

Home For The Holidays (Pam & Bob's Home, That Is)

by Evelyn Hewett

There were no dampened spirits on a drizzly Saturday evening when more than 120 of us gathered at the home of the brave and generous Beggans for the Club's annual Christmas Party.

Bart and I had great fun chairing the party committee, and we had the help and support of many club members. Mary McGowan, Zita Pojeta, Mary Ann Holthaus, and Ann & Des Wassell helped with set up and greetings. Fred and Linda Brown and an anonymous group of helpers led the clean up efforts. As always, many jumped in to help fill plates and keep the decanters full.

Mary and Peter lit up the place with their Rudolph noses, and Ben Pogue appeared in his wonderful Santa hat. Thanks to David Sharpe for donating a keg of beer, to Jo Bennett for creating the ice rings for the punch, and to the fabulous chefs of the Club for the wonderful food.

No party at the Beggans would be complete without music. Pam led her Tuesday night singers in two numbers. Pam and Roy Avery accompanied Dick McCormick on *O Holy Night*. Dick performed his wonderful original *Christmas Song*, and the carolers of the Club enjoyed singing the carols of the season together. Jim

(See *Christmas Party*, page 4)



Santa made his arrival by boat on a cold and blustery morning at MVYC. Accompanied by Christmas elves Stephen Rupp and Ben Pogue, Santa headed to the Knetemann home to hand out gifts to the children. More Christmas pictures: Page 4-5. Photo: George Holthaus

Clubhouse Nears Inspection Milestone

by Chris Ruckman

As MVYC's Clubhouse renovation approaches the next major milestone in its inspection schedule, we continue stepping ever-closer to Opening Day — though no firm completion date has yet been established.

Nearly all work on plumbing and sprinklers, including the Clubhouse and both shower areas, has been completed and approved by Fairfax County inspectors. Two other major infrastructures are within days of completion: the electrical wiring and the HVAC systems. After the County inspects and approves these systems — possibly by the end of December — drywall workers can finally begin insulating and closing up the walls.

(See *Clubhouse*, page 2)

Membership Meeting January 4
8:00 P.M. at St. James Church – see Page 9
(Next Meeting: February 1, 2001)

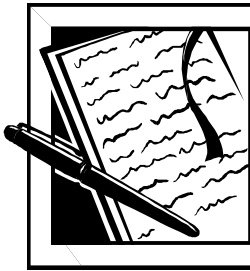
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Proposed 2001 Club Budget
Enclosed with this issue ...
Vote at January Membership Meeting

Bow Lines

Chris Ruckman,
Beacon Editor



Ahh, the season of dull is upon us. Baseball is a distant memory, and football is over (at least, it's over for us Redskins fans). I've even winterized the boat, making this December different from previous years.

Two Decembers ago, we had a weekend so warm that Jim Nelson, Steve Donock and Dave Pollard organized a raft-up near Alexandria on December 12th! We all relaxed outside late into the night wearing little more than sweatshirts. My boat had been on the trailer in my driveway, but I had no trouble deciding to re-float it for the raft-up. We didn't winterize until almost January.

Last December, we were already well into Christmas party season when the warm weather came. Diane and I were sipping egg nog in the lovely home of Don and Jill Cannavaro. Lo and behold, a half-dozen MVYC boats issued forth from the Marina and gathered in the mouth

of Dogue Creek for an impromptu floating Christmas party. We didn't winterize until almost January.

This year was a different story. All through late November and early December, the mercury stubbornly refused to stray far from the freezing mark. For a month, I chewed my nails and fretted over the risks of leaving my boat in the water. For a month, I waited for the warm weather to return — even for a day — so I could squeeze in one last voyage.

It never happened.

When I finally gave in and pulled the boat to winterize, Charlie Bulloss and I had to spend 45 minutes breaking ice just to reach the loading ramp. Picture me with a 12-foot piece of plastic pipe, standing on the ends of the finger piers and trying to crack ice in the middle of the inlet. I did that until my arms ached, and it serves me right. But who expected such cold weather?

So here we are in the season of dull. Nothing to do, nothing to look forward to.

Hey, wait a minute ... how about the Tacky New Year's Eve Party? How about the Frostbite Barbecue in January? The MVYC Ski Day? The Overland Cruise to Tim's Rivershore? The million-and-one events being cooked up even now by *Team Mary* (Mary Galloway and Mary McGowan-Baldwin) and the Social Committee?

Maybe things are not so bad after all!

(From *Clubhouse*, page 1)

As Vice Commodore Jim Hamrick reported at the last Membership Meeting, Lew Wetzel and Al Johnson spent some time crawling through the rafters installing speaker wires and other cables for the sound system.

The portico outside the front door is almost finished, and it will provide a dramatic entry indeed. Supported by massive white columns, the portico extends about six feet to cover the raised brick pad outside the door.

To the left of the portico, the front of the building is now adorned with the Club's name in large, brass letters

(See *Clubhouse*, page 3)



The BEACON

Published monthly by
the Mount Vernon Yacht Club
4817 Tarpon Lane, Alexandria, VA 22309
G. Mark Zuk, Commodore

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Editor's Editor: Diane Wilson
Photographer: George Holthaus
Circulation: Al & Claire Grande

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Cover artwork by Don Cannavaro

All Club members may submit pertinent articles, letters, and notices for editorial review and possible publication. Submission by e-mail or diskette is encouraged.

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**Deadline:
15th of month**

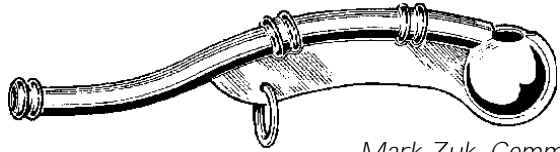
Long-Term Care Insurance

by Marge Skelly

MVYC has been approved for a sponsored group discount program with John Hancock Long Term Care Insurance. We have enough interest to form a group which would enable anyone from the Club to obtain this discount.

There is neither any cost nor benefit to the Club for this privilege. If you are interested in obtaining such insurance at this discount, please call Kaye Mathews (780-2535) or Marge Skelly (360-8374).

The Bosun's Whistle



Mark Zuk, Commodore

Happy New Year! This is the time of year when fireplaces glow and crackle with the warmth from within, and weekend playoffs will soon lead to the game of games, the Superbowl. This is also the time of year when your Board does the scramble to the tune of Annual Budget Blues. All kidding aside, this year's budget is as tight as can be, with very little wiggle room. It is, without a doubt, "lean and mean."

A copy of the proposed budget is enclosed so you can review it before we vote to approve it at the next Membership Meeting (January 4th at 8:00 PM, St. James Church). With the projections and assumptions we have outlined, we fully expect that the Club can meet this budget — but only if nothing major breaks (the pool, multiple pilings, and so forth.) Please attend the Membership Meeting to discuss and vote on the 2001 MVYC budget.

On a happy note, Patty and our Rear Commodore Ed Meyers are the proud parents of a baby girl born Sunday, December 3rd at 11:15 PM. Her name is Calee Lynne and she weighed in at 8 lb. 6 oz. at birth. Patty and Calee are doing fine. Ed is still recuperating ... (only kidding).

On a very sad note, Mary Kiefer passed away. Funeral services were held the week before Christmas. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Marty and the rest of the family.

... Please attend the Membership Meeting to vote on the 2001 MVYC budget ...

What a wonderful Christmas Party! Many thanks to Bob and Pam Beggan for opening their home to us for such a pleasant and fun-filled evening. Also, special thanks to Bart and Evelyn Hewitt for their help with the logistics.

I want to personally thank Jim Lawler for allowing us to store our new Clubhouse furniture in his warehouse, and to Sigi Zarwel, for providing us with a number of furniture blankets. Additionally, Sigi provided us one of his courteous and knowledgeable em-

ployees to help our volunteers unload and properly store the furniture. Also, thanks to our member volunteers who helped move the furniture.

The generosity of some of our members is incredible. Mark Barbaro, a Club member and the owner of an asphalt and paving company, sealed the asphalt on the lower two thirds of the club's parking lot and repainted the parking space lines, all at no cost to the Club. We truly appreciate this, Mark!

As always, voluntary assistance from the membership will be needed throughout the year to provide support for our Club activities. Please consider what you and your family can contribute to our volunteer efforts for the New Year. Beginning in January, committees will be formed for the many Club activities and events.

Denise and I wish all of you the best of health and happiness in the New Year. We hope to see you at the MVYC "Tacky New Year's Eve Party" at the Knetemann's.



Snow now covers the MVYC Clubhouse, but the exterior is largely finished. Photo: George Holthaus

(From *Clubhouse*, page 2)

and a large red-white-and-blue burgee. All in all, it looks quite nice indeed.

As soon as the electrical inspection is complete, the elevator company can begin installing the elevator. All of the elevator parts are on-site, but the installers require electrical power to proceed.

Regarding the fire hydrant, the Fairfax County Water Authority recently ruled not to accept any of the low-cost alternatives discussed in previous Membership meetings. Instead, MVYC will probably have to pay to install new six-inch water lines. The 2001 budget provides for this expense, but the Board had hoped to avoid it. A site survey for the water lines is now in progress.



(From *Christmas Party*, page 1)

Hamrick enhanced the caroling with his trumpet.

A hush (well, not quite) fell over the crowd when Bob lit the real candles on the Christmas Tree. This beautiful sight provided the background for holiday greetings from Commodore Mark Zuk.

Joan Knetemann found a unique way to boost the attendance and enthusiasm for the Club's New Year's Eve Party: an RSVP sheet taped to her back, complete



with a pen on a string. Who could resist that beautiful Lady in Red?

At Pam and Bob's invitation, the party continued well past the "official" 8 p.m. ending time — no surprise there.

Bart and I want to thank Pam, Bob and all the others who helped. Once again, we are touched by the incredible spirit and fellowship of the Mount Vernon Yacht Club. Happy Holidays to you, and we'll see you at Joan and Peter's on New Year's Eve.

Clockwise from top left:

Top left: Juliette Clark and Gary Spivack join Ed and Marge Zebrowski in a round of appetizers. **Top right:** The Beggan home resounded with Christmas carols, led by Roy Avery on flute (bottom right) and Pam Beggan on piano (bottom center). **Bottom left:** Former Commodore Jerry Skelly is flanked by part-time reindeer Peter Baldwin and Mary McGowan-Baldwin, complete with flashing red noses. **Left:** This bevy of holiday beauties is clearly up to some kind of mischief in the Beggan kitchen: Nancy Lawler, Diane Wilson, Joan Knetemann, Virginia Nelson, Caz Merrick and Marge Skelly. **Photos:** George Holthaus





In the Spirit

Mary Galloway and
Mary McGowan-Baldwin,
Social Committee Co-chairs

We are pleased to serve as co-chairs for the MVYC social committee for 2001. Thank you to the following members for volunteering to be on the committee and/or to help with upcoming events: Roy Avery, Mary Ann Burke, Cathy Bradford, Linda Brown, Claire Grande, Dennis Kane, Jacque Knight, Evelyn and Bart Hewitt, Mary Ann Holthaus, Stuart Matthews, Revae Moran, Zita Pojeta, Marge Skelly and Ann Wassell. We invite other members who would like to join us with committee and social events. The next social committee meeting is scheduled for January 29th @ 8pm at the home of Mary McGowan-Baldwin.

The committee is putting together an exciting year of social activities. A calendar of events is included on page 6, and we will post updated calendars in each month's Beacon. The calendar will include social events, sailing programs and power fleet activities, and will note dates when the Clubhouse has been reserved for private parties. A big thank you to Ann Wassell, who manages the Club calendar ... all requests for private parties and scheduling events should be submitted to Ann.

The new year's first event, the Frost Bite BBQ at The Point, will take place on Sunday, January 21st. Join members around the roaring fire with hot toddies, and cook up a winter feast (see flyer).

We have exciting new events for the year 2001. On February 3, we invite you to join us on the first MVYC ski trip to Whitetail Resort. A bus will pick up participants at 6:30am at the MVYC Clubhouse (plenty of parking available), and will chauffeur us to the slopes of Whitetail Mountain (2-hour ride). After a wonderful day of skiing and a group lunch, the bus will depart Whitetail at 4:30pm, and will return everyone to the Clubhouse around 6:30pm. For details, see the ski trip flyer elsewhere in this issue, or call Mary McGowan-Baldwin (799-6584). If you're interested, register now - this event is limited to 45 people, and over 25 people have already reserved their spots!

Other new events include a wine reception at the Wyland Art Galleries in Old Town Alexandria, a pro-

gressive dinner party, a lobster boil, outdoor movies at The Point and a women-only slumber party at the new Clubhouse. Details on all events will be included in upcoming issues of the Beacon, and will be discussed at Membership Meetings.

If you have other suggestions for events, please let us know. Or better yet, join us at the next Social Committee meeting on the 29th. Volunteering to assist with an upcoming event is a great way to give back to the Club, meet new people and have a great time with a fun committee.

We hope you find the calendar of events helpful in planning all your 2001 social activities. We look forward to seeing you at the Frost Bite BBQ!

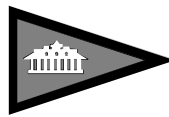


Santa Claus makes good on his promise to spread Christmas cheer, as one of his customers prepares to shred some wrapping paper. Photo: George Holthaus

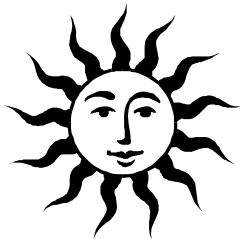
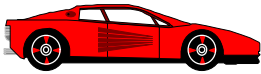
Welcome MVYC's Newest Member:
Caleigh Lynne Meyers
8 pounds, 16 ounces — born December 3rd, 2000 to Ed and Patty Meyers

THEME PARTIES IN A BOX™ 

Over 100 themes delivered right to your door! Decorations, gifts, piñatas, costumes, holiday events and more! Call Wendie at (703)971-6376 for a free color catalog, or visit my website:
1800partyconsultant.com/27932
Ask about a great work-from-home opportunity.



FOR SOCIAL EVENTS CONTACT:
 Mary McGowan-Baldwin 703.799.6584
 Mary Galloway 703.799.3187



Month	Date	Event	Contact
JAN	Sunday 21st	Frost Bite BBQ @ Point	Marge Skelly 703.360.8374
FEB	Saturday 3rd TBA	MVYC Ski Trip Overland Cruise to Tim's	Mary Baldwin 703.799.6584 Stuart Matthews (Hint! Hint!)
MAR	Saturday 10th Saturday 24th	Wine Reception & Dinner - Old Town Alexandria Progressive Dinner Party	Dennis Kane 703.549.8081 Mary Anne Burke 703.360.9259
APR	Sunday 8th TBA	Easter Egg Hunt for Kids Brunch Cruise to Old Town	Mary Anne Burke 703.360.9259 S. Matthews (Hail Britannia)
MAY	Sunday 6th Saturday 12th Saturday 19th	Commissioning Day & Club House Tour Mother's Day Tea Private Party @ Club House	Jacque Knight 703.780.7495
JUN	Saturday 9th Saturday 16th Saturday 23rd	PRYC Spring Regatta Private Party @ Club House New Comer's Party	Greg Rehe 703.721.0231
JUL	Wednesday 4th TBA	July 4th Celebration & MVYC 45th Anniversary Craney Island Race	Greg Rehe 703.721.0231
AUG	Saturday 4th Friday 24th	Lobster Boil @ Club house Coles Point Cruise	Revae Moran 703.619.4924 Power Fleet
SEP	Sunday 2nd TBA Saturday 29th Saturday 29th	Labor Day BBQ Celebration Outdoor Movie @ Point PYRC Fall Regatta Private Party @ Club House	Greg Rehe 703.721.0231
OCT	Saturday 6th Saturday 27th Saturday 27th TBA TBA	John Leary Cup Halloween Party for Kids Halloween Party for Adults Oktober Fest Junior Sail Awards & Chili Cook-Off	Greg Rehe 703.721.0231 Mary Anne Burke 703.360.9259 Mary Baldwin 703.799.6584 Sigi Zarwel (Bitte Schoen!!) Gary Spivack 703.360.9803
NOV	Saturday 10th	Commodore's Ball and Silent Auction	Linda Brown 703.619.0811



MVY -SKI!

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 3
WHITETAIL RESORT

DON'T LET YOUR FAMILY MISS THE BUS!!! Hop aboard for an exciting day of skiing or snowboarding in Pennsylvania at the height of the winter season!

Convenience and fun awaits all participants. A deluxe motor-coach equipped

with VCR, advanced sound system and restroom facilities will pick up the group at the MVYC Clubhouse and will drop us off at the slopes of Whitetail. **Register early ... event limited to 45 people.** Reservations will be taken on a first-paid first-served basis. Guests welcome.

When: Saturday, February 3, 2001

Schedule: Skiers should arrive at MVYC by 6:10 a.m. (parking available).
Bus departs from MVYC 6:30 a.m. (2-hour bus ride).
Bus returns to MVYC 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$60/person – includes round-trip bus transportation, all-day lift ticket, refreshments and fun on the bus.

To Register: Mail payment with participant names to Mary McGowan, or call Mary directly (799-6584).

Make checks payable to MVYC

Mail to: Mary McGowan
9420 Forest Haven Drive, Alexandria, VA 22309



First Place: "Sailing Legacies of the Potomac," by Robin Hiddeman.
Runner-up, left: "Cardboard Boat," by Zita Pojeta.

MVYC Photo Contest

by George Holthaus, Beacon Staff Photographer

The winner of the 2000 MVYC Photo Contest is "Sailing Legacies of the Potomac" by Robin Hiddeman.

Robin's photo features the bowsprit of the tall ship *Pride of Baltimore* as she makes her way up-river with the ghostly image of Mount Vernon in the distant background. This photo symbolizes the historic setting of the Potomac River, which dates back to 380 years ago when Captain John Smith and crew first sailed in an open barge past the future site of Mount Vernon.

Robin showed great presence of mind in readying both camera and chase boat. In the tradition of the US Navy, Robin was in the right place at the right time with a loaded cannon (or, in this case, camera) to make the winning shot.

The runner-up is Zita Pojeta's "Cardboard Boat," showing Captain Steve Donock as he prepares to set forth in a cardboard boat during the 2000 PRYCA Raft-Up at Fort Washington. This photo hints at the wide variety of activities available for MVYC

(See **Photo Contest**, page 9)



(From *Photo Contest*, page 8)

members through Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association (PRYCA) and other organizations.

Over forty classic photos were submitted for the contest, making it difficult to choose a winner from among all the great entries. In next month's issue, we'll print some of the other entries.

Since my own works were not eligible for the photo contest, I wanted to share one of my personal favorites: "New York, New York" (right). Taken on the Strip in Las Vegas in October 2000, this photo depicts the Strip's flashy replica of the New York skyline. The photo epitomizes the winner-take-all theme of the Strip, i.e., "What the World Makes, Vegas Takes."



Favorite from the Beacon Photographer's personal collection: "New York, New York" by George Holthaus.

From the Poop Deck



by
Bart Hewitt

Blessings in Disguise

It is not entirely oxymoronic that an Olde Poop could be an optimist. In a year fraught with one mess after another, this Holiday Season can show us that blessings are hidden within — especially for those of us (time to 'fess up) who voted for Al Gore.

The MVYC Clubhouse is a great example. The Clubhouse issues have been maddening. But we will soon have a beautiful and *safe* Clubhouse to enjoy for decades to come. The MVYC membership did not fold up; there was no mass bailout of angry members. Our leadership rose to the challenge, performed superbly, and the membership rallied around them. In the process, many of us have become even more aware of the blessing of friendships deepened by the experience. Besides, Al Grande is getting us a world-class TV.

Another example: I pulled my sailboat a few weeks ago, which is always a bugger of a job. My son offered to help. As we unstepped the mast, there was one terrifying

moment in which the mast threatened to destroy everything — mast, boat, Jeep and son included. Both father and son experienced a bonding moment that I will never forget. It was an unexpected blessing that came in an instant, and changed us both.

I even think George W. Bush might turn out to be a blessing. He might actually BE a healer, a conciliator, a leader. He might help build a stronger, yet kinder, gentler nation and a safer world. He might successfully cut taxes and protect Social Security. And he might get as sick and tired of Trent Lott and Tom DeLay as I am, and tell 'em to stuff it.

The Olde Poop remains oxymoronicly optimistic.

Membership Meeting 4 January

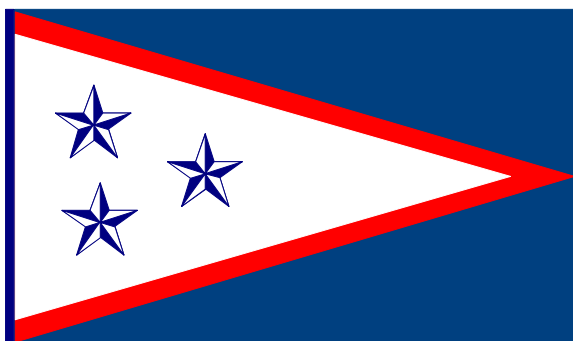
by George Holthaus, Beacon Photographer

With the Clubhouse closed for renovation, MVYC will once again hold its Membership Meeting in the Recreation Hall of nearby St. James Church.

The church is located at 5614 Old Mill Road. Please use the west side parking lot, which is immediately adjacent to the Recreation Hall.

St. James Church is just a few minutes drive from MVYC. You probably drive right past it every time you go to stores on Route 1. Hope to see you there!

**To ST. JAMES CHURCH from MVYC:
Left on Forest Haven Drive, then left on Ferry Landing Road. Proceed through traffic light at Mt. Vernon Mem. Hwy, then see church on left. (Take last parking lot entrance on left.)**



*You are cordially invited to the
Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association
2001 Change of Watch Dinner-Dance
Saturday, January 20, 2001*

Place: Sheraton Crystal City, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway,
Arlington, Virginia (703-486-1111)

Program: Five-thirty to Six forty-five pm Cocktails
Six forty-five to Eight pm Dinner
Eight to Eight-thirty pm Change of Watch
Eight-thirty to Midnight Dancing

Dress: Winter Uniform or Business Suit (Black Tie Optional)

Cost: \$45.00 per person

Parking: Complimentary

Reservation information:

Name: _____

Guest: _____

Yacht Club: _____

Dinner selections:

Beef _____ # Chicken _____ # Salmon _____

Make your reservations now through your Club's Delegate, mail to: Bonnie L. Breneman, PRYCA Delegate, 7689 Sheffield Village Lane, Lorton, VA 22079. Phone: (703) 550-6023.

Reservations with payment must be received by PRYCA by Saturday, January 8, 2001, so I will need them by Wednesday, January 5. Cancellations after 15 January 2001 are subject to full fare.

Room reservations are available for those who wish to spend the night. Contact the Sheraton Crystal City @ 703-486-1111 and ask for the PRYCA rate.



Frostbite Barbeque

ON THE POINT

Can t wait for summer?

Dress warmly and join the Crowd!

Sunday

January 21st, 2001

AT 12 noon (in all weather)



Bring sausages to grill, soup, chili or whatever to share.

We ll supply the bonfire, charcoal & lots of hot toddy (spiked and unspiked)!

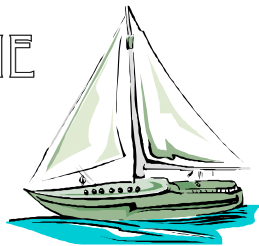
Call Marge Skelly (360-8374) if you plan to come.

\$4 per person (little kids free)



NEWS FROM THE WEATHER RAIL

Greg Rehe,
Sail Fleet Captain



SPIVACK PASSES TORCH TO NEW CAPTAIN

We all pleaded with Gary Spivack to continue as Sail Fleet Captain, but to no avail. Greg Rehe, one of the Fleet's newer members, was appointed by members present at the last SF meeting in November to take on the challenge.

Gary left big shoes to fill. His enthusiasm for sailing and his dedication to MVYC have sparked new vigor in the MVYC Sailing program over the past three years. The Junior Sailing program is introducing the sport of sailing in the proper way to a group of young sailors. This past year saw the start of Club racing on week-nights and weekends, and MVYC hosted its first Potomac Yacht Racing Club-sponsored regatta in five years. The SF sponsored two MVYC raft-ups attended by both Sail and Power boaters. Gary's extensive racing and cruising sailing experience is an asset to the SF, and we are delighted he will continue to mentor the Club's junior sailors in the coming year.

SAIL FLEET OUTLINES 2001 SAILING PROGRAM

Members of the MVYC Sail Fleet met at Gary Spivack's home in November to map out next year's sailing program. Present were Gary Spivack, Chuck Dietz, Ed Knight, Lou Codega, Ed Zebrowski, Doug Borden, Lew Wetzel, and Greg Rehe.

Sailing activities of the past year were reviewed. The fall PYRC-sponsored regatta, Craney Island night race, and Leary Memorial Cup race were all great successes! (Light air, dark air, heavy air.) The weekend and week-night race series were a great start to getting back on the water, and were fun even if only one boat sailed.

This year's race schedule seemed unpredictable because, unfortunately, it was linked to high tide. Some felt this schedule contributed to the less-than-hoped-for participation. For 2001, we will return to a predictable schedule for the races. We want more sailboats and crews of all abilities out sailing around the buoys, and to help this happen, we have invited Fort Belvoir Yacht Club to join us this year. Our Junior Sailing Program is expected to continue to thrive due to Gary Spivack's dedication; and with younger families joining the Club, we hope to see more kids and parents involved. The Sail Fleet raft-ups were a grand success, albeit due to overwhelming participation of the Power Fleet. Mattawoman Creek is a great destination just a few hours sail away, and Pohick Bay offers a beautiful, quiet setting just

around the corner from the Club.

In the wake of Gary Spivack's vacating the Sail Fleet Captain's position, a new Sail Fleet Committee was formed with Greg Rehe as Sail Fleet Captain; Chuck Dietz as Race and Regatta Coordinator; Gary Spivack responsible for the Junior Sailing Program; Doug Borden responsible for Rules, PYRC, and Fort Belvoir Yacht Club Liaison; Lou Wetzel as Race Committee Chairman; and Ed Knight coordinating the Cruising and Social Events (raft ups!)

The tentative 2001 sailing program includes: a Spring and Fall series of six races each, including the two PYRC-sponsored regattas hosted by MVYC; the Craney Island Race; the Leary Memorial Cup race for single-handed sailors; a Labor Day Ladies Race (lady skippers); the Junior Sailing Program for Spring and Fall; and raft-ups.

MVYC SAIL FLEET 2001 RACE SCHEDULE

With consideration for the PYRC annual regatta schedule for 2001, the Sail Fleet established the MVYC Spring and Fall club racing series schedule. Most races will be on Sundays with a 2 PM starting gun. There will be two MVYC-hosted, PYRC-sponsored regattas, one in each series, but each of these regattas will be on a Saturday. Races within these two regattas will count toward series results. The dates are as follows:

Spring 2001 Series: (Sunday's 2 PM start) April 29, May 6, 13, 20, June 3, and the MVYC Spring Regatta on Saturday, June 9. June 10 will be for a make-up race, if needed, and an Awards Dinner/Picnic. (There will be no race on May 27, Mother's Day).

(See *Sail Racing* on page 13)

POTOMAC YACHT RACING CLUB RACING EVENTS FOR 2001

Gung-Ho Sailors, mark your calendars!

PYRC-sponsored Regatta	Host	Date
Occoquan Bay	FYC	Saturday, May 12
Thrash to Sweden Point	DICF	Saturday, May 26
Kid's Kup	QYC	Saturday, June 2
Spring Fling	MVYC	Saturday, June 9
Leukemia Cup	DICF	Saturday, Sept 8
Fall Fling	MVYC	Saturday, Sept 29
Under the Guns	DYC	Sunday, Oct 7
Frostbite	QYC	Sat & Sun, Oct 13 & 14
Frostbite	DICF	Saturday, Nov 3

DICF Daingerfield Island Cruising Fleet (Washington Sailing Marina)
DYC Dahlgren Yacht Club
FYC Fairfax Yacht Club
QYC Quantico Yacht Club

(Continued from *Sail Racing*, page 12)

A rules and strategy seminar is scheduled to kick off the racing season on Saturday, 28 April. The time and location will be announced.

Fall 2001 Series: (Sunday's 2 PM start) September 9, 16, 23, the MVYC Fall Regatta on Saturday, September 29, and October 7. Awards Dinner/Picnic to be announced.

Special Races: Craney Island night race – on a date to be determined during the summer; a Labor Day Ladies Race on Sunday, September 2; and the Leary Memorial Cup race on Saturday, October 6.

CALLING ALL SAILORS!

The Club races are for sailors of all abilities and capabilities, and all sailboats eligible for a PHRF handicap rating – a 20-foot LOA minimum monohull yacht. You do not have to have an official PHRF rating to participate in Club races. An equivalent rating will be assigned by the Race Committee Chairman. Sailboat racing at MVYC is great fun. The camaraderie couldn't be better. Racing improves your sailing skills.

Never raced before? No problem. Crew on another boat. Invite a Club member with experience to crew on your boat. Have no fear, this is not the America's Cup. This is Club racing, intended for the sailing fun of all members. The Sail Fleet plans a racing rules and strategy seminar for beginning racers on April 28.

HAVE BOAT, NEED CREW — OR VICE VERSA?

Skippers: Want to sail in the upcoming race but don't have enough crew and don't know who to call? Sailors of all abilities: want to crew in the upcoming race but don't know who to call? The Sail Fleet wants to help facilitate getting you together.

The Sail Fleet wants to establish a list of Club members who are interested in crewing on other Club members' sailboats during races or for pleasure sailing, as well as a list of Club members with sailboats who may want to take along or need a crew for racing or pleasure sailing. These lists will be made available to the members who sign up. Please contact Greg Rehe to put your name on the list.

Prior to scheduled races, crews wanting to sail, and skippers needing a crew can call Greg Rehe, who can help put crews and boats together. (If Greg is not available, call Chuck Dietz, then Doug Borden.) Another tried and true method is to show up at the marina an hour or so before the start and see who has room on board for you.

NEXT SAIL FLEET MEETING

The next Sail Fleet Meeting is scheduled for 6 PM, Saturday January 27, 2001 at the home of Chuck Dietz. All MVYC sailors are invited. The agenda will include further planning for the racing series and related events. Call Chuck or Greg Rehe so we can plan for enough refreshments and pizza for all.

CALL PAT! "The Boater's Choice"

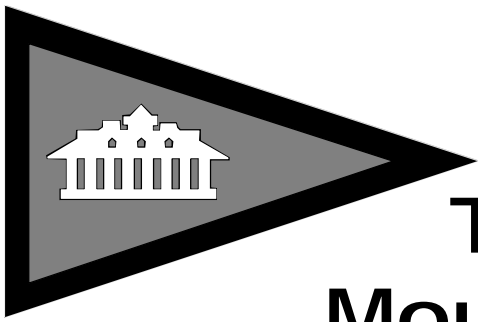
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The Mount Vernon Yacht Club



Santa, fresh from his arrival by boat, sets about his task of handing out the goodies. *Photo: George Holthaus*

January 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dec 31 Tacky New Year's Eve Party 8pm @ Knetemann's	1	2	3	4 Membership Meeting 8pm @ St. James	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 PRYCA Change-of- Watch Dinner
21 Frostbite BBQ noon @ The Point	22	23	24	25 Board Meeting 7:30pm @ Grande's	26	27 Sail Fleet Mtg 6pm @ Dietz's
28	29 Social Com. Mtg 8pm @ Baldwin- McGowan home	30	31	Feb 1 Membership Meeting 8pm @ St. James	Feb 2	Feb 3 MVYC Ski Day



The Mount Vernon Yacht Club
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