



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Marine Industries Association of South Florida's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Plywood Regatta a Splashing Success!**

**FORT LAUDERDALE, FL (April 29, 2009)** – The Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF) is celebrating the results of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Plywood Regatta held April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> at the Dania Beach City Marina parking lot which raised over \$7,000 for the Plywood Regatta Scholarship Fund and marine industry education programs in South Florida. Nearly 300 students on 36 teams of middle school, high school and marine technical school students battled the clock to build boats made of three sheets of plywood, tie wraps and 3M 5200 Fast-Cure marine caulk on Saturday. On Sunday, they then competed against each other for the Fort Lauderdale Mariners Club Trophy in a series of races in Whiskey Creek.

Official results from the races are as follows:

**Overall Champion (Determined by a final race between the three division winners)**

<i>Team Name</i>	<i>School/Organization</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Place: <i>Skull Kandy</i>	– South Broward High School	- 3M
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place: <i>Demon Goldfish VII</i>	– Frank & Jimmie's	– Frank & Jimmie's Propeller Shop
<i>Team Warrior from the Advanced Division was disqualified for not wearing life jackets</i>		

**Junior Division (Middle School Students)**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *Demon Goldfish VII* – Frank & Jimmie's – Frank & Jimmie's Propeller Shop  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *Cat Attack* – Admirals Boys & Girls Club – Florida Marlins Community Foundation  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: *Liquid Threat* – New River Middle School – National Liquidators

**Intermediate Division (High School Students)**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *Skull Kandy* – South Broward High School - 3M  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *Spruance 3* – Fort Lauderdale Sea Cadets – Houck Anderson  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: *Flying Ballyhoo* - Plantation High School - Interlux

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### Advanced Division (Marine Technical School and College Students)

1<sup>st</sup> Place: *Warrior* – Riviera Beach Maritime Academy – Baldwin Yachts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: *Black Pearl* – Boy Scouts venture Crew 941 – Thomas Marine Systems

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: *Untouchables* – Broward College – Bluewater Chairs

### Special Award Categories

Most Spirited Team: *15 Hands on Deck* – South Broward High School – Lazzara Yachts

Best Decorated Boat: *Black Pearl* – Boy Scouts Venture Crew 941 – Thomas Marine Systems

Most Innovative Design: *Cat Attack* – Admirals Boys & Girls Club –Florida Marlins Community Foundation

Courage and Perseverance: *The Beast* – McFatter Technical High School – Antibes Yachtwear

Yacht Broker's Award (for the one that sinks...those who can't build, sell!): *The Unexpected*

South Broward High School – Edd Helms Marine Air Conditioning & Refrigeration

Seafarer Marine Best Overall Team Award: *Skull Kandy* – South Broward High School sponsored by 3M

Organizations participating in this year's event are the MIASF Marine Magnet Partners: McFatter Technical High School, McFatter Technical Center, New River Middle School, and South Broward High School. Other participants include: Admirals Boys and Girls Club Marine Academy, Boy Scouts Venture Crew 941, Broward College, Cardinal Gibbons High School, Coral Glades High School, Florida Gulf Coast University, Florida Ocean Sciences Institute, Fort Lauderdale Sea Cadets, Frank & Jimmie's Propeller Shop, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, North Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce, Plantation High School, Riviera Beach Maritime Academy, South Plantation High School and Stranahan High School.

“What a great year for the MIASF Plywood Regatta! Even in these tough economic times, so many companies showed their support both in supply donations and financial contributions that we were able to raise over \$7,000 for the Plywood Regatta Scholarship Fund. This allowed us to award nine scholarships totaling over \$5,000 instead of just one this year, which is a new record,” said Melanie Daily, MIASF Public Relations & Events Coordinator. The remaining monies will help MIASF to support South Florida marine industry education programs throughout the coming year.

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The Interlux Yacht Finishes \$1,000 scholarship was awarded to Christian Secord of McFatter High School and the Admirals Boys & Girls Club Marine Academy. Christian plans to study marine engineering and hopes to one day open his own engine repair shop. The Advanced Mechanical Enterprises \$750 scholarship was awarded to Joseph Miller of South Broward High School who is studying to become a marine technician and also hopes to open his own marine mechanic shop. Thiago De Araujo of Broward College earned a \$600 scholarship and though he currently works at Pipewelders, he plans to open and manage a small watercraft manufacturing facility of his own. Two \$500 scholarships were awarded to two Broward College students; Jason Tran who aspires to be a marine engineer and Christopher Eisele who plans to service and repair megayachts, primarily dealing with diesel and electrical applications. Three \$250 scholarships were awarded to Vincent Marski, Joseph Kipnis, Ramiro Blanco of Broward College, who all want to be yacht engineers & captains. The scholarship fund also renewed a \$1,000 scholarship for Emma Brown, who graduated last year from South Broward High School. Emma is studying marine sciences at Florida Gulf Coast University and works summers with NautiCom Communications.

“Each year, more of the kids involved in Plywood Regatta are continuing their marine-related education and beginning to enter marine industry career paths. It’s an encouraging trend tantamount to the goals of this event and MIASF is pleased to be able to help support our industry’s future workforce through the scholarships provided through the Plywood Regatta Scholarship Fund. It’s good to see that the process is working,” Daily concluded.

MIASF Director of Association Services Gordon Connell explains that, “We are very pleased by the enthusiastic level of support from our Association members and sponsors for Plywood Regatta. Whether their participation comes through supply donations, financial contributions or volunteering during the weekend, the response is overwhelming and is greatly appreciated.”

**Supply Donors** to this year’s Regatta are Seafarer Marine, 3M, Interlux Yacht Finishes, Gold Coast Marine Distributors, Ward’s Marine Electric, Atlantic Marine Power Systems and West Marine. **Major Sponsors** include Trophy Sponsor Fort Lauderdale Mariners Club and First Mate Sponsor Houck Anderson and Host Sponsor City of Dania Beach.

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**Supporting Sponsors** include Advanced Mechanical Enterprises, AGYG/Outer Reef Yachts, Antibes Yachtwear, Baldwin Yacht Services, Bluewater Chairs, Bradford Marine, Edd Helms Marine Air Conditioning & Refrigeration, Espresso Coffee, Florida Engineering Society, Florida Marlins Community Foundation, Frank & Jimmie's Propeller Shop, Hall of Fame Marina, International Maritime Associates, Kappa Sigma Fraternity at Nova Southeastern University, Kiwi Fiberglass, Lauderdale Marine Center, Lazzara Yachts, Lewis Marine Supply, Muston Group International, National Beverage Corporation, National Liquidators, North Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce, Ocean LED, Ocean Medical International, Principal Financial Group, Riverside Park Residents' Association, SEI Communications, TGL Environmental Inc., Thomas Marine Systems, Troy Industries, Windward Associates, Yacht Entertainment Systems.

The Marine Industries Association of South Florida is a not-for-profit trade organization created to promote and protect the sound growth of the marine industry in south Florida for the benefit and education of its members, the community and the environment. The Association has 800 members in Broward, Miami-Dade and Palm Beach Counties and is the owner of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show.

For more information about the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Plywood Regatta or the MIASF, visit [www.plywoodregatta.org](http://www.plywoodregatta.org), [www.miasf.org](http://www.miasf.org), or contact Public Relations and Event Coordinator Melanie Daily at (954) 524-2733. **Pictures are available.**

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