

The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 42, No. 8

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

August 2024



Commodore's Update

Ahoy Members,

The word of the month is "Shipwrecked." Those who attended the General Meeting on July 11 were surprised when the winner of the nautical trivia program was announced: it turned out two teams had picked the name "Shipwrecked." All was straightened out by Trivia Masters Olwen Jarvis and Joel Berberich, but not after some raucous laughter. It was a wonderful program for a hot, rainy night in July.

The Fourth of July raft-up went well and those attending had a fun time out on the Neuse.

The Cape Lookout Cruise took place in June, and the pictures of the serenity and the grandeur of the location were spectacular. A grill and a bottle of wine on the beach were the tell-tales of sharing stories, eating well, and creating a memorable experience. Peter Clay, cruise leader, made it look easy.

Unfortunately, severe weather in Newport and along the Eastern Coast required the cancellation of the Educational Seminar trip to the

Newport National Weather Service facilities on July 12. Education chair Steve Hart has indicated he is trying to reschedule in early August for this exciting and interesting trip.

We are now looking forward to the FHYC dinner out at Michael's Pub in New Bern, coordinated by Director Delle Curry. Delle has taken the "FHYC Dinners Out" program more than just a step forward; she has taken it a giant leap forward.

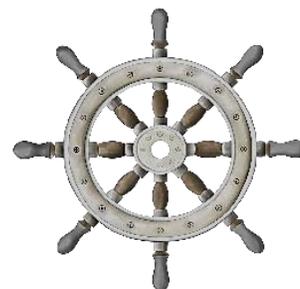
August will bring us game night with music bingo, a Saturday Full Moon Raft-up, the Poker Run, and finally, the big event, the Oar Race.

We are past midway in the year and as we move through the heat of summer and on to the pleasant days and nights of autumn, I often reflect

on how much we do and how much each of us enjoys getting together, boating, socializing, playing and relaxing. We have a great Yacht Club, and I am immensely proud to be a part of it.

And the Adventure Continues!

Craig Myler, Commodore



What's Happening in August

August				
	Mo	5	Board Meeting (AC)	1600
	Th	8	General Meeting (CC)	1900
	Fr	9	Education Seminar – TBD	0900
	Mo	12	Semaphore Deadline	1200
	Wd	14	Game Night – Music Bingo (CC)	1600
	Sa	17	Sturgeon Moon Raft Up (IH)	1800
	Sa	24	Cruise – Poker Run	1100
	Sa	31	FHYC Oar Race	TBA

(CC)=Community Center, (RS)=Red Sail Park, (CB)=Cart Barn
(AC)=Activities Center, (V)=online, (IH)=Inner Harbour

Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, Aug 12

Delivery by Saturday, August 24, 2024

Save The Date!

MARINE SWAP MEET and HAPPY HOUR

**Thursday, September 26
1700 Hours (5 PM)**

**Red Sail Park
Bring your Swap &
Sell Stuff
Bring Some Cash**

**Bring a snack to share
Bring your own Beverage
See You There!**

The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club

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Deadline

The deadline for receiving articles is 1200 noon on the Monday following the General meeting. Please email articles to: fhycsemaphore@gmail.com

Cape Lookout Cruise June 17-21, 2024

We began our planning with seven boats interested in going to Cape Lookout but had four boats which made the trip. We left the Harbour on June 17 around 0800 and proceeded down the Neuse River to Adams Creek on our way to Beaufort. We arrived around 1500 with the three sailboats. The power boat was, of course, not concerned with the contrary current, and pulled on ahead. We enjoyed a meal together at Finz Grill in the evening.



We had a good breeze all the way to Beaufort and then on to Cape Lookout. Of course, we did not need a chart plotter as we just followed the arrow pointing the way at the top of the mast. We made anchorage in Cape Lookout around 1230. The great thing about anchoring is that the wind is always blowing down your hatches and keeping it cool below.

With dinghies in the water, we went exploring and found what looked like an old Model T rusted frame with wood spoked wheels on the beach. We motored on over to the Lighthouse and were able to meet the volunteer couple who were staying at the Light Keepers House. Although it was closing time, they invited us in, and we had a good conversation with them and learned a bit more about the area. The Lighthouse is closed for renovations, so we were not able to go up and check it out.

The next day we went exploring on a different beach and were able to walk down a road to different structures on the island. At 1500 we met on our boat for a splash and to devise a plan for our cookout. It was decided that it was too windy for a campfire, so we took our grill ashore to cook the hot dogs and have our meal. Everyone brought something to share, and we had a good time sitting around and talking until the sun was going down.

On Thursday, we waited till 1230 to leave so we would not have a big current coming out of the inlet. The wind finally was in a favorable direction, and we were able to motor/sail back to the inlet and up the river for a great time. We still had a slight current against us as we proceeded to Cedar Creek for the evening, arriving around 1700. We then left Cedar Creek at 0830 to head back home.

Peter Clay, Cruise Leader



FHYC Oar Race

Sat 31 August 2024

Distance race - New Bern to Oriental ~ 22 miles

How To Join?

Enter through the regatta network – event 28413 or use the QR code

Open to sailboats 21+ feet with current NC-PHRF rating

Return race Oriental to New Bern on Sunday sponsored by NYRA

The Origins of the Oar Race

Early in World War II, the British sent the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) into Europe. The force was pushed back to the beaches of Belgium near the harbor of Dunkirk, which had been severely damaged by German bombing.

Withdrawal to England, across the channel some 30 miles away, was necessary. Between May 26 and June 4, 1940, a total of 338,000 men (198,000 BEF and 140,000 French and Belgians) were evacuated from the beaches of Dunkirk by a rag-tag flotilla of 850 vessels, mostly volunteer amateurs. That is an average of almost 400 men per boat. They had to make multiple trips, some rowing, some sailing, and some under power.

Although it may have been a withdrawal, the humiliation of the retreat generated the “Spirit of Dunkirk” that ultimately led to victory. That spirit is the ability of a people to come together and rise above adversity. The reinvigoration of spirit after the withdrawal from Dunkirk was perhaps second only to D-Day in winning the war.

One of the vessels used in the Dunkirk evacuation was the yacht, *Clara*. *Clara*’s owner was a friend of John Walsh, a now deceased member of FHYC. He gave John an oar that was actually used during the evacuation. Each year, we hold the Oar Race to remember those stalwart volunteers who made the evacuation possible: we sail a distance similar to the distance from Dunkirk to England. The award is a replica oar, and the winner’s name is also added to the original oar which is displayed in the Fairfield Harbour Community Center.

John Jackson, Rear Commodore, PC

MUSIC BINGO!

Come join your fellow Yacht Club members for an evening of fun!

When: Wednesday, August 14

Where: Community Center

What: Music Bingo and potluck dinner.

Contact: Janice Myler at 443-299-8916 to RSVP or for more information.
See flyer attached to this Semaphore.

POKER RUN 2024

Poker Run is a great excuse to get the boat out on the water and maybe come home with a little cash. This year's event will be held on Saturday, August 24 (weather permitting). There is a Captains' Meeting on Thursday August 22 at 1000 hours in the Activity Center, Room 2. At that meeting details will be given, entry free collected, and the first card will be drawn.

The course is the Neuse River from marker #23 upstream to #11 downstream, and then home with stops along the way at four "dealer boats." Dealer boats are equipped with a long-handled fishnet or similar device. Participants come alongside and draw one card from the cards from the net. Cards are in sealed envelopes and must not be opened until the splash at 1700 hours.

Boats should start no earlier than 1100 hours and finish no later than 1500 hours. The route is roughly 10 miles, so there is plenty of time for slower boats. This also allows time after the run to swing by the house, clean up and put finishing touches on that delicious appetizer you're bringing to that Splash at Red Sail Park at 1700 hours. BYOB.

Participants then have the card they received at the captains' meeting and the four collected along the route. Two more cards will be drawn at the Splash. Those two cards are used by all players. That gives them seven cards from which to make their best five-card poker hand.

The best hand overall gets 50% of the pot and the remaining best power boat and sailboat hands will split the other half.

We encourage all participants to be weather wise. In addition to wind and wave conditions, this summer is on track to be hotter than the norm, so make sure you have shade, sunscreen, big hats, plenty of cold water on board, etc.

Dealer boats are also eligible to play if they pay the entry fee. After all "normal" (non-dealer) participants have drawn their cards, the dealers will draw four envelopes from their basket to play.

In years past we tried to distribute cards by radio. Boats called in when they reached a mark and the dealer boat would draw a card for them, inform them of the card, and keep it in a separate envelope for each hand. It was confusing at times with several boats calling in at once. We believe this more traditional approach will be easier for everyone. A flyer will be distributed via the FHYC mail group.

Come on out and enjoy a day on the water!

George Stateham, Past Commodore



POKER RUN

Saturday, August 24

Main Event: 1100-1500 hrs. on the Neuse

Splash: 1700 hrs. Red Sail Park:

Bring an appetizer to share and BYOB

Captains' Meeting: Thursday, August 22, 1000 hrs. Activity Room 2 for details

NAUTICAL TRIVIA CONTEST

At the July FHYC meeting, members and guests had a chance to test their nautical knowledge skills with a trivia contest presented by Olwen Jarvis and Joel Berberich. Olwen served as the host and obviously is ready to make "Jeopardy" her next professional stop. The winning team *Shipwreck* received the coveted traveling trophy. *The Gilligans* captured second place and *Team Two* was third. The event was so successful it may be repeated on a yearly basis. Here are the Nautical Quiz Questions. See how many you can guess correctly. Answers appear on page 9.

1. What do we call the line with which a boat tows a dinghy?
2. Which is the smallest ocean in the world?
3. Who are "the three men in a tub?"
4. What is the technical difference between a wharf and a pier?
5. Which is the oldest continuously functioning YC in the USA?
6. What are baby dolphins called?
7. "There is nothing...absolutely nothing half as much worth doing as simply messing about in boats" Book title, person speaking, or author?
8. What kind of boater "Catches a crab?"
9. Which Great Lake is surrounded entirely by the USA?
10. Within 50 feet how long is a nautical mile?
11. What is the name of Blackbeard's boat?
12. Besides its effectiveness, what is an advantage of the Danforth anchor?
13. What is the term given to a group of islands or a chain of islands?
14. What is a Bayou?
15. Venus is the silver planet and Mars is the red planet. What color would earth appear to a distant observer?
16. What two-pronged instrument is used by the navigator to measure distance on a chart?
17. After what brilliant explorer is America named?
18. What two major ferries go to Ocracoke?
19. Name the American inventor, writer, postmaster, and statesman who first charted the Gulf stream?
20. Who in 1823 introduced lens which revolutionized lighthouse technology?
21. Why is Ocracoke lighthouse famous?
22. "I must go down to the sea again, to the lonely sea and sky, and all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by"
Name the poet, or title of the poem
23. What nautical length measurement comes from the old English, "To embrace with outstretched arms"?
24. How many "points" on a compass?
25. What is the length of the Neuse River? The winner will be the closest in miles.
26. In the song "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald" by Gordon Lightfoot, on what body of water did this wreck occur?
27. Who recorded the song "Southern Cross"?

*Special thanks to Olwen Jarvis, Past Commodore, and Joel and Elaine Berberich
Who researched, wrote and hosted the Nautical Trivia Contest*

What was Wrong?

For the past few months, I have had trouble with my 50-year-old Atomic 4 engine in *Georgie Girl*. At first when I would go out it would run fine, but coming home the engine would die, but then start right back up. It would do this two or maybe three times on the way in. It certainly seemed like a fuel issue.

I put in a new fuel filter and some “seafoam” gas additive. It didn’t help. Next, I drained all the fuel and put in fresh. The first time out, all was fine, the next time it quit two times, then three. Then it quit on the way out.

Recently, as I was going out, it quit before I got to the main channel. Then it quit a few more times. At channel marker 4 coming into NW Creek there was suddenly a loud BANG. We could smell gas, and hear a puffing, flapping sound. I thought the belt had broken and was

flapping. Obviously, we shut down the engine. Fortunately, the A-4 in the Tartan 34C has excellent all-around engine access. As soon as I got the cover off the engine, it was apparent what was wrong.

The 50-year-old Atomic 4, after the fix.

John Jackson, Rear Commodore, PC

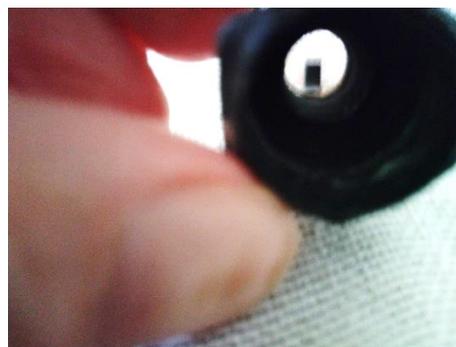


What was Wrong? The Answer

Apparently, I had a spark plug that had a small crack in it that grew over time. Finally, the top, with all the porcelain, blew off. While I was checking the engine, the crew was turning the boat around, unrolling the jib and starting to sail us home. I put in a spare plug that I had, and noticed that when the plug blew, it did some damage to the spark plug wire. The gas we smelled was because with the plug gone, the gas going into the cylinder was coming right out the top. I ordered a replacement set of wires, as well as 4 new spark plugs from Moyer Marine. They came in two days. I installed them that day and started the engine. It started immediately. The next day I took *Georgie Girl* out for a motor ride. She ran fine. It apparently was not really a gas problem, but a spark plug problem. I’m guessing it developed a small crack that, with time, finally reached the breaking point. It has run fine since, including back from New Bern the morning after the fireworks.

A final word. For those of you who question a gas engine vs. diesel, there may not be many gas engines in sailboats, but how many of you have a gas outboard, inboard-outboard drive, that is gas, or large gas engines?

John Jackson, Rear Commodore, PC



What was left of the spark plug



Meet Some of Our Newest FHYC Members

Rod and Chris Nettleton

- Sponsored by Tom Graves and Lisa Blumenschine
- Rod and Chris are currently renting in the Harbour while their new home is being built on Shipyard Pointe
- Chris worked for the State of Michigan on Insurance regulations, and Rod was a Civil Engineer for Airports and holds a USCG Captain's certificate.
- They have years of power and sailing experience from Michigan.
- They have already volunteered with the canned food drive and the boat parade and have been crewing with various club members.
- Committees: Rod has chosen Cruising and Regatta, and Chris has chosen Public Relations and Storekeeper.



Chuck and Lori Boulos

- Chuck and Lori live on Salt Cay Ct.
- They are originally from Pawtucket, RI
- Sponsored by Ralph Azersky and Barb and Russ Robinson
- The Boulos have a Renken Seamaster 20 Power boat named *Chuckles Two* and a 9 ft Avon inflatable
- They have 50+ years of boating experience
- Committees: Lori has chosen hospitality and storekeeper, and Chuck has chosen IT, and Maintenance.



Steven and Cari Brunelle

- Steve and Cari live at 5208 Bucco Reef Road
- They are originally from New Shoreham, RI
- Sponsored by Paula and Dave Phipps and Pam and Rick Miller
- The Brunelles have a Hatteras 47 ft power boat named *Out of Bounds* and a Windsor Craft 25 ft power boat.
- They have 35 years sailing and 10 years racing experience.
- Steve and Cari have chosen the Entertainment Committee.



Chris and Barbara Barajas

- Chris and Barb live on Gondolier Drive
- They moved here from Riverside, CA
- Sponsored by Craig and Janice Myler and Lincoln Griswold
- The Barajas have a 31 ft Sea Ray Sundancer
- They have 1.5 years boating experience
- Chris is a new director on the POA Board.
- Chris has chosen the Distribution Committee, Barb has chosen the Entertainment Committee, and both have chosen the Hospitality Committee.



Meet Some of Our Newest FHYC Members (Cont'd)

Jeff Waggle and Pat Hodgkin

- Jeff and Pat live on Royal Pines Drive.
- They moved here from San Diego, CA
- Sponsored by Doug and Kathy King, and George and Lynn Stateham
- They have a 34ft Sea Ray Sundancer Express named *Our Therapy*
- They have 20 years of both power and sailing experience.
- Pat has chosen the Entertainment Committee and Jeff has chosen the Hospitality Committee.



Mike and Angie Doucet

- Mike and Angie live on Helm Drive
- They are originally from Danvers, MS
- Sponsored by Doug and Kathie King and Stan & Laurie Eakins
- The Doucets have a Regal Seamaster 35' power boat named *Sun Bern*
- They have 40 years of boating experience.
- Mike has chosen the Hospitality Committee and Angie has chosen the IT Committee.



Darin Bradley and Katie Macko

- Darin and Katie live on Davit Lane
- They moved here from Ludlow, Vermont
- They are both Physician Assistants and are actively working.
- They have a 22 ft. Sea Hunt power boat named *Limey Days*
- Darin and Katie have two years of experience power boating and 15 years sailing experience.



STURGEON FULL MOON RAFT UP AUGUST 17

Contact Dave Miller for details or to sign up



Wednesday, September 18

Nautical Trivia Answers (from page 5)

1. *Painter*
2. *Arctic*
3. *butcher, baker, candlestick maker*
4. *wharf is parallel to the water, a pier projects into the water*
5. *NYYC*
6. *calves*
7. *Wind in the Willows,*
Ratty the water rat, Kenneth Graham
8. *oarsman with a sloppy stroke!*
9. *Michigan*
10. *6076 feet*
11. *Queen Anne's Revenge*
12. *it stows flat*
13. *Archipelago*
14. *an inlet or bay on a river*
15. *blue*
16. *dividers or protractor*
17. *Amerigo Vespucci, an Italian*
18. *Cedar Island and Swan quarter*
19. *Ben Franklin*
20. *Augustin- Jean Fresnel*
21. *oldest operating lighthouse in NC*
22. *John Masefield, Sea Fever*
23. *The Fathom: 6 feet, approximately the spread of a man's outstretched arms*
24. *32 points: each is 11.25 degrees*
25. *275 miles*
26. *Lake Gitchee Gummi (aka Lake Superior)*
27. *Crosby, Stills & Nash*



The teams took their work very seriously

And the Winning Team!

