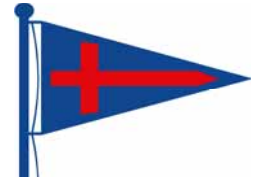


**NOW HEAR THIS!**



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**ROCK HALL YACHT CLUB**

**NEWSLETTER**

**NOVEMBER 2008**

*The Commodore, Flag Officers  
and  
Board of Directors  
of the  
Rock Hall Yacht Club  
cordially invite you to attend the  
Annual Commodores' Dinner  
Saturday, November 15, 2008  
Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres at 6 p.m.  
Dinner at 7 p.m.  
Followed by special entertainment and  
Annual Awards  
\$29 per person  
\$15 children 14 years of age and under  
The favor of a reply  
is requested by  
Noon on Monday  
November 10, 2008*

*Commodores' Dinner  
Menu*

*Butlered*

*Hors D'oeuvres*

**Chicken Sesame  
Vegetable Egg Roll  
Mushroom Caps with  
Crabmeat**

*Dinner*

**Lobster Bisque**

•

**Mesclun Salad**

•

**Prime Rib au Jus**

**Served with a Trio of  
Marinated Grilled  
Shrimp**

•

**Potatoes Rustica**

•

**Asparagus Tips and  
Mushrooms**

•

**Chocolate Mousse**

*Reservations Must Be  
Received by Noon on  
Monday, Nov. 10th*

R.S.V.P. to [manager.rhyc@baybroadband.net](mailto:manager.rhyc@baybroadband.net) or call the club at 410-639-2182

## What is the Commodores' Dinner?

For those of you new to the club, the Annual Commodores' Dinner is a gala event held every November at RHYC to honor our past Commodores. We start with cocktails (cash bar) and hors d'oeuvres, and move on to a very nice dinner with a special menu. Dinner is followed by live entertainment, and the evening is capped off with RHYC's Annual Awards.

This year's entertainment will be provided by Chris Cerino. Chris is a very funny singer/songwriter who performs his own songs about fishing, Eastern Shore living, and other local activities, much to the hilarity of his audiences.

A native of Reston, VA, Chris graduated from the University of Virginia in 1990 and received his Masters of Education from UVA in 1991. He has served as Vice President of Sultana Projects in Chestertown since 2000 and is responsible for the development and implementation of the organization's educational programs. Under Chris' watch, tens-of-thousands of students have participated in Sultana Projects' educational programs.

We know you won't want to miss this event - and seating is, of necessity, limited - so we must ask you to please R.S.V.P. by noon on Monday, November 10.

The dinner price for adults is \$29. The price for young people, age 14 and under, will be \$15.

## Annual 2008 Stockholders' Meeting Sunday, November 16

The Annual RHYC Stockholders' Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 16, 2008, beginning at 1 p.m.

Soft drinks and sandwiches will be available to meeting attendees from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

The bar will be open for full service after the adjournment of the Stockholders' Meeting.



**SEE REVERSE SIDE OF THE  
NOVEMBER CALENDAR FOR  
THE "COMMODORE'S CORNER."**

## A View of the Regatta Season

With the final Club Race under our belts, and the Frostbiting Season about to begin, the formal Rock Hall Yacht Club Regatta Season ends. What a season it has been! I don't know if all of our members know that the YC sponsors so many races, holds so many events, or that we have so much outside participation, but I can tell you that it has been a very busy Regatta season at the RHYC.

Just so you can get a feel for what the YC has accomplished, I will list some of the One Design Classes we have hosted; Chesapeake 20's, Hampton, Wayfarer, C420, Optimist Prams (in many forms), Lasers, Laser Masters and Laser Radials, Lightnings, Windmills, Sunfish, Albacore, Hobie 16's, 17's and 18's, A-Cats and the traditional Log Canoes. Racers came from as far afield as Florida, Colorado, Michigan and Canada, plus all points in between, to join us here in Rock Hall.

These Regattas have ranged from kids in the Opti Green Fleet circling the marks like plastic ducks in a Carnival pond, to the East Coast Lightning Championships and the Albacore Nationals - complete with some hot-shot sailors. We have had One Design Division Championships, which are a little like watching open-wheeled sports cars racing on a road course with the closeness, contact, twists and turns. We have had the thrill of watching modern A-Cats scream down the Chester River like they had rockets attached, and getting to the finish line just a little bit before the Committee boat had a finish line set up. I would say they were quick! What could be more "Chesapeake Bay" than watching the thrills of the old Log Canoe's crew fighting to adjust their collective balance and best each other in 12 - 15 knots of wind, or the tradition of presenting perpetual trophies to the winner in the Chesapeake 20's, a class of sailboats that along with the Log Canoe, pretty much defines sailing on our Bay.

After the races, the RHYC had the privilege of making awards to 10 -year-olds for participation and 75-year-olds for finally winning. It was great to watch as they accepted those awards with equal joy on their faces.

What a diverse bunch of boats and people!

*Continued on Pg. 3*

## View of Season

*Continued from Page 2*

It was also a different perspective than I have ever had on Sailboat racing. As a racing participant for many years, I always took the hosting yacht club for granted. I just expected that the Race Committee and Mark Boats were there to set a course and stay out of our way. I also expected there should be a good meal and a cold beer ready when I was finished, or I felt "they" just didn't get it.

Let me tell you something. I was wrong! (And those of you who know me know that last part was not easy for me to say.)

None of this could have been done without the numerous YC member volunteers and staff who worked tirelessly to make every part of each event special and happen without a (visible) hitch. Nothing is perfect, nothing happens without problems, it is how people in an organization deal with those imperfections that mean something and show what grit that group is made of.

Well, the RHYC has Grit!

We will undoubtedly host similar regattas next year with similar results, but before we move on, I want everyone who had a hand in these events this year, from the kitchen, bar, and food services to the mark and safety boats and Race Committees, to feel the accomplishment and know that it was a job "Well Done." On behalf of the Flag Officers, I want to add our personal "Thank You." None of this would have been half as good without you; you are all a part of our Regatta "A" Team!

**Lee Urbani  
Vice Commodore**

WELCOME ABOARD  
NEW MEMBERS!

**Sarah and David Gifford,  
St. Davids, Pa., and Edwards  
Lane, Rock Hall**

**Jeff Graf of Wilmington, DE**

## Hobie Cats, Lasers Signal End of Regatta Season

It was a dicey weekend weather-wise, but nothing could deter the spirit of the racing sailors who descended upon RHYC for the weekend of Sept. 27 and 28.

According to Vice Commodore, Lee Urbani, "The Hobie group was a great bunch of folks; they had a great time racing and enjoying the RHYC facility. The racing started out on Saturday in light-to-moderate wind conditions and no powerboat traffic. Four races were completed. There were several comments about the Saturday night dinner being some of the best food the class has enjoyed at a Regatta, so thanks go to John Conley and his staff for holding a great event. Sunday started out as a drifter with the racing postponed until the wind reached 5 knots, a class rule, but even with a delayed start, two races were completed with the last race being a twice-around-the-marks course. All races were completed within the SI's with no protests. The Hobie is a very exciting boat to watch race, and there is talk of the Hobie Class scheduling a return Regatta at RHYC next season."

The volunteers on the Laser Masters course were Dyer Harris PRO, Carol McCormack, and Kerry Miller, plus Scott Ranney and Carol Niemand in the Mark boat. On the Hobie course was John Macielag PRO, Connie Ranney, Donna Murphey-Donovan. Mark boats were Glenn Ross, Seth Powell, Tom Tontarski, Lee and Dawn Urbani and, of course, Harry Murphey, who worked the course on Saturday and raced on Sunday. Harry Murphey was the person who brought the Hobies to RHYC, and worked his buns off, too. Thank you, Harry, and all of the people mentioned for all of their time and talent.

Racing results and lots of pictures can be found on our website: [www.rockhallyachtclub.org](http://www.rockhallyachtclub.org)  
**Meanwhile.....Over In Rock Hall.....**

Chuck Parry and a slew of volunteers manned the RHYC Sailing School booth at the Rock Hall Fall Fest. Thanks go out to: John Sirna; Bob Emling; Heather Ransom; Marie Beasley; Ron Mansfield; Jim Trammell; Connor McHugh and his parents; Will Powell; the Anderson brothers, Ty and Forrest. They had a good, if wet, time, and had a steady stream of old friends and curious prospective members all day.

R.H.Y.C.  
 22759 McKinleyville Road  
 PO Box 317  
 Rock Hall, MD 21661



*Commodores' Dinner  
 November 15th!*



Mission: To promote and develop sailing and other boating activities for member families, guests and the larger Chesapeake Bay Community.

39° 6' 40" North Latitude - 76° 10' 58" West Longitude - 410 639 2182 - [www.rockhallyachtclub.org](http://www.rockhallyachtclub.org)

**ROCK HALL YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2008**

**Family Thanksgiving Dinner**

**Would you like to volunteer to coordinate this favorite Covered-Dish Event?**

**Covered-Dish Event?**

**(Club will provide roasted turkeys.)**

**Call Club Manager John Conley**

**to volunteer -**

**410-639-2182**



**December 2008**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 <i>Board Meeting 7 p.m.</i>	10	11	12	13 <i>Christmas Cocktail Party</i>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 <i>First Day of Winter</i>	22	23	24	25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i>	26	27
28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 2009 <i>Happy New Year!</i>		



# November 2008

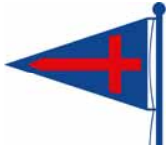


Call the club to make dinner reservations: 410-639-2182

Or E-mail: [manager.rhyc@baybroadband.net](mailto:manager.rhyc@baybroadband.net)

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Bar Opens at 5 p.m. Small Plate 6—9 p.m.
						
2 Bar Service 5—8 p.m. Stews, Soups & Salad with Bread	3	4  ELECTION DAY	5	6 Bar Service and Bring-your-Own Hors D'oeuvres 5—9 p.m.	7 Bar Opens at 5 p.m. Dinner Service 6—9 p.m.	8 Bar Opens at 5 p.m. Roast Beef Buffet 6 p.m. Followed by Night At The Races!
9 Bar Service 5—8 p.m. Stews, Soups & Salad with Bread	10 <b>NOON</b> Reservation Deadline for Commodores' Dinner	11 <i>Board of Directors</i> 7 p.m.	12	13 Bar Service and Bring-your-Own Hors D'oeuvres 5—9 p.m.	14 Bar Opens at 5 p.m. Dinner Service 6—9 p.m.	15 Annual Commodores' Dinner Bar 5 p.m. Dinner 7 p.m. Reservations Required
16 Annual Stockholders' Meeting 1 p.m. Bar Service 5—8 p.m. Stews, Soups & Salad with Bread	17	18	19	20 Bar Service and Bring-your-Own Hors D'oeuvres 5—9 p.m.	21 Bar Opens at 5 p.m. Dinner Service 6—9 p.m.	22 Bar Opens at 5 p.m. Small Plate 6—9 p.m.
23 Bar Service 5—8 p.m. Stews, Soups & Salad with Bread	22	25	26	27 Thanksgiving 	28 Bar Opens at 5 p.m. Dinner Service 6—9 p.m.	29 Bar Opens at 5 p.m. Small Plate 6—9 p.m.
30 Ditto						



# November 2008



## COMMODORE'S CORNER

This time of year one would think that the activity level at RHYC would be winding down. Regattas are finished. (See Vice Commodore Lee Urbani's article nearby on that level of activity. Certainly the club's mission was achieved). However, all is not quiet on shore. People are putting away boats or winterizing them (unless you mean to Frostbite). Our outside facilities must also be winterized. The floating dock secured. Preparation for the annual stockholder meeting requires considerable time for board members. Some members of the Board of Directors complete their terms and rotate off. A proper press gang has been appointed and is out looking for replacements.

The yacht club's fiscal year is also ending, requiring the counting house to settle accounts, balance the books, and do budget planning for next year. This latter activity in particular is prone to generating rumors and alarums around the bar, and because it is not complete yet there is not a lot to be said. Here is some general information about an evolving process.

In the past year some activities did well fiscally. Regatta revenue exceeded costs, as did boat storage fees. Club rentals were favorable, and the bar consistently made money. Restaurant/food costs exceeded revenue, partly from increased food prices and other factors such as numbers of people dining and varying menus. And as we all share at home and at work, utility and fuel costs went way up, beyond what was assumed this time last year for budget planning. So what shall we assume for next year? Will propane prices go up or down? Electric bills? Regatta attendance? Membership? No one can honestly predict the economic future, not even the Presidential candidates despite what they declaim. Certainly not our treasurer or the Board of Directors. Meanwhile, we can't predict how many for dinner next weekend, even with asking for reservations.

A budget plan that is too conservative runs the risk of providing less for our members. A liberal budget risks running out of money since we are not party to the Fed's bailout largess. Cash flow is everything in this little outfit and our projections indicate that we need more of it. The draft budget to be proposed to stockholders in November takes credit for closing the clubhouse in January if fiscal conditions require. A reasonable bet is that we will find a middle way, a little of this, a little of that. You will be the first to know, and I hope you won't hear it at the bar.

Dyer Harris

## NOTICE

- **Bar Service** will continue Thursday through Sunday evenings, beginning at 5 p.m. Remember, the bar is open until 9 p.m., but closes at 8 p.m. on Sundays.
- **Thursday evenings** will still feature **Bring-Your-Own Hors D'oeuvres**, which have proven to be extremely popular.
- We will be open on **Friday evenings for dinner**.
- **Small-Plate Food Service, beginning at 6 p.m.**, is available on Saturday evenings.
- **"One-pot" Soup, and/or Stew, bread and Salad, beginning at 5 p.m.**, will be available on Sunday evenings.

**Please watch your weekly E-mail for details!**