FROM THE HELM

Yes, we are STILL in these crazy COVID-19 coronavirus times but finally things are starting to slowly look better. Again we had to cancel all events in June. The virtual Happy Hours have been fun and we are very appreciative of our Zoom mentor, Jaclyn, for administering those meetings online.

On the last Friday evening of June, we did finally manage to have a REAL Happy Hour and IN PERSON! Thanks Joan and Bill for setting that up. I really missed seeing everyone and am looking forward to the time we can all get together in person on regular basis. It looks like that may actually happen in July. As you read this issue of the Semaphore, Virginia is moving ahead into Phase 3 of reopening statewide. We will still have to take precautions and be aware of our social distancing. By now everyone should know the routine. Those at high risk or who still feel uncomfortable in a group setting may still want to stay home. No one will fault you for being extra careful. We are still learning how to adapt and adjust to the current situation and will be forced to make some modifications to our regular events. Please be understanding that procedures will be a little different for quite a while. As Virginia moves forward into Phase 3, we are hoping to get the Club back up and running.

Paul Hutter has the Junior Sailing Program starting back up on July 6th, and has about 50 new sailors signed up so far. Finally something getting back to normal (even though we did have to push back the opening date by two weeks).

The rescheduled Flag Raising that was originally scheduled for May has been moved to July 12th. See Cecil Adcox's write up on page 3 of the Semaphore and check out the Facebook Event post for more information and updates.

The SYC Board of Trustees will meet in person on July 14th for the first time since March! The beautiful new clubhouse building should be completed later this month. I can't wait for everyone to see it!

We are hopefully planning to carry on in July and hold our normal events as scheduled like the monthly dinner on July 21st. Keep tabs of SYC updates and events on our new Facebook group page. (https://www.facebook.com/groups/139382387447353/)

COVID Commodore Pete
UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY HAPPY HOUR
We will have an outside happy hour on July 17th at 6PM contingent on the virus regulations and the weather. We will also have a Zoom link set up for people that cannot attend in person or feel more comfortable attending from home. Stay tuned earlier in that week for updates. We will send out an email and post updates on the Facebook group saying whether or not we will have a happy hour.

- Submitted by Joan Edmonds, Happy Hour Committee Co-Chair-

SYC FLAG RAISING CEREMONY & BRUNCH

SUNDAY, JULY 12TH
12 PM

Working within the current guidelines from the Virginia Department of Health we are planning our first Club activity in the renovated club house. These plans are being made predicated on Virginia moving to phase #3. If we are forced to cancel the activity you will be notified.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions we are not having a happy hour or appetizers. We will be starting at 12:00 noon with a BOX LUNCH that will be passed out by volunteers wearing gloves and masks. The drinks will be individual servings of can drinks and bottled water, again handed out in same manor. The beer and wine will also be served by masked and gloved servers. The seating will be restricted to family units at a table or social distancing recommended. We will also recommend seating outside on decks or on the lawn with personal chairs. Please bring your own chairs if you would like to sit on the lawn.

In order to finalize our plans, we must have a head count by July the 8th. The calling committee will be contacting you for your reservations. This is a club sponsored activity, but if you reserve and are unable to attend you will be charged the price of the lunch.

If you have been unable to visit the club during the quarantine this will be a great way to share in the excitement of our beautiful renovated club. If you are suffering from underlying conditions and/or are reticent about being in gatherings with the threat of COVID-19 you are encouraged to visit our club at a private time to enjoy the beautiful renovations.

- Past Commodore Cecil Adcox

**If you cannot make it to the Club or do not feel comfortable attending the event in person, we will have a Zoom link set up so you can watch the flag raising ceremony. The ceremony starts at 1:15 PM. Stay tuned for more details via email and the Facebook group.**

JULY MONTHLY DINNER
Currently the July Monthly Dinner Meeting is set for Tuesday, July 21st at the Club. Cassandra Camp and Leah Smith will be hosting the dinner. They are planning a Luau theme. Stay tuned for more information on the dinner on our Facebook Group page, email, and from the Calling Committee.
SUMMER PARTY: Deviled Egg Contest
Show off your deviled egg skills and share with SYC at our Summer Party!
There will be prizes! Categories will be: Most Unique, Most Colorful, Most Traditional, & Best Presentation
If you are interested in participating in the SYC Summer Party Deviled Egg Contest, please send an email to sycsummerparty@gmail.com.
JUNE HAPPY HOUR

The weather cooperated and we had a wonderful happy hour event utilizing the outdoor areas at the club. Great to see people in person after VA moved into Phase 2! Tables were set up for social distancing and everyone was advised to bring chairs if they wanted to utilize the yard for extra social distancing. People brought their own food and drink and enjoyed a nice evening at the Club!

SPRING CLEAN UP DAY

I would like to thank the following members for their assistance with club cleanup on Saturday, June 13th: Jim & Linda Blotter, Kevin MacRitchie, Joan & Bill Edmonds, Brad Berry, Jeanette Webb, John Leist, Janet Beilhart, Steve & Becky Riley, Sandy & Casey Shen, Nancy & Mark Hinman, Liz & Greg Epperson, Bill Willshire, Al Moore, Kruno Abramusic, Tom Feldhouse, Dan Oklesson, Art & Cindy Dister, A. J. Booker & Fabienne Morgan, Bill Small, and Ben Huggin. If I missed anyone- I’m sorry. We followed all the hard work with pizza (served by Tina), snacks, and cold drinks. Great time had by all!

- Submitted by Tina MacRitchie, Landscaping Committee Chair-
FROM THE RACING COMMITTEE

Staggered Start Race postponed to July 11th
The Staggered Start Race is our first race for this season. It has been postponed from Saturday, May 2nd to July 11th, the day before our tentative Flag Raising. Mike Webb will sponsor the Staggered Start Race. The race schedule and remaining races that need sponsors are posted on the SYC website.

At 5:00 PM a Potluck dinner on the dock under the canopy will follow the race.

The race schedule and remaining races that need sponsors are posted on the SYC website. Click HERE to access the SYC Race Schedule Click HERE for the race entry form.

- Submitted by Tom Feldhaus, Racing Committee Chair-

SAVING THE DAY!
We all need to give a BIG THANK YOU to Joan Edmonds. She rescued some documents from a closet during the clean up prior to the renovation. Joan questioned throwing away things and asked about them. She was told to toss them. Thank goodness she listened to her instincts! She rescued a black binder (a Black Beauty Corporate Kit) that had contents that included the incorporation papers for the Club, tax ID papers issued by the Internal Revenue Service, and more. This binder is something that should never be disposed of and should be kept in a safe box. She also saved many past newsletters that included issues that dated back to the beginning of the Club. Not only did she save important documents but she saved information showing the history of the Club through the years. Next time you see her please thank her on behalf of the past and present Club members! Thank you so much, Joan!
The DNA of SYC is made up of all of the members that volunteer their talents and time to make the club a success! Check your directory for a list of the committees and members. If you would like to join a committee, reach out to the committee chairs. It is a great way to get to know many members of the club and continue the SYC tradition of volunteers.

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH: HAPPY HOUR COMMITTEE

Joan & Bill Edmonds are Co-Chairs of our Happy Hour Committee.

Role: Plan and implement regular happy hours at SYC (LRP Goal #2)

Responsibilities:
- Choose dates for happy hours to include in member directory calendar (Late January)
- Recruit members to host happy hours
- Offer instructions to new hosts
- Assure happy hour supplies are refilled in designated box in pantry
- Publicize happy hours via Communications Chair, email, and Facebook Members’ Group

HOW CAN YOU HELP THIS COMMITTEE? Offer to host a happy hour! It is very easy. The event is BYOB and a pot luck. You are in charge of setting up the happy hour supplies and cleaning up. Contact Joan or Bill for more information or if you are ready to host a SYC happy hour!
Get to know Charter Members Jake and Ginger Smith! They have been members of the SYC since the founding days at Mills Marina before it was chartered. Both graduated from William & Mary with undergraduate and advanced degrees and will have been best friends and spouses for 48 years in December (after meeting on a blind date). Jake practiced law in Poquoson and York County before serving as Commonwealth’s Attorney and later as Juvenile & Domestic Relations Judge from which he retired in 2006. Ginger served as a teacher in York County Schools for 31 years retiring also in 2006 as a Reading Specialist. One of her students she taught to read in the first grade came to Ginger as a third grader to introduce her to her kindergarten sister. “This is Mrs. Smith—she saved my life; she made me who I am today.”

It was as an attorney that Jake helped organize, adopt by-laws, charter the Club, and purchase the property now occupied by the Club from one of his clients. Not knowing if the membership would approve a purchase of real estate, Ginger was convinced she would have to move to the old farm house and raise their daughters, Jaclyn and Allyson, there with no heat. The Club agreeing to buy part of the property probably saved the marriage!

Jaclyn is an Account Executive for Timberland PRO and a newer member of SYC. She lives in Chesterfield. Allyson is a physical therapy assistant for Sentara and is married to Rob Dye who is a manager for Cox Communications. They live around the block from Jake and Ginger and have a son, James Robert (Jake), who is 9 years old, and a daughter, Ava Downing, who is 6 years old. Both have already taken the helm of Ginger’s Mercedes and they keep their GiGi and Pop very busy. Ava took her first steps at a SYC Burn Your Socks party the day before her 1st birthday!

Jake and Ginger, besides being Charter Members, have held various positions in SYC. Jake is a past Commodore coming up through the ranks. Ginger was Treasurer and member of the BOT. Both of them have been Fleet Captains of Sail. Jake is a Keel Owner and Ginger is a member of the Keel Club. They enjoy volunteering for the various opportunities the Club provides because it allows them to really get to know the other members of SYC.

Salt water is in Jake’s veins having served as Operations Officer and OOD (F) on an ocean minesweeper and as Officer-in-charge of a Navy Swift Boat in Vietnam. After active duty, Jake continued in the Naval Reserve with Special Operations assignments and retired as a Captain. It was only natural that they would settle in Poquoson (where Ginger went to high school) and continue in boating. Ginger adapted readily and that resulted in her participating in and skippering their Pearson Triton yawl on two Club women’s cruises up the Bay. They started out as powerboaters but quickly ventured into sailing. Jake rebuilt a 35’ pre-1920 Sharpie Schooner named Pacosin which was an invited vessel to several Harborfests in Norfolk and Bay Days in Hampton. The next vessel was Classical Gas, a Pearson Triton yawl which was the 16th of 16 sold at the 1959 New York Boat Show. Classical Gas cruised the Bay with the Smith family for a few years until they moved up to the first Ginger’s Mercedes, a 1981 Pearson 35. After many cruising miles and Club and Cock Island races, the current Ginger’s Mercedes, 1983 Morgan Out Island 41 was purchased in Destin, FL in horrible shape and came to SYC in 1999 for Jake & Ginger to restore. Continuous updating and extensive use culminated with Jake and Ginger taking several trips down the ICW eventually deciding to winter on their boat in Charleston, SC for several years in a row.

The Smiths have cruised extensively on the Chesapeake Bay with stops in Rock Hall, Annapolis, St. Michaels, Oxford, Cambridge, Herrington Harbor, Solomons Island, Crisfield, Reedsville, Windmill Point, Deltaville, Onancock, Cape Charles, and points south as well as numerous ICW towns all the way to Savannah. They look forward to many more cruising opportunities with SYC members.
SYC FLAGPOLE

Shortly after the Club purchased the property in 1983 Cliff and Carol Collier donated a tall flagpole to the Club. Cliff was Commodore at the time of the property purchase. Dave Crossett then drew up the layout for the cross spar, gaff, and base and Joe Hubbard welded up the pieces to produce the mast as it is today. The base is embedded in a cubic yard of steel reinforced concrete for stability. With the installation of the mast the property visually changed from being a small farm on the water to a yacht club.

The mast was designed and constructed so that it can be readily lowered for maintenance. Generally every couple of years Dan Smoker or Bill Reiser shows up with a crane or backhoe and lowers the mast for painting and inspection of the halyards and blocks which are replaced as necessary.

A problem encountered early on was that the flag would snag on the cable rigging which supported the gaff to the main mast. Mark Hinman solved this problem by rigging a leather sleeve to cover the joint. Some have questioned why the American flag is flown from the gaff rather than the top of the mast. According to marine flag etiquette the gaff is the position of honor and therefore the American flag is properly flown there. As an aside, John LaRoche, who was a docent at the Mariners’ Museum at the time, argued forcibly with the staff there that the museum’s American flags should be flown from the gaffs on the masts. The staff finally acquiesced and the Museum’s American flags are now properly flown from the gaffs.

For years the flag at the Club, lighted at night, was flown 24 hours a day, from the Flag Raising Ceremony in the Spring until Fall cleanup. Following the tragic events of 9/11, the Board of Trustees decided to fly the flag 24 hours a day year round.

-Information pulled from documents from Barry Shrout, SYC Historian-

FLAG INFORMATION

This month we will have our Flag Raising Ceremony. Here is information from the SYC Member Guide Policies & Procedures (Article XX) regarding flags. CLUB BURGEE, OFFICERS’ FLAGS:

Sec. 1 — The **Club Burgee** shall be a blue pointed flag, the hoist to be two-thirds of the length with a white diamond field enclosing the blue letters SYC in monogramatic design approximately one-fourth the length of the fly from the hoist.

Sec. 2 — The **Commodore’s Flag** shall be blue, rectangular, the hoist to be two-thirds of the fly with a vertical fouled anchor in white, encircled by thirteen five pointed white stars.

Sec. 3 — The **Vice-Commodore’s Flag** shall be the same as the Commodore’s, but the field shall be red instead of blue.

Sec. 4 --- The **Rear-Commodore’s Flag** shall be the same as the Commodore’s, but the field shall be white instead of blue, and all designs shall be blue.

Sec. 5 — The **Secretary’s Flag** shall be blue, rectangular, the hoist to be two-thirds of the fly, with crossed white quills at the center of the rectangle.

Sec. 6 — The **Treasurer’s Flag** shall be blue, rectangular, the hoist two-thirds of the fly, with a white acorn at the center of the rectangle.

Sec. 7 --- The **Acting-Commodore’s Flag** shall be blue, rectangular, with the hoist two-thirds of the fly.

Sec. 8 --- The **Fleet Captain’s Flag** shall be white, rectangular, the hoist to be two-thirds of the fly, with a blue fouled anchor, in length two-thirds of the hoist, superimposed, flukes down, at an angle from left to right, at the center of the rectangle.

Sec. 9 — The **Race Committee’s Flag** shall be rectangular with a red fouled anchor set vertically, flanked by the two letters R.C. in white on a blue field.

Past Commodore’s Flag
SYC BURGEE Flown in Iraq

On the 21st day of March, 2005 during combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, a SYC burgee was flown over the liberated country of Iraq on the yardarm of Combat Support Special Squadron (HCS-4) when SYC member Captain John Bryant, USNR served overseas.

On this Independence Day, please give thanks to our men and women that serve our country and help keep us free.
SUMMER PARTY: **August 1st** (RSVP by 7/15)

At the time of publishing of this Semaphore the state of VA will be in Phase 3 in time for the August 1st Summer Party. Best practices outlined by the state of VA, the CDC, and the VA Department of Health will be in place for the party. We are currently planning on utilizing a caterer and having servers that will follow the VA Department of Health guidelines. We need a head count for the caterer so it is important to RSVP by the deadline. If you RSVP yes for the party and do not attend, you will be charged the cost of the ticket fee. If we need to cancel the party, you will not be charged the party fee.

*Please send photos.* There will be a SYC memory slide show playing on a screen at the party. Please send pictures to sycsummerparty@gmail.com if you have any pictures from SYC adventures, parties, etc.

REMINDER: CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDER to Club Committee Chairs, Entertainment/Party/Dinner Chairs, BoT, or any Club member wanting to make an announcement. We now have social media and announcements or club information can be made via email AND our Facebook private group page for immediate posting. Please feel free to post on the group page at any time. This offers AT ONCE updates for information for all club members without any delay. Email coupled with our private Facebook group page should be considered a best practice for reaching members regarding communication. (If you prefer not to post on your own, please Cc: sycsemaphore@gmail.com on your email posting request email so the announcement can also be posted on social media in a timely manner.)

SYC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

It is important for us to get likes and followers for our social media pages. It helps boost our online platforms. Click on the links below and like or follow SYC!

Don’t forget to tag or check into Seaford Yacht Club in your photos when you are at the club or boating. Please tag the public pages if you feel comfortable so we can promote how much fun we have at the club. Social media is a great (and FREE) way to market to potential members. Please do not tag the SYC-Admin Facebook page. That page was only created in order to launch the Seaford Yacht Club public page and the private Facebook group for members. The SYC Admin page is not a working social media page and tags will not show up on the SYC pages.

**If you have not joined the Seaford Yacht Club Members - Private Group on Facebook, please click HERE to join.**

This is where you will find the latest announcements, updates, and event information.

Click the below links to like/follow our pages.

- **Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/SeafordYachtClub/
- **Instagram:** https://www.instagram.com/seafordyachtclub/
- **Twitter:** https://twitter.com/SYC_Yorktown
- **YouTube:** https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwL9-mR28t8-DDSeZWL9m7Q/featured
- **Pinterest:** https://www.pinterest.com/seafordyachtclub/
- **LinkedIn:** https://www.linkedin.com/company/seaford-yacht-club
May 12, 2020

SYC BoT Meeting summary – May 12, 2020

Call to Order: The Zoom Meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

Members Present: Pete Showalter, Steve Riley, Brad Berry, Sandy Shem, Donna Nitchie, Jerry Dooley, Jandy Strickland, Cecil Adcox, John Leist, Jimmy Richardson, Tina MacRitchie

Member Guests Present: Randy Strickland – Building Committee, Angee Berry – Finance Committee

Secretary’s Report: The minutes of the April 14, 2020 meeting previously distributed were approved. Donna motioned to approve the report; Sandy seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Treasurer’s Report: Jandy presented the monthly Treasurer’s report. She was happy to report that all membership dues have been paid and the first principle payment was made on the construction loan. Donna motioned to approve the report; Jerry seconded. Vote Unanimous

Building Committee – Randy gave a report on the construction budget. He noted there were change orders for the bathroom and Barnacle. He said the sheet rock was in, cabinets were received for the Barnacle and Formica was installed. Jim Blotter completed the bar. Trim work, baseboards, crown and framing work will be done next week. The concrete and final grading will be done soon. Donna motioned to approve the changes; Jerry seconded. Vote Unanimous

New Business
The BoT members had a lengthy discussion about social distancing and the numbers of people that could potentially attend any upcoming events. It was decided that, per the current Executive Order, we will have no scheduled activities and will continue social distancing. This includes Junior Sailing. Junior Sailing will hopefully be scheduled for later in the summer.

Club Rental Committee – The committee met and set two levels of rental fees. Some rates will not increase until next year. There was discussion regarding shelving this until next year in order for members to have input at an upcoming dinner. There are currently only two rentals on the books.

New Member Recruiting – The BoT is looking for opportunities to promote new member recruiting.

Old Business
The BoT discussed deferring the upcoming Flag Raising Ceremony. One option may be to do a big event to celebrate the completion of the construction project along with other items. We expect to have further discussion regarding this.

MEETING ADJOURNED – 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted – Kathy Moore - Secretary
Call to Order: The Zoom Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Members Present: Pete Showalter, Steve Riley, Donna Nitchie, Jerry Dooley, Jandy Strickland, Cecil Adcox, Brad Berry John Leist, Jimmy Richardson, Justina MacRitchie, Kathy Moore

Member Guests Present: Randy Strickland – Building Committee

Secretary’s Report: The minutes of the May 12, 2020 meeting previously distributed were approved. Jimmy motioned to approve the report; Jandy seconded. Vote: Unanimous

Treasurer’s Report – Jandy presented the monthly Treasurer’s report. She said there is a CD coming to maturity and she will be contacting the bank to find the best option for reinvesting that. She will also be checking to see what interest earning options are available for the money in the checking account. It was agreed that we would hold off on reinvesting in a new certificate of deposit and revisit this at our next meeting. Pete motioned to accept the report as submitted; Justina seconded. Vote Unanimous

Building Committee – Randy gave an update on the Building Committee progress. He said the exterior work is complete. FiOS has been connected in the building. Randy and Bob Beilhart plan to assist with the connection of the new Handicap Operator. The ice machine and service kegerator will be ordered next week. The tables and chairs for the Barnacle are on hold for now.

Old Business
Jerry asked that we all be as active as possible in recruiting new members. He has posted information in a sailing magazine and encourages us all to help promote our club to potential members.

Brad is working on getting quotes on flood insurance to compare to current rates. Our flood insurance is up in October.

New Business
In our continuing conversations regarding the COVID-19 Phase 2 guidelines, there was discussion regarding potential options for the July 12 Flag Raising Ceremony and the Summer Party. The motion to continue with the July 12 ceremony, with more information to follow and limiting the number of attendees to 50, was made by Brad and seconded by Steve. Vote: Unanimous

Pete shared the housekeeping procedures update that he received from Jeanette. He noted – “The Housekeeping Chair Role: Assure that SYC club facility is clean and well supplied for club activity (LRP Goal #3)” and said the house keeping policies will be updated to include maintaining disinfectant supplies and hand sanitizers. The finalized version is to be added to the SYC Membership Guide. Pete motioned to approve the changes for the Membership Guide; Jimmy seconded. Vote Unanimous

Anyone that would like to donate funds for purchasing items for the club should send their check made payable to SYC to Jandy/Randy.
Meeting adjourned at 8:46

Respectfully submitted – Kathy Moore/Secretary
### CALENDAR

**July 2020**

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| **4th of JULY CRUISE** | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | Staggered Start Race: 12 PM  
Pot Luck Dinner: 5 PM |
|     | Postponed: COMMODORE CRUISE | Postponed: COMMODORE CRUISE | Postponed: COMMODORE CRUISE |     |     |     |
| 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  |
|     | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING |     |
|     |     | Board of Directors Meeting: 7 PM |     |     |     |     |
| 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  |
|     | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING | JUNIOR SAILING |     |
|     | SEMAPHORE Submission Deadline | Monthly Dinner Meeting 6 PM |     |     |     |     |
| 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |
|     | Happy Aunt & Uncle’s Day  
Happy 42nd Anniversary SYC! |     |     | Happy Father-in-Law Day! |     |     |

*COVID REGULATIONS: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic per Executive Order 67 Virginia is in Phase 3. See page 9 & 11 of this order for complete details regarding public and private social clubs. Click here to see a list of best practices for a private/social club on pages 30-32. Members and guests of the Club should adhere to the Guidelines for All Business Sectors expressly incorporated by reference herein as best practices. *Stay tuned for any updates or cancellations on events.*

**JACLYN SMITH, SEMAPHORE EDITOR**

Please send your news, photos, reports, or ideas for new/additional content to: SYCSemaphore@gmail.com.  
Deadline for submissions for next month’s issue is July 20, 2020