

# 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)

Volume 36 Issue 3

April 2011

## Commodore's Message

Welcome to the 2011 boating season! I suspect there are a few hardcore members who have already launched and enjoyed their boats by the time you're reading this. For the rest of us, we continue to scrape, sand, paint and wax. Remember to protect your eyes, lungs and the environment when you sand and paint! Hopefully you were able to attend one of last month's excellent educational events, the bottom paint seminar. Special thanks to Interlux and Norton's Marina for putting the seminar together.



As you prepare for launch, don't forget the robust social and educational programs the Club hosts for your enjoyment. In April, one of the highlights is the seminar on celestial navigation.

I recently contacted you regarding the introduction of bill S0057 (elimination of the sales tax exemption and introduction of excise taxes for boats) to the Rhode Island State Senate. No matter where you stand on

the issue of taxation, I hope that you speak up and contact your representative to let him/her know how you feel about the issue.

In last month's Blooper, Jo-Ann Grima mentioned that she is seeking volunteers to host an event for families with school-age kids. Our vision of the event is a 'mixer' of sorts where families with children have the opportunity to get to know each other better and identify compatible interests. We'd like to see this event happen very early in the summer (just after school ends) so that families can make plans for the summer that might include new friends with common interests. After talking to several members who have children, it became apparent to me that many of our young families don't know there are other families with children of similar ages and interests. Now is the time to begin planning, but we do need a volunteer to lead this. Please contact me or Jo-Ann to express your interest.

...and speaking of Jo-Ann, for those of you who didn't know, Jo-Ann was involved in a serious auto accident in March. She is on the path to recovery and we wish her a speedy one! Since she is normally the one who puts together our "Sunshine" section, I ask each of you to share some sunshine with Jo-Ann as she recuperates. I'm sure she would appreciate a card or a call. Jo-Ann has given selflessly to the Club for many many years; I think I can speak for the entire Board of Governors in saying we can't wait

until she is back! Jo-Ann's accident was right on the heels of Phyllis' earlier mishap, meaning our Activities Committee of 3 is now down to 1, and needs help - opportunities abound as illustrated above. If you can spare an hour or two this month it would be greatly appreciated!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Will Richmond

## *Rear Commodore's Message*

Hello, WBYC membership! -A note from your Rear Commodore, to express my appreciation to all our Committee Chairs, volunteers and faithful attendees. We have had an absolutely incredible 3 months so far. Let me tell you a little bit about what's been going on at your club while old man winter has been white washing the neighborhood.

Your Education Committee, led by Raleigh Jenkins, has been hard at work putting together some pretty interesting stuff. We learned about bottom painting, soft rigging, and we viewed the movie "Morning Light". For those who have never seen the movie, the last portion of the DVD talks about how the movie was made. Awesome! Must see! And finally WBYC, with Grant Brandon taking the lead, has again hosted the US Sailing Race Management certification course.

The Race Committee, led by Grant Brandon, has already met several times this year. This group never sleeps and it shows! There is no doubt that our racing program will be the best on the bay again this year!

The Activities Committee led by Jo-Ann Grima, Phyllis Geisser, and Michele Lilly, have put together some awesome events.

We had a Superbowl Party, a Member's Social and Cruise Party, a Beach Party, a St. Patrick's Day Dinner. Unbelievable!

The Cruise Committee, led by Dawn Tramontano, is actively assembling the final pieces to what undoubtedly will be one of the best cruise calendars we have had in many years. One notable milestone event is that the Race and Cruise Committees have been working collectively to put a race dimension to the annual summer cruise. Look for more info in upcoming Bloopers. Really cool stuff!

Your Membership Committee, led by Andrew Brousell, is currently processing your membership renewals and updating your 2011 profiles. Look for your membership cards to come in the mail shortly and if you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so now. Your money is beneficial to our club to continue to provide the same level of quality events we have grown accustomed to in the past.

Our Webmaster Peter Lussier is working on updating our website with new calendars and such - everything it takes to keep our membership informed of our upcoming events.

The Publicity Committee, led by Ed Cure, wrote an awesome article on the WBYC hosted US Sailing Race Management Certification. That led to Grant Brandon being interviewed by a local boating magazine. The article was published, and copies can be found on the counter in the club.

The House Committee, led by Matt Aube, is actively working on clubhouse related issues.

Our Blooper Editor/Publisher, Jennifer Brandon, works hard at putting together our newsletter every month. She hits the ball out of the park with ease. Our newsletter is an important document! Inside each issue, we have a calendar of upcoming events. This calendar is the most current. Check the committee reports too, because more info about upcoming events will most likely be listed there. Keep in touch with your club,



and keep Jennifer up to date so she can notify others.

Fellow members, I am privileged to work with such great people and they are all working for you! Give them your support!

Dean

## *Activities Committee*

HAPPY SPRING EVERYONE! It looks as



though  
“OLD MAN  
WINTER”

has left us  
for yet  
another year.  
He sure was  
a busy guy,  
wasn't he?  
The spring  
social  
calendar is

proving to be a very busy one!

Don't forget to mark your calendar for our annual MAY BREAKFAST. We've lost count as to just how many we've had! -But the early morning kitchen crew will be ready for you on:

DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2011

TIME: 8:AM – 12:00PM (or so)

COST: \$7/ADULTS

\$4/KIDS

KIDS UNDER 6 – FREE

ON THE MENU: The usual breakfast fare (scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, homefries)

-Belgian Waffles (strawberries and whipped cream) made to order

-Omelets (Michele's specialty) – Also made to order

-Baked Goodies

-Coffee, tea, juice

So, join us for breakfast first, and spend the rest of the day working on your boat! Sailing season is fast approaching!

Good and Welfare: We'd like to extend “feel better!” wishes to Nancye Stocker who recently fell and broke her hip and leg.

If anyone has anything to share with the membership, let us know. We'll be happy to include it in next month's Bloopers.

As always, we are looking for help &/or suggestions. Don't be shy, give one of us a call. We'd love to hear from you!

See you at the club,

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

## *Membership Committee*

As we now have entered spring, and more importantly sailing



season, I am pleased to say that we have received most of the membership renewals and profiles back. If you have not already done so, please send in your renewal, or notify us of any regrets.

I hope all of you enjoyed our St. Patrick's Day feast on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all who assisted with the planning, and especially to Paul and Cathy O'Finstein for bringing in all of the wonderful Irish delicacies!

Next month there will be several seminars that we are hosting including: Racing w/Flags 101 Seminar (7 – 8:30pm) on April 6<sup>th</sup>, Celestial Navigation Seminar (7 – 9pm) on April 14<sup>th</sup>, and the Splicing Seminar (7 – 9pm) on April 27<sup>th</sup>. I also encourage you to join us for Poker Night on April 8<sup>th</sup> and Game night on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, along with our annual cleanup at 8:00AM on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions about membership, or are interested in joining the

West Bay Yacht Club, please send me an email at [abrousel@yahoo.com](mailto:abrousel@yahoo.com). I look forward to seeing you around the club and at future events.

-Andrew Brousell

## *Education Committee*

I am pleased to report that our West Bay Yacht Club's Educational program can now



be officially declared a success. Anyone who might question this need only speak to anyone who attended our latest event, and watched our Rear Commodore

skillfully navigate behind the wheel of a Singer sewing machine, and our Race Committee Chair valiantly man his station and tack skillfully back and forth along the zig zag course on the fabric laid before him... Need any further proof? Just check out Dean's new sail ties...

Seriously, in March we have had a series of informative events led by knowledgeable professionals who have exhibited a love of their crafts, and left us better for our interactions with them. March gave many of us a first look at soft rigging, and some possible uses on our own boats, brought to us by Ryan Scott of West Marine Rigging of Newport. We then got a chance to have professional guidance with bottom prep and paint choices for the racers and the cruisers in attendance, presented by Heath Moldveen of Interlux Paints. Those of us who attended the showing of the movie, "Morning Light", before the club's Beach Party, got a chance to relax and become inspired by a group of novice sailors who trained for an experience of their lives.

And that brought us to an excellent, hands-on workshop by our own Tonya Ricketts,

The Canvas Lady, who had us bring our own sewing machines to the clubhouse to dust them off, and in my case, finally learn how to thread a bobbin. That was no small accomplishment! I now possess a few self-made sail-ties (plus some I had our Rear Commodore skillfully complete for me.) Everyone enjoyed this event so much that we've requested a second, "advanced" workshop, to tackle a few more sewing projects to spiff up our boats, and impress our friends.

As this goes to press, we are looking forward to a March 31 presentation by Bob Cleasby from the Steamship Historical Society of America. This event promises to provide fascinating information on the use of our Bay, and the vessels that have harbored here.

We've got even more lined up in April. So come on down to the club to share a good time and learn something new, or refresh your skills. On April 6, we will have a presentation: "Racing with Flags 101". Flags rule on the race course, so come improve or refresh your understanding. Then, we'll have "Celestial Navigation", on April 14. Finally, we will have another hands-on opportunity with a splicing seminar, led by our own Dave Lodge, who will lead us through a session of learning or practicing the art of splicing lines.

Come on down to your clubhouse and join with us as we all improve our knowledge base, and learn skills that will raise our confidence and add to our enjoyment on the water this season. Now... I wonder if it's possible to splice some of these sail-ties...

Raleigh Jenkins, Education Chair

[Raleigh52@verizon.net](mailto:Raleigh52@verizon.net)

401.374.7017

### **Educational Committee Calendar 2011**

**Mar 31** 7pm - 9pm Steam Ship Historical Society Seminar

**Apr 6** 7pm - 8:30pm Racing w/Flags 101

Apr 14 7pm - 9pm Celestial Navigation  
Apr 27 7pm - 9pm Splicing

## *Cruising Committee*

Ahoy! After a successful planning meeting, our Cruising Calendar for 2011 is materializing.



Thus far we have six cruises scheduled and one Full-Moon raft-up. A special thanks to all of the Cruise Captains who have graciously volunteered! With Sailing

Season just around the corner, it's time to "think spring!" and continue to plan, and finalize the details. I am still looking for volunteers to Captain a few more cruises:

- Kid's Cruise
- Fall River
- Air Show
- Jamestown

If you have an interest in hosting one of these cruises or wish to explore a new destination of your own- please contact me via email ([dawntramontano@gmail.com](mailto:dawntramontano@gmail.com)) to discuss the opportunities and pleasures of hosting a cruise! To those of you who have already volunteered, thank you again!... and keep a look-out for an email from me that will include your Cruise Captain's Guide. 2011 is going to be a wonderful Cruising Season and I look forward to seeing everyone at our scheduled events!

Cheers, Dawn

## *Race Committee*

In case no one has noticed, your RC has been quite active over the past few months fine tuning and improving the upcoming Summer Series & Weekend Regatta formats. Several announcements have already been made pre-empting the May Skippers meeting, however I thought the timing of this newsletter might be perfect to list several changes to be implemented in the 2011 racing season. Most of them are listed here for your reading pleasure:



1. There will only be *one* racing circle this season [not two].
2. *Starting* area for all Classes to be in a "designated" zone.
3. *Starts* will be larger [Spin1&2; Class A; J-24; Spin3/Class B/C].
4. Optional "start" and "windward" marks may/will be dropped prior to the start of each race.
5. Start sequence will commence at 1810PM [not 1815PM] for Spin1&2 Classes, etc.
6. All Classes will monitor Channel VHF 69
7. Scoring format to be used will be Time-on-Time *not* Time-on-Distance.
8. NOR's, SI's & Course Sheets to be updated as handouts for the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.
9. Last, but not least, the RC will *not* be publishing a racing handbook. All handouts will be available at the Skippers Meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>.
10. The 2011 Race Entry and Release of Liability Form can be found and printed from the website:

<http://www.westbayyc.org/pdf/2011-Race-Entry-Form.pdf>

**Calendar of upcoming racing events:**

1. Skippers meeting scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 8:30PM.
2. RC Tune-Up & Short Course Racing scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 3PM.
3. Summer Series Race #1 scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:10PM [All classes].

And, finally, as each boat begins its annual facelift for the upcoming sailing season *do not forget* a key benefit we all receive as WBYC members - a 10% discount at Norton's Shipyard. Bruce Roberts and his staff are standing by to assist us in whatever needs we may have and each of them is extremely knowledgeable and friendly. Do not let this opportunity pass by, as this is the time of year when all of us need more help and more supplies to outfit our boats for Spring Commissioning. It is important for all of us to support Pat and her retail store, as they provide a discount to the membership when it is most needed!

Fair winds and warm regards,

Grant



**Keep a Sharp Lookout**

- Wed, April 6 .....Racing's Flags Seminar (7:00PM)
- Friday, April 8.....Poker Night (7:30PM)
- Thurs, April 14.....Celestial Navigation (7:00PM)
- Friday, April 22.....Game Night (7:00PM)
- Wednesday, April 27.....Splicing Seminar(7:00AM)
- Sat, April 30....Annual Club Cleanup (8:00AM)

Sun, May 1....May Day Breakfast (8:00-NOON)

**2011 Board of Governors**

- Commodore**..... Will Richmond
- Vice Commodore** .....Stew 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
- Education**..... Raleigh Jenkins
- House**..... Matthew Aubee
- Membership** ..... Andrew Brousell
- Publicity**.....Ed Cure
- Website**.....Peter Lussier
- Blooper**..... Jennifer Brandon
- Racing** ..... Grant Brandon



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Your authorized Interlux  
dealer!

## FOR SALE

*Note: Please submit new ads to [j-brandon@cox.net](mailto:j-brandon@cox.net)  
Ads will run for three months. (Expiration date at  
end of each ad). Please limit ad to 75 words or less.*

- Asymmetrical spinnaker for 25' boat, with dousing sock (Red/White/Blue)
- 2007 Tohatsu 4 stroke 9.9 HP outboard, 25" (long) shaft, electric start
- 6 gallon metal fuel tank
- Heavy duty motor lift
- 15 lb CQR anchor (made in Scotland)
- Lots of 5/8" 3 strand anchor line
- Loos tension gauges (small and large)
- Navico tiller pilot
- Thurston Sails 150 Mylar jib

Email [scott.tagen@gmail.com](mailto:scott.tagen@gmail.com) for more info or to take a look.



It's a Beach Party!



With all  
the fixens





-And what a great St. Patty's Day Dinner!



Enjoyed by one and all!



...And then there was Tonya's Sewing Class, part of our Education Series...



Wow, we sure learned a lot! -And went home with new sail ties & fender covers!



Thank you Tonya!



-And thanks to our Ed. Chair, Raleigh, for another hugely successful event!



PO Box 1604  
East Greenwich, RI 02818  
<http://www.westbayyc.org>

*Contact Jennifer Brandon to request  
electronic delivery of the Blooper with  
many more photos! j-brandon@cox.net  
Electronic Blooper delivered 1/28/2011*

Club Cruising, Racing and Social calendars as well as Event  
Photos are always at your fingertips electronically at:  
[www.westbayyc.org/calendar.htm](http://www.westbayyc.org/calendar.htm)  
Need to get in touch with a Club Officer or Committee  
Chair? Go to: [www.westbayyc.org/officers.htm](http://www.westbayyc.org/officers.htm)