



RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER YACHT CLUB

October 2006

# THE HEADWAY

## Ernesto Soaks RRYC

*By David Raffetto, Rear Commodore*

As we all know, Tropical Storm Ernesto blew into town early on a Friday and was gone by late afternoon, but certainly left his mark. The water level was just a few inches shy of what we experienced in Isabel in 2003 and RRYC experienced some fairly high sustained winds as well. However due to the unexpected nature of the storm none of the boats at our dock were moved. Fortunately for us the winds were from the NE to E for most of the event and generated almost no wave action at our dock.

Thanks to the efforts of a number of members (David Hutchison, Dick Muller, Jeff Schmidt, Mosby West, Scott Vail, Kate and I) who were at the club through much of the storm, our docks and the boats all fared very well with facility damage minimized. Dock lines were adjusted, furniture was moved to high ground, the dinghy dock was secured to the dinghy rack, as it almost floated off the pilings, and the ice machine was caught as it attempted to escape to points West.

Unfortunately the club facilities, club house, annex, storage shed, and pool suffered virtually the same damages as they did from Hurricane Isabel in September, 2003. An incomplete list of damages include: the club house floor, carpets, fireplace logs, front room ceiling from a roof leak, cabinets, paneling, pool pump and motor, lawn mower, many supplies in the annex, and an ice machine which isn't cooling very well. After much effort by the Beavers, power and lights were restored to the dock, and the club house was available for the September Social. Since then a new ramp from the gravel path to the dock has been built (the old one ended up on the porch) and the pool is operational again.

There is some good news in all of this in that after Isabel RRYC took out a National Flood Insurance policy. The insurance carrier was notified, and the adjustor has made his inspection and provided his report. The club house and storage shed are covered, but not the annex or pool. The adjustor's report forms the basis for our damage claim and has been submitted. Recovery efforts and planning for the future are continuing.



Photo by David Hutchison

*Tommy Asch and Bill Broaddus attempt to reduce flooding with a bilge pump.  
(It didn't work.)*

## RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER YACHT CLUB

### FLAG OFFICERS

#### **Commodore - Blaine Liner**

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#### **Director - David Raffetto**

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#### **Director - C. Scott Vail**

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#### **Racing Fleet Captain - Jerry Latell**

#### **Cruising Fleet Captain - Dick Muller**

#### **Junior Sailing Captain - Dee Byrne**

#### **Flying Scot Fleet Captain**

Tom Richardson

#### **Social Committee Members**

Kate Raffetto, **Chairman**

Michelle Blank and Jan Akers

#### **Ship's Store Managers**

Grace Ann Miller and Bev Oren

#### **Membership Chairman - Sally Clark**

#### **Yearbook Editor - Dick Sisson**

#### **Club Manager - Kent White**



# Commodore's Message

*By Blaine Liner, Commodore*

- The Labor Day Picnic and Cruise at the Sarnowski's was wonderful. If you missed this annual event, you missed more than you can imagine. The band was super good, as usual, until our electric company interrupted them. Carole and Joe were the perfect hosts, as usual. All who attended enjoyed the entire evening, as usual. Thanks, Joe and Carole, for this gracious event for club members. See Social Notes for further report and pictures.
- Your board of directors recently approved a policy of reimbursing members for the dinner costs of their guests who are prospective members when those guests become members. This is to recognize the intention of those who bring guests so they can get to know us and we can acquaint ourselves with them prior to their application for membership. Once the guests apply for membership, our treasurer will send a check to the sponsor at the dinner for its cost. We still have a few vacancies and no waiting list, so think about bringing prospective members to the October social.
- The big racing event of the year will be the two days of racing on Saturday, October 21 and Sunday, October 22—the *Rappahannock Cup Races*. Last year we took the trophy away from Yankee Point Yacht Club and plan to keep the trophy on our mantel. These are great races and, as is the custom, competing racers will be invited to attend the Saturday evening social at RRYC. We are obligated to hold the joint feast as current holders of the Cup. Since this will be the last race of the season, please sign up to be on the race committee or plan to race. Call or e-mail Jerry Latell or me.
- Vice Commodore Carl Gerster is heading the strategic planning committee that has been charged with figuring out what we have to do to make the club house less flood prone.

## More Common Sailing Terms with a Twist

*(Courtesy of Coleman Brydon)*

**Boat ownership** - Standing fully-clothed under a cold shower, tearing up 100-dollar bills

**Chart** - a type of map which tells you exactly where you are aground.

**Course** - The direction in which a skipper wishes to steer his boat and from which the wind is blowing. Also, the language that results by not being able to.

*(continued on page 7)*

# New Board Recommendations Submitted

The nominating committee, Ron Mihills, Chairman, has sent to the current Board the following recommendations for the 2007 slate of RRYC officers and directors, to take office effective December 1, 2006. Please refer to pages 80 – 83 of the current RRYC Yearbook for details of the duties of each of these positions. Formal election will take place at the annual meeting in November.

## 2007 RRYC BOARD

Dave Raffetto	Commodore
Frank Miller	Vice Commodore
Mosby West	Rear Commodore
Coleman Brydon	Treasurer
Kathy Bearden	Secretary
Blaine Liner	Past Commodore

## DIRECTORS

Tommy Asch
Bob Bierly
Dee Byrne
Jerry Latell
Scott Vail
Pat Willett

## Last Cruise of the Season Approaching

*By Dick Muller,  
Cruising Fleet Captain*

The last cruise of the year will be on the weekend of October 28 to Grog Island (37°40.2'N/76°19.7W). Be there for "Happy Hour" at 1700 Saturday night. There is a short cruise to give all of us an opportunity to get in some good sailing before the winter storms come along.

Be sure to enter SW of the white pipe marker (not a CG mark) which marks the end of the shoal which sticks out SW of the end of the island. There are no facilities at this anchorage so plan to eat aboard. Let's all try to make this one. SEE U THERE!

## PHRF Race Report

*By Jerry Latell, Racing Fleet Captain*

The fall racing season is in full swing! By the time you read this the YPYC Fall Regatta 1 and the RRYC Fall Regatta will both be over, but there are still two PHRF events yet to be sailed. The Yankee Point Fall Regatta 2 will be held on October 14 and the big Rappahannock Cup Regatta is set for October 21 and 22.

The RRYC Fall Regatta was sailed September 30<sup>th</sup>. Please check the club website for results of this very well attended event. The Yankee Point Fall Regatta 1 was sailed in August, and as is always the chance, there was very little wind. The first race was mercifully cancelled when the two hour time-line was reached. Race Two was an odd triangular course consisting of three close reaches covering a length of about four miles. RRYC sailors did well with Salute winning the non-spinnaker class and Play it Again and Old School getting second and third respectively in the spinnaker fleet. I look forward to seeing these three boats lead the charge in the Rappahannock Cup Regatta!

Having won the Cup last year we will be hosting the regatta this year. There will be a dinner at the club on Saturday night with two days of racing. I have commitments from a number of boats but hope to get more people signed up before the big event. I give much of the credit for our victory last year to the sheer number of boats that we were able to field. All of the RRYC boats contributed by adding points to the scoreboard. The Yankee Pointers have recognized this and are working overtime to get a much larger turnout than they had last year. Please let me know if you intend to race so that we can plan our defense accordingly. The Notice of Race is published in this Headway. Please let me know how I can help get you out on the water as either skipper or crew.



# Notice of Race

## 2006 Rappahannock Cup Regatta

### Hosted by RRYC

Saturday October 21, 2006 & Sunday October 22, 2006

**Description:** The Regatta will consist of up to three round-the-buoy races sailed on the Rappahannock River above the bridge at White Stone and downstream of Towles Point (Rappahannock River “R-6”). Two races are scheduled for Saturday and one race for Sunday. In the event two races cannot be sailed on Saturday the Race Committee will attempt to run two races on Sunday.

**Eligibility:** To race in this event, boats must be owned by a member in good standing of either RRYC or YPYC and must hold a valid rating certificate issued by PHRF of the Chesapeake, Inc. for the year 2006. Fleet must have at least five boats of which two must be spinnaker and three non-spinnaker.

**Rules:** The Regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2005 – 2008, 2006 Rappahannock Cup Regatta Sailing Instructions, this Notice of Race, and the constitution and By-Laws of the Rappahannock River Yacht Racing Fleet. The special Sailing Instructions are available on [www.rryc.org](http://www.rryc.org) or by request from [jerry@latellsails.com](mailto:jerry@latellsails.com).

**Entry:** CBYRA entry form is available on CBYRA website [www.cbyra.org](http://www.cbyra.org). Valid 2006 PHRF rating certificate is required and is available at [www.phrfchesbay.com](http://www.phrfchesbay.com). Mail entry to: RRYC, PO Box 55, Irvington, VA 22480; fax to 804-438-6650 or hand to Race Committee at Skippers’ Meeting or on Committee Boat 15 minutes prior to first warning signal.

**Schedule:** Saturday -Registration at 0800 at RRYC Clubhouse followed by Skippers’ meeting at 0830. Spinnaker Class warning signal at 1030 followed by the Non-spinnaker Class warning signal at 1035. The second race will start soon after the last boat in the first race finishes, but may be delayed to change the race course, for weather, etc. Sunday – Spinnaker Class warning signal at 1030 followed by the Non-spinnaker Class warning signal at 1035. A second race, if needed, will start soon after the last boat in the first race finishes, but may be delayed to change the race course, for weather, etc.

**Scoring & Awards:** Individual Awards and the Rappahannock Cup - Scoring will be in accordance with the By-Laws of the RRYRF except that “least Fleet Size” and “Scored Finishers” shall be two spinnaker and three non-spinnaker per club. Should a club not have Least Fleet Size, each boat short shall receive a score equal to total finishers in that fleet plus one. Awards will be given after Sunday’s race(s) at the RRYC clubhouse.

**Social:** Coffee and juice will be served both days at 0800 in RRYC clubhouse. Saturday evening dinner/social begins at 5:30 PM. If you plan to attend please make reservations to [dinner@rryc.org](mailto:dinner@rryc.org) by October 16. The cost for dinner (including beer and wine) is \$17. This charge will be waived for participating skippers, crew, and race committee members.



# September Membership News

*By Sally Clark, Membership Chairman*

We are pleased to announce that at the September meeting the Board approved Lee and Susan Laningham for Active Membership and Frederick and Jenny Johnson and Robert and Camille Bragg for Provisional Membership.

While Lee and Susan Laningham do not reside on the Northern Neck, they have their boat, a 37' Pacific Seacraft, at Rappahannock Yachts in Irvington and enjoy sailing the Chesapeake Bay. Lee developed his love of sailing as a young man, sailing Sunfish on Norris Lake. He and Susan owned an O'Day 272, which they sailed on lakes around their home. Lee has also sailed in Southern Florida, traveled the Intercoastal Waterway and has done some ocean sailing along the Eastern Seaboard. The Laninghams focus is on cruising, and they plan to do extensive cruising to the south in the near future. Lee is currently Chairman of the Lee Bank & Trust Company, and Susan is a school teacher. Lee is interested in serving on the Cruising Committee and both Kathy and Lee look forward to meeting others and establishing ties to our area.

Frederick and Jenny Johnson have bare boated in the British Virgin Islands on a Beneteau 50 and recently have sailed cat boats in New Jersey. Since moving to Irvington, they have become active in local community events. Jenny was elected as a Trustee of Chesapeake Academy and Frederick is a member of the search committee for a new head of school. Now that they live in Irvington, they look forward to sailing on a regular basis, and will soon purchase a sailboat. Frederick and Jenny also look forward to having their three daughters participate in our junior sailing activities in the next few years. Frederick is interested in working with our Dock and House & Grounds Committees, and would like to get involved as racing crew. Jenny would like to serve on the Planning and Social & Programs Committees, and is interested in our Ship's Store and Historian activities.

Robert and Camille Bragg are currently building their home on Caters Creek and hope to move in this Fall. Robert (Bo) has joined his father in the real estate development business and both Bo and Camille have become involved in community and school events. Bo grew up sailing with his parents on a Bristol 29, and since then, has enjoyed day sailing and cruising on the Bay. Bo and Camille look forward to introducing their children to sailing through our Junior Sailing program, building their skills and instilling confidence and respect for the water. They plan to purchase a family sailboat in the future. Both Bo and Camille are interested in serving on the Social & Programs Committee and the Junior Sailing Program. Bo is also interested in the Dock Committee.

Lee and Susan Laningham  
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435-1460  
frederickjbb@yahoo.com

Bo and Camille Bragg  
P.O. Box 714  
Irvington, VA 22480  
438-5202  
bo@braggco.com

The Board voted to move Richard and Nancy Ranc to Inactive status, and accept with regret the resignation of Bill and Pat Morris. The Board also voted to accept Hudson and Lynn Hoen from Active to Inactive status.

## **Prospective Members:**

Mosby West and Andy Anderson have proposed Doug and Tove Power, of Irvington, for Active Membership. The Powers own "Vim", a Kugge 26Ω' Sloop, located on their dock in Irvington. Doug

*(continued on page 7)*



# Flying Scot Fleet #185 News

By Thomas Richardson, Flying Scot Racing Fleet Captain

The Fall Series began with Series Race 1 on Sunday, August 27th. Starting time was 2pm. The weather was close to perfect. The sun was out, a few clouds provided shelter and the wind blew at 12kn. Four races were sailed. The course was "O" for all races. Jerry Latell was the primary race officer. On page 7 are the individual race results in order of finish.

One of the highlights of Series Race 1 was provided by "Shark Fin," crewed by Burke and Christian Johnson, and Tom Richardson, overtaking "Spitkit II" on the last leg of the fourth race and winning by inches. A lowlight was "Etle Albinagh" breaking down at the beginning of the season and having to withdraw after two races. We've all been there, Lew. Keep on truckin'. Tommy Chiffriller sailed as

supernumerary on Solas. There were some collisions and some near misses but no protests. Some of the Scots stayed on for a porch BYOF supper. It was a lovely evening.

Race 2 of the Fall Series was sailed on Sunday, September 17th. Starting time was 2 p.m. After a stormy, cloudy week Sunday was glorious. Course "O" was sailed on the first two races and W2 on the third one. The primary race officer was Tom Linville. He did a great job. Pete Knight and Marshall Orr comprised the rest of the committee. The sun was out and the wind blew 5-10kn. The wind, however, did not blow from the same direction all afternoon. Race 1 was sailed in a light, fluke northeast wind. Midway into Race 2 the wind shifted clockwise to southeast. "Spitkit II" had a big

lead but Scotty took advantage of the shift first and skillfully gained the lead, which it never relinquished. The other four boats fell into a "wind hole" and were far behind. The race committee reset the course quickly giving the fleet time for a third race. There were near misses and collisions, and a protest. At the start of Race 2 "Spitkit II" fouled "Etle Albinagh" and had to do a "720". Scotty protested "Etle Albinagh" for a rounding infraction. Scotty won the protest and "Etle Albinagh" was given a DSQ. This was tough for "Etle Albinagh" because she was second across the line; her best finish of the year. The protest was the first for fleet #185. It was a good experience for us.

(continued on page 7)



Photo by Lew Thatcher

*August Race Preparations*



Photo by Lew Thatcher

*Race Scene*

**Flying Scot** (continued from page 6)

<u>Race #1 Results</u>		<u>Race #2 Results</u>	
Boat	Race Result	Boat	Race Result
5449	1, 1, 1, & 2	4603	2, 1, & 1
4603	2, 2, 3 & 4	4899	1, 3, & 3
2398	3, 4, 5 & 1	5449	4, 2, & 2
4899	5, 3, 4 & 3	2398	3, 4 & 6
5447	4, 5, 2 & 5	5447	5, 6 & 5
4256	6, 6, DNS, DNS	4256	DSQ, 5 & 4

**September Membership News** (continued from page 5)

20 Years Ago in the Headway:

**Matt Carr and Christopher Watson are Jr. Champs**

“The weekend of August 23-24 saw our Junior sailors testing their racing skills. The Champs were Matt Carr winning the One-Design series on the club’s fleet of Sunfish and Christopher Watson sailing “Whizbee” to first in the PHRF race.

The PHRF race was sailed in very brisk winds. Usually sailed in the River, the winds kept the fleet in the creek for the most part. The six mile course took racers to mark “2” at the mouth of the Creek and around the Eastern and main branch of the Creek. The high winds forced the crews to shorten sail. Watson’s winning crew included Cabell Westbrook on the foredeck. Billy Broaddus also captured second place in this race.”

began sailing in 1946 in New Orleans on a friend’s Lightning, and as an adult on the San Francisco Bay where he was a member of the Master Mariner’s Association, an association of wooden boat owners. Doug and Tove have owned “Vim” for 8 years, and have sailed her on the San Francisco Bay and the Chesapeake Bay. Doug has sailed in 8 Turkey Shoot Regattas and is

currently building a 28’ Herreshoff design Knockabout with RRYC member Franz Baichl in Irvington. He hopes to sail and race as much as possible with RRYC and is interested in serving on the Planning Committee.

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

**More Common Sailing Terms with a Twist** (continued from page 2)

- Dead Reckoning** - a course leading directly to a reef.
- Estimated Position** - a place you have marked on the chart where you are sure you are not.
- Flashlight** - Tubular metal container used on shipboard for storing dead batteries prior to their disposal.
- Gybe** - A common way to get unruly guests off your boat.
- Headway** - what you are making if you can’t get the toilet to work.
- Mast** - religious ritual used before setting sail.
- Sailing** - The fine art of getting wet and becoming ill, while going nowhere slowly at great expense.
- Shroud** - equipment used in connection with a wake.
- Starboard** - special board used by skippers for navigation (usually with “Port” on the opposite side.)

## From the Editors:

We would like to make the Headway as attractive and interesting as possible. If you have digital photos of Club members, races, events, cruises, etc., please forward them to akers.akers@comcast.net. If possible, compress them for documents, and identify the date, occasion, and any individuals pictured.

## Social Notes

*By Jan Akers, Social Committee*

The 2006 Labor Day Cruise to the Sarnowskis' was slightly "dampened" by Tropical Storm Ernesto. Seventy-knot winds and torrential rain the day before made it a cruise by land "dinghy." No yachts were seen. The weather was pleasant and the food and drink were bountiful. Again, everyone brought a meat to grill and a side to share. Joe and Carole had everything set up and choreographed, as usual, for a wonderful evening, with grills, tent, and a band. After the band finished their first set, Ernesto, not being a music lover, created a power outage, causing the band to pack up and leave. After a brief intermission, Coleman Brydon got his guitar from his truck and entertained us with several of his witty lyrics. Despite the power outage, both the food and the camaraderie were great as always!

After a break in August, the fall social season got underway with the monthly social on September 16, with catering provided by Karen

*(continued on page 9)*



Photos by Craig and Jan Akers, Collage by Craig Akers

*Scenes from the Labor Day Party at Joe and Carole Sarnowski's House*

# Social Notes

(continued from page 8)

Doyle. Everyone enjoyed the chicken curry, and word is that we will be seeing more of Karen on social evenings. Those providing appetizers, serving and clean-up were members Kathy and Jim Bearden, Rhonnie Kerr, Pete Knight and Cynthia Johnson, and Grace Ann and Frank Miller. The Board Hosts were Andrea and Jerry Latell, collecting dinner payments, greeting guests, and handing out our new RRYC

member name badges. Members with Guests were: Andy Anderson (2), Mosby West (3), Alan Young (1), and Tom Richardson (4).

Make plans now to attend our next social, Saturday, October 21. The bar opens at 5:30, with dinner served at 6:30. Make reservations to [dinner@rryc.org](mailto:dinner@rryc.org) by Wednesday, October 18, or use the form below and mail early.

## October Menu

Karen Doyle will provide:

**Beef Burgundy**

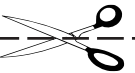
**Mashed Potatoes**

**Salad**

**French Bread**

**Chocolate Dessert**

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

Saturday, October 21, 2006:  
Cocktails 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 P.M.  
RSVP by Wednesday, October 18, 2006.

**Beef Burgundy**  
**Mashed Potatoes • Salad**  
**French Bread • Chocolate Dessert**

\_\_\_\_\_ # Adults @\$17<sup>00</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ # Children (10 and under) @ &5<sup>00</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

