



The Officers, Directors and Members of  
US SAILING  
**are pleased to present the**  
ARTHUR B. HANSON RESCUE MEDAL  
to  
LARRY GOOLSBY  
**for the rescue as follows:**

During the April 25, 2015 Fairhope Yacht Club Dauphin Island Race in Mobile Bay, AL, a storm moved in with near hurricane force winds.

Team 4G, a Catalina 22, owned and skippered by Larry Goolsby, was making way to the finish line of the Dauphin Island Regatta when they were overtaken by the oncoming storm. While trying to recover from a broach a 40 foot boat slammed into them driving over the top of the Team 4G driving the rig down and underneath the water. Team 4G began to sink.

Crew members Rob Eaves and Tony Cellamare jumped clear just prior to impact. Goolsby remained onboard, grabbed the port lifelines of the larger boat and managed to climb aboard. With his fellow crew calling for help, and the distance separating them quickly, Goolsby jumped back into the water with a life ring to help his fellow crew Rob Eaves and Tony Cellamare calling for them to swim towards one another. Team 4G had sunk below the surface.

All three now clung to the life ring, as the only flotation the three had.

The 40 foot sailboat sailed off, did not offer any additional assistance, did not make radio calls for help, and has not been identified since.

A 39 foot O'Day named Light O Mobile and skippered by Ed Cornell spotted the crew of Team 4G in the water who were waving frantically. Light O Mobile brought Larry Goolsby, Tony Cellamare, and Rob Eaves safely aboard.

For the selfless act of re-entering storm waters to go to the assistance of his fellow crew to provide floatation, US Sailing is pleased to award the Arthur B. Hanson Medal to Larry Goolsby.

Chuck Hawley  
Chairman, Safety at Sea Committee  
By Direction

## PRESENTATION

On August 29, 2015, the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal was presented at the Rome Sailing Club in Leesburg, AL by US Sailing Past Board Member Means Davis.



Left to Right: Mobile Bay Yacht Club Commodore Steve Zito, Larry Goolsby, Ted McGee, Means Davis. Photo Credit Rich Fox



Left to Right: Dennis Slaton (Catalina 22 National Sailing Association), Means Davis, Steve Zito, Larry Goolsby, Barre Dumas, Dora McGee, Ted McGee, Rich Fox. Photo Credit Mickey Richardson



Left to right: Mickey Richardson (2/23/2022 Hanson Recipient), Larry Goolsby, Barre Dumas, Dora McGee (4/4/2004 Hanson Recipient).

REPORT 8/31/2015 by Nominator Ted McGee

On Saturday August 29, 2015 approximately 101 sailors gathered at Rome Sailing Club in Leesburg, AL to honor two recipients of the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal. The medal was being presented for actions taken by the crew of Light O Mobile and the actions of Larry Goolsby, skipper of 4G, which led to the eventual rescue of the crew of the Catalina 22, 4G, which was run over and sunk during the Dauphin Island Regatta on April 25, 2015.

Barre Dumas received the award on behalf of the skipper and crew of Light O Mobile. Light O Mobile was the rescuing boat. Larry Goolsby was also honored with the award. Larry was the skipper of 4G, the boat that sunk. It was Larry's actions that got floatation to his crew and kept them afloat until Light O Mobile arrived on the scene. Means Davis, representing US Sailing, presented the awards to Barre Dumas and Larry Goolsby.

In addition to the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal the crew of Light O Mobile received a plaque and certificates of appreciation from the Catalina 22 National Sailing Association. Larry Goolsby received the association's Sandy Kennedy Spirit Award. Ted McGee, representing the Catalina 22 National Sailing Association, presented these two awards.

Honored guests at the ceremony included the following:

Representing Light O Mobile

Barre Dumas - accepting on behalf of the entire crew

Representing 4G

Larry Goolsby  
Rob Eaves  
Tony Cellamare

Representing US Sailing

Means Davis, past member of the Board of Directors of US Sailing and International Judge

Representing Mobile Yacht Club

Stephen Zito, Commodore Mobile Yacht Club  
Christi Zito

Representing the Rome Sailing Club Governing Board

Tom Long, Vice Commodore  
Randy Rutledge, Purser  
Mary Segars, Yeoman  
Nobert Falk, Dockmaster  
Marvin Czentar, Parliamentarian  
Buzz Cole, Member at Large

Representing the Catalina 22 National Sailing Association Governing Board

Ted McGee, Past Commodore and Webmaster  
Rich Fox, Past Commodore and MainBrace Editor  
Dora McGee, Secretary/Treasurer  
Dennis Slaton, Class Measurer

Also in attendance were two members of the Catalina 22 National Sailing Association who have received the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal in the past, Mickey Richardson and Dora McGee.

Rome Sailing Club hosted a dinner following the ceremony in their new facility. Many thanks to Rome Sailing Club for their hospitality and generosity during this event.

## **NOMINATION**

Date of Incident 4/25/2015

What was the nature of this Incident? Rescue at sea

What Happened? "This incident occurred during the April 25, 2015 Dauphine Island Regatta held in Mobile Bay, Alabama. During the race a storm moved in with near hurricane force winds. A storm of this strength had not been predicted and it wreaked havoc among the fleet. Several boats sustained damage and a few sunk. Six sailors lost their lives.

As this story unfolds Team 4G, a Catalina 22 owned and skippered by Larry Goolsby, is making for the finish line of the Dauphin Island Regatta when they were overtaken by the oncoming storm. The storm had moved in fast with little warning. The first blast of air broached their boat but they managed to get it on its feet. While trying to recover from a second broach a larger 40 foot boat slammed into them. The larger, heavier boat drove over the top of the Team 4G driving the rig down and underneath the water. Team 4G begun to sink immediately.

Crew members Rob Eaves and Tony Cellamare jumped clear just prior to impact. Skipper Larry Goolsby remained onboard, grabbed the port lifelines of the larger boat and managed to climb aboard.

Crew members Rob Eaves and Tony Cellamare were yelling to the crew of the larger to drop the ladder and throw a life ring. Someone on the larger boat did throw a life ring and Larry Goolsby got to the ladder and helped lower it. Larry Goolsby also attempted to throw a rope to his crew in the water, however; the larger boat was still sailing and the speed the larger boat was moving caused the separation to increase rapidly.

This is where the first rescue attempt occurs. Larry Goolsby has the heart of a lion coupled with an immense love for his crew. Without a second thought Larry jumped back into the water and swimming to his boat he yelled at his crew to swim to him and remain with the boat until help came. Unfortunately, with the holes in the deck from the larger boat the Team 4G boat sank within seconds.

What happened next is unimaginable. The larger boat sailed away, leaving three men clinging to a life ring in the middle of the storm with nothing but open water before them. The storm's approach and the incidents that occurred between the Team 4G boat and the larger boat happened quickly. No one had time to put on life jackets.

It could be argued that the larger boat was herself in distress and unable to lend aid. That argument falls apart in light of the fact that she made no attempt to hail a distress call nor report the incident and approximate location of the Team 4G crew when she returned to port. At the time of this writing the identity of the larger boat is unknown. Essentially, the larger boat left the crew of Team 4G to perish.

Larry Goolsby made an unselfish decision to leave the safety of the larger boat and stay with his crew. Had he opted to stay with the larger boat his crew would have been left to fend for themselves in the open water. Their chance of ultimately being rescued would have diminished greatly.

As the three men clung to the life ring discussing options another boat appeared. The boat was a 39 foot O'Day named Light O Mobile and skippered by Ed Cornell. Light O Mobile had finished the regatta and was headed home when they spotted the crew of Team 4G in the water waving frantically. At this time the storm is still in force but Ed Cornell directed his crew as he brought the boat in for the rescue. No easy task as they were also fighting wind and waves. One of their sails was shredded during the rescue but they managed to get close enough to bring Larry Goolsby, Tony Cellamare, and Rob Eaves aboard.

The crew of Light O Mobile, skippered by Eddie Cornell, is to be recognized and commended for their actions on Saturday, April 25, 2015. It was their effort that ultimately pulled three men to safety.

On behalf of the Catalina 22 National Sailing Association, the governing board would like to nominate Eddie Cornell, skipper of Light O Mobile for the Arthur B Hanson Rescue Medal. His crew consisted of Barre Dumas, Clark Dumas, Pat McPhillips, Robert Rasp, Richard Mather, Paul Toler, and James Dennis.

We would also like to nominate Larry Goolsby, skipper of 4G, whose efforts certainly contributed to the safety and likelihood his crew would be rescued. Although Larry had reached safety he re-entered the water to see to the safety of his crew.

The efforts of Light O Mobile ensured the safe return of three members of the Catalina 22 National Sailing Association family. For this, we will ever be grateful.

Event Name Dauphine Island Regatta  
Sponsoring Yacht Club Fairhope Yacht Club  
Event State Alabama  
Event City Fairhope  
Body of Water Mobile Bay

Day Day  
Air Temperature 75  
Water Temperature 70  
Wind Speed Winds up to 70 MPH  
Wave Height 4 feet, occasionally larger

Name (First) Larry  
Name (Last) Goolsby  
Boat Name 4G  
Boat Length 22  
Boat Make & Model Catalina 22

Name (First) Anthony  
Name (Last) Cellamare  
Boat Name 4G  
Boat Length 22

Boat Make & Model Catalina 22  
Name (First) Rob  
Name (Last) Eaves  
Boat Name 4G  
Boat Length 22

Boat Make & Model Catalina 22

What Position(s) was/were the victim working before they went in? "Larry Goolsby, going forward to secure sails Rob Eaves, trimming sails Tony Cellamare, helm"

PFD? No

Skipper's Name (First) Eddie

Skipper's Name (Last) Cornell

Boat Make & Model O'Day 39 sailboat

Crew's Names and function each performed in the rescue: "Barre Dumas

Clark Dumas

Pat McPhillips

Robert Rasp

Richard Mather

Paul Toler

James Dennis"

Boat Name Light O Mobile

Boat Length 39

Skipper's Address (State / Province) Alabama

What recovery method was used (Quickstop, Reach Method, Figure 8, etc)? The rescue boat was not the victim boat, it happened on the scene

Did the victim's boat lose sight of the victim? yes, it sunk

What search pattern was used? none

Where there any difficulties with the electronic locator?

Did the victim have a strobe light, a light or whistle? No

In what way? The three victims were able to signal the rescue boat by waving arms and yelling. They were able to board the rescue boat on their own.

How did the victim get hoisted from the water level up onto the deck? Boarding ladder

What type (hypothermia included)? No

How much time did the victim spend in the water? approximately 1 hour.

Did a Mayday call go out? No

Who responded? No One  
Nominator Name (First) Ted  
Name (Last) McGee