



March 2021



Vol. 7

**Greetings Fellow
Cape Fear Yacht Club Members!**

As always, I hope this message finds you all in good health and spirits. As I am sure you have read, the overall cases, hospitalizations and deaths



associated with the COVID-19 virus are coming down! As a result, the Governor has just announced easing of some Phase 3 restrictions. Additionally,

many of you have already been vaccinated. The Board continues to monitor these developments, the current restrictions and plan accordingly. As you will read, easing will allow us to start getting together again at our clubhouse and on the water!

First, I would like to announce that **Jack Clegg** has agreed to take on the **Club Treasurer** position. This is no small task, and we are glad he has agreed to take on this challenge. For those of you who know Jack, he is a busy guy. Jack works part-time at the South Harbor Village Marina and volunteers at the Moose Lodge most of the other time. He and Jim Newman have been working to ensure a smooth transition and I ask that you all say thanks to Jack when you see him.



The second thing I would like to update you on, is the **Board of Governors Retreat** on **January 9th**. The focus of this meeting was to discuss the financial projections for this year into next year, make recommendations and choose a course of action. The key metric reviewed was our membership numbers. The board has been monitoring the loss of memberships both through normal attrition (people moving out of town, aging out, etc.) and the pandemic. The data indicates

that in 2019 we had 86 memberships. In 2020, that number fell to 74. As we look at 2021, and assuming all outstanding membership dues become current we will be sitting at 67 paying memberships. I must clarify that these numbers do not include folks on leave-of-absence (LOA), because they do not represent a current revenue source for club operations. The membership number also includes both family and single memberships.

Looking at our normal expenditures associated with club operations, it is clear, we do not have sufficient membership numbers to meet all of our obligations for 2021. We have previously established that a threshold of about **80 memberships** is required to meet all of our obligations. As a result of this review, the board is taking several actions to ensure that the club has sufficient resources to both maintain our clubhouse and boost our membership numbers once we can operate more normally. One of the key actions taken was headed up by **Rick Bonifant**. Rick worked with our mortgage lender (United Bank) to obtain a 6-month interest only



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modification to our clubhouse mortgage. This modification does not increase our debt, it just extends the period in which the note will be satisfied. Another step being taken is our application to the Small Business Administration for a non-profit



Economic Injury Disaster Loan (SBA EIDL). This benefit of the SBA was offered to non-profit organizations to cope with impacts on operations from the pandemic. If the organization is

approved for such a loan, details will be communicated to the membership so that a decision can be made to accept additional debt in a future special membership meeting. More details will be forthcoming on this as we receive them from the SBA.

Based on what I have just outlined, you can see that the most important thing that this club must do going forward is **boost membership numbers**. Our **Membership Committee Chair, Deb Alt**, has met with the Membership Committee and developed several ideas to boost membership. These ideas, as well as others, are going to be discussed in more detail in a special meeting of the board in March. This meeting will be focused solely on increasing overall membership numbers. More on this in our next Binnacle.

So, enough of the challenging news. Let us talk about some of the **Great Things** that are happening around the club. I know I mentioned the overall decline in membership numbers, but what I did not tell you is that we are also getting new members. To that end, I would like to welcome **Thomas Garrett** and his wife **Julia Stuart** to the club. They are knowledgeable and avid boaters and are excited to get involved in our social and on-water activities. Please welcome Thomas and Julia when you see them. **I hope to welcome many new faces to the CFYC in 2021!**



Let me tell you about our upcoming events. We have several planned for the month of **March**. We



will be having a **St. Patrick's Day Dinner** available for curbside pick-up on **March 17th**. This will be the same format as the **Valentine's Day Dinner** which was a great success! Many thanks to **Deb Alt** and the **Membership Committee** for their innovative way to conduct this traditional CFYC event. We kick off our boating and social year with the **Commissioning Ceremony** on **March 20th** and the **Blessing of the Fleet** on **March 21st** (see more details on these vents in this issue of the Binnacle and our Member's website). These are the traditional events that start our boating year, and I am excited that we are moving forward with these events. **Rich Alt** is busy putting together the details now, but you can expect



the usual roar of "**Thor**", our favorite Southport cannon to welcome in the boating

season and Club Officers. We are planning to conduct the ceremony at the clubhouse (with the newly revised COVID precautions) and may also be able to stream the event for those that cannot attend. We will have the bar available for those folks that would like to stick around and socialize after the Commissioning. The **Blessing of the Fleet** will be like last years in that we intend to have the Blessing boat tied-up at the **Provision Company** dock with participants cruising past for their flower and blessing from **Reverend Eric Mills of St. Philips Episcopal Church**. **Will Long** has offered the use of "**Long Weekend**" as the official Blessing boat and John Allen has volunteered to be the safety boat for the event. The club appreciates all our volunteers!

Ted Brockman has been working with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to set up an **Adopt-A-Highway** agreement for the club. The section of roadway offered has a lot of visibility and encompasses NC211 from Doshier Cutoff Road to 12th Street in Southport. This is an excellent opportunity for the club to give back to the community and increase our exposure with the signage that will be posted. This is in addition to the many club member and community volunteer opportunities. Ted states that we could also incorporate some new member type social events as a wrap up to clean up days. **Always looking for ways to boost those membership numbers!**



In anticipation of our upcoming activities, **Joe Rodriguez, Will Long** and **David Rhodes** have been preparing our clubhouse for service. The flagpole has been painted, the damaged section of isinglass has been repaired and our rolling metal chair rack has been restored. As you can see, there is a lot going on, and a lot more to come. I hope to see you all at one of our upcoming events!

Fair winds and following seas to all!

NORMAN SMITH, CFYC COMMODORE 2021



PERFECT WAY TO START OFF THE COMING YACHTING SEASON!

STILL TAKING ORDERS .. CFYC Logo Neck Gaiter - \$10

This one-size-fits-most snood/gaiter is soft and comfy with the durability and easy-care of a polyester. The light-weight, breathable fabric is moisture wicking to keep you feeling cool and comfortable all day long. Added sun protection (UPF 40+) makes it a great option to use as hood, neck gaiter or balaclava while working or playing outdoors. The snag-resistant, wash-and-wear material keeps it looking new, even after repeated washing. **Club minimum order 50. Send your requests to Deb Alt at debann.alt@gmail.com. Cash, check or credit card currently on file.**



THE BINNACLE

If you have any questions, comments or would like to



submit information to be included in the next edition of **The Binnacle** please email David Rhodes at binnacle@capefearyachtclub.org



◆ Membership Roster Alert ◆

Please email **Frann Rich** at frannisco@ec.rr.com of any changes to your email, phone or mailing address so the Membership roster can be updated accordingly

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE!

Please give a warm welcome to our newest members **Thomas Garrett & Julia Stuart**. They are busy building a home on Oak Island (facing the ICW), as well as a Rosborough RF-246 Halifax boat. They've spent several years vacationing here and have passed our Clubhouse often. Thomas grew up spending summers at Camp Sea Gull in Arapahoe, NC where he learned to swim, sail & motorboat. He worked as a counselor and head of the Motor Boating Program for several summers teaching over 2,000 campers how to safely operate small boats. He now works in Software Sales and is a former Navy Officer who has traveled the waters throughout the world. He currently holds a 100-ton Master License. Julia is a Marketing Director for UNCC and has experience in assisting non-profits as a volunteer. They both love a good party and are looking forward to making lots of new friends!



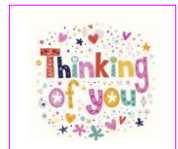
Thomas Garrett, Julia Stuart & their Children

Deborah Alt
Membership Chairperson



KEEPING OUR CFYC FAMILY IN MIND

Please help the Membership Committee be responsive in supporting our fellow members. If you become aware of any member who has suddenly lost a family member, or is recovering from an illness or surgery, please pass the information on to **Dina Rhodes** so we may follow up with cards and phone calls as needed. You may contact Dina at dcfrrhodes@gmail.com



St. Patrick's Day
 Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
 COVID-safe Curbside Pick-up
 Cape Fear Yacht Club

Wednesday, March 17
 4791 Fish Factory Road, Oak Island

Corned Beef, Cabbage, + 2 Sides, & Soda Bread
(Berry, no substitutions available)
Catered by Wallace Catering
\$25/per person - tax
Limited reservations available
 Contact: MaryAnn at mahoniant@aol.com
 no later than **Friday, March 12**

Advanced payment required via PayPal
(Pay the full amount)
Pickup time will be assigned with confirmation of reservation.



CFYC **↑** IN THE MEDIA **↓**

Time for a Face Lift!

If you have been on the CFYC (capefearyachtclub.com) website recently, you may have noticed some changes. The website is a little like a garage - stuff accumulates there and it's not always easy to find things when you want them.

Well, we're cleaning out the garage! The work is underway, but it's not done yet.



Since the website and our presence on social media (**Facebook** and **Instagram**) have become such a key ingredient in our internal and external communication, we are rearranging information on the site to more effectively interface with Facebook and Instagram activities. Postings relating to club activities, such as the **Blessing of the Fleet** and **St. Patrick's Day Dinner** will now direct viewers to our website. Once there, they will have the opportunity to explore other aspects of what we have to offer.

Essentially we are telling viewers, "**Look what we have to offer!**" And we have a lot.

Thanks to **Lee Roberts** for all her efforts in coordinating our messages across the internet platforms!

To stay in touch with CFYC, join the **Members Only Facebook** page or "**like us**" on the Cape Fear Yacht Club's public page. For more info, send an email to capefearyc@gmail.com.

Membership Dues Are Being Collected NOW!

Collections of Dues, Charges & Fees (House Rules #5):

- Annual membership dues are billed the end of each year using the current membership roster, and are due and payable on January 1st. To expedite this process, credit card billing is in place, so all dues are collected and paid the first of each year. Those persons without a credit card will submit cash or check directly to the Treasurer. Any invoices or charges past due will be charged a service charge of .75% per month beginning after the end of the first billing cycle (30 days). This is equivalent to 9%/year. (Adopted by BOG, 12/10/2019)
- Any Dues, Charges, and or Fees 60 days in arrears shall constitute delinquency and a membership not in good standing. As a result Club privileges will be suspended and member will not be able to participate in any Club vote, Annual or Special Meeting, or Social Functions. (Ref: Bylaw, Article 10)
- Any account remaining delinquent past 90 days, will be referred to the Club Board of Governors for action in accordance with the Club Bylaws. Memberships in arrears for 90 days or more will be terminated UNLESS the member contacts the Board in writing to have consideration of extenuating circumstances. (Adopted by BOG, 2/11/2020)

Meet Our New Treasurer Jack Clegg



Jack was born and raised in **Hawthorne, New Jersey**. He retired nine years ago after having been in the **Information Technology** business for over 45 years. Jack held various management, and technical positions in the Manufacturing, Distribution, Chemical, Pharmaceutical industries and most recently in the Public Sector. Jack also serves on the **Board of Governors for the Oak Island Moose Lodge 2059**. Jack, and his wife **Susan**, reside in Southport. They have **4 children** and **5 grandchildren** and enjoy sailing, golf, and volunteer work when time permits!

THANKS JACK!!!



BLESSING OF THE FLEET 2021



The annual **Blessing of the Fleet**, the East Coast Yacht Clubs' official start of the boating season, will take place on **Sunday, March 21st at 2PM.**

It takes a good number of volunteers to make this event happen and the Cape Fear Yacht Club had 6 Captains volunteer their vessels. **Will Long** will be the Captain of the Blessing Boat and **John Allen** the Captain of the safety boat. Additional Captains that offered to help were **Ray Bolling, Norm Smith, Jerry Rudden,** and **Rich Bandera.** A hearty thanks to all of these Captains!

Thanks to **Dave Weigel**, the Club has been granted permission once again to use a slip at **Provisions** to tie up the Blessing Boat. This offers the **Rector Father Eric Mills, St. Philips Church** and the flower handlers a steady and safe platform to conduct the ritual.

If you plan to participate with your vessel, from kayak to sunfish to sixty foot sport fisherman, we ask that



you form up in the area of the Yacht Basin/ICW around **1:30 PM** so we can work out final logistics. We will be monitoring **VHF Channel 78** and

broadcasting safety and queuing instructions on that channel. If you wish to come down to watch and cheer on the captains, you may do so from American Fish, along Brunswick Street, or there is a limited amount of space on the Provisions' dock. If you are at the Provisions' dock you will need to have a mask. We cannot guarantee 6-feet between each viewer, though we will try our best to accomplish this Governor mandate. We



will have a limited number of masks and hand sanitizer should you forget. Another vantage point will be Provisions itself which is set to open for the season on March 17th. If you are planning on being inside Provisions come early. Anyone who has lived in Southport for any length of time knows once they open for the season, everyone wants to get outside

and heads towards the waterfront bars and restaurants.

We encourage all boat owners, be it Club members or the general public, to launch their vessels and come out for a centuries old tradition. **'Thor'**, the City cannon will be fired to start the event.

Best regards!

Rich Alt - CFYC Fleet Captain

richalt@verizon.net

703-507-7448



Cape Fear Yacht Club Adopts a Highway

Our club is always looking for opportunities to contribute to our community. The **Youth Sailing Program, Blessing of the Fleet, Holiday Parades** and **Wooden Boat Show** all add to the atmosphere that makes Southport/Oak Island so enjoyable.

Maintaining the appearance of our local roads is one more way CFYC can preserve the charm of the community. To that end, we will be taking part in the **Adopt a Highway Program**, which is operated by the NCDOT.



Once the agreement is completed, club members and community volunteers will be able to help maintain a stretch of **Rt 211 (Howe St.)** leading into town.

Under the program, CFYC will be responsible for policing the roadside liter a minimum of 4 times a year. NCDOT provides safety vest and bags, we provide the tools and manpower.

As soon as the program is finalized, more specific information on how you can join in will be provided.

Stay tuned!



Be on the Lookout for News about the 2021 CFYC Youth Sailing Charity Golf Tournament



◆ ◆ **Event Marketing** ◆ ◆
&
Management Committee

In 2021 We Have 4 Couples That Have Chosen Our Club as Their Wedding Venue!

Coming up in late March we have two of our newest members, **Joe Harizem** & **Kylie Zelesnik**, tying the knot. **We wish them the very best in their life together!**

The other 3 couples chose to rent our clubhouse as they determined it will be perfect for their celebrations in **May, June and September.**



We have had an increase in inquiries about our club as people are starting to feel optimistic that gatherings will once again be allowed. Don't

forget, the rental fee is waived for members and you are welcome to use the clubhouse for your personal celebrations and family events.

Please contact Joanne Allen if you would like to host your own celebration at our clubhouse

Joanne Allen

joannedoncv@yahoo.com 336-817-4988

Curbside Valentine's Dinner a Success!

A BIG SHOUT-OUT to all those who ordered our first **Curbside Dinner Special. THANK YOU!**

Robert Wallace and his wife **Karen**, of **Wallace Catering**, served up mouth-watering **Prime Rib**, with **Garlic-Mashed Potatoes**, a **Vegetable Medley**, **Roll & Cupcakes**. For a little extra touch of **Love**, a **Chocolate Rose** was included.



The Membership Committee worked to bring this event together with **MaryAnn Bonifant** taking reservations. **Dina Rhodes** and **Susan Forsyth**, along with **Rich Alt** helped deliver orders to cars as they arrived. Most everyone ordering paid through **PayPal**

and the whole operation went off super smooth. 39 dinners were sold and the Club was able to make a profit on the event, which is always our goal.



If you weren't able to take advantage of this Special Event, you have another opportunity to order a ready-made dinner for **St. Patty's Day!** Watch for the announcement and be sure to make your reservations before space fills up.

Deborah Alt

Membership Chair



WE are Back!

