

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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Commodore's Message

Well, so far the end of February and early March has been quite the teaser for boating. Temperatures are in the mid 40's most days, and we had that wonderful weekend when it hit 60! I know I certainly got the itch for boating with daylight savings and this warmer weather.

Leaving work and having the sun still shining is a clear sign to me--boat prep season is here. I know I have a laundry list of work I need to get done now that the weather is warmer. The million dollar question is how will I get it all done before the boat is launched? My best advice is start early. I have missed many spring series due to getting a late jump on the spring boat prep season.

I must say I'm quite happy with the Board's Progress on our 2009 goals. Everyone is working very hard to make sure that we offer the best programs on the bay along with the most fun!!! I feel every month we make great strides as a board to become a finely tuned machine. I am amazed with what we have done in the first quarter of this



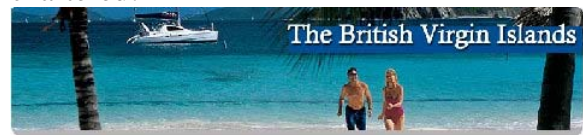
year. As with everything in life, it has not always been smooth sailing for the board, but I feel as a group we have been able to see the next wind shift and react quickly.

In closing please don't forget this is your club!!! The board is here to listen to you and have been appointed by you...for you.

Greg Fornal
Commodore

BVI Cruise Update

YES! You still have time to join the several members who are going on this amazing bare boat charter to the British Virgin Island, April 19th - May 2nd! You can either charter your own power or sailboat or jump aboard one of the boats that are already chartered!



Leann and I are chartering the Moorings Flag Ship, a 46' Catamaran along with along with Chris & Davina, Sue & Lou and Peirce. The good news for you is, at the moment, we have one queen size stateroom cabin available for both the first week (April 19th - April 25th or 26th) and the second week, April 26th - May 2nd. First to call, gets first choice!

American Airlines, as predicted, has both dropped fares significantly AND added flights. As of 2/25 round trip from either Bradley or Boston to Tortola, BVI were from \$485 to \$537 for either the first or second week! Check out flights at www.aa.com!

Don't miss this exceptional opportunity to enjoy 85 degree weather, swimming in warm waters on the pure white sand beaches and sailing on a million \$ Catamaran, or other boat of your liking!

Call Capt. Dave Pickering anytime at (401) 742-5039 to grab that cabin!

Activities Committee

The Annual St Patrick's Day Bash was held on 3/14/09. There was nearly an empty seat to be found! Paul and Cathy Finstein and their leprechauns again prepared an outstanding dinner. The prep work began the night before and continued throughout the day on Saturday. Periodically, they took a sneak peak at the "March Madness" basketball play-off games on TV. This was probably one of the few breaks they had all day!! We served well over 50 hungry patrons and even sent home a few people with "Doggie Boxes". The food and desserts were terrific and the conversation stimulating. We presented Fletch Haselton with a cake in recognition of his 85th Birthday, too. Many, many, thanks to Paul and Cathy, Jenny, Nathan and "YOU", THE MEMBERSHIP, who helped make this year's "St. Patrick's Day Party" another huge success.

LOOKING FORWARD--Hopefully, you've made a note to join us on Sunday, March

29th from 3-7pm for a leisurely afternoon at the third Annual Wine Tasting. Georgeann has been working very hard to make this event come together. Bring a bottle of your favorite wine and cheese to be included in the sampling. It's another great time to spend together.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18th - "THAT'S ITALIAN NIGHT"- Join us for dinner. Plans are well underway for what we hope will be another WBYC tradition. We're looking for volunteers to help with this one. Keep an eye out for more details.

See you there,
Jo-Ann (401-738-0272) Phyllis (401-219-1784) Michele (401-398-2621)

Want to reserve the clubhouse to host an event? Call a member of the Activities Committee to make your reservation.

Education Committee

As you read this, we will be approaching the end of our very successful Kids' Winter Program and preparing to issue beautiful Certificates of Completion to each child who participated. This is happening through the efforts of Carol Ann Getter who designed and printed these very attractive certificates.

The wonderful volunteer efforts of so many members to make the Kids' Winter Program a success requires acknowledgement. Starting with our stellar group of teachers: Maggie McGillivray, Dave Pickering, Jennifer

Brandon, Carol Ann Getter, Sandy Grima, Julie Caito and Joe Fortin. They were supported by Marcy Feldman, Stew Stewart, Tom Stocker, Nathan Shapiro, Will Richmond, Dave Pickering and Dean Travis doing chores from room set-up, student

Save the Date:
4/10 Poker Night
4/18 "That's Italian"
Night
4/24 Game Night

sign-in, nametags, publicity, photography and coaching. We could not have accomplished this without such great backing.

Neil Ross's talk about the history and trivia of Narragansett Bay was well received and had quite a good turnout of members.

Peirce Brawner
Education Chair

Race Committee

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



like to thank all the participants who took the time to attend the first racing meeting of the season (March 6th) and who freely shared their ideas and suggestions, throughout the evening, with the RC Chair. As the night progressed it became clear to all that an off-the-water advisory committee was needed to address the concerns which were raised during the course of the evening. I'm happy to report to the membership as an outcome of the March 6th meeting we established a Racing Advisory Committee and held our first three hour session on March 16th. The Racing Advisory Committee includes, but is not limited to, the following individuals: Dave McGhie (*Wahtawha*), Paul Derrig (*Parley*), Jack Durr (*Cricket*), Matt Aube (*Velocity*), Sandy Grima (*Alchemy*) and Tom Stocker (*mojo*). The following key resolutions were discussed and will be incorporated into the upcoming 2009 racing calendar:

1. Saturday races will start at 12 Noon vs 11AM.
2. Saturday races will rendezvous in the vicinity of C3 or R8 vs Baker's Creek (A Mark).

3. Many long distance courses will be modified to reflect distances of 8 to 12 miles.
4. The Rainone Solo / Twin will be moved to Saturday June 20th.
5. The Fantastic Plastic will be moved to Saturday August 22nd, will change to a "pursuit" racing format and will be highly promoted as an "open" bay event exempt of club membership. Awards will be given for boats in their respective classes under 20 years old and 20 years and older.
6. A new "perpetual" trophy will be established and called the Commodore's Cup. It is a racing series trophy comprised of the best scores achieved by a Top Gun "racer" in the Newport Storm, McKinley Cup, Frank H. Norton Memorial and the Pumpkin Patch races. Three out of four races required to qualify (details to follow).
7. NOR's to be associated with all weekend events.
8. Revised 2009 Race Entry and Release of Liability Form to be included in this edition of the Blooper and updated on the website.
9. Next meeting of the Racing Advisory Committee will be Monday night March 30th @ 7PM.

I'm confident the changes recommended for the upcoming season will enhance competition, expand the number of participating racers at each event, and provide a greater level of fun for all. Feel free to give a call or drop me a note should you have any questions or comments regarding any of these changes.

Regards,
Grant Brandon
Race Committee Chairman

Cruise Committee

The 2009 Cruising Calendar is nearly complete! A few destinations need to be finalized, but the dates are set and you can begin planning your summer calendar around your favorite WBYC cruises. Highlights are below; please see the club website for more information or call Carol Ann Getter.

Fair winds,
Carol Ann Getter
Cruising Chair

2009 Cruising Calendar

Dates	Cruise
Apr 19 - May 2	BVI Cruise
May 23 - May 25	Memorial Day Cruise
June 27 - June 28	Kids' Cruise
July 3 - July 5	July 4th Cruise
July 25 - July 31	First Half Summer Cruise
July 31 - Aug 3	Potter's Cove Ice Cream Social
Aug 8 - Aug 10	Victory Cruise
Sept 1 - Sept 8	Second Half of Summer Cruise
Sept 5 - Sept 7	Labor Day Cruise
Sept 26 - Sept 27	Conanicut Cruise
Oct 16th - Oct 12	Columbus Day Cruise

KEEP A SHARP LOOKOUT

Monday, March 30 Racing Planning Meeting
Thursday, April 2..... Board Meeting
Friday, April 10Poker Night
Saturday, April 18..... "That's Italian" Night
Sunday, April 19.....BVI Cruise Begins
Friday, April 24 Game Night

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

2009 Board of Governors

CommodoreGreg Fornal
Vice Commodore..... Tom Stocker
Rear Commodore..... Jay Eshleman
Past Commodore..... George Ann Redden

SecretaryPhyllis 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.

SAFETY/RECALL INFORMATION

The following information has been provided by Capt. Paul W. Shaw II – Accredited Marine Surveyor.

Please inspect your vessel or have an inspection conducted by a qualified marine technician if you feel the following information may affect you.

Mercury Marine (115 – 150 HP Outboards/Variety Years)

Problem: Insurance claims reveal these engines are prone to fire started by the voltage regulator. In some cases, sparks have burned through the engine cowling with damages to wiring harnesses, fuel lines/filters, and the potential for more severe fires.

Recommendations: Mercury does not currently have a recall in effect for this issue. Have engine inspected by a qualified marine technician and report any irregularities to a Mercury Marine representative.



*Contact Will Richmond to request electronic delivery of the Blooper and most other West Bay Yacht Club correspondence. willrichmond@gmail.com
Electronic Blooper delivered 3-27-09*

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