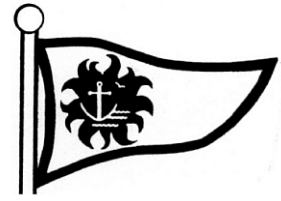


The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 34, No. 11

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

December 2017/January 2018



Each year follows a predictable trajectory. Winter settles in as we recover from the holidays, spring teases us as we anticipate more sailing, the round of activity continues as summer arrives with the threat of hurricanes, autumn sees us taking opportunities when possible to get out on the water while we work overtime to prepare for the holidays. Shiver and sweat in turn, another year goes by. There are things to enjoy along the way. But each year also has its pleasures and unexpected joys that pop up for all of us.

One of the activities I anticipate each year, and then remember fondly, is the sailing classes with New Bern High School's NJROTC. Led by Jerry Rezab, each semester brings a crop of new kids and some returning sailors. This fall we had only a few but they have great enthusiasm for what is to them a new and wonderful experience. After weeks of learning the 14-foot sloops, cold weather is limiting what we can do on the water. John Jackson and Russ and Barb Robinson took the class aboard their own boats, *Georgie Girl* and *Rampant Lion*, for an afternoon class that included rigging, points of sail, practicing tacks and gybes, and becoming familiar with nautical terms, plus radio communication, steering by compass, working on an old-fashioned chart, and the incredible feeling of having a sea-going vessel directed by your own hands. I'd also like to thank the other coaches for their hard work in making this class possible: Mark Hittner, Joe Gormley, Jeff Hallquist, Buddy Dillinger, and Mark Hallquist.

The Yacht Club plays a prominent role in our community. Georgie Jackson and Gail Schiller have taken the lead in organizing Fairfield's traditional Thanksgiving welcome to the Marine Corps. Every Thanksgiving we greet and feed a busload of young Marines, showing them hospitality when they cannot be with

their own families.

At our last meeting, Linda Lelli introduced this year's Angel Tree program, bringing Christmas gifts to needy children in the New Bern area. A number of people have volunteered and picked up their "angels" but there are still several available if you would like to join in making Christmas a reality for these children.

Past Commodore Louise Knight is leading the Food Drive beginning November 30. This will take place at the Community Center. I hope this is not a "charity overload" but a reminder of how fortunate we are and of the joy in sharing and giving.



Another event that is always memorable is the Christmas Flotilla and Chili Party. Registration deadline is December 5. Contact Rear Commodore Ralph Azersky for the Flotilla and Kathy Petritsch or Ellen McElree for the Chili Party. The Flotilla includes a raft-up in the

inner harbor for caroling. I love Christmas carols and singing with friends while afloat makes them even better. This will be on Saturday December 9 and is a highlight for the year.

We hope to see you at the Holiday Party December 14 at Carolina Colors, contact Emily Helling to participate. The Yacht Club puts on a great dinner party and it's a chance to show off a bit of our own.

This is my last column as FHYC Commodore, and I can only say how much my appreciation and respect for the organization and its members has grown over the year. Thank you all very much!

Douglas King, Commodore

General Meeting November 9, 2017

Commodore Douglas King called the meeting to order at 1930 hours and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome - Introduction of Guests: Skip Hird introduced Phil Katz and Linda Duncan who are looking forward to joining FHYC. Patrick Moloney introduced his next door neighbors Craig and Janice Myler. Carol Frysiek introduced Bob and Eileen Medvey who were attending their second meeting.

Minutes - A motion was made and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the October 12, 2017 General Meeting (Knight/Hird).

Treasurer's Report - The Treasurer's report for October 2017 has been approved

What's Happening

Nov	Th 30	Food Drive Starts	
Dec	Fr-Sa 1-2	Food Drive Continues	
	Su 3	FHPOA Parade.....	1430
	Sa 9	Flotilla and Chili Party.....	1600
	Tu 12	Board Meeting (ac).....	0830
	Th 14	Holiday Party.....	1730
Jan	Mo 1	Fun Race	
	Tu 9	Board Meeting (ac).....	0830
	Th 11	General Meeting (cc).....	1930

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

Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, January 15, 2018

Delivery by Saturday, January 27, 2018

by the Board and is available for review. The Commodore reported that the club is in good financial shape. He also reminded everyone that membership renewals are due.

Rear Commodore's Report

Hospitality – Hosts for tonight are Knights and Hirds.

Marine Assistance – Ritchie Thomson told a story demonstrating cooperation between clubs. Sailors on a Pamlico Plantation boat attending Mumfest were alerted to a leak in the exhaust system by their carbon monoxide detector. Blackbeard Sailing Club equipment was used to take the unit apart. Bridgeton Hardware had the supplies needed inexpensively and everything was fixed. Shoreline Marina should have an assistance box in place by end of week.

Medical Support/Medical Minute – Twelve attended the CPR class this afternoon. Elaine said this was the best CPR class she had ever attended. The course included review of FHYC's AED which is located in the Community Center near the restrooms. On top of the AED is the first aid kit. Members were invited to familiarize themselves with the contents.

Vice Commodore's Report

Committees – Sign-up sheets are available tonight. Chairs are needed for many committees. If no chair is forthcoming, members of the Bridge and Board may call committee members to ask them to volunteer.

Semaphore –Deadline for submission

for the next issue is Monday, November 13 at noon.

Awards – not given out at Fall Appreciation Dinner: Skip and Cherylle Hird were given the Impromptu Award for organizing impromptu raft-ups. Rose and Henry Litke were given the Organizer Award. John gave out 100-day awards to those not at the Fall Appreciation Dinner. Carol Frysiek was given an Ambassador Award for new member sponsorships. The Red Marker Award was shared this year by Mark Hallquist and Ed Thompson. One hundred-day awards will also be given out next year.

Commodore's Report

Committees – The Commodore commented on the fun that committee members have and that, in addition to being social events, committee activities are also how things get done.

Cruising – The Albemarle Cruise was the last one for the year. Ritchie reported the cruise went very well. There was a splash every night except one during the trip. Members were also reminded the Christmas Flotilla is coming up.

Entertainment – Rose Voss-Litke called on Ellen McElree to remind members of the Chili Party on December 9. Doors will open at 1830 and the event will start at 1900. Tickets can be picked up at the Captains' meeting. Food may be dropped off 1400-1500 and tickets will also be available. Food providers are reminded to label everything. The event is BYOB. Dottie Giersch reminded everyone of the Holiday Party at Carolina Colors on December 14. Hors d'oeuvres will be followed by dinner catered by The Chelsea and dancing to live music. The event is already half full. The last day to sign up is December 7. There was brief discussion of unspecified future events to be held at Red Sail Park so as to have more room for all members to attend, however this will depend on weather.

Membership – Louise Knight reported there are no new members this evening. There is no meeting next month because of the Holiday Party, so the next new members will join next year. There are currently 202 members.

Regatta – There is one more Ensign race day remaining to finish the series.

Yacht Club Dinners – Carol Frysiek announced the next Wednesday night dinner will be November 15 at Famous. There is a maximum of 60 places. Sign-up is available tonight. Lunch time options may be considered on occasion next year.

Old Business/Reminders

Past Commodore Louise Knight reminded everyone of the Food Drive to take place November 30, December 1 and 2 at 0900-1500 Thursday and Friday and 0900-1200 on Saturday. Donations will be collected at the Community Center. RCS needs pasta, mac and cheese, pasta sauce, peanut butter and jelly, stuffing, packaged sides and canned fruit. Checks should be made out to RCS Food Pantry. There will be an article in the *Semaphore*. Monetary donations allow RCS to get what they need at discounted prices.

The Fairfield Harbour Christmas Parade will be held December 3. Pfefferkorns offered to organize, including David playing the piano on the float.

Thanksgiving with the Marines – This event has been filled up, with Georgie Jackson and Gail Schiller organizing.

Angel Tree – Linda Lelli announced that Salvation Army Angel Tree cards would be available at the end of the meeting. Each card includes the child's sizes and wish list. After tonight, cards are available at the POA. Gifts are to be brought to the holiday party or the Yacht Club library on the afternoon of the party. Each item is to be labeled with the code to ensure the gift gets to the right child.

New Business

Program – Election of 2018 Officers and Board

Commodore – John Jackson

Vice Commodore – Ralph Azersky

Rear Commodore – Ritchie Thomson

Treasurer - Carol Cavins

Secretary – Elaine Berberich

New Directors - Joye Moloney and Joy Thompson

A motion was made and carried by acclamation to accept the slate of officers for 2018 (Fortenbaugh/Gil).

Returning Directors – Darlene Cleveland, Carol Frysiek, Stephanie Davies and Bill Flynn

Other Business

Carol Cavins reminded everyone of the Craft Fair this Saturday in the Community Center from 0900-1400. Several members are participating and there will be a Garden Club raffle for a scholarship. The Hospital Auxiliary will be providing refreshments.

George Stateham thanked the ladies who were signing up for committees and leadership positions and for the work they do to organize cruises.

Kirk Hathaway reminded everyone to be careful when getting off and on boats. Recently a woman jumped off her boat to

The

Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Editors

Elliott Alterman	637-3458
Mark West	637-7914
Lynn Stateham	672-9171
Karl Mielenhausen	638-1433
Bill and Jan Green	919-518-0752

Distribution Co-Chairs

Ed Klebaur	633-6264
Jerry Rezab	636-5919

Website: www.fhyc.us
email: fhyc-nc@googlegroups.com

Deadline

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

the dock, tripped on a line and dislocated her right arm.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting (Knight/Jarvis). The meeting adjourned at 2020 hours.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jan Green, Secretary*

Awards Dinner

The Annual FHYC Awards Dinner was held at Taberna Country Club October 18. As always, various awards ranging from serious to not so serious were presented.

The Red Marker Award was presented and graciously accepted. However, this year it was a joint award and will be shared by two recipients. It should be "prominently" displayed, so look for it as you drive through the Harbour.

A new award, that I believe will become a continuing one, is the 100 Days Award. This was presented to four different boat owners each of whom spent at least 100 days away from the dock on their boat. The days do not have to be consecutive. Recipients were: Bob Petritch, who did a lot of fishing from his small boat, as well as participating in Tuesday Fun Racing and other sailing activities; Ed and Evelyn Thompson had a cruise of approximately 60 days, as well as shorter cruises, Tuesday Fun Races, raft ups, etc; Dennis and Jackie Howard spent six months cruising south that included a stop in Havana; and Bill and Lois Andrews who spent 100 days, or more precisely evenings, cruising the Harbour in the "Martini Boat" they own. Congratulations to all of them. Lois also received the "Epicurean Delight" award for the great job she has done with refreshments after each meeting.

*John Jackson
Vice Commodore*

Past Commodores' Food Drive

Remember the annual food drive on November 30, December 1 and 2. Thursday and Friday, from 0900 to 1500 and Saturday from 0900 to 1200. Donations will be collected at the back door of the Community Center.

Religious Community Services (RCS) needs pasta, spaghetti sauce, mac and cheese, peanut butter, jelly, rice (one or two pound packages), "helper" mixes, pasta sides, stuffing, and canned fruit. Please be sure your food donations are in unopened packaging and within the "use by" date.

If you donate a check, please make it out to "RCS Food Pantry" to assure that it is used for food and doesn't end up in their general fund.

If you are volunteering, Wear your Santa hat or favorite holiday sweater. This is a great way to get in the spirit of the Holidays. If you have questions, contact me at 514-0614 or laknightnc@gmail.com.

PC Louise Knight



November 3rd Education Event-Ladies Only!

We had a very successful Ladies Only meeting at 5012 Plymouth Ct. here in Fairfield Harbour. A total of eighteen ladies were present. There was a full spectrum of boating knowledge from very experienced to nothing. Everybody enjoyed themselves and there was a call for more similar meetings.

The team leading the discussion consisted of Kathie King, Louise Knight, Lynn Stateham and Julia Thomson. Lynn had created a very comprehensive list of topics which was handed out to all participants.

The discussion covered a wide range of topics including to-do lists, provisioning, starting an outboard motor, places to learn about boat safety and seamanship, anchoring or picking up a mooring ball, and communication between captain and crew. An interesting recommendation showed the use of headphones, known as "Marriage Savers," for communication rather than yelling. The need for a first aid kit was discussed. Major injuries need a call for help using the VHF radio.

Several members suggested topics for further meetings focused on very specific subjects, such as, navigation using paper charts and chart plotters. The Education Committee is already planning for 2018.

Julia Thomson



Navy Junior ROTC cadets sailing George Girl



New Members Jane Burion and Kirk Hathaway

Albemarle Loop Cruise – October 2017

Cruising in the fall is one of the delights of North Carolina. Although the days are short, temperatures are comfortable and the weather is mainly settled and calm. Occasionally there are bouts of bad weather but these tend to be short and not extreme. Sadly, winds tend to be light, which is disappointing for us “rag-toppers.”

For our late autumn cruise this year, we chose to visit the Albemarle Sound. Most of the marinas on the sound participate in the Albemarle Loop program to help generate more traffic in this delightful and little traveled area. Marinas participating in the promotion give two nights of free dockage and free pump-outs. Our plan was to cover four of the marinas although ultimately, we only got to two.

We were hoping to have eight boats participate in the cruise and, in the end, five participated. They were *MacGyver's Ride*, *Seaquel*, *Sunspot Baby* and *Vital Spark* from FHYC and *Graca*, a classic Hinckley Bermuda 40, owned by our guests, Steve and Leigh Hart. We left Fairfield Harbour on October 19 and proceeded to Lower Broad Creek to anchor and have our first splash. The next day, we went onwards to River Forest Marina at Belhaven and arrived in time for our second splash on the dock and then to Spoon River Restaurant for an excellent dinner.

By common consent, we agreed to change plans and spend a second night at River Forest to enjoy some of the other culinary delights of Belhaven. So, after the mandatory splash, we had dinner at The Tavern at Jack's Neck. It seems that Jack's Neck is one of the many old names for Belhaven.

The following day, we went up the rest of the Pungo River, through the Pungo-Alligator Canal, and to the Alligator River Marina.

At last, the following morning we got out onto the Albemarle Sound and went up to the Albemarle Plantation Marina. This is an excellent marina and well protected except when the wind blows from the south (which of course it did!). On our second day, we made use of the pool facilities and a friendly club member took us to a supermarket for supplies.

The next day we set off to Edenton which has a small and very well protected town marina and its very own screw-pile lighthouse. This was brought from the mouth of the Roanoke River and installed as an attraction. We spent two nights here.

At this stage looking at the upcoming weather we saw some nasty stuff coming in a couple of days' time. Discretion ruled and instead of going onto Columbia and Manteo, we decided to head back for the head of the Alligator River and for the Pungo to sit out whatever came there. We left Edenton before dawn had cracked and motored out into the Sound back the way we had come. We had a long day motoring with a little motor sailing down the Sound and up the Alligator River. The bridge there is being repaired and we waited then went through as a convoy of about 15 boats. That night we anchored off Tuckahoe Point just before the ICW goes into the Pungo-Alligator Canal at a secluded and peaceful spot.

Next morning we rose early and saw the sun rise before heading down the canal and into the Pungo River. We anchored that night in Pungo Creek to await whatever the weather had to throw at us. And it came...first a day of torrential rain then the wind rose. Overnight it blew at up to 30+ kts but all anchors held although the chart shows the bottom in the creek as “soft”. Next morning it was still blowing so we decided to stay for a second day. Then on the following day, we got an early start and headed home. There was little or no wind and all boats made it back to Fairfield Harbour before dark.

Ritchie Thomson



A few of the happy cruisers



Ensign Fleet 19 Boat of the Year



Congrats to Blue Note Crew

Regatta Results

The 2017 Sunfish Race Series finished the season by completing 20 of the 30 scheduled races. This year the fleet of six Sunfish sailors used the US Sailing High Point system for the first time. This high point system provided the competitors the flexibility to participate in many races or a few races, and not be penalized for not competing in all scheduled races.

The final race results for the 2017 are as follows: First Place: George Sechrist; Second Place: Eric Frank; and Third Place: Jerry Rezab

George Sechrist, formerly of the Oriental Dinghy Club, joined the Fairfield Harbour Sunfish fleet this fall and had first place finishes in 13 of the 14 races he competed in. George became a resident of Fairfield Harbour earlier this year. Congratulations and welcome George Sechrist.

Ensign Fleet 19 stayed strong with a seven boat fleet competing during 2017. The season consisted of a practice day and 13 racing days (Spring and Fall Series) with up to three races per day. The Spring Series was dominated by *Blue Note* (#1493) with a 12 point lead (when corrected for throw outs) after 14 races. The Fall Series has been a different story with a number of cancellations because of no wind. The competition was tight and decided on the last racing day with *Red Stripe* (#293) taking Fall Series honors. The top boat for the year (total of Spring and Fall scores) was *Blue Note*.

During the year, Ensign Fleet 19 members participated in a number of PHRF Regattas, one being the Wilkerson Cup sponsored by FHYC. This year *Red Stripe* took line honors and walked away with the cup.

The first week in December will mark our annual meeting to establish a calendar for 2018 and review our Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions. The crew from *Blue Note* is anticipated to be designated as Fleet Captains for next year.

Many thanks to our Principal Race Officer, Bill Jarvis (plus Crew), Weather Mark Boat, Bill and Jan Green and Pin Boat, Jerry Rezab and John Vuich.

Submitted by Jerry Rezab and Doug Longhini