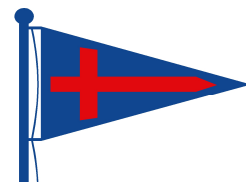


NOW HEAR THIS!

www.rockhallyachtclub.org



ROCK HALL YACHT CLUB

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2009



Commodore's Corner

72nd Board of Directors Seated

This may or may not be the 72nd. While that is the nominal age of the club, Boards may not have always existed, or at least been memorable, and a strict count has not been kept. That is not important, though, neither here nor in DC. What is important is the expectations for the Board looking ahead. My prime expectation is that we will continue to fulfill, yea, enhance, our mission (see it in print under the chart on page 4). I think I shall require all board members to memorize it and be able to quote it on demand. Challenge the next member you see. Demand purchase of drink at the bar if they fail.

We are not naïve or immune to the general economic scene. Obviously it has already affected us in various ways, primarily with costs of operations. We expect those challenges to continue apace, but we did not increase dues this year. I have been asking what the dues and fees are at some other clubs, and the difference is astonishing. RHYC is the best yacht club deal in the area, looking at clubs with equivalent facilities and programs. How do we do this? How can we keep it up?

The answer is through our members, which is not new. We want to involve even more of you in helping with or leading various activities. There are a number of committees, both specified in the bylaws and *ad hoc*, through which events are planned, regattas run, maintenance performed, and devils kept at bay. Board members chair some of these, but not all. The bylaws in some cases specify the number of people on the committees, and we have often been lax in filling these slots. Through a board resolution at the first meeting we intend to fill them. If this happens, the whole job of operating the club gets easier, not harder. The workload is spread out. One or two people do not do it all. As an example, an ideal case would be that a completely different set of people provides the support for each of the several special dinners. There has to be some glue that holds it all together, and that is the role of the committee chair, plus in all cases the excellent support work in the details that we get from John Conley and his staff.

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Officers and Board Members Elected for '09

At the Annual RHYC Stockholders' Meeting in November, the following people were elected and appointed.

Flag Officers

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Commodore | Dyer Harris |
| Vice Commodore | Lee Urbani |
| Rear Commodore | David Teel |
| Secretary | Julie Anderson |
| Treasurer | Fred Welsh |

Board of Directors

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Development Committee | Chip Lieber |
| Waterfront Committee | Jim Georgeson |
| Buildings & Grounds | Pat O'Connell |
| Finance Committee | Peter Metcalf |
| Sailing School | Chuck Parry |
| Communications | Linda Parry |

Stock Records Manager **Tom Deliberto**

Still open for volunteers are the chairmanships for Membership and Social Committee. Linda Parry and Jane Rogers have been double-teaming the membership duties, but would appreciate a volunteer who would like to fill this position. The Board of Directors also needs a Social Committee Chairman, which is currently being overseen by Chuck Parry. Now that RHYC has a general manager, the Social Committee Chairman's job is mostly an administrative position for setting the calendar of events and recruiting volunteers to organize specific special dinners and events. If you would like to volunteer to fill one of these positions, please notify

Commodore Dyer Harris at
sdharris@dca.net



**Happy New Year
to all!**

A Great Deal By Any Other Name...

It was a topic for discussion, albeit briefly, this new Annual Minimum Use Fee deal that was listed on our RHYC dues bill. At first we reacted, "Aha! There it is, the dues increase we've been fearing." But wait a minute! It's not a dues increase at all. It's a great deal.

Think about it. When there is a dues increase, you get the same old thing — for more money.

With a Minimum Use Fee, you get your investment back in food and/or drink—and that is, in fact, a *trés cool* way to operate a business.

With a Minimum Use Fee, the club gets to adhere to its budget — and members get something in return. One trip to the club for dinner with family and grandchildren in tow will pay for itself in a "Minimum Use Fee." Or two or three dinners with drinks, solo. And when you consider what other clubs charge for dues plus a "dining room quota," we've still got the greatest deal around. (No, we don't offer tennis courts or a golf course, because we are a *yacht* club.)

So, all in all, this is a good thing — it's do-able — and a step forward for RHYC. Less costly than a year's worth of cable or satellite TV service—and a heckuva lot more fun.

Increase For CBYRA Dues Announced

The dues for the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association (CBYRA) will increase by a small amount for 2009. Individual memberships will increase from \$45 to \$55. Golden Anchor memberships (which include US Sailing) will increase from \$90 to \$105. For Junior Sailors, the membership fee will increase from \$36 to \$40 for the Golden Anchor membership, but the CBYRA Jr. charges will remain the same. Family membership for Golden Anchor will increase from \$120 to \$145. It is strongly suggested that if you are interested, you subscribe to the Golden Anchor membership, as both of these organizations are crucial to the sport of sailing on the Chesapeake Bay. For further information go to www.CBYRA.org



Commodore's Corner

Continued from Page 1

Involvement does one other piece of magic that I see happen. Instead of a typical bar conversation being replete with a phrase like, "What on earth are *they* doing about...?" the personal pronoun magically changes to the first-person pronoun, as in, "What on earth are *we* doing about...?" And behold, we often discover the answer.

Dyer Harris

Delightful Commodores' Dinner

Flash! The rumors of the death of classy, enjoyable and well-attended events at the Rock Hall YC were greatly exaggerated!!!

This fact was up held once again, and just like the recently concluded and successful Ham & Oyster Dinner, the RHYC Commodores' Dinner proved the skeptics wrong.

The clubhouse dining room was decorated to the hilt, with YC Burgees on most tables, Flag Officer Burgees on the remainder, and colorful appointments around the room. A big "thank you" goes out to the event volunteers, Sally Powell, Connie Ranney and Dawn Urbani for their efforts to make the place look great!

All the ladies in attendance looked very pretty; not to be outdone, all the guys shaved and most even had a tie on. (Blue Blazers must have been on sale, too). Relative to what one would expect to see at the YC, everyone in attendance was "dressed to the nines" and having a great time.

What can one say about the meal? Simply this: you could go to any fine dining establishment on the Eastern Shore and then maybe for twice the price, enjoy a meal that great. A big thank you goes out to John Conley and his staff.

And let's not forget the entertainment, that erstwhile self-described "Guitar Picker," Chris Cerino, (rumor has it he actually works for the Sultana Projects, but who ever believes musicians?), performed original music. All the songs had something to do with experiences on the Eastern Shore. (Boy that fire siren in Chestertown has really gotta go!) That segment of the evening was worth the total price of admission.

Then, of course, the Vice Commodore had to follow all of that and keep everyone away from the bar, (which is a full time job by itself), while he gave out the Seasonal Club Racing awards. Ken Noble received 4th place overall, with Lance Williams winning 3rd place. Then we had a difficult time because, guess who (Chuck Parry and Dyer Harris) tied for 1st place. To break the tie, the V/C was asked to flip a coin and the winner of the coin toss would get the top honors. The V/C's wife never lets him go to the club with any money, so he did not have any coins. Chuck Parry tried to tell everyone that he gave all his coins to some charitable donation bucket at the gas station; which no one believed. And we knew that Dyer never carries pocket change, only big bills. But YC manger John Conley came to the rescue by stealing a quarter from the tip jar on the bar, and the coin toss was made. Chuck won, but Dyer protested by stating

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Commodores' Dinner — Continued from Page 2

that under the RRS no two-headed coins were allowed. The protest committee will convene shortly to consider the matter. Stay tuned for results.

The evening concluded with Commodore Dyer and former Commodore Chuck naming RHYC's top annual award winners. The *T. Allan Stradley Award* for demonstrating the desire to compete was earned by Sarah Ranney for her perseverance in junior sailing over the last 6 years. The *James S. Troutman Award* for the RHYC High-Point Junior Sailor went to Nate Ostrander. The *Sportsmanship Award*, one of the two top YC annual awards, was given to Joe Manley for his contributions to the Club Sailing Program. And the *70th Anniversary Award* for all-around contributions to the success of the YC went to Rick Marshall, for all the work he put in this year, ranging from pouring concrete to manning the kitchen when there was an emergency need. Congratulations to all those award winners, from all of the Board and Flag Officers, well done!

The formal events of the evening concluded, and everyone, (well, most), adjourned to the bar to put more two-headed quarters in the tip bucket. It was the perfect ending to a delightful evening.

Vice Commodore Lee Urbani

Nate Ostrander received the James S. Troutman award for being our high-point Jr. sailor.



Chris Cerino entertained the diners with his original Eastern Shore songs.

Welcome Aboard
New Members!
Barbara Brooks
and
Pete Weed
of Chestertown

Housing Volunteers Needed

As the regatta season approaches in 2009, the need for housing visiting sailors arises. If you are willing to host sailors or out-of-town racing officials for a couple of nights during a weekend, please notify Commodore Dyer Harris. This is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, and to extend the good will of the Rock Hall Yacht Club.

Become A Stockholder

Ever wonder what transpires at the Annual Stockholders' Meeting? The easy way to find out is to become a stockholder. Please contact our Stock Records Manager, Tom Deliberto, at either svtriton@aol.com or at 410-348-2080. Shares of stock are \$200 each

Sailing Rules Seminar Next Month

The Annapolis Yacht Club will sponsor a US Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing Seminar on Saturday, February 21. Go to www.ussailing.org for further information and registration.

Thanks for Thanksgiving

Warmest thanks go to members Bonny Teschner and David Teel for their efforts to organize and coordinate this year's very successful Thanksgiving Dinner. More than 50 people came to celebrate the day and to enjoy everyone's delicious time-tested family favorite dishes and scrumptious turkey. It was, indeed, a "family" occasion.

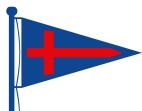
Don't Forget!**RHYC To Be Closed For January**

The RHYC clubhouse will close for the month of January to afford everyone a chance to catch their breath and pay some bills after Christmas.

Manager John Conley will still be available, and you can reach him by e-mail at: manager.rhyc@baybroadband.net

The club will re-open on Super Bowl Sunday, February 1st, with a **GREAT** party! Please plan to join us to watch the Big Game on our wide-screen TV — and maybe even do some winning in our football pool.

ROCK HALL YACHT CLUB
 22759 McKinleyville Road
 PO Box 317
 Rock Hall, MD 21661



JANUARY 2009



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.rockhallyc.org

ROCK HALL YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2009

February to Feature Super Bowl Party and Dinner For Lovers

Circle the dates now!

February 1st and February 14th

The club will re-open on Feb. 1st with a fun Super Bowl Party and the broadcast of the game on our wide-screen TV. (A goodly number of our members have come away from this event with more money than they arrived with. The football pool winnings have been pretty generous!)

And bring your love to the club for a special dinner on Feb. 14th in celebration of Valentine's Day.

Please watch for your weekly e-mail for details on both of these events.

Not on our E-mail list?

**Please go to
www.rockhallyachtclub.org
 and sign up!**

| February 2009 | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|----------------------------|-------|-----|--------------------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
| 1 Club Re-Opens SUPER BOWL | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 <i>Board of Directors 7 p.m.</i> | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 Dinner For Lovers |
| 15 | 16 <i>Presidents' Day</i> | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> | 26 | 27 | 28 |