

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

ROCKET J

for the rescue as follows:

On October 27, 2001 at a Pamlico Sailing Club race on the Pamlico River in Washington, NC in 20 knots of shifty wind, a junior sailor aboard Glenn Howell's J/30 was struck with the boom at the leeward mark and swept overboard. At the time of the incident, Howell's J/30 was flying a spinnaker and leading the race. Six boat-lengths behind in second place was the sharp eyed crew of Rocket J who, in spite of just recovering from a spreader-dousing knock down, spied the junior sailor in the water.

The victim was noted to be conscious and bleeding from the face, but floating well in the water, due to his PFD. As Howell's J/30 attempted to douse it's spinnaker, Rocket-J deftly dropped main and spinnaker while starting its auxiliary, and deployed its Lifesling in a classic ski-boat style pick up. There was considerable traffic due to the proximity of the racing mark, while Rocket J abandoned it's now first place position in the race, and swooped in to pull the victim from the water, all in less than five minutes time.

The victim suffered from a significant facial laceration and a fractured thumb. Rocket J treated the facial laceration with a compress and placed a splint on the sailor's thumb. Then returned the victim back to his boat that was standing by.

Congratulations to Randy Boyles, Neal Craven, Paul Baumbach, Keith Sparks, Tom Hughes, and Mike Hession for their quick recovery and administering first aid to an injured sailor. US SAILING is pleased to present the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal in recognition of this event.

Ronald C. Trossbach
Chairman, Safety at Sea Committee
By Direction

On November 16, 2002, Dr. Joseph M. James, Past Area D Director of US SAILING presented the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal to "Rocket J" in the town of Eastern, NC, at the Washington Yacht and Country Club for races Rocket J competed in with the Pamlico Sailing Club.

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Left to Right:

Dr. Joseph James, Randy Boyles (skipper), Neal Craven (foredeck), Tom Hughes (trimmer), Keith Sparks (trimmer), Mike Hession (Main Trim and Tactician), and Paul Baumbach (mast and pit).

DETAILS:

Nominators Name: Gregory Miller
Event Name: Pamlico Sailing Club Spring Series
Sponsoring Yacht Club: Pamlico Sailing Club
Event City: Washington
Event State: NC
Body of Water: Pamlico River
Rescuing Skipper 1: Randy Boyles
Rescuing Boat Make Model: J/30
Rescuing Boat Name: Rocket J
Rescuing Boat Length: 30
Was any injury sustained by the victim: y
Can your story be published: y
Can you provide articles about this event: y
Was a PFD worn: Y
What position was the victim working before they went in: midboat
Was this day or night: day
Was the victim able to help in the recovery: y
Was a Lifesling aboard: y
Was it used: y
What happened:

This event occurred this past weekend, October 27th. A minor crewmember aboard Glen Howell's J/30 "White J/30" was struck with the boom during a fearsome windshift at the leeward mark. Racing in 20kt breezes with some tricky shifts, Howell's J/30 approached the mark directly ahead (10 bl) of Rocket J. The blow threw the crewman directly overboard. He was noted to be conscious and bleeding from the face, but floating well in the water, thanks to his PFD. Howell's J/30 immediately took down it's chute and turned to recover it's crewman, who had already been reached and aided by Rocket J. The rescue was complicated by the high winds, near-mark condition in traffic, and the injuries sustained by the victim, which included a significant facial lac and an obviously fractured thumb. No mayday was sent in this instance, and rescue was performed in less than 5 minutes.
How did the victim get hoisted onto the deck: Brute force.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

In the most recent incident, the victim was pulled from the water by the J/30 Rocket J, a splint applied to the fractured thumb, a compress applied to the facial laceration, and the victim was then returned to the "No-name" J/30 from which he was lost.