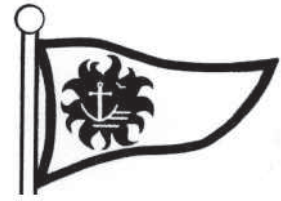


# The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 33, No. 4

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

May 2016



April certainly came in with bluster, causing cancellation of dinghy and *Ensign* races for the week as well as the Parade of Boats and Blessing of the Fleet. At least the sun cooperated for the Commissioning Day ceremony so the 2016 FHYC boating season could be officially opened with cannon, bugler, and official uniform. However, with the temperature in the 50's, I think we all wished for mittens before it was over. Thanks to all who helped with the ceremony, especially wreath-layer Reiner Zeppenfeld and boat captain Jay Spurr, cannoneer Harvey Pye, bugler Bob Dumon and the dockmasters Dan Argentieri, from Billy Casper Golf, and Scott Cleveland. A special thanks to the clergy, Reverend Cortney Dale from Christ Episcopal Church, and Chris Mele, the Shofar blower, representing the Jewish faith. The Commissioning Day luncheon seemed to anticipate the cruising season with the theme "Oh, The Places We'll Go." Thanks to committee chairs Roberta Flynn and Dotie Giersch and their committee for a wonderful event.

Finally the weather cooperated. The nine boats participating in the Wilkerson Race saw sunny skies and light wind. Congratulations to the winner Ed Doughty. Fortunately, no one needed to apply the information provided at the fiberglass repair seminar given by Fred Cornford and Vice Commodore Doug King the following Friday.

Those who selected the BridgePointe Shakedown cruise waypoint found it to be a good test of boat

systems in preparation for future cruising. The food was great and camaraderie outstanding as always.

Upcoming May waypoints provide a mix of opportunities for long range cruisers, unstructured sailors, and boaters with a cultural leaning. Those choosing the Chesapeake cruise seem to have preparations well underway since they will be gone several weeks. The Where the Wind Blows cruise, which found a cruise leader again, offers a cruise for those who like to go where the weather takes them rather than one planned in advance. The first cruise to Ocracoke is paired with the Music Fest so it is important to get there early if you want to use the Federal docks.

For those who are not picking a May cruise, consider more local waypoints such as a Full Moon raft-up or and an unscheduled overnight in one of the local anchorages. Mark your calendar for the educational visit to the NOAA center. Or plan to attend the yacht club dinner the Wednesday night after the general meeting. And, of course, keep tuned for an Impromptu splash that may be announced.

The racing season will continue for dinghy and *Sunfish* as well as the *Ensign* fleet since the spring series are coming to an end with parties scheduled in May. Fun racing will continue throughout the month for those who like the less pressured version of racing.

May is definitely the time to be out

## What's Happening

May Su 1	Race: Dinghy/Sunfish	
Tu 3	Race: Fun Racing	
Th 5	Race: Ensign Makeup Race	
Th 5	Ensign Party	
Th 5	Education: Visit to NOAA	
Su 8	Race: Dinghy/Sunfish	
Su-Fr	5/8-6/17 Cruise: Chesapeake	
Tu 10	Board Meeting.....	0900
Tu 10	Race: Fun Racing	
Th 12	General Meeting (cc).....	1930
Fr 13	Education: Seminar.....	0900
Sa-Fr	5/14-5/20 Cruise: Where the Wind Blows	
Su 15	Race: Dinghy/Sunfish	
Tu 17	Race: Fun Racing	
We 18	Yacht Club Dinner	
Th 19	Full Moon Raftup.....	1800
Su 22	Race: Dinghy/Sunfish Makeup Race	
Su 22	Dinghy/Sunfish Party	
Tu 24	Race: Fun Racing	
Tu 31	Race: Fun Racing	
Tu-Tu	5/31-6/7 Cruise: Ocracoke	

(cc)=Community Center, (fc)=Fairfield Commons, (ac)=Activities Center

**Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, May 15, 2016**

Delivery is Saturday, May 28, 2016

on the water before the heat and humidity set in. Or to enjoy a variety of activities on land before air conditioning is essential.

*Louise Knight, Commodore*

## FHYC General Meeting April 14, 2016

Commodore Louise Knight called the meeting to order at 1930 and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome - Introduction of Guests. Jim and Jody Fortuna were introduced by Chris Davies. Olwen Jarvis introduced third time visitors Kathy and Ron Minchin. Kathy Szakmeister introduced Melissa and Jerry Drake who were attending their first meeting. Brian Humphrey introduced George Lewis who was attending his second meeting. Les Pendleton introduced second time attendees Claude and Becky DeMars. Chris Skrotsky introduced college friends Jerri, Sharon and Judy.

Induction of new and reinstated members – Lynn Stateham announced new members approved by the Board: Lee Wilson and Barbara Leavy (sponsored by Szakmeisters and Hallquists) and Russ and Barb Robinson (sponsored by Florences and

Hallquists). Bill and Lois Andrews (sponsored by Knights and Bendicksens), Sharon and Ryan Stroupe (sponsored by Jacksons and Thompsons) and Raye Lynn Fletcher and Doug Longhini (sponsored by the Doughtys and Davies) were previously approved but unable to attend earlier meetings. They were welcomed this month by Lynn and presented with their burgees by Commodore Knight.

Minutes - a motion was made and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the March 10, 2016 General Meeting (Curry/Davies).

Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer's report for March 2016 has been approved by the Board and is available for review.

Program: Olwen Jarvis introduced our program for tonight - Cruising on the Shannon River in Ireland - presented by Lloyd Moore and Rob Skrotsky.

Rear Commodore's Report: Education – Bob Fortenbaugh noted that tomorrow at 0900 there will be a fiberglass repair presentation by Doug King, Fred Cornford and Ritchie Thomson. Ruthie Levin is still looking for members to participate in her navigation course. A road trip to NOAA is scheduled for Thursday, May 5, at 1730. An additional date may be added if there is enough interest. Lloyd Moore was thanked for the flare shoot at and with Blackbeard Sailing Club.

Hospitality – Giersch's, Mary Elizabeth Deckert and TJ Bendicksen are hosts this evening.

Maintenance – Jerry Rezab noted that the 2016 boating season opened with Spring Creek marker #12 hit by a boat. Caution needed in this area.

Program – A retired New Bern bridge tender will present next month.

Youth Programs – A summer picnic open to all Fairfield Harbour youth 9-17 living in the Harbour, or children and grandchildren of members will be held June 26 at Red Sail Park. More info to follow soon.

Vice Commodore's Reports: *Semaphore* deadline is noon on Monday.

Commodore's Reports: Cruise Planning - George Stateham reminded all of the Ocracoke cruise to be led by Karl Mielenhausen. A sign up sheet

was in last month's *Semaphore* and is available on the website. There will be a reminder in the next *Semaphore*. Don Knight spoke about the Shakedown cruise to be held April 15-17. Cost is \$20 per person and reservations are required by April 11. Don will make arrangements for slips at the BridgePointe Marina. The Captains' Meeting will be held April 14 at 1000. On Friday night there will be a potluck supper. Moore's Barbecue is catering Saturday night. Sixty people are needed in order for Moore's to cater. A sign-up flyer is available on the website under *Semaphore*. Attendance by land yacht is also acceptable. Paul Eckenroth discussed the Overnight cruise on April 30 to Clubfoot Creek. The Cherry Point Air Show can be seen from this location. Brian Giersch reported that the Chesapeake Bay cruise has 17 boats planning to participate. The closing date for confirmation is April 22. A crew meeting will be held April 27. Eight boats will depart around May 8. The Where the Wind Blows cruise was discussed by Ted Clark. The plan is to leave 1000-1030 on May 14 for destinations such as Clubfoot, Oriental or somewhere else. The decision will be made the night before as to where to travel next day. There will be no time constraints but boats will meet at the next anchorage. Mark West stated that the Full Moon raft-up will be next Tuesday, April 19. There is a good forecast at this point. The raft-up will begin at 1730. Please let Mark know if planning to attend. Membership - Lynn Stateham asked all new members to gather after the meeting for pictures. Last year by April, 7 new member couples had joined and we are on target for the same number this year. Regatta – Mark Hittner reported on the Wilkerson Cup. It was a nice race with boats from 23-47 feet and one trimaran participating. The Greens were thanked for running the mark boat. Bill Jarvis as PRO and the race committee were also thanked. Ed Doughty was congratulated on his win. Members were reminded of Fun racing each Tuesday. Yacht Club Dinners – none this month

*The*

### *Semaphore*

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



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#### **Deadline**

Deadline is 1200 the Monday following the Yacht Club Meeting. Please e-mail articles to the address listed below:  
[fhycsemaphore@gmail.com](mailto:fhycsemaphore@gmail.com)

because of the Commissioning Day luncheon. A request for volunteers to run these events was made. Delle Curry asked Karen Meyer to speak about the June dinner which will be a Trivia Night on June 15 at the Sunset Grill. Dinner will be served interspersed with a team trivia game. All questions will be boating and local area related.

Recognition – Members Zeppenfeld and Spurr were thanked for Commissioning Day laying of the wreath. The committee was thanked for organizing lunch. Facebook – Cheryl Stevenson reminded everyone this is a member page and to please post.

Anniversaries - 15 years for Martin and Mary Olstad. Deaths – Bill Hudson passed away April 7, 2016.

New Business – Mary Ann Ober mentioned the May 30 ceremony at the National Cemetery and asked for donations for a wreath. Mal Harwood is writing this month's *Beacon* article. The deadline is May 6 for June publication. Please let her know of any items to be included. She also asked if anyone had experience with Hurricane Marina.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting (Curry/Hittner). The meeting adjourned at 2108 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jan Green, Secretary*

## New Members

Last year at the end of April we had inducted seven new member couples. This year the same is true. These members are talented, experienced and enthusiastic.

Lee Wilson and Barbara Leavy live on Royal Pines Drive. They are sponsored by Kathy and Gregg Szakmeister and Kathy and Jeff Hallquist. Their boat is a 36' *Grand Banks* trawler named *Wasted Wages*, which is currently undergoing a renovation.

Russ and Barb Robinson live on Harbourside Drive. Their sponsors are Mary and Jim Florence and Kathy and Jeff Hallquist. They have a *Hughes/Columbia* 29 ft. sailboat named *Banshee*, a 1947 17 foot Chris Craft named *Ribald*, and a new-to-

them *Tartan 37* whose name will be *Rampant Lion*.

New members previously inducted but introduced at this meeting are: Doug Longhini and Raye Lynn Fletcher, and Ryan and Sharon Stroupe – April *Semaphore*; and Bill and Lois Andrews – March *Semaphore*. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to these new members, and introduce yourself at the next meeting or event.

*Lynn Stateham, Membership*

## Hats off to Commodore Knight

She conducted the Commissioning Day ceremony in the worst conditions anyone can remember. The banners blew down. Conditions were so harsh that we had to cancel the boat parade that normally includes the blessing of the fleet. She incorporated the clergy and blowing of the shofar into the shore side ceremony and the FHYC vessels were blessed in absentia. The howling winds made it hard to hear but she persevered.

When Rear Commodore Jackson's hat blew off and into the water, the Commodore gave the "no hats" command so it truly was hats off in more ways than one.

We are lucky to have such fine leadership.

*George Stateham, Past Commodore*

## Bridge Tender Tells All

Have you ever gone under/through a bridge while boating? When you call on channel 13 to raise the bridge tender and request an opening what response you are waiting for? John Shikoluk, who was the bridge tender supervisor for the Cunningham Bridge in New Bern, will discuss this with us at the May 12 meeting. His company ran the bridge for several years. What is his job like? What training is needed to do the job? How can we as boaters assist when we want to pass through the bridge?

Some bridges are on demand for opening and some have designated hours of operation. How do we as boaters find that information when

planning a trip? Come to the meeting and hear John talk about being a bridge tender.

*Don Knight, Program Committee*

## Wilkerson Regatta

A big Thank You goes to Jim Abell for his efforts organizing this year's event, to Bill Jarvis and his excellent race committee, and finally to Bill and Jan Green for providing the perfect mark boat for the Neuse River. Our club is fortunate to have so many will-



ing and able volunteers.

The nine entries in this year's race ranged in size from 23 foot *Ensigns* to Dennis Howard's 47 foot cruising boat. To add even more diversity, Eric Frank entered his trimaran. This year's honors went to Ed Klebaur sailing *Anasazi Chief* to third place, Linda Eckenroth capturing second place with *Red Stripe*, and Ed Doughty's *Super Bueno* winning first place. Congratulations Ed and thanks to all for participating.

Peggy Wilkerson was not able to attend the post race party for the regatta held in honor of her late husband Bill but a photo and greeting was sent to her from the Fairfield sailors.

*Mark Hittner, Regatta Captain*

## Shakedown Cruise

The 2016 Shakedown cruise, the first cruise of the year, was held April 16 at the BridgePointe Marina. What a great start to the boating season! We had 21 boats in attendance and there were 58 people for the dinner Saturday night. Some drove up and joined the boaters for the event. The only problem we encountered was the wind. It did really blow but fortunately the wind sort of died each evening so boats were fairly stable overnight. Friday night, we had a splash in the clubhouse at the marina. It also was well atten-

ded. Moore's BBQ catered the Saturday dinner with pulled pork, chicken, cole slaw, and potato salad followed by a great array of specialty cookies for dessert. Fun was had by all. Some even got a tour of the 110' Merchant Marine boat docked at the marina. Dockmaster Jesse was a great help to boats when they arrived and invited us to return for another visit.

*Don and Louise Knight*

## Youth Fun Fair Coming!

Do you have grandkids visiting on June 26? Do you know any young neighbors between ages 9-17 who live here? This Fun Fair is hosted by Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club for any children ages 9-17 who live in Fairfield Harbort or are children or grandkids of club members.

Competitions and ice cream will be the theme of the afternoon. We will be having games from 1400 to 1600 followed by ice cream sundaes all at Red Sail Park. There will be good times for all! Committee members and parents will chaperone each game.

You can either pick up an information-permission slip from my house or committee members can deliver it to you for each child participating. All permission slips need to be turned in by June 20. Contact me at 1210 Pelican Drive, or at 637-9781 or [jackson.jy@gmail.com](mailto:jackson.jy@gmail.com).

*Georgie Jackson,  
Youth Committee Chair*

## Life Raft Maintenance

We recently took our 6-man Viking Life Raft up to the Viking facility in Norfolk, Va. to get it serviced. The service manager at Viking kindly inflated the raft and showed us its contents. It was an educational experience both in what was in the raft and what was not in the raft. In the raft were flares, a repair kit, first aid kit, seasickness pills, a knife, paddles, a fishing line, a drogue, a sponge and a rain water collection system. There was also 0.5L of water per person. The assumption is that you are wearing your foul weather gear and a life jacket.

More important was what was NOT

there.

The additional things needed and which should be in your ditch bag are:

1. EPIRB (registered with its MMSI number)
2. Marine-VHF handheld radio
3. More flares
4. Mirror and dye marker
5. More water
6. Food (if you want to eat)
7. Space-blankets
8. Dry clothes
9. Sun screen
10. Boat and personal documentation.

If you want to see a suggested checklist for your ditch bag, go to [www.landfallnav.com](http://www.landfallnav.com).

Finally, the service manager emphasized that staying with the boat is almost always the best option. Tether the raft to the boat and have a knife handy in case the boat sinks. Additionally, don't start a signal fire in your raft (like Robert Redford in "All is Lost").



*Ritchie Thomson*

## New Entertainment Event

The Wednesday Night Dinner event on June 15 will have the added enjoyment of a trivia contest. Questions will cover general boating knowledge in a team setting. It is a wonderful opportunity to share your knowledge with your team.

The dinner by Sunset Grill will be served in stages between rounds of questions. It includes appetizers, salad, meat skewers with potato and bacon, dessert, and coffee or iced tea. Tax and tip are included for only \$16 per person.

Total time is approximately 2-3

hours. See the flyer to sign up and join in this new and exciting event. Questions? Call Karen Meyer (637-3015) or email ([meyerkj@gmail.com](mailto:meyerkj@gmail.com)).

*Karen Meyer,  
Entertainment Committee*

## Ocracoke Music Festival Cruise

Cruise to Ocracoke with us for the 17th annual Music Festival. Great music, storytelling, dancing, artists, crafts, and food! See the flyer in last month's *Semaphore* or get it online. The Captains' meeting will be on Friday, May 27 at 0900 in the Activities Building, Room 3.

*Karl and Elaine Mielenhausen*

## Where the Wind Blows

Captains, are you frustrated? Do you plan a destination only to find out the wind is in the wrong direction for that ideal sail?

Are you hung up on going into a preplanned marina each night? If so, this cruise may be your chance to break free! Relax! Enjoy! and join us on the May cruise Where the Wind Blows.

Some of our best boating experiences have been sailing up and down the Neuse River, with no particular destination in mind. We let the winds decide on our next anchorage and take us there. On May 14 we are leading a cruise that will do just that. Hoping for daily winds, light or not so light, we will let the winds decide when we will leave and where we will end up for the night. What a novel idea!

Come along with us and we'll motor out to the river and sail up or down, anchoring somewhere for the night. We'll decide each day when to leave and where to go.

This is a loosely held together cruise. If the dates need tweaking or you can only sail for part of the cruise, that's OK. The adventure will be up to you!

Contact Ted or Kate Clark ([svfeather@yahoo.com](mailto:svfeather@yahoo.com) or 633-1085) and we'll get together briefly the afternoon of May 11.

*Ted and Kate Clark*

# 2016 Commodores' Ball



