

PEOPLE & PLACES

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Desert road
less traveled

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2011 | WEST HAWAII TODAY

TRAILER SAILORS



The crew of the KaZe, an Ultimate 20 keelboat, sails off the western shore of the Big Island March 6 as part of the Kona Sailing Club's Spring Series opening day race. BELOW: Anne Ryan trims the jib while her husband, Jerry Ryan, mans the helm of their 31-foot Corsair trimaran the Kai Ka Nani during the Kona Sailing Club's March 6 race.

PHOTOS BY BRENDAN SHRIANE | WEST HAWAII TODAY

NOT MUCH IS 'GREENER' THAN SAILING

BY RICHARD MARK GLOVER
SPECIAL TO WEST HAWAII TODAY

Longtime sailor Jerry Ryan looks out at the sea from under the shade of the clubhouse as the wind rattles the rigging against the masts of the sailboats on trailers side by side at Honokohau Harbor. It's workday at the all-volunteer Kona Sailing Club, as 20 or so sailors, some with rakes in their hands, keep their boats in this one day to clean up the grounds.

Ryan is 78 and has been sailing since he was 7. His wife of 54 years, Anne, has sailed nearly as long.

"I met him in San Diego Bay on my dad's 37-foot R sloop," she



said. "Jerry was a good looking man. Pretty good sailor, too."

"I happened to be at the docks with nothing to do," Jerry Ryan said smiling as he rearranged

his work gloves on the table.

Cindy and Winfield Madden are new to sailing. They just joined the club and recently purchased a 27-foot Santa Cruz

sloop named "Mr Ed."

"We had a motorboat but thought it was time to let the wind do the work," Cindy Madden said.

"I like sailing," Winfield Madden said. "It's very relaxing."

Jerry Ryan sweeps his hand through his white hair. "The beginning of anything is to like it."

According to Steve Troute, commodore of the Kona Yacht Club, there are 33 boats in the kitty of the club. Another 20 masts, owned by other sailing enthusiasts, punctuate the flying bridges and tuna towers of the

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