



NOTICE OF RACE

17th Annual **FRENCHY'S RUM RUN** –
June 19th, 2021 Hosted by Ventura Sailing Club

This race is also a PHRF race and the first in the 2021 VSC sponsored Multihull Ocean Series for Beachcats. The series includes VSC's Frenchy's Rum Run along with PBYC's Milt Ingram and Tri-Point races.

This race also counts toward the High Points PHRF Series for all classes.

In 1928 Raymond "Frenchy" LaDreau arrived on West Anacapa Island and lived a hermit-like existence for the next 28 years. Frenchy's wife had died, it was said, and he'd come to the island in a state of mourning. As the years passed, Frenchy's sorrow over the loss of his wife did not lessen and his drinking increased. Despite this (or because of this), Frenchy LaDreau became the unofficial Park Service representative, reporting on acts of vandalism and island activities. When he was 68, he suffered a fall and the Park Service decided to move him to the mainland. He was put on a bus in Port Hueneme. "His destination was not known," a Park representative says, "and that was the last they ever saw of him." Not a single scrap of wood, a nail, a stone, remains to suggest his curious, long tenancy.

He was well-known among fisherman from Monterey to Ensenada; fishermen often stopped in to sample his bouillabaisse from the lobster he trapped, the fish he caught and the abalone he pried from the rocks below.

The above is fact, below is legend...

Prohibition was in force from 1920 to 1933. Is this why Frenchy stayed? Some say he was the supply depot for illegal rum running during his early days of residence. Maybe his stash of rum is still there! If you feel like stopping off at the cove during the race to search for the legendary Frenchy's stash, then be our guest. Although, if you do, you will surely miss out on the rum prizes that are given in honor of Frenchy. Each year we hold this race in Frenchy's memory.



THE ENTRY: The race is open to all racers, whether they are members of a yacht club or not. The entry fee is \$35 for non-Ventura Sailing Club members and \$25 for VSC members. (\$5 discount for USSA members). In order to receive or be counted in the "Highpoints" credits for this race, you must be a member of a yacht club and have a valid PHRF certificate.

THE COURSE: Mandalay Buoy to Frenchy's Cove on Anacapa Island to port (rounding mark coordinates distributed at the Captain's Meeting), then to Mandalay buoy to port, then the Ventura Whistle buoy to starboard, and finishing in the Ventura Harbor entrance channel.

THE RULES: The race will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing. The Sailing Instructions will be passed out at the Captains' Meetings to be held at the Ventura Harbor Launch Ramp. Sign-ups will be accepted from 0815-0845. Captains' meeting will be at 0845. First start will be at 1100.

THE CLASSES: PHRF-handicapped spinnaker and non-spinnaker monohull, ORCA, and beachcat classes. Classes may be modified as necessary to accommodate all boats at the Captain's Meeting.

HARDWARE FOR THE MANTLE: Trophies/prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place boats in each class, depending on class size. After-race results at the Ventura Harbor Launch Ramp.

For further info call Richard Sharpe (805) 444-5657 or e-mail perfectbalance1@outlook.com
or Will Yount (805) 205-0999 or e-mail wjyount@yahoo.com