

‘I have sailed in the Asia Superyacht Rendezvous for nine years. It is a beautifully organised venue, fun racing, and great enjoyment for owners and crew alike’

Stephen Floersheimer,
owner of *Yanneke Too*



Asia Superyacht Rendezvous 2009

► The Asia Superyacht Rendezvous, held in Phuket on 17 and 18 December 2009, brought together Asia’s most extensive gathering of both motor and sailing superyachts from around the globe to Phuket. A highlight of the event was what organisers Gordon Fernandes and Charles Dwyer claimed was the most exciting sailing event in the annual gathering’s nine year history.

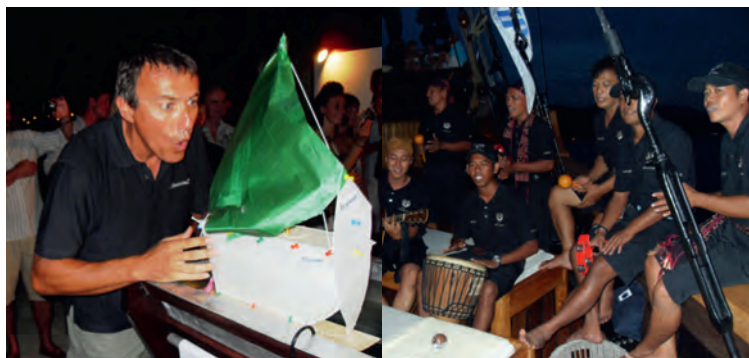
The original idea for the Rendezvous was to create an event for superyacht owners, their guests, captains and crew to get together and have fun. A diverse range of activities both on and off the water includes a special sailing event and a series of interesting challenges both for owners and their crews. Last year’s Rendezvous was attended by a variety of superyachts, including sailing yachts *Yanneke Too*, *Naos*, *Sililona*, *Obsessions II*, *Thalia* and *Bristolian*, while motor yachts included *Archimedes*, *Vie Sans Soucis*, *Maverick* and *Braveheart*.

The sailing event provided close on-water action in a fun superyacht race between the sailing yachts in attendance. With a steady 15 to 18 knots of breeze, conditions were perfect and crew work across the fleet

was impeccable. It was *Thalia* that led the charge though, taking first place in the race, with *Naos* and *Yanneke Too* hot on her heels.

While the owners and their guests enjoyed a five-star gala dinner at luxurious oceanfront hotel The Chedi, the crews were entertained with a beach barbecue and the chance to fight for honour in the famed Feadship Challenge model boat competition. ‘This year we added a new twist. As each boat and team representative reached the half way mark, each competitor had to consume a bowl of Thai delicacies - grasshoppers, grubs and the like!’ Fernandes explains. ‘All contestants valiantly fought on as if they were filming *Fear Factor*, gulping the gruesome contents and continuing with renewed determination.’

‘The Asia Superyacht Rendezvous is the only event where superyacht owners can really let their hair down, relax and enjoy themselves with their guests, captains and crew without the pressures of competitive racing,’ says Dwyer. Plans are now afoot to make sure that the next edition of the Rendezvous, to be held on 17 and 18 December 2010, is even better, marking the tenth anniversary of the event.



The ingenuity of the crews was tested in the Feadship Challenge (far left), while the 15 Indonesian crew on board *Sililona* entertained guests at the yacht’s cocktail party with traditional sea shanties (left). Right: organisers Gordon Fernandes and Charles Dwyer with Francois van Well, President of Feadship America



CONTACT: For more information, visit www.asia-superyacht-rendezvous.com and www.asia-pacific-superyachts.com