



For Immediate Release

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The Great Provincetown Schooner Regatta Adds The Cape Cod Catboat Race For the MacMillan Cup

Provincetown, MA (February 2, 2010) – Commodore Charlotte Walker and the Board of Governors for The Great Provincetown Schooner Regatta are proud to announce the dates for the 2010 event and the addition of the *Cape Cod Catboat Race for the MacMillan Cup*, celebrating Provincetown born explorer, sailor, researcher and lecturer, Donald Baxter MacMillan, who made over 30 expeditions to the Arctic during his 46-year career.

The Regatta will be held September 3rd through September 11th, 2010. The One Design Rhodes 19 Fishermen's Series will kick-off the Regatta week, followed by the Challenge for the Fishermen's Cup on September 7th, 2010, a Schooner-only race from Gloucester to Provincetown. "We are adding the Cape Cod Catboat race this year in keeping with our mission to celebrate historic vessels that were important in our maritime culture and history," said Commodore Walker. The Cape Cod Catboat race for the MacMillan Cup will take place on September 9th and will be followed by tours and talks about the history of Schooners and Catboats in our region on September 10th. A Parade of Sail will also take place on the 10th and visitors are encouraged to come aboard these historic vessels and learn, first hand, what its like to live and sail aboard them. On September 11th all vessels are welcome to race in the Long Point Schooner & Yacht Race. This multi-class handicapped race provides another opportunity for Schooners and Catboats to race again and for modern sailing yachts to race a long side them.

"Catboats played a significant role in our maritime culture. They were the work horses of the harbor," said Commodore Walker. With their shallow draft and wide beam, catboats could get into docks and beaches with a full load of cargo without running aground. They often helped transport goods between fishing and cargo Schooners as well. "Nearly every harbor on Cape Cod had its own Catboat design at one time, or had a unique boat derived from the Catboat that was built for a harbor's conditions or topography. It is very fitting that we have added an event especially for them", said Walker.

About The Great Provincetown Schooner Regatta

The Regatta is like no other competitive sailing event on Cape Cod, combining competitive events for historic as well as modern vessels including one-design competitions. Taking place in the picturesque and historic Provincetown Harbor, which was once the leading fishing port on Cape Cod, the town and harbor provides a context that reinforces the links between our local maritime history, fishing vessels, sailing, the great resources of our region, our culture and our economy. Working in tandem with cultural and research institutions in Provincetown and Cape Cod, we educate the public about the schooner races held off the New England coast from 1886 to 1938, and commemorate Provincetown's 1907 Lipton Cup victory. The Regatta shares the

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story of Provincetown's place in the traditional fishing industry as well as educates the younger generations about the days of Cape Cod's past. The Regatta will take place from September 3rd to 11th, 2010.