

Former State Senator Robert O'Leary Named Honorary Commodore

For Immediate Release



Provincetown, MA (July 20, 2011) - The Great Provincetown Schooner Regatta (GPSR) announced today that former State Sen. Robert O'Leary has been named this year's Honorary Commodore.

"I am pleased Sen. O'Leary will serve as our Honorary Commodore," said Capt. Cheryl Andrews, co-chair of the 2011 Regatta. His devotion to the environment, love of history and colorful reputation as a sailor make him a perfect choice for our 10th Annual Regatta."

These sentiments were echoed by Capt. Susan Avellar, the Regatta's other co-chair who said that choosing a person with a demonstrated history of devotion to Provincetown and its maritime history were primary criteria in the choice of O'Leary.

The 65 year old O'Leary, who follows Capt. Charles "Stormy" Mayo and State Rep. Sarah Peake among other former Honorary Commodores, said he was thrilled and honored to be chosen, adding that Mayo and Peake are hard acts to follow.

O'Leary will preside over the Board of Governor's Reception and Award Ceremony September 8.

Biography for Senator Robert O'Leary

A tenured professor of history and politics at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and an adjunct professor at Cape Cod Community College, O'Leary served as State Sen. for the Cape and Islands for 10 years, from 2000-2010. He was the first Democrat to serve in that position since the end of the Civil War. He also served as Barnstable County Commissioner from 1987-2001.

Currently a resident of Cummiquid, O'Leary grew up in Lowell. He is a graduate of Kimball Union

Academy and Georgetown University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree. He holds a Masters in Public Administration from Harvard University and a PhD in History from Tufts University.

About The Great Provincetown Schooner Regatta

The Regatta is like no other competitive sailing event on Cape Cod, combining competitive events for historic as well as modern vessels including one-design competitions. Taking place in picturesque and historic Provincetown Harbor, the town and harbor provide a context that reinforces the links between our local maritime history, fishing vessels, sailing, the great resources of our region, our culture and our economy. Working in tandem with cultural and research institutions in Provincetown and Cape Cod, we educate the public about the schooner races held off the New England coast from 1886 to 1938, and commemorate Provincetown's 1907 Lipton Cup victory. The Regatta shares the story of Provincetown's place in the traditional fishing industry as well as educates the younger generations about the days of Cape Cod's past. The Regatta will take place from September 2-10, 2011 with the famous Schooner race, The Challenge for the Fishermen's Cup from Gloucester to Provincetown, taking place on September 6.

The Great Provincetown Schooner Regatta

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