

The Officers, Directors and Members of

US SAILING

are pleased to present the

ARTHUR B. HANSON RESCUE MEDAL

to the rescuing crew of

KODIAK

FOR THE RESCUE AS FOLLOWS:

It was about 3 in the morning and Kodiak, a Frers 66 was crossing the Gulf Stream. Ken Read was at the helm and one of his closest friends since childhood- Brad Dimeo-- was trimming the Genoa. It was only blowing 8 knots or so but there had been rain squalls all night and there were abnormally large waves coming from all directions. Kodiak was cracking the sheets slowly and decided to go to an outboard Genoa lead. Brad went to leeward with the short sheet and began to hook it on when a wave lifted the boat abruptly and pushed it to leeward—oddly taking the wind out of the jib for a split second and allowing for a slack Genoa sheet to just get under Brad's left leg. The Genoa violently filled as the wave passed tightening the sheet under Brad's leg and literally tossed him over the side.

The crew had practiced the "quick stop" man over board procedure prior to the race and fortunately had talented people in the key positions. The call "man overboard" went out immediately. Navigator Dan Dyer hit the GPS down below. Mainsail trimmer Tom Scott had a powerful flashlight in his hand and kept it on Brad the entire time. stuffed the boat head to wind backing the jib. Mark Lyons the bowman literally sprinted for the Genoa halyard and dropped the backed headsail to the deck with assist from the rest of the bow team.

Read circled around to the right with the light beam on Brad, jibed then came head to wind and about 5 guys pulled him out of the water as we inched along side head to wind under main only.

The Genoa went back up and off Kodiak went. still had the short sheet in his hand so Read broke the tension by asking him if he was just going to stand there or if he was going to get the short sheet on!

All in all, in this case the quick stop was absolutely the right method for retrieving Brad. The entire team on the boat was up to the task and Read accepted the award on behalf of owner Lloyd Ecclestone and the entire "Kodiak" crew.

**The Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal was awarded to the crew of
Kodiak for this rescue event.**

