



The 25th Anniversary Edition Newport Bucket Regatta Launches Thursday, 25 August.

The Bucket Regatta Silver Anniversary Festivities will begin on Thursday 25 August, with the Fleet gathering at anchor off of Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard. At 1200, the Silver Anniversary Golf Match begins at the Royal and Ancient Chappaquiddick Links Golf Club, a 9 hole Scottish Links Course created in 1887. Owners, sponsors and crew are invited to join Bucket Directors Tim Laughridge and Ian Craddock for a casual afternoon competition for links bragging rights at a truly historic site.

Thursday evening, the Skippers Meeting for Friday's Feeder Race to Newport will be held at Edgartown Yacht Club. We are grateful for the invitation to share the hospitality of the Club and their facilities for our meeting and welcome cocktail.

On Thursday night, long term Bucket supporter and advocate, David Murphy, will host a Gala Lobster Dinner at his magnificent Chappaquiddick home and hide-out, The Tumble Inn. This promises to be a memorable fete, featuring fine fare and libation accompanied by live music by the acclaimed Jerry Bennett and the Sultans of Swing.

Friday's Newport Bucket "Feeder Race" will start at the west end of the Vineyard Sound, with the fleet racing under the successful Bucket Rule pursuit racing handicap system. Friday's racing fleet will include the 37M DuBois design, MOONBIRD, the elegant Fontaine 29.5M Spirit of Tradition Ketch, WINDCREST, the S & S 29M Sloop, ALTAIR and two elegant sistership W-Class 23M Classic Sloops; WILD HORSES and WHITE WINGS, that will be match racing for the new "Demi-Class" honors along with the Feeder Race Awards.

The Skippers Meeting for all 19 yachts competing for the Bucket Silver Anniversary Honors will be held on Friday evening at the Newport Shipyard. The fleet Welcome Party will follow at historic Fort Adams, with private access to the Fort's Casements, observation tower and the Museum, followed we trust, by a spectacular sunset with Colors sounded with a 900 pound, 1771 Paul Revere cannon! This will be a proper launching to "The Silver Bucket", indeed.

Racing for Bucket honors will begin at noon on Saturday and Sunday, 27-28 August. As usual, courses will be set off Newport in Rhode Island Sound with the start and finishes off Castle Hill. Ratings will be by the Bucket pursuit racing rule, which adjusts start

times such that the finishing order will determine each yacht's position in the fleet without subsequent rating adjustments.

A vintage WWII Airshow featuring the Texas Flying Legends will follow racing on Saturday and Sunday. From 4:30 to 5 p.m. on each of those days, the Coast Guard will literally stop boat traffic off Fort Adams and Castle Hill as the public enjoys the spectacle. The Newport Bucket will feature six rare WWII vintage aircrafts including *Last Samurai*, one of only two Japanese Zeros still flying in the world; the FG-1D Corsair *Whistling Death*; the P-40K *Aleutian Tiger*; two P-51D Mustangs *Dakota Kid II* and *Little Horse*; and the Mitchell B-25 Bomber *Betty's Dream*.

For the 25th Anniversary Edition of the Bucket Regattas, the Bucket fleet has been gifted once again by the Owner of TENACIOUS, who has offered to conduct a full air show by the perfectly maintained WWII Aircraft of the Texas Flying Legends Museum. The air show fleet includes a B-25 Bomber, the last flying Japanese Zero, a P-51 Mustang, P-40 and a Corsair, all flown by some of the top aerobatic pilots in the US. The local authorities, Coast Guard and FAA have collaborated to allow closure of Narragansett Bay both days from 1630 until 1700 to create a navigation exclusion zone that will create the aerobatic area. We are grateful to the extreme for this generous offering by Bucket yacht owner. This type of generosity among the fleet is at the core of the lighthearted Spirit of the Bucket!

Saturday night, the Fleet Open House will invite the sailing crews from each competing yacht to visit the other yachts in the fleet, with a sharing of best food & libation and without a doubt, plenty of bragging rights banter. Following the Open House, the Gala Bucket Bash will serve up a sumptuous meal, libation, single malt and cigar bar – plus dancing to Jerry Bennett and the Sultan of Swing and an elegant fashion show. This promises to be a truly memorable Saturday night!

The Bucket Awards Ceremony will be held at the elegant Ochre Court overlooking Newport's First Beach and the Atlantic. Trophies will be awarded for four classes; the Bucket Traditional Grandes Dames des Mers, Les Gazelles des Mers, the new Elegantes des Mers (Spirit of Tradition) and for the 25th Anniversary edition, the Demi-Class. Overall trophies which recognize the top finishers in each class, along with the Bucket Overall Trophies, Feeder Race, combined Feeder and Overall trophy, as well as the traditional Bucket Awards the Wolter Huisman Spirit of the Bucket award, the Vitters Seamanship/Sportsmanship award, the coveted "Skullduggery Cravat" for the yacht that best promulgates non-adult behavior, and The Newport Bomb, which has become yet another iconic Bucket trophy that celebrates the yacht that simply, has the most fun!

Daily updates will be presented on the Bucket Website beginning Friday evening with a detailed report on the Bucket Feeder Race. Tune again then, to watch the Bucket Story unfold.

Entry list, event schedule and regatta updates and photos on the event web site: BucketRegattas.com