

Group Works To Restore 1925 Bayview Race Winner by 2007

*Continued from page 3

Detroit River to the Detroit Yacht Club and talked the owner of *Calypso*, Dr. Gmeiner, into taking them on as crew members.

As history will have it, sometimes by a simple twist of fate, Bob Roadstrum would play a crucial role many years later in the history of *Bernida*.

A Southeast thunder squall with strong wind ripped through the fleet.

But let's not jump ahead to that point just yet.

So, on a damp and murky day Saturday, July 25, 1925, yachting history was established with the start of the first Bayview to Mackinac sailboat race, a race of 251 miles. The Class A boats started at 4 p.m. with the B class, which included all the R boats, starting 20 minutes later.

With rain and a slight chop, the yachts began on a starboard reach in a slight southeasterly, which was soon to

change. A Southeast thunder squall with strong wind ripped through the fleet, and by 10 p.m., the fleet was scattered hither and yon over Lake Huron.

Leading the pack were the three R boats, *Bernida*, *Neagha*, and *Rascal*, followed by the cruising class. A half-hour later, with the building wind shifting to the northeast, the seas started to pile up and the fleet began a hard beat.

By dawn Sunday, mother nature had taken her toll: three of the cruising class boats had returned to Port Huron, while the remainder of the class was slugging it out off Harbor Beach. Meanwhile, the three R's were in their element well to the north and screaming toward Mackinac Island.

Russ Pouliot's sloop *Bernida* crossed the finish line first at 6:50 p.m. Monday to etch itself in yachting history forever by becoming the first Bayview-Mackinac winner with an overall time of 48 hours.

Of the 12 boats that started the race, only four finished. Three of those finishers were R boats and all finished on Monday night with *Neagha*



Russ Pouliot wearing his skipper's cap in a painting that hangs at the Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit. (Photograph courtesy of Bayview Yacht Club)

coming in second, three hours later, and then *Rascal* finishing third, three hours after *Neagha*.

Bernida did not race in 1926, but raced again in 1927,

once again placing first in her class and thus establishing herself as one of the premier sailing boats of this period.

And then *Bernida* disappeared from our history books,

only to be found again by chance. And this is where the current story begins.

(To be continued)

Editor's Note: *The author is the Mackinac Island resident who rediscovered the Bernida, hidden away in a Frankfort, Michigan, warehouse. Mr. Murray is also Secretary of the Mackinac Boating Heritage Foundation, an organization dedicated to preserving Mackinac area maritime history. The Foundation is raising funds to restore and race again the Bernida, winner of the first Bayview-Mackinac race in 1925. This is the first in a series of articles about this famous sailboat.*

The Bernida is now in St. Ignace at Restorations by Maverick. The goal is to restore the boat to racing condition in time for the 2007 Mackinac-Bayview race. For information on the restoration and how to contribute, contact the Mackinac Boating Heritage Foundation, (906) 847-6094.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Mackinac Island Public School Proposed 2005/2006 Budget

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on July 28, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mackinac Island Public School Library, the Board of Education of Mackinac Island Schools will hold a public hearing to consider the district's proposed 2005/2006 budget.

The Board of Education may not adopt its proposed 2005/2006 budget until after the public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2005/2006 budget is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Mackinac Island Public School's Central Office, Mackinac Island, Michigan.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony and discuss the school district's proposed 2005/2006 budget. Following the public hearing, the Board of Education may adopt its 2005/2006 budget, not less than seven (7) days following the public hearing.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

Patricia Martin, Secretary
Board of Education
Mackinac Island Public Schools

NOTICE Mackinac Island Public School Board of Education

The Regular Meetings for the Mackinac Island Board of Education for the 2005/2006 fiscal year will be held as follows,

BEGINNING AT 7:30 P.M.:

Thursday, July 28, 2005
Thursday, August 25, 2005
Thursday, September 22, 2005

BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M.:

Thursday, October 27, 2005
Thursday, November 17, 2005
Thursday, December 15, 2005
Thursday, January 26, 2006
Thursday, February 23, 2006
Thursday, March 23, 2006
Thursday, April 27, 2006

BEGINNING AT 7:30 P.M.:

Thursday, May 25, 2006
Thursday, June 22, 2006

Special Meetings can be set by Board motion, the Board President or any two Board Members. Special Board meetings must be posted. The public is encouraged to attend all meetings. All Meetings will be held at the Mackinac Island Public School unless otherwise posted.

Trish Martin, Secretary
Mackinac Island Board of Education

WR 948 AT

- Tub dimensions: 72" x 48" x 20"
- Inside tub dimensions: Top of well: 58" x 39" Bottom of well: 47" x 31"
- Water capacity: 85 gallons max.
- 11 Air Nozzles

EVERY Air Tub

has the following features:

- 1.0 H.P. Max Air Blower - 120 Volt - 7 amp
- 600 Watt Heater - 120 Volts
- Electronic Variable Speed Control
- 15 Minute Delayed Purge
- Each Air Outlet contains 6 micro outlets

Belongga

**PLUMBING
& HEATING**

115 ELLIOTT, ST. IGNACE

(906) 643-9595

Warm Rain

Warm Rain is Manufactured
Exclusively by:

Great Lakes Plastic Corporation
PO Box 600 • 51675 N. Industrial
Drive • Hancock, MI 49930



WR 961 AT

- Tub dimensions: 67" x 67" x 20"
- Inside tub dimensions:
Top of well: 64" x 40" Bottom of well: 50" x 32"
- Water capacity: 65 gallons max.
- 8 Air Nozzles

