The Sails Are In
Buckalot Team Wins 35th Annual Reef Cup

By Holly Houser, Ocean Reef Press Editorial Assistant

If you've participated in Reef Cup over the years, Buckalot is a name you've likely heard many times. Mike Levy and his crew, this year fishing on the boat Sweet Release, is the winning-most team Reef Cup has seen over its 35-year history. Since its debut with the Levy Family in 1987, Buckalot has recorded four total championships. Mr. Levy credits his “great crews, great captains and great mates” with his wins saying, “They tend to make us anglers look good.”

Levy says this year’s tournament was extra special for a number of reasons. Mr. Levy was just 19 years old when he fished in his first Reef Cup and he hasn't missed a tournament since. But this year he sold Buckalot, which meant finding a new way to participate. Benson Ford, owner of Sweet Release, kindly offered his boat to Levy and his crew to fish the tournament. This was a special moment as just five years ago, Sweet Release and Buckalot fought for first and second place, with Sweet Release, captained by Levy's longtime friend Chris White, coming out on top.

Sweet Release/Buckalot wins the 35th Annual Reef Cup, giving Mike Levy his fourth trophy.

The Buckalot team fished on Sweet Release this year.

Past Reef Cup winner John Harper wins the 2020 Top Angler award.

Vine to Table Dinner:
WORLDLY PORTFOLIO
Tuesday, February 4
6:30 p.m. • CH Prime Vineyard Brands Joined by Chef Christine Cikowski

Specialty Dinner:
Pursuing Traditions
Woodford Reserve Bourbon with Elizabeth McCall
Thursday, February 6
6:30 p.m. • Carysfort Kitchen

All Charities 2020: Catalog Enclosed!
24/7 Silent Auction bidding begins 9 a.m. TODAY

By Sarah A. Cart

Starting TODAY, you can have fun while doing good and help get this season's All Charities Weekend (ACW, Feb. 7 and 8) off and running. Settle in with a favorite beverage, leaf through the enclosed catalog, take a seat at your computer or pick up your smart phone or tablet and go online to bidORC.org. Within minutes, you'll find that bidding is as easily accessible as your favorite app.

Start with First Dibs!
It's best to act FAST if you're hoping to take part in any of these online first come, first serve opportunities (see catalog pp. 15-17): You'll find three dinners (with fabulous beverages) prepared here on

As a thank you for your patience as the exciting major Capital Projects roll out, the Board and Management approved a 5% discount for all Members on Food & Beverage charges.

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Live theater returns to the Cultural Center, Joan Birsh has the rave review, pg. 6

Much to be excited about at The Chapel, beginning on pg. 12

Prep for Super Bowl LIV provided by Jane Silverman, pg. 28

Menus are changing, for health, for variety, for ORC, Gert Mann and Jody Steele report, pgs. 35 & 37

Terry Baxter shares a “watershed” moment, pg. 41
All Charities

The Reef by famous chefs from California, the White House, and Mexico’s San Miguel de Allende; an opportunity to spend a fun memorable late afternoon learning what it means to “play post office” in North Key Largo followed by a casual dinner, live entertainment and dancing at Card Sound; bird-watching; an evening of heavy hors d’oeuvres, cocktails, dancing and karaoke in Reef Lounge (think: music of the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s); and/or an up-close-and-personal concert by Don Felder, formerly of the Eagles, in Town Hall.

Next, comb through the rest of the catalog. Make your list, check it twice, call your friends and set strategies. Dream. Plan. Check your calendar to determine which adventure(s) can happen when. You will find amazing treasures and gems on every page.

Bid categories and how-to’s:
In addition to First Dibs and the ACW Saturday night Live Auction (which is black tie and by reservation only), other auction categories include UPLifting Adventures (p. 14), Super Silent (pp. 11-13), and the jam-packed Silent Auction (pp. 18-43). Except for the Live and Bucket Raffle (p. 44) categories, online bidding will remain open until 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8.

Place your opening bid on an item and set your maximum; whenever a competing bid outdoes yours, the system will respond on your behalf up to your established limit.

See something you HAVE to have?
Call the All Charities office (see below) to ask if there is a “Buy It Now” option. Note that some items may have been updated and a few additional items have been added online since the catalog went to print; be sure to re-read the actual lot listing online or in person. So much great stuff – check out all of it!

Wine Tasting & Silent Auction:
Plan to view your dream list items from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7, at Carysfort Hall ($25 at the door). Or if Friday night isn’t an option, or you can’t get to everything in an evening, return between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday and enjoy complimentary “Burgers, Beers and Bidding” courtesy of the Ocean Reef Chamber from noon to 2 p.m. Also on Saturday, take in the NetJets aircraft display at the Airport 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The point of it all:
Each season the All Charities auctions raise monies that help ensure the viability of Ocean Reef’s not-for-profit institutions (Medical Center, Cultural Center, Art League, The Academy, ORCAT and Conservation Association) and, through grants from the Ocean Reef Community Foundation, provide funding to worthy charities focused on youth, education, community, and health and family services across south Florida.

Questions? Contact All Charities at 305-367-5996 or AllCharities@OceanReef.com.