

Blooper

The Friendliest Little Yacht Club on the Bay!

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

Volume 35 Issue 2

March 2010

Commodore's Message

Spring is only two weeks away, spring training has begun, the Olympics are now over and we have been spared much of the carnage the winter storms have brought to neighboring states all around us.

The 2010 boating season is upon us. It is hard to believe but several of our members' boats will begin launching within the next few weeks. Aside from those few hardy souls, by the end of March, many more boat covers will be removed and boatyards all around us will really begin to show signs of life.

In the meantime, your Club's social and education programs have remained in full swing. The Superbowl party was very well attended by many new members as well as old, and the O'Finstains will be hosting our St. Patrick's social on March 13. I hope to see many McMore of you attend as well as the O'Regulars.

Keep in mind our Club is open every Friday night. Come on down for nine ball, fozzball, cards and stories. Bring some friends.

Peirce Brawner and his Education Committee's program have had a full

schedule throughout January and February and promise a fantastic program in March and April. Each of the three educational sessions held during the last two weeks of February drew 20+ members and guests and each has been a home run. I didn't think Pearce and his team could put together a better program than last year, but clearly, I was wrong. There is something for everyone here. See his report for the upcoming schedule of classes.

Grant and his Racing Committee have been meeting regularly and continue to build a program that will be better than ever. Alicia and her Membership Committee are busy collecting this year's renewals and new members continue to join.

Our Cruising Committee is planning the annual "Cruise Pot-luck and Planning Social" on March 20th. This is always a well-attended event and the true kickoff to our 2010 boating season. Our summer cruise as well as all our weekend cruises, raftups and other summer social events will be put on the calendar (see the Cruise Report elsewhere in this Blooper for details). So make sure you put this event in your calendar. Cruiser or not, this is a fun event. Don't miss it.

I can say we have started our year on a very active note. More members than ever are participating (a very good sign) and each of our committees have more members than



last year. The results speak for themselves. Chairs do not have to do all the work themselves, programs are more than just one person's ideas and as a result, more of you are participating on committees and attending our events.

What is better than that?

See you at the club!

Tom Stocker
Commodore

Activities Committee

We are now more than half way through winter despite what "Phil the Groundhog" had to say. We are all looking forward to spring and warmer weather.

A great time was had by all at the annual Superbowl Party on February 5th. Over 30 people attended and enjoyed the game, the food and the conversations. "Thanks!" to Dave P. for securing a new sound system. Dave, you're the best!

Hopefully you have made note of the very special social activities coming up:

SATURDAY, MARCH 13TH - Be sure to join the O'Finstains and their band of leprechauns for the annual **ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER**. Cocktail hour starts at 6 pm, with Dinner at 7 pm. Feel free to bring an appetizer, dessert or Irish Soda Bread to share. The cost for dinner is \$ 8 per person. **INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!! IT WILL SURELY BE ANOTHER GREAT TIME AT WBYC!!**

SUNDAY, MARCH 28th -join us for a leisurely afternoon (3 – 5 pm) enjoying music, food and friends at the **WINE TASTING PARTY**. This will be our 4th year! Bring your favorite wine and complimenting cheese while sampling the

many other varieties that will be there as well. Feel free to bring a guest.

Hope to see you there!

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

-If you would like to help with an event, or if you have something to post in Good and Welfare, give us a call.

Education Committee

Our winter program is off to a rousing start. The Race Management Seminar, arranged by Grant Brandon and his Race Committee was a huge success and very instructive to all those who attended.

Following that was a most interesting discussion about how to care for and clean your canvass properly for extended life. Added was an education on the different materials available for cushions, side curtains, covers, flexible windows etc with advice about which materials performed best in which service. Some have decided to renew their canvas.

By the time you read this we will have had a lively discussion on Salvage vs. Tow, an informative Saturday seminar on Marine Electrical Systems and an interesting Weather seminar. Hope you had a chance to enjoy all of them.

Peirce Brawner
Education Chair

Please Note- Important date change: The Great Hurricane presentation and pot luck dinner has been rescheduled to April 10th @ 6:30. Update your calendars. You don't want to miss it!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Weather Seminar

T.J. Del Santo - Wed. Mar 10th

Diesel Engine Maintenance

Sat. Mar 27th

The Great Hurricane of 1938

Dave Pickering – Sat. April 10th***

Racing to Bermuda – April TBD

Maggie McGillivray & Jennifer Brandon

Annual Vessel Safety Checks – June

Peirce Brawner
Education Chair

***Please note: the date has been changed for this event.

Rear Commodore's Note



Iceboating – Fun and Educational!

A few weekends ago I visited my parents who are lucky enough to live on one of the Finger Lakes in upstate New York. To the Seneca Indians native to this part of the world, “Canandaigua” means “the chosen spot”. This is a beautiful part of the world, though it can get a bit cold in winter. My sanity could be questioned for making a

midwinter visit, but my travels were amply rewarded, not just by mom’s cooking, but because I was able to get out on a big frozen patch of Canandaigua Lake with my father, a few friends, and a few iceboats. Imagine being 14 years old again, you’re given the keys to a sports car, and you have access to a 2 mile-square empty parking lot. That is the best way to describe my day of iceboating!

I was told the one rule of iceboating: never let go of the boat, especially if you’re not in the boat. It will sail far from you, faster than you could ever run. With that basic instruction, I was given a gentle push and I was on my own. The wind was blowing about 15 knots that day and soon I was going downwind nearly matching the wind speed. As I turned up a bit, the idea of apparent wind took on a whole new meaning to me. With no hull drag, the interaction of boat speed and true wind becomes frighteningly obvious. Turning the boat to a beam reach, I estimate I reached 35-40 knots. What was really interesting was the effect of the apparent wind – I was moving fast enough that I was sailing close-hauled on a beam reach. Pointing the boat even higher reinforced this little vector physics laboratory I was now living in. Sailing to windward you quickly lose hull speed and thus lose the additive effect of true wind and boat speed. I immediately decided I would spend the rest of the morning beam reaching back and forth across the lake!

If you ever get the opportunity to try iceboating, do so without hesitation! I suspect you’ll think about sail trim a little differently and you might even find yourself looking forward to winter!

Will Richmond
Rear Commodore

Membership Committee

Membership would like to extend a heartfelt "welcome" to Edward and Carolyn Cure and their son Timothy. Also, a big "welcome back" to William and Gail Morris, we're glad you've returned to WBYC.

In regard to the tiered memberships we offer, the insert was inadvertently left out of our renewal mailing. Below is a listing of the benefits offered at each level. You may upgrade your membership at any time by sending in a check for the difference.

West Bay Yacht Club 2010 Membership Options:

Individual/Family Membership- \$95.00
(still a great value) Benefits for this level will remain the same as they were for 2009

Captain's Club Membership- \$145.00
(you can upgrade at any time) Club Key (one time) New Burgee Each Year One Function Certificate for two adults each year 2- Captain's Club License Plate Frames

Admiral's Club Membership- \$195.00
· Club Key (one-time) Admiral's Club Burgee (with Admiral 's star on Burgee)
 Boat Picture displayed on "Wall of Fame "
· 2 Function Certificates valid for two for May Breakfast & St. Patrick's Dinner One Free Rental of the Club 2 Admiral's Club License Plate Frames

**Reminder: Dues were due on March 1st. Avoid late charges by sending in your renewal today!

Cruising Committee

Well, Spring won't be far now so we should be planning our cruises. I have set the dates and general cruises for this year and now we need members to pick some events and be cruise captains. I would be most happy to give any guidance or ideas for cruises if help is needed. Each cruise captain is free to be creative with cruise types and destinations including dreaming up fun activities while on their cruise.

We will have a pot luck cruise night on March 20th at 6:30 pm. More info to follow.

Mark Der Mugrditchian

WBYC CRUISING CALENDAR 2010:

- 1) **Tropical Isle Cruise - Belize**
May 1-8 Dave & Leann Pickering
- 2) **Memorial Day Cruise**
May 28-May 31
- 3) **Kid's Cruise**
June 25-27
- 4) **July 4th Cruise**
July 2-5
- 5) **First Week Summer Cruise**
July 25-31
- 6) **Second Week Summer Cruise**
Aug 1- 7
- 7) **Victory Day Cruise**
August 8-9
- 8) **Conanicut Island Cruise**
Aug 20-23
- 9) **Labor Day Cruise**
Sept 3-6

10) Columbus Day Cruise

Oct 8-11

Raft Ups-

Friday Nights at Goddard Park:

- 1) April 30th ? 5) August 27th
- 2) May 28th 6) September 24th
- 3) June 25th 7) October 22 ?
- 4) July 23rd

Race Committee



As discussed in last month's article several changes have been instituted into the racing program for the 2010 season. For starters we have updated the racing handbook to reflect a more current format and added content to

the existing NOR [Notice of Race] and SI's [Sailing Instructions] for the Summer and Fall Series. Additionally course selections and general format of the courses have been fine tuned to provide each Race Committee [Inner & Outer] with greater flexibility in setting up "square" starting lines. All of these changes will be discussed in detail at the first Skipper's meeting on Wednesday March 3th at 7PM. For those unable to attend this first meeting additional meetings will be scheduled in April & May ... stay tuned for upcoming announcements.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all the members of the steering committee who invested a significant amount of time and effort in drafting and updating all of our racing

documents to insure we were compliant with the current Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009 - 2012. Three *Huzzahs* go out to Nathan Titcomb, George Cochran, Matt Aubee, Dean Travis, Raleigh Jenkins, John Budzinski, Peirce Brawner, Jake Portnoy, Fred Kerzner and Ken Thorsen whose insight, clarity and forethought made for many lively discussions yielding significant improvements to our overall racing program.

I'm looking forward to sharing all of this information with each and every one of you over the next few months. And in case you haven't noticed the sun is higher in the sky, the days are getting longer, and soon the wind will begin to beckon to those who seek it...

There is less than thirteen weeks before our first scheduled race on June 7th. Will you be ready and on the starting line for our first race? Don't procrastinate... make it happen!!!

Grant

Keep a Sharp Lookout

Wednesday, March 3RC Meeting (7:00PM)
 Thursday, March 4..... Board Meeting (7:00PM)
 Wednesday, March 10.....Weather Seminar (7 to9)
 Saturday, March 13. St.Patty's Day Dinner (6:00PM)
 Saturday, March 27 Diesel Engine Maint.(7 to 9PM)
 Sunday, March 28 ... Wine Tasting Party (3 to 5PM)

2010 Board of Governors

Commodore..... Tom Stocker
Vice CommodoreJay Eshleman
Rear Commodore Will Richmond
Past Commodore..... Greg Fornal
Secretary.....Phyllis Geisser
Treasurer.....Jo-Ann Grima
Parliamentarian..... Marcie Feldmann
Members at Large Bill Lilly
 Matthew Aubee
Nathan Shapiro

2010 Committee Chairs

Activities Phyllis Geisser, Jo-Ann Grima,
 Michele Lilly
Cruising..... Mark DerMugrditchian
Education..... H. Peirce Brawner
House..... Stew Stewart
Membership..... Alicia Eshleman
Publicity & Blooper Jennifer Brandon
Racing Grant Brandon
Website..... Peter Lussier

FOR SALE

*Note: Submit new and renewal ads to
 j-branodn@cox.net. Ads will run for three
 months. (Expiration date on end of each ad).
 Please limit ad to 75 words or less.*



The GREAT Hurricane of 1938! –Now rescheduled for April 10th

Yes, it was only 72 years ago, the great hurricane of 1938 rushed up the coast, over Block Island and right up the Providence River and into New England! A gale unlike any in the history of the state, with an enormous tide and tidal wave, slammed into our shores. This most interesting, tragic and fascinating hurricane dramatically changed the face of Rhode Island and how seriously a science weather forecasting became!

On Saturday, April 10th you will have the rare opportunity to venture back and revisit this historical event as we will view actual video footage shot during and after the devastation of the Great Hurricane of 1938. We will begin the evening with one of our famous Pot Luck Dinners at 6:30 with the Presentation at 7:30!



Our Education series continued with Electrical Systems, and Canvas Care. Both were very interesting & well presented.

Everyone had a fun filled evening on Super Bowl Sunday. It was an exciting game,



-And there was even time after the game to celebrate a couple of birthdays!



Reminder: Don't forget to come to the WEATHER SEMINAR

Wednesday, March 10, at the club at 7:00 PM we will enjoy the company and weather wisdom of T.J. Del Santo of WPRI-TV, Channel 12.

He will discuss the weather as we experience it here in Puget Sound and in the adjacent ocean waters. Bring your questions and beverage of choice.



Contact Jennifer Brandon to request electronic delivery of the Blooper and most other West Bay Yacht Club correspondence. j-brandon@cox.net Electronic Blooper delivered 3/3/2010

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<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