



Notice of Race: NIMBY XXI

June 23 – 25, 2017 – Port St. Joe, FL

NIMBY XXI, the 21st Annual "Not In My Back Yard" Road Trip Regatta, is scheduled for Friday, June 23 – Sunday, June 25, 2017. We are now in our twenty first year of taking the Shell Point windsurfing "show" on the road to different venues. This year, we're going back to the site of NIMBY XI – Port St. Joe, FL. We are also returning to the same accommodations as before – the Port Inn. The Port Inn is located across the street from a waterfront park, so this is a venue that you can walk to the rigging site, and walk or bike almost everywhere – to restaurants, bars, stores, etc. Many of the "old-timers" will remember the last NIMBY that was held there, with many daytime and evening activities for everyone within a short distance of the motel. We extend a special invitation to our sailing friends from the Florida Panhandle and to those in the Atlanta, Charleston, and Florida East Coast areas to join us at this year's NIMBY. For this event we will return to the location of one of our most memorable past events, and as usual there will be plenty for the non-sailors and kids to do.

Registration

The NIMBY regatta has always been designed to be enjoyable for racers and non-racers alike, with a "No Class" offered along with the traditional racing classes. The registration fee will again be the usual \$20, and will include happy hour beverages and a pre-supper party on Saturday, trophies, and an item of some sort with the NIMBY logo. We do ask that everyone who participates in any of the NIMBY activities register for the event to help defray expenses. A registration form is separate from this notice – please print and fill it out and bring it to the event with your payment (there is no early registration required).

Venue

Port St. Joe is about 100 miles southwest of Tallahassee, or about 2 - 2.5 hours driving time. Directions for this one are relatively easy. Take US-319 from Tallahassee south through Crawfordville, and continue to US 98. Take US-98 west through Carrabelle and Appalachicola until you reach Port St. Joe. The Port Inn is on the north side of US-98 near downtown. If you are bringing a boat you can launch at the Port St. Joe Marina, which is about four blocks further on 98 (see below).

Motel

The host hotel is the Port Inn right on US-98 (Monument Avenue). This is a restored motel with about 40 unique rooms, a small pool, and a great little bar (the Thirsty Goat). There is a county park with a boat ramp right across the street from the motel, with a sandy bay beach for launching windsurfers. We'll run the windsurfing event from the park and sail just offshore. Four blocks away is a very nice marina for folks who want to bring their boats. For non-sailors, shops and restaurants are within easy walking distance of the motel, mostly centered on Reid Avenue. Again, just park your car and walk or bike to most everything. There are numerous restaurants, shops, and bars about 5 minutes away. Kayaks and paddleboards can be launched from the waterfront park across US-98 from the motel.

For the event, I have reserved 14 rooms. Each room is unique with different pricing, varying in price from \$120 upward for a double room. They are giving us a 10% discount off the room rates, which is quite generous since we're booking right in the middle of their "high season". I have attached under separate cover two additional documents regarding the rooms at the Port Inn. The first is a list of rooms, number of each type, and a brief description of the rooms. In the furthest column are listed the rates for the dates we are interested in. Please keep in mind this rate does not include the 10% discount we will be getting. The second document shows the rooms that I have reserved for us. In order to access this block, you will need to call the hotel directly and make the desk staff aware that you are part of the NIMBY windsurfing regatta group.

The rooms will be held for about two weeks, releasing on April 28, 2017. I strongly suggest that you call now and mention the "NIMBY Windsurfing Regatta" on June 23 - 24 for best rates and availability. Note that we get these rates by promising that a certain number of rooms will be rented, so please register at the Port Inn. Any unused rooms will still be open to be booked by our group if needed but will not be secured for you specifically. Any late reservations can be added to the block to receive a discount. Go to the Port Inn web site for full details on the motel and rooms: <http://www.portinnfl.com/>

Boat Launching and Dockage

I encourage folks to bring powerboats to this event, since we will be touring the St. Joseph Peninsula on Friday as well as following the racers in the bay on Saturday. For those bringing boats, there is a reasonably safe overnight anchorage right off the park, also the location of the boat ramp. Better yet, reserve a slip at the Port St. Joe Marina (see contact information, below). You can also choose to launch and pull out each night, and store your boat in the motel parking lot. Kayaks and canoes are another option for non-sailors who want to explore the shoreline near the motel. The Port St. Joe Marina web site is: <http://www.psjmarina.com/>

Schedule of Events

The schedule and format will be similar to past NIMBYs. A yachting trip in powerboats to the St. Joseph's Peninsula across St. Joe Bay will kick off the weekend on Friday at noon (meet at the Port St. Joe Marina store). Registration and a welcome happy hour will be held at the motel around the pool early Friday evening. Friday happy hour is BYOB; participants are encouraged to bring an hors d'oeuvre to share. Friday evening supper and entertainment will follow in a venue to be announced. Racing will commence on Saturday morning at the waterside park across the street from the Port Inn, followed by another happy hour with the traditional "mystery hunch-punch" and supper on Saturday evening. Those who want to hit the town can certainly do so after supper. Sunday will see more racing if the participants desire, followed by the trophy presentation in early afternoon.

Racing

As far as the racing is concerned, we'll be racing off the beach in the park across the street from the motel. The waters in St. Joseph Bay can range from flat to quite choppy, depending on the wind speed and direction. The courses will be well-marked. There is some small boat traffic crossing the course, but we will avoid any unnecessary contact with large craft. There will be no offshore sailing, and several chase boats will be at the ready for rest or rescues. We plan to run races for longboards, hybrids, and Kona boards if there is at least 5 knots of wind, adding Formula boards if we reach 8 knots and there is sufficient participation. The courses will be designed to suit the racers, but may include some non-standard configurations which will be challenging but fun.

In the tradition of the NIMBY, we will be continuing a long-standing tradition of featuring one or more long distance races on Saturday. We'll start at the park beach and sail a long distance course to a point on the St. Joseph's Peninsula on the other side of the eponymous bay. Depending on the wind direction, we will either reverse the course for the return trip or set a new course back to the launch site. Non-sailors can ask the various chase boat skippers for a ride to the finish line (space available), where we will provide refreshments to the racers during a rest break before the race back. It can blow from 5 to 15+ knots depending upon the sea breeze – sailors might want to bring a variety of equipment to be able to adapt to the conditions. Classes will be determined based upon registrants at the event, but we usually have Longboard and Sport fleets, and we'll add Formula and/or Kona if there is sufficient participation (along with the now legendary "No-Class").

More Information

For more details or questions, contact me at wfinney@fsu.edu. Don't delay – reserve your room at the Port Inn now, and thanks for supporting our annual out-of-town road trip weekend, **NIMBY XXI**.