

## **Fleet 15 Closes Out 2011 One Design Series with Picture Perfect Weekend**

**By Rich Payne**

Falling as it does in the heart of the Atlantic hurricane season, the Labor Day weekend Stingray Point Regatta is always something of a crap shoot in terms of the weather. For 2011 – a year in which the sailing season started with tornadoes and saw a visit from Hurricane Irene the weekend before Labor Day – the weather was virtually perfect: clear skies and steady, light to moderate wind all weekend. As I write this a week after the fact, the remnants of Tropical Storm Lee have created floods all along the eastern seaboard, while swells from Hurricane Katia (offshore) are producing dangerous rip currents up and down the coast. For Mike Karn and the organizers of the Stingray Point Regatta, timing is obviously everything.

For the 2011 edition of the regatta, six of the eight Fleet 15 boats participated, with only “Veloce” (currently in the process of changing ownership) and “Lucky Dog” (currently undergoing repairs) missing the event. Without question, the star of the regatta was “She Crab Soup,” skippered by co-owner Will Crump and steered by his wife Marie. The Crump syndicate posted an unblemished series of bullets for all five races sailed in the regatta. “Inevitable” was a clear second, with only a fourth place in race number 2 marring an unbroken series of second places. Fleet Captain David Clark took third place for the regatta in “Corryvreckan.”

The Stingray Point Regatta was also the “rubber match” in the Southern Bay J/105 One Design Series, and the results favored the boats that participated in all three regattas in the series. With a total of fourteen races sailed, the series sailing instructions allowed two throw-outs (not on the same race day). Mike Karn’s “Inevitable,” which held the lead going into the regatta, easily held on to first place. Strother Scott’s “Loose Cannon,” which also participated in all races sailed, took second. David Clark’s “Corryvreckan,” which missed Leukemia Cup, narrowly held off the hard charging “She Crab Soup” for third. Complete regatta results and final series standings can be found on the Results page of the website.