

The Semaphore

Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 39 No. 5 35° 04' N., 076° 58' W. June 2022



Commodore's Update

As many of you know, we had to postpone the Neuse River Regatta and dinner because of active COVID cases in the Fairfield Harbour. We have now rescheduled it for October 1 with the dinner being held at Blackbeard. It reminds us to remain careful and cautious when going out the door. What I, as Commodore, am recommending is that your social distance and wear a mask when attending an FHYC function. Think of it as a courtesy to your fellow members. Many of our functions are social in nature and have food and drink available. In that case, bring a mask and wear it when not eating or drinking.

Our committee chairs have been working diligently to provide fun, entertainment, and safety. The *Semaphore* this past month was loaded with lots of useful information – 10 pages! You do not have to be a board member to submit an article. Tell us about something you think might be of interest to the members. So, if you have a favorite story or poem or limerick you would like to share, send it to fhycsemaphore@gmail.com.

For the General Meetings, **Hospitality** has been working hard to provide snacks and beverages with an eye to both good taste and safe food handling. Leigh Hart is always looking for help in hosting the events. Give her a call and tell her you would like to help.

Janice Myler and the **Entertainment** committee have been providing some great events from the Commodore's Ball to the Chili Cook-off to the Cinco de Mayo fiesta. They have more ideas, but they could use some help putting these ideas into action.

Phil Katz' **Cruising** group has a lot on their plate this year. One event is already filled. Phil's committee is offering something for everyone from extended cruises, day trips for smaller

boats, and raft-ups. All of these are open to both power and sail.

The **Marine Assistance** group, under Past Commodore Doug King, has been busy helping boaters on the Neuse to get unstuck or to get a tow.

These are some of the most visible committees but there is a lot of other work done "behind the scenes" and I'll cover them in next month's message.

Remember to be careful, cautious, and safe.

Barb Robinson, Commodore

REARCH FOR THE SKY



What's Happening?

June	Su	5 Race: Sunfish.....	1400
	Mo	6 Board Meeting (AC).....	1600
	Tu	7 Race: Fun	
	Th	9 General Meeting (CC).....	1900
	Fr	10 Education Seminar (AC)	0900
	Su	12 Race: Sunfish.....	1400
	Mo	13-17 Cape Lookout Cruise	
	Tu	14 Race: Fun	
	Sat	18 Race: Father's Day Fun	
	Su	19 Race: Sunfish.....	1400
	Sat	25 Shallow Draft Day Cruise	
	Su	26 Race: Sunfish.....	1400
	TBD	Game Night	

(CC)=Community Center, (RS)=Red Sale Park, (AC)=Activities Center

Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, June 13, 2022

Delivery is Saturday, June 27, 2022

I Was Carded!



No, I wasn't checked for my age to get a beverage at last night's FHYC General Meeting. I was the first purchase using our new carding system that allows members to purchase items from the Ship's Store using a card reader.

It took about 20 minutes for Vice Commodore Dave Phipps and Storekeeper Darlene DeFigueiredo to sync the device to Darlene's phone and then they were good to go. I made my merchandise choice, then swiped my card. It asked me to verify and say if I wanted a receipt. I asked for a receipt via messenger and said OK. Bingo, the sales were done.

Darlene has ordered hats and shirts that will be coming in within the next week or so. To make room for the new merchandise, she is going to have a big sale at the next meeting. Starting in September, personalized custom orders for cutting boards, coasters, and cheese boards with your boat name, your name, or a picture of your boat will be available. These are great ideas for Christmas.

Call Darlene at 860-993-6365 or email her at dg_0208@yahoo.com if you have questions. Be patient. We're still working through this but WOW! This is so neat!

Barb Robinson, 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

John Walsh Memorial Oar Race

The 2022 FHYC Oar Race had two problems this year: COVID and the hot weather. Two racing boats and one safety boat called that they were short of crew because of COVID. One skipper called to say he was completely bowing out due to exposure. Two other skippers called to say they would not be at the after party because their wives were testing positive for COVID. All in all, the pre-race excitement continued!



Between Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, the decision was made to shorten the length of the course due to hot weather –mid 90s is not safe weather to be out with a light breeze, sitting in a fiberglass boat. We also had to think of the safety boats, which would be really sitting still. The race was shortened from 22 miles to 15.2 for Class A boats and 7.6 miles for Class B boats. The course started at 1N going to #19 then up to #22, over to #26, back down to #19, and back to 1N (about 7.6 miles). Class A sailed the course twice, Class B sailed it once. In Class A, Al and Mary Lang on *Mystic*

Blue (aka *Ursa Minor*) took first place, *Rampart Lion* took second, and Paul Mills on *Vertical Wing* took third place. In Class B, Mark Hittner took first place on *Blue Note*, Blake Sohn on *Long Shot* took second, and Gordon Osborne on *Raptor* took third place.

Georgie Jackson, Regatta Chair

National Safe Boating Week is May 21- 27



Ensign racers - Note lifejackets

Most boating incidents reported to the Wildlife Commission last year happened in May, June, and July. Of the 173 incidents, 19 were fatal - killing 23 people. Several of the deaths were alcohol related, and 16 people who died were not wearing personal floatation devices. Lives are saved when life jackets are worn and drinking while operating a vessel is avoided. That means be aware of Man-Overboard (MOB) and show respect when on the water.

Please practice responsible boating so we can all enjoy the water!

(From NC Wildlife Update-May 2022)

MAN-OVER-BOARD DRILL

1. Always **PUT YOUR LIFE JACKET ON** when onboard!
2. **EVERYONE** onboard should always **wear** a life jacket.
3. If you have a GPS unit, show **EVERYONE** onboard where the **MOB** (man overboard) button is and how to use it. If you're the one that goes over and the only one that knows where and how to use the button, the secret is in the water with you!
4. If you fall overboard, **don't panic**.
5. Reduce loss of body heat with the **H.E.L.P.** position (draw knees up to body).
6. **All** life jackets should have a whistle and a waterproof flashlight or strobe light attached to it. Blow the whistle day or night.
7. Victims who conserved energy, remained afloat, and stayed near where they fell in were more likely to be successfully rescued.
8. The best option is **NOT** to fall overboard in the first place.

R - E - S - P - E - C - T

RESPECT: The rights of others.

ENVIRONMENT: Enjoy wildlife from a distance.

SAFETY: Heed the boating regulations; go slow.

PEACE: Watch your noise and your wake.

ENJOY: Have fun. Share the moments with friends.

CONSIDER: The other people and creatures on the water.

TRASH: Take your trash home.

Credit and thanks to: R. Korth, Lakes Specialist, U of W

Chesapeake Cruise



Greg & Lorrie Winfrey, Ted & Beth Warnock, and Peter & Kathy Clay

We started with high hopes and a bit of interest from several boats, and we ended up with three boats going, including ours. We had *Island Girl* with Greg and Lorrie Winfrey, *Salt and Light* with Ted and Beth Warnock, and yours truly *Gentle Presence* with Peter and Kathy Clay. Heading up a four-week cruise is challenging. You must move medical

appointments and miss events going on back home, and there is the weather to contend with. But the cruising is great in the Chesapeake, despite taking a while to get there.

We started out anchoring in Lower Broad Creek with just *Island Girl* and *Gentle Presence*. The next day *Salt and Light* joined us at Dowery Creek. *Island Girl* and *Gentle Presence* left the next day for an anchorage in South Lake. *Salt and Light* would end up at Alligator Marina where we would endure two big wind and rainstorms. The next day we headed across the Albemarle Sound in less than favorable conditions.



Sailboat crossing Albemarle Sound in poor conditions

Island Girl turned back and waited until the next day when we all met up in Coinjock Marina.

With a low pressure system coming in on Friday, May 7, we left early for Waterside Marina in Norfolk. Little did we know that the marina would still be full of Loopers from their meeting earlier in the week. Docking was tight and packed so *Salt and Light* decided to move to Smithfield on the James River. We didn't know that we would be stuck there until May 13 because of the wind and weather. It is a nice marina to be stuck in with plenty to do and see. It was tough to keep in touch with *Salt and Light* and share our different

excursions. Because of the length of our stay and the weather we decided to head back south. We were able to meet back up as a group in Coinjock again. *Salt and Light* decided to make a run for home while *Island Girl* and *Gentle Presence* decided to take the slow road home.

You must be prepared for all the conditions when cruising. We had the heater running and wore long pants and coats in Norfolk and we are now tied up in Washington in shorts and wishing we had air like *Island Girl*. If it's not the new experiences and new places to visit, it's getting to know new people and making new friends. Maybe we will see you at Cape Lookout in June. Get out there and use that boat!

Peter and Kathy Clay, Cruise Captains

FHYC Cruising Update May-June 2022

The first cruising event in June is the Cape Lookout Cruise from June 13 to 17, led by Steve and Leigh Hart. Join this cruise and enjoy one of the most spectacular anchorages and unspoiled beaches in the Bight at Cape Lookout. It is a fun trip down the Neuse to Adams Creek, then leading, you past Morehead City through Beaufort Inlet. Once outside the inlet you will cruise along Shackleford Banks for about seven miles towards the entrance to Cape Lookout Bight. If you are lucky, you will see the wild horses on the sandy shoreline. Finally, you will enjoy two nights at the Cape Lookout anchorage before the cruise back to Fairfield Harbour.

The next event in June is scheduled for Saturday, June 25, and it is a one day, small-boat outing along Upper Broad Creek past Lee's Landing to the docks at Latham-Whitehurst Park. Take your shallow-draft boat, dinghy, kayak, canoe, or whatever, on an enjoyable picturesque boat ride to the park for the outing. If you choose, you can join the group by land yacht to park and take the half mile walk to join us.

July Fourth this year is on a Monday. We plan to enjoy the fireworks and celebrate Independence Day Monday night on our boats at an anchorage just off Duck Creek on the Neuse River.

Our Local Waters Cruise this year will be Monday, July 18 to Thursday July 21. Enjoy the waters of the Neuse River exploring anchorages and marinas. If you are new to the area, it is a great way to familiarize yourself with the local cruising opportunities close by. Join Chris Town, our Cruise Leader, for this event at the Captains Meeting (to be announced) to finalize the cruising itinerary in our local waters.

Phil Katz, Cruising Captain

Shakedown 2022

Another great Shakedown Cruise has come and gone. Six boats and a few land yachts joined us for the festivities at the Oriental Marina and Inn over the weekend of May 20-22. On board were three couples new to cruising. The weather was sunny and hot; thank goodness the pool was open. We took great advantage of the nice cool waters throughout the sunny and hot weekend.

The festivities kicked off Friday evening with a splash, followed by a Nautical Trivia contest won by David and Toni Smith, and David and Carrie Miller. For next year -



Wine Tasting

dumb it down a little. Nautical Trivia Winners were David and Carrie Miller, and David and Toni Smith

We then moved onto a potluck of various home - cooked delicious goodies and a shakedown cake. On Saturday evening we had a splash, followed by a sit-down dinner at the Toucan. After dinner we gathered on the deck for a wine tasting contest won by Ted and Beth Warnock, and David and Carrie Miller. With wine to spare, the party continued late into the night. Sunday brought cooler weather and a nice breeze as we departed for Fairfield Harbor. Next up is some serious dieting since we all put on a few pounds at Shakedown.



Dinner at the Toucan

46 U.S. Code § 2304 -

(a)(1) A master or individual in charge of a vessel shall render assistance to any individual found at sea in danger of being lost, so far as the master or individual in charge can do so without serious danger to the master's or individual's vessel or individuals on board.

DUTY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AT SEA

There has been some discussion recently on FHMail about a disabled sailboat that was taking on water in the channel into Northwest Creek. There were four people on board. Without getting into the specifics of the situation, the requirement under US Law is very clear. Unless you are going to get into danger, you **shall** render assistance. This US Law was ignored or unknown to the boat that sped past the disabled boat and its rescuer.

The good news, if you can call it that, is that the discussion thread was on FHMail so everybody in the Harbour was made aware of the situation. I conclude and hope that the people involved were not members of FHYC.

Ritchie Thomson, Past Commodore

Flat Earthers' Attempt to Sail to The Edge of The World Ends in Massive Disappointment

If the Earth were flat, it would be incredibly easy to prove. For instance, you could go to any seashore and look at a boat sailing far out in the distance and not dipping over the horizon or ask any of the astronauts onboard the International Space Station to just take a quick photo of the flat circle below as a favor.

So far, not a single flat-Earther has been able to find any proof, which should tell you something about whether the theory has merit, even if you discount all the **evidence that Earth is indeed round**, as a global conspiracy that only YouTuber "Globe Earth Cuck1848174" has seen through.

Despite Italy's lockdown, a couple from Venice recently set out to prove Earth's flatness finally by sailing to the edge of the world, which they believed to be somewhere near Sicily. It is amazing how people who live locally never visit famous tourist attractions, like the leaning tower of Pisa or the edge of the Earth where the sea meets the infinite void.

The two left the Veneto during the lockdown for Lampedusa, violating all restrictions, Salvatore Zichichi of the Maritime Health Office of the Ministry of Health told Italian newspaper La Stampa. In Termini Imerese they sold their car and bought a boat.

For them, Lampedusa [an island of the Italian Pelagic Islands in the Mediterranean Sea] was the end of the Earth. The trip, always destined to end in disappointment, hit some snags immediately. First, if you are planning on taking a trip to the very edge of the world, this year, when most of the world has been ordered by law to stay at home, perhaps it wasn't the best choice.

La Repubblica reported that using a compass (a navigation system that relies on the principle that the Earth is not a pancake), the couple set off in their boat and attempted to navigate their way through the Pelagic Islands to reach Lampedusa. You won't be surprised to learn that a couple who sold their car in order to reach the end of the world perhaps hadn't thought things through, and they soon found themselves lost, tired, and washed up on the island of Ustica instead.

Since the global pandemic is still on, the couple was placed in quarantine by health officials; but in their determination to find the edge they escaped and sailed away once more, figuring the police's authority ends where the rim meets the vacuum of space. They were caught three hours later.

"A few days later, they tried to escape again. They ended up in the home of a mythomaniac who claimed to be positive for COVID but luckily, he was not," Zichichi said.

Dejected, they returned to their part of the globe by ferry.

[As reported on ILFscience.com.]



NASA evidence that Earth is indeed round.

Have You Met Our 2022 New Members?

We are excited to introduce our newest members who were presented at the May General Meeting.



Mark and Miriam Johnson

Mark and Miriam come to us with enthusiastic recommendations from their sponsors Ritchie and Julia Thomson, and Bill and Olwen Jarvis.

They moved to New Bern in 2006 and recently built a home on Muirfield Place.

Mark has sailing experience starting as a child; Miriam was convinced to sail with Mark 20+ years ago. They are experienced sailors who have visited 20 countries.

Their current boat is a hand-built 32' SeaRunner trimaran named *Delphys*; Mark has built three boats over the years.

Mark and Miriam have selected the Hospitality Committee, with Miriam also volunteering to assist with the *Semaphore*.

Dave and Janet Jonah

Dave and Janet come to us with enthusiastic recommendations from their sponsors John and Georgie Jackson, and Steve Husted and Anny Chui.

They recently moved to Fairfield Harbour in April of 2021 and are now living on Kea Court.

Together they have 40 years of boating experience that began on Dave's 17-foot day sailer in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. At the time Janet was a post grad nurse and Dave a Medical Illustrator at Johns Hopkins.

Their current boat is a 34-foot Seaward 32RK sailboat named *The Whale* that they trailered across country from their last home in California.

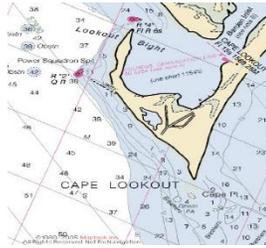
Both Dave and Janet have selected the Hospitality Committee. Dave has also selected Marine Assistance and Janet Medical Support.

Welcome to FHYC



FAIRFIELD HARBOUR YACHT CLUB

CAPE LOOKOUT CRUISE



JUNE 13 TO JUNE 17, 2022

Enjoy one of the most spectacular anchorages and unspoiled beaches in the Bight at the Cape Lookout National Seashore. A dinghy is highly recommended.

ITINERARY

- MONDAY, JUNE 13: Depart Fairfield Harbour and anchor in Cedar Creek just off Adams Creek overnight.
- TUESDAY, JUNE 14: Plan your departure from Cedar Creek to take advantage of fair currents through Beaufort Inlet then along Shackleford Banks to our anchorage in Cape Lookout Bight.
- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15: Enjoy the Cape – bring your senior pass for the museum (if it is open), beach combing, swimming, shelling, fishing, and hot dogs; ‘smores’ on the beach before sunset.
- THURSDAY, JUNE 16: Leave Cape Lookout and head for the South River or Clubfoot Creek anchorage in the Neuse.
- FRIDAY, JUNE 17: Depart for Fairfield Harbour.

A detailed itinerary will be coordinated with participating cruisers.

If you have any questions, call Steve Hart at 919-801-2617 or email me at dentoid@mac.com

Cape Lookout Cruise Sign Up Form

Captain _____

Crew: _____

Boat Name: _____ Sail/Power ____ Length: ____ Draft: ____

Dinghy: Yes or No

Cell phone: _____

Email: _____

Please return form by May 25 to Steve Hart, 5414 Trade Winds Road, or email required info to dentoid@mac.com. There will be a Captains meeting in Activity Center Room 3 on Wednesday, June 7, at 1000 hours.