

# The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 41, No. 2

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

February 2024



## The Adventure Continues

### Commodore's Update

We entered our 40 anniversary year with a very well attended and executed Change of Watch Ceremony conducted at the January 11 General Membership meeting. Twelve Past Commodores were in attendance and another two dozen members were applauded for their contributions to making our club successful. Dave Phipps was praised for his leadership over the last year, including recognition of his commitment to the club. Dave was presented with a brass sextant mounted on an engraved oak stand, recognizing his tenure as Commodore of the Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club. The sextant symbolizes the direction which Dave has guided and led the club.

I was honored to be named your 39th Commodore and took the oath to uphold the principles of the club and to work with the Board of Governors to continue our traditions while exploring new and exciting ways to enjoy being a club member. The guiding purposes of the club are to conduct activities for the pleasure and recreation of the members and to promote yachting, the service of seamanship, social events among its members, and safety on the waterways. I will strive to see that we accomplish these purposes in my

tenure as those before me have done so well.

While we have our traditions we must also be on the look-out for new and exciting opportunities to have fun as a club. We are actively working to mold our racing program to fit the desires of the club, expanding our cruising horizons, and seeking new venues for our outings and events. At the same time, we want to make sure those activities which have served us well in the past are continued. We expect to modernize our communications this coming year to assure our avenues of communications are meeting the needs of the membership. This means looking at updating our website as well as the processes we use for obtaining and maintaining information necessary for smooth operations. We will continue providing a monthly schedule update with the intent to insure all of the club activities are communicated to all of our members.

In short, it is vital that we have fun. It is really what it is all about.

*Craig Myler, Commodore*



## What's Happening in February

February 2024	Sa	3	NYRA—Winer Series race 7	
	Mo	5	FHYC Board Meeting	1600
	Tu	6	Soup Cook-off	
	Th	11	FHYC General Meeting	1900
	Su	11	Valentine's Race	
	Wed	14	Valentine Dinner—La Casetta	1800
	Sa	17	Commodore's Ball Regatta	
	Sun	18	Gathering for Jackie Moniak	
	Wed	21	New Members Reception	

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

**Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, February 12.**

A digital copy will be delivered online, on or before January 31, 2024.

## 2024 FHYP CHANGE OF WATCH

They say that a picture is worth a thousand words. In this case it is true. On January 11, 2024, FHYP celebrated their 39th change in the watch. New Past Commodore Dave Phipps swore in New Commodore Craig Myler, handing Craig his new badge and flag. Craig then took over the ceremony, thanking Dave Phipps for his service to the club and swore Dave in as a new Past Commodore. Craig then gave Dave his new name tag and flag. As a parting gift, the club gave Dave Phipps a sextant, etched with his name, the club logo and the date of service as Commodore.



*Dave Phipps, Past Commodore*

This was a busy night. Craig, as new Commodore, next asked the membership to recognize all the past Commodore present and not present.

Craig Myler then inducted Steve Husted as Vice Commodore and presented him with his flag and new badge.

### 2024 Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club Past Commodores

1984	Nehring	2004	Curry	(Present)
1985	"	2005	Mitchell	
1986	Knight - Bob	2006	Knight	
1987	"	2007	Ober	
1988	Babington	2008	Ward	
1989	Wolf	2009	Dunn	
1990	Clark	2010	Jarvis	(Present)
1991	Rabal	2011	Mierenhausen	
1992	Chord	2012	Florence	
1993	Goodman	2013	Skrotzky	(Present)
1994	Kline	2014	Fleckenstein	
1995	Snedeker	2015	Stateham	(Present)
1996	Robinson	2016	Knight - Louise	
1997	Lelli (Present)	2017	King	(Present)
1998	Baker	2018	Jackson	(Present)
1999	Taubert	2019	Azarsky	(Present)
2000	Chalko	2020	Thomson	(Present)
2001	Gil	2021	Vergot	(Present)
2002	Conzelman	2022	Robinson	(Present)
2003	Martin	2023	Phipps	(Present)



Commodore Myler then installed the new board members: Peter Clay (Director), Lynn Stateham (Director), Julia Thomson (Secretary) and John Jackson (Rear Commodore). All were presented with their new badges and flags.



*Peter Clay, Lynn Stateham, Julia Thomson, and John Jackson*

Craig then asked for each of the returning board members to stand and be recognized: Dave Miller Director, Leigh Hart Director, Buddy Jewell Treasurer, Andrew Underhill Director and Delle Curry Director. Joel Berberich, as returning Fleet Surgeon and Matt Esmacher as returning Chaplain were also recognized. Commodore Myler next duty was to ask the membership to recognize the 2023 outgoing board members: Pam Miller (Director), Erin Vergot (Secretary), Barb Robinson (Past Commodore) and Phil Katz (Director).

### 2024 Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club Board of Governors

<b>Bridge</b>		<b>Directors</b>	
Commodore - Craig Myler		Andrew Underhill	Leigh Hart
Vice Commodore - Steve Husted		Lynn Stateham	Dave Miller
Rear Commodore - John Jackson		Delle Curry	Peter Clay
Secretary - Julia Thomson		<b>Past Commodore</b>	
Treasurer - Buddy Jewell		David Phipps	
Fleet Surgeon - Joel Berberich (NV)			
Fleet Chaplain - Matt Esmacher (NV)			

the 2023 outgoing board members: Pam Miller (Director), Erin Vergot (Secretary), Barb Robinson (Past Commodore) and Phil Katz (Director).

### *The Semaphore* Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club

#### Editorial Team

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Website: [www.fhyc.us](http://www.fhyc.us)

Email: [fhyc-nc@googlegroups.com](mailto:fhyc-nc@googlegroups.com)

#### Deadline

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

Please email articles to [fhycsema-phore@gmail.com](mailto:fhycsema-phore@gmail.com)

Commodore Myler then asked for all the current committee chairs to stand and be recognized by the membership: Leigh Hart, Janice Myler, Peter Clay, Jerry Rezab, Steve Hart, Vicky Lynch, Kathy Clay, Delle Curry, Skip Hurd, Doug King, Joel Berberich, Pam Miller, Paula Phipps, Lisa Blemenschine, Julia Thomson, and Darlene DiFigueiredo. You will note that several of these committee chairs head up more than one committee

2024 Fairfield Harbour Committee Chairs			
Cruising	Peter Clay	Program	Joel Berberich
Distribution	Jerry Rezab	Public Relations	Lisa Blumenschine
Education	Steven Hart	Regatta	Open
Entertainment	Janice Myler	Semaphore	Julia Thompson
History	Vicky and Bob Lynch	Store Keeper	Darlene DeFigueiredo
Hospitality	Darlene DeFigueiredo	Yearbook	Leigh Hart
	Kathy Clay	Marine Assistance	Doug King
	Leigh Hart	Medical Support	Joel Berberich
IT	Open	Membership	Pam Miller
Library	Delle Curry		Paula Phipps
Maintenance	Jerry Rezab		
	Skip Hird		

We had several visitors. The Nettlesons are in the process of building a house on Trade Winds. They have a sailboat. Rod is interested in racing but his wife, Chris, is interested in cruising. Neil and Nancey Whitehead, Ken and Tammy Anderson and Cari and Steven Brunelle were also introduced.

The following members celebrated their anniversaries with the club this January:

Pagnutti, Peter	31 years
Teubert, Bernie and Nancy	30 years
Mitchell, Bob	28 years
Hamilton, Carol	27 years
Jarvis, Bill and Olwen	23 years

A special "Thank You" for your continued support.

Next up was the welcoming of new members, Kevin and Linda Heydel who were approved at the December Board meeting. Their sponsors are Russ and Barb Robinson and Ralph Azersky. They are new to boating but are enthusiastic learners. Give them a heart felt welcome to the club.

Linda and Kevin Heydel moved to Fairfield Harbour from Williamstown, New Jersey. Kevin was a city manager for 16 years and a deputy Director for local government services. Linda worked in visual merchandising. *Curlew* is the name of their 23 ft Grady White Gulfstream 23.2 power boat. They live on the corner of Gondolier Drive and Salt Cay and their lovely new home has already won Yard of the Month!

Linda and Kevin are looking forward to participating in club activities and have chosen Hospitality as their committee.

They are first time boaters but are eager to learn more about our local waters.

Commodore Myler then moved on to other business including upcoming events.

1. 40th Anniversary Cookbook Fundraiser January 30 at 4:30pm to 7pm at the Community Center Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door, contact 321-231-8268 for further information.

2. Soup Cook Off, Tuesday February 6 at the Community Center
3. Valentine's Day Dinner Night at La Cassetta, 6pm. See Delle Curry for more information
4. Impromptu Fun Sails/Cruises. Contact PC Dave Phipps or Commodore Myler for more information
5. 2024 Commodore's Ball, Thursday March 21, Carolina Colours. Information to follow.

It was a busy evening but with our new board installed and committees in place, we are on our way for new adventure for our 40 Year Anniversary.

Thank you all who helped to set up this important club event, the 2024 Change of Watch.

Sadly, three of our members have passed away recently. The membership offered a moment of silence.



*Barb Robinson, Past Commodore*

## Jackie Moniak

Hello everyone, we will be gathering to remember and honor Jackie Moniak as a sailor and a musician.

All those who knew her are welcome to attend.

When: Sunday, February 18, 2024 at 1PM. Lunch will be provided.

Where: Blackbeard Sailing Club, 1215 Barkentine Dr, Fairfield Harbour, New Bern NC, 28560

Please respond to my email and not the group mail, if you are planning to attend.

[Evthompson2@yahoo.com](mailto:Evthompson2@yahoo.com)



### The FHYC Yearbook 2024

Producing the Yearbook is a deceptively simple affair at least superficially but with some demanding constraints, especially with the limited timescale. Not only is a new set of rosters required for the renewing members but the overall plans for the following year need to be developed by the appropriate committees and built into a single schedule. This takes a significant degree of coordination and, in some cases, nagging. Smooth teamwork and communication is required to achieve this by the deadline of early January. Under the leadership of Leigh Hart, Committee Chair, the whole exercise went remarkably smoothly this year. It was greatly helped by Craig Myler’s production of the various rosters in PDF format ready to be incorporated into the final build. The deadline for renewals to be completed to appear in the Yearbook was maintained. Memberships can still be renewed after the deadline, as allowed in the Constitution, but names will not appear in the Yearbook rosters.

Thanks are due to all the Yearbook Team as shown below.

Name	Role
Leigh Hart	Our esteemed leader
Steve Hart	Marine Assistance, Vessel Safety
Craig Myler	Rosters from renewal information
George Stateham	Cover editor
Chris Jewell	Edited Commodore’s message, Mission and History Sections
Michelle Aldrich	Materials for inside cover (a new feature this year)
Cherylle Hird	Marine radio
Vicky Lynch	Committees section
Ritchie Thomson	Photographs, section templates, build of final document

Yearbooks will be distributed to all members of record late in January along with the flyer for the Commodores’ Ball.  
*Ritchie Thomson, Past Commodore*

## Junior/Youth Sailing in the New Bern Area

It may come as a surprise to some, but we have had youth/junior sailing in New Bern for years. There have been two programs, the New Bern High School Navy Junior ROTC sailors and the Edward Teach Youth Sailing Association. The NJROTC sailing class was started by volunteers from Fairfield Harbour in 2002. ETYSA began in 2008 at Blackbeard Sailing Club.

These organizations shared the goals of giving young people the experience of sailing, and the responsibility of being skippers of their own boats. Sailing is a healthy outdoor experience that uses all the senses and muscles, and it requires thinking and decision-making, too. The two programs approached it differently and for different ages, but the benefits are clear.

Who is this “Edward” guy? Nowadays pirates are romantic figures, but during his lifetime Blackbeard was an international criminal. He had an alias, one of the names he used was “Edward Teach.” So this is a sort of pun on the namesake of Blackbeard Sailing Club. ETYSA began as a small group of Blackbeard Sailing Club members who wanted to get their kids and/or grandkids interested in sailing. The best way is to get the kids all together and make it fun: the next step was to get them boats that they could sail themselves. So a fleet of Optimist Prams was begun.

“Learn by doing” is the main method used by both ETYSA and the NJROTC. Step by step, the students learn all the parts of the boat and how the parts work together.



The Coach directing CAPSIZE Drill near the beach

We get out on the water as soon as is practical, considering weather and readiness of the class. Safety is built into the classes from the beginning, with the kids gaining familiarity with how different and (to landlubbers) unpredictable boats can be.

One of the first things to get out of the way is CAPSIZE! Small sailboats are tippy, and many find this scary. Tipping over can be a disaster to the unskilled, so we take all the students and show them how to cope with their



Six 420 class sloops at B.S.C.

tipped-over boat. This lesson is very important, and takes place in calm and controlled conditions. It's part of learning how boats behave, realizing the affect of all the forces at work — buoyancy, waves, where you put your weight, momentum (inertia), winds., because nothing afloat ever sits still.

Another lesson gets them out on the water, steering. Unlike any vehicle on land, the direction in which a boat is moving has

no fixed relation to the direction it's pointing. Boats go sideways or backwards quite readily, and this is why docking them can be such a frustrating or comical action. So without the complication of sails, the beginning ETYSA students have a session or two of practicing steering until they are comfortable with making their boats go the direction they want. If you make a game out of it, it can be fun!

By now, the beginners have learned to rig their boats, handle them if something goes wrong, and steer them. The last step is get out away from the beach, adventure out into the open water and wind, and SAIL! Because both the NJROTC and ETYSA are long established, the beginners have seen more advanced students taking their boats out sailing. In the NJROTC the senior students were formally tasked with helping run exercises (games, really) for the beginners; ETYSA has a number of junior instructors as part of the staff. But it is a key to both learning and motivation to have big kids enjoying sailing and demonstrating their skills for the beginners. Kids learn fast!

The New Bern NJROTC program was a COVID casualty: ETYSA is going strong. Membership is \$50 per year and this years schedule of classes and activities is currently being worked on. The class limit is 30 for kids ages 8 and up, no prior knowledge or experience is required. **The Edward Teach program is an ongoing success.**

*Doug King, Past Commodore*



By the 3rd day, ETYSA beginners are sailors



*Kevin and Linda Heydel*

## Welcome New Members

Linda and Kevin Heydel moved to Fairfield Harbour from Williamstown, New Jersey.

Kevin was a city manager for 16 years and a deputy Director for local government services. Linda worked in visual merchandising.

*Curlew* is the name of their 23 ft Grady White Gulfstream 23.2 power boat.

They live on the corner of Gondolier Drive and Salt Cay and their lovely new home has already won Yard of the Month!

Primary sponsor is Ralph Azersky and Barb Robinson is their secondary sponsor.

Linda and Kevin are looking forward to participating in club activities and have chosen Hospitality as their committee.

They are first time boaters but are eager to learn more about our local waters.



U.S. stamp issued on Leif Erikson Day, 1968

## Lief Erikson

Each October we honor Leif Eriksson, the Viking explorer who ventured into uncharted waters around 1000 AD and became the first European to reach North American soil. Sailing in an iconic Viking longship, Eriksson courageously navigated the treacherous North Atlantic, discovering lands like Vinland, now known as Newfoundland, in Canada. His legacy is a testament to the bravery and daring of the early Viking explorers who paved the way for future discoveries and dramatically shaped the course of history. Celebrate the spirit of exploration, which continues to inspire us today. Leif Erikson Day is proclaimed as 9th October each year in the USA.

Of course, we celebrate a certain Italian sailor, Christopher Columbus, who reached the Americas about 500 years later, a remarkable feat. He is recognized on 12th October in the United States

Finally, and by no means least, we have the Native Peoples who had already been in the Americas for millennia when the first Europeans arrived.

**Let's celebrate them all!**

*Ritchie Thomson, Past Commodore*

