

Blooper

The Friendliest Little Yacht Club on the Bay!

PO Box 1604, East Greenwich, RI 02818 401-885-4414 www.westbayyc.org

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January/February 2009

Commodore's Message

Wow! I guess winter has really arrived. We have had a very mild December. The only large snowfall was gone by Christmas day. I have never seen that much snow melt so



fast! January is here, and I think Mother Nature has let us know that winter is here to stay. We are expecting the coldest temperatures in years in next few days. So, bundle up and check

on your boat before the cold weather sets in.

This year is going to be a very interesting year at WBYC. We have a financial crisis that has led the world economy into a recession. The housing market continues to decline. The Big 3 US automakers struggle to stay in business most companies are considering or have preformed layoffs. The WBYC Board has been working hard to ensure that the club stays financially sound during these tough times.

With every negative there is a positive. There are many great opportunities out in the Marine industry right now. If you are looking at some new hardware for your sailboat or a new chart plotter for your

powerboat the bargains are all around. I have seen biggest discounts ever on items that I never thought would be discounted. I have also seen many boat owners putting their boats up for sale; mainly due to the uncertainty of the World Economy and potential job loss. I do see many boats going on the market in a fire sale due to owners over-extending themselves and needing to get out quickly. If you have cash and are looking to upgrade your boat...now is the time to buy.

The board and all committees have been working diligently to ensure that our calendar is packed with fun and educational events. I'm very excited about the board that the members have elected this year. We have a lot of work in front of us, but I know we can achieve it.

The major areas that I will be concentrating on this year are:

1. Financial Stability – Probably the most important action item this year with the recession. We have already put a few projects into action.
2. Membership – Need to keep pushing hard to increase our membership. This is the life blood of our club.
3. Streamlined board meetings – Setup a process for board and committee

reports to be reviewed in a more timely matter.

4. Communication – Increase communication with membership. We will begin publishing the secretary's report online.

If you have any questions or issues, please don't hesitate to contact me or any of the Board/Committee Chairs. Don't forget this is your club. Get involved and make it so!!!
With warmest wishes.

Greg Fornal
Commodore

Activities Committee

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME TO 2009 We trust everyone survived the holidays! This year's calendar is filling up with lots of fun for all.

Join us for **SUPERBOWL SUNDAY ON FEBRUARY 1st**. Even though the Pats are out, we can still get together and have a good time. The game starts around **6 pm**—but the doors will be open from **4:30 on**. **BRING YOUR FAVORITE FOOTBALL FOOD TO SHARE.**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, the Cruising Schedule Planning Pot Luck Dinner will be held. If you're a cruiser or would like to be, this is one night you won't want to miss. Dinner is at **6:30 PM**

Mach 14th is the **St. Patrick's Day Party**, More details to follow.

DON'T FORGET POKER NIGHT IS THE SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH AND GAME NIGHT IS THE FORTH

If anyone has a suggestion for an activity or would like to volunteer, we'll never turn your help away. Thanks.

Jo-Ann (401) 738-0272
Phyllis (401) 219-1784
Michele (401) 398-2621

Education Committee

Narragansett Bay Facts and Trivia

Members, One and All,
Please consider reserving Wednesday the 25th of February at 7:30 pm for a very special and interesting program at the club. Mr. Neil Ross will present a talk on Interesting Facts and Trivia about Narragansett Bay. His talk will not only be interesting and humorous, but will give all of us an added appreciation of the bays, coves, islands and environs where we cruise and play.

Mr Ross has been very active for a number of years consulting for the recreational marina industry and advocating for clean waterways. He is also a very knowledgeable local historian. This should be a real treat.

Kids' Winter Program

We are in the process of finalizing a Kids' Winter Boating Education Program. The series is being directed toward 8 to 12 year olds and will be held for six consecutive Saturday mornings starting February 14th at 9:30am. Each program is expected to last about an hour. This program is open to WBYC members as well as the community at large.

There is no charge for anyone to attend. We have a great group of volunteers lined up to lead various classes in many nautical

Save the Date:

2/1 Super Bowl Party

2/14 Kids' Education

Series Begins

2/21 Cruising Planning

Pot Luck Dinner

2/25 Education

subjects including Seamanship, Safety, Small Boats, Knots, Dinghy Handling etc.

Peirce Brawner
Education Chair

Past Commodore's Message

Greetings everyone!

Well, this is my first message to all of you as Past Commodore. Since Greg is our new leader, I want to congratulate him and leave the important items in his capable hands!

With all of the activities that WBYC has planned for the upcoming year and then



boating season, you surely won't want to miss a thing. Even before the Superbowl Party (Sunday February 1st), there will be a game night at the club on January 23rd

and it would be fun to get everyone together since the holidays are over. I know also that Peirce Brawner, our Education Chairperson, will be putting together a schedule soon and these are really informative and thoughtfully organized venues that we should all take advantage of, so be sure to check the website and this Blooper for details.

I will once again work with our fine Activities Committee in putting together our Third Annual Wine Tasting event this April at the Club, so if anyone is interested in participating in the planning please let me know. We have had a great time with this function in the past two years and hope to recreate it once again!

While we all enjoy stopping by the club and joining in with the parties and other events throughout the year, I think it appropriate to

remind everyone that without the hard work and dedication of our Board members and Committee members, this club would cease to function. Please don't hesitate to get involved ... remember, this is YOUR club and any ideas are certainly welcome!

Signing off for now. Hope to see you soon ... stay warm during the next couple of months and be safe!

George Ann Redden
Past Commodore

Membership Committee

WBYC Tiered Memberships

Once again, Friends, it is time to consider your annual membership dues for The Friendliest Little Yacht Club. No, no...don't let that sad sigh out, because the Membership Committee has worked hard to develop the most customized, cost-effective, and innovative membership plans ever offered at WBYC!

We are very pleased to announce there is no Cost Increase for Family Membership! You will enjoy the same benefits and opportunities as before, and let us gently remind you that your participation in club activities determines your level of satisfaction with the club. If you sat in the slip and did not participate in any of our boating activities, or did not tie up to the mooring at Dutch Harbor, you did not make the most of your dues. If you did not once peruse the reference library, attend a class, or did not remember the Club House is available for members at a very nominal fee for private parties, you could have used your dues better. If you stayed cooped up in the house all winter, and did not come down to join us for some fun once in a while, well, you not only missed some good times, but you could have gotten more satisfaction out

of your dues! We hope everyone will work your dues harder in 2009! Make the effort to attend, and the good times will happen! Please enjoy your membership as much as we all enjoy your company!

Please review the new membership level format. Members, who participate regularly in club activities, will notice that some out-of-pocket expenses for things like the May Breakfast, or St. Patrick's Day Dinner may already be covered in one of the tier memberships. Other members may find the purchase price of WBYC items already incorporated in one of the other tier memberships, and that may suit your purpose better.

Of course, all of the items remain available to any member as always, but you will receive specific benefit items with your renewed membership at no additional out-of-pocket cost! In short, if you are planning on attending a specific event, or purchasing a unique WBYC keepsake, and it is covered in one of the tier memberships, why not receive it as pre-paid?

Please let us know if we can be of any assistance to you in the renewal process. We very much look forward to your continued participation!

The Membership Committee

A Special Thank You

The entire WBYC membership extends an appreciative and warm thanks to Raleigh and MaryEllen Jenkins for donating a fabulous Foosball Table to the Club's game room collection. The table was delivered in early January and has been located adjacent to the Dart Board area. It is now set up and ready for a challenge game night Jan 23rd!

2008 WBYC Fall Series Video

Fred Engle produced a terrific 45-minute CD of the Fall Series featuring most of the boats which raced in the Fall Series this year. It is available from Fred for \$10. To order your copy, contact Fred at fred@earthlink.net. In addition, for each Racing CD a 50% contribution will go to the Club. This movie was featured at the Annual Awards Banquet.

Race Committee

Ahoy Skippers and Crews alike! It's your Race Committee Chair with updates and information for your reading pleasure.

Several *Racing* announcements were proclaimed at the Annual Awards Banquet and in December's Blooper so I thought it might be worthwhile to repeat them as they will be the new cornerstone for the 2009 sailing season:



1. The F3 Series will be reinstated during the upcoming summer program. The F3 Series consists of three Friday races during each of the summer months. Dates are tentative at the moment but I have submitted 6/12, 7/17 and 8/21 to EGYC and AHYC for consideration.
2. EGYC is celebrating their Centennial this summer and on July 18th will be hosting the Centennial Regatta. All WBYC and AHYC racers will be cordially invited to participate as it will be one of the qualifying events for the newly created Greenwich Bay Cup. An impressive après-sailing

social event will follow the days racing schedule. Clearly this is one event which must NOT be missed!

3. A new Regatta Series has been established involving participation from all three yacht clubs on Greenwich Bay for the purpose of establishing the "Top Guns" in each Class for the coveted Greenwich Bay Cup. Qualifications are as follows:
 - a. All three races in the F3 Series must be raced and completed [no exceptions].
 - b. Two out of three races need to be raced and completed (choices are the EGYC Centennial Regatta [7/18], WBYC Norton's Memorial Regatta [8/15] and AHYC Dickerson's Regatta [9/12]). If racing in all three events top two finishes will be counted for scoring purposes.

Last, but not least, a few awards and trophies left over from the Awards Banquet are at the Club awaiting picked-up, and there will be an early Skippers meeting on Friday March 6th [7PM] to review additional requirements needed to race in the summer, fall and weekend series, as well as, the F3 and Greenwich Cup Series. If you cannot make the meeting please send a designee who can represent your racing team. Note, my mobile phone number has changed to [401] 536-6583 the old number is no longer valid. Looking forward to getting back on the water soon!

Regards,

Grant Brandon
Race Committee Chairman

Cruise Committee

Only four more months till splash time, and there are *SO* many things for us to do until then! Like finalize our 2009 cruise schedule and join the Club Cruise in the BVI during April. All are in the planning or implementation process. Our preliminary 2009 schedule is in the Club master calendar which should be posted on the Club website shortly.

For those of you who do not know me, I am Carol Ann Getter and have been asked to fill the 2009 Chair position that Karen McNally so ably filled for the past two seasons. She is a tough act to follow, but I will do my best. To pull it off I do need help. I need



volunteers to be on the Cruise Committee and we need Cruise Captains to lead each of our 2009 cruises. These positions are very important to the continued success of our Club cruising program. For those who may be apprehensive but willing, we have many experienced Cruise Captains who can show you the ropes and a "Cruise Captain How To" template for you to follow.

Over the years we have established a fairly consistent schedule of cruises, both destinations and dates. But perhaps we may want to shake it up a bit? Maybe you

have a favorite gunk-hole you would like to share with the club in the form of a cruise, or maybe you'd like to change our destinations and dates around. Perhaps a progressive dinner/raft-up at our Jamestown mooring? The sky's the limit if you bring the ideas and we have someone who would like to take the lead. So, with that thought in mind...here is what we are doing so far.

Help Wanted

Blooper Editor (contact

Will Richmond at

willrichmond@gmail.com)

We will be holding a **Cruise Planning Pot Luck Supper** on **February 21st** at the Clubhouse starting at 6:30. This is THE winter cruise social to attend. How else can we get the cruising juices flowing with such cold weather as we are experiencing right now!

I only have a few objectives for the evening such as; a) have a great time; b) nail down our **2009 Cruise Schedule**; c) get volunteers to lead each of the cruises as Cruise Captains. *(If you are a prior Cruise Captain and want to commit to the same cruise this year prior to the social, please contact me)*; d) introduce ourselves to new and prospective participants and reacquaint ourselves with friends we haven't seen since last summer; e) reminisce and tell tall tales about past cruises; f) get more volunteers to help out as our cruise committee.

Our first cruise of the season is set and ready to go! Don't forget Dave Pickering has a fantastic cruise **to the BVI** planned for April 19th to May 2nd. There may still be time to join the fun. There will be a short informational meeting at the Cruising Pot Luck Dinner on February 21st, or Contact Dave directly at 401-742-5039 or ifcndpickering@aol.com.

Until February 21st, stay warm!
Fair Winds,

Carol Ann Getter
Cruise Committee Chair

KEEP A SHARP LOOKOUT

Sunday, February 1.....Super Bowl Party
Thursday, February 5..... Board Meeting
Friday, February 13 Card Night
Saturday, February 14..... Kids' Education Series Begins
Saturday, February 21.....Cruising Planning Pot Luck
Wednesday, Feb 25..... Educational Series: Facts & Trivia
Friday, February 27 Game Night

*Find an up-to-the-minute calendar on our website
<http://www.westbayyc.org>*

2009 Board of Governors

Commodore.....Greg Fornal
Vice Commodore..... Tom Stocker
Rear Commodore..... Jay Eshleman
Past Commodore..... George Ann Redden
Secretary..... Phyllis Geisser
Treasurer..... Jo-Ann Grima
Parliamentarian.....Marcie Feldmann
Members at Large..... Joe Landi
.....Chris Pegge
..... Nathan Shapiro

2009 Committee Chairs

Activities.....Phyllis Geisser, Jo-Ann Grima, Michele Lilly
Cruising Carol Ann Getter
Education..... H. Peirce Brawner
House..... Mark Kane
Membership.....Alicia Eshleman
Publicity..... Will Richmond
Bloopers TBD
Racing..... Grant Brandon
Website..... Peter Lussier

FOR SALE

Note: Submit new and renewal ads to willrichmond@gmail.com. Ads will run for three months. (Expiration date on end of each ad). Please limit ad to 75 words or less.

1979 O'Day 28 with tiller, draft 4'8", beam 10'3", OMC Zephyr 15 hp saildrive, knot, depth, 1 mainsail w/cover, 3 headsails. Sleeps 5, head, ice box, alcohol stove, water pressure at galley sink. New in 2008: halyards, lifelines, AC system with GFI outlets, shore power cord, battery charger, LED cabin lights. Spent most of her life in fresh water. Selling for \$12,900. Contact Steve Olmsted/Gary Marden at breezbreaker@me.com or 781-828-4852 for info and pictures. 3/09.

“Second Wind” 1987 Cal-Pearson 33, 11.5 ft beam, 6'3" keel, 52.5" Mast, Yanmar Diesel 27.3 hp. Located at Norton's Marina. Contact George Ann Redden 401-747-9825 3/09.



The days are getting longer... You'll be here before you know it.



*Contact Alicia Eshleman to request
electronic delivery of the Blooper and
most other West Bay Yacht Club
correspondence. abeshleman@gmail.com
Electronic Blooper delivered 1-23-09*

PO Box 1604
East Greenwich, RI 02818
<http://www.westbayyc.org>

VERY important links to your Club website.
Need to get in touch with a Club Officer or
Committee Chair?

www.westbayyc.org/officers.htm

The latest Club Cruising, Racing and Social calendar is
always at your fingertips electronically:

www.westbayyc.org/calendar.htm