

The Semaphore

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Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club



Vol. 42, No. 5

35° 04' N., 076° 58' W.

May 2024



The Adventure Continues

Commodore's Update

Ahoy Members,

The Commodores' Ball and the Sock Burning are behind us but not out of our memories. The chemistry theme of the Ball was rather unique with molecular centerpieces and elemental table numbers. The Parade of Commodores was held to the applause of attendees with Tom and Linda Lelli leading the group. The food by the Chelsea was delicious and the atmosphere at Carolina Colours delightful. The burning of our socks at the 2024 Sock Burning event was snuffed out by poor weather conditions but that did not dampen the festivities with pot-luck snacks and self-brought beverages. George Stateham read the poem and all in attendance were able to imagine those socks going up in flames.

FHYC Commissioning Day 2024 has come and gone. The Blessing of the Fleet was held on dry land as the conditions on the

Neuse River and surrounding water were, as communicated by the local USCGA, treacherous, leading up to the parade of boats. Phil Katz kept everyone informed as he watched the weather, hoping the conditions would calm down but the water was too low and the winds too high to conduct the in-water blessing. In its stead, local synagogue leader Irv Joffee provided a poetic blessing of the fleet in front of those assembled for the Commissioning Day Ceremony followed immediately by Deacon Jim Hackett's prayer for our fleet. Chaplain Matt Esmacher also led a prayer asking for our continued safety. The flag ceremony was picture perfect and the Wreath Laying Ceremony, while conducted from the inner

harbor bulkhead, was touching. Bugler Michele Esmacher and Cannoneer Darlene Di Figueredo provided the sounds for the event. Afterwards, we made our way to the community center for the Champagne Toasts given by Rear Commodore John Jackson, Vice Commodore Steve Hustad and me. At that point everyone was ready to dig into the delicious fried chicken and pulled pork barbeque provided by Smithfield's of New Bern. Thanks go to Janice Myler, Paula and Steve Mink, and the Entertainment Committee for setting up the luncheon. Our April General Meeting celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Club. Rear Commodore Steve Hustad, Liaison to the History Committee, presented the history

What's Happening in May

May	Su	5	Cinco de Mayo RS	1500
	Mo	6	Board Meeting AC	1600
	Th	9	General Meeting CC	1900
	Fr	10	Education Seminar	TBA
	We	15	Day Cruise Saltwater Grill	1130
	Fr-Su	17-19	Shakedown Cruise	
	Sa	18	Shrimp-a-Roo Oriental Inn & Marina	1700
	Su	19	Sunfish Racing	1400
	Tu	21	Full Moon Raft-up	TBA
	Su	26	Sunfish Racing	1400

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

Deadline for next issue is noon, Monday, May 13

Delivery by Saturday, May 25, 2024

of the Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club in pictures. It was an informative and historical presentation.

The 40th Anniversary Cookbook was unveiled and handed out by the 40th Anniversary Cookbook Committee led by Kati Hughes. The hospitality committee put out a special event after the meeting celebration with a 40th Anniversary Cake, which was rapidly consumed by the attendees of the meeting. And finally, a copy of the very first edition of the *Semaphore* was reproduced and handed out to the attendees.

Forty years later, we are still having fun.

Other activities included an educational seminar by Vice Commodore Steve Hustad on

small engine troubleshooting and repair. This was well attended as members learned how to fix their outboards and other small engines.

We are moving up to our first full moon raft-up of the year, the Full Pink Moon Raft-up. Rear Commodore John Jackson is heading up this affair and he is looking to possibly move the raft up out of the Inner Harbour and onto Northwest Creek. April's Full Pink Moon gets its name from Native Americans comparing it to a spring wildflower. In other cultures, it is called the grass moon, the egg moon, or the fish moon. It is sure to be a wonderful evening on the water.

Right around the corner is Cinco de Mayo en FHYC. The festivities are going to happen at Red Sail Park on May 5. I am anticipating the home-made Mexican fare and perhaps a little bit of Margarita to boot. ¡Viva México!

There are many activities and events to choose from in the coming months. I look forward to seeing you on the water.

Craig Myler, Commodore

2024 FHYC Commissioning Day and Memorial Service

For the last 40 years, we have celebrated Commissioning Day to open the boating season. At this ceremony, Board and Bridge

Members are introduced and Past Commodores are recognized for their service past and current.

The ceremony started with the cannon firing by Cannoneer, Darlene DeFigueiredo.

Commodore Craig Myler introduced the Bridge, Board and Past Commodores to members and guests.



During this ceremony, as in years past, the Club recognizes members who have passed away since the last Commissioning Day by tolling the bell for each one. In their honor Russ Robinson laid the memorial wreath.

The ceremony closed with a final shot from the cannon and the sailing season officially opened.

Barb Robinson, 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

40th Anniversary Cookbook

The cookbook is out and is receiving rave reviews; see the following note from Chris Jewell.

AND THE AWARD GOES TO.....

The cookbook does not need an endorsement, but here's one anyway....

If you weren't hungry before you opened the new cookbook, you will be salivating by the third or fourth page, and ravenous by the time you finish reading.

- It has THE best recipes, all from our members.
- It has amazing pictures, all taken by our (amateur food photographer) members.
- It is beautiful to even look at, much less use.
- It is the culmination of many hours of hard work, evaluating recipes (and trying them), considering different pictures, and discussions and decisions surrounding every conceivable detail. The result is an amazing, amazing product.

The women on this committee have given us an incredible gift as a result of their time and talent. The significant financial contribution of this project benefits every FHYC member but, is dwarfed by the quality of this remarkable product.

Thank you, thank you, Cookbook Committee!

Chris Gerhardt-Jewell, hungry reader



The Committee from Left to Right

Erin Vergot, Kati Hughes (Chair), Olwen Jarvis, Laurie Eakins, Paula Phipps, Beverly Myrseth, and Lynn Stateham
Not shown: Darlene Cleveland and Sharon Nash

A big thank you to the ladies of the committee, especially to Kati Hughes who had the idea, found the volunteers, managed the process, did a lot of the hard work herself, and brought home a real success! To purchase your copy, contact Kati Hughes at 321-231-8268.

George Stateham, Past Commodore

Our Roving Reporter Elaine Berberich has a more extensive record of the organization and work of the committee farther down in this *Semaphore*. Take time to read and enjoy it.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Chris and Barbara Barajas were introduced to the FHYC membership in the April meeting! The Barajas' relocated from Riverside, CA where Chris was a homicide detective as well as a contractor and Barbara was an architect and worked in real estate. They purchased a home on Gondolier Drive. As relatively new boaters, Chris and Barbara purchased a 31' Sea Ray Sundancer. Their sponsors are Craig and Janice Myler and Lincoln Griswold. Chris has selected the Distribution Committee and Barbara chose Entertainment; both have volunteered for Hospitality.

Paula Phipps Membership Co-Chair



Steve and Cari Brunelle hail from New Shoreham, RI and are in the process of building a new home on Bucco Reef. Steve is a retired corrections officer and contractor, and Cari continues to work in graphic design. The Brunelles are an active, blended family with 5 kids ranging in age from 12 years to 21 years which keeps them very busy juggling school breaks in North Carolina and Rhode Island. They are avid boaters with a number of water vessels from a 43' Hatteras named "Out of Bounds" to a 34' Wellcraft to kayaks and dinghies. Steve is looking for a Catamaran to complete his "fleet." Their sponsors are Dave and Paula Phipps and Pam and Rick Miller. We hope to formally introduce the Brunelles at the June general meeting.

Paula Phipps Membership Co-Chair

Photo of the Month

This great photo was taken by our member Dave Smith in the Bahamas. Ansel Adams once said, "*Great photos aren't taken, they're made.*" Ansel did a lot of research on details such as what is the best angle of the sun and what time will be best for shooting this scene. Well sometimes it is just a lucky break to have your camera and be at the right place at the right time.

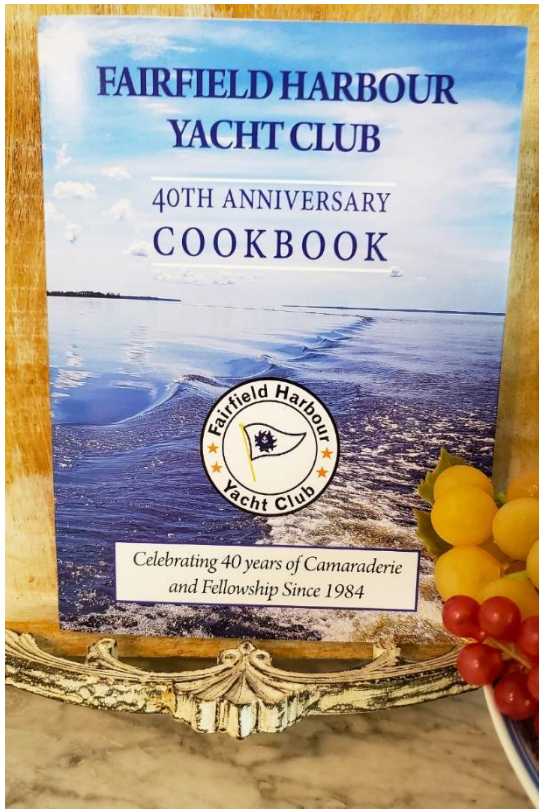
Here is what Dave said about this picture:

"I took that photo on the night of February 21, 2023. We were returning to our boat by dinghy from a spectacular lobster dinner at the Ocean Cabin Restaurant and Bar on Little Farmer's Cay in the Exumas. The celestial bodies are the crescent moon, Venus and Jupiter. We were anchored off Oven Rock and had spent the day visiting the cave and beach on the Exuma Sound side. The dinner was to celebrate my 70th birthday and this view of our friend's boat topped off a perfect day."

Thanks to Dave for sharing with us.



Complete Cookbook Report



It has been said that many great ideas come from discussions around the dinner table. Kati Hughes was at a small get together and the conversation drifted to the great cooks and delectable eating that had happened at Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club events. Kati made the comment that she could make a cookbook with all the great recipes not realizing what was involved, and she later remarked “*Ha, ha, little did I know!*”

Everyone loved the idea; a committee was formed, and the decision was made that the cookbook should be for the 40th anniversary of the Yacht Club. The committee members, who all brought a variety of talents, were Darlene Cleveland, Laurie Eakins, Lynn Stateham, Bev Myrseth, Olwen Jarvis, Sharon Nash, Paula Phipps, Erin Vergot and Kati Hughes, Chair. It was determined that the idea was financially viable, and the Board quickly endorsed the cookbook project. The cookbook was a fundraiser for the Yacht Club and it totally exceeded the original financial projections.

Collecting recipes is a great idea, but the biggest challenge came from publishing the book. Kati’s daughter, Samantha Beerli, has a large publishing company in Hickory, NC and does work for a number of large companies. Samantha agreed to the project and was there to provide advice from the beginning. She made sure the editing and photos were correct

and provided expert graphic design. Work on the book started in September 2023.

When the committee asked club members for recipes, they were surprised to receive over a hundred, which was narrowed down to 85 for the final printing. Everyone who submitted recipes had at least one published. The cook who submitted the recipe “staged” and photographed a picture of the finished product and wrote a short story about why this was a favorite recipe. Before the book could be sent to the publisher, the recipes had to be formatted all the same, which was a big task. Each committee member was responsible for editing one category and working with the contributor. The mouthwatering categories are Breakfast and Brunch, Appetizers and Hors d’oeuvres, Salads, Soups, and Breads, Entrées, Sauces and Condiments, Sweets and Desserts, and Cocktails.



BBQ Dinner Photos

Publishing a book takes money and this cookbook was no exception. In addition to the purchase price, money was raised by a very successful BBQ dinner that was available for dine-in or take-out. Darlene Cleveland spent the whole day before, cooking over 100 pounds of pork butt in 12 crockpots in her kitchen. The committee even had to rush out and buy a few more crockpots to meet the demand. Darlene’s incredibly popular pulled pork BBQ recipe is included in the cookbook.

In addition to timeless hours, trying to figure out whether the recipe calling for 8 cups of baking powder was accurate, and coordinating recipes with contributors, the committee had a lot of fun working together on this project. Laurie Eakins said that when she got involved, she knew that it would be a lot of work but didn’t realize how much fun the committee would have, how much laughter there would be, and how many close friendships would be formed. Longtime Yacht Club member Lynn Stateham said, *“I am so happy to have participated in the FHYC 40th Anniversary Cookbook project. The finished book is lovely, and I hope readers and cooks will enjoy the delicious and interesting recipes, photos, and stories on each page.”*

Chair Kati Hughes was quick to emphasize how much credit should go to the hard-working, fun-loving committee and all the club members that submitted recipes and provided support.



Erin Vergot, Beverly Myrseth and Laurie Eakins distributing Cookbooks at general meeting.



Lynn Stateham and Paula Phipps at New Bern Farmers' Market

On the 40th anniversary of the Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club, committee members proudly handed out the long-awaited cookbooks for 140 prepaid orders. Members opened their hardback cookbooks to see recipes such as John Jackson’s chili, Quebec Sheherd’s Pie from Bev Myrseth, Roast Beef and My Mum’s Yorkshire Pudding from Olwen Jarvis, Hong Shao Rou from Anny Chiu, and Kahlua Cake from Paula Phipps, to When you open the cookbook, you are immediately impressed by the professional look of the book and the pictures of mouth-watering recipes. But the absolute best is the stories from all of our neighbors and friends about their recipes that have been collected from years of family lore and from all over the world. It really

is a collection of food, family and stories in a book that is hard to put down.

Paula Phipps and Lynn Stateham recently sold five more books at the New Bern Farmer’s Market.

Roving Reporter Elaine Berberich

2024 Spring FHYC/RCS Clothing Drive

This year's FHYC/RCS Clothing Drive was held Friday April 5 and Saturday April 6 at the Cart Barn. Notices were sent out via Facebook, FH Mail and FHYC Mail. Weather wise this has been a strange year. Encouraging people to go through their closets usually means looking at “seasonal” clothing although we emphasize that the clothing drive accepts all seasons, all sizes. This year the several weeks before the drive, temperatures were

approaching 80 degrees and then plunging into freeze warnings! It was hard to judge what you would need in the coming months.

We have had many successful clothing drives, and this year didn't disappoint. Fairfield Harbour once again did some major closet cleaning. On Friday we loaded the RCS panel truck ¾ full. On Saturday we did the same. One couple brought a pickup truck filled with clothing. One man almost drove by but then saw the clothing drive signs and decided to stop in. He didn't even know we were having a clothing drive and was on his way to Goodwill. He had a truck full of clothing because he was moving to the Philippines. As many people as we thanked for their generosity, they thanked the club for doing this clothing drive and how important it is for the community.



Sam Curry, Sharon Nash, Delle Curry Barb Robinson, and Louise Nash

I especially want to thank our volunteers who helped to unload clothing: Evelyn Thompson, Dave and Toni Smith, Carrie Miller, Jeff and Betsy Paul, Sharon and Lou Nash, Delle and Sam Curry, and Ritchie Thomson. As usual, we had great conversations. Everyone should come out for our Fall Clothing Drive. The next clothing drive will be this Fall, dates and times to be determined. Once again, thanks for the help and generous donations.

Barb Robinson, Past Commodore

Sunfish Racing Help Needed

If you've enjoyed watching the Sunfish races here in the inner harbor and wondered how you could get involved, here's your chance! Jerry Rezab, Sunfish Fleet Chairman is looking for help. You don't have to sail or know the rules of sailing or know how to walk the gangplank. Jerry Rezab has a few ideas on how you can help. See his message below.

We need additional volunteers to help set marks for the Sunfish racing series this year. Volunteers with boats in size from 8ft dinghy to about 20ft powerboat are needed to set race marks and be available as a safety boat if needed during the races. Individuals that do not have a boat are also needed as crew to help on the mark boat. Volunteers are needed from 1:30pm to 3:30pm on those Sunday race dates when needed. No racing committee skills needed. Instructions will be given when needed. I am forming a list of member volunteers and when needed I will contact you.

This is a great opportunity to get out on the water and watch Sunfish races close at hand.

If you are interested and would like additional information, please contact me.

Jerry Rezab
FHYC Sunfish Fleet
geraldrezab@yahoo.com
252-288-4124



Barb Robinson, Past Commodore