

The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 40, No. 4

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

May 2023



Commodore's Update From the Helm

As this is written we're just finishing the FHYC Spring Commissioning weekend, in which our membership enjoyed the annual Blessing of the Fleet, and formal Spring Commissioning Ceremony and, the Memorial Service. Afterwards, a wonderful catered luncheon with champagne kicked off the 2023 boating season! Each of these activities had been carefully planned and well executed, and the result was clearly reflected in the delighted smiles of those who attended! Our sincere thanks to the dozens of dedicated members who assisted in pulling together such a memorable day! These are the sorts of things our members carry with them for a long, long time, and which make membership in FHYC such an engaging proposition!

Looking ahead to the May calendar, your club moves into the summer boating season with another popular Full Moon Raft Up on the inner harbor late in the afternoon of Wednesday, May 3. Plan to get out on the water; BYOB and a dish to share!

Then on Friday, May 5, you'll want to join us at Red Sail Park at

1600 hrs for our Cinco de Mayo celebration. Bring a Mexican dish to share!

Summer cruising begins in earnest with the "Shakedown Cruise" from Fairfield Harbour to Oriental over the weekend of May 12 to 14, with thirteen boats scheduled to participate. And don't forget the small boat cruise to the Saltwater Grill for lunch at 1130 hrs on Wednesday, May 17. Land yachts are welcome!

Competitive sailors will definitely want to register for the 39th annual John Wilkerson Oar Race to be run on Saturday, May 20. For those of you who may be new to the club, this race commemorates the British evacuation at Dunkirk and runs a course about the length of crossing the English channel. The perpetual trophy is an oar from a boat

that took part in the evacuation, and is the oar you see on display in the hall of the Community Center. Please visit the club website or contact Tom Graves for further information.

Lastly, without getting too far ahead of ourselves, you'll want to mark your calendar Saturday, June 3, where if you remember the "secret password", you'll be admitted to our Speakeasy at 1700 hrs in the Community Center. You'll need to bring your own Sarsaparilla or Root Beer, but we'll provide the Roaring 20's music. Period costumes are encouraged though not required! You'll enjoy a brief and entertaining presentation on the history of Prohibition and Bootlegging along the East Coast! Flappers and their escorts are welcome!

Dave Phipps, Commodore

What's Happening in May

May 2023	We	3	Full Moon Raft Up	1700
	Th	4	Ensign Race #6	1300
	Fr	5	Cinco de Mayo Potluck	1600
	Sat-Su	6-7	NYRA Cinco de Mayo race	
	Su	7	Sunfish Race	1400
	Mo	8	Board Meeting (AC2)	1600
	Th	11	Ensign Race #7	1300
	Th	11	General Meeting (CC)	1900
	Fr	12	Education: Seminar (AC2)	TBA
	Fr	12-14	Shakedown Cruise or Land Cruiser with Wine Tasting, Nautical Trivia & Shrimparoo	
	Su	14	Sunfish Race	1400
	Sa	20	Oar Race	

(cc)=Community Center, (rs)=Red Sail Park, (ac)=Activities Center, (v)=online.

Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, May 15, 2023.

A digital copy will be delivered online, on or before June 1, 2023.



The Semaphore
Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club

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Deadline

The deadline for receiving articles is 1200 noon on the Monday following the General meeting.

Please email articles to:

fhycsemaphore@gmail.com



Photos by Russ Robinson

Boats, Bubbles and BBQ

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club Kicks Off the 2023 Boating Season in Style

What a great beginning to the 2023 boat season! A spectacular boat parade with Blessing of the Fleet. A lovely Commissioning Day Ceremony at the water's edge opened the boating season and a delicious luncheon capped it all off. The luncheon was held at the Community Center and was catered by Smithfield's Chicken & BBQ.

A special champagne toast by Commodore Dave Phipps put everyone in the mood.



The Corks Were Popping!

Toast to the 2023 Boating Season

“Gather ye my shipmates, listen to the siren’s call.

On wind and wave, she whispers, take leave of winter’s pall.

She calls to sloops and trawlers, to brigs and dinghy’s all.

The Neuse and Sound are waiting, for vessels stout and tall.

So loose your lines, hoist your anchors; Raise your sails and your glasses too!

Adventures, memories, and even mermaids, are waiting there for you”

Dave Phipps, Commodore

Members enjoyed a fried chicken and pork barbeque buffet capped off by nautical cupcakes. A good time was had by all. Special thanks to the Entertainment Committee who put this event together.



Commodore Dave Phipps Makes a Champagne toast While Vice Commodore Craig Myler Joins In





Volunteers Needed for Fun Day at Fairfield Harbour

The Fishing Club has partnered with several Clubs to provide a Fun Day at Fairfield Harbour with the Boys and Girls Club (B&G). AND we need your help.

The B&G Club pledges to provide a safe, educational, enriching experience for kids of all ages. In the past, Fairfield Harbour Fishing Club has participated in a Fun day of fishing and the kids

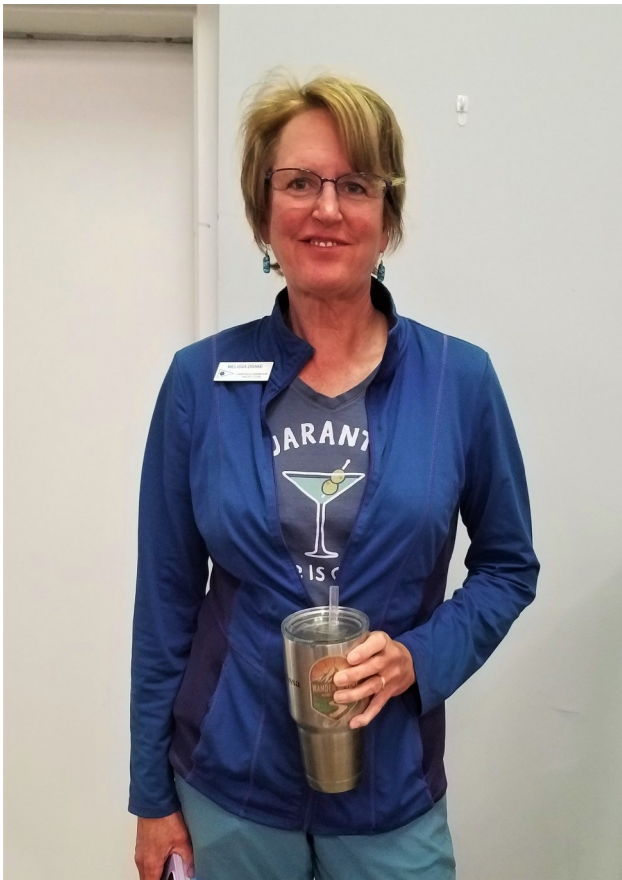
truly enjoyed their time here.

This year we chose to expand the day to include other clubs, including Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club and the Pickleball Club, and provide more experiences for the kids. The plan is to give them an educational and fun day at the Harbour that they will remember as well as to inspire them to continue a path of being upstanding citizens. Your help is greatly needed to make this a successful day.

The Fun Day date is set for June 23, 10:00-4:30 pm, approximately 60 kids will participate. Set-up time(s) and location(s) of activities will be firmed up as we get closer to the date. We plan to provide activities such as; fishing, pickleball, corn hole, bocce ball, golf/putting, and provide lunch. Volunteers would assist with chaperoning events, set-up activities, set-up lunch and oversee as needed. The B&G will provide transportation around the Harbour.

If you'd like more information on the Boys and Girls Club of the Coastal Plain, visit their website: www.bgccp.com.

Again, we need volunteers – contact Steve Mink, 760-885-7980, or Dave Phipps at 808-312-0560 at your earliest convenience!



May General Meeting Program

The Down East Loop

FHYC member and highly experienced sailor, Melissa Drake will share experiences of cruising the Down East Loop at our May 11 General meeting.

Melissa grew up on the Illinois river and boated with her dad. She has her 25-ton Inland Operator's License and she has worked as a whitewater raft guide in California, Idaho, West Virginia, and Costa Rica.

With her husband Jerry, she continues to raft out west. Together they share the ownership of a 75-foot houseboat on Lake Powell.

In 2006/2007, Melissa and Jerry did the America's Great Loop cruise on their 39-foot Silverton power boat, *Drakes Dream*. They cruised the mini loop down the Erie, Oswego and Rideau canals into Lake Champlain in 2002.

Cruising to Key West and back to New Bern is also part of their amazing experiences.

Olwen Jarvis, Past Commodore

FHYC April General Meeting

At the April 13 FHYC General Meeting Peter Marechal was introduced to the membership as the latest new member. Peter recently moved to the Harbour from San Diego, California. He has 25 years of boating experience. Besides his love of boats he is also a rock and roll musician and motorcycle enthusiast. His boat is a *Trintella* 42 sailboat. His sponsors are Peter and Kathy Clay, and Doug and Kathie King. Welcome.

The guests for the evening were Dan and Cindy Baker (virtually). This is their second meeting. They have filled out their membership paperwork and submitted it to the membership committee. Their sponsors were Russ and Barb Robinson and Ralph Azersky.

The program for the evening dealt with restoring old boats. As Adrian called them, "Barn Finds". Past Commodore Adrian Vergot and Terri Shea from Duck Creek Marina discussed some of the restoration issues on Adrian's boat including use of the best products. Several questions were asked about these products and why Terri uses them

Barbara Robinson, Past Commodore



Starting at the left, Kathie King, Doug King, Pam Miller, new member Peter Marechal, Kathy Clay, and Peter Clay



Charlie or George heading down NorthWest Creek for dinner.

Elliott Alterman 1943—2023

Elliott died in Florida after a short illness. The event was totally unexpected. He is survived by his wife Ina. They lived in Fairfield Harbour for many years and they were longtime members of the Fairfield Yacht Club participating in many cruises and gunkholing's. They were also members of the Chesapeake Bay Sabre Association, and they sailed the Chesapeake on their 87' Tartan named "*Windfall*" for many years. Coming to Fairfield Harbour they purchased a Catalina 34 they named "*Late Arrival*". Elliott was involved in the production of the Semaphore and worked for a long time with VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) in New Bern. He will be sorely missed.

If you wish to donate to a charity to honor Elliott, the following were provided by Ina.

Doctors without Borders, <http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org>
Chesapeake Bay Foundation, <https://www.cbf.org/index.html>



John Walsh Memorial Oar Race Is Coming

The Oar Race has a long history in the Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club. It was started by John Walsh in 1984 and has evolved ever since. Some Oar traditions have changed over the years.

For several years the Oar Race was a destination race, and linked with the Michelob Cup. The Oar went to Oriental, and the Cup came to New Bern the following day. It was run on Labor Day Weekend with racing Saturday and Sunday, with Monday as a holiday to recover. The distance to Oriental was approximately the same distance across the English Channel as boats used in the evacuation of 1940 Dunkirk, which is where the oar came from and what it commemorates. For the past few years the race has been

held in the Spring, its distance about 20 – 22 miles, but starting and ending near Fairfield Harbour, Northwest Creek.

The 39th John Walsh Memorial Oar Race commemorates the 1940 evacuation of Dunkirk. The perpetual trophy, which is kept on display by FHYC in the Community Building, is an oar used during the historic event. The Race will have two courses: Course A is for those larger faster competing for a miniature oar and the boat's name on the wall in the Community Center. Course A is expected to be approximately 18 – 20 miles long. Course B will be for smaller, slower boats and will be approximately 7 - 9 miles long. The winner of Course B will also be awarded a miniature oar and will also have the boat's name on the wall.

After the race there will be a gathering for a **BYOB potluck / awards ceremony** beginning at 1800 (6:00 p.m.) at Red Sail Park.

To register, go to FHYC website fhyc.us/fhyc, click on "racing", and download Oar Race NoR and SI. Fill out the registration form & waiver. Mail it to **815 Pelican, New Bern NC 28560** **Deadline for registering is Thursday May 18 1800 (6:00 p.m.), no exceptions!** You will receive your course and start time on Friday afternoon. No registration -- no course or start time for you! I look forward to seeing you on the water.

Barbara Robinson, Past Commodore

DO YOU TAKE BRAS?

I was at the Cart Barn at 0800 hrs on Friday morning when a woman who was walking her dog came up to me and asked if I took bras. This is not a question most people ask strangers but in this case I was able to give her an answer to her question. **Yes, we do!** I was manning the FHYC RCS Spring clothing drive at the Cart Barn and we certainly did take bras. About two hours later another woman stopped by to ask the same question. I have no idea how many bras we took in, but once again the generosity of the Fairfield Harbour community came through in spades.

This was my first solo clothing drive without Georgie Jackson so I wanted to make sure it went well. The outpouring of support from the volunteers who came out to help collect the donated clothing to the residents who donated clothing was amazing. Russ and I were receiving clothing two weeks before the dates. By the end of the first day of collection on Friday March 24, we had enough to fill up the RCS big box truck. The truck was due to pick up the clothing at 1500 (3:00 p.m.), but there was a fire along Broad Creek Road that closed the road. RCS wasn't able to do the actual pick up until 1600 (4:00 p.m.). Two of my volunteers stayed past their time until the truck arrived and then helped load up.

The next day we expected to have a lighter collection. Once again the community came through and we were able to fill three-quarters of a big box truck!

Thank you all who volunteered and donated. RCS services three counties with families in need. If you missed this collection, we will have the Fall FHYC RCS clothing drive or you can take your clothing directly to the RCS facility. Call to find out their hours. 252-633-2767.

Barbara Robinson, Past Commodore

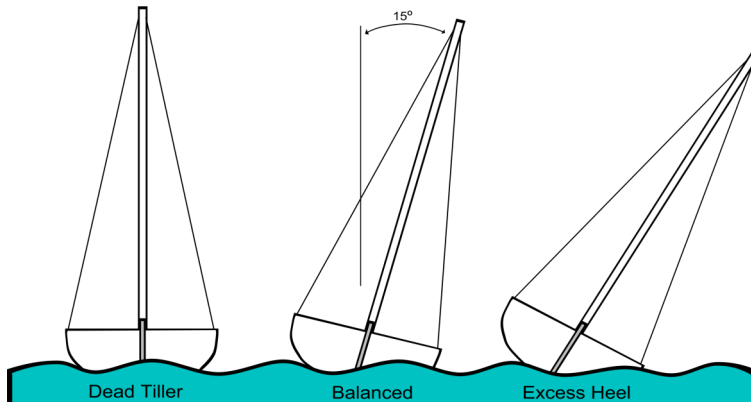


THE SUNFISH ARE BACK!

The Sunfish Spring Racing Season has begun. Sunday was a great day for the opener. The following are the stats from the races on Sunday April 2. Congratulations to all participants!

SUNFISH			PLACEMENT				SCORING				
			Date: 04/02/2023				04/02/2023 Spring				
			# of Race #				Race # 2023				
Competitor	Sail #	Races	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	Total
Frank, Eric	32	4	1	3	1	1	5	3	5	5	18
Lang, Al	3696	4	2	1	2	4	4	5	4	2	15
Rezab, Jerry	850	4	4	2	3	2	2	4	3	4	13
Moore, DJ	24	4	3	4	4	3	3	2	2	3	10
Humphries, Izzy	Org/Wht	4	5	5	5	5	1	1	1	1	4

Barbara Robinson, Past Commodore



Golden Globe Race: Return of the Heroes



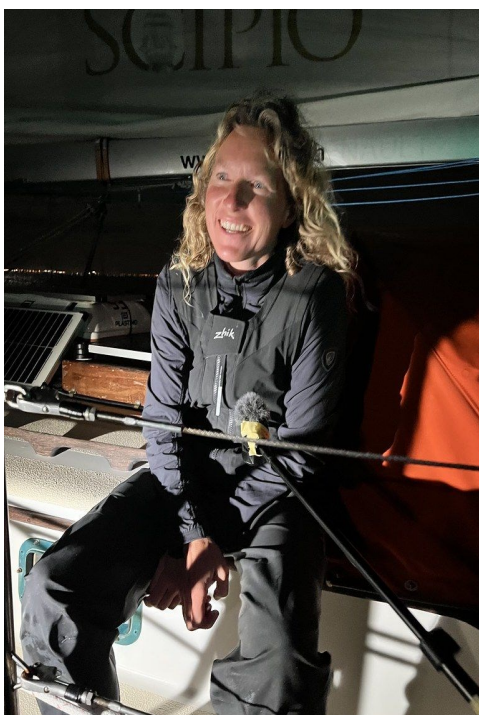
Kirsten Neuschäfer wins the Golden Globe Non-stop Round the World Race

It's been nearly eight months since they set out to conquer the oceans. Using just the wind and a simple sextant, this epic solo round-the-world sailing race was undertaken with no stopovers and no technology.

There were 16 skippers on the starting line, but only three of them can claim the title. In addition, two of the sixteen will complete their circumnavigation after having made a stopover to repair their boats.

Kirsten Neuschäfer (South Africa) on *Minihaha* is the first woman to have

rounded Cape Horn at the head of a solo round-the-world race. She finished at 21.43 GMT on 27 April. This incredible adventurer also made her mark on the race by saving the life of a competitor and shipwrecked sailor, Tapio Lehtinen from Finland.



Kirsten Neuschäfer on *Minihaha*



Behind her and yet to finish are Abhilash Tomy (India) on *Bayanat*, former commander of the Indian Navy and Michael Guggenberger on *Nuri* (Austria).

Simon Curwen (UK) on *Clara* had already finished 24 hours earlier winning the Chichester class because he had one stop for repairs. Last week, skipper Ian Herbert-Jones (UK) was the victim of a violent storm off

the coast of Tierra del Fuego. He was shipwrecked after leaving Picton, his port of call. Rescued by a Taiwanese ship, the sailor is now safe and sound.

Eleven other sailors had to give up, hit hard by a merciless race that breaks men, boats, and dreams.



Abhilash Tomy on *Bayanat*

Racing

- ODC
- BSC
- NYRA
- FHVC

- BTS
- PSC
- Other

- S – Sunfish
- E – Ensign
- F – Fun
- H – Holiday

- AC – Activity Center
- CC – Community Center
- RS – Red Sail Park
- CB – Pelican Cart Barn
- IH – Inner Harbour



May 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2 ● FUN race	3 RAFT-UP Full Flower Moon Raft Up TBA @ IH	4 ● BSC Ensign Race #6	5 Full Flower Moon Cinco de Mayo PotLuck 1700 @ Red Sail Park	6 ● NYRA Cinco de Mayo Race
7 ● FHYC and BSC Sunfish Racing ● NYRA Cinco de Mayo Race	8 Board FHYC	9 ● FUN race	10	11 ● BSC Ensign Race #7 General Meeting 1900 @ CC	12 Education Seminar-TBA FHYC CRUISE Shake-Down	13 FHYC CRUISE Shake-Down
14 FHYC CRUISE Shake-Down ● FHYC and BSC Sunfish Racing	15 Semaphore Deadline: 1200 noon	16 ● FUN race	17 FHYC CRUISE Day Cruise – Saltwater Grille Lunch at 11.30	18	19	20 FHYC Oar Race
21 Open Boat Membership Drive Time and Location TBD	22	23 ● FUN race	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30 ● FUN race	31	1	2	3

