

# Blooper

**The Friendliest Little Yacht Club on the Bay!**

PO Box 1604, East Greenwich, RI 02818 401-885-4414 [www.westbayyc.org](http://www.westbayyc.org)

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July 2009

## **Commodore's Message**

Will the sun ever come out? June is almost over and temperatures have been in the 60's and rainy. I feel like I live in the Pacific Northwest and not New England. Hopefully the sun Gods will answer our prayers.



We have had lots of activity at the club this past month. We have really hit our peak season. The board and I have been working on setting up more structure and process within the club. This year each committee chair will have to submit a budget for 2010. At this year's annual meeting our membership will vote to approve or reject the proposed budget for 2010. We have also been working better tracking of our expenses and which committee incurred them.

Vice Commodore Tom Stocker initiated a strategic plan process at last month's board meeting. . The board will be creating a strategic plan for the club and will present this plan to the membership during the annual meeting. The strategic plan will include the long term goals for the club in a

3-5 year horizon and also the tactical goals for the next 1-2 years. Tom thanks for all your help with this!

Even though the weather has been depressing please come down to the club and socialize. We would like to see you. Don't forget this is your club, get involved and make it yours!!

Greg Fornal  
Commodore

## ***Education Committee***

As you read this, about fifteen of our boats will have completed the annual Vessel Safety Check and received the sticker attesting to their compliance with the various State and Federal Safety Laws.

Many have expressed an interest in a man (crew) overboard (MOB/COB) demonstration/drill. We have two boats volunteered for this, one a power boat and one a sailboat. Needed is a smaller sailboat (25' range) to complete the lineup. In addition, some volunteers (maybe with wet suits) are needed to act as the rescuee.

Our approach will be in two parts. First will be the demonstration of a way (ways) to return to the MOB/COB and get him/her attached to the boat. Second, and often the

most difficult, will be a demonstration of the recovery of the COB.

This is something of an involved undertaking and will require one or more practice sessions by the skippers, crews and swimmers involved.

Stay tuned and if you have suggestions for this “work in progress” please make them.

Peirce Brawner  
Education Chair

## *Activities Committee*

Despite the clouds and drizzle, summer is officially here! Are you ready to participate in the many cruises and/or races that have been planned over the summer? Be sure to keep an eye on the cruising calendar and join in on one or two.

The racing calendar is jam-packed with several weekend regattas as well as the usual Monday night series. The kitchen is again serving dinner on Monday nights. All are welcome!! Dean Travis has joined the crew and his help is definitely appreciated. Thanks also to Jeanne Radcliff (Bob LaForge’s better half) and Deb Arey who pitched in to help, as well.

The New Member’s Social was held on Saturday, June 13th. From all reports, 50-60 people came by to say “Hi” and check out the club. Thanks to Alicia and her committee, this event was a great success.

We’re looking for new ideas for social events this summer. If you have any or would like to host one, don’t be shy, give us a call.

Be sure to mark your calendar for: the “Friday Night Raft Up on (7/10), the Newport Storm Regatta, (7/11), the F3 Race, #2 on (7/17), and the Ladies Skippers Race on 7/25.

A special note of condolence is extended to our pal, Michele, on the recent passing of your sister, Suzanne. We love ya!

See you at the Club,

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.*

## *Cruise Committee*

Woo, Hoo! This is it! The season is underway! As Cruise Chair, I’d like to encourage every member to sign up for the Vessel Safety Check being coordinated by WBYC’s own Peirce Brawner- it will be nice to know we have all done our best to be in good shape while cruising around the bay.

Now, if only we could do something about the weather! Our first Goddard Park Raft-up was moved to the Club House due to inclement weather, but the rain did nothing to dampen our spirits! Thank you Dave Pickering, for setting the club up for that impromptu event!

Congratulations and thanks to Jim and Sharon Ward for hosting the Memorial Day Cruise to Ida Lewis! By all accounts, it was a very good time, and the weather held reasonably enough! Nice report, too!

A word of warning to our cruisers... it has come to my attention that the Harbor Master has issued citations for unauthorized use of private moorings in Potters Cove. The cost of the ‘ticket’ is almost the cost of a deck-wash system for your anchor gear. Then of course, there’s the embarrassment, and hassle of having to appear in court, which can really cut into your busy schedule! Please correct me if I’m wrong, but I haven’t seen public moorings there in two or three years now. There is a waiting list for the private moorings, and they don’t come

cheap; I'm sure you can appreciate the owners' position.

It would be nice to have a WBYC mooring at Potters Cove, but we need to increase our membership to accommodate the proposal. Please consider encouraging your friends and folks at your marina to join our club? Moorings at both ends of the bay would then be conveniently accessible to us and enhance your dues dollars!

Stayed tuned to the message board for information regarding the cruising events, and feel free to post any comments or concerns regarding an event. As always, I welcome contacting me personally. Don't forget - Fly those WBYC Burgees proudly, and remember, you can't share the experience with us if you don't join us!

Fair winds,  
Carol Ann Getter  
Cruising Chair

### **Cruising Updates**

Carol Ann Getter did a magnificent job in planning for this year's Kids Cruise! Even though the weather was threatening (surprising huh?), we had several boats weigh anchor in Potter's Cove on Prudence Island on Saturday afternoon. The sun actually came out and it got hot! Joe McNally and two kids from his boat jumped in their dinghy and started the afternoons naval water engagement with large water cannons ablaze and water balloons filling the air! Laurie and Kevin Lockwood in their dinghy joined in the battle along with Dave Pickering in his dinghy. No boat in Potter's Cove was safe for about two hours! New members Tim and Heather Tibbitts and their two sons, Michael and Matthew took charge in the bow of Kevin and Laurie Lockwood's dinghy and proceeded to take command of the sea battle and were eventually officially declared the winners! With Kevin on the outboard and Laurie with her water cannon

accompanied by two pirates and their cannons, they were no match for anyone!

Meanwhile, Karen McNally and her team snuck ashore and successfully buried the treasure chest filled with toys and gold doubloons, to which a path was cleverly marked by small secret flags with skulls and crossbones! As the kids came ashore, they were issued eye patches and golden whistles as they made way to discover the buried treasure! The chest was found, pried open and everyone shared in the booty of amazing toys and gold!

Just as the treasure was all accounted for, we were amazed when Jimmy Buffet showed up, as he had a concert planned in Massachusetts that evening, but said he would prefer our company and candidly he needed a break from all those Parrot Heads! That guy can still belt out the tunes! The grills made it ashore and were fired up for all to use. Several very delicious items were all cooked together giving off a cooking aroma that made those on their boats wishing they were ashore with us! For dessert Carol Ann had remembered an old saying "Let them eat cakes!" and therefore had prepared delicious cakes for all! As the sun set, we built a large fire on the beach and commenced to toasting marshmallows and making s'mores!

As darkness fell upon us, the weather went back to normal, threatening to be more like monsoon season with clouds that looked like tornadoes might be imminent. We retreated to our boats for a nice long, long sleep! But fear not! If you missed this cruise, there are many more this season! Take a look at the calendar and make sure you take advantage of all the hard work and planning that goes into these things, besides, they are great fun!

### **Summer Vacation for \$25 A Day?**

YES! - on WBYC's Two Weeks of Cruising! With moorings costing about \$25

a night, cruising on one or both of WBYC's Two Weeks of Summer Cruising might be the best summer vacation bargain of the century!

The annual Two Weeks of Cruising is on track to be the BEST ever! Grant and Jennifer Brandon are your Cruise Captains for the First Week departing on Saturday, July 25th with stops at Point Judith, Stonington, CT, Westerly Yacht Club and returning to Block Island on Saturday, August 1st!

For the Second Week's Cruise Capt. Dave and Leann Pickering are your Cruise Captains heading to Block Island on Saturday, August 1st, meeting up with the end of First Week Cruising Group! Second Week Cruise departs Block Island heading onto Cuttyhunk, Nantucket, Hadley Harbor - Elizabeth Islands, Cuttyhunk and then onto Borden Light Marina, Fall River, joining up with the Victory Cruise on Saturday, August 8th, 9th and 10th!

You can join one, both or any part of any of these exceptional cruises! What a magnificent way to spend a week or more summer vacationing, on your own boat, sailing with friends, anchoring in some of the most beautiful harbors in the world! Contact Grant Brandon at (401) 536-6583 or grant\_brandon@yahoo.com for information on the First Week and Capt. Dave Pickering (401) 742-5039 or ifcndpickering@aol.com for information on the Second Week Cruise. Be SURE to sign up on the Cruising Sheets located inside the club! Make this summer one to remember and GO THIS YEAR!

## *Membership Committee*

West Bay enjoyed another great New Member Open House on Saturday, June 13th with plenty of burgers and dogs. We had quite a few current members in attendance and many prospective members

come through looking to learn about our racing and cruising programs. We had many raffle prizes awarded to both current and prospective members alike including a Twilight cruise aboard "Spray".

Congratulations to the winners of our Associate Membership Raffle, John & Anna Cardona.

I want to thank the membership committee for their hard work and dedication leading up to this event. Special thanks to Grant and Nathan for being our BBQ chefs and the Activities committee for making sure we had all the basics.

## *Race Committee*

The racing season is well underway and that means that the Race Committee is as busy as ever. With a full calendar of events and all the coordination that goes with it, we're giving Grant a break from writing Blooper articles. When you see Grant, be sure to express your appreciation for his tireless efforts in leading such a wonderful and successful race program.

Of note are the successful completion of several weeks of the Summer Race Series with healthy participation. Also, the Rainone Solo/Twin Long Distance Race was held on June 20; winners from their respective divisions are *Morsmordre* in the Solo Class, *Thunder* in Twin Class A, and *Thora* in Twin Class B. Congratulations to all who participated!

A final note is that the makeup date for the first week of the F3 race series has been established as Friday, July 10. Mark your calendars.

## **KEEP A SHARP LOOKOUT**

Friday-Sunday, July 3-5 .....Independence Day Cruise  
Monday, July 6 .....Summer Race Series #6

Thursday, July 9 ..... Board Meeting  
 Friday, July 10 ..... Goddard Moonlight Raft-up  
 Friday, July 10 ..... F3 Race #1 (make up date)  
 Saturday, July 11 ..... Newport Storm Regatta  
 Friday, July 17 ..... Friday F3 Race #2 @AHYC  
 Saturday, July 18 ..... EGYC Centennial Regatta  
 Friday, July 24 ..... Poker Night  
 Saturday, July 25 ..... Lady Skippers' Regatta  
 Saturday, July 25 ..... Summer Cruise Starts (First week)

*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  
 Blooper ..... TBD  
 Racing ..... Grant Brandon  
 Website..... Peter Lussier

## FOR SALE

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

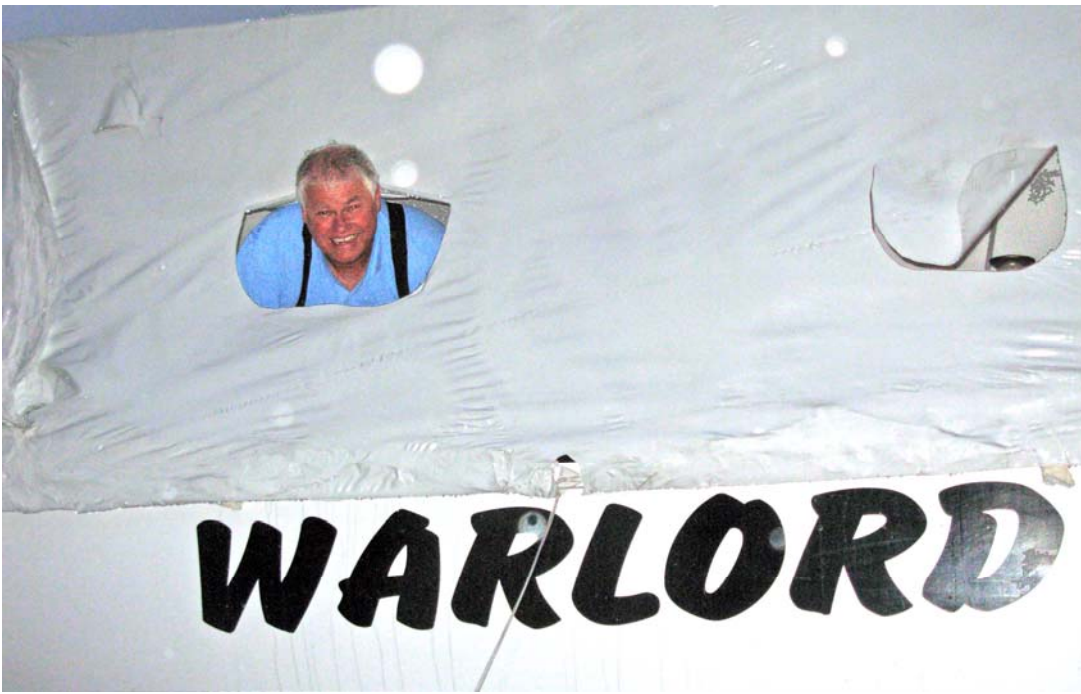


The crew of *Mighty Moose* enjoys the Blue Angels at the RI Air Show



Recent WBYC Racing Action





Vince stuck his head out and didn't see his shadow – that means six more weeks of rain



*Contact Will Richmond to request electronic delivery of the Blooper and most other West Bay Yacht Club correspondence. [willrichmond@gmail.com](mailto:willrichmond@gmail.com) Electronic Blooper delivered 6-30-09*

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](http://www.westbayyc.org/officers.htm)

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

[www.westbayyc.org/calendar.htm](http://www.westbayyc.org/calendar.htm)