

The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 35, No. 3

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

April 2018



I'm writing this on March 10 and to say that March has "come in like a lion" is almost an understatement. First we had the lowest water many of us have seen while living here. Lots of boats were heeled over. Many of us were lucky to avoid bent stanchions as the water returned. Then, after 70 degree days, the temperature fell to 28 degrees in the morning. Couple that with one boat fire and so far March has not been good.

However, I am sure the Commodores' Ball in the middle of the month will brighten the spirits of all those who attend. A big thank you, from both Georgie and myself, to all who are involved in making it a wonderful evening.

As we move into April there is a lot going on. The highlight of the month is Commissioning Day. The parade of boats combined with the blessing of the fleet is wonderful. I hope all of you who have a boat of any size will get away from the dock and show off your boat to those on shore. The parade is followed by the flag raising ceremony remembering members who are no longer with us. The luncheon this year is a picnic at Red Sail Park, which should be lots of fun.

Of course Commissioning Day is followed by the Wilkerson Cup Regatta, named for Bill Wilkerson, a long time FHYC member and very active racer. It is for FHYC boats only. The Tuesday Fun racing series also starts in April. Also, April will be filled with Ensign racing, which started in March, and Sunfish/dinghy ra-

cing on Sunday afternoons. Of course for those boaters who don't race, there is the Shakedown Cruise (April 20-22) to Bridgeton Harbor Marina. This is always very good.

In short, there is lots going on in April and I hope to see you on the water.

John Jackson
Commodore

FHYC General Meeting

Thursday March 8, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 1930 by Commodore Jackson and he led club members in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence to remember Barbara Schmalhofer (wife of Jerry Allen).

The following guests were introduced: Michael Connally, John Myer and Sharon Brunson.

Membership co-chair Louise Knight presented the new members: Rick and Darci Critser, Patty and Cliff

Learnard, Janice and Craig Myler and Rob and Kim Tarkenton.

Commodore Jackson presented the new members with their burgees and welcomed them to the club. He also reported that a complimentary membership has been given to Jennifer Gudaitis, POA manager and this was approved by the board. The membership now totals 186.

The minutes from the February meeting were approved as printed in the Semaphore (King/Knight). The Treasurer's report was approved by the board and is available for review.

Rear Commodore's Report

The Medical Minute was presented by Barb Robinson on Avoiding Heat Loss and how to avoid and survive falling overboard.

The hosts for tonight were George and Lynn Stateham, Thomas Gunther and Barbara White

Norm Meissner reported on the Marine Assistance Committee. The

What's Happening

Apr	Thu	5	Ensign Race #3
	Su	8	Dinghy/Sunfish Race
	Mo	9	Board Meeting (ac) 1900
	Tu	10	Fun Racing
	Th	12	Ensign Race #4
	Th	12	General Meeting (cc)..... 1930
	Fr	13	EducationSeminar(cc).....0830
	Sa	14	Commissioning Day Ceremony..... 1130
	Su	15	Race: Wilkerson Cup
	Tu	17	Race: Fun Racing
	Th	19	Ensign Race #5
	Fr	20-22	Cruise: Bridgeton Harbor Marina Shakedown
	Su	22	Dinghy/Sunfish Race
	Tu	24	Fun Racing
	Th	26	Ensign Race #6
	Su	29	Dinghy/Sunfish Race

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

Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, April 16, 2018

Delivery is Saturday, April 28, 2018

committee met in February and members learned how to maintain and test gas pumps. There is now a 100-ft. extension cord and the committee is working on fabricating a towing bridle. The Google communication number is still being worked on and it was emphasized that the instructions in the yearbook could still be used.

Vice Commodore's Report:

The distribution, history and library committees are functioning well.

There was no store tonight due to space constraints from the play.

Barb Robinson was thanked for the great article she wrote for the Beacon and she will be contacting other committee chairs who would like publicity.

Commodore's Report

Cruising:

George Stateham gave a brief history of sock burning and announced that FHYC socks will be burnt March 17.

Commissioning Day will be April 14 with a parade and blessing of the fleet followed by a picnic in Red Sail Park. Registration forms are in the

The

Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Editors

Lynn Stateham	672-9171
Elliott Alterman	637-3458
Mark West	637-7914
Bill and JanGreen	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 email articles to the address listed below:
fhycsemaphore@gmail.com

Semaphore or on-line. They are due by April 6.

Commodore Jackson encouraged everyone to get their boat out for this special day and try to make it a 75-boat parade!!

Don Knight gave updated information on the Shakedown Cruise which will occur Friday April 20 thru Sunday April 22. The club will be going to the Bridgeton Harbor Marina and he will be sending out updated information.

Entertainment:

Rose Voss-Litke gave an update on the social events. The Bunco party held in February was a great success and everyone hopes this will happen again.

The Commodores' Ball will be held on Thursday March 15 with an attendance of 137. Roberta Flynn gave an update on the Commissioning Day picnic.

Regatta:

Georgie Jackson gave an update on the Wilkerson Cup and that Peggy and Bill Wilkerson's children have been invited.

Mark Hittner gave an update on the Ensign's Race which is 7-week racing series. For any information consult the *FHYC Yearbook* or contact Mark. He will also be sending out email updates.

Jackie Moniak announced that sunfish/dingy racing will have their first event on April 8. Races can be viewed from the Jarvis dock and she encouraged everyone to come out and watch.

Old Business:

Joye Moloney encouraged everyone to participate in the flip-flop donation through RCS. They can be brought to the April meeting or dropped off at Joye's house.

New Business:

Past Commodore Doug King announced that the planning committee is putting a member survey together to evaluate how FHYC is doing as well as how to improve the club. There will be an announced drop off box and information will be in the newsletter. Everyone is encouraged to return their survey or just talk to Doug.

George Stateham gave information for the good of the club that West Marine is having their grand opening

March 17 and will be price matching.

Program:

David Pfefferkorn introduced the speaker for the evening. The program was presented by Art Thinguldstad on the "Beginners Guide to Reading Nautical Charts" and the Friday educational program will correspond to this. Art requested that members planning on attending the Friday session let him know tonight for planning purposes. It will begin at 0900 in room 2 of the Activities Center.

He was given a mug and thanked for his presentation.

There was a motion to adjourn (Davies/King) and the club enjoyed a wonderful St. Patrick's Day food celebration afterwards.

Elaine Berberich

New Members

This month the Yacht Club welcomed 4 new couples:

Cliff and Patty Learnard moved



here from Belle Vernon in the Pittsburgh area of PA. They have 35 years of power boat experience and recently purchased a 25' Sea Hunt power boat, yet unnamed. Their sponsors are Bill and Lois Andrews and Ray and Andrea Bauer. Both Cliff and Andrea have chosen to serve on the Hospitality Committee.

Rick and Darci Critser moved here from Horseshoe Bend, Idaho. They have 40 years of power and sailing experience and currently have a 45' Star-

ratt Jenks sailboat named *Loose Chicken*, Their sponsors are Henry and Rose Litke and David and Leigh Pfefferkorn. Rick has chosen to work on



the Hospitality Committee and Darci has selected the Entertainment and Storekeeper Committees.

Rob and Kim Tarkenton moved here from Wilson, NC They have been boating and fishing on the Outer Banks for years. They have an 18' Boston Whaler power boat. Their sponsors are Jon and T.J. Bendicksen and Doug and Kathie King. To wet their feet, Rob has chosen the History Committee and



Kim has chosen the Hospitality Committee.

Craig and Janice Myler moved here from Frederick, MD. They have 15 years of sailing and 3 years of power boating experience and own a 46' Hunter sailboat named *Calypso*. Craig is the person who is trying to organize a dredging project in Fairfield Harbour. Their sponsors are Patrick and Joye Moloney and Norm and Yvonne Meissner. Craig has selected to assist



on the Maintenance Committee and Janice has chosen the Entertainment Committee.

Jenny McDiarmid

Shakedown Cruise 2018

There have been some changes in the Shakedown Cruise due to marinas being full. As we did last year, we will go to the Bridgeton Harbor Marina. It was a good place for the event last year. The dockmaster, Tom, has told me there will be no charges this year for the dock space or electricity. That is a good deal for us. Remember the cutoff date is Sunday, April 15.

The dockmaster wants me to provide a list of boaters so he can assign the slips. Please reserve your spot on the cruise with the form at the bottom of the flyer. I will provide him with a list of who will be there.

Do **not** call the dockmaster directly. I will try and bring a list of slip assignments to the captain's meeting. The Captains' meeting will be held in the Activities Building, room 2 at 1000 on Wednesday, April 18, 2018. Hope to see you there.

Don & Louise Knight

Commissioning Day

At the March general meeting, Commodore Jackson pointed out that most of our members have boats and if you are going to have your boat in the water even one day in the year, Commissioning Day and the Blessing

of the Fleet should be the day. Let's get our boats dressed up and show off our fleet and spirit on April 14.

Times and instructions are detailed in the flyer that was distributed with the March *Semaphore* and is available online. While not all our boats are configured to display flags in the traditional manner, to the extent you can please dress your boat properly (see the Commodores article in this issue for more information).

Return the bottom portion of the flyer to me at 902 Nautilus Ct. or email the information to george@stateham.com

*George Stateham,
Cruising Captain*

Air Show Overnight Cruise

Clubfoot Creek is a nice anchorage and at just seven miles from the end of the Cherry Point runway we frequently get a good look at aircraft coming and going. This is especially true during the annual MCAS Cherry Point Air Show.

Saturday and Sunday May 5 and 6 will both have a full day of air shows featuring a dizzying variety of military and civilian aircraft. While we won't be at the center of demonstrations there will be a lot of air traffic coming and going over the creek.

*George Stateham,
Cruising Captain*

A cautionary tale.....

Dead ahead, through the pitch-black night, a captain sees a light on a collision course with his ship.

Reaching for the radio, he says: "Change your course 10 degrees east".

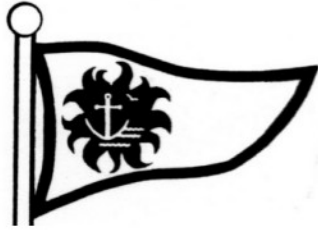
Change yours 10 degrees west, "comes the reply.

The captain responds, "I'm a navy captain! Change your course, sir!"

"I'm a seaman second class," the reply comes back. Change your course, sir.

The captain is furious. "I'm a battleship! I'm not changing course!"

The seaman replies, "I'm in a light-house. Your call."



Flag Etiquette

Last year after Commissioning Day, I was told by a few people that they thought some of our members were lacking proper flag etiquette.

Here are a few reminders:

FHYC Burgee: Power boats - on the bow or mast if the trawler has a mast. Sailing boats - either from the starboard spreader or from a pig stick at the top of the mast

Flags for Past Commodore, Board, and Bridge should be below the FHYC burgee.

US Flag: Power boats - typically from the stern, but with trawlers, it may be from the mast. Sailing boats may fly the US flag two thirds of the way up the back of the main sail

An Ensign: two thirds up the back of the mast

Alphabet flags: usually from the bow to the top of the highest mast, then to a second mast if there is one, and down to the stern

There is no place on Commissioning Day for cocktail, pirate or political flags

If you are spelling out some message, the flags generally are from the port spreader

For complete information, see Chapman's "Piloting, Seamanship, and Small Boat Handling," or Google "Flag Etiquette for Boats".

*John Y. Jackson
Commodore*

MAN-OVER-BOARD DRILL

Always WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET when onboard

EVERYONE onboard should have a life jacket including children and pets

INSTRUCT one person onboard to point out where the victim went overboard

Show EVERYONE onboard where the MOB (man over board) button on the chart plotter is and how to use it.

If you fall over board, DON'T PANIC

REDUCE loss of body heat with the H.E.L.P. position (draw knees up to body)

All life jackets should have an attached whistle and water proof flashlight

BLOW the whistle day or night

USE the flashlight at night

Victims, who conserved energy, remained afloat and stayed near where they fell in, were more likely to be successfully rescued.

The best option is not to fall overboard in the first place.

Do you know the origin of the phrase....

"THE SUN IS OVER THE YARDARM"

By definition, a traditional nautical saying to indicate that it is time for a morning drink.

The yardarms on a sailing ship are the horizontal timbers or spars mounted on the masts, from which the square sails are hung. It was generally assumed in northern latitudes the sun would show above the foreyard (topmost yardarm) of a ship by 1100, which was about the time in many ships of the forenoon 'stand-easy'. Many officers and their men would slip below for their first drink of the day (the officers had their tots neat, the men's diluted). It seems that officers in sailing ships adopted a custom, **even when on shore**, of waiting until this time before taking their first alcoholic drink of the day.

"The body is weak but the spirit is strong"

The Memorial Celebration-of-Life for Barbara Schmalhofer will be at Red Sail Park on Sunday April 15 at 1300.

Everybody is welcome.