

The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 35, No. 2

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

March 2018

Smooth Sailing



The end of January saw the first ever FHYC Brunch Raft-up. The weather cooperated, giving us cloudy skies and temperature around 50 degrees. Seven boats and approximately 20 people participated. It was a great time on the water. Thanks to Lois Andrews for the idea, and to Cherylle and Skip Hird for letting members know and for being the anchor boat.

A few days before, we had the year's first "Impromptu" at the Golf Club. Thanks to Lew and Kathy Travis for organizing. Of course, by the time you read this, the Bunko Party and the Valentine Luncheon will have been held. The first Educational Seminar for the year was also held in February.

March brings warmer temperatures and more activities. There is the Commodores' Ball, and two days later, the annual Sock Burning at Red Sail Park. Of course, that assumes you have socks you want to burn. Ensign Racing also begins in March. If you winterized your boat, March is probably a good time to "summerize" it.

By the time April arrives, there will be a lot going on. A few of the April activities include Commissioning Day, Sunfish Dinghy Racing, Tuesday Fun Racing and the Wilkerson Cup. There is also the Shakedown Cruise to BridgePointe Marina, April 20 through 22. This is a great opportunity to make sure everything on your boat is working properly. Of course, there might also be an impromptu social at Harbor Pointe or on the water.

When Georgie and I moved to Fairfield Harbour, we were told that, "You can't sail every day of the year, but you can certainly sail some days each month." Although the Club did not have an official on-the-water activity scheduled in January or February, the Impromptu Rafts-up brought some of us out. There was also a beautiful day on January 20. Ice and snow on Wednesday of that week; nice warm breezes from the southwest and temperatures in the mid 60's just three days later! I'm sure we will have some great days in March too. I urge you to get out on the water and enjoy. In fact, March through May and September through mid-November, might be called the "Goldilocks" months: not too hot; not too cold; just right.

I hope to see you on the water.

John Y. Jackson
Commodore

FHYC General Meeting February 8, 2018

The February FHYC meeting was called to order by Commodore John Jackson at 1930. He led the club members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following guests were welcomed and introduced: Rick and

Darci Critser, Dave and Paula Phipps, Michael Dunn, Michael Connolly, Greg and Kate Castle, Cliff and Patty Learnard, John Meyer, Craig and Janice Myler and Rob and Kim Tarkenton.

The January minutes were printed in the *Semaphore* and were approved as printed. (Fortenbaugh/Litke)

Treasurer Carol Cavins was ill. Commodore Jackson reported that the Treasurer's report had been approved by the Board and was available for review.

The following committees gave their reports.

Rear Commodore's Reports

Education: It was announced by Joel Berberich that there will be an educational trip on February 9 to the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort. This will be followed by lunch at Clawson's.

Hospitality: The hosts for tonight are the Thomson, Gewain, and Bauer families.

Nautical Minute: Norm Meissner presented the Nautical Minute and talked about the Marine Assistance Committee (MAC). He reported on improvements being made by having a Google phone number that can be used by those needing assistance. He also reported that the MAC has a gasoline-powered pump as well as an electric, submersible pump. Members on the

What's Happening

March Mo	5	Board Meeting (ac)	1900
Th	8	General Meeting (cc)	1930
Fr	9	Education: Seminar (cc)	0830
Th	15	Race: Ensign Practice Day	
Th	15	Commodores' Ball	
Sa	17	Sock Burning	
Th	22	Race: Ensign Race Day #1	
Th	29	Race: Ensign Race Day #2	

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

Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, March 12, 2018

Delivery is Saturday, March 31, 2018

committee are in the process of being trained for towing and boating emergencies.

Vice Commodore's Reports

The Distribution and History committees are doing well.

Library: There was some reorganization of the library shelves and there now is more room for additional books.

Public Relations: Barb Robinson has written a nice article which was submitted to the *Beacon*.

Semaphore: The deadline is noon Monday, February 12.

Storekeeper: Chris Davies stood in for Stephanie and showed the belts and throws. The store is taking orders for these items. There is a volunteer list available for the ship's store.

Ralph Azersky passed the word along that there will be an Emergency Drill in Fairfield Harbour on March 8.

Commodore's Reports

Entertainment: John Jackson, in place of Bob Petritsch, reminded members of the Sock Burning on Saturday, March 17.

Rose Voss-Litke and members of her committee gave a comprehensive report on the many upcoming social events. Ellen McElree reported that 60 people had signed up for the club's first-ever Bunco Party and potluck on

Sunday, February 11 at the Community Center.

Rose Voss-Litke gave information on the Commodores' Ball which will be held at Carolina Colors on Thursday, March 15 at 1730 and will be catered by The Chelsea. Everyone should have received an invitation. Groups of ten will be reserved as desired. The reservation deadline is March 5. There will be no refunds after that date.

Roberta Flynn advised the club that Commissioning Day is Saturday, April 14 and will be followed by a picnic at Red Sail Park with sandwiches catered by Kitchen on Trent. Everyone is invited, not just those who have been out on a boat.

Regatta: Commodore Jackson outlined the following events. Please contact John or Georgie Jackson for additional information.

Sunfish/Dinghy racing on Sunday afternoons begins April 22. Contact Jerry Rezab.

Ensign Racing starts March 22. Everyone is welcome to crew or to be involved. Contact Mark Hittner.

The Wilkerson Cup takes place on April 15 and features a pursuit start. This race is open only to FHYC boats. Chris Davies and Lucky Covati are working on a list of people who would like to crew and boat owners who are looking for crew.

Tuesday Fun Racing begins April 10 with pursuit starts. The season is April to October with no registration fee.

The Oar Race is May 19. More information will be available at upcoming meetings.

Detailed information on all these events is available in the Yearbook and *Semaphore* and on the website.

Membership: Kathy Fortenbaugh reported that the Membership Committee has been very busy and, potentially, has six couples to be inducted at the next meeting.

Carol Frysiek gave a report on the Valentine's Day lunch which will be held at LaRosa's at 1230, February 14. Because of the large crowd, the meal will be served family style, but if

anyone desires they can order from the menu.

Old Business

John Jackson gave an update on the ad hoc committee for the boat ramp. He encouraged individual participation as this is a community, not an FHYC, committee. The POA will probably not take any action until at least 2019.

New Business

Doug King and Craig Myler are working on getting dredging information together. When dredging is done, it would be efficient to get as many people together as possible who need dredging.

Joye Moloney introduced the concept of Flip Flops for Fun. This is a project where members can donate flip flops, from toddler to adult size, for needy families during the summer. She spoke with RCS and they were thrilled with the idea and will distribute when collected. A box will be available at meetings or they can be brought to Joye's home at 6009 Tartan Court. She will also put an article in the *Semaphore*.

Skip Hird asked for electrical assistance to see if the recently acquired marker lights could be made to flash at a lower rate.

Program

Joel Berberich presented a program on Ironclads during the Civil War including information on where they can be seen in our area.

There was a motion to adjourn. (Fortenbaugh/Curry) The meeting was adjourned at 2035.

There were a significant number of members missing due to flu and cold-related illness. Please take care of yourselves; we miss you!

*Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Berberich, Secretary*



The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Editors

Lynn Stateham	672-9171
Elliott Alterman	637-3458
Mark West	637-7914
Bill and Jan Green	919-518-0752
Julia Thomson	919-967-9036

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

Spring Kick-off to the Racing/Cruising Season

2018 promises to be an exciting year with activities geared to all experience levels, including cruises, races and regattas.

The Ensign Racing Series begins with a practice day on March 15. Races will begin March 22 and run through May 3. For more information about the Ensign racing program please contact Mark or Mary Hittner at mark.hittner@yahoo.com.

The Dinghy Series, for Sunfish and other small craft, takes place in Northwest Creek. Contact Jerry Rezab at geraldrezab@yahoo.com for more information on these Sunday afternoon races.

Less intense but just as much fun, are the Tuesday afternoon Fun Races which begin in April. They feature pursuit starts based on PHRF rating. No entry fee is charged. If you don't have a boat but would like to crew, please contact John Jackson at jackson.jy@gmail.com. If your boat is not yet PHRF-rated, contact Bill Jarvis at bjarvis1@suddenlink.net to obtain your rating.

Our first regatta of the year is the Wilkerson Cup on April 15. Boats entered in this race must be owned by FHYC members. Crew, on the other hand, do not have to be members. This year's course has been laid out in a such a way that participants may find themselves at the whim of Mother Nature, more so than usual. The Wilkerson also uses a pursuit start. For more information, contact Russ Robinson at r.rubarb@gmail.com or 715-416-1439.

The Oar Race Regatta on May 19, is 20 to 25 miles long and commemorates the World War II evacuation of Dunkirk. The perpetual award is an oar used during that historic event. The oar hangs in the Fairfield Harbour Community Center and shows the names of past winners. For more information, contact Georgie Jackson at jackson.jy@gmail.com.

If you would like to crew or if you need crew, please contact Chris Davies at 252-649-1122 or Lucky Covati at 252-635-6452. They would love to sign you up!

There are several cruises planned for 2018. Both sailboats and power boats are welcome.

If you are not a member of FHYC and are interested in becoming one, please go to the FHYC website at FHYC.com for more information.

Barb Robinson

Shakedown Cruise

It's time to shake the winter off the boat and get on the water again. The Shakedown Cruise gives everyone a chance to try their boat for perhaps the first time this year. We're going to BridgePointe Marina. We leave Fairfield Harbour on Friday, April 20 and return on Sunday, April 22. Anyone interested in driving to this event is welcome.

On Friday there will be a splash on the dock beginning at 1700, weather permitting. Those whose last name begins with A through L are responsible for bringing a light appetizer. The splash will be followed by a potluck dinner on the dock. Louise and I will coordinate what is needed for the dinner. On Saturday, we will have a

splash on the dock at 1630 followed by a catered dinner in the hotel. The cost is \$20 per person.

The Dock Master wants us to provide a list of boaters, so he can assign slips. Please reserve your spot on the cruise with the form provided at the bottom of the flyer. Please do not call the Dock Master directly. We will provide him with a list of attendees and plan to bring a list of slip assignments to the captains' meeting which will be held in the Activities Building, Room 2, at 1000 on Wednesday, April 18.

We hope to see you there.

Don & Louise Knight

Sock Burning?

Yep, it's a real thing.

According to lore, the sock burning tradition started with ancient sailors who wore their socks all winter long on the seas and burned them with the advent of spring's warm weather. It was the only civilized thing to do.

FHYC has adopted the tradition and we hold our sock burning at or near the vernal equinox when the days are longer than the nights and the weather starts to warm.



So, come to Red Sail Park on March 17 at 1500 for a splash and to free your tootsies.

Bob Petritsch will supply the fire.

*George Stateham
Cruising Captain*

Sail the
WILKERSON CUP

April 15, 2018

Dare the Gods.

The course is set.

All we need is you!

Coming soon.
Registration information
in the *Semaphore*.

Program and Education

The Program and Education Committee sponsored a guided tour of the NC Maritime Museum in Beaufort on February 9, followed by lunch at Clawson's.



Skip Hird and Doug King examine a whale heart at the NC Maritime Museum.

The Thursday and Friday programs in March will be presented by Art Thinguldstad who will be discussing chart and electronic navigation.

*Joel Berberich
Committee Co-Chair*

Dredging in Fairfield Harbour

A group of Fairfield Harbour property owners, interested in having their slips dredged, have formed a focus group to pursue having this work done. The group met recently with representatives from the State of North Carolina (CAMA), the Fairfield Harbour POA and a dredging contractor to go over the details.

The FH Dredging Focus Group will continue to coordinate and work together to reduce the cost of dredging, impacted by the substantial effort required to get equipment to the site. We also want to ensure that permitting and other issues are understood and handled in an efficient manner. There are currently 13 property owners interested in dredging. We are hoping to get a total of 20 to take part. The schedule being pursued is to have the work completed in April and May.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Craig Myler, Tartan Court resident, at 240-405-5348 or craigamylar@gmail.com.

Doug King

Planning Committee: Looking at where we're going.

FHYC is doing very well; with new members, fun activities, and a great reputation in our community. Should we relax and "go with the flow?" In my experience, the time to pay attention to where you're going is when you're moving fast! The club's Planning Committee is working to do just that.

Our Mission Statement is to facilitate water-related and community programs that are interactive, interesting, educational and informative for members and guests; to encourage good, fair sportsmanship in competitive racing events and all organized programs for club members and invited area boaters; to promote participation of both power and sail boaters alike; and to foster community spirit by participating in events that meet the needs of the greater community.

I'm asking all of you to think about ways the club can do better as we pursue these goals.



The Planning Committee is working on a survey for all members. For now, we'd like you to think about two issues. Do you feel we have "equal opportunity" for power and sail, and what would make our activities more interesting or more accessible?

Of course, if you have opinions on these issues that just won't wait, please contact me at 919-608-2437 or douging888@yahoo.com.

Doug King

Did You know?

We all know that *scuttlebutt* means gossip. But did you know that it's an old nautical term for a barrel containing drinking water for the crew?

Blessing of the Fleet

Throughout the year, FHYC has many activities on and off the water, but the Blessing of the Fleet and Commissioning Day ceremonies are arguably our most important rites. These will occur Saturday, April 14. That date is shortly after the April General Meeting so please find the flyer and sign-up sheet in this *Semaphore*.



It's time to get our boats ready for the official opening of the season. This is the perfect way to kick it off and I certainly feel more secure with the blessing our boats receive.

*George Stateham
Cruising Captain*

Flip Flops for Fun!

Help put FHYC's spring drive, Flip Flops for Fun, on a solid footing!

Please consider purchasing one or more pairs of flip flops for toddlers to seniors for donation to and distribution by RCS in early May, just in time for summer enjoyment.



Collection receptacles will be available at FHYC's General Meetings in March and April. We'll also have a collection box at our home, 6009 Tartan Court, if that is more convenient.

As a point of reference, Tartan is one block past Commodore Jackson's home.

Joye Moloney