

WELLINGTON YACHT PARTNERS AT 2018 ST. BARTHS BUCKET REGATTA



Two of the Partners at Wellington were lucky to escape the long New England winter to do some racing at the prestigious St. Barths Bucket Regatta March 16-18. This long-running event features some of the world's most spectacular sailing yachts in very exciting close-quarters racing in and around St. Barthelemy.

Murray Lord, a former yacht captain himself, reprised his frequent role as helmsman onboard the 183' (56 m) Perini Navi ketch "ZENJI" throughout the event. Noted Murray: "Having the opportunity to drive yachts of this size in close proximity to other sailing yachts of similar size or bigger at regattas like this is an amazing experience. It takes a huge amount of teamwork to get these yachts sailing to their potential, especially as they are designed more as cruising yachts as opposed to round-the-buoy racing boats."



Ted Hood joined a spirited crew from Texas aboard the 109' (33 m) Alloy Yachts/Fontaine shoal draft centerboard design "MARAÉ," trimming mainsheet, helping with strategy and offering support to the very able owner/driver. Although it was only the first time they had flown the spinnaker in six years, "MARAÉ" claimed 3rd in Class D, *Les Grand Dames des Mers*, for the Regatta and won at least one of the parties. Ted enjoyed the welcome break from winter laser sailing – "It's great to experience going from one extreme to the other in terms of boat size and weather!"



Each year the Bucket Regatta designates a portion of the entry fee for donation to a meaningful non-profit program in St. Barths. In the aftermath of the horrific September, 2017, storm IRMA, 2018 Bucket Organizers and participants were able to provide "Help St. Barth" with critical supplies for clearing debris and rebuilding infrastructure.