollar raised for the foundation in the name of a competing vessel. **The special NKF 50K Trophy will be awarded to the boat with the lowest adjusted time.**

**Race entry and sailing instructions will be posted on the BYRA web site (**[**www.byrasailing.org**](http://www.byrasailing.org)**)**

We plan a kick-off event around the first BYRA Series Race April 2, 2016 at Pelican Point Marina. However, the race registration has begun and participants can log on to the NKF website and begin to raise funds for the foundation. Please contact us if you have any questions or encounter difficulty accessing these websites.

 Feb 5, 2016

 Pete Phillip

 Fleet Captain

 BYRA

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