

RACING ON THE LOOP

The ASSA Albemarle Challenge

By Claude Milot

Boaters on their migration north this spring will no doubt be treated to beautiful sights along the way. But if they are exploring the delights of the Albemarle Sound in early June, they could witness the most beautiful sight of all: upwards of 20 sailboats racing each other in the ASSA Albemarle Challenge, many with their colorful spinnakers filled with a brisk following wind.

In recent years four yacht clubs on the Albemarle Sound organized and conducted their own sailing regattas. This year the four (Edenton Yacht Club, Albemarle Plantation's Osprey Yacht Club, Kill Devil Hills' Colington Yacht Club, and Elizabeth City's Pasquotank Yacht Club) will consolidate their regattas into one Albemarle Sound Sailing Association (ASSA) regatta. Following a reception hosted by the Osprey Yacht Club on June 7th, two days of racing will be conducted on June 8th and 9th, with an awards presentation and dinner on the evening of the 9th at Albemarle Plantation.



Loopers who would like to join the fun and watch the race should reserve a slip at Albemarle Plantation Marina by calling Dockmaster JE Darnell at (252) 426-4037 or emailing him at dockmaster@albemarleplantation.com. The ASSA Albemarle Challenge, the concluding event of Albemarle Loop's Spring Celebration, promises to be the Sound's biggest and most colorful sailboat race ever. What a way to celebrate before heading home!

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Additional Notes:

Local knowledge for approach to Albemarle Plantation Marina can be found at <http://albemarleloop.com/videos.html> : and “[Albemarle Plantation Entrance Video - view the actual navigational courses and markers for entering the channel to Albemarle Plantation Marina](#)”