

NORTH SOUNDINGS

Winter/Spring 2017

Live Life at Sea Level

Since 1975

OUR NAUTICAL VILLAGE

On the Shore & On the Water

Explore how Bitter End embraces the Caribbean spirit both on and off land.

THE SPOTLIGHT

How the Pro Am Put BVI Racing on the Map

The Pro Am Regatta at BEYC celebrated its 30-year anniversary in 2016. Learn how the world's most unique regatta got its start.

MEET OUR CREW

A Conversation with Jerome & Alec

Bitter End's departing and incoming watersports directors discuss the storied program's history and future.



BITTER END
YACHT CLUB
NORTH SOUND, VIRGIN GORDA

18°30'17"N | 64°21'19"W



TO THE KINDRED SPIRIT HOLDING THIS PAPER

Welcome to Bitter End!

My first visit to Virgin Gorda and North Sound was in the summer of 1964 aboard a 24-foot boat fitted out for sport fishing. This was several years before the seeds for Bitter End were sown at this spectacular place in the Sound's northeast corner called John O'Point, and nearly 420 years after Drake and Hawkins assembled their fleet in the very same anchorage while planning British domination of the Caribbean.

My passion for the sea began fifteen years earlier when, at the age of 9, I succeeded in nagging my seasick-prone father, Myron, into taking me deep-sea fishing in the Gulf Stream off Miami. It took some more nagging but thanks to Dramamine, the sea became a shared passion for our family. By the late sixties we were sailing the Caribbean in *Alianora*, a 1930s vintage Scottish-built ketch that we based in St. Thomas, and Basil Symonette, a former St. Thomas charter skipper, had the Bitter End up and running.

In those days, Bitter End consisted of what today is the core of our Clubhouse restaurant and bar, plus five sparsely finished cottages on the hillside. Basil had established well defined house rules. Visiting yachtsmen were welcome at the bar and restaurant but only at Basil's pleasure, which he communicated via bullhorn. The bar's opening hours were at Basil's pleasure as well; closing time was whenever Basil quietly slipped away to turn off the generator.

Bitter End became a regular port of call for *Alianora* when she was cruising the Virgin Islands, and by 1970, Myron and Bernice, my mother, were welcome ashore without a bullhorn

invitation. On one of these visits, my mom asked Basil if he would sell or lease them an acre so they could build a tiny cottage. Basil didn't respond until the next visit, when he said, "You can't have an acre but how would you like the whole place?" When that message was relayed to me, I reverted to my 9-year old nagging mode. After three years of negotiation with Basil, we became owners of the ultimate family retreat.

Over the past 40-odd years, Bitter End has evolved from a rustic retreat for one family into a casual, friendly paradise for people of all ages from every corner of the globe. Our guests, like my family, are passionate about Bitter End's exceptional location and natural beauty, its welcoming character and crew, its serenity combined with its seemingly endless variety of activities on sea and land and, above all, its atmosphere of shared fun and adventure.

If this is your first visit, it's my entire family's pleasure to welcome you to the Bitter End community and the love that we all share for this singular place. If you're a "Repeater," we're delighted to pipe you back aboard.

As a visitor to Bitter End, you are now a part of a community that extends the world over and is defined by a deep love for this singular place. On behalf of the Hokin Family and the crew at Bitter End, we welcome you ashore. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do.

Fair Winds,
Richard Hokin & the Bitter End Crew



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BEYC

SECTION NO. 1

AT THE HELM



LIVE LIFE AT SEA LEVEL

Bitter End Yacht Club earned its name thanks to its remote, secluded—and therefore idyllic—location.

As the final island outpost before the Caribbean Sea meets the open Atlantic, Bitter End covers 64 acres on the east end of Virgin Gorda, overlooks the jewel-toned North Sound and the vibrant hues of Eustatia Sound and is accessible only by water.

Those who do venture here are rewarded with a protected harbor, panoramic vistas, lush natural beauty and a wealth of experiences, both on sea and on shore, that delight the traveler's spirit.

WELCOME ASHORE

FOR RESORT GUESTS

Few places in the world offer as much to do in one place as Bitter End. With our Classic Caribbean Experience, you can enjoy it all—snorkeling trips, seaside dinners, sailing excursions and champagne cruises—over the course of a weeklong stay. Plus, you'll retreat each night to the bungalow of your choice. There are custom options for couples and families; contact us to find out more.

FOR YACHTSMEN

Bitter End's Quarterdeck Club and our state-of-the-art marina provide boaters with an ideal homeport in the Caribbean. Come ashore and enjoy everything our charming village has to offer, from thrill-inducing water-sports to relaxing beaches, lively bars and more. While you're here, stop by the Reception Desk to arrange a tour of our Beachfront Bungalows, where you're welcome to spend the night.

CHART YOUR COURSE TO BITTER END

Throughout history, pirates, explorers and adventurers of all sorts have reached Bitter End by hook or by crook. Luckily, today there are a number of easy ways to reach shore that don't require rowing your own boat.



GUN CREEK FERRY

The Gun Creek Ferry is a complimentary five-minute ferry ride from Virgin Gorda.

DEPARTURES

Gun Creek to Bitter End: Nearly every hour on the half-hour from 6:30am to 10:30pm.

Bitter End to Gun Creek: Nearly every hour on the hour from 7am to 11pm.

Please note: departure times are subject to change.



NORTH SOUND EXPRESS

If arriving at Tortola or Beef Island Airport, this ferry runs regularly scheduled, high-speed trips to and from Bitter End.



PREMIER TRANSPORTATION

Seaplane, helicopter and private charter ferry service are available to Bitter End from St. Thomas.

Please visit beyc.com for the most current schedules, rates and routes.

CELEBRATE

BITTER END IS AN IDEAL PLACE TO HOST A CELEBRATION, NO MATTER THE OCCASION.

In addition to our jewel-toned waters, gentle breezes and lush greenery, our resort offers exceptional activities and luxury amenities that will make the stay unforgettable for both you and your guests.

The Hokin family originally envisioned Bitter End as a personal family retreat. Since then, it has organically evolved into a magical space used by many families to celebrate life's milestone moments. If you'd like to celebrate at Bitter End, our private event planner can help customize every detail to your liking.

CONSIDER A VINTAGE CARIBBEAN-STYLE CELEBRATION FOR YOUR:

- » Wedding
- » Honeymoon
- » Family Milestone
- » Boatmaker's Rendezvous
- » Flotilla
- » Birthday
- » Graduation



VISIT [BEYC.COM](https://www.beyc.com) TO BOOK YOUR CELEBRATION

18° 30' 17" N | 64° 21' 19" W

OUR NAUTICAL VILLAGE



ON THE SHORE

Bitter End embraces the Caribbean spirit. A deep appreciation for life in all its forms fosters a sense of wonder and celebration, and it spills over into the area's food, art and music. We share it all—plus our own unique flair for adventure—ashore at our beaches, restaurants, trails and more.

ACTIVITIES

HIKING

Bitter End's well-marked hiking trails range in difficulty and showcase our Caribbean landscape at its best. If you'd like to take an expert along with you, guided hikes occur weekly and can be scheduled for private trips at your leisure.

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

Music is central to the soul of Bitter End. You can catch live fungi, soca, reggae or calypso on the The Windward Mark Bar stage and at The Crawl Pub.

For our current schedule, visit beyc.com.

SPA EXPERIENCES

Your room becomes a blissful retreat with world-class, on-demand spa services held in the privacy of your own bungalow. Simply call our concierge to book any of our services.

THE POOL

Guests often visit to see the spectacular Caribbean waters, but sometimes a day at our freshwater pool is just as appealing. Spend a lazy afternoon sunbathing, swimming and enjoying lunch or cocktails while our Poolhouse staff attends to your every need.

THE BEACHES

The Caribbean is celebrated for its white-sand beaches, and Bitter End boasts four magnificent ones of its own. All feature relaxing lounges and are dotted with our iconic Adirondack chairs.



YOGA

Bitter End Yoga accommodates all experience levels for a practice that is engaging and relaxing. Our signature Yoga Deck reaches out over the crystal blue water and offers stunning views of North Sound. Classes are offered several mornings throughout the week on and off the water.

SHOP

True to its outpost roots, Bitter End always has the provisions you need to stock your galley or refrigerator. At the Emporium, we offer everything from locally caught fish, fresh produce and fine spirits to frozen items. Or swing by Captain B's for all your water-wear needs. If you're after a way to share your Bitter End pride, shop at Reeftique for classic polos, iconic hats and a wealth of beach and sail gear featuring BEYC.

DINE

THE CLUBHOUSE

Established in 1969.

A true sailor's haunt. When it opened in the late 60's, The Clubhouse quickly became famous as the first bar in the North Sound. Today, The Clubhouse is still beloved in the Caribbean as the place to enjoy a great meal and even better company. The menu is full of ingredients from and flavors inspired by the Caribbean, including fresh-catch seafood and local produce. It is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and the menu changes daily. Reservations required.



ALMOND WALK

Spend an evening under the expansive Caribbean skies while enjoying a meal at Almond Walk, Bitter End's outdoor dining spot. Palm trees sway overhead when cool breezes blow through, and there's live music during the week. It's also home to weekly cocktail parties, our legendary Seafood Night, West Indian BBQ and high-season Pig Roast—all great opportunities for guests to make new memories and meet new friends.

THE CRAWL PUB

This laid-back space slings tall pours and homemade brick-oven pizzas for hungry adventurers after a day exploring the island or out on the water. It also serves grilled fish sandwiches, hearty salads and hamburgers and our famous homemade hot wings. While there, visitors can take in sporting events on our large screen television and play pool, darts or foosball while enjoying sweeping views of the anchorage below.

THE POOLHOUSE

So much more than a bar, the Poolhouse provides guests with whatever they might need to enhance their day at the pool—towels, lunches or even activities recommendations. Of course, it is also a bar, and the staff here is known for mixing excellent afternoon cocktails.

WINSTON'S BAKERY

Located inside the Emporium, Winston's Bakery is beloved by resort guests for its fresh breads, rich desserts and—perhaps most of all—for its charming chef, Winston



Butler. A legend of Bitter End and the Caribbean, Winston traveled the world learning his craft and is now known to fly his Key Lime Pie around the globe at a guest's request. He is also known to take special orders and will help you make the most of any celebration here on the island.

THE WINDWARD MARK

The new Windward Mark Bar has quickly become a favorite for Bitter End guests, BVI locals and even sailors passing through. The central circle bar has gorgeous views of Clubhouse Beach—making it the place to watch the sunset over North South. Plus, it's a stone's throw from our entertainment stage, which means you can end every evening singing, swaying and dancing in true Caribbean style.

For current hours, menus and information on any of our dining options, please visit beyc.com.

OUR NAUTICAL VILLAGE



ON THE WATER

Bitter End is a renowned watersports paradise. Founded by sailors as a boating haven, today the resort is home to world-famous regattas, a U.S.-accredited sailing school, a first-class marina and an on-site fleet that boasts over 100 vessels. The resort has also become a playground for watersports enthusiasts of all types and abilities.

CLUB FLEET

Club Fleet is composed of over 100 vessels that range from IC-24s to stand-up paddleboards. The fleet ensures everyone from experts to beginners can enjoy an exciting water experience. Our experienced staff is always on hand to advise on vessels and provide instruction for a safe outing.

SAILING SCHOOL

The BEYC Sailing School is the premier accredited U.S. Sailing Association in the BVI. Our world-class instructors hail from around the globe. We teach sailors of all abilities to fine-tune their craft and maximize their enjoyment on the water. We offer full accreditation in Basic Keelboat and Cruising,



as well as courses in Hobie Sailing, Laser Sailing, Windsurfing and more. Private and group lessons available.

SUP • STAND UP PADDLE

For the more adventurous yogis, BEYC offers SUP Yoga classes. You'll balance inner peace with outdoor fun, all while maintaining your balance on our stand-up paddle boards. All classes are guided by a SUP and yoga expert.

EXCURSIONS

The BVI are home to many historic, world-renowned sites: the Baths, the Coral Gardens and Anegada. But it's also home to many little known spots that only a local can reveal. We offer regular excursions on vessels from our premium fleet to these outposts, introducing guests to the Caribbean's brilliant sites and best kept secrets.

CARIB KITEBOARDING SCHOOL

Bitter End offers the first kiteboarding school in the BVI. World-class instruction, plus steady trade winds and great launching beaches, make for incredible conditions to enjoy this sport no matter your experience level. The school is run by Caribbean kiteboarding pioneers that are experienced, certified and insured-PASA instructors.

SNORKELING

Led by our expert captains, our daily snorkel trips explore any of the incredible areas closer to Bitter End's shore. Discover Eustatia Reef, the Invisibles, Cactus Point, Mosquito Island and more. A regular trip takes just over an hour, or embark on a super snorkel to explore three different areas in one outing.

SCUBA DIVING

We've teamed up with the expert divers of Sunchaser Scuba for over 25 years to offer one-of-a-kind outings and hassle-free guidance through the many arches, coral canyons and historic wrecks that line the North Sound. We offer regular dives for certified divers, as well as PADI training for new divers.

OUR NAUTICAL VILLAGE



STAY STEPS FROM THE WATER'S EDGE

Our famous bungalows, inspired by those first built at Bitter End in the 1960s, offer guests an authentic island experience complete with luxury amenities. The timber, teak and stone bungalows blend seamlessly with their surroundings and enjoy cooling sea breezes thanks to nearby trade winds—making each a blissful, eco-friendly escape.

REEF

A wrap-around porch offers personal views of Eustatia Sound's jewel-toned waters, plus Bitter End's beaches, attractions and activities are just a short walk from your door.

HORIZON

Consider your treehouse fantasies fulfilled. Sleep among the palm canopy and enjoy panoramic views of Eustatia Sound's barrier reef from a private, wrap-around porch.



GARDEN

Settle in along the shore surrounded by blooming bougainvillea and frangipani. Garden guests enjoy the closest views of the Sound, framed by a remarkable mangrove forest.

THE OWNER'S SUITE

For more than 40 years and four generations, the Hokin family has called Bitter End their second home. Discover what makes their island visits so special by staying where they stay, in the Owner's Suite, and make your own incredible memories with family and friends.

BITTER END YACHT CLUB

“A rollicking nautical village...the laid-back charm of the Bitter End Yacht Club has captivated us all. This sprawling property stretches along a mile of white sand beach on the North Sound of Virgin Gorda, considered one of the most unspoiled and secluded deep-water harbors in the Caribbean.”

— THE NEW YORK TIMES



UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 7-14, 2017

26th Annual Bitter End Yacht Club
Midwinter Regatta of Champions

JANUARY 20, 2017

Turtle Encounters with ARK
at Bitter End Yacht Club

JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 5, 2017

SUP & Yoga Retreat

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

BEYC Schiller Water Bikes Premier Demo

FEBRUARY 21, 2017

43rd Founder's Day

MARCH 1-5, 2017

Rolex Swan Regatta at YCCS | Virgin Gorda

MARCH 10-14, 2017

Loro Piana Caribbean Superyacht
Regatta at YCCS | Virgin Gorda

MAY 5-7, 2017

Bitter End Yacht Club Challenge

JUNE 8, 2017

World's Ocean Day

JULY 21-26, 2017

18th Annual Sea & Salsa,
Christmas in July

OCTOBER 17, 2017

Moorings Interline Regatta

OCTOBER 21-28, 2017

31st Annual Bitter End Yacht Club
PRO AM Regatta

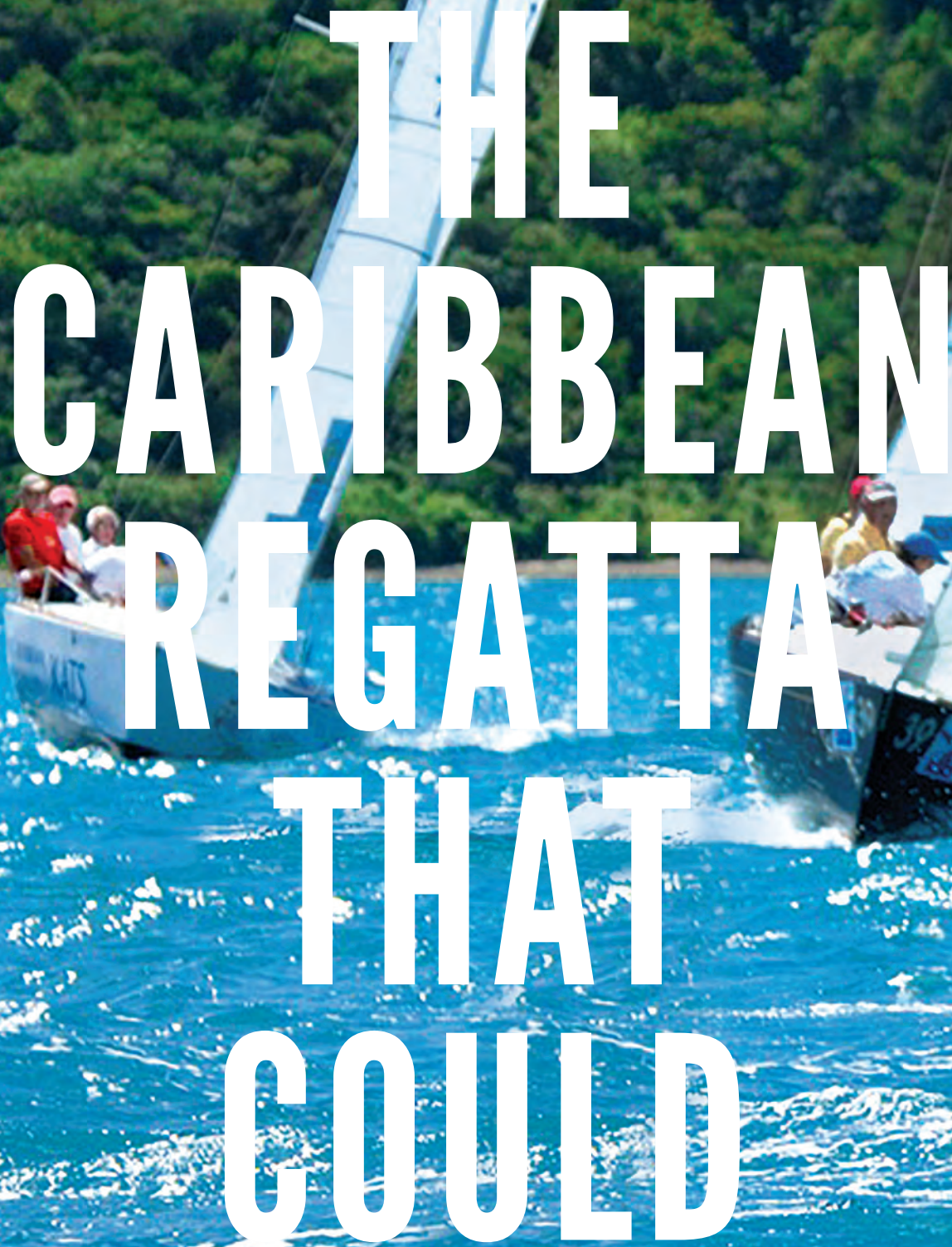
NOVEMBER 19-26, 2017

Thanksgiving Hobie Family Fun Week

DECEMBER 24, 2017

17th Annual Holiday Lighted Boat Parade



A vibrant photograph of two sailboats racing on a bright blue sea. The boats are white with blue accents and are leaning as they catch the wind. Crew members are visible on the decks. The background is a lush green forested hillside. The text 'THE CARIBBEAN REGATTA THAT COULD' is overlaid in large, bold, white capital letters.

THE CARIBBEAN REGATTA THAT COULD

HOW THE PRO AM PUT BVI RACING ON THE MAP



In 2016, the Pro Am Regatta celebrated 30 years of pairing professional athletes with amateur and first-time sailors in a thrilling series of races across North Sound. In these three decades, the Pro Am has grown from a local party to an internationally renowned event that attracts World Champions, Olympic medalists, sailing legends and even supermodels. As we reflect on this major milestone, BEYC founding family member Richard Hokin revisits how the world's most unique regatta got its start.

The first Pro Am was also the first match racing event to use "on the water umpires" that were not based on the race boats themselves. This has been the standard in match racing ever since.

Shortly after we acquired Bitter End in the early 1970s, I proposed that Bitter End sponsor an annual race from St. Thomas to Gorda Sound. This event resulted in a robust turnout of BVI and USVI sailors, who seemed to be motivated to sail upwind to Gorda Sound by the prospect of a raucous party and open bar in the Clubhouse. This was great fun for the local sailing community but did little to broadcast the message that the BVI, and Gorda Sound in particular, was a great venue not only for leisurely cruising but also for competitive sailing. Back in those days, the combination of 100+ thirsty sailors and an open bar was a financial disaster for a resort with a mere handful of rooms.

By the mid 1980s, the resort had added a number of beachfront cottages to the original hillsides, expanded its waterfront infrastructure and was in the process of integrating the neighboring resort, Tradewinds, into its footprint. All this made Bitter End a much more compelling destination for resort guests and expanded our opportunities to utilize the potential of Gorda Sound as a first-rate venue for competitive sailing.

Meanwhile, although the St. Thomas to Gorda Sound event had faded away, I had become much more deeply involved in serious yacht racing. For about ten years, beginning in the mid-1970s, I was heavily into hardcore offshore



sailboat racing, starting with a series of five boats called *Love Machine* and winding down with *Cosmic Warlord*, an Express 37 that continues to spend her golden years on North Sound. The success of this endeavor came from having a great crew, from bowmen to pitmen to helmsmen. Among the central characters were sailing rock stars like Tom Whidden and Peter Isler, backed up by many great, albeit lower profile, sailors. One of the stalwarts of our crew, the late Steve Surprise, a.k.a. Roundman, later became a BVI icon.

The Bitter End Pro Am evolved out of my obsession with sailboat racing and the addition of John Glynn to BEYC's crew. My dad had met John at the resort. At that time, John was an editor at *Yacht Racing* magazine who had favorably mentioned Bitter End in print. That John "got" what it was all about warranted immediate elevation to Myron's A-list and a job offer. John brought with him not only great enthusiasm for boats, sailing and the accompanying lifestyle, but also a great network with the sailboat racing community. Kicking around the idea of a new competitive sailing event at the resort made us realize that involving the resort's rank and file guests needed to be the centerpiece of anything we came up with—and that's how the idea of a Pro Am format was born. Now, we just had to figure out how to fit the event into the annual schedule so that we could attract both pro and amateur sailors while raising Bitter End's profile in the competitive sailing community.

The autumnal equinox seemed to be the critical point in the scheduling decision. The month or so following it had two important features: the wind-down of the North American sailing and regatta season, and the emergence of the Caribbean from the annual torpor and unsettled weather that bracket the equinox, which brings a fresh new season with revitalized breezes to the BVI. What better time to hold the event

than when North American sailors of all stripes were yearning for anything to prolong the sailing season, and a venue was offering its own version of spring about six months ahead of the temperate climate zones?

Perhaps the most significant factor in the Pro Am's success was John's genius not only in recruiting the pros, but also in convincing a bunch of ruthless, bloodthirsty and intensely focused competitors that—win or lose—this was going to be a fun event for all involved, including them. That has become the regatta's trademark. It's hard to imagine an America's Cup skipper, tactician or designer tolerating a bunch of hackers for crew, but they do and usually with a smile. The proof: pros and amateurs keep coming back for more.

Nothing characterizes the spirit of Bitter End's Pro Am more than something I witnessed one year when Buddy Melges was among our pro skippers. During one race a member of Buddy's crew failed to duck during a jibe and ended up with a nasty deep gash across his forehead. Buddy's crewmember was quickly transported to the Virgin Gorda clinic, where micro suturing was not an option. The injured crewmember made it back to BEYC just in time for the post-race cocktail party with about six inches of shoelace-like stitches—he couldn't have been more ecstatic about his prospects for a Frankenstein-style scar across his forehead. "I can't wait," he said, "to tell the guys at my yacht club bar that I got this sailing with Buddy Melges."

The 30th anniversary of the Pro Am Regatta was a week-long event held October 22-29, 2016. The event was presented by BVI Airways.

For more information on that celebratory occasion, or to sign up to participate in future Pro Ams, visit beyc.com.

BY THE NUMBERS

MOST WINS IN PRO AM HISTORY

Ed Baird
7 wins | 30 years

He was in the very first Pro Am, and he returned again in 2016.

NO. SUPERMODELS TO RACE PRO AM

1, Heidi Klum

As part of a *Sports Illustrated* Swimsuit Edition photoshoot

NO. RACES CANCELLED/POSTPONED DUE TO LACK OF WIND

0

of almost 500 races run

NO. RACES SHORTENED DUE TO LACK OF WIND

3

of almost 500 races run

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF "AM" GUESTS WHO HAVE ATTENDED/ PARTICIPATED IN 29 YEARS

Approx. 900

NO. PRO SKIPPERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED

51

NO. MOUNT GAY RED HATS GIVEN IN 20 YEARS

1,600

Many of the 900 Am guests repeat year to year.



COMING &

A white sailboat with two large white sails is sailing on a vibrant blue sea. Two people are visible on the deck; one is wearing a black cap and the other sunglasses. In the background, a hilly coastline is visible under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The word "GOING" is overlaid in large white letters at the bottom left.

GOING

A CONVERSATION WITH
JEROME AND ALEC, BITTER
END'S DEPARTING AND NEW
WATERSPORTS DIRECTORS



Bitter End is home to the Caribbean's premier watersports program, and much of that is thanks to Jerome Rand, its fearless leader and champion for the past eight years. Under his watch, the sailing school was re-vamped, Corinthian re-powered, and Hobies rose to prominence. Now, he's moving on to pursue the personal dream of sailing around the world solo and welcomes Alec Weatherseed in his stead. With over a decade of professional experience on the water, Alec is most recently the Sailing Director at Stamford Yacht Club and an avid kiteboarder. Both Jerome and Alec recently sat down to talk Bitter End and swap advice for their upcoming adventures.

Alec: So, I know we're here to talk about Bitter End—but first, give us the scoop on your trip!

Jerome: My upcoming adventure is one that I have been thinking about for over 15 years, a solo sail around the world without stopping. I plan to leave Gloucester, Mass. around the end of October 2017 and sail south of Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Cape Horn. Then,

I'll return north without stopping until returning to Gloucester after 27,000 miles. It is one of the great challenges in the world of sailing and has been a dream of mine for a long time.

A: I certainly wish you the best of luck, mate. Any advice for me as the new guy on the island before you go?

J: Oh that's easy—have fun! Bitter End has an incredible community, and I'm sure they'll embrace you with open arms. When it comes down to it, after safety, fun is what everyone wants to have, whether it be sailing, snorkeling or just hanging out at the beach. Why, what do you see as your biggest challenge coming to Bitter End and the BVI?

A: Acclimating to the Caribbean climate? I'm coming from Connecticut after all. [Laughs] No, really, I'm looking forward to learning the ins and outs of island life. Discovering the secret spots, the local culture and island rhythm. Getting PADI certified!

J: Well I can tell you my favorite place to eat at Bitter End—at the West Indian BBQ, every Tuesday night in The Clubhouse. Fresh fish



J: Hey, thanks. What would you like to focus on once you get here?

A: Ultimately, I hope to continue your legacy, and ensure that our waterfront offerings are consistent with our guests' needs and goals. Certain sports have really taken off in recent years—SUP boarding, kiteboarding. I want to focus on these younger sports to see how we can introduce them to a larger audience, plus maintain the world-class sailing programs and countless excursions synonymous with the Bitter End name.

J: The excursions! I'll miss the excursions.

A: Do you have a favorite?

J: Definitely the Best of the BVI. You get to see almost the whole country while visiting some of the best snorkeling spots anywhere. Just being aboard the *Corinthian* and cruising the Drake Channel is one of the great experiences in the Caribbean. To me it is the full experience of the BVI. What about you, what drew you to the BVI and Bitter End?

A: The dream of living and working in a culture that thrives on wind and water sports, working with a passionate staff that shares a love of all things nautical and the amazing guests who are receptive to our enthusiasm for the sea!

J: I think that's the most important aspect of the Bitter End watersports program, the way we engage and create a unique experience for our guests. We try to provide a very casual and energetic vibe on our beach. You only hear a Sir or Madam if it is called for, more often you will hear back and forth banter about past trips and experiences at the Bitter End, or funny stories about Hobie rescues and other crazy things that always happen on the water! It is truly a one-of-a-kind place and can be enjoyed by anyone.

Ok, lightning round—what's the weirdest thing you're packing in your bag? Go.

A: Well, weird to most, but perhaps not weird at Bitter End—all my kites and boards. Since picking up the sport in Sri Lanka in 2012, it has changed my life.

Favorite boat at Bitter End?

J: Ouch, like choosing a child! [Laughs] I have to say that I love sunset sails aboard the *Paranda*, ripping around Necker Island on a Hobie Getaway and taking in the end of the day with a gentle sail on our Sunfish.

Where to find you when you're not working?

A: Kiting, SUPing, relaxing in a hammock and planning my next adventure or project. Yoga treehouse studio, anyone?

J: Outside of work I think my favorite pastime would be going off to one of the many beaches in the North Sound and swimming in the warm water. Add a full moon or a starry night and you have one of the most beautiful settings in the world.

A: I'll definitely add that to my list. Jerome, thank you for the energy you've infused into the BEYC watersports department during your eight years here. May your travels be fulfilling and your adventures plentiful. Sometime when you're crossing the vast oceans and find yourself in the dead calm of night, with a cloudless sky above you, reflecting the infinite stars upon the water, please think of your friends at Bitter End and the great times shared. You will be missed.

J: It's really been my pleasure, Alec. And I'm so grateful to be leaving the program in such capable hands. I know you'll do great things here.

cooked perfectly, and all the sides and desserts you could ever want. Hands down the best.

A: I can't wait. What do you think you'll miss most about BEYC?

J: By far I will miss working with the entire team at BEYC. They are a community and a family that have welcomed me and made a place for me in their world. They have been my family for almost a decade. I have had the pleasure to work with all the departments at the Bitter End and have learned more than I could have ever imagined. I only hope that I have returned that as much as possible.

A: You certainly have, and you've done a fantastic job growing the watersports program. I know that was a key focus of yours.



JOIN THE CLUB

Founded as a family retreat, the heart of Bitter End has always been its community. Its extraordinary location and experiences foster a sense of camaraderie between all guests who visit. In that spirit, we offer a club that allows those that love Bitter End as deeply as we do to make the most of every visit.

QUARTERDECK CLUB

Bitter End Yacht Club was built for sailors, by sailors. Its pristine conditions and protected harbor have always drawn boaters to these shores, but it is the unique community Bitter End cultivates that has made it world-renowned. Once you're here, you're part of a storied tradition that spans generations of club members and centuries of visiting sailors.

Our anchorage is also popular thanks to the many amenities Bitter End provides. We have a state-of-the-art marina and mooring field cared for by an expert staff. We have a world-class Watersports Center, where guests can try and master windsurfing, kiteboarding, diving and more. Plus, we have all of the on-shore luxuries you might be seeking—provisions, fine restaurants, rollicking pubs and white-sand beaches.

Bitter End Quarterdeck Club members hail from all corners of the world. Members enjoy special privileges, top-notch facilities and access to all our activities and amenities. We welcome you to become a part of it!

OUR QUARTERDECK CLUB FACILITIES INCLUDE:

Deep draft dockage for yachts up to 240 feet
70 Moorings free from surge
110v and 220v electrical hookup receptacles (30amp/50amp/100amp single and three phase)
Private on-dock restrooms and showers
24-hour security
An expertly staffed Marina Office
Ice, fresh water and on-site provisioning

For membership levels and the Quarterdeck application, visit beyc.com.

*"The place to stay" in "the most
beautiful place on earth."*

— TRAVEL + LEISURE 2016 BEST OF READER'S POLL

Ready to chart your course?

VISIT US AT BEYC.COM OR CALL US AT:

RESERVATIONS 800.872.2392 | RESORT 284.494.2746


BITTER END
YACHT CLUB