



Press Release

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Title: Full Moon brings together full hearts for Sailing Heals at Rybovich Superyacht Marina

Rain and wind didn't stop dozens of supporters from pouring into the bright and cheerful M/Y Café at Rybovich Super Yacht Marina on March 20 for the second annual cocktail party to benefit Sailing Heals. A non-profit that hosts cancer patients and caregivers for complimentary sea side lunches and healing sails on privately-owned yachts, Sailing Heals has hosted more than 3600 patient guests since launching in 2011.

Marzia Precoda, Pamela O'Connor and **George "Laddy" Merck** hosted the colorful event, where dozens of guests enjoyed lively music, scrumptious food and games dockside, surrounded by beautiful mega-yachts, lined up under an ethereal full moon that announced the arrival of Spring.

Brightly attired guests included **Betsy and Wally Turner, Elizabeth Leatherman, Karen Klopp, Edwina Sandys, Bruce Helander, Cheryl Gowdy, Vicky Halmos, Bruce Sutka**--and dozens of other generous supporters. Some even spontaneously shared their own moving testimonials about the incredible healing powers of the sea, and what the beauty of the Sailing Heals mission means to them. National Sailing Heals Director **Trisha Gallagher Boisvert, Dr. Augustin Schwartz** of *Florida Cancer Specialists* and long-time host captain **Mr. Robert Snyder** of Delray Beach, FL and Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, MA, also shared moving insights about how the organization benefits patients, caregivers and participating host captains.

Auction items featured major paintings and sculpture by several artists, including **Edwina Sandys** and **Raul Vega**. An auction donation by **Dhardra** and **Eric Blake**, owners of the vintage yacht *Kingfisher*, jewelry and wine by the *Boisset Collection* and gift bag donations by *Sequin Jewelry*, were among the many highlights of the evening. (A few artists and auction donors have generously agreed to sell additional items to further benefit Sailing Heals. More info. at www.sailingheals.org or by calling 978-914-6609.) Thanks to these annual events, and the generous support of Sailing Heals's donors and host captains, the organization hopes to expand its services in the greater Palm Beach area.

About Sailing Heals

Sailing Heals is a 501(c)(3) organization which offers enjoyable sailing experiences to VIP patient guests, their caretakers and staff who would benefit from a memorable and healing day on the water. Established in Marblehead, MA, its mission is to give people in need an "escape for a spirit-lifting day at sea." Its second aim is to bring the great sport of sailing and the healing properties of the sea to people who might not ordinarily be exposed to its benefits; and its third aim is to be the charity of choice for sailing and boating enthusiasts who are keen to give back to others and share their beloved sport. Sailing Heals is supported by generous donors and sponsors, Eisai Pharmaceuticals, an active board of directors, over 250 host captains and hundreds of donors and volunteers. For more information, visit www.sailingheals.org.