



RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER YACHT CLUB
IRVINGTON, VA 22480

February 2012

THE HEADWAY

New Year's Eve at RRYC a Festive Affair



Photos from Frank Miller and Steve Butts

Dancing and general revelry were the order of the evening at NYE at RRYC.

The Club New Year's Eve party returned this year and provided several members with a night of dancing, food, and fun. Karaoke and the lowering of the lighted life ring set the RRYC party apart from the Times Square festivities in NYC!

RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER YACHT CLUB

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Comments from the Commodore

By Doug Power, Commodore

The Board of Directors meeting in January was a revelation to me, in that we are very fortunate to have such a bright, talented, active group of people moving RRYC into the next phase of our club's life. Two main issues were addressed that I would like to share with you:

- (1) The Long Range Planning Committee and Stephanie Chaufournier as Treasurer have concluded that we need to establish and fund a "Rainy Day Fund," which will cover our operating costs and/or a major damage repair, should such arise. We are planning to set aside these funds in a specific account very soon.
- (2) I am pleased to announce that Tommy Asch and his Fleet Captains have put together an ambitious list of sailing activities for the coming season. Our goal is to get everyone involved. Remember, we are a sailing club, so plan to get on the water and have fun with your friends at RRYC this year.

This last year we accomplished a great deal to improve our club. Now is the time to improve our finances and start planning for the next opportunity which will undoubtedly come our way. We plan to run a very tight budget this year, but that does not mean we won't have plenty of fun times together, doing the thing we love most - SAILING !

Membership News

By Shirley Crockett, Membership Chair, and Linda DeCoste, Club Secretary

The Board of Directors voted at the January meeting to accept with regret the following member resignations: Gaylon & Linda Beights, Dick & Marybeth Sisson, and Tony & Kay Weiler.

The following members moved from Active to Inactive status: Jan Hryharrow and Seldon Tompkins

Notice has gone out for the ten-day comment period on proposed new members David & Caroline Bennett and Jim & Pam Ward, both having applied for Active membership.

In Memoriam

Member since 2003, Lynn Chapman-Adler passed away before the Christmas holidays. In addition to being an avid cruiser, Lynn was an all-around tremendously accomplished person whose many contributions to RRYC will be missed. Our condolences to her husband, Michael, and the rest of her family.

Junior Sailing is Closer than You Think!

By Arabella Denvir

As our young sailors become teenagers, we have to work hard to keep them in the fold and make sure that sailing becomes even more fun for them! This year we will introduce J24 sailing to RRYC teenagers for the first time.

The 2012 season will include more emphasis on adventure and fun, particularly the early June session. The July Race Training Course will, on the other hand, be intensive Race Training. And the August session will be for our wonderful “sailing babies” and other beginners.



SESSION 1: RRYC Adventure Sailing Week – Intermediate level June 4-8

Now that you can sail with some confidence, let’s have more fun using your sailing skills. During this week you will plan and make some voyages, some sail-away days. You will learn how to use VHF radios, how to beach and raft up, how to use all relevant safety equipment, and we will have on-the-water games. And you may possibly learn how to row your boat!

SESSION 2: RRYC Race Training Week July 16-20

My favourite course to teach each year! This year it will be a five-day course, culminating in the RRYC Junior Regatta on Saturday, July 21. This year we will include some team racing. Team racing improves your boat handling skills and your knowledge of the rules amazingly. Race training will include boat speed, boat preparation, racing rules, racing tactics, mark rounding, starting strategies and will take place at RRYC and at Premier Sailing at The Tides Inn.

SESSION 3: RRYC August Training Week August 6-10

This course is ideal for beginners, and also for families looking for sailing dates later in the summer. Suitable for everyone from age 6 upwards, and includes training on Optimists and Sunfish.

J24 Teenager courses: Take the next step and learn to sail a J24, to handle a jib, and fly a spinnaker. For age 14 and over, with maximum group size of four students in each J24. Available on several dates throughout the summer.



Prices for all above courses:

| | | | |
|--------|--------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Single | Student | \$360 ea | or \$318 if paid before March 17 |
| Family | Family Price | \$320 ea | or \$278 if paid before March 17 |

Please phone Arabella at Premier Sailing School on 804-438-9300 to book your course.

RRYC and YPRCC: Crew and Skipper Training

By Tom Chapman

To support Commodore Power's program to encourage more racing at the RYCC we are planning training for this spring and would like to get an understanding of club interest.

At this time we are planning a crew training program that will consist of two classroom sessions and two on the water sessions. In addition, we are planning skipper race training that will include two on the water practice races each preceded by a short classroom session.

We are doing this training in conjunction with the YPRCC and would like to get an indication of your interest. Please either call me (XXX-XXX-XXXX) to express interest or email training@rryc.org.

Growing the Sport ... One Invitation at a Time

By Chris Caswell, SAILING Magazine Recommended by Hal Starke

I've been following the efforts of various groups to foster interest in sailing and, while I certainly applaud and support their efforts, I wonder if what we really need are more sailors who are willing to say, "Hey, wanna go sailing?"

After all, sailing is what the marketing people would label an "equipment-intensive sport." Without a boat, you're nowhere. It's not like sports such as basketball or football where a few bucks will get you on the playing field. Youngsters in the ghettos may be able to parlay a well-worn basketball into a scholarship, and kids from the coal mining towns are able to turn their brawn into tickets to the majors, but sailing has always been controlled by those who own the boats.

As a youngster, I was fortunate enough to have a father who had been a sailor from his youth, and I was racing dinghies long before I could drive a car. But, like those kids from the barrios and steel towns, I wanted to break into the "majors" and sail big boats. On weekends, I used to hang around the docks, shagging docklines for returning ocean racers and talking eagerly to the crews, all in the hopes of hearing the golden "Hey, kid, wanna go sailing?"

But today, our boats are protected by yacht club walls or hidden in gate-keyed marinas, so the opportunities have dwindled for newcomers to participate. And that simply has to change. Let me tell you about a couple of incidents so you'll see how you might be able to help with that change.

My first crewing slot on anything bigger than a Snipe came through the kindness of a man who was basically uneducated and who belonged to that class once derogatorily called "blue collar workers." But he did have a Six-Meter that he cherished, and Charlie also understood about the dreams of youngsters. When that first invitation, that "wanna go sailing?" was offered, I was ecstatic. My position was nothing particularly demanding (setting the running backstays on each tack) and it didn't draw on what I considered to be my extensive knowledge of racing tactics (no one asked me anything), but I was part of a crew! The entire time, I was treated as an equal, although they had the wisdom not to offer a teenager one of their beers between races and, when we returned to the dock, I was taken to the club as part of the team.

It wasn't until years later when I realized that Charlie had bumped one of his many regular crew to give me my shot at the "majors." He was handing something back to the sport that meant so much to him. And the mere fact that I had sailed aboard his boat even once added immensely to my sailing resume, and it wasn't long before I was in demand on a variety of ocean racers.

Sailing Seminar Reminders

See full information in January issue of *The Headway* or on the RRYC website, <http://www.rryc.org/>.

US SAILING ONE DAY RACE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR - Saturday, March 10, 2012, 07:45 – 18:00. Cost is \$50, and advance registration is required. Open to all!

UNLOCKING THE RACECOURSE - An Exclusive Look At Buoy Racing Ullman Sails presents a new seminar that gives you an inside look into how sailing's top competitors tackle the racecourse. February 15, 2012, 18:30, Doubletree by Hilton Hotel - Richmond Airport [Map link](#)

Social Notes

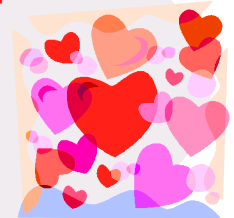
The January Social brought out all those folks who were not tired of parties and food after the holiday season. Though there were heavy rains earlier in the day that threatened to flood the parking lot, we dodged any real winter weather. Snowflakes decorated only the interior of the Club as 60-plus folks gathered for a hearty dinner of beef bourguignon provided by caterer, Karen Mast. The usual libations flowed.

Before dinner, everyone enjoyed an impressive array of appetizers brought by Dinah & Matt Carr, Jo & Jack Chamberlain, Sally & Dan Clark, Grace Ann & Frank Miller, Polli & Mike Romey, and Charlotte & Jim Schmidt. Board Hosts for the evening were Cynthia Johnson & Pete Knight, and Jen Resio, Blaine Liner, and Jack Chamberlain assisted with the serving.

On February 18 we will enjoy a belated Valentine’s Day celebration. Make your reservations for the February social via e-mail to dinner@rryc.org no later than Saturday, February 11. Remember, if you do not receive a prompt acknowledgement to your e-mail, you do not have a confirmed reservation! Send a “second request” to make sure you are on the list.

~~~~February Menu~~~~

- Pumpkin & Cider Soup
- Herb-crusted Baked Chicken
- Roasted root vegetables
- Green Beans
- Red Velvet Cake



Social Committee Needs New Recruits

Since Jill and Larry Worth have decided to take a well-deserved break from cooking the monthly dinners, the Social Committee is re-starting, with several people already expressing an interest in serving on this group. This committee will be in charge of planning – not necessarily cooking – the monthly dinners and the occasional (quarterly?) after-dinner program. Some months the group may want to engage a caterer, some months they may decide to get a group together and do some cooking – it’s totally up to them, within an established budget! Included in the Social Committee’s duties will be table decorations, lining up people to man the serving line if dinner is buffet-style, and deciding when to have programs and what type. There is a little something for everyone and the committee will have lots of flexibility in how they want to organize! If you are interested in helping with any or all of this, please contact Craig Akers via e-mail at rryc.craig@gmail.com or on XXX-XXX-XXXX. Don’t wait to be drafted!

Annual Clean-up Day is Coming in April

Saturday, April 7, starting at 09:00. This is Easter Saturday, which may be inconvenient for some, but with all the other things going on at the Club this spring, it is really the only day it could be fit in prior to the Blessing of the Fleet. Below is an abbreviated chart of the tasks to be accomplished, so we need everyone to turn out and grab a rake, paintbrush, scrub brush, broom, or hedge shears. Lunch will be provided, and no-shows will be billed \$10.

Areas Requiring Volunteers to Help

| Area | Leader | Volunteers Needed |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Jr. Sailing Equipment | Bo Bragg | 8 |
| Painting | Pete Knight | 4 |
| Club Flying Scot | Pete Clay | 3 |
| Club Whaler | Stu Kramer | 3 |
| Landscaping | Tom Blencowe | 6 |
| Carpentry | Carl Isbrandtsen | 4 |
| | Jim Bearden | |
| Outside Clean-up | J.D. Willett | 6 |
| Club Launch | Blaine Liner | 5 |
| | Carl Gerster | |
| Pool & Annex | Pete Clay | 4 |
| Plumbing | Tom Decker | 6 |
| Inside Cleanup | Mike Romey | 6 |
| Lunch Prep & After-Lunch Cleanup | Craig Akers | 4 |

Club Calendar

February - March

February

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------|
| 3 rd | First Friday | 17:00 |
| 5 th | Super Bowl Party | 18:00 |
| 18 th | Board Meeting | 16:00 |
| | Club Social | 17:30 |
| 24 th | Fourth Friday | 17:00 |

March

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| 2 nd | First Friday | 17:00 |
| 10 th | Race Management Seminar | 07:45 |
| 17 th | Board Meeting | 16:00 |
| | Club Dinner | 17:30 |
| 23 rd | Fourth Friday | 17:00 |



The *Headway* is the official publication of the Rappahannock River Yacht Club
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 Doug Power, Commodore
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Happy St. Patrick's Day

PRESORTED STANDARD
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