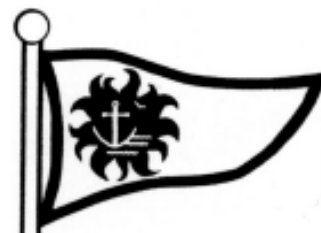


The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 27 No. 3

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

April 2010



Commodore's Message

A frantic voice calls out from below decks,

"Hey Tina! Get that bag of bungs FAST---we've got a leak!"

Tina responds,

"Bungs? What the heck are bungs and where did you put them anyway?"

More boats are lost because of broken hoses, clamps, or fittings than from any other cause. A two-inch hole just a few feet below the waterline can sink a 30' boat in just a few minutes. Those through-hull fittings are basically holes in your boat. Every boat should have through-hull emergency plugs (bungs) securely tied in place by every through-hull fitting. Be prepared. Don't take the "This won't happen to us" approach. Tether a tapered, correctly-sized wooden plug to each fitting ready to be pounded in place in the case of failure or leakage. Pre-drilled plugs can be purchased online. West Marine carries bags of assorted plugs without the pre-drilled holes.

As a result of too many deaths and severe accidents on our waters a new law has been put into operation. As of May 1, 2010, anyone younger than 26 years old, operating a vessel powered by a 10 hp or greater motor on public waterways must have successfully completed an approved boating safety course. Why do I bring this to your attention? Many of us have grandchildren who visit and love to "take the helm." We take Marines out on the water who are often younger than 26 who might like the feel of steering a boat. Be sure you are in compliance with North Carolina laws by having careful supervision by a qualified boater. Visit www.ncwildlife.org for further information. Yes, our Wildlife Officers as well as USCG and Marine Police enforce this law.

The boating season is in full swing. We should all get out and appreciate the beauti-

ful waters around us. Let's go cruising and racing! Enjoy and be safe!

Fair winds and calm seas wherever you may travel.

*Olwen Jarvis,
Commodore*

FHYC General Meeting March 11, 2010

Commodore Olwen Jarvis called the meeting to order at 1930 and led the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed guests Don and Ann Simpson, introduced by Brian and Dottie Giersch, and Cheryl and Mark Dupre, introduced by Jim and Mary Florence. Rob Skrotsky introduced the speaker, Doug King, who gave Part 2 of the Great Loop, tracing his trip from the mouth of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers back home to New Bern. Commodore Jarvis presented a second cof-

fee mug to Kathie King for her role on the trip and the presentation.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the February minutes and Treasurer's report was seconded and passed unanimously. Balance as of February 28, 2010:

BB&T	\$14,974.41
Vanguard	5,248.16
Petty Cash	50.00
Total	\$20,272.57

Current members: 190 paid members, 13 life members, 1 complimentary member = 204

Fleet Captain John Jackson called on Don Knight who reported that the Clubfoot Creek Shakedown Cruise, April 15 and 16, is arranged. It will be at Matthews Point Marina. Members whose last names begin with A - L are asked to supply appetizers. The Captains meeting will be April 14 at 1300 hrs.

What's Happening

Apr	Fr	2	Education: Charts, plotters, software (cc)	0900
	Su	4	Dinghy race spring series	1400
	Tu	6	Board Meeting (fc)	1300
	We	7	Ensign race spring series	1300
	Th	8	Club Meeting (cc)	1930
	Sa	10	Education: Anchoring and docking (NW Creek Marina)	0900
	Su	11	Dinghy race spring series	1400
	We	14	Ensign race spring series	1300
	Th	15	-16, Clubfoot Shakedown Cruise	
	Th	16	-19 Local waters continuation of Clubfoot Shakedown Cruise	
	Su	18	Dinghy race spring series	1400
	We	21	Ensign race spring series	1300
	We	21	Yacht Club Dinner	1730
	Fr	23	Wilkerson Cup Regatta	
	Sa	24	Commissioning Day/Blessing of the fleet	0915
	Su	25	Dinghy race spring series	1400
	Mo	25	Full Moon Raft-up	1700
	We	28	Ensign race makeup if needed	1300
	Th	29	-June 8, Southern Cruise	

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

Deadline for next issue is Monday, noon, April 12

Delivery is Saturday, April 24

The Local Waters cruise will follow from April 16 to 19, led by Mark Hittner who suggested a possible stop at the Pecan Grove Marina in-the-water boat show at Oriental.

Walt Meyer, Full Moon Raft Up committee chairperson, reported that the first Full Moon raft-up of the season will be Saturday, March 27, assembling at 1700 hours in the Inner Harbour.

A report on the Southern Cruise, April 28 to June 8, 2010, also given by Walt Meyer, mentioned room for one more boat. Leaving from New Bern and ending up in Jacksonville, Florida, boats will spend time in Charleston, S.C. which will be a destination for some of the cruisers joining this cruise on Memorial Day weekend. April 24, 2010 will be our Commissioning Day, with a Blessing of the Fleet and celebration. Karen Meyer reported that the Hurricane Restaurant will serve the luncheon that day, and that the new ownership looks forward to this event. John Jackson would like to see 100 boats participating this year! So, members decorate your craft and come and join us. Mark Hittner reported on a NYRA Invitational Regatta in New Bern on March 26, 27 and 28. Doug King reported that the dinghy and Ensign Series are about to begin and that the Wilkerson Cup race will be on April 23. Commodore Jarvis extended an invitation to all who would like to

watch the dinghy races to come to her dock on Northwest Creek. This site provides an excellent vantage point for watching.

Rear Commodore Jim Florence called on Delle Curry, Education Committee, who reported that on March 12, from 0900 hours to 1200 hours, a Local Waters Seminar will take place at the Community Center. Upcoming Education topics are Chart Plotters and Anchoring. There was no report from the Maintenance, or Marine Assistance Committees. Jim did report that the AED is back at the Gate and its continued use until the required update will not be a problem.

Vice Commodore Karl Mielenhausen called on Storekeeper Sue Mehrer who showed samples of afghans that can be personalized with a boat's name on them. She also noted that the hats that have been in great demand are now available. She invited us all to stop at her table this evening. Kathy Travis, Hospitality Chairperson, introduced the hosts for this evening, Don and Louise Knight and Bill and Joan Campbell.

Commodore Jarvis called on Kathy Fortenbaugh, Entertainment Committee, who reported that the Commodores' Ball, March 18, 2010 will have 150 attendees. All is in place for a gala evening at the Flame Restaurant. Barbara West, Membership committee chairperson, reported on a change in responsibilities for sponsors of new Yacht Club members. The changes are outlined on the website and will be in the Semaphore. Treasurer Rose Litke announced that a new expense form is now being used. Brian Giersch announced that the Boat Bash is back! It is being organized by the New Neighbors group and he asked for volunteers to use their boats to take newly arrived residents on a tour of the area waters on May 1.

Rob Skrotsky reported that the program for next month is not in place at this time, updates will be placed on the website once a program is agreed upon. Commodore Jarvis mentioned the New Bern Coast Guard Auxiliary will have a program on Boating Safety at the Riverbend Town Hall on March 20. She also reported that Bud Ellis, Dock Master of Northwest Creek Marina, continues to have ethanol-free gasoline for sale.

Old Business: Jim Florence reported that no one was able to read the message spelled out on signal flags last month. It was "1984 we luv r boats". Mary Florence reported that perhaps that was because the flags were installed backwards.

New Business: Ron Helling reported that the Tercentennial of New Bern will be celebrated with a decorated/lighted boat flotilla. The September date has yet to be determined. The Galley Marina and Restaurant will have slips available for members if needed. He encouraged all boats to take part in this event.

Alice Frank reported on Yacht Club dinners at the Hurricane. There will be no dinner this month; the next dinner will be April 21, with cocktails at 1730 hours, dinner at 1830 hours. The price is \$19.00 which includes appetizer, entree and dessert, tax and gratuity. There will be reduced prices at the cash bar. Call for reservations and mention the Yacht Club group.

The meeting was adjourned at 2045.

*Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Pettigrew*

Commissioning Day 2010

There are three major parts to every Commissioning Day, with no exception this year.

The day begins with the boat parade and blessing of the fleet. We will assemble near Red 2 and 1N at 0915. The Parade will start shortly thereafter and proceed up North West Creek, through Spring Creek, and past the Shoreline docks where boats will be blessed. With over 200 members and boats, I see no reason why we cannot have over 100 boats in the parade. If you want to tie your boat up at the Shoreline after the parade and before the ceremony please call the Shoreline Dockmaster at 638-2685.

This will be followed by an assembly at the Shoreline flag pole where there will be a flag raising ceremony and a remembrance of members who have passed away in the past 12 months. This will begin at 1130.

Following these two events there will be a luncheon at the Hurricane Restaurant with the cash bar beginning at 1230 hours. Reservations are required for the luncheon. If you have lost your reservation form it is available on the FHYC web site or contact Karen Meyer at 637-3015 or Jackie Hice at 638-3539.

If you would like to tie your boat up at NW Creek Marina while eating at the Hurricane please call Bud Ellis, Dock Master for North West Creek Marina, at 638-4133.

*John Y. Jackson,
Fleet Captain*

The
Semaphore
Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Editors

Mark West 637-7914
Janet Lee 637-4177
Elliott Alterman 637-3458

Distribution Co-Chairmen

Don Knight 514-0614
Jim Pettigrew 634-3175

WebSite: www.fairfieldharbouryc.org

Deadline

Deadline is 1200 the Monday following the Yacht Club meeting. Please e-mail articles to the address listed below .

fhycsemaphore@yahoo.com

Boaters take note!

Boaters should be aware of the controversy over the inclusion of ethanol in gasoline sold at most stations and its known detrimental effects on engines, particularly marine engines.

Northwest Creek Marina wants you to know that it is selling 89 octane gasoline without ethanol. Our supplier, Mallard Oil, is maintaining a supply of gasoline for marine engines. Feeding your gas engine the proper fuel ensures its continued health.

Bud Ellis.

Dock Master.

Northwest Creek Marina

Overnight Gala

The Overnight Gala will be held again at the new Bridgeton Harbor Marina, on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 4 and 5. This wonderful facility will have plenty of dock space for all boats with reduced rates of \$1.45 per foot with free electricity. Those people desiring to come by car are welcome but please be there by 1630 for the splash on the dock. Dinner will be catered by The Butcher's Market and will commence at 1800 on the dock (weather permitting). The dinner selection will be burgers, Italian sausage, potato salad, coleslaw, and dessert. Please bring your beverage of choice and a light appetizer to share for the Splash. It is always a fun event and we hope that many people will come and join the Yacht Club at this event.

To get to the Bridgeton Marina, go north on Highway 17 through Bridgeton and turn left on Pine Street. You will see the building after you turn. If you go over the RR tracks you have gone too far. At the office there are pictures of the facility the company is planning to build in our neighborhood. It's exciting. Take a look.

Your hosts for this event are Don and Louise Knight. If you have any questions please call Don at 514-0614. Please get your dinner reservation and a check for \$15 per person to Don before the cutoff date of April 28. The reservations for dock space will go through Don and Louise. We look forward to seeing you there.

Notice to FHYC Event Chairs

Pictures of your events to be added to photo albums in the FHYC library should be embedded in an email to Ellen Ringle

Revised Membership Application Process

One of the challenges faced by any organization is to recruit new members and to make those new members feel welcome. The Bridge and the Board were concerned that, as a Club, we were not performing that function as well as we could and that greater involvement by sponsors was the key to improving the new member experience. As a result, the Membership Committee was directed to develop an application process that stressed the responsibilities existing members assume when inviting a prospective member to join the Club. The process requires sponsors to play active roles prior to and after a prospective member is accepted. The new process is:

- Prospective member identifies primary sponsor.
- Primary sponsor contacts Membership chair to inform of potential new member.
- Membership chair assigns responsibility for prospective member to a Membership Committee member, who will become the Membership Committee liaison. Committee liaison will be responsible for answering any questions the prospective member or sponsors might have during the membership process.
- Committee liaison provides Membership application packet to the primary sponsor who works with the prospective member to identify a secondary sponsor.
- Sponsor(s) accompanies prospective member to two Club general meetings and is responsible for introducing member to Bridge, Board, and current members.
- Sponsor(s) invites prospective member to participate in club activities.
- Primary sponsor assists prospective member with the completion of the Membership application packet.
- Each sponsor provides a letter of recommendation to be attached to the Membership application packet.
- Sponsor(s) accompanies prospective member to orientation session, to be scheduled by Membership chair.
- Completed Membership application packet, with letters of recommendation and check to FHYC, is returned by primary sponsor to Committee liaison.
- Committee liaison checks Membership application packet for completeness and submits to Committee chair.
- Committee chair notifies Commodore to add new member consideration to the agenda of next Board meeting.
- Board considers prospective member application.
- Committee chair notifies prospective member of Board action.
- Sponsors assume responsibility for mentoring new members during the first year of membership. This could include inviting new member on cruises or raft-ups, sitting with them at Yacht Club events (Commodores' Ball, Commissioning Day Luncheon, Awards' Luncheon, Holiday Party), and encouraging participation in other Club activities.

Barbara West

Membership Committee Chair

(ringle@suddenlink.net) Please limit your selections and remember to use the "make my pictures smaller" option. Be sure to include the date of the event and the names of those photographed.

*Lois Gregory,
Historian*

Wednesday Night Yacht Club Dinner

Yacht Club Dinners at the Hurricane are the 3rd Wednesday of the month (except for March and December). Join us on April 21 for cocktails and appetizers at 1730 and dinner at 1830. We will meet in the back room. The cash

bar will be offering a special on wine for \$3.00 and beer for \$2.00.

Choices of entrée are Pasta Primavera, Tuscan Chicken (provolone, red roasted peppers, prosciutto over sautéed chicken breast) or Shrimp, scallops, mushrooms in a sherry cream wine sauce over pastry. The \$19.00 (including tax and gratuity) includes salad, rolls, dessert and coffee.

Note: Vegetarian meals, sugarless desserts, and special orders are available upon request when making reservations. The Hurricane will accept reservations at 638-8566.

Alice Frank

Gunkholers Cruise

Your Cruising Committee is finalizing its plans for our upcoming Gunkholers Cruise. The (revised) cruise dates are Friday, May 14 to Sunday, May 23.

Subject to weather (of course), we plan to spend our first night anchored at South River or Cedar Creek, with subsequent visits to include Slade Creek, Bath (for a double overnight), Campbell Creek or Bay River or Vandermere, Cedar Island, Lower Broad Creek/River Dunes, and Oriental (for a double overnight). In addition to the usual Splashes, we're planning on a "covered dish" brunch in Bath, dining-ashore opportunities in Bath and Oriental, along with great sailing, dolphin watching, swimming over the side, magnificent sunrises/sunsets, water skiing for power boaters, and unparalleled camaraderie. You may join us for all or any part of the trip.

Complete and return the information on the bottom of the flyer enclosed with this issue and posted on our website, to let us know you'll be joining us.

Please contact me with any questions, comments, suggestions.

Bob Fortenbaugh

Knot Class Forming

There is a series of knots and techniques that are truly necessary for boating: when you need a tow, when tying up your boat in both non-tidal and tidal waters, knots that won't give way when properly tied, how to reach a dock when throwing a line, tying lines up properly so that when you need them, they are ready to use. This class, for men and women, is a three-hour session followed by a review, and will take place in April. Please contact Ruth Levin, 633-3906, if you want to take the class. The date will be set when the group meets with their calendars at Ruth's home.

Ruth Levin

A Seaborn Philosophy

"Sea life is charged with indestructible charm. There is no weariness, no responsibility, no work, no depression of spirits. There is nothing.....like this serenity, this comfort, this peace, this deep contentment to be found anywhere on land.

If I had my way I would sail on forever."

Mark Twain

The Innocents Abroad



Anchor Right - First Time, Every Time

In less than 2 hours, you will learn the whys and hows of: anchor types; anchor size; anchoring tips and tricks; buying an anchor; where different anchors work best; how much line or chain to use; anchor lines; anchor chains; holding power; and more, including docking tips!

After the seminar, we will break up into smaller groups for on-the-water practice! It all starts at 0900 on Saturday, April 10, at the lounge at Northwest Creek Marina. Contact Pat or Paul Martin or Karl Mielenhausen to sign up.

*Karl Mielenhausen,
Vice Commodore*

Charts and Plotters Seminar May be Rescheduled

The Chartplotters, charts and software seminar by Rob Skrotsky, scheduled for April 2, may be rescheduled. Stay tuned to email for further announcements.

Delle Curry

Special message from the Commodore

As I write this message I am looking forward eagerly to the Commodore's Ball. Beyond any doubt, I know this will be a fantastic party and a wonderful gathering of friends old and new.

I know a great deal of effort went into this gala event. Along with the past Commodores and their ladies, all the guests and myself, I wish to thank Kate Clark and Rose Voss-Litke for all their hard work and planning which went into chairing the Ball. Of course they teamed up with a super committee and thanks are extended to everyone involved. The Ball is one of the major highlights of our yacht Club year. Thank you everyone.

*Olwen Jarvis,
Commodore*



Members enjoying a recent Yacht Club Dinner at the Hurricane Restaurant