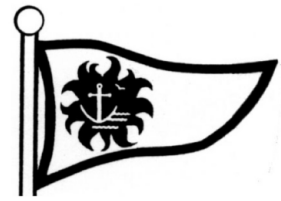


# The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 34, No. 1

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

February 2017



Welcome to (another!) bold new year; 2017 is off to a good start. The holidays swept by like a whirlwind, I hope all had good times with friends and family, and many warm memories of this winter holiday. The club activities are happy memories for my wife Kathie and I - this club and this community have great traditions.

Past Commodore George Stateham led the Christmas Food Drive, which was a big success netting over 1900 pounds of food and \$1915 in donations. Fairfield Harbour's Christmas Parade was fun, new member Jerry Beebe showed off his boat and if you saw Russ Robinson's Chris-Craft you'll remember it. Kathie and I got to ride in a convertible representing the Yacht Club and throwing plenty of candy. It is probably illegal to have this much fun!

The Holiday Party, chaired by Kate Clark, was a grand festival. It's unofficially the collection point for the Christmas Angel gifts - Linda Lelli headed up the club's generosity for another year. The Christmas flotilla and caroling is always a high point, Neil Ober and Joe Gormley managed the raft-up smoothly. It was chilly but the singing was beautiful. We always look forward to the Chili Party right after caroling to warm up. Kathy Petritsch managed the Chili Party to perfection.

Our club has had very strong leadership, and it is daunting to step into these shoes. In our January General Meeting the club witnessed the installation of a new Bridge and Board. John Jackson is our new Vice Commodore and Ralph Azersky is our new Rear Commodore. Carol Cavins is our new Treasurer. Outgoing Board members Ted Clark and Ed Klebaour deserve a full measure of thanks. New Board members Carol Frysiek and

Stephanie Davies have already done a lot of work, all the committees have been making plans, and we have a bright outlook for 2017.

In the February General Meeting we will have a brief seminar on AIS from veteran cruiser Joe Pica, and we will have the first of a regular program of "Medical Minutes." Educational programs will lead off with Local Waters by Brian Giersch. This is an incredible area for sailing, cruising, and FHYC is hoping to give all our members a boost towards increased safety and pleasure in our boats and using them!

Let the Semaphore and the Yearbook truly be "Waypoints" for you as a FHYC member. As Commodore, I am looking forward to this coming year, especially to participating with you in our club activities, and I wish you all good health and good fortune in the New Year.

*Doug King, Commodore*

## FHYC General Meeting January 12, 2017

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

Program - Commodore Knight thanked the board members retiring; Cherylle Hird, Ted Clark and Ed Klebaour. (Ted Clark was absent as he had knee surgery today.) The Commodore stated that the club is in good hands with the Bridge and Board new and returning members. The Commodore also thanked the Committee Chairs for their continued efforts. Past Commodores were also thanked, and the Commodore stated that she was

pleased to join their ranks. New Commodore Doug King was installed by Commodore Louise Knight. Commodore King then installed the following members of the Bridge and Board: Past Commodore, Louise Knight; Vice Commodore, John Jackson; Rear Commodore, Ralph Azersky; Treasurer, Carol Cavins; and new Directors Carol Frysiek and Stephanie Davies. The Commodore then installed returning Secretary Jan Green and returning directors Bev Myrseth, Cheryl Stevenson, Darlene Cleveland and Bill Flynn. After the swearing in of the Officers and Directors the following appointments were announced: Fleet Surgeon, Dr. Kathie King; Fleet Chaplain, Dr. Bill Beery; Cruising



Captain, Brian Giersch, and Regatta Captain, Paul Eckenroth. The Commodore then recognized the Past Commodores.

Welcome - Introduction of Guests. Don Knight introduced John and Keila Miller who were attending their second meeting. Brian Giersch introduced Charlie Stoup who was attending his first meeting. Carol Frysiek introduced Jaime Redniss. Jaime and Ray will be joining the club soon. David and Lesa Reeves were introduced by Rose Litke. Bob Wofford was introduced by Olwen Jarvis. He is attending his first

## What's Happening

Feb	Tu	7	Board Meeting, cc.....	0830
	Th	9	General Meeting (cc).....	1930
	Fr	10	Education Seminar (cc).....	0900
	We	15	Yacht Club Dinner	

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

**Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, February 13, 2017**

Delivery is Saturday, February 25, 2017

meeting. Bill Andrews introduced Bob and Siggie Ming.

Induction of New and Reinstated Members – Louise Knight introduced reinstated members Bill and Evelyn Nolan. Also introduced were new members approved by the Board: George and Barb Lewis sponsored by Humphreys and Jarvies, and Bill and Sherry Pendleton sponsored by Kings and Grossers. They were welcomed and presented with their burgees by Commodore King.

Minutes – A motion was made and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the November 10, 2016 General Meeting (Knight/Fortenbaugh).

Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer's report for December 2016 has been approved by the Board and is available for review. The 2017 budget has been approved by the Board and is available for review. A brief discussion will follow under Old Business.

### Rear Commodore's Report

Education and Medical Support – Joel Berberich outlined the programs for 2017: February 10, Brian Giersch to speak about local waters; March 10, Karl Mielenhausen to present the US Coast Guard program "Suddenly in Command;" April 7, Pacific Seacraft tour; May will have a presentation by Ted Clark on anchoring and rafting; June's presentation will be hurricane preparedness; September, batteries; October, staying safe on your boat; and November, Womanship – for women

only. Each month will also have a "Medical Minute" – a snapshot of a medical minute at monthly general meetings.

Hospitality – Hittners and Edstroms are scheduled hosts this evening, assisted by Jerry Rezac as Mary Hittner just had shoulder surgery.

Maintenance – Jerry Rezac reported on 2016 and asked for a relaxing 2017. The Committee has been diligent on updating navigation aids in Spring Creek with reflective tape. "No Wake" buoys have solar strobe lights to help with boating at night.

Marine Assistance – Gary Nohr is Chair of this committee whose purpose is to assist members on the water with minor difficulties. Gary would like to have training for committee members this year, including use of equipment.

Program – Ritchie Thomson. The committee met in December and is planning the following programs: February, Joe Pica will present on AIS as adjunct to safety; March, "Suddenly in Command;" April, the shrimp and oyster industry in North Carolina; May, tales from the red marker – lessons learned; June, law enforcement on the water; a swap meet in July; August, Cherry Point trip; September, Richie Thomson on Saint Ayles Skiff; and October, staying safe on your boat. There is no program in November or December. In February 2018, Olwen Jarvis will present on birds and flyways.

### Vice Commodore's Report

Distribution – Ed Klebaur and Jerry Rezac are co-chairs this year. There are forty volunteers on this committee. January has the biggest distribution including the *Yearbook*, *Semaphore*, invitation to the Commodores' Ball and membership cards.

History – Jim Fleckenstein reported that he and Gerry have been scanning club information so this will be stored digitally.

*Semaphore* – Elliott Alterman outlined the schedule and guidelines for submissions. The *Semaphore* is published eleven times per year. The February issue will cover items through January. Deadline for all submissions is noon on the Monday following the general meeting. Elliott requested that, if at all possible, all submissions should be from a standard program such as Word. Items need to be editable. Contributions from all are welcome. Deadline for submission for the February issue is Monday, January 16 at noon.

Storekeeper – Stephanie Davies an-

nounced the Ship's Store sale. All in-stock clothing is on sale at 25% off.

### Commodore's Report

Cruise Planning and Leadership – Brian Giersch is the Chair this year. The calendar will be available in the *Yearbook* and *Semaphore*. Don Knight led the committee in preparation of the calendar and initial meetings. Near future event: Sock Burning organized by Bob Petritsch. Some new events will be added this year: full moon raft-ups will change to impromptu raft-ups. Ed Grosser and Skip Hird to organize. Ed Grosser stated that whenever there is a nice evening, full moon or not, an email will be sent out to invite all to join in on the creek. The committee will try to coordinate the local waters seminar with cruises of local waters. More than one local waters event will be scheduled. The Inlet cruise is a new event this year and will take place in and out of the ICW. The Myrtle Beach Eclipse cruise is also new as is the Annapolis Boat Show cruise. The NC Loop cruise is being brought back this year. Ocracoke and Lookout cruises are being repeated. There will be two cruises to Ocracoke and Lookout. The later events do not have cruise captains. Dates can be flexible to accommodate volunteers. Myrtle Beach also needs a cruise leader.

Entertainment – Delle Curry thanked the event chairs and volunteers from last year and Lew Travis for Impromptu event organization. The Commodores' Ball is scheduled for March. There will be an invitation in the *Semaphore* this month. Members wishing to sit together should send in their registration and checks together for seat assignments. Delle reminded everyone to eat what they ordered at catered events. Maureen Mongan-Smith is the Entertainment chair this year. A meeting for volunteers for the Commodores' Ball will be held on Tuesday. The entire committee will meet the following week to discuss all events.

Regatta – Paul Eckenroth recognized John Jackson for organizing Tuesday fun racing, Jerry Rezac for organizing the Sunfish and dinghy races, and Mark Hittner for taking charge of the Oar Race. Paul will organize the Wilkerson event. The Oar Race is scheduled for May 20 this year. The Wilkerson Cup will be a pursuit start this year. A perpetual trophy is being established for the Wilkerson Cup. Past Commodore Knight encouraged members to come out and watch Tuesday fun and dinghy races.

The

## Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Editors

Elliott Alterman	637-3458
Mark West	637-7914
Lynn Stateham	672-9171
Karl Mielenhausen	638-1433
Bill and Jan Green	919-518-0752

Distribution Co-Chairs

Ed Klebaur	633-6264
Jerry Rezac	636-5919

Website: [www.fhyc.us](http://www.fhyc.us)  
email: [fhyc-nc@googlegroups.com](mailto:fhyc-nc@googlegroups.com)

### 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)



*Yearbook* – Bill Green confirmed the yearbooks are ready and have been delivered to the Distribution Committee.

Yacht Club Dinner - Bev Myrseth announced that next Wednesday's dinner will be at Famous. Sign-up sheets are available. There is room for 60 people. The event will start at 1730.

Membership – Louise Knight stated we currently have 187 members, the same as January of 2016. Several potential members are in the pipeline. Revisions to the brochure are being worked on. Ham radio operators may have their call sign on name tags at a cost of \$10 if interested.

Impromptu Happy Hour – Lew Travis announced there will be an Impromptu Happy Hour this month. Appetizers are provided by FHYC.

Old Business – Previous Board has left the club in a strong financial position. Previous budgets have been deficit spending budgets. The budget for 2017 has been approved by the Board and closely follows the 2016 budget. The Commodore stated that the club anticipates slightly greater revenue, similar fixed expenses, and that the club is dialing back on spending slightly for 2017. The Board's reasoning was that with funds now in hand, the club will be able to have a major role in boating-related improvements on the Amenity Properties and therefore deficit spending is not favorable.

New Business - Bernie Levin had back surgery this week; Ted Clark had knee surgery today and is doing well; Mary Hittner had shoulder surgery yesterday; Chris Skrotsky's mother passed recently; Ralph Azersky mentioned that there is a power boat support group – not all club members are sailors; Joy Thompson mentioned a scarf that was found at the Chili Party. A member claimed it when shown; In response to a question, George Stateham announced that 1,900 pounds of food and approximately \$1,900 in donations were received at the Food Drive.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting (Giersch/Fortenbaugh). The meeting adjourned at 20:35.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jan Green, Secretary*

## New/Reinstated Members

Many of you may already know Bill and Evelyn Nolan who were members from February 1999 through 2007. They live on Pelican Drive, and have a Pacific Seacraft 34 named Irish Mist. They were approved for reinstatement at the Decem-

ber Board meeting. Bill and Evelyn have joined the Cruise Planning and Leadership committees.

George and Barb Lewis moved here from Cleveland, Ohio. They live on Gondolier Drive and have a custom built 55-foot sailboat named Silver Bullet. Their sponsors are Brian and Sonia Humphrey and Bill and Olwen Jarvis. They have done a lot of offshore sailing with the Humphreys. George has chosen the Regatta committee and Barb the Distribution committee.

Bill and Sherry Pendleton moved here from Cheshire, Connecticut and live on Bracken Fern Dr. They are new to boating and have a 26-foot Parker. Their sponsors are Doug and Kathie King, and Ed and Mary Grosser. Sherry is Don Simpson's sister. Bill has chosen Maintenance and Marine Assistance committees and Sherry has chosen Distribution and Membership.

*Jenny McDiarmid, Membership*

## Education - Local Waters

The FHYC Education Committee will be presenting an interactive discussion on Local Waters led by Brian Giersch on Friday, February 10, from 0900 to 1200 at the FH Community Center. Elliott Alterman will be displaying electronic charts for navigation. However, attendees may also want to bring their individual charts of the Neuse River, Pamlico Sound, Albemarle Sound and Cape Lookout. The presentation will focus on those local waters for cruise number 1 and cruise number 2 but will also include other areas of interest.

*Joel Berberich, Education Chair*

## Ham Radio Call Sign

If you are a ham radio operator, you may now have your call sign printed on your name tag. The cost is \$10 per tag. Please email Membership Co-Chair Louise Knight at [laknightnc@gmail.com](mailto:laknightnc@gmail.com) with your name, as you want it printed, and your call sign.

*Louise Knight, Past Commodore*

## Medical Minutes

The FHYC Medical Support Committee plans to present brief presentations on medical issues of interest to boaters at Thursday FHYC meetings. We are calling these "The Medical Minute" (but we misrepresent a bit—may last two to three minutes!). The initial presentation will be

February 9 on hypothermia.

*Joel Berberich,  
Medical Support Chair*

## Regatta

We've made some changes in our racing plans this year. The Oar Race has been moved to May 20. Those that can recall several "100 degree, no wind" Labor Day races will welcome this change. The Bill Wilkerson Memorial will now use pursuit starts. If you've been in one of our Tuesday Fun races, you know how that works. Anticipated classes for the Wilkerson are Ensign, cruising and non-spinnaker. Multi-hulls are welcome. The club has purchased a perpetual trophy, to be held for the reigning year, by the overall winner of the Wilkerson Memorial regatta.

FYI: Cruising class requirements for the Wilkerson regatta are: 1. No boat specifically designed for racing allowed; 2. Only Dacron sails; No spinnakers; 3. Powered winches are allowed; 4. Must have a NC-PHRF or FHYC-PHRF rating (contact Bill Jarvis); 5. Two of the four additional requirements must be met: A. windlass or pulpit mounted anchor; B. dodger/bimini in place; C. youngest sail to be 5 years or older; D. bottom paint 3 years or older.

*Paul Eckenroth, Regatta Chair*

## Sock Burning Celebration

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 18, for the annual FHYC Sock Burning party.

Every year, as close to the vernal equinox as we can get, we celebrate the return of the sun to the northern hemisphere. It is time to take your shorts out of mothballs and run barefoot through the grass.

As a symbol of our relief to be rid of winter we burn our old socks: socks we have worn since the first crisp days of fall; socks we have worn through slush and snow; and socks that are just plain worn out. Now we wear our boat shoes, sans socks, as God intended.

We will meet at Red Sail Park.....at a time to be announced.....to burn our socks. I encourage all to bring lots of beer or other adult beverages to douse the fire if it gets out of hand. Any unused beverages may be consumed under the roof at Red Sail Park. Come and meet with other members for a fun afternoon.

*Bob Petritsch, Cruising Committee*

## FHYC Constitution Changes Proposed

In late 2016, our Planning Committee recommended a change to the club's Constitution and By-Laws to reflect better practices in managing leadership of all the club's committees. In order to change the Constitution and By-Laws, the proposed change must be signed by 10% or more REGULAR MEMBERS or by a unanimous vote by the Board of Governors (Article XI). Then, all members must be presented with a copy of the proposed change at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which the change is presented. A two-thirds majority of all votes cast is necessary to adopt the proposed change.

Recommendations:

### **Commodore as ex-officio member of Nominating Committee**

The Constitution says:

"The Commodore is ex-officio a member of all committees of the Club except the Nomination Committee."

a. Our practice has been to include the Commodore as ex-officio

b. The Planning Committee feels it is beneficial to include the Commodore as the best informed person on the overall status of the club

c. We recommend a change to the Constitution to remove the words "except the Nomination Committee."

#### **1. Committee Chairs**

a. The Constitution says:

i. "Chairpersons for all committees, except the Nomination Committee, will be appointed by the Commodore"

b. Our practice has been for individual bridge liaisons to appoint their own chairs.

c. The Planning Committee feels it is beneficial if the bridge liaisons have a good working relationship with their respective committee chairs. Our current practice takes advantage of that relationship

d. Amend Constitution to say:

i. "Chairpersons for all committees, except the Nomination Committee, will be appointed by the bridge liaison with the approval of the incoming Commodore."

This recommendation has been unanimously approved by the Board of Governors (Officers and Directors) and is proposed for a vote at the March General Meeting.

*Doug King, Commodore*

## Cruising Committee Report

The Calendar

The cruising events schedule for 2017 has been completed and can be found in the 2017 FHYC *Yearbook*. Many of our old favorites again appear on the schedule, as do several newly introduced events. One of these is the "Inlet Cruise" that will be detailed further below, while another is the "Myrtle Beach Eclipse Cruise" (more information will be provided in a subsequent *Semaphore*).

Three Cruise Captains Needed

Of immediate concern is the lack of Cruise Captains for three of these events. Fortunately, they are events that don't occur until the latter half of the calendar: Fall Ocracoke Cruise; Fall Cape Lookout Cruise; and, the Myrtle Beach Eclipse Cruise. The first two are listed here as "Fall" events, rather than date-specific, leaving flexibility for potential Cruise Captains for working around personal calendars. The Eclipse event is, of course, timed to coincide with viewing of an anticipated spectacular eclipse.

Should any of our members have an interest in leading any of these three events, please contact Brian Giersch (633-4554 or email [bdgiersch@suddenlink.net](mailto:bdgiersch@suddenlink.net)). Without a volunteer leader, an event will not occur. With the popularity of Ocracoke and Lookout, someone certainly should be able to say "hey, I can handle that!"

The inaugural "Inlet" Cruise

The "Inlet" cruise is a new FHYC event that some of our sailing members have been talking about for years. The general plan is to provide offshore opportunities along the North/South Carolina coast, exiting the ICW from Morehead City and "ducking back inside" at Masonboro Inlet (Wrightsville Beach), then repeating with an "offshore" run from Cape Fear to Little River Inlet. Following a turnaround in the vicinity of Barefoot Landing and a northbound run to Southport, the event could conclude with a long run offshore from Masonboro Inlet to Morehead Inlet, then the ICW back to FH. The entire adventure could be a trip of six to seven days.

The organization of the cruise would occur in four phases: (1) identifying skippers who would like to participate, using their boats....and identifying crew members that the skippers may recruit; (2) identifying "open" crew vacancies on each boat and extending an invitation to identi-

fy volunteers who would like to fill those vacancies; (3) meeting of skippers to select crew members from the pool of interested volunteers; (4) final planning meeting of all participants to organize the details and expectations for the event.

Expect a "call for skippers" in the March issue of the *Semaphore*, then a "call for crew volunteers" in the April *Semaphore*. It is conceivable that not all interested volunteers would find crew spaces on the participating vessels. Participation, ultimately, would be a function of available spaces and invitations from the several skippers.

A meeting, possibly in early April, would permit the skippers to fill out their crew vacancies from the self-identified volunteers. A meeting in May for all participants would address the details of the cruising plan, safety issues, provisioning.

Our cruising calendar for 2017 has the event scheduled at the end of June.

*Brian Giersch,  
Cruising Committee Chair*

## Book Review

*Anne Bonny's Wake* by Dick Elam

I was first introduced to sailing this part of the North Carolina coast in the late 1970's and early 1980's while doing deliveries. At that time Belhaven, Oriental, and Beaufort were all sleepy little fishing villages populated by local watermen and occasional farmers with the odd landlocked cruising sailor thrown in. At the time there was lots of talk about smuggling with mother ships offshore, rum runners, and cruising sailboats being seized by pirates.

Dick Elam has captured the flavor of this bygone era in *Anne Bonny's Wake*. The book has a lot of mystery and intrigue that keeps you guessing. For local cruisers one of the most enjoyable parts of the book has nothing to do with the plot or story, rather it is the "I've been there" factor. Whether it is Town Dock in Oriental or sailing down Adam's Creek, the author refers to local landmarks and navigational aids we all are familiar with. This is the first book in what is proposed to be a series. If Dick Elam keeps Professor Herschel Barstow sailing in these same waters it looks to be a fun series to follow.

*Edward Gagnon*





*Reinstated members Evelyn and Bill Nolan*



*New members George and Barbara Lewis*



*New members Bill and Sherry Pendleton*



*Installation of the Bridge and Board*



*. These new members and their sponsors attended a reception with the Bridge and the Membership Committee at the home of Bill and Olwen Jarvis on January 17. This made for a lively group of over 70 people.*