

—Continued from page 18

...Blazing Forward

Though he qualified to represent Belize at 2015 OPTINAM, at 5'9" and 143 pounds, he was too heavy for Optimist competition and opted instead for the ISAF YW-ENP in Laser Radials. He felt his performance was "just okay, but I met many people and I was sailing better at the end of that week than before I got there."

Antonio has access to Belize Sailing School's new 2014 fleet of ten race-ready Laser XD Radials. They are sailed from a beach shared with Caribbean Villas Hotel, which has sponsored one of the new Lasers. Additionally, one or two Lasers each are located in Placencia, Belize City, Corozal and Caye Caulker. Antonio raced a Laser Radial in the 2015 Bart's Bash. He's begun receiving professional coaching costing his family \$100 each weekend. In a recent "mano a mano" exercise, he beat his coach in two out of three match races.

Antonio's training is complemented by stitching sails and performing maintenance on Belize Sailing Vacation's large cats. "Antonio informed me of a leak in one of the catamaran pontoons when none of the rest of us noticed it. He is very observant," says BSV employee Tony Ricardez. Also, visiting cruisers from North America invite Antonio to crew in overnight regional sails. In fact, Antonio would have traveled to Canada by cruiser invitation this month had he not already been committed to his Malaysia trip.

Antonio's message for Caribbean youth: "Competent sailing isn't just about racing and beating others. It's about doing your best even when others don't believe in you."

In this examination of Belize junior sailing, we've seen that youth training is creatively supported by:

- demonstration of local parental and youth commitment to garner support from international organizations such as IODA and ISAF,
 - private industry funding (resorts, revenue from sailing lessons for tourists & locals),
 - extensive local regatta circuit developed through regional cooperation,
 - training alongside adult marine professionals and cruisers.
- Follow Belize junior sailing on Facebook at BzSA.

Ellen Ebert Birrell attributes her opportunity to cruise the Caribbean aboard Boldly Go with partner Jim Hutchins to life skills built in childhood. Believing swimming and sailing are essentials for island youth, she supports junior sailing and serves on the Caribbean Sailing Association Sailing Development Committee.

Visit caribbean-sailing.com/youth/youth-programs for more information.

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51' Beneteau Oceanis 510 '93/94. (2) From \$123K



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50' Jeanneau SO 50DS 2009
Asking \$249K



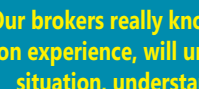
49' Bavaria 49 2004
Asking \$169K



49' Hunter 49 2008
Asking \$305K



49' Jeanneau SO 49 2004
Asking \$169K



47' Beneteau Oceanis 473 2003. Asking \$149.9K



46' Jeanneau SO 45.2 2003
Asking \$145K



46' Jeanneau SO 45.2 2003
Asking \$145K



46' Jeanneau SO 45.2 '02
Asking \$175K



45' Wauquiez Centurion 45 1993. Asking \$129K



44' Endeavour Power Cat 2001. Asking \$199K



44' Voyage 440 2001
Asking \$295K



44' Bavaria 44 2002
Asking \$79K



44' Trintella 44 1980
Asking \$85K



43' Beneteau Cyclades 43.3 2005. Asking \$87K



43' Jeanneau SO 43DS '02
Asking \$99.5K



42' Bavaria Cruiser 42 2001
Asking \$80K



42' Endeavour E42 1986
Asking \$89K



39' Privilege 39 1991
Asking \$115K



36' Beneteau Oceans 361 2000. Asking \$55K

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B & C Fuel Dock	Grenada	44	Dockwise Yacht Transport	Martinique	30	Jolly Harbour	Antigua	41	Slipway Restaurant	Grenada	MP
Barefoot Yacht Charters	SVG	38	Dominica Yacht Services	Dominica	MP	La Playa	Grenada	MP	Spice Island Marine	Grenada	7
Basil's Bar	SVG	41	Down Island Real Estate	Grenada	MP	Lagoon Marina	St. Maarten	19	SpollessStainless	C/W	MP
Bay Island Yachts	Trinidad	52	Doyle Offshore Sails	Tortola	4	Lazy Turtle Bar & Restaurant	Grenada	MP	St. Kitts Marine Works	St. Kitts	41
Bequia Music Fest	SVG	14	Doyle's Guides	USA	47	LJAT	C/W	10	St. Lucia Tourist Board	St. Lucia	29
Blue Diamond Concierge Service	St. Lucia	MP	Echo Marine	Trinidad	42	Marc One Marine	Trinidad	MP	St. Maarten Sails	St. Maarten	16
Blue Lagoon Hotel & Marina	SVG	39	Edward William Insurance	C/W	37	Marina Santa Marta	Colombia	26	Sugar Reef Bequia	SVG	MP
Boat Paint & Stuff	St. Maarten	43	Electropics	Trinidad	MP	Marina Zar-Par	Dominican Rep.	36	Sunbay Marina	Puerto Rico	27
Budget Marine	St. Maarten	2	Fernando's Hideaway	SVG	MP	Marine World	SVG	45	Suzuki Marine	C/W	24
Business Point	St. Maarten	52	Food Fair	Grenada	48	McIntyre Bros	Grenada	48	SVG Tourism	SVG	12
BVI Yacht Sales	Tortola	54	Free Cruising Guides	C/W	46	Mid Atlantic Yacht Services	Azores	MP	Technick	Grenada	MP
Camper & Nicholsons	Grenada	20	Gittens Engines	Trinidad	MP	Mount Gay Round Barbados	Barbados	5	Ti Ponton	Martinique	47
Captain Gourmet	SVG	MP	Gonsalves Liquors	SVG	45	Multihull Company	C/W	51	Tobago Cays	SVG	MP
Caraiibe Marine	Martinique	31/MP	Grenada Marine	Grenada	40	Neil Pryde Sails	Grenada	MP	Turbulence Sails	Grenada	16/MP
Caraiibes Diesel Services	St. Maarten	18/32	Grenada Sailing Week	Grenada	6	Oceanvolt	C/W	23	Venezuelan Marine Supply	Venezuela	MP
Caribbean Marine Electrical	Trinidad	MP	Grenadines Sails	SVG	44	Off Shore Risk Management	Tortola	34	WIND	Martinique	MP
Clippers Ship	Martinique	MP	Hydrovane International Marine	C/W	MP	Perkins Engines	Tortola	8			
Copper Coat USA	C/W	37	International Inflatables	St. Lucia	MP	Power Boats	Trinidad	MP			
Cruising Life	SVG	46	Intouchable Marine Services	St. Maarten	34	Rainman Desalination System	C/W	22			
Cruising with Children	C/W	MP	Iolaire Enterprises	UK	43/47	Regis Guillemot	Martinique	33			
Curaçao Marine	Curaçao	55	Island Dreams	Grenada	MP	Renaissance Marina	Aruba	25			

MP = Market Place pages 49 to 51
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