

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club Education Committee Announcements

February 2015

Splicing

Presented by Bill Jarvis

“If you can count to one, you can splice a line,” states Bill Jarvis. He will be leading the next Education Committee presentation on Friday, February 12 from 9 AM to noon in the Community Center. This will be a hands-on course in which you will learn how to make an eye splice in three-strand laid rope with Bill’s guidance. You should bring a line that you plan to use, that is, a suitable length and diameter including the planned desired size of the splice. Bill recommends bringing new or relatively new line, as the fibers in older line do not slide well making it more difficult to create a splice. You also should bring a knife or scissors to cut the rope and a small length of electrical tape. You will make the splice using your hands, so you do not need to bring a fid or marlinspike but you can do so if desired. You will learn to make a good-looking splice, as a good-looking splice will always be a good functional splice.

Bill has presented this well-received course in the past for FHYC and he welcomes both prior and first time attendees. Most first time attendees have never made a splice prior to the course. This splice should be useful to all boaters, but is a manual skill that once learned needs ongoing practical use to maintain the skill. If desired, you may want to watch a demonstration on you tube of creating a splice in three line rope such as:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=QeYBkMCQ8WY>

Following this hands-on segment of the course, Bill will demonstrate how to make an eye splice in regular double braid line with such uses as dock lines or rigging. He will discuss selection of materials and recommend tools and techniques.

Bill learned to splice line as a young teenager on the Scottish ship *Discovery*; he has never purchased a spliced line. When working in a boat yard typically he would make 10 splices per hour. He has continued to teach and assist FHYC members with making these simple as well as more complex splices including 12-strand braid and brait for anchor line.

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The Education Committee's scheduled presentation series for 2016 is presented in the following table.

Date	Topic	Presenter
February 12	Splicing	Bill Jarvis
March 11	Spring Commissioning	Harvey Smith
April 2 (Sat)	Flare Shoot (at Blackbeard's)	Lloyd Moore
April 15	Fiberglass Repair	Doug King
May 5 (Th)	Visit to NOAA	Joel Berberich
June 10	Rules of the Road	Bill Neilson
September 9	Medical Seminar	Kathie King/Joel Berberich
November 11	Choosing a Boatyard	Fred Cornford

In addition, Ruth Levin again is conducting Navigation Classes this March/April with dates to be determined by the participants. Below is her announcement of these classes. There is no better way to be a safe and accomplished navigator than to know how to navigate without all the fancy tools offered to boaters these days. Knowing that you are not tied to them makes for a safer and more enjoyable trip. GPS has been turned off by the government; tools quit working; your security has been compromised.

Two sessions, three hours each, using your charts and one plotting tool that you will be given, and the fun of charting and having the security of knowing how to get where you are going is yours. Call Ruth Levin at 252-633-3906 if interested.