

The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 36 No. 2

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

March 2019



View From The Bridge

Well, it looks like spring is around the bend. After Florence, it's just as well that winter has been mild. By the time we celebrate the Sock Burning our boating season should be close to kick-off. It's time to break out all the cleaning supplies and plan an attack on the winter grime.

We had a great meeting Thursday. Thanks to Linda Duncan & Phil Katz and David & Paula Phipps for the hospitality room. It's tough when you are competing with Cupid for the time slot. Dave Pfefferkorn gave a great presentation on new and improved electronics for our boats despite the techno-gremlins.

Welcome aboard to David & Carrie Miller and Stephan Brockman & Linda Juraneck.

It just gets better. As of this writing the Wednesday dinner at Morgan's is full and the Commodores' Ball is getting there. If you plan on attending the ball, please get your reservations in. Pam Gaskill has some time constraints due to travel, so don't delay. We have a maximum capacity of 150 and are around 100 now.

Our resident diver and FHYC member, Kirk Hathaway, has participated in forming a band called Harbour House, which has now published its first CD. Contact Kirk if you are interested in listening to his music.

Sailing/Racing season is underway. I hope folks will get out and support them even if you don't race. Sometimes it's fun to watch or help. Mark your calendars to note that Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club and

Blackbeard Sailing Club are holding a seminar for boat operators that "may be interested in helping out as mark boats and safety boats." This will take place Saturday, March 9, at 1130 and includes a free lunch. Special thanks to Georgie Jackson for all the work she and her committee have done to get the race season off to a good start.

It's time to start making plans for cruising season, which is just around the corner. There are some great cruises in store. The cruises are listed in the calendar in the Yearbook.

As I have said before, it's your club and it's what you make of it.

*Till next month,
Ralph Azersky, Commodore*

FHYC General Meeting February 14, 2019

Commodore Ralph Azersky called the meeting to order at 1930 hours and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Guests were introduced and welcomed.

Kathy Fortenbaugh welcomed the following new members: David & Carrie Miller and Stephan Brockman & Linda Juraneck. Commodore Azersky presented them with their burgees. Kathy Fortenbaugh announced that current club membership is 178.

The January minutes were approved as printed in the *Semaphore* (Clark/Jarvis). The Treasurer's report was approved by the board and is available for review. The budget will be online in the next few weeks.

Committee Reports:

Rear Commodore Mark West

Vice Commodore Ritchie Thomson reported for Mark West who was out of town.

The hosts for tonight were Linda Duncan & Phil Katz and David & Paula Phipps. Kathie King will give a First Aid presentation on February 15. She also presented a Medical Minute on the importance of getting a flu shot. Norman Meissner and the Marine Assistance Committee will have a towing exercise on March 15. Skip Hird reported that Navigation Aid Red #2 and Green #5 and #9 are down. The range marker is off the pole.

Vice Commodore Ritchie Thomson

The *Semaphore* deadline is noon Monday, February 18. Mary Grosser put out a photo display from the library and Ritchie reminded everyone of the nautical books available in the library for checkout. The History Committee continues to digitize yacht club documents.

What's Happening

Mar	Mo	11 Board Meeting (ac)	0900
	Th	14 General Meeting (cc)	1930
	Fr	15 Education Seminar (cc)	0830
	Th	21 Commodores' Ball (Carolina Colours)	1730
	Sa	23 Sock Burning (rs)	1500
	Th	28 Race: Ensign Race #1	TBD

(cc) = Community Center, (rs) = Red Sail Park, (ac) = Activity Center

Deadline for the next issue is noon on Monday, March 18

Delivery is Saturday, March 30, 2019

Public Relations will have two articles in the next addition of the *Beacon*. The Storekeeper is taking orders for the yacht club throw, which is a nautical map of Fairfield Harbour and the cost is \$40.

Commodore Ralph Azersky

George Stateham reported that the Blessing of the Fleet will be Saturday, April 13. Even though some of our members' boats are out of commission, he would like to beat last year's count of 36 boats. There will be a flyer in the *Semaphore*. The Shakedown Cruise has been moved to May 3-5 in Oriental. There are only twelve slips available and three have already been reserved. Call the Oriental Marina to get your reservation. They have a nice dinghy dock so you can anchor out. The Sock Burning will be held on March 23, at Red Sail Park at 1500. Bring a beverage and some "old socks."

Kathy Fortenbaugh reported that two prospective members were attending their second meeting tonight and the Membership Committee will be scheduling an Orientation.

Susanne Pendleton reported that the Commissioning Day luncheon will be

Saturday, April 13. There will be a flyer in the *Semaphore* with details. Pam Gaskill reminded everyone to get their reservations in for the Commodores' Ball. Currently she has 99 reservations with a maximum allowed of 150. Deadline for signing up is March 11. Deb Stone announced that the yacht club dinner will be Wednesday, February 20, at 1730 at Morgan's Tavern & Grill.

Georgie Jackson reported that Blackbeard Sailing Club and Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club are having a joint seminar on Saturday, March 9, at 1130 on mark boats, safety boats, and committee boats. This "free" seminar will include lunch and hands on experience on land. No experience is needed.

The Wilkerson Cup Race will be held Sunday, April 14. The board approved opening the race up to anyone who lives in Fairfield Harbour, has a boat in Fairfield Harbour, Blackbeard's Marina, or Northwest Creek Marina. The traveling trophy will only be awarded to a member of the Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club. Any other winners will be given some type of mug or cup.

Old Business:

The budget will be posted by month end.

New Business:

Commodore Azersky reminded everyone of the importance of communication within the yacht club. Committee chairs should communicate with their board liaisons, other committee chairs, and members of their committee.

The following significant anniversaries were recognized: Peter & Elaine Fisher, George & Lynn Stateham, Irene Vuich – 15 years. Sam & Delle Curry, Bill & Evelyn Nolan – 20 years.

Dave Pfefferkorn gave a presentation on new electronic products available from West Marine and recommended several software applications to use while cruising/ sailing.

A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting (Curry/Jarvis).

Respectively submitted,

Carol Cavins, Acting Secretary

Wilkerson Cup – New Information

The 22nd annual Wilkerson Cup will be held on April 14, 2019. The race was named to honor Bill Wilkerson, a passionate FHYC sailboat racer. He always looked forward to the regatta competitions. He died in 1996 after a short fight with cancer. He claimed he could teach you how to sail in two hours!

This year the FHYC Board has voted to allow **ANYONE** who is a resident in Fairfield Harbour, has a boat at his own dock, at Blackbeard Sailing Club, or at Northwest Creek Marina to enter the race. Join the FHYC members and follow Bill Wilkerson's example to encourage everyone to get their boats out on the water and let your competitive spirit come alive!

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers will receive coffee mug awards with their boat pictures on them. The 1st place FHYC boat will also receive the Wilkerson Cup traveling trophy.

Lots more information will be in next month's *Semaphore*.

Georgie Jackson, Regatta Chair

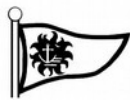
Education: Towing

The Education Committee and Marine Assistance Committee are jointly sponsoring an on-the-water towing exercise on Friday, March 15, at 0900. Norman Meissner will be sending an email that week with plans for members including an option to use your boat as a towed or towing vessel.



The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Editors

Lynn Stateham	672-9171
Elliott Alterman	637-3458
Bill and Jan Green	919-518-0752
Chuck Smith	635-1359
Larry Knapp	634-3018
Julia Thomson	919-967-9036

Distribution Co-Chairs

Ed Klebaur	633-6264
Jerry Rezab	876-2170

Website: www.fhyc.us

email: fhyc-nc@googlegroups.com

Deadline

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



NEW MEMBERS

Our wonderful club continues to grow! We are excited to announce the following new members who were welcomed at our February meeting.

Stephan Brockman and Linda Juranek (on right) moved here from Long Beach, CA, where they still own a home. They plan to split their time between Fairfield Harbour and Long Beach. Their new home is on Cardinal Drive. They have 45 years of power boating and seven years of sailing experience. Their 23 foot powerboat is named *Why Knot*. They also belong to the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club. Their sponsors are Lois & Bill Andrews and Bev & Arne Myrseth. Stephan has chosen Marine Assistance and Linda selected Entertainment and Distribution as their committees.

David and Carrie Miller (on left) moved here from Geneva, NY and are living on Stern Court. They have 40 years of power boating and three years of sailing experience. They have a 37 foot Wellcraft power boat named *Shenanigans*. Their sponsors are John & Georgie Jackson and Adrian & Erin Vergot. David has chosen Marine Assistance and Carrie has selected Medical Support as their committees.

Please make them feel welcome when you see them at our next meeting, on the water, or at other club activities.

Mark & Safety Boats Seminar

Blackbeard Sailing Club will host a **FREE** mark boat / safety boat seminar on March 9 beginning at 1130 at their club house.

Sailors who race their boats know how important mark boats and safety boats are. The mark boat crew has responsibilities much greater than simply dropping and retrieving the race marks. The mark boat crew should be able to perform their duties with limited direction from the signal boat. This seminar will be directed at both new and experienced mark boat crews, with some limited time spent on their responsibilities as safety boat crews. The safety boat is the third power boat standing by to make sure

no one has any problems.

If you're not familiar with the racing terminology, never fear! All will be explained in the seminar.

Come for an interesting hands-on afternoon on land. A working lunch of pizza and beer/soda/water will start the seminar at 1130, will be followed by a break, and then out to the BSC grounds for hands-on exercises. The seminar will end about 1600.

If you have a small power boat, want to learn about what happens out on the water with sailboat racing, and can donate your time regularly or now-and-then, then join us! No experience needed and no charge for lunch – what a deal! Call Georgie Jackson (637-9781) or email her jacksonjv@gmail.com to register by March 7.

Blessing of the Fleet

FHYC has many activities on and off the water throughout the year, but the Blessing of the Fleet and Commissioning Day ceremonies are arguably our most important rites. This year, 2019, they will occur on April 13, which is only two days after the April meeting, so the flyer is in this issue of the *Semaphore*. The flyer has detailed information and sign-up sheet.

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 good knowing my boat has been blessed. We had 36 boats last year. Let's see if we can top that.

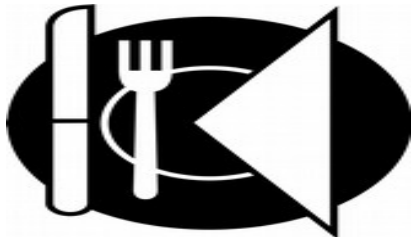
George Stateham, Cruising Captain

Sock Burning? Yep, it's a real thing.

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

FHYC has adopted the tradition. We hold our sock burning on a Saturday 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 23 at 1500 for a splash and free your tootsies. Again this year Bob Petritsch will supply the fire.

George Stateham, Cruising Captain



Wednesday Night Dinners

For many years the Yacht Club has had monthly Wednesday night dinners. These dinners are planned for most months on the Wednesday following the General Meeting. They are a perfect occasion to meet new and old members and try different restaurants. The past two years Carol Frysiek has done a great job selecting and coordinating these dinners. Deb Stone has recently assumed this responsibility and hopes she can do as well as her predecessors.

Our recent dinner at SAKE was well attended with nearly 50 members dining. Although the food was very good, with many folks opting for sushi, the service was slow for a handful of our members. In the future, good service will be stressed with the restaurants selected. Deb has several ideas for this year but would welcome any additional restaurant ideas.



Past Commodore Karl Mielenhausen Named USCG Auxiliariest of the Year

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club is well represented in the New Bern Flotilla. Past Commodore Karl Mielenhausen was named USCG Auxiliariest of the Year and Mike Kent was installed as Vice Commander. Special Awards were presented to TJ Bendicksen for most patrol hours, George Maravelas for most vessel exams, and Karl Mielenhausen for most member training hours. Additionally, our past FHYC director, Bill Flynn, served as the USCG Auxiliary Commander for the past two years. Thanks to them, and to all members of the New Bern Flotilla, for providing this valuable service to our community.



*"You'll be fine with me.
I know these waters like the back of my hand."*