



The Classic Yacht Club of America

www.classicyachtclub.org

Commodore Bill Reynolds

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Elkton, Maryland 21921

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COMMODORE'S MEMORANDUM



Greetings everyone, please allow this First Commodore's Memorandum to serve as an update on Classic Yacht Club of America goings on until we can re-establish the Newsletter hopefully by next year.

ICEBREAKER DINNER DANCE:

This was held at the Kitty Knight House in Georgetown, Maryland on April 24, 2010. This was organized and executed by Rear Commodore Dan Ramia and by all accounts very well done.

Turn out was excellent at 44 members and guests including seven Past Commodores. The food served by the Kitty Knight House was excellent including roast beef and shrimp primavera. The bar got a hearty work out before and after dinner. There was a lot conversation between various members catching up after a long hard winter, I think we are all glad to see winter go!

Chaplain Audrey Edwards gave the blessing as always with eloquence. There was a bonus she gave sand dollars to everyone there noting their mythological good luck when carried aboard. Ours will be aboard within a week!

A couple of high points were the attendance of Past Commodore Joe Murray and his wife Barbara. Joe has served from Fleet Captain thru to Commodore twice and a term as Secretary. That is devotion and a well deserved round of applause was given to P/C Murray. We also had Past Commodore Bill Birdsall and his wife Past Commodore Kathleen Birdsall who won the 50/50 raffle. They donated the winnings back to the club, this was a class act and they also got a well deserved round of applause.

Entertainment was provided by DJ Bob Cross who spun tunes until about 10:00 p.m. and served in the same capacity last year at Icebreaker. Many tunes were by request and about half the attendees stayed dancing to the tunes until he stopped playing.

The weather was about 60 degrees and no rain except some drizzle as things wrapped up, pretty good for late April.

In general, from the Commodore's point of view, I thought this event was a great success enjoyed by all with a very good turnout, and my thanks to all of the members who participated as well as an unprecedented number of Past Commodores who turned out in support.

FUTURE EVENTS:

The next event is the Flag Raising. This will be held at the Kent Island Yacht Club in the Kent Island Narrows on June 11th through the 13th, details will be on the invitation. Many Flag Raisings in the past have been here and according to Past Commodore Judy Willingham this will be returning to a tradition not seen in awhile.

Fleet Captain Chris Morrison has done a very good job planning this event and the invitations will be going out in the near future. Past Commodore Bill Bunting gave him some suggestions about this facility. I have been there on several occasions and can tell you it has a magnificent setting, a spectacular restaurant with a good view of the water and a long bar for big crowds!

The facility is under new management and we have been promised the best of accommodations. The setting for the Flag Raising ceremony itself is quite spectacular.

I have sent a letter to the Commodore of the Kent Island Yacht Club inviting them and his bridge/board to the event. Commodore Fares has acknowledged this but at this time no guests, but some may call later to attend.

As with last year Fleet Captain Morrison will pipe the colors up. Governor Bill Kazmierczak, Governor Jon Lines and Governor Craig Collins will comprise the color guard.

All we need is cooperation from the weather gods and this will be a magnificent event. Fleet Captain Morrison spoke a bit about this event at Icebreaker.

Following this the next event will be the Mid Summer Rendezvous at Great Oak Landing. This will be a more casual event, picnic style outdoor near the inlet and should be a lot of fun, again with an excellent view.

Next will be the Annual Classic Yacht Festival at Baltimore's Inner Harbor Marina. This promises to be a special event, more in later memorandums on this one.

The last event will be at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Marina in Stevensville, Maryland.

Note that two of the events are further south than last year to try and accommodate the members we have further south.

FYI:

During the most recent board meeting the board discussed a number of issues. Probably the most important is the ebb in membership. Vice Commodore Reynolds (yes my better half) sent a Flyer she designed and suggested by Governor Harry Bowie to all members to have posted on their marina bulletin boards and we also sent some to boaters we know and have gotten one inquiry so far. To try and keep the club sustainable we need new membership and even an associate member would be helpful. Members of the Bridge and Board will also be walking the docks soliciting potential new members at events and we will have a booth at Baltimore for prospective members to talk to us about it. Governor Mike Heim is working on an idea for a bulletin board with various photos and comments on members boats to be posted at events to encourage inquiries. Vice Commodore Reynolds will be contacting the N'oreaster and the Mariner Magazine to establish contacts for sending photos and articles on rendezvous to expose the club to potential new members. Fleet Captain Morrison keeps Prop Talk magazine up to date with coming events however they have not been listing them and he will be calling them to ascertain if they are interested in covering our activities and why our events have not been published in their magazine despite his keeping them posted on a timely basis.

Long time webmaster and yearbook editor, Mike Thielke, is now training Governor Dale Harris to administrate both. Our thanks to Mike for his many years of excellent service and devotion to the club, and to Governor Harris for taking over this time consuming and often underappreciated task. The board voted unanimously to affirm Governor Harris to take over the post when he and Mike feel it is appropriate during this season. Vice Commodore Reynolds was the photographer at this event and will be sending the photos soon to Mike and Dale for posting on the website.

Our Secretary, Dana Morrison, will be mailing the 2009 Voyager award to Jody Reynolds and Mike Wright who are still travelling and have been unable to attend any events. Continued good cruising Jody and Mike!

Well that is about all for now, please help us recruit new members if you know of anyone who might be interested. I hope to see as many of you as possible at Flag Raising, remember your participation is what makes the club a success. Until then, may you have fair weather and the wind at your back.

Respectfully,
Commodore Bill Reynolds

