

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

Happy New Year to all! I trust that your holidays were pleasant and gave you a chance to relax, spend time with family and friends, and reflect on 2010. As we



begin 2011, I first want to thank all of our members for making 2010 a wonderful year for West Bay Yacht Club. Our events were well attended, our volunteer spirit was evident and

we continue to enjoy a solid financial foundation. I am confident 2011 will be a great success as well. Your Board of Governors and Committee Chairs have been hard at work planning a robust calendar for the year which will see many popular events happen again and introduce some new events which promise to be great fun.

We have a number of new members of the Board and new Committee Chairs whose ideas and energy will drive our success this year. Stew Stewart has agreed to make an encore appearance as Vice Commodore and Dean Travis has joined the Board as Rear

Commodore. Jim Palumbo has joined the Board as a Member at Large. New Committee Chairs are: Raleigh Jenkins, Education; Andrew Brousell, Membership; Ed Cure, Publicity; Dawn Tramontano, Cruising; and Matt Aube, House. Matt will also continue his responsibilities as a Member at Large. Tom Stocker has agreed to stay active in a Finance capacity in addition to his responsibilities as Past Commodore. I extend a very special thanks and recognition to all new and continuing members of the Club's leadership team.

Although it's hard to believe sometimes, the days are getting longer, which means we'll be on the water before we know it! To help pass that time quickly, make sure you check out the calendar on the Club's website (and check back frequently as updates will be made) for a great variety of social and educational events throughout the winter. I hope to see you at many of these!

Respectfully Submitted,

Will Richmond

Commodore

Past Commodore's Message

Thank you. I had a blast this past year as your Commodore and very much look forward to supporting our 2011 Board. In my mind, this past year went by way too fast. (When will spring arrive)?



In all seriousness, I think my high point for this year was picking our award winners. Throughout the process I not only learned more about the ultimate winners, but also about many of our members who have been instrumental in moving our Club forward...mostly behind the scenes. I tried hard to pick winners who are not on our Board or committee chairs, as it is part of our duty in these roles to take the lead in making our programs happen.

Having said that, I did ultimately chose one committee chair for our most prestigious award, the Frank H. Norton award. Grant Brandon made the choice way too easy. I have talked about our racing program throughout the year in many of my Blooper articles and many of you have enjoyed the fruits of Grant's leadership.

I also had the privilege of recognized Liz Richmond for the Corinthian Spirit award and Dave Pickering for the Meredith A. Scott award. Both worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make our year so successful and it was a privilege to be able to recognize them for their efforts.

I have been waiting for three years to be able to recognize this year's recipients for our Club's Lifetime Achievement awards. All four have worked years for our club in various capacities and epitomize what our club is all about. There are several others who also deserve this honor, but I recognized Will will need to be able to choose a few next year. Therefore, I limited this year's recognition to Jo-Ann Grima,

Phyllis Geisser, Ken Thorson and Stew Stewart.

I would also like to congratulate Steve Kapitany as our Cruising award recipient and for Bob Laforge as our Most Improved Sailor award. You can read about each and every one of these deserving members in our yearbook.

As I look toward spring, I am looking forward to our Cruise Planning Social to be held on January 15. This is always a great way to start planning for next summer. There is a rumor afoot that a long dormant club cruising race to Block Island may be resurrected. So whether you are a cruiser or racer, come to the club for this event. You won't be disappointed.

To close my final Blooper as (Past) Commodore, I would once again like to thank my entire Board for such a tremendous job this past year. Your efforts and enthusiasm all contributed to making such a successful and rich program for our entire membership and my job extremely easy.

I wish each one of you a very happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Tom Stocker
Past Commodore

Rear Commodore's Message



Fellow members,
Let me be the first to offer my thanks for allowing me to serve as your Rear

Commodore for 2011. As some of you may already know, I am an avid boater and have spent the last roughly 40 years cruising, fishing and sailing the local waters around

Greenwich Bay, Narragansett Bay and Block Island Sound. My interest began many years ago with my father, a Boston Whaler and Norton's Marina. Well, my father is 80 and still owns that whaler, and here I am back at my original starting place: Norton's Marina. Some things have changed, others have stayed the same. I see Pat Norton working away in the office as I walk into the marina store. Pat, a woman who offered this kid a few breaks along the way, made a mark on my life that has made a hobby of boating into a life long obsession. For that, I will always be grateful. Thank you, Pat! This is also the place that West Bay Yacht Club calls home. A starting place, a place to come back to, a place where memories are made. Take the time to get acquainted with those around you. You might just make that impression that lasts a life time - it happened to me.

Dean Travis
Rear Commodore 2011

Activities Committee

Welcome to 2011!! We trust everyone survived the holiday season in good form!

Looking back—The Holiday Party/Yankee Swap was a wonderful family event held on December 4, 2010. We had nearly 50 adults and children enjoying good food, good conversation and each other's company. As always, the Yankee Swap was great fun! The collection of gifts was quite unusual this year ranging from tools to spirits and everything in between. Oh, yes – “the knife” showed up again, but with a bonus: a can of Spam this time. Thanks, Harry Hanukkah (aka Paul Finstein) for keeping us all in line and well entertained. A sincere thank you to all the elves who cleaned, set up and decorated the club during the week. We couldn't have done it without you!

Looking ahead—The 2011 calendar is shaping up nicely.

The “Superbowl Party” is Sunday, 2/6/11. Please bring your favorite Football Potluck Fare (appetizer, entrée, or dessert (or whatever makes you happy). The doors open around 4:30 pm. So plan to spend a fun-fill afternoon of raffles, games, and who knows what else at WBYC.

Dig out those shorts and tees and join us on Saturday, February 26 for the best BEACH PARTY in town, (or maybe the only beach party in town)!! More details to follow

ON THE SMILE LINE – Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Tom Stocker and his family on the recent loss of his Mom. We're thinking of you.

We're always looking for new ideas for different activities. If anyone has a new social activity they'd like to host, please don't be shy. Give us call!

Activities Committee

Jo-Ann (738-0202) Phyllis (219-1794)
Michele (398-2621)



Annual Super Bowl Party - Pot Luck Dinner!

Mark your calendar for Sunday February 6th for this year's fabulously fun Super Bowl Party Extravaganza! Enjoy a Pot Luck Dinner with appetizers, beginning at 4:30 and continuing on 'til the end of the game.

There will be all the usual games and activities that we always love to participate in like Secret Squares, Raffles and many

other games and prizes! The game will be projected onto our GIANT 110" Screen, with live surround sound, and is always a lot of fun shared with your fellow boating buddies! So, come on down with your favorite super bowl beverage, and bring or buy a dish to share!

Membership Committee

Happy holidays to you and your "crew" (family). Please offer a hearty welcome to our newest members, Brendan and Edith McCarthy. I have yet to meet Edith, although I am looking forward to it, but Brendan is quite an interesting guy and a jack of lots of trades. Ask him and you'll see what I mean.

Although this will be my final blooper writing as the Membership Chairperson, I will remain a part of the committee. As such, I encourage you all to bring any ideas, concerns or suggestions to me to "bubble up" to our new Membership Chair, Andrew Broussel. Please offer him congratulations for taking on this very important club task, and best wishes for the 2011 Membership year. It is always great to get fresh blood into the membership committee to liven things up and make changes that benefit our members.

I appreciate the opportunity to have served as Membership Chair for the last few years and look forward to assisting Andrew and team in making the club that much more enjoyable for our members.

Have a safe, happy and healthy New Year.

Alicia Eshleman
Former Membership Chairperson

Education Committee



Ahoy old salts and newbies! The Education Committee is finishing up a schedule of workshops and

educational events for this year. Our goal is to enhance our club's value to new and older members alike by providing opportunities for sharing experiences and expertise to improve everyone's seamanship.

"Old Salts": Are you considered really good at anchoring or docking? Are you the best "snacktician" among the cruisers or racers? Do you know your rigging? Can you tell me where to go, or where NOT to go in our bay, depending on the size and type of boat I have? If I'm thinking about buying my first boat, could you explain my options? What if I'd like to buy a boat, but I've never captained one before? Could you share your experiences, one-on-one, or in a group presentation? Would you consider being a tutor to a new member? These are some of the things the Education Committee is looking to coordinate and support as we continue to work on strengthening our claim to be the "friendliest" yacht club on the bay.

"Newbies": Are you new to boating and uncomfortable with some of the terms? Are you hesitant to ask questions in front of more experienced club members? Are you thinking about buying a boat, but are unsure what type or size to start with? Are you new to Greenwich Bay and/or Narragansett Bay? Are you interested in Racing or Cruising, but don't feel you know enough? Do you wish you could find a tutor for some aspect of seamanship?

Become involved in our Education planning. Think how you can share your love of seamanship with other club members. Your expertise might not have to be gained on the water: one goal of the Education Committee for this year is to "Enliven our Library". Do you have a "hidden librarian" inside you? Do you love books? Are you organized? A goal of the Education Committee is to catalogue all of the books we have at the yacht club, and to organize them and make them more readily available for members to improve their knowledge and enhance their

experience. We need volunteers to help sort, categorize and display the books we already have on site. We are also looking for additional books, tapes and CDs on all aspects of seamanship. Perhaps you could volunteer to be the club's Education Librarian(s). We are open to your suggestions, and welcome your support. This is your club. Come share and learn!

Raleigh Jenkins
Education Committee Chair
Raleigh52@verizon.net
401.374.7017

Cruising Committee



Ahoy, Members!
I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce your new Cruise Chairperson: Dawn Marie Tramontano. Dawn, with your help and support, is looking forward to many happy

adventures in the 2011 cruising season!

In fact, there has already been a cruise planning meeting/Italian Family style dinner! January 15th was the first cruise



planning meeting for the new year. Chef Tom Drew and his sous chefs Michael and Vince cooked up a fabulous meal which was enjoyed by all. The cruising schedule is filling up, so reach out to Dawn soon at

dawntramontano@gmail.com to host a cruise or to help plan and organize the summer itinerary.

Race Committee



This past Saturday, January 22nd WBYC hosted its 2nd annual Club Race Officer Certification seminar which began at 8:30 AM and concluded a little before 5:30 PM. The course instructors were Ron Hopkins and Matt Hill, both

Certified US Sailing Judges and professional Race Officers. Attendees came from around the Bay and nearby communities including Race Committee members from: Rhode Island YC, Jamestown YC, Wickford YC, Conanicut YC, Coasters Harbor YC, Saunderstown YC, West Bay YC, Newport YC, Tiverton YC and East Greenwich YC just to mention a few. A lot of information was distributed throughout the seminar including training manuals, CDs containing all of US Sailing's race management reference material, workbooks and worksheets, as well as sample tests and key exercises. The course was very informative and comprehensive. Both Ron and Matt did a yeomen's job to get through all of the material presented and disseminated. I would like to point out that our Activities Committee was equal to the task, and offered all 30+ attendees delicious breakfast choices, a hearty lunch and great afternoon snacks to insure all participants were well fed and content throughout the days' activities. Three "huzzahs" are belted out to Jo-Ann, Phyllis and Jennifer for raising the bar and outdoing themselves throughout the event. And for any members interested in attending next years' seminar mark your calendars as the date has been set for Jan 21, 2012 same time, same place [to read the

“East Greenwich Patch” article by Patti DePriest, featuring the Race Management Seminar, click on the link “the yacht club that never sleeps” found on our WBYC website’s home page <http://www.westbayyc.org/>



Upcoming events:

1. **Race Committee Advisory meeting**
February 9th from 7 to 8:30PM. Topics to be covered include but not limited to: updating NOR and SI’s, Block Island Race format, updating Course list, Pin End Marks logistics, etc. (e-mail to follow ...)
2. **Skippers & Crew “winter” meeting**
March 9th from 7 to 8:30PM. Topics to be covered include but not limited to: 2011 Racing Calendar, Block Island Race, addition of “new Racing Classes”, 2011 Entry Forms.

Last, but not least, forget the snow outside. It’s only a temporary inconvenience. Each day is getting longer & brighter as the sun rises higher in the sky, reminding us spring is around the corner. Think sunny and warm days ahead and maybe, just maybe, “mother nature” will heed our call and grant us our wish: Here’s to an early spring!
Warm regards, Grant



Keep a Sharp Lookout

Sunday, Feb 6 Super Bowl Party (4:30PM)
Wednesday, Feb 9 ... Race Committee Mtg (7:00PM)
Friday, Feb 11 Poker Night (7:30PM)
Friday, Feb 25 Game Night (7:00PM)
Saturday, Feb 26..... Winter Beach Party!(2:00PM)

2011 Board of Governors

Commodore..... Will Richmond
Vice CommodoreStew Stewart
Rear Commodore Dean Travis
Past Commodore Tom Stocker
Secretary Phyllis Geisser
Treasurer..... Jo-Ann Grima
Parliamentarian..... Marcie Feldmann
Members at Large Bill Lilly
..... Matthew Aubee
..... Jim Palumbo

2011 Committee Chairs

Activities..... Phyllis Geisser, Jo-Ann Grima,
..... Michele Lilly
Cruising..... Dawn Tramontano
EducationRaleigh Jenkins
House Matthew Aubee
MembershipAndrew Brousell
Publicity.....Ed Cure
Website.....Peter Lussier
Blooper Jennifer Brandon
Racing..... Grant Brandon

FOR SALE/RENT

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.

Daytona Beach House For Rent

\$800 per week. -Longer? Talk to me!
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 2 Blocks from Beach.
Marina/Restaurant is right across the Street.
3935 S. Peninsula Dr., Wilbur by the Sea,
FL 32127 (Google it for location).
Contact: Gene Briggs at 386-451-7280
gfbmfbg@aol.com, or on Face Book.

And it was a Merry WBYC Christmas!



Enjoyed by one and all. Thanks to Hanukkah Harry!



Race Management Seminar



Cruise Committee Meeting/Italian Dinner



*Contact Jennifer Brandon to request electronic delivery of the Blooper and most other West Bay Yacht Club correspondence. j-brandon@cox.net
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PO Box 1604
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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