

# The Semaphore

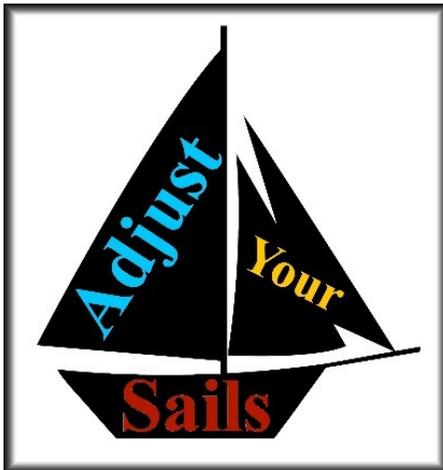
Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 38, No. 11

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

December 2021/ January 2022



## From the Commodore

The Hourglass: When you first turn an hourglass over, the sands seem to fall so slowly that you feel the top part of the glass will never be emptied. You take your eyes off of it for a short time, and when you glance back at it you notice that the bottom half is almost full and the remaining sands in the top half are already starting to form a maelstrom as the

remaining time is about to run out! Alas, such is the tenure of a Commodore. With the last of the General Meetings for this year over, the helm will soon be turned over to the Vice Commodore and *Treasure Cove* will no longer be the flagship of our wonderful club. Although many specific memories of current year events fade with time, each Commodore none the less leaves a ghostly indelible imprint behind them. If nothing else, I want to be remembered for just one thing... reminding everyone that it is a sad thing for someone to lose the spirit and imagination of youth; Peter Pan wasn't written just for children, it was a warning for adults. On that note, although the sands are almost gone for 2021 we still have a few weeks left of festivities and finding buried treasure, so hoist the mainsail, turn the capstan, weigh anchor, and I

entreat you to help us make the end of this year one to remember. So JOIN THE ADVENTURE!

*Adrian Vergot, Commodore*



*Adrian Vergot, Commodore*



*Adrian Vergot, Commodore*

## What's Happening

Dec. 2021	Th & Fri	2-3	Food Drive .....(11am-3pm).....	1100-1500
	Sa	4	Food Drive .....(8am-3pm).....	0800-1500
	Su	5	Christmas Parade .....	1500
	Mo	6	Board Meeting .....	1700
	Th	9	Holiday Party .....	1530
	Sa	11	Parade of Lights .....	1530
Jan. 2022	Sa	11	Ugly Sweater Contest (after parade)	
	Sa	1	Race: New Years Day Fun.....	1300
	Mo	10	Board Meeting .....	1700
	Tu	11	New Member Reception	
Th	13	General Meeting .....	1900	

(cc)=Community Center, (rs)=Red Sail Park, (ac)=Activities Center, (v)=online.

**Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, January 17, 2022.**

A digital copy will be delivered online, on or before February 1, 2022.



## FHYC Past Commodores' Food Drive 2- 4 December

The annual Past Commodores' Food Drive will take place at the Community Center as follows:

Thursday, December 2, from 11am to 3pm

Friday, December 3, from 11am to 3pm

Saturday, December 4, from 8am to 3pm

All the contributions go to support Religious Community Services (RCS) in New Bern. RCS is committed to addressing the basic needs of Craven, Jones, and Pamlico Counties by providing food, clothing, and shelter to those who need it most.

All types of non-perishable food are welcome. Please check the "best by" dates on the food you bring. Financial contributions are also very welcome; please make checks out to RCS and write "Food Pantry" in the memo field. The rear door of the Community Center will be open and volunteers will be available there to unload your contribution from your car.

Thank you for your generosity,

*Ritchie Thomson, Past Commodore*

### *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](mailto:fhycsemaphore@gmail.com)

## Nautical Quiz

This is not intended to be simple, and you are not allowed to use a web browser or Wikipedia to find answers

1. Where are the "Needles"?
2. Where is Cape Agulhas?
3. Why is Cape Agulhas so called?
4. Would you like to sail in the Agulhas Current? If not, why not?
5. Where in North Carolina is there is British Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery?
6. Why is such a cemetery so located?
7. Why are pirates regarded as louche?
8. What and where is the Maelstrom?
9. Where is the tallest lighthouse in the USA?
10. What is the significance of force 12 on the Beaufort wind scale?

*Look through the news letter to find the answers.*

## From the Vice Commodore

The excitement of the holidays are all around us. For the first time in a long time we can meet and greet (wearing masks and taking precautions) our friends and family. Last month it was the Sea Shanties. This month and into the next it will be the holiday songs from our youth.

We have many activities happening. The membership renewal is in full swing. There is a renewal form on the website for those of you who have not received one. This year we're asking that members renew by December 1 to guarantee that their information will be in the Yearbook.

Salvation Army, Linda Lelli is heading up the Angel Tree program again this year. You can contact her at 252-670-3995 for more information. The distribution will be at the Holiday Party on December 9 at Carolina Colours. Thank you, Linda, for your continued support of this wonderful charity.

Lois Andrews has taken on the Holiday Parade on land this year on December 5. You have probably seen her blasts. Our theme this year is "Join the Adventure – on land and on Sea." We're asking you to decorate your golf carts, dinghy and small sailboats in all your holiday splendor. Lois has sent out a blast outlining the event.



This year Phil Katz, Dave Phipps, and I are encouraging members to decorate their boats and come out for the lighted flotilla on December 11. Phil has sent out a blast informing everyone about the procedure to participate.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun filled holiday season.

At last week's General Meeting the new Board was elected for 2022.

The new Board will be:

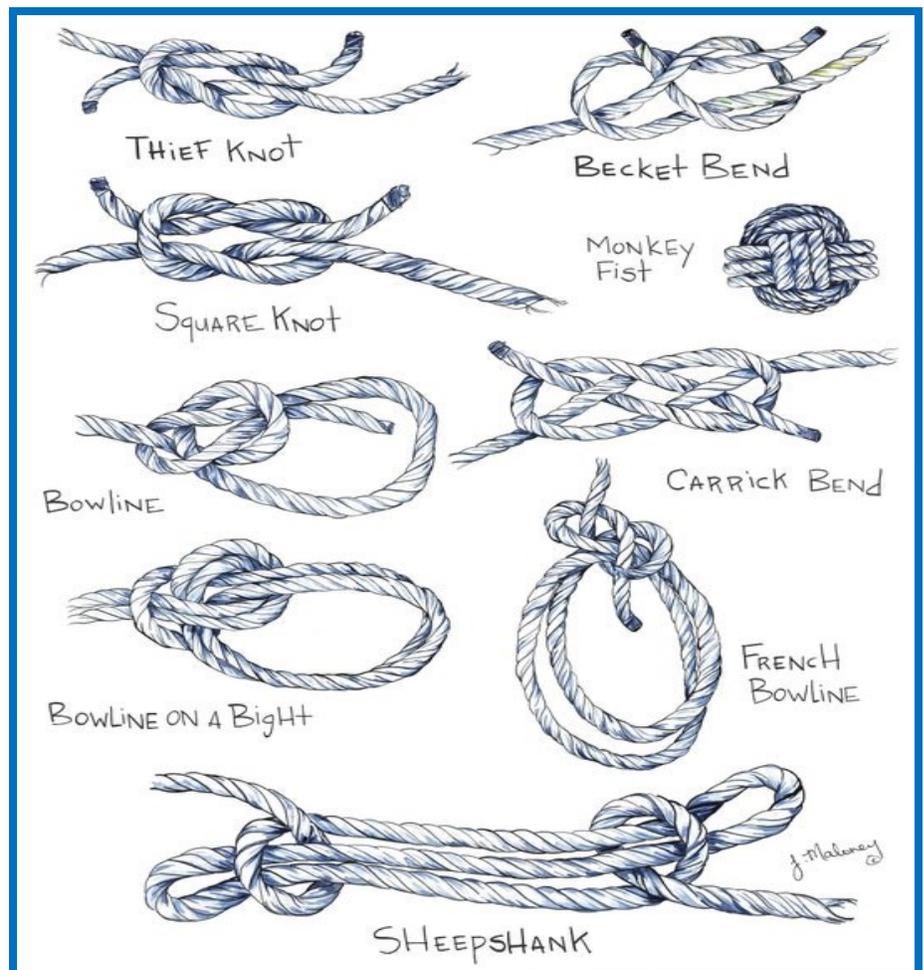
Commodore	Barb Robinson
Vice Commodore	Dave Phipps
Rear Commodore	Craig Myler
Secretary	Erin Vergot
Treasurer	Russ Robinson
Directors:	Pam Miller
	Stephen Brockman
	Phil Katz
	Leigh Hart
	Delle Curry



*Delle Curry, Erin Vergot, Craig Myler and Leigh Heart*

Please welcome them in January as they head into the 2022 season.

*Barb Robinson, Vice Commodore*



## About That First Boat ...

A first boat, like a first crush or first love, will leave you with some vivid and indelible memories! In our case, having been introduced to the wonderful world of boating on Lake Michigan by a friend, I was drawn by a classified ad in the local newspaper to an auction, a boat auction to be more precise. I was intrigued enough to want to know more, and thought an afternoon outing at the auction might just be, well.... educational. After all, I reasoned, I'd get an idea of the different kinds of boats that were available and their relative values. But to put this in perspective I'm obliged to reveal that my dear wife was with child, about nine months with child, and in anticipating the blessed event any day, her parting words to me as I went out the door were "Don't buy ANYTHING!"

That those words soon faded from the frontal cortex of my brain can only be attributed to warm spring sunshine that signaled the end to a bitterly long Wisconsin winter, and the intoxicating scent of wood vessels well-seasoned in lake water, or the sight of gleaming freshly waxed fiberglass hulls which greeted me on the auction grounds. I was confronted with a wide array of fishing boats, runabouts, cuddy cabins, and cruisers when I spotted her...a forlorn plywood hulled cruiser that needed just a bit of TLC. She was over 25 feet and roomy, with an enclosed head, V berth, full galley, and engine that would soon prove to be too lazy to go to sea. When the bidding started a number of vessels sold quickly, and when the Trojan came up for bid she elicited the interest of only two or three buyers at a dollar level that was just too good to be true. I found my hand raised next to me, independently suspended in midair, as if I were reciting the Boy Scout oath, and then remembered my dear wife's admonition. For a moment I thought I was safe as the auctioneer paused, but he then turned, pointed to me, and with the swift pounding of his gavel proclaimed the polygamous marriage complete! In that moment I felt a strange feeling, a feeling I would

come to know well over the years with the acquisition of each new boat...one of blurred elation and trepidation.

In this case I was sure that my wife would forgive me. However, when I walked into the front door carrying a piece of paper in hand, which she quickly and correctly deduced meant that I was now the insensitive owner of an object competing for attention and affection, she imposed a period of three days of complete silence, quite impressing me with the notion that I'd displeased her. Nothing to that point in our marriage had prepared me for such a display of displeasure. Nothing in the thirty-five years since has ever come close, which is all the more remarkable in that she's come to enjoy boating almost as much as I do, and that we've gone on to own eight cruising boats over those years. But we're getting ahead of ourselves....



The story of the Trojan continues with its delivery, which I was sure would impress my wife to the extent that she would happily recognize its potential contribution to our marriage and quality of life. As I proudly stood outside, the boat was delivered on its admittedly rusty double-axled trailer and backed into our driveway alongside the house. In an attempt to familiarize her with the boat, I coerced her into climbing a ladder up and over the transom, which required my assistance in pushing on her very pregnant posterior as she climbed, an act which she considered more than indelicate. I'm afraid I must admit she didn't share my enthusiasm at that point, and to make matters more complicated, once the boat was in my driveway, I began to catalog the projects that would be necessary before she could put to sea. Despite a new battery her engine refused to turn over, and there were areas of dry and wet rot to be repaired. A friend had given me a copy of a Chandler's catalog, and I went to the store and found a bewildering array of products

I never knew existed, each with a specific purpose and each with a price to reflect its uniqueness. Here I began to build my maintenance and repair skills, but slowly, sadly, as time went by, I realized that I had bitten off more than I could chew. Neighbors began to take an interest in my project. When winter arrived and dumped several feet of snow, passersby would find a monumental snow sculpture in our driveway that might have rivaled a modern work of art.

But I still hadn't been in the water and Lake Michigan was calling me! When spring arrived, I began to receive notice of new boat sales and my interest was piqued. I went again to the dealership that sold us the Trojan and found a used fiberglass boat that was well constructed. Even my wife was favorably impressed, which I found remarkable given that we had a six-month-old son to bring along. The boat was a Regal 245XL, with a single engine 260hp stern drive. Her interior featured beautiful teak lattice work on galley cabinets and the door to the head. She had an air of quality and sturdiness to her. Final approval by the rear admiral required that the previous owners painted name, "*Witchy Woman*," complete with an artist's rendition of an anatomically correct topless witch on a broom, be removed from the transom prior to signing on the bottom line. Though the art was, in my humble opinion, nearly irreplaceable and sure to appreciate in value, I had to concede in order to make the acquisition. A quick trade was arranged and the dealer took our landlocked Trojan as down payment, and we were the proud owners of the Regal!

Over the next season we learned that boats are unlike cars; they require more skill to operate, as well as regular maintenance. Our first several dockings were remarkable in that my wife was uninjured and I wasn't the victim of foul play, though some might have thought the latter somewhat justifiable if my wife had any such inclination.



## (Cont'd) About That First Boat ...

Somewhere along the line the friend that had introduced us to boating gave me some sage advice. He and his wife were avid sailors with many miles of cruising under their belts, and we envied them. They had regaled us with tales of their adventures, of beautiful cruising grounds, and time spent together in a shared passion. He said "If you're going to be serious about boating, you're going to need to make sure you expose your wife to a positive experience on the water. Without her endorsement and commitment, you won't be able to spend the time or the money the boating lifestyle requires."

His advice still rings true today, and I owe a debt of gratitude to him for his wise words. Something wonderful happened with that boat as we took our first tentative steps as mariners. We began to explore, to learn new skills, and to value our time together on the water. Today, 35 years and eight boats later, we're still learning, but our time on the water exploring new ports and old favorites is still among our most treasured time together.

*Dave Phipps, Rear Commodore*



## Hello Fellow Yacht Club Members

If you were unable to attend the FHYC Thursday general meeting on Nov. 11, let me explain about the "Elves."  
The Christmas Parade is on December 5th at 3:00 pm.  
FHYC will be participating in this event. Our theme this year is "JOIN THE ADVENTURE," By Land or By Sea.

We would like all of you to join in the adventure, to have some fun, and help to make this our largest Yacht Club spectacle yet. Decorate your golf carts with tinsel and jingle bells, or your dinghy with pine wreaths and holly, put a giant red bow on your sunfish, fly streamers from your bikes, or walk with us down Santa Lane from the Cart Barn to Red Sail Park. We need as many elves as we can recruit. There are banners to carry, reindeer to pull, candy to toss, and children to wave to. Commodore Vergot and Erin will lead the parade, and there are several parade banners and Mr. and Mrs. Santa leading their reindeer. Our favorite red vintage truck will tow Santa's sleigh *Snow Pea* overflowing with presents and a Christmas tree followed by decorated boats and golf carts, walkers and bikers. If you don't want to be on Santa's naughty list:

## "JOIN THE ADVENTURE"

Sign up to be a parade elf! **Please reply back to me only.**

I will be in touch...

Lois

P.S. You will get your very own elf hat!

Happy  
Holidays!



## Salvation Army Angel Program

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club is again participating in the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program and invites all Fairfield Harbour residents to take part in this worthwhile giving event. Angels may be picked up at the POA Library beginning Monday, November 15.

Information on each Angel includes the child's name, an alpha/numeric code, age, sizes, and wishes for Santa. This is intended to help the giver in selecting a gift or gifts. There will also be instructions asking that all gifts be unwrapped, placed in a bag if more than one item and, most importantly, have the code number and child's name securely attached to each item. Blank stick on labels have been attached to the back of each Angel to use for this purpose. Please record the code number of any Angel you choose, and your name on the signup sheet found with the Angels in the Library.

Gifts are to be brought to the FHYC holiday party on December 9. Please arrange to have your gift brought to the holiday party by a club member. You may also drop off your gift on the day of the party, December 9, at the POA Activities Building Room #2 from 12:00 noon to 2:00PM.

If you have any questions, please contact me by email at [lalelli14@gmail.com](mailto:lalelli14@gmail.com) or phone 252-670-3995.

Thank you for your cooperation and generosity during this holiday season.

*Linda Lelli,*

*FHYC*



## FHYC November Cruise October 31 - November 3

As we approach the end of the year, we usually schedule a Pamlico cruise in October. This year our Cruise Leader, Kathie King, experienced problems arranging for anchorages, dockage, and dinner reservations that made sense for the cruise. This was attributed to a large amount of boat traffic from snowbirds heading south, limited dockage, and restaurant closures. With persistence, Kathie was able to arrange for a four-day cruise with the five boats that signed up.

On Sunday, *Gentle Patience*, *Gypsy Cat*, *Footloose* and *Sugar Magnolia* headed for Clubfoot Creek for the first night's anchorage. With good weather and a splash on *Sugar Magnolia*, a good time was had by all.

On Monday, the boats headed for Oriental with *Arawak* joining the cruisers at Oriental Marina. The Marina was fully booked, and even the free docks were reserved for additional snowbirds leaving us short one slip. As a result, *Footloose* played musical docks all afternoon until finally getting permission to dock at the commercial marina across from us for the night and it was free! After a splash Monday eve on *Arawak*, we headed to M & M's for dinner. Doug King's college classmate and his wife joined us, adding to the good company we had during dinner. It should be noted that the Clays had cruised on *Gentle Presence* with the same snowbird group that stayed with us in Oriental back in 2017. It's a small world



when you are boating.

On Tuesday, we had good weather as we cruised to River Dunes in Lower Broad Creek. After getting settled in River Dunes, we had an afternoon splash on *Gentle Presence*. That evening for dinner we had a private dining room with a fireplace overlooking the marina, thanks to Kathie's good planning.

Wednesday morning, after breakfast, we cruised back to Fairfield Harbour with fair winds and

a following sea. Much to the sailing pleasure for *Gypsy Cat* and *Gentle Presence* as they trimmed their sails rounding Minnesott Beach.

It was a good time, good people, and a good cruise.

*Phil Katz & Linda Duncan,*  
*Cruising Captain*

## SAVE THE DATE

The 2022 Commodores' Ball will take place Thursday, March 17, at Carolina Colours, starting at 17:30 for cocktails. This annual event honors our current Commodore, Barb Robinson, along with all the Past Commodores. Watch for your invitation to be delivered to your brown box as an insert to the 2022 Yearbook. This special occasion offers the perfect opportunity to dress up, enjoy fine food catered by The Chelsea, and dance the night away.

RSVP early and plan to be there for the fun! Any questions, please call Janice Myler at 443-299-8916.

*The Entertainment Committee*





**FAIRFIELD HARBOUR YACHT CLUB  
ANNOUNCES A  
HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS  
DECEMBER 11, 2021**



**TO ALL MEMBERS OF FHYC AND NON-MEMBERS WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF FAIRFIELD HARBOUR. DECORATE YOUR BOAT WITH LIGHTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS AND JOIN US ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> FOR A HOLIDAY PARADE IN THE INNER HARBOUR AFTER SUNSET ALONG THE SHORELINE. SEE ATTACHED GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PARADE.**

**OR COME TO THE INNER HARBOUR AND BRING CHAIRS TO SIT BY THE SHORELINE TO ENJOY THE LIGHTED BOATS PASSING BY WHILE SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS.**

**ALL BOATS PARTICIPATING IN THE PARADE MUST FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN IT TO THE FHYC. NON-MEMBER PARTICIPANTS WILL THEN BE SENT A WAIVER TO SIGN AND RETURN TO FHYC. THE SPECIFIC GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PARADE FOLLOW THIS FLYER.**

BOAT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CAPTAIN NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 BOAT LENGTH \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
 POWER \_\_\_\_\_ SAIL \_\_\_\_\_ KAYAK \_\_\_\_\_ PADDLEBOAT \_\_\_\_\_ CANOE \_\_\_\_\_ DINGHY \_\_\_\_\_ W/OUTBOARD \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN FORM TO PHIL KATZ 3006 PLYMOUTH CT OR EMAIL TO [KATZDUNCANBB@COMcast.COM](mailto:KATZDUNCANBB@COMcast.COM) BY MONDAY DECEMBER 6, 2021

25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FAIRFIELD HARBOUR  
**CHRISTMAS**  
**Parade**

Join the magic of the Parade!

Sunday, December 5, 2021 - Kickoff: 3:00pm  
 Festivities at Red Sail Park after parade 'til 6:00pm  
 Parade Route: Pelican Drive and Cart Barn, cross Gondolier Drive to Helm Drive and ends at Red Sail Park.

Sponsored by the CBCFH [Cooperative Business Council of Fairfield Harbour] and Fairfield Harbour POA. Visit [www.cbcfh.com/events/2021-parade](http://www.cbcfh.com/events/2021-parade) for sign up forms and more information.



Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club

**"Yuletide Magic"**

Thursday, December 9, 2021  
 5:30 - 10:00 pm  
 At Carolina Colours

5:30pm - Cash Bar and Passed Hors d'oeuvres  
 Dinner Catered by The Chelsea  
 Then Dance the Night Away with Jimi Keys Entertainment

**Dinner Choices**

- Pork Tenderloin with Cabernet Demi Glace served with Garlic Smash Potatoes
- Chicken Marsala served with Rice Pilaf
- Crab-Stuffed Shrimp with Chesapeake Sauce served with Rice Pilaf
- Vegetarian Risotto

(All entrees served with Mixed Green Salad, Rolls w/Butter, Vegetable Medley, Dessert, Iced Tea and Coffee)

Share your holiday by supporting the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program. Bring your unwrapped gifts to the party by 6:00 pm.



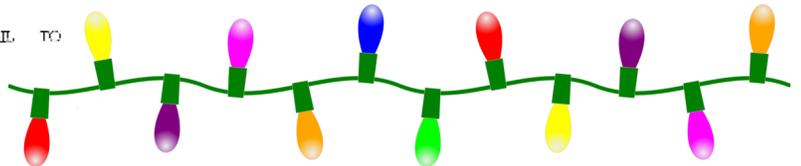
**Reservation**

Please complete this form and return it with your check (\$57.00 per person) to Kathy Sansone at 6104 Quittas Ct. by Monday, November 23. Sorry, no refunds after November 23. If desired, members may form tables of eight to ten. Please include all checks in one envelope.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check One:  Pork Tenderloin  Chicken  Shrimp  Risotto

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check One:  Pork Tenderloin  Chicken  Shrimp  Risotto

I have enclosed a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to FHYC



**UGLY SWEATER PARTY**

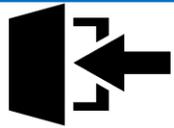
Saturday, December 11th

Begins following the Parade of Lights  
 @ the Community Center

RSVP to Janice at 443-299-8916  
 (Just so we have a head count)

**What to bring:**

- Wear your ugliest holiday sweater! Homemade or store-bought. The tackier the better! Awards will be given!
- Bring one dozen cookies to share!
- BYOB! Hot cocoa will be provided by the Club!



## We Need YOUR information!

The FHYC Yearbook Committee is working diligently to keep member information accurate and up-to-date. Please help us by renewing and/or updating your FHYC membership information as soon as possible, so it can be included in the 2022 Yearbook.

The renewal form is attached to this issue of the *Semaphore* as a flyer.  
The deadline for submission of information is December 1.

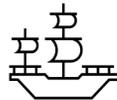
*Please Note: If you have already submitted your renewal and have changes, please contact Dave Landry.  
All others, please follow instructions on the renewal form.*

### NEW Boat? Congratulations!



Please send your information to the yearbook by updating your FHYC membership today. Renewal form is in the attached flyer. Deadline is December 1.

### NO Boat? You sold it? Congratulations!



Please send your information to the yearbook by updating your FHYC membership today. Renewal form is in the attached flyer. Deadline is December 1.

### Make more connections. Make new connections.



Please send your information to the yearbook by updating your FHYC membership today. Renewal form is in the attached flyer. Deadline is December 1.



### Million Dollar Dip

*Quick, Cheesy, Creamy, Low-Cost, App or Snack*

Time: 5 minutes Yield: 6 servings

#### Ingredients

- 1-1/2 cups mayonnaise
- 1 cup cheddar cheese, shredded
- 4 green onions, chopped into small pieces
- 1/2 cup bacon bits, pre-cooked
- 1/2 cup almonds, slivered
- 1 teaspoon garlic, minced
- tortilla chips, optional, for serving

### Nautical Quiz

#### Answers:

1. *The Needles are a rock formation on the south Coast of England close by the Isle of Wight. It has nothing to do with Cape Agulhas.*
2. *Cape Agulhas is the southernmost cape of Africa, located in South Africa. It is one of the great capes of the world.*
3. *Agulhas, in Portuguese, means needle. At Cape Agulhas, a compass needle points directly to true north. Hence the name given by Portuguese mariners about 1500.*
4. *The Agulhas Current flows south down the East Coast of South Africa. At Cape Agulhas, it can generate rogue waves of up to 30m (100ft) in height. Not a great place to sail.*
5. *Ocracoke has a British War Graves Cemetery.*
6. *In the second world war, Britain provided several armed trawlers to help protect shipping on the east coast of N. America. One, HMS Bedfordshire, was sunk off Ocracoke. Bodies of some of the crew were washed ashore and buried at Ocracoke.*
7. *Louche means disreputable or sordid in a rakish or appealing way. It is highly appropriate for many pirates; for example, Jack Sparrow of the Black Pearl.*
8. *The Maelstrom is located off the west coast of Norway and bills itself as the world's strongest whirlpool.*
9. *Cape Hatteras at 210 feet.*
10. *Force 12 is the equivalent of a hurricane, or in nautical terms, "that which no canvas sails could withstand."*