



The Officers, Directors and Members of
US SAILING
are pleased to present the
ARTHUR B. HANSON RESCUE MEDAL
to
Eddie Parker and Richard Schott

On September 12, 2015 a short-lived 60 knot microburst hit the first race of the Flying Scot Atlantic Coast Championship in a fleet of 23 at Blackbeard Sailing Club in New Burn, NC.

The Race Committee onboard a Sabreline 36 *Piccolo* quickly became the Incident Command Center, calling for additional rescue boats from shore, as well as directing the other race support boats on the water.

During the height of the storm, Eddie Parker and Richard Schott onboard a Mauntauik 17 performing safety boat duties came upon a crewman in the water with an older lifejacket with inadequate flotation who was exhausted and starting to go under. The crewman was not capable of swimming to the back of the powerboat, and was pulled aboard, then delivered to *Piccolo* while the skipper continued to work straightening out his boat.

A call informed Parker and Schott that a sailor was missing, but now had been spotted a great distance away from his boat and the racecourse, and they raced to that location. *Piccolo* had found the inflatable PFD clad sailor first, but their freeboard was too high to lift him aboard. Parker and Schott pulled the sailor aboard with their low freeboard after he had been nervously afloat for 20 minutes. This sailor was put back on his Flying Scot, only to become exhausted and recovered by another rescue boat. Placed aboard his boat again, only to achieve exhaustion again and was taken to shore the final time.

The third rescue encompassed picking up a sailor out of the water, giving them a short ride back to their boat. They were told to go check on others as they were able to get their sailboat sorted out.

The fourth rescue resulted in picking up a junior sailor out of the water from a turtled Flying Scot and delivering the junior to shore. Their life jacket was too large and not adequately supporting the junior. Later returning to sea to assist with others.

It was 2-1/2 hours before everyone was back ashore. This signaled the end of the regatta with no races run. It took two hours for the shore crew to complete the head count, with a sigh of relief and smiles all around. In the initial storm as boats turtled in 10' of water, their masts went into the mud and the 3'-4' waves on the hull pounded the mast deeper into the mud. Next the wind shifted 180-degrees making it almost impossible to extract the mast out of the bottom. There were no injuries, and the water was cleared of all hazards by the end of the following day.

For the rescuing the lives of four sailors pulled from the water, and assisting in clearing the waterway of navigation hazards, US Sailing is pleased to award the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal to Eddie Parker and Richard Schott.

Chuck Hawley, Chairman
US Sailing Safety at Sea Committee
By Direction

PRESENTATION

On January 9, 2015 at the Blackbeard Sailing Club in New Burn, NC, Joleen Rasmussen, SAYRA Race Management Chair, a US Sailing Club Judge and a US Sailing Race Officer made the presentation of the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medals on behalf of the US Sailing Safety at Sea Committee.

Club members were entranced during the storng telling, most of them had no idea the severity of what had taken place. The full presentation was nearly an hour long, and kept the audience. Joe Brake's story really set the stage well for the awards. People learned a lot during the ceremony.



Left to Right: Joleen Rasmussen, Eric Rasmussen, Robin Schaffer, Malcolm Shaffer, Ken Gurganus, Richard Schott, Eddy Parker, Mark Brennessoltz, Jeff Thomas, Skip Bynum, Jim Zahradkah, Clare Brock, Roger Brake, Joe Brake...and Sam the Dog.

NOMINATION

Date of Incident 09/12/2015

What was the nature of this Incident? Up to 60mph microburst capsized 23 of 20 boats in the Neuse River.

What Happened? Race 1, last leg of a WD2, Microburst formed, high wind, heavy rain. 20 boats capsized. Wind left as quickly as arrived. All sailboats boats in survival mode during the wind. 5 RC Motorboats at a standstill, nose to the wind, went into recovery mod as soon as winds abated. First, confirmed people in the water OK. Then started assisting with boat recovery. Shallow venue, turtle boats damaged masts. Additional motorboats from the community launched to assist with recovery. Shore personnel readied incoming boats. Sailors returned to the racing area to assist. Estimated duration form wind to last boat under tow, < 3 hrs.

Event Name Flying Scot Atlantic Coast Championship

Sponsoring Yacht Club Blackbeard Sailing Club

Event State NC

Event City New Bern

Body of Water Neuse River

Day or Night? Day

Air Temperature warm

Water Temperature warm

Wind Speed from 10-12 knots < 60mph is seconds

Wave Height 3-4'

Name Most racers

Boat Name several

Boat Length 18'

Boat Make & Model Flying Scot

What Position(s) was/were the victim working before they went in? Skipper & Crew

Was a PFD worn by the victim(s)? Yes

What recovery method was used (Quickstop, Reach Method, Figure 8, etc)? motor to the boat

Did the victim's boat lose sight of the victim? yes, in two cases

What search pattern was used? Visual, and the search area last known location

Was GPS or other electronic MOB function used to track or help locate the victim? No

How much time did the victims spend in the water? 20mins - 2 hrs

Did a Mayday call go out? in a way yes,

Who responded? Fairfield Harbor, Local residents

Nominator Name Joleen Rasmussen

Do you give permission to have this story published? Yes

Can you provide copies of articles published about this event? Yes

Eddy Parker	Richard Schott	Righted boat
Eddy Parker	Richard Schott	Brought the junior sailor on board, life jacket was too large and not adequately supporting sailor. Took Sully to shore, returned to continue to assist other boats.

Eddy Parker	Richard Schott	Older Extrasport lifejacket with inadequate floatation, pulled onto boat in height of storm as swimmer was exhausted and starting to go under. He was unable to even swim to the back of the boat because of exhaustion. Took Mike to Picollo. Dave continue to work on his boat.
Eddy Parker	Richard Schott	I picked someone up and gave them a short ride back their boat. They told me to go check on others as they were able to get their boat sorted
Eddy Parker	Richard Schott	Reported missing from his boat, Signal went to last known area, spotted Jack in the middle of the river, dispatched the Safety boat to collect Jack. Inflatable life jacket gave good floatation, but Jack could not maneuver with it on. We provided a Type 3 when he got back to boat. Assisted in attempting to right the boat.
Eddy Parker	Boat Owner	Returned Sunday AM assist with recovering masts out of the water.