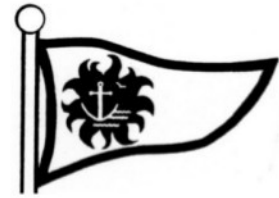


The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 34, No. 2

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

March 2017



We have a number of upcoming issues including the recommended changes to the FHYC Bylaws and the Vision 385 Committee's planning for Fairfield Harbour's newly-acquired property. At the February meeting we only had time for a brief discussion so I will review these important issues.

First, the voting for changes in FHYC Bylaws: Our Constitution and Bylaws can only be changed by a 2/3 majority of the members voting in a General Meeting. These rules are pretty simple, and the two suggested changes are also simple. As written, our FHYC Constitution says that the Commodore is a member of all committees EXCEPT the Nominating Committee. I believe that the purpose of this rule is to prevent a seated commodore from stacking the deck of the club's leadership with his own special buddies; the rule prevents nepotism. This has not been a problem, and with the current make-up of the FHYC and its leadership, it does not seem likely to become a problem in the foreseeable future. So, the recommended change is to remove "except the Nominating Committee."

The other change is similar in regard to appointment of committee chairs. Our Constitution states that the Commodore appoints all chairs. Currently the Bridge recommends committee chairs and the Commodore approves (or finalizes) these recommendations. The recommendation is to change the wording to reflect our current practice. The Planning Committee's specific recommendations and language is included in this news-

letter, so that every member can see exactly what is proposed.

Still with me? Okay, now for something a little more juicy! Our community recently took the exciting and expensive step of buying the property held within our borders by Mid-South. This is the long-awaited end of huge problems. It gives us control of our destiny, and room to expand. What shall we do with all this great new space? To the FHYC, it is very important to consider what our community does with the Inner Harbor. Expanding the docks? A mooring or several moorings, with a dinghy dock? A launch ramp? We (the community) certainly need to plan carefully, and a priority must be to restore the security of the seawalls and bulkheads. What else should be at the top of the list? We (FHYC) should be an integral part of these plans! Our FH POA is holding a series of meetings called the Vision 385 sessions, intending to field ideas and take input on what we should do and how to prioritize. I have attended one of these meetings and I hope all FHYC members will also participate.

Meanwhile, exciting and relevant activities continue. Quite a crowd attended Friday's Education Seminar on "Local Waters" and nearby cruising destinations. Brian Giersch and Elliott Alterman presented this, and more than 30 club members, including new and well-experienced longtime members, all

joined in learning and sharing information. We also had an Impromptu Raft-up, with a beautiful sunset. There are photos on Facebook so we know it's true!

On a more serious note, the Medical Support Committee led by Joel Berberich has been working on a proposal for our AED. Given the fact that the AED has not been signed out for any FHYC activity for over three years, continuing support does not seem like a good use of resources. It was proposed, and approved by the Board, to transfer ownership of FHYC's AED to Northwest Creek Marina. This way, it is available to us, to the boating community here, and will continue to be useful.

I'd like to congratulate Kathy Fortenbaugh on success with new members, and extend sincere thanks to those of you all who sponsor incoming Fairfield Harbour friends and neighbors. This is very important for the future of our club, and it is also a good reminder to participate.

Doug King, Commodore

FHYC General Meeting February 9, 2017

Commodore Doug King called the meeting to order at 1930 and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Welcome - Introduction of Guests: Walt Meyer introduced Adrian & Erin Vergot, neighbors of John Jackson; George Stateham introduced Jana & Mike Kent;

What's Happening

Mar Tu 7	Board Meeting, cc.....	0830
Th 9	General Meeting (cc).....	1930
Fr 10	Education Seminar (cc).....	0900
Th 16	Race: Ensign Practice	
Th 16	Commodores' Ball.....	1730
Sa 18	Sock Burning.....	1500
Th 23	Race: Ensign Race #1	
Th 30	Race: Ensign Race #2	

(cc)=Community Center, (fc)=Fairfield Commons, (ac)=Activities Center

Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, March 13, 2017

Delivery is Saturday, March 25, 2017

Mary Deckert introduced Christopher Town; Rose Litke introduced David & Lesa Reeves who were attending their second meeting; Doug Longhini introduced George & Ann Hall; Brian Giersch introduced Charlie & Kathleen Stoup; and Bill Andrews introduced Bob & Siggi Ming who were attending their second meeting.

Induction of New Members – Kathy Fortenbaugh introduced new members approved by the Board: Keila & John Miller sponsored by Knights and Thompsons; Bob Wofford sponsored by Jarvis and Albertinis; and Ken Morrison sponsored by Hirds and Thompsons. They were welcomed and presented with their burgees by Commodore King. Kathy reported that as of tonight FHYC has 190 active members.

Minutes – A motion was made and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the January 12, 2017 General Meeting (Fortenbaugh/Schiller).

Treasurer’s Report – The Treasurer’s report for January 2017 has been approved by the Board and is available for review.

Program – Ritchie Thomson introduced Joe Pica speaking tonight on AIS (Automatic Identification Systems). Afterwards, Ritchie gave Joe a

mug and thanked him for his presentation. Bill Jarvis mentioned that an AIS app is available for smart phones and can be beneficial for safety.

Rear Commodore’s Report given by Vice Commodore Jackson: Hospitality – Moores and Millers are hosts this evening. Education – Joel Berberich announced Brian Giersch will present “Local Waters” on Friday in the Community Center at 0900. Pen/pencil and notepad recommended. Brian commented on the number of new members and guests at the meeting that are new to the area and suggested they may be interested in attending. On March 10 the presentation will be “Suddenly in Command” and April 7 there will be a tour of Pacific Seacraft.

Medical Support – Joel Berberich stated that the AED purchased by the Yacht Club has not been in use in the last 3 years. The Committee has recommended that the AED be transferred to Northwest Creek Marina. The Board of Directors approved this recommendation. Marine Assistance – Bill Jarvis was asked by Gary Nohr to announce that there were no calls in the past month. Program – Ritchie Thomson reiterated that “Suddenly in Command” is the Education program for March. The presentation at the March General Meeting will be “Stories from Red Marker Runners-up.” Kathie King is organizing and is seeking more presenters.

Vice Commodore’s Report: *Semaphore* –Deadline for submission for the March issue is Monday, February 13 at noon. Storekeeper – Stephanie Davies mentioned the new merchandise cabinet. All old merchandise is now reduced 40%. When gone, new samples will be available.

Commodore’s Report: Cruise Planning – Brian Giersch mentioned the first Impromptu Raft-up held recently. The next event is the Sock Burning. Commissioning Day will be held in April. Entertainment – Maureen Morgan-Smith introduced new co-chair Rose Voss-Litke. Commodores’ Ball and Commissioning Day are the next events. Members were asked to please get money and registrations in for the

Commodores’ Ball. Regatta – Ensign racing beginning in 5 weeks. Fun racing beginning April 4. There will be one fun race before the Wilkerson Cup. Yacht Club Dinner - Bev Myrseth announced that next Wednesday’s dinner will be at Arturo’s on February 15 at 1730. Sign-up sheets are available. May 17 will be the next dinner. There will be no dinner in March or April due to the Commodores’ Ball and Commissioning Day events. Impromptu Happy Hour – There will be one between February 28 and April 28.

New Business - Joel Berberich presented the Medical Minute on hypothermia. A handout was given to all attendees at the beginning of meeting. Joel reviewed the information on the handout including recognition, severity, objective and treatment.

Old Business – Commodore King asked the membership if they had attended any of the Vision 385 meetings and participation was suggested. On water facilities could be a part of the use plans. Sam Curry mentioned that one participant suggested that the club build a new building. Bylaw changes will be voted on in March. In summary, the existing bylaws limit committee participation by the Past Commodore but it is felt this participation is beneficial to the club.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting (Clark/Davies). The meeting adjourned at 2050.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jan Green, Secretary*

New Members

Jerry and Susan Beebe joined in November 2016 but were unavailable for a picture, so their picture is in this issue.

John and Keila Miller live on Jewel Court and moved here from Sedona, AZ. (Keila is originally from Brazil.) They are experienced boaters with 45 years of power and sailboat experience. They have a 28-foot Grady White named *Paradise* (and a personal watercraft). They are sponsored by Don and Louise Knight and Ginger and Maury Thompson. Both have

The

Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



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Deadline

Deadline is 1200 the Monday following the Yacht Club Meeting. Please e-mail articles to the address listed below:
fhycsemaphore@gmail.com

joined the Hospitality Committee, and John will also be working on the Marine Assistance Committee, a perfect fit since he rescued the acrobatic pilot who ditched in the Neuse River last fall.

Ken Morrison moved here from Colorado and is new to boating. He lives on Caracara Drive and has a 27-foot Hunter (sailboat) named *Del Boca Vista*. His sponsors are Skip and Cherylle Hird and Maury and Ginger Thompson. He has chosen to work on the Maintenance Committee.

Bob Wofford moved here from China Grove, NC, and now lives on Gondolier Drive. He has a 30-foot Willard Trawler named *Fancy Free* and has less than two years of boating experience. (He is also a pilot and a member of the Carolina Aero Club.) His sponsors are Bill and Olwen Jarvis and Frank and Gayle Albertini. He has chosen both the Maintenance and Marine Assistance Committees.

*Jenny McDiarmid,
Membership Committee*

Amendments

The Planning Committee has recommended a change to the FHYC Constitution and Bylaws to reflect better practices in managing leadership of all the club's committees. In order to change the Constitution and Bylaws, the proposed change must be signed by 10% or more REGULAR MEMBERS or by a unanimous vote by the Board of Governors (Article XI). All members must be presented with a copy of the proposed change at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which the change is presented. A two-thirds majority of all votes cast is necessary to adopt the proposed change. In summary, the recommendations propose modifications as below:

1. Commodore as ex-officio member of Nominating Committee

The Constitution says: "The Commodore is ex-officio a member of all committees of the club except the Nomination Committee."

Our practice has been to include the Commodore as ex-officio member. The Planning Committee feels it is benefi-

cial to include the Commodore as the best informed person on the overall status of the club. We recommend a change to the Constitution to remove the words "except the Nomination Committee."

2. Committee Chairs

i. The Constitution says: "Chairpersons for all committees, except the Nomination Committee, will be appointed by the Commodore."

Our practice has been for individual Bridge liaisons to appoint their own chairs. The Planning Committee feels it is beneficial if the Bridge liaisons have a good working relationship with their respective committee chairs. Our current practice takes advantage of that relationship. The Planning Committee recommends that we amend the Constitution to say: "Chairpersons for all committees, except the Nomination Committee, will be appointed by the Bridge liaison with the approval of the incoming Commodore."

Defibrillator Status

The Board of Directors of FHYC, on the recommendation of the Medical Support Committee, approved the donation and relocation of the FHYC Automatic External Defibrillator to Northwest Creek Marina. This device was purchased in 2005 and upgraded in 2010. It has been housed in the FH gate house but has not been signed out in over three years. It is expected that the device can better serve the boating community and FHYC members at Northwest Creek Marina.

*Joel Berberich, Medical Support
Chair*

Suddenly In Command

The Education Committee is sponsoring a presentation of the USCG Course "Suddenly in Command" on Friday, March 10 from 0900 to 1200 at the FH Community Center, presented by Karl Mielenhausen and Bill Neilson.

The captain becomes incapacitated or falls overboard; you purchase a new boat and step aboard for the first time and You are Suddenly in Command. This course is a boating safety primer

designed for those not generally at the helm, and will help you "be prepared" with the basics in an emergency. You will learn about your vessel, including nomenclature and operating principles including starting the engine. Also included are descriptions of what causes boating mishaps and how to minimize them, basic boat handling and what equipment should be aboard.

Joel Berberich, Education Chair

Burn Those Socks

Come and join us as we celebrate the return of the sun to the northern hemisphere. This is a tradition started in yacht clubs along the Chesapeake Bay. Marinas with boats locked in with snow and ice. Captains waiting to launch their boats back into the water. At the vernal equinox they know that cold weather will soon be gone.

They celebrate by burning their socks. Boat shoes are the dress code of the day. Although we don't haul our boats for the winter, we don't really use them much for months. Boats sit at their docks, awaiting warmth and the return of skippers and crew.

So come join us at Red Sail Park on March 18 at 15003:00 PM. Wear your oldest dirtiest, smelliest pair of socks to be thrown on the fire. Adult beverages are traditionally part of the celebration. Looking forward to a large turnout. Every year there have been more people turning up. Let's make this year the largest celebration yet.

Bob Petritsch

Commissioning Day

Our Annual Commissioning Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 8. If you have not yet started to prepare your vessel for our on-the-water activities, NOW is the time!

Plan on participating in the Commissioning Day parade of boats, with each vessel being blessed as it passes the newly acquired Shoreline building.

Get your rig tuned, your engine running reliably, your bottom and props clean! Invite friends and family to participate with you on board....but remember that the luncheon that follows will be for FHYC members only

(look for details in a March flyer).

Want to participate? Send an email to Brian Giersch bdgiersch@suddenlink.net or a paper brown box delivery (5712 Barbary Coast Drive) with the information below: Your name, phone and email address, name and size of your vessel, are you a current Bridge/Board member (which office), will you have a current Bridge/Board member (name and office) aboard? Are you a former Commodore? if yes, which year?

Brian Giersch, Cruising, Captain

Tuesday Racing Certificates

It may seem early to think about the start of Tuesday Fun Races, but the first race is Tuesday, April 4, with the Wilkerson Cup 5 days later.

If you are new to FHYC, or have a new boat and don't have a PHRF number for this area, now is the time to get one. Just go to www.nc-phrf.com. On the left side of their home page you will see a heading for a Rating Application. Fill it out and turn that in to Bill Jarvis, 5620 Gondolier or bjarvis1@suddenlink.net. If you are only racing in FHYC events there is no charge. Please do this soon so Bill has time to get your certificate back to you. If there are specifications you are not sure about go to sailboatdata.com and enter your boat type. You will probably be able to find all the data you need (e.g. P, and J measurements, draft, displacement, etc).

Send the certificate to John Jackson, 1210 Pelican Drive, or Jackson.jy@gmail.com, and you will receive a sheet of start times for Tuesday Fun Races.

John Jackson, Vice Commodore

Inlet Cruise

Are you the owner of a cruising capable sailboat? When you read the February issue of the *Semaphore*, were you intrigued by the idea of the June Inlet Cruise? Would you be interested in skippering your boat in this flotilla event that will run out the Morehead Inlet, parallel the coast overnight and enter the ICW via the Masonboro Inlet, then back out again at Cape Fear and return to the ICW via Little River Inlet?

Reflect on the capabilities of your boat. Is it equipped to confidently head off shore for 70+ mile runs? Can it and you...confidently handle a 36-hour non-stop run? Can it safely accommodate a crew of 4-5 for six or seven days? Think in terms of berthing capacity, holding tank and water capacity.

If this event still intrigues you (and your boat), do you have crew members you would like to invite (now...)? Would you feel comfortable inviting aboard some volunteers? An article in the April *Semaphore* could generate a pool of folks as possible crew members. Skipper who respond positively to this call would collectively screen the volunteer pool and extend invitations, but only to those with whom skippers have the most confidence and familiarity.

If, as a skipper, you have an interest in participating, send an email to Brian Giersch, bdgiersch@suddenlink.net or a paper brown box delivery (5712 Barbary Coast Drive) with the following information: your name, phone, email, boat name, builder/LOA/ LWL, number of crew spots not including yourself, number of spots that might be offered to volunteers.

This is an event that several of us have been talking about for years. Let's create a flotilla, crew up our vessels and have a terrific experience!

Brian Giersch, Cruising, Captain

100 Day Award

In case you missed an earlier announcement, this year at the October Awards Dinner we will present a new award. Anyone can receive it, and we hope to present several.

To receive it you must spend 100 days on the water between October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017. Day sailing counts, raft-ups count, Tuesday Fun Races count, short cruises, long cruises, and other cruises, alone or with the club all count. Taking your boat to a far flung destination counts, but if at that destination you sit in a condo those days do not count. Travel days, days on board at a marina, etc. do count. I am sure several of you probably have 5 to 10 days already.

John Jackson, Vice Commodore

Wilkerson Memorial Race

The 20th annual Bill Wilkerson

Memorial Trophy Race will be held on Sunday, April 9, 2017. This is a major event of the sailing season. The regatta is open to all sailboats owned by members of FHYC which have a FHYC or NC PHRF rating. Class assignments will be determined by the PRO and dependent on the entries received. Multi-hulls are welcome.

Full details and application information can be found on the FHYC website (fhye.us) in the middle of the home page.

Paul Eckenroth, Regatta, Captain

New members:

Bob Wofford, Ken Morrison, Keila and John Miller, Jerry and Susan Beebe

