

RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER YACHT CLUB
IRVINGION, VA 22480

February 2009

THE HEADWAY

A Fond Farewell

By Jim Bearden



Photo courtesy Alan Christensen

The Beavers gave four faithful members a big send-off at a dinner in January to honor the retirees.

As noted in the Commodore's column last month, four Beavers are retiring from the club. The retirees include Warren Hammett (Beaver #1), Jim Stone (Beaver #3), Alan Christensen (Beaver #4) and Chris Christensen (Beaver #6). Between them we are losing over 60 years of experience in

maintaining the club property. Boy, will they ever be missed!

The current Beavers got together and hosted a grand farewell at the Club on January 14th. Festivities included a cocktail hour, prime rib dinner, and a dessert to die for. Kent White arranged for all the

volunteer labor, which included chefs Stephanie Dudley, Fran Westbrook, and Kent, bartender Bob Westbrook, and wait staff and cleanup Diane Owens and Kent. Kate Raffetto, with her usual creative flare, decorated the tables with many of the club tools, spare

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RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER YACHT CLUB

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Commodore's Message

By Coleman Brydon, Commodore

- Congratulations to Jill and Larry Worth for a wonderful debut in the RRYC kitchen. Larry had restaurant experience in the days of his youth and says he is enjoying his return to the kitchen. We are certainly grateful for their efforts at the January social, and look forward to future dinners.
- We are also grateful to Frank Birdsall who obviously spent many hours in preparation of his program – his voyage from California to Panama in a 25-foot sailboat with two neophyte sailors. His comments were frequently humorous and his talk interesting. A sizeable group appeared after dinner just to hear the program.
- Included in the group was Ruthanna Jenkins, former Commodore of RRYC, who claimed – and modeled - a white skirt with blue yacht and RRYC burgee decoration that had been donated by Jean Burbach, a former member. Jean also donated her late husband's large collection of sailing books for the club library.
- In our January Board meeting, the Board was presented with an unexpected opportunity. Kent White, our Dockmaster, is offering to sell the Club his 28' Eastern diesel-power boat for \$25,000 and the existing Club Shamrock in trade. Kent would take payments of \$5,000 a year for five years at no interest. Anyone who has spent any time on the Shamrock knows that it is not great as a committee boat. One of its flaws is that it has no enclosed head, thereby ruling out co-ed committees. It is also uncomfortable. Scott Vail informed the Board that he knew of no other 28' diesel-powered boat available at this price. The boat is loaded with electronics - Furuno 62 M-2 radar, VHF, Garmin GPS, plus dinette, refrigerator, enclosed head, and much more. The Board voted to explore this opportunity further, and as part of that process we are very anxious to get feedback from the membership. Please make your opinion heard by e-mailing the RRYC Board members at board@gmail.com or by contacting a Board member in person. The specs on the boat will be on display in the clubhouse. While getting a new launch certainly was not in our immediate plans, this opportunity seems like it should at least be explored, especially in light of Kent's generous financing terms.

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A Fond Farewell

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parts, nails and other assorted implements of destruction. Food and libations were donated by the gracious volunteers and remaining Beavers.

After dinner, the retirees were presented with personalized RRYC embroidered hats and burgees mounted on engraved wooden display bars. The evening closed with each of the retirees sharing fond memories of their adventures with the Beavers.

May they continue to have Fair Winds and Following Seas.



Photo by Frank Miller

New Years 2009: Dancing, Food and Live Entertainment

By Frank Miller

RRYC ushered in 2009 in style with its first annual New Years Eve Party. The evening was fueled by the usual club libations and an impressive array of hors-d'oeuvres brought by the attendees. On a bleak and windy night, approximately twenty members and guests turned out in various styles of celebratory dress which included satin, sparkles, and denim.

Due to the malfunction of the two planned record players (which had not been used in 15 years) the oldies records supplied by several members were of little use. The static produced by the club's sound system quickly grew annoying when we tried to use CD's. So that meant a move to the Karaoke machine supplied by Carol and Tom Sennott, guests of Frank and Grace Ann Miller, for the evening's music and entertainment. The Sennotts also furnished a library of memorable dance music, without lyrics of course. In the absence of lyrics, a line-up of club members furnished the vocals in various melodic styles. Who knew there were so many (or so few?) talented folks in RRYC?

With the club television tuned in to the Times Square celebration, the Midnight Hour was marked with the traditional champagne toasts accompanied by hats, horns, and kisses. Unfortunately, due to the extreme cold outside, the lowering of the lighted ring buoy was witnessed by only a hardy few. At any rate, a great time was had by all with dancing and singing from 9:00 to 1:00 a.m. It would be great to make this celebration an annual event, so plan to attend next year and help make it bigger and even better.

In Memoriam

- Lt. Gen. Sterling Wright, an RRYC Founding Member, died January 14, 2009. Norm Smith relayed fond memories of racing against him in the mid-70's.
- Dudley Patteson has informed us that his mother, Charlotte Dudley Patteson also died on January 14th. She was a member of the club for over twenty years.

Our sympathy goes out to both the Wright and Patteson families.

Racing News

By Ron Mihills, PHRF Racing Captain

March 14, 2009: John McCarthy Racing Seminar and Crew “Happy Hour”

Be sure to put March 14th on your calendar to enjoy a day of racing tips from noted yachtsman, John McCarthy. Following the seminar, RRYC skippers will host a “Happy Hour” for current and potential crew members. Don’t miss it! Get involved in racing in 2009.

Renewing your “PHRF of the Chesapeake” Valid Certificate

Attention Racers: The following information is on the “PHRF of the Chesapeake” website - www.phrfchesbay.com

In early January of each year, renewal forms for each boat are mailed to ALL prior year PHRF members holding valid rating certificates for their boats. It is very important, therefore, to maintain your correct mailing address in the data files for PHRF of the Chesapeake. Please call, or fax, their office (410-414-3270) with any mailing address changes. Valid Rating Certificates expire on March 31st of the year following the year they were issued, so it is important that you renew your boat’s Valid Rating Certificate before April each year by returning the renewal form and fee to PHRF of the Chesapeake.

If you did not receive a renewal form, please contact the PHRF office (410-414-3270) and provide your current mailing address where a renewal form may be sent, and another renewal form will promptly be mailed to that address.

Upcoming Diesel Seminar

Yankee Point Yacht Club will be holding a diesel engine seminar on February 21st. The plan is to have an engine and cutaways in the marina barn. You may request further information or register at Johnauburn@aol.com.

Commodore’s Message *(continued from page 2)*

- The Board also decided on a two-tiered price structure for the monthly socials. Those with reservations will be charged \$20 apiece. Members who come to the dinner without reservations will be charged \$30, *if sufficient food has been prepared to accommodate extra attendees*. Obviously, this change has been adopted to encourage everyone to make reservations, and to assure that those who do will get their money’s worth at the dinner. An increase of a mere three dollars will allow us to offer more upscale dinners and larger portions that would appeal to more members. For example, instead of last February’s Chinese food (which was delicious nevertheless), take a look at the menu featured in the back of this issue, and try to find that anywhere else, along with wine and coffee, for \$20.00! Of course you can’t. More important, the ambiance that our club achieves - the combination of friends, fine food, and wine that makes up in quantity what it lacks in quality – is a rare thing that should not be missed on a cold winter’s night. See you at the social.

Baked Curried Fruit

1 lb can sliced peaches
 1 lb can pineapple chunks
 1 can apricot halves
 12 maraschino cherries
 3/4 cup light brown sugar
 3 tsp curry powder or to taste
 1/3 cup butter, melted
 2/3 cup blanched slivered almonds

Drain all fruit. Add sugar and curry powder to melted butter. Arrange fruit and nuts in layers in casserole dish. Pour butter mixture over it all and bake at 325 degrees for 1 hour. Refrigerate overnight. Reheat at 350 degrees before serving. Good for brunch or as a side dish with ham or pork.

Serves 10-12

Membership News

By Sally Clark, Membership Chair

The Board of Directors voted to accept with regret the resignations of the following members:

Active: James B. Stone, John Martin, Bill Bower, and

Inactive: Ed Trotter

Prospective Members:

Bill Broadus and Ron Mihills have proposed Jamie & Margaret (Peggy) Stalnaker of White Stone, VA for Active Membership. The Stalnaker's own *Elixir*, a 22.5' Cape Dory Typhoon located at the Carters Creek Marina and an Albin 28 docked at their home on Indian Creek. Jamie began his sailing experience on an Opti at age 12, and over the following years owned a Sunfish, Laser, O'Day Day Sailor, Cal 29, Cal 35, Bristol 41 and Bristol 47. Jamie & Peggy are past members of Norfolk Y&CC and Fishing Bay YC where Jamie served as a Board Member and Cruising Commander. Jamie also wrote cruising articles and boat reviews for Chesapeake Bay magazine, Sail, Power Cruising, and Soundings. They moved here a little over a year ago and recently restored their Typhoon. When he was a member of FBYC, Jamie participated with RRYC on a number of events and looks forward to helping with various club activities and being available to crew on larger boats. Jamie & Peggy are both interested in working on the Cruising and Social & Programs Committees, as well as getting involved with cruising with the club. And as a retired lawyer, Jamie is interested in assisting with club legal matters.

Members may direct comments about this application to Membership Chair Sally Clark prior to the February Board Meeting.

Yearbook Updates and Reminders

By Sue Springett, Yearbook Editor

Please take the time to fill out the Boating Interest Survey so that we can help plan club activities. Racing and Cruising program topics and activities are for your benefit. Volunteers are needed in all areas but especially as the Beavers ranks have diminished. Corrections to your Boat Owner Survey are important to make the upcoming yearbook. All corrections are due by February 15th.

Recent changes:

Please change the address for Matt and Dinah Carr to

P.O. Box 638, White Stone, Va. 22578

Phone (804) 435-0387; Cell (804) 921-5310

MCarr30703@aol.com

Mosby West's home phone number is (804) 761-1507;

Business (804) 438-6167

If you would like an electronic copy of the survey forms contact please contact me via e-mail at suespringett@verizon.net or by snail mail: 114 Summers Run, Annapolis, MD 21409. Thank you.

Tribute to Seagoing Wives

By Peter Hunter

Jean Hunter, 81, died peacefully on December 19, after a short return bout of cancer. As a long-suffering and usually uncomplaining mate to me in our 53 years of marriage, she endured crewing in cutthroat one-design racing in Singapore and Bombay Harbors and also on Lake Ray Hubbard outside Dallas.

When cruising was an option, she brought up four children aged initially (5-12) starting in a 19-ft. Alacrity on the Baltic. The children learned their seamanship on the river Elbe, Baltic, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River under the close supervision of their mother.

After retiring to the Northern Neck in 1987, the children had moved on and our cruising intensified albeit in larger and more comfortable boats; cruises included two to Maine, to Cape Cod, on the Chesapeake, and eight round trips down the I.C.W. to Florida and the Bahamas. A major cruise was the circumnavigation of Pittsburg via the Great Lakes, Mississippi, etc. She performed brilliantly as bowthruster during the passage of the 106 locks with a long boathook in her hands.

She was mate, hostess, cook, purser, helmsman, deck hand, and varnisher – a mistress of all nautical skills, as well as a loving wife giving sage counsel to a sometimes excitable skipper. Bonnie Jeannie, bless you and thank you – I love you all the worlds.

COMES WINTER

By Bob Bierly

Oh it's time for introspection and for contemplating change
And for taking those precautions which our seasons do arrange.

For summer has departed and fall has finally fell
Winter has descended and you know it's cold aswell

So it's unload those shelves and lockers of those things you should
have used.
Particularly the things that freeze and explode without a fuse.

How did so much stuff accumulate in seven months or so
Did I really need all this junk just to make my sailboat go?

Of course, radios and instruments and a thousand other things
May best be stored in the loft at home. ('Til we see what Santa
brings).

So go winterize your engine and pour in that smelly stuff
In the water tanks and heater;---- seems like the odor just let up!

Pull your vessel from the water; Prop her up on blocks and stands;
Cover over her with that big blue veil; And tie it down with many
bands.

Then try to tell yourself that she'll be just fine 'til spring,
That your weekends are free for now and you won't be bored with
things.

Oh Yeah! I'll bet I'll see you back in just a week or two
Fumbling with those cover ties just to assure she'll make it thru.

Whether it's the snowy wintry weather or it's to sand that sticking
door
Or it's checking sizes of the lines or whatever you're looking for.

She'll be there in her snug cocoon waiting for you and signs of
spring
Knowing you'll be back undoing lines when the robins start to
sing.

Then we will all begin to carry back all the stuff we now must
strip
Why can't we omit the winter part and save ourselves the trip?

BOATUS Discount for Club Members

We want to remind everyone that you are entitled to a 50 percent discount on your BoatUS membership dues. See the Accord in this copy of The Headway. Include the document number on your check for one-half off the billed dues the next time you renew your BoatUS membership. **Please note: This does NOT affect your insurance premiums.**

Social Notes

Seventy-two hardy members and guests braved the cold to attend 2009's first social. They were rewarded with a delicious chicken dinner prepared by our own Jill and Larry Worth, and a talk and slide show presented by member Frank Birdsall. Kathy & Jim Bearden served as Board Hosts for the evening, and Susan Edmonds provided the table decorations. Appetizers were brought by the Beardens, Michelle & Howard Blank, Susan & Mitchell Bober, Molly & Vic Guyan, Esther Platsis, Marybeth & Dick Sisson, and Jane & Harry Wells. Guests accompanied Jan & Craig Akers, Frank Birdsall, Donna & Bill Foote, and Fran & Bob Westbrook.

On February 21st we will celebrate a night of glitz and glamour as we salute the 81st Annual Academy Awards with "Hooray for Hollywood!" night. This is shaping up as an event not to be missed, so don't be caught "Without Reservations." To ensure

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Social Notes

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that your reservations are received before the February 14th deadline we suggest that you book them by e-mail (dinner@rryc.org) or phone rather than the USPS. If you still prefer to use the mail-in form below, please post it well ahead to be sure it is received by the reservation deadline. Postmarks do not count! Also remember that the February social brings a price increase: \$20 with reservations, \$30 without! See the Commodore's column, inside front cover, for details.

Several folks who were fortunate enough to attend the Commodore's Holiday Board Brunch have asked for Terry's curried fruit recipe. It appears on page 4 – enjoy!



February Menu



Hooray for Hollywood – a Salute to the 81st Annual Academy Awards

“The French Connection” Onion Soup served in Kate’s Bread Bowls

“The Birds”

Cornish Game Hens stuffed w/ Oysters and Spinach

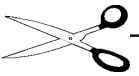
“How Green Was My Valley” Bean Salad Green Beans served w/ Citrus Vinaigrette

“As Good As it Gets”

Chocolate Mousse Parfait w/ Raspberries & Whipped Cream



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RAPPANNOCK RIVER YACHT CLUB
P. O. Box 55
Irvington, VA 22480

Saturday, February 21, 2009
Cocktails at 17:30, Dinner at 18:30
RSVP by Saturday February 14, 2009

“The French Connection” Onion Soup served in Kate’s Bread Bowls

“The Birds” Cornish Game Hens stuffed w/ Oysters and Spinach

“How Green Was My Valley” Bean Salad Green Beans served w/ Citrus Vinaigrette

“As Good As it Gets” Chocolate Mousse Parfait w/ Raspberries & Whipped Cream

_____ # Adult @\$20⁰⁰ _____ # Children (10 and under) @\$5⁰⁰

Name _____

Club Calendar

February - March 2009

February

6th First Friday
 21st Board Meeting and Club Social

March

6th First Friday
 14th Racing Seminar, 08:00 – 13:00
 21st Board Meeting and Club Social



The *Headway* is the official publication of the Rappahannock River Yacht Club
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 Coleman Brydon, Commodore
 Craig and Jan Akers, Editors
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