



QYC Newsletter

QUANTICO YACHT CLUB, Inc.
P.O. Box 21 • Quantico, Virginia 22134

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Marina Construction Completed AT LAST!

Upcoming Events

June 6- 8	PYRCA Cobb Island Days
June 7 th	MVYC Spring Regatta
June 13 th	Monthly QYC Meeting
June 15 th	Father's Day
June 28 th	Tim's River Shore Pre-Fourth Fireworks

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COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Ed Wright

With the passing of Memorial Day weekend, the boating season and summer have officially kicked-off. Our Club's cruising season was also kicked-off, and wet as it was, it was still a resounding success. *The Wright's Stuff* did not make the long trek up the river from Solomon's, but we did manage to drive by and visit with those who did get their boats out. Of course, we picked the rainiest day to visit, but we still had a great time.

I heard the weatherman say that we've had somewhere around 26 days of clouds and rain for the month of May. Not only has this curtailed some of our early season boating plans, but it also appears to have slowed the construction crew at the marina. They said they would be done by the end of May, and it looks like it's going to come down to the final hours. Hopefully, by the time this newsletter is in your hands, the work will be done, and all the boats will have returned to their new berths. I've been giving some thought to selling and installing bow thrusters at Lucas Hall, as it seems there may be market for them in Quantico. It does look a little tight in some places, so when your coming in for the first time, plan accordingly, and think about deploying your fenders a little early.

At our last Executive Board meeting, there was some discussion about our club assisting Tony Cruz and his gang in conducting a cleanup day for the marina. Both a long, hard winter and the renovations have taken a toll on the marina grounds, and with the marina reopening in June, we thought this would be an ideal time to get it cleaned up. Tony is on-board with the idea, so all we have to do now is set a date. Check your calendars, and come to our next meeting ready to vote on a day. I'll give you a little hint... since our meeting is on June 13th, and we have a cruise/raft up on June 28th-29th, we'll be picking either Saturday the 14th or the 21st (weather permitting, of course).

We've also posted a calendar in the clubhouse, on the refrigerator, for use in reserving the clubhouse for private functions. There has been a lot of interest so far this year, and the calendar will help eliminate conflicts, plus let other members know when a private function is planned for a given date. The fee for using the clubhouse for other than club use is a mere \$25.00, so if you're looking for a place to hold a birthday, anniversary, retirement or other party, do consider our clubhouse.

I look forward to seeing you all on the river, on the docks, or just sitting around the club this summer.



VICE COMMODORE'S VOICE **Anne Sooby**

One doesn't have to be around a group of boaters very long before realizing that sail boaters and power boaters are locked in a feud over who's chosen form of recreation is best. The competition gone on ever since the first motor was strapped to the rear of a boat and will probably continue until the winds cease to blow or we run out of fossil fuels.

Because these people can easily argue on every conceivable difference the bystander may come to believe that to be a boater means choosing one type of craft over the other. Not So!. I've found that one can move quite comfortably from one world to the other .

I have found a few similarities that make the transition hardly noticeable at all. Take the language used for example. Amazingly enough "What the *&#@#!!! Are you doing?" means exactly the same thing on a sailboat as it does on a powerboat.

I've also noticed that the little "no Wake" markers are equally bothersome to power and sail boaters. One wouldn't think that but I have observed it to be true. Those markers provide an excellent opportunity for both types of boaters to enthusiastically shout out the above mentioned phrase. On a power boat the helmsman might hear the Captain shout a hearty "what the *&#@#!!! Are you doing?" If he or she should forget to slow down after passing the marker. The sailboat's hapless helmsman will also bear the

brunt of that same non-questions as the boat careens directly into the little, until that moment unseen marker.

The term, 'sheet' is something else that one expects to hear only on a sailboat. Just recently, I discovered though that a sheet can be equally important on a power boat! How can that be? You ask.. Simple. After spending the night on the boat last Saturday, Larry remarked to me, "I think we need new sheets. They're odd shaped and will be expensive. Do you think you can make them?"

My list of similarities goes on but time and space don't permit me to continue. The whole point is: The arguments over who is better are tiresome. Sail boating and Power Boating are very much alike...It may just take a novice to notice!



TREASURER'S BOTTOM LINE **Mike Crouch**

Counting beans is prosaic. Writing about said beans is difficult at best. Ever the optimist, both our Mother's Day event and the Memorial Day cruise came in under budget...and I believe club members had fun at both events. And we seem to be having a rash of club rentals. At \$25.00 this turns out to be a win-win. So, given the sum of the lunar digits we'll make it financially.

A head-up to those yet to return to the marina. Pick a day that's "weather friendly" and plan on a few touch-and-goes. TIGHT! Fortunately, on our first pass docking, the marina staff were there to assist and we're working with the harbor manager to locate "the perfect spot." That said you might want to offer more rides to unsuspecting human shields, errrr friends.

Take care, Mike



SECRETARY'S **SCRIMSHAW**

Mike Fallon
"Oh go row your own dam boat!"

Finally, the Marina reconstruction is completed. The hard work done by the contractor through all types of lousy weather has finally paid off. The new docks are beautifully assembled and power is more than ample through out the entire marina even to the most remote slips. This has been a frustrating time for many of our member who have been deprived of easy access to their boat during the construction. However, the long wait is over and people can start moving in this weekend.

In fact, last night I noticed several staged automobiles. So the repopulation of our marina is about to happen.

I'm sure that everyone who has seen the marina now has some concerns about the maneuvering room that

we have left. No doubt there is much less maneuvering room than we have been used to in the past. I have given this some thought and as a pretty experienced boater I have a several ideas I'd like to share with you.

1. When you are returning the Marina and are unsure of your boat handling skills or if the wind or the waves create concerns for you, notify the Marine Manager of your return and what slip you will be going into. They will have dockhands out to assist you. Don't be afraid to ask for help from a boating buddy already in the marina to lend a hand as well.
2. Use the appropriate sound signals when entering the marina of backing out fo your slip so that other boaters will be aware of your movement and arrival and can assist fending you off or tying you up.
3. Have a back up plan. Assume that things are not going to go as planned and always be prepared to maneuver out of danger to make a second attempt. Notify your crew of the plan so that they can also be prepared to respond appropriately
4. Never NEVER NEVER leave the helm captain. Your physical strength guys will do little or nothing to prevent damage if a collision is inevitable. I see it time and time again. The macho guy driving the boat has to go fend off. Don't do it! Your skills and ability to maneuver the boat are better served at the helm station not on the foredeck.
5. Teach your crew never never to get between two boats when a collision is inevitable. Gel coat and fiberglass are easy repairs and covered. A deep laceration or broken arm or leg not only will take a long time to heal but ultimately my cause mutiny in foc'sle.
- 6 Finally, Practice practice practice. Practice with your crew aboard and practice while single handing the boat. Practice with the marina crew assisting and practice when they are not. That is the only way you and your crew will grow to understand how your boat responds and how best to approach and depart your marina slip.

This month's contribution to our newsletter comes from one **Martin A. Fallon** who was nominated as Poet of the Year for 2000 by the American Poets Society (APS) for this contribution. Read and Enjoy ... Yes he is related to me.

Litany of the Ocean Seas
By **Martin A Fallon**

You tolerate us, we survive at your pleasure;
Placid blue, foaming gray, quick-silver and
Restless green... Provider of salt spray for meditation.

Dressed in perpetual sunlight and moonlight
Sunrise gold, sunset red and lemon yellow

Beyond captivity, used by all..
Provider of Salt spray for meditation
Lover of ships, killer of ships and the
Reason for ships; Angry, loving and ambitious
Every thing but dry...
Provider of salt spray for meditation

The birth and resting place of birds, a never
Ending source of food; a reflection of everything
That touches you...
Provider of salt spray for meditation

A mad gray devil from the nor' east and a cat's
Paw of fog from the sou' east. Once flat now
Round, an education for navigators...
Provider Of salt spray for meditation

Graceful lady and angry shrew, you have names:
Sea Witch, Sunbeam, Wanderer, Santa Maria and Titanic...
Provider of salt spray for meditation

With out you life would not be, you are eternal.
A provider of salt spray for meditation

CRUISING REAR COMMODORE

Karen Crouch

Five boats arrived at the Fort Washington marina for our Memorial Day cruise. Yes it was wet – but not a washout. The margarita contest was competitive and the Mexican dinner enjoyed by all. We even had some authentic El Salvadorians drop by. Sunday evening, after dining out, we played the battle of the sexes well into the night. A board game with no rules – what a novel concept.

Don't forget we're attempting our first, non-sponsored, club raft up for Tim's fireworks on June 28th & 29th. I'll ask for a raise of hands at the next meeting and perhaps we'll semi-organize some chow and beverages. I'm pretty sure Tammy and Daniel committed to sponsoring the 4th of July cruise at Colonial Beach. And if they didn't officially we'll coerce them into it. They'll need a hand transporting stuff though. I still need sponsors for Labor Day and Columbus Day.

Social Rear Commodore(s)

Sandy & Cliff Roy

Here we are weathering the rainy days of May! We were happy to see a large attendance for Mother's Day celebration on a delightful sunny day. A special thanks to all those who showed up to help with Mother's Day event.

Father's Day is one June 15th the festivities will start at 2 PM. Please sign up in the club house as soon as possible or call Cliff and me at (703)887-7558.

We would like to thank Ann & Larry Sooby for \volunteering to sponsor Father's Day! Please bring a dish to share. Meat will be furnished for 5\$ per adult and children under twelve are free. Thank you! Sandy & Cliff