

PRESS RELEASE

September 10, 2008
Contact: Julie Phillips-Turner
Phone: 410-490-0033
E-mail: jbpturner@aol.com



Hospice Cup XXVII Blessing of the Fleet Reception: September 26, 2008 *To be Held at Helly Hansen in Annapolis, MD*

WHO: Hospice Cup XVII invites race participants, sponsors and donors to the 2nd annual Blessing of the Fleet reception to honor the sailors and boats of the 2008 regatta.

WHAT: The Blessing of the Fleet, is a FREE event featuring light refreshments, including beer and wine. Members of the race committee, local hospices and the board will be on hand to discuss the cause and the race.

Helly Hansen Mid-Atlantic will also offer all attendees a special 20% off all items purchased that evening.

The Hospice Cup is the nation's oldest and largest charity regatta. In its 27th year, the race takes place on the Chesapeake Bay outside of Annapolis, Maryland, on Saturday, September 27, 2008, and will feature hundreds of sailing enthusiasts – from amateur to experienced – racing to raise money for hospices in the Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC areas.

WHEN: Friday, September 26, 2008, from 7:00 – 9:00 pm.

WHERE: Helly Hansen Mid-Atlantic, 132 Main Street, Annapolis, MD 21401; (410) 990-4359

About Helly Hansen

Helly Hansen provides high quality, protective technical gear for work survival and sport for the harshest outdoor environments. Helly Hansen creates race wear for sailors and is the 2008-2009 outfitter of the Volvo Ocean Race Ericsson Racing Team.

Visit them online at: <http://www.hellyonline.com/help.php?section=annapolis>.

About Hospice Cup

Hospice Cup funds help pay the expenses not covered by Medicare or private insurance. These dollars enable the hospices to provide skilled compassionate care, comfort and dignity to the terminally ill, their families and friends. Hospice enables patients to carry on their lives so their last days may be spent in comfort, at home or in home-like settings. Bereavement counseling and support groups are part of hospice services after the loss of a loved one.

To date, over \$7 million dollars has been raised for the participating hospices since the race began. The annual event is a cooperative effort of Hospice Cup, Inc., numerous volunteers to support the hospices participating in the race, the Shearwater Sailing Club and the Storm Trysail Club.

The 2008 participating hospices currently include: Hospice of the Chesapeake, Capital Hospice, Montgomery Hospice and Community Hospices.

The Hospice Cup race is sanctioned by the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association (CBYRA) and counts for CBYRA season-long High Point competition. Hospice Cup, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. Hospice Cup, Inc. is also a proud member of the National Hospice Regatta Alliance, www.hospiceregattas.org.

Additional information about the race can be found online at the official Hospice Cup web site www.hospicecup.org.