



Pirate News

The 16th day of July in the year Two Thousand and Twenty Two, Mill Town, Florida

2022 WWSRE

The 2022 World's Worst Sailboat Race Ever (WWSRE) is now in the record books. The usual suspects competed again for the honor of hosting the event in 2023.



Barnacle Bailey and his crew (bottom left) seated next to Goldie Daubloon and Barbarosa (bottom right) Top row is Woody and his crew.

Barnacle Bailey and crew onboard Speed-O-Man successfully maneuvered the new course to finish in first. Along with the winners flag (blue), Barnacle has the “honor” of organizing the event again next year. He was followed across the finish line by the largest crew of all the racers. Woody and his crew of five, wind hardened sailors, slipped in just ahead of Goldie Daubloon and Barbarosa. Another great race to watch.

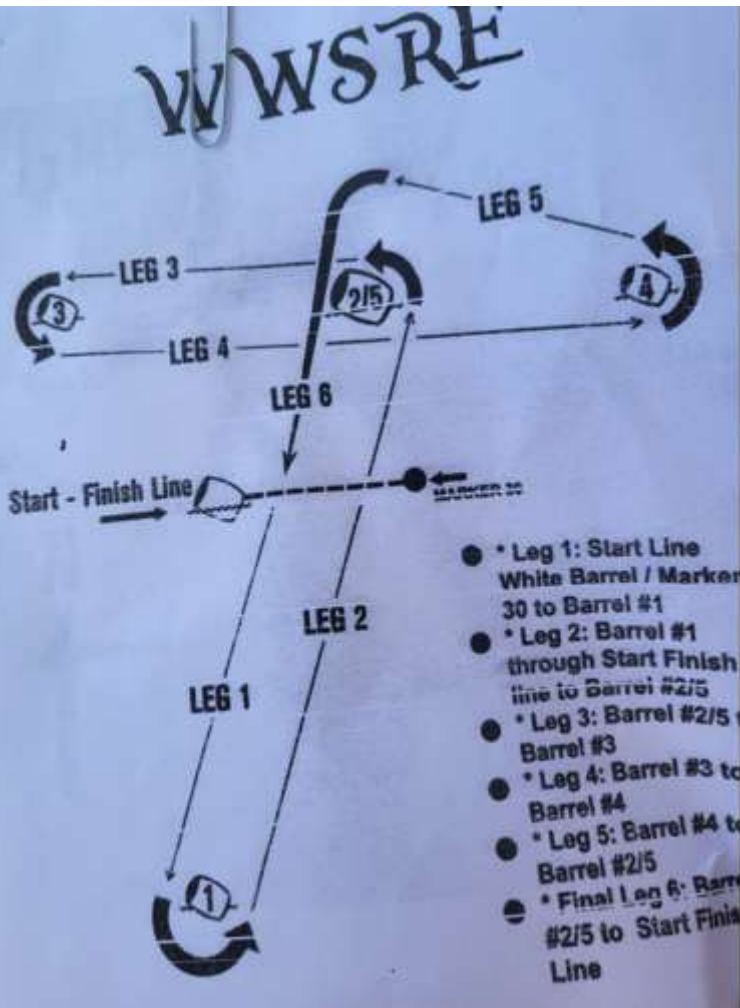
2022 WWSRE

Unlike last year's event, all boats remained upright and safely in plenty of water. No one ran aground, but the final results were the same. Speed-O-Man cruised to an easy victory and retained the title of best of the World's Worst Sailboat Racers Ever.

This year's event did include some very steamy weather conditions as several observers, and some participants were negatively impacted by the heat.



Woody and crew



The "New" Course

However, with the newly improved course arranged in a manner to reduce the likelihood of running aground, all participants were able to successfully navigate and complete the course without any major issues. Several safety boats sat quietly near the start/finish line and just enjoyed the race.

For a while, the observers were concerned with one boat though. It appeared that the Irish entry (Rumfront) had gotten lost and was just enjoying the day as they ventured around the northern portion of the course with sails down just as the race began. It was later discovered that the liquid levels had risen too high on the crew and they just needed to "pump the bilges".

2022 WWSRE



Barnacle Bailey and Speed-O-Man making preps



Woody and crew performing safety inspections



It's a 3 boat race!

2022 WWSRE



As the race begins, a couple of safety boats observe



As the race begins, the field spreads out. Unfortunately, Rumfront and Crew are really spread out.



It is a 3 boat race as they head for marker 2



Eventually, Rumfront and Crew get racing

2022 Great Mill Town Duck Race



Let the race begin!

The 2022 Great Mill Town Duck Race is officially in the books! With the terrific support of our Title Sponsor, Team Bruce Baker Realty, the race was another huge success.

With Captain Boot stirring up the crowd into a frenzy in anticipation of the duck drop, the count down began. 10, 9, 8, ...2, 1...drop the ducks!! And then the duck chute opened and all 5,000 ducks began their 3 minute and 23 second swim to the finish line. This was one of the fastest races ever. Give credit to the hard work put in by the racers during the offseason. I guess you could also give credit to the large amount of rain and the strong current too. But whatever gets the credit, those mighty ducks flew through the course in record time. In fact, many of those adrenalin filled ducks were recovered as they headed toward Bagdad in what appeared to be a mass jailbreak. They flew the coop. We will soon know the results of the jailbreak when we conduct our official duck count around the end of the year.

2022 Great Mill Town Duck Race



Capt Lucky and SasSea present the Golden Duck Trophy to the Title Sponsor, Team Bruce Baker Realty

Thank you to Team Bruce Baker for supporting the Blackwater Pyrates and the local community as the Title Sponsor of the 2022 Great Mill Town Duck Race.

Our organization could not complete the work we do every year to support the community through Boater Safety, River Clean Up, and Maritime History Preservation without the sponsors who support us with their generous donations.

The Duck Race can't officially begin without the Title Sponsor placing the Golden Duck on top of all the other 5,000 racing ducks. So, around 4:15 pm, we took a moment as our Title Sponsor placed the final duck (The Golden Duck) into the bin atop the other 5,000 racing ducks.

For those of you who have never participated in the official Golden Duck Drop, the Golden Duck is the only duck in the race without an official racing number. This special duck has Golden Duck written in place of it's official number.

Incidentally, I have never witnessed the Golden Duck actually winning a race. Hmmm! I wonder if it has to do with the special treatment it receives all year. Instead of tireless hours training inside the Olympic swimming pool all offseason, the Golden Duck is treated with airconditioned spaces and meticulously cared for all year as we fatten him up like the Christmas Goose.



The Golden Duck officially enters the race

2022 Great Mill Town Duck Race



Milton Police Chief Tony Tindell accompanied Captain Lucky and Shhh on the "Pass-in-Review" in front of the Blackwater Pirate Boat docks at Jernigan's Landing.

Pictured above are all of the VIP's. Frenchie, Mayor Heather Lindsay, Capt Lucky, Duck Swimmer Lovie, Jarod from Cat Country 98.7, Sea Rock, Shhh and Duck Committee Chairperson Terra.

2022 Great Mill Town Duck Race



July 4th can be a very long day for many of the Pyrates. Starting early in the morning around 5:30 am, the Captain kicks off the party by opening the duck trailer and removing the pop-up canopies and all the associated equipment necessary to complete a full day of duck race activities. The Duck Committee begins the arduous duty of setting up all the tables, chairs and miscellaneous duck related equipment. Several Crew Members gather to place the no wake signs on the bridges and the banners on the bridge. The Technical Committee gathers to inspect the previously prepared duck chute and verify that all equipment is functioning as designed and that the installation boats are ready to dispatch from the Pyrate docks to install the chute when necessary.

Without these groups of volunteers, the race would never go off seamlessly to the general public. This is the day that the Blackwater Pyrates prepare for all year. And like usual, every obstacle that was placed before them on the most important day of the year, was adapted to and overcome with the grace of a ballet.

2022 Great Mill Town Duck Race



Can anyone else see the resemblance between these two pictures? The “Duck” pictured below is Dano Duck. I believe the top left “Duck” is someone dreaming of being Dano Duck in the future. Let’s keep his dream alive.



Pictured below is the Duck Committee and helpers (Stewey’s Dad) preparing the Duck adoption area for the final push to complete our 5,000 duck adoptions.



Always a great day for the local community, the Great Mill Town Duck Race and Riverfest bring in thousands of people from all around the area. We celebrate just to celebrate, and what better way than to watch the annual duck race.

Congratulations to the winners.

On this day, we are all winners!

2022 Great Mill Town Duck Race

And the winners are...

1st Place - 3168 - Terry Baxter

2nd Place - 2435 - Tim Beck

3rd Place - 1532 - Christy Ripsam

To the right is Captain Lucky and Duck Diva SasSea presenting Terry Baxter with the winners \$1,500 check.

Below, Capt Lucky and SasSea present Christy Ripsam and her daughters with the third place \$250 check.

Not shown is second place Tim Beck from Connecticut. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend the ceremony.

But he did thank the Pyrates on a phone call with Devil Rae.



It was a wonderful time meeting the winners and hearing their stories.

Christy Ripsam said that she had adopted 5 ducks, one for each daughter and one for her and one for her husband. Her youngest daughter is very interested in preserving the waterways and plans to become a Pirate.

Terry Baxter bowls in the Thursday morning seniors league. The Duck Diva's actually have two teams in the same league. Terry said he only adopted one duck. Now that he won, he'll get two next year.



2022 Blues Cruise



Close enough to rattle your teeth, the Navy's Blue Angels fly over Pensacola Beach. The annual Beach Show was held July 9th and the Blackwater Pyrates carried on the time honored tradition of celebrating their performance.

Starting around 11 am with several stunt flying aircraft, the show continued until the Blues finale around 3:30 pm. The Pyrates on the other hand, started around 8 am and finished with their final toast around 5 pm. During the approximate 4 hours of the airborne circus, the pyrates hooted, hollered and toasted the pride of the Navy.

During one more adventurous moments at the beginning of the airshow, the bi-planes flew overhead and a few Pyrates attempted to get them to throw beads like at Mardi Gras. Let's just say, no beads were caught and I don't think the bi-planes ever returned. Maybe it was because Two Noodles and Capt Lucky were the ones flashing them and asking the unforgettable question, "throw me something mister." A rather forgettable moment for everyone. No pictures allowed.

Although it is not one of our "signature" events, the annual trek to watch the Blues in July has become very popular with the Legacy (not old!) Pyrates. Avoiding the crowds in the Pensacola Beach area, the Blackwater Pyrates raft up their boats and celebrate the start of the Blue Angels season. Our secluded location avoids the boat traffic, but the view is nothing short of spectacular. Always a great time!

2022 Blues Cruise



The Blackwater Pyrates anchored their boats and celebrated another beautiful day on the water and the return of the Blue Angels. This annual event has been cancelled in recent years due to Covid and

weather related concerns. So this event was special to those who follow the Blues.

The event brought out four (4) “Generations” of Blackwater Pyrate Captains, with a fifth captain (Captain Fins Up) in attendance during dress rehearsals on Friday. Captain Blackwater Bones, Captain Hook’em Dano, Captain Boot and Captain Lucky joined the Crew on Saturday as they welcomed the Blues and other aircraft to the skies above Escambia Bay while avoiding the massive crowds packed into the Pensacola Beach area.

Also in attendance was the only real Naval Captain of the bunch, Captain Kilmartin (Grogette), in her “patriotic” swimming attire. Swamp Yankee was sure to salute.



Pirate Captains doing what they do best!

2022 Blues Cruise

Time for fun in the sun with the Pyrates and the Blues. Here is but a small collage of pictures showing the gathering of friends to celebrate another great day in the water.



Pirate Captains doing what they do best!



Blackwater Pyrates 2022

January	February	March	April
12 Booty Council 19 General Mtg	9 Booty Council 12 Milton Mardis Gras Parade 16 General Mtg 19 Mardis Gras Flotilla - POLT	5-6 Renaissance Fair – Duck Adoptions 9 Booty Council 16 General Mtg – Crew Duck Adoptions Begin	9 Poker Run 13 Booty Council 20 General Mtg 23 River Clean Up/Earth Day * 30 New Member Party
May	June	July	August
7 Skull Island Retreat *to be rescheduled 11 Booty Council 18 General Mtg 21 Boater Safety Week* Blessing of the Fleet USCG Boat Inspection	4 Lighted Boat Parade in Ward Basin 8 Booty Council 15 General Meeting/Duck adoption paperwork and \$\$\$ due 18 WWSRE	4 Great Mill Town Duck Race*** 9 Blues Cruise 13 Booty Council 20 General Mtg- Membership Dues	6 Lighted Boat Parade 10 Booty Council 17 General Mtg 20 Destin Crawl ? Boater Safety Class
September	October	November	December
14 Booty Council 17 Upper River Clean Up * 21 General Mtg 24 History Lecture* (date change)	1 Skull Island Retreat (date chg) 12 Booty Council 15 Oktoberfest 19 General Mtg- New Captain Nominations 21/22 Ghost Walk	9 Booty Council 12 Blues Cruise 16 General Mtg – Vote for new Capt	2 Christmas Lighted Boat Parade 7 Budget Meeting 14 Caroling with the Pyrates 31 Red Solo Cup

*Core Mission Revised May 17, 2022 ***All Crew Participation





Thank you 2022 Sponsors

TITLE SPONSOR \$5000



Admiral Level Sponsors \$2500

Cat Country 98.7 (in-kind)

McKenzie Motors - Milton

Captain Level Sponsors \$1000

Milton Animal Hospital - Dr. Loper

Flow Control Plumbing – Jason & Tina Barnhill

Billy Clark Bail Bonds

A banner for "The Great Mill Town Duck Race". The text is written in a large, stylized, red cursive font. The background of the banner shows a large number of yellow rubber ducks floating in a body of water.



Thank you 2022 Sponsors

First Mate Level Sponsors \$500

Advance Insurance

Blackwater Bistro (in-kind)

Edward Jones - Financial Advisor: Derek R. Park, AAMS

Krewe of Airship Pirates (in-kind)

Meraki Solar - Larry Klajbor

Sonny's BBQ (in-kind)

Sorensen Rentals

Texas Roadhouse - Milton

Vinyl Planks 4 Less - Billy Yates

A large number of yellow rubber ducks are floating in a body of water, creating a dense field of ducks. The text 'The Great Mill Town Duck Race' is overlaid on the image in a large, stylized, red font.

*The
Great Mill Town
Duck Race*



Thank you 2022 Sponsors

Helmsman Level \$100

2 Gauge Marine & Trailer, LLC
3 Rivers Resource Conservation
& Development Council
Acuff ADR, LLC
All-Pro Tune Up
Angels Care Home Health
Annie Bel's Pet Services
Arrow Embroidery
Bailey Testing (\$200)
Blackwater Bay Tours – (\$200)
C&M Smith Mobile Notary
Coastal Canvas of Pensacola
Comprehensive Dental Center
Denniels Monogramming

Derrel's Sewing of Pensacola
Eagle Electric of Pensacola
Eddie English Trailer Repair
Edwards Pipe & Tobacco Shop
– Tampa
El Paso Restaurant
Emerald Coast Automotive
Eric Cabaniss – State Farm
Fish the Bite
Found It Homes
Fusion Fine Wine & Spirits
General Electric (\$200)
Gulf Coast Florida Beach
Weddings



*The
Great Mill Town
Duck Race*



Thank you 2022 Sponsors

Helmsman Level \$100

Gulf Coast Garage
Gulf Coast LED Lighting
Hanley's Warehouse
Hewes & Company
HBM – Milton
Howard Young Flooring
Jones Fence
Lakeside Ladies
Leek Small Engine
Ollies Neighborhood Grill
Oops Alley - Pace
Oscity Labs – Brewton
Mason's Restaurant
McCombs Electric Htg & A/C

Mike Ryan's Truck & Auto
Accessories
Milton Garden Club (\$300)
Muddy Paws – Grooming by
Haylee
Nick Cote's Transmission
Paradise Screen Printing
Pawpaw's Small Engine
Pensacola Bay Brewery
Primerica Financial Services
RM Integrations
Return to Health - Milton
Ritchey's Service Center
Riverwalk Hair Exhibit

The image shows a large number of yellow rubber ducks floating in a body of water. Overlaid on the image is the text 'The Great Mill Town Duck Race' in a large, stylized, red font with a white outline. The text is centered and occupies the lower half of the image.

*The
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Duck Race*



Thank you 2022 Sponsors

Helmsman Level \$100

Rollo's Seafood

Robert O. Beasley, P.A.

Service Matters Property Management

Team Hughes Real Estate School

Tidy Clean & Restoration LLC

Tops Appliance

Truly Spokin Bicycles

Waterworks Sprinkler Systems



*The
Great Mill Town
Duck Race*