

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 spring is now in full swing and everyone is scrambling to get their boat ready for the water. I know my boat is about a month late going in, but hopefully your boat has already been splashed. This is the busiest time of year at the club. Please



don't be a stranger. The board and Committees have created one of the best calendars of events on the bay.

I must thank the Activities Committee and all involved with very successful May Breakfast. I had a great time and I hope you did too. The activities committee has many events planned for the coming boating season. Please review the calendar and make plans to attend some of our great events.

<http://www.westbayyc.org/pdf/2009-WBYC-Calendar.pdf>.

The Cruising season is well on its way with the first cruise planned for Memorial Day weekend. Please review our cruising calendar at

<http://www.westbayyc.org/pdf/2009-WBYC-Cruising-Calendar.pdf>. If your boat

is in the water and you don't have plans for the Memorial Day weekend please take a look at the cruise.

Racing has started on the East Greenwich Bay with AHYC Tuesday Night Spring race series. Many WBYC racers use this series as a tune up for WBYC Summer Series. A WBYC skipper meeting is planned for May 15, 2009 at the club. We have a lot of racing planned this year so please review the racing calendar and sign up <http://www.westbayyc.org/pdf/2009-Racing-Calendar.pdf>.

It has been a tough year with the recent economic downturn. The Finance committee and board have been working to ensure that the club is fiscally sound. Joann, Jay and Tom have done a great job with our new financial reporting and tracking of expenses. We also will be requiring each committee to submit a budget for approval at the Annual Meeting this year. This is a new idea, but I think it is an essential financial control needed for the club long term.

Don't forget this is your club. Get involved and make it so!!!

Greg Fornal
Commodore

Education Committee

VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS - June 20th and 27th – GET AN OFFICIAL SAFETY CHECK OF YOUR BOAT – FREE!

WBYC is arranging free Vessel Safety Checks soon after most of our boats are in the water. We plan to do this on the Saturdays of June 20th and 27th.

Vessel Safety Check (VSC) is a FREE courtesy examination of your boat to verify the presence and condition of Safety Equipment required by State and Federal regulations. The Vessel Examiner is a trained specialist and is a member of the US Power Squadrons or the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. S/he will also make recommendations and discuss certain safety issues that will make you a safer boater. A VSC is your best way of learning about problems that might put you in violation of state or federal laws or, worse, create danger for you or your passengers on the water. There should be no fear of failing. If there is an issue that needs attention, the examiner will explain that and will happily arrange a second inspection with you. You will both find this an enjoyable learning experience.

A VSC is not a boarding or a law enforcement issue. Citations cannot be given as a result of this visit. You will be given a copy of the evaluation so that you may follow the suggestions given. Vessels that pass will be given and are able to display a distinctive VSC decal. The decal does not exempt you from law enforcement boarding, but the VSC can make that boarding a positive encounter.

To plan for the number of inspectors required, we need an advance indication of members who want this service. If you wish



to participate, please call or e-mail me indicating your boat's location, the day you prefer (times will have to be flexible) and your e-mail and cell phone contact information.

Peirce Brawner
Education Chair

Cruising Committee

Ahoy! I hope you are all coming along well in your launching plans and will be able to join us for some, if not all, of our scheduled Cruising Events!

The Month of May kicks off our season with a cruise from WBYC to beautiful Ida Lewis in Newport for the weekend of May 23 - 25. Sharon and Jim Ward will be our Cruise Captains, on their s/v Spacecat. Dinner at historic Ida Lewis Yacht Club is also available for our land cruisers, for \$22.00/head, so even if you are not yet afloat, you don't need to miss the fun! (Cruise report follows –Ed.)



June will be a very busy month! We start our Moonlight Raft-ups at our favorite spot over at Goddard Park on Friday, June 5th. Folks generally start showing up at about 1830. Look for our cheery WBYC Burgee, and come along side within hailing distance; the VFH may be drowned out with music and laughter! Remember, for safety's sake, at least every fourth boat throws an anchor! Don't be shy if you've never rafted-up before, there will be lots of experienced mariners to help you out! We all had to experience our first attempt at rafting up, and have lived to tell the tale! You'll love it! It's so much fun hosting on your own vessel, visiting adjoining boats and sampling

'the specialty of the hull'; whether it is a power boat, sailing vessel, or inflatable, each features music, a beverage, a snack, sage advice, tales of adventure, or belly laughs! It has been a long winter. I expect this first Raft-up of the season to be legendary!

Next is the Quonset Air Show on Saturday, June 27th. The bay is generally very crowded and a chop develops; it can be a long day! At the end of the show, WBYC members are invited to cruise over to Potters Cove for a well-deserved rest from the sun and excitement of the Air Show, and to kick off "The Kids' Cruise". Chris and Davina, assisted by Dave Pickering, will be our Cruise Captains. This is scheduled to be an overnighter, with lots of activities planned for the WBYC Minnows and Scallywags! Okay, let's face it; the Grownups have a blast, too! Arrgh, Mateys...thar be tales of sunken treasure on that Island, ye know.... but don't expect to just sail up and claim the prize-there may be a blazing sea battle to be fought, and feats of daring, and fancy seamanship to be displayed! You'll just have to be there! Hint: bring all your water toys, and if you can at all, please bring a dinghy for easy bussing to the shore, and some fun racing games!

As always, I am available for consultation, suggestions and assistance in organizing cruise ideas- don't hesitate! Discussions on each event will be forthcoming on the message board. Come join us! Stay safe, and have fun!

Fair winds and gentle seas!

Carol Ann Getter, Cruising Chair
S/V Juggler

Memorial Day Cruise 2009

The dreary, drizzly weather of Saturday did not dampen the spirits of the crew members

of the 7 boats participating in the Memorial Day Cruise . The destination was Ida Lewis Yacht Club in Newport, and was hosted by Jim and Sharon Ward. Boats participating in the cruise were Alchemy, Cofresi's Child, Lazy Bones, Shanachie, Sevenoaks, SpaceCat and Spray. Saturday evening a mixed grill dinner was enjoyed by those who sailed down as well as several land cruisers who joined us for the meal.

Sunday morning was rainy as well. Everyone did their own thing to wait out the rain. Later in the day the sun did break out and almost everyone found their way into town to eat, shop, or sightsee. Later in the afternoon, there was a strawberry shortcake party aboard SpaceCat and we were able to visit with each other in a comfortable setting.

Monday morning the wind looked promising so we took off earlier than we planned. Once we were out into the bay the wind died down and we found ourselves using the "iron jenny" and charging the batteries much of the way to our home port. However the sun was shining and the wind did eventually come up giving us some opportunity for sailing. Hopefully those of you who stayed a little later enjoyed a pleasant sail to your home port and a successful kickoff to the boating season.

Jim & Sharon Ward "SpaceCat"

WBYC's Second Week in Paradise!

[Continued from the May Blooper] We ventured back to the Moorings Base on Saturday and said goodbye to some and hello to others as we began our second week! While our first week had navigated the islands closest to the main island of Tortola, we had not yet visited the "sunken land" of Anegada!

The island is called the sunken land as the highest point of this the second largest of the

BVI islands is only 28 feet. As we ventured from the protected waters of the Sir Frances Drake Channel into the open Atlantic, we were welcomed by 8' to 10' rolling swells and winds blowing about 20-25 knots! With the island being so low below the horizon it was invisible to us as we headed out to sea. The 46' Robertson Cain Catamaran we were sailing handled the swells, wind and waves amazingly well with us sailing on a very smooth single broad reach at a constant 8-9 knots! After a few hours of sailing she appeared and the single safe anchorage came into view.

I would encourage you to visit <http://www.b-v-i.com/Anegada/default.htm> for a peek at this magnificent and beautiful island... We enjoyed long walks on its miles and miles of pure white sand beaches, totally uninhabited and untouched by man. Rare is it to find a place in the world that is in the exact same natural state it has been for thousands of years. Cow Wreck Beach and Loblolly Bay are just two of the beautiful ocean reef lagoons where we spent all day swimming, snorkeling and meeting a few of the local residents whose small beach bar offered cool drinks and wonderful lunches....

We were so taken by this island we spent four days and three nights there, one evening enjoying a fantastic meal at the Pomato Point Restaurant. The lobsters on Anegada are among the largest and most delicious in the world!

We set sail from Anegada and headed to Virgin Gorda Sound, grabbing a mooring at the Bitter End Yacht Club, enjoying frozen cocktails and dinner at Saba Rock. The next day we ventured 23 miles, "wing on wing" for part of it, back to "Little" Jost Van Dyke and discovered the "Bubbly Pool"! Featured in photo journals and magazine articles around the World, the "Bubbly Pool" is still a somewhat closely guarded secret of Jost Van Dyke. Nature's Jacuzzi, this naturally

formed tidal pool is located behind jagged cliffs facing the open ocean coming from the North. When the North swell is up, this is absolutely a National Geographic experience as you wade in the pool and fearfully watch as the rolling sea comes at you with full force! Just at the last second as it looks as if the wave will go straight over you, the unique formation outside the pool prematurely breaks the wave and the resulting "bubbles" fill up the pool and give everyone the feeling of being inside a bubbly glass of champagne!

In the morning we set sail for our last night's stay and made the 20 mile sail to Peter Island, taking a slip at the Peter Island Resort! It is Leann's and my favorite place to spend our last day and night, enjoying the endless long white sandy beaches, clear turquoise water and the spectacular service of the Caribbean's only true 5 Star Resort. We took part in their Saturday Evening Gourmet Buffet, which offered the most amazing array of foods from around the world! THIS was without question, the most amazing buffet any of us had ever seen or enjoyed! The next morning had us sail back across the Sir Francis Drake Channel to the Moorings Base, where we had lunch and made way for our flights home.

It's clear that there is great interest in making this an annual WBYC adventure and we are already discussing the many new destinations we can consider for next year Cruise! You TOO can enjoy and join in on the fun so be on the lookout for a meeting to discuss WBYC's next sailing adventure to Paradise!

Captain Dave Pickering

Activities Committee

Believe it or not, summer is right around the corner! Hopefully everyone has had time to get their boat ready to go!!

The annual May Breakfast was held on May 3 and another great time was had by all. The kitchen crew was ready, willing and able to greet everyone with a cheery “Good Morning” and a hot cup of coffee. Stew was busy scrambling eggs while Phyllis was busy frying bacon!! Michelle “The Omelet Queen” and Nathan, the “Belgian Waffle King” were both busy behind the bar preparing and serving their specialties. Mary Menard was our “Official Greeter and Money Lady” this year. Jenny and George Ann helped with the all-important cleanup!! We served over 70 hungry guests this year. Not bad for something we just threw together (only kidding)! A lot of effort goes into this event and everyone that made it possible deserves a standing ovation.

LOOKING FORWARD – On June 13, join us in welcoming our new members that have joined the club over the past year at our New Member’s Social”. Everyone is invited.

See you at the club,

Jo-Ann, Phyllis and Michele

Welcome New Members!

We extend a warm welcome to CJ and Pat Adams of Cranston, RI.

Would You Like an Action Shot of Your Boat?

WBYC wants to showcase our members’ boats on our “Wall of Fame”. You may have already seen the samples we’ve already put on our wall. We will be setting up picture-taking sessions on the Bay. This is a great opportunity for you to get professional pictures taken of your boat at a very affordable price and display it in our Club for a membership year. If you have raced in a WBYC event within the last few years there is a good chance we already have a

picture. Call us if you are interested. We are taking orders now!

Our guidelines are simple:

- Pictures are to be “boats in action” (it is not about the crews).
- You are renting a spot on the “Wall of Fame” for a membership year.
- Club will print and frame all pictures.
- Price is \$25 (including our taking a picture of your boat).
- Free summer picture-taking sessions on Greenwich Bay will be scheduled.
- Proceeds to be used for House Capital Fund.

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 participants who attended the Skipper’s Meeting May 15th and for those not able to attend the following key information was presented:



A. Tune-up practice scheduled for Sunday May 31st from 12 Noon to 2PM.

B. Monday night racing begins June 1st ending August 24th (best 9 out of 12 races to qualify) Trophies to be awarded to all qualifiers regardless of the number of registered boats (NEW this year!).

C. All Saturday Long Distance Races to start at 12 Noon at or in the vicinity of C3.

D. EGYC Centennial Regatta (July 18th) to award participating WBYC racers Club trophies in addition to those earned in their respective Centennial Regatta Classes. To date the following 12 WBYC racers have signed up for the Centennial Regatta and they are looking for greater participation from the Racing Community to support the

event [classes include Spinnaker, Non-Spinnaker and Cruising Canvas (non-racers)]:

1. Thora - (Non Spin)
2. Stormin Norman - (Non-Spin)
3. Shanachie - (Spin)
4. Hermosa - (Spin)
5. Estesea - (Non-Spin)
6. Mojo - (Spin)
7. Havoc - (Spin)
8. Mighty Moose - (Non-Spin)
9. Parley - (Spin)
10. Velocity - (Spin)
11. Warlord - (Spin)
12. Spitfire - (Spin)

E. F3 Series reinstated to include the following dates: Fri. June 19th; Fri. July 17th & Fri., Aug 21st. It is both a standalone series and part of the Greenwich Bay Cup Series (NEW this year!).

F. The Greenwich Bay Cup Series represents best 5 out of 6 FINISHES in the following races or regattas: F3 Race #1, F3 Race #2, F3 Race #3, EGYC Centennial Regatta, WBYC Frank H. Norton Memorial Race and the AHYC Dickerson Race (NEW this year!).

G. The WBYC Commodore Cup Series represents best 3 out of 4 FINISHES in the following races: Newport Storm Race, Frank H. Norton Memorial Race, McKinley Cup Race and the Pumpkin Patch Race (NEW this year!).

H. All Saturday Long Distance Race Class FINISHERS will be awarded Daily Trophies.

I. Fantastic Plastic Pursuit Race scheduled for August 22nd (open classes, no membership requirement).

J. Fall Series will begin Monday, August 31st and conclude Wednesday September 30th.

Feel free to give a call or drop a note if you have any questions or comments regarding any of the above changes.

Sail Fast,
Grant Brandon
Race Committee Chairman

Membership Committee

Folks we are just about back in the swing of the boating season. Everyone is dusting off their foul weather gear, painting bottoms and itching to start racing. As annual as all these things are, don't forget about the annual New Member Open House on Saturday, June 13th 2-6pm at the club. This is our opportunity to welcome all our newer members as well as any prospective ones. Feel free to bring anyone who would be interested in our club and/or our activities. Mark your calendars to partake in an evening of fun and show all how fun our club events are. We'll be firing up the grill with burgers and dogs and a free raffle will be available for both prospective members and current members. We hope you all can make it.

Burgees have just come off the production line and are again available for sale.

Alicia Eshleman
Committee Chair

KEEP A SHARP LOOKOUT

- Monday, June 1 Summer Series Race #1
- Thursday, June 4..... Board Meeting
- Friday, June 5 Goddard Moonlight Raft-Up
- Friday, June 12 Poker Night
- Friday, June 12 F3 Race #1
- Saturday, June 13..... New Members' Social
- Friday, June 19 F³ Race #1 @ WBYC
- Saturday, June 20..... Rainone Solo/Twin Regatta
- Friday, June 26 Game Night
- Sat-Sun, June 27-28..... Kids' Cruise/Air Show

*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
 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 & Blooper..... Will Richmond

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.

8'-6" Baltik Inflatable Dinghy with plywood floor. Includes oars, air pump, patch kit, carrying duffel, and seat. Capacity 3 adults. Good condition. Includes 5hp Nissan 2-stroke outboard (outboard needs work) Selling for \$750. Contact Will Richmond at willrichmond@gmail.com for info or pictures. 7/09.



May Breakfast – Talented chefs, left; Happy beneficiaries, right



...it's wincraft... Learning to maintain winches at a recent seminar



Enjoying the Bubbly Pool on Jost Van Dyke, BVI; Taking a break for a group photo at Bitter End YC, BVI



The crew of the Memorial Day Cruise at Ida Lewis Yacht Club



Contact Will Richmond to request
electronic delivery of the Blooper and
most other West Bay Yacht Club
correspondence.
willrichmond@gmail.com
Electronic Blooper delivered 4-28-09

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