FROM THE HELM..................

With all the great festival events and dinner parties associated with the holiday season from Thanksgiving thru Christmas, I felt well prepared to play the old fat man part as Santa Claus. It has been hard on my diet, but well worth it. From a boating prospective, the Yorktown Lighted Boat Parade was a fun event, and if you were lucky enough to go to the Freight Shed Reception, as many of our members were, the venue was beautiful and the food delicious. If you missed it this year, I encourage you to attend next year. Better yet, enter your boat in the parade and you will be invited to the reception. Tom and Fran Butterfoss came in second place in 2017 and first place in 2018 representing SYC, but we did not have a boat in the parade in 2019. We did support the chairman of the Yorktown Lighted Boat Parade, Mike Webb Jr., by having the Captains Meeting at our club, but as the premier Yacht Club of York County, we should sponsor and enter a boat in the parade. Our goal for 2020 should be to have a volunteer captain and a team to plan the decorations, to follow on the winning legend of Tom and Fran.

As much fun as the boat parade was, the SYC Christmas Party, sponsored by Jo Longnecker and Bob Strieter, capped off the season in style. The club was decorated in a very festive island Christmas theme featuring conch shells, lanterns, coconut fronds, signal flags, fans and a great chandelier made by Bob Strieter. The charcuterie and buffet put on by Giddy Gourmet Catering was enjoyed by all. The DJ really seemed to know his crowd and played dance music that kept members dancing the night away. Many commented that it was one of the best Christmas parties we have had.
While all this fun was going on, we were able to make progress on our building project and finally broke ground. We have been working very hard on interior design by Sandy Hopkins and her team, electrical redistribution by Bob Bielhart, locating and getting some good deals on our bar equipment by Randy Strickland.

The year has been a very good year for boating with the club. We had some fun cruises that were very well attended and a stay cruise that will become a part of our cruise schedule. Well done Tom Butterfoss and Dana Arenius, Fleet Captains.

The boating season is not quite over yet, we still have the New Year’s Day Race and Pot-Luck Dinner on Wednesday, January 1, 2020. This is the fourth and final race for the season. Thanks go out to Tom Feldhaus, Mark Hinman and Chuck Eldred the Race Committee.

January is the start of our Seadogs Speaker series which are always informative and fun, so check out Rick Gay’s schedule of speakers and plan to attend.

The Nominating Committee headed by Carl Early has developed a very good slate of officers for our election at the Annual Meeting February 1, 2020. Please review the slate of officers below and be ready to cast your vote at the meeting.

Merry Christmas
Cecil Adcox, Commodore

Racing News

The 2020 New Year’s Day Race

We are hoping for a good turnout, to start 2020, for the New Year’s Day Race and want to remind everyone that there is an after-race pot luck, covered dish brunch starting at 4:00pm. Tom Feldhaus is the sponsor for the New Year’s Day Race. I would like notification of intent to race by 6pm on Dec. 31st. The race will be canceled with fewer than 3 boats participating.
What’s your nautical IQ?


1. NIGHT-CAP. Warm grog taken just before turning in.
2. POLE STAR. Ursae minoris. This most useful star is the lucida of the Little Bear, round which the other components of the constellation and the rest of the heavens appear to revolve in the course of the astronomical day.
3. REGATTA. A rowing-match formerly peculiar to the republic of Venice; but now the term is applied to yacht and boat races in general.
4. RIGHT-HAND ROPE. That which is laid up and twisted with the sun, that is to the right hand; the term is opposed to water-laid rope, which is left-handed.

~ Barry Shrout

**SYC Monthly Dinner Meeting**

SYC Christmas in the Islands Party – December 14, 2019

We had a great evening, with beautiful decorations! There were two gorgeous and unique Christmas trees, an oyster shell chandelier, delicious food, and the DJ kept everyone dancing. About 130 guests attended the event.

This year’s party faced a few obstacles with the building reconstruction limiting our use of the Club’s decorations. We also had to hide all the stored contents of our upstairs, closet, and the Barnacle. With a limited budget, we used our members’ brilliant ideas, and their own tablecloths, seashells, coconut palm fronds, candles, lanterns and more. A huge “thank you” to our many volunteers who made this party possible.

The hosts were: Bob Strieter and Jo Longnecker, Barbara and Cecil Adcox, Mike and Jeanette Webb, Liz Epperson, Bill and Alita Small, Deb and Dale Calendar, Ken Nitche, Tim and Christine Dube, Tom and Fran Butterfoss, Winnie and Tom Feldhaus, Art and Cyndi Dister, Sheila and Jim Majka, Sandy Hopkins, Donna Gilroy and the phone calling committee, Pat Heath, Kelly Dayton, Audrey Moore, and Jandy Strickland (Treasurer).

We donated our leftovers to the Avalon Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence in Williamsburg. The party made a small profit.

*Donna Nitche and Carol Sadick, SYC Dinner Co-chairs*
ANNUAL BURN YOUR SOCKS PARTY
Hosted by Jim and Linda Blotter
Saturday March 21, 6:00 PM until ???
DON’T MISS IT!!!

Help celebrate the Vernal Equinox and the coming of Spring

YOU bring SOCKS to burn.
WE provide: Beer, Wine, Soft Drinks, Snacks, Salad, Potato Casserole, Corn on the Cob, Bratwursts and Fixings and Dessert (S’MORES and more).
$16.00 for adults; $8.00 for children (12 and under)

Happy Hour (drinks and snacks) at 6:00 PM
Dinner at 7:30 PM followed by a bonfire for S’MORES to cook and SOCKS to burn.

This is an indoor/outdoor informal SPRING party - please dress for the weather!!

Reservations with the phone committee are required (calls are made in March).

To change reservations later,
call Donna Gilroy by March 19th at 757-766-1584

Hope to see you there!!
Proposed Slate of Officers 2020

Flag Officers

Commodore Pete Showalter
Vice Commodore John Leist
Rear Commodore Brad Berry
Past Commodore Cecil Adcox
Secretary Kathy Moore
Treasurer Jandy Strickland

Trustee though 2020:
Tina MacRitchie
Sandy Shem

Trustee though 2021:
Donna Nitchie
James Richardson

Trustee though 2022:
Jerry Dooley
Steve Riley

______________________________

SYC BoT Meeting Summary
—December 10, 2019—

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: Cecil Adcox, Pete Showalter, John Leist, Carl Early, Winnie Feldhaus, Janet Beilhart, Bill Edmonds, Sandy Shem, Donna Nitchie, Jimmy Richardson

Member Guests Present: Sandy Hopkins, Fran Butterfoss

Members Absent: Jandy Strickland, Tina MacRitchie

Secretary’s Report
The minutes of the November 12th meeting previously distributed were approved. This minutes contained the vote authorizing SYC to obtain a $425K loan. Carl motioned to approve the report, Jimmy seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Treasurer’s Report
Jandy was absent, but provided the monthly treasurer’s report to the BOT. Cecil presented the treasurer’s report. Kevin submitted the expense of the new holding tank to the Clean Marine program. The request was approved and SYC received a $750 refund. The detailed treasurer’s report is available on the member’s only portion of the website. Pete motioned to approve the report, Bill seconded. Vote: Unanimous
Old Business

Furnishings Committee
Fran and Sandy gave a presentation of the current plans of the furnishings committee. They are currently focusing on the barnacle and clubroom. In particular, the paint colors, flooring, lighting, and bar equipment locations need to be finalized since construction is underway. Options for furniture were also presented, but any purchases will be on hold until the costs have been confirmed to be within budget. The committee plans to make a presentation to the club at the next monthly dinner meeting.

Building Committee
The interior of the portion of the clubhouse under renovation has been removed, and the area is sealed off from the portion of the club house under use.

Finance Committee
Cecil reported that an old line of credit (100K) from 1994 has not been closed out. The bank with the original credit line has been changed 3 times. As a result, the Deed of Trust for the SYC property has not been cleared. There was also an issue with flood insurance. The bank requires a separate policy of flood insurance to cover the bath house. Cecil has been working with lawyers, banks, and insurance agents to close out these issues.

Membership Awards
Cecil again reminded the BOT about the nomination of members for the Keel, Yachting, and Outstanding Member Awards. The deadline for submittal is January 1.

PA system
John Leist reported on the PA system. He noted that the lines hanging in renovated area need to be preserved. John has equipment SYC can use temporarily.

Nominating Committee
Carl presented the slate of officers:

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<th>Commodore</th>
<th>Vice Commodore</th>
<th>Rear Commodore</th>
<th>Past Commodore</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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<td>Pete Showalter</td>
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<td>Brad Berry</td>
<td>Cecil Adcox</td>
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<td>Sandy Shem</td>
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John motioned to approve, Donna seconded. Vote unanimous.

Docks
Carl reported on the status of the slips. There was a discussion of difficulty of slip vacancy management, potential slip vacancies, and the obligations of the slip holders.
Calendar (Key Activities in January)
Jan 1       New Year’s Day Race/Pot Luck
Jan 3       Knitting/Crafting Group
Jan 10      Happy Hour
Jan 21      Monthly Dinner Meeting

Adjourned    8:45 pm
Respectfully submitted by Winnie Feldhaus, SYC Secretary

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**LESLIE NEWTON, SEMAPHORE EDITOR**

All your news, photos, reports or ideas for new/additional content should be sent to: Leslie.r.newton2.mil@mail.mil (not the directory e-mail address)

Please send early and often!! Deadline for submissions is January 23, 2020