



## QYC Newsletter

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

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# Marina Construction Underway!

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#### COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Ed Wright

May is here, and it finally feels like boating season. Progress is being made on the Marina renovation, but it is still mostly empty, and it looks like it may be June before the majority of boats return. As construction wraps-up, boats old and new, with both familiar and unfamiliar captains and crew, will begin to fill-in. Please take advantage of every opportunity to let these boaters know about QYC and the many activities we have planned.

This month we have the Little America's Cup on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, the Mother's Day cookout on Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, and our Memorial Day Cruise to Fort Washington on May 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. The Little America's Cup is a combination school science fair and model boat regatta, hosted by QYC and Mr. Ross Horton. Think of it as a sailing version of a soapbox derby. Ross is looking for volunteers to assist in judging the boat/country displays, and to help in running the actual regatta (sailed in a water trough to be set up next to the clubhouse). Please contact Ross if you are available to assist with this event.

Cliff and Sandy Roy have been busy making preparations for the annual Mother's Day cookout. A signup sheet is posted on the club bulletin board, so please sign up as early as possible, and plan on joining us in celebrating Mother's Day.

I'm still waiting for *The Wright's Stuff* to be re-floated to begin my spring commissioning tasks. Many of the boatyards in Solomons are backed up considerably due to the extended winter weather we experienced this year. Right now she's scheduled to be launched the weekend prior to

Memorial Day weekend. While we had hoped to be launched and “up river” in time to join the club’s Memorial Day cruise, it looks like we won’t quite be ready in time. I suspect that with many of our boats still dispersed due to the marina renovation, some of you may be reluctant to sign up for this event. However, you don’t necessarily need to cruise to Fort Washington by boat to join in the fun. If your schedule permits, please plan on jumping in your car (or truck), bring a side dish to share and sombrero, and join your fellow club members for the club-sponsored dinner or other festivity. Land cruises can be fun, too.

I’d like to thank all of you who assisted in the spring cleanup last month. We had a great turnout, and last winter’s spider webs, spilled food/drinks, grease and grime were wiped away in preparation for another fun season at QYC. Special thanks to Ray Boisvert and Larry Sooby, who took on the biggest task of installing an outside light to help ensure our safety when traversing the front steps after dark. As we are operating this year without a Fleet Captain, I would ask each of you to let one of the club’s officers know if you find an item that requires attention or repair around the clubhouse. If it’s something you believe you could easily fix yourself, then I would also encourage you to volunteer that information. The Executive Board will pay the costs of any materials required, once a repair item has been approved, so only your labor and expertise would be needed. This is *your* club, so please help us keep it in good order.



#### **VICE COMMODORE’S VOICE** **Anne Sooby**

Last week was quite eventful for Larry and me! First, Larry had a major mishap in the pontoon boat. You’ll have to ask him if you would like the details. I wasn’t there. All I’ll say is that life with Larry is never boring! When the unexpected happens, Larry has a way of reporting it as though it were the most natural thing to have occurred. The shock doesn’t sink in until much later. At any rate the incident was resolved with a few calls to Boat US and a couple of trips to Dumfries Marine. Safe to say, you won’t be seeing our pontoon on the river this year!

A trip to Port Kinsale was our next big event. We left Quantico on Thursday evening. We anchored for the night near Fairview Beach.

Friday Morning we were up early and on our way to Port Kinsale. It was overcast the entire way. It became choppy about an hour before we got to the marina. Fortunately we were able to have the boat hauled out, barnacles scraped, a power wash done and then launched before the inevitable rain arrived.

Even though it continued to rain periodically we still had an enjoyable weekend.

We are looking forward to returning to Kinsale to

have the bottom painted later this year. At that time the weather will undoubtedly be better so we can take advantage of the facilities. A beach, swimming pool, museum, 48 acres of woods and a restaurant which will be under new management by that time. This may even be a place the Yacht Club would consider visiting on a cruise. It certainly has a lot to offer.

The trip home was the best part of the weekend. The day was sunny and a bit breezy but not too bad. It was a good day to just cruise along and enjoy the sights. If Larry hadn’t been there trying to enter new information into the GPS periodically (making for some interesting turns along the way) the day would even have been considered boring!



#### **TREASURER’S BOTTOM LINE** **Mike Crouch**

“... A commander proves himself wise not understanding how important the flexible employment of forces is but by being able to disperse, concentrate or shift his forces in time according to specific circumstances.”  
*Sun Tzu.*

Consider the commander our commodore, his forces our membership and specific circumstances a full season of boating ahead. At roughly fifty members now is the time to disperse and concentrate in regards to obtaining new membership. More slips in the Marina may equal more boats. An opportunity to chat about boating could result in a future commodore. And if nothing else sharing our website provides specific and general information.

“If you’re not cheating you’re not trying.” *Jim Rome*, syndicated sports radio host.

For my Part for each new member I’ll personally kick in a koozie for the new member and a koozie for the existing member who recruited them.



#### **SECRETARY’S** **SCRIMSHAW**

**Mike Fallon**  
**“Oh go row your own dam boat!”**

Well some big changes are indeed happening at the Marina. If you haven’t been down there lately here is brief description. Wiring has been completed on both the North and South Piers. We are still a couple of weeks away from running water and electricity though. The Center floating pier has been moved and anchored in its new location about 40 feet north of where it was. All of the components for the new floating pier have arrived and

assembly of the new floating pier is expected to be completed this week.

The Marina is still cluttered with the flotsam that drifted in during the high tides earlier this year. I've started my own self help program of picking up a piece of log and heaving it over the wall every time I'm down there. It seems to have little impact but everyone did that we might actually have the place cleaned out by the end of summer...Do ya think?

A big thank you and tip of the hat to Phil Rogers for this Month's contribution to our little newsletter. I'm not quite sure where SeaCabin's Skipper found this little gem of nautical knowledge but I found it pretty interesting. I think this should be filed under the heading "I wonder where that saying came from!" read on and be enlightened...

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In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. But how to prevent them from rolling about the deck?

The best storage method devised was a square based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four, resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon.

There was only one problem -- how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding/rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a "Monkey" with 16 round indentations.

But if this plate was made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make brass "Monkeys".

Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the monkey.

Thus, it was quite literally, "Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey!" (And all this time, you thought that was an improper expression, didn't you?)

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## **CRUISING REAR COMMODORE**

### **Karen Crouch**

At last count there were only four boats signed up for our Memorial Day Cruise. Let's show up in force! If your vessel is still in the "provisioning" stage call a friend and bum a ride – your smiling face is important. Remember the Mexican theme. We'll have a Margaritas Contest, a coloring contest (have those who want to participate bring crayons, etc., we'll bring the paper, none-dominant-hand badminton and pre-quals for Tim's Polar Bear Swim. I plan on calling in the number of boats after our next meeting so please place your name on the sign up sheet if you'll join us.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of June we'll have a raft up at the mouth of Mattawoman to watch Tim's fireworks. The commodore passed at our last executive board meeting that Fairfax Yacht Club is interested (so bring extra fenders). This is not a club-sponsored event – yet! That said, if I sense a strong interest Mike and I will drag a keg for the day's festivities. FUN TO BE HAD!

Tammy and Daniel Sagers have expressed and interest in sponsoring a cruise. Crouch's have Memorial Day but I still need to assign faces with cruises so please approach me at the next meeting.

I can't wait for the heat – Karen.

## **Social Rear Commodore(s)**

### **Sandy & Cliff Roy**

Here we are about to have our first Spring event of Mother's Day! The sponsors are Cliff and Sandy Roy. With Janice and Randy Corey's assistance we will start the party at 2 PM on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your favorite dish to pass around. There will be a charge of \$5.00 for adults and free for children under 12. This will cover the meat and the drinks. If you haven't signed up and would like to attend give Sandy and Cliff a call at (703-407-3583).

Please let us know if you're interested in sponsoring the Father's Day event. We would appreciate your help.

Thank you!

Sandy & Cliff