



The Bosun's Whistle

Submitted by Ron Reinsel, Commodore

Summer at Last

Summer is upon us. The days are long. The River is inviting. It is the time boaters' joy. The Pool is open and the Club is in full swing with all the activities that draw us here.

We ended June with a great party celebrating our 55th Anniversary with a Fifties Flair. It was a wonderful evening with the delightful company of many members, plenty of food and drink, dancing and carousing, reminiscing and memory making. Many thanks to Christine Stavropoulos, her entire committee as well as the many volunteers who made the spectacular night possible. Most importantly, many thanks also to all of the members who, over the past five and a half decades, have built and nurtured this Club. Without them, and each of you, none of this would be possible.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Security Chair Jack O'Malley and many other helpful hands, our new computerized security access control system is now up and running and new access cards have been distributed to the membership. The new system gives us the ability to control entry to the Club property, to track who has entered the property and when, and to provide differing levels of access for adult members (who have access to all of the Club facilities, including the interior of the House) and for minor children and authorized contractors (who have access only to the Pool area and the grounds). The new system also eliminates the "punch the number" combination lock at the Pool door that had the disturbing quality of having its combination disseminated wide and far to non-members.

In order to make the new system work effectively, it is important that members control the use of their access cards. The full access cards should be used only by the adult members to whom they have been issued and should not be lent to children or non-members.

continued on Page 4...

WELCOME ABOARD

Submitted by Lauren Bazel, Membership Chair

"Deep summer is when laziness finds respectability."
-Sam Keen



It is hard to believe that July is already upon us! Despite the strong pull to focus intently on the laziness of summer afternoons - on the water, at the pool, or on the Point - don't forget there still are a lot of events and happenings around the Club. Each one presents another opportunity to introduce MVYC to friends and neighbors who may be interested in becoming part of this first-class organization, and you are invited to put any interested families in touch with me directly by email (membership@mountvernonyachtclub.com) or phone (703-619-1096).

As a matter of fact, allow me to introduce you to the families who recently joined our ranks.

Doug & Sharon Chan

Doug and Sharon have been residents of Yacht Haven since March of 1998. At that time, they were looking for a house to rent as their wedding was approaching in the fall. However, shortly after being married they realized that they wanted to make Yacht Haven their home. They quickly fell in love with the large yards and mature trees, and thus decided to purchase a home here. They were lucky enough to have rented their home from former MVYC Commodore, John Ichter, who sold them the house that he raised his family in.



They have two girls, Allison, nine, and Kathryn, six, who are excited about the pool and the chance to be part of the Club's swim team. As parents of two young children, much revolves around after school activities for the girls including soccer, girl scouts, and dance lessons. Weekends are reserved for spending time together outdoors, taking day trips to D.C. or other local attractions, and working and playing in their yard.

When not spending time with the family, Doug is a physical therapist who has his own practice in Montclair, Virginia; Sharon is an occupational therapist who works with children with special needs in Fairfax County Public Schools.

continued next page...

The BEACON

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
THE MOUNT VERNON YACHT CLUB
4817 TARPON LANE
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22309

RON REINSEL, COMMODORE

BEACON STAFF

Editor: Bart Hewitt
Production: Blair Beggan
Photographer: George Holthaus
Photographer: Russell Poe
Circulation: Delong Litho

BEACON EDITOR

9123 Cherrytree Drive
Alexandria, Virginia 22309
Phone 703-799-0401

All Club members may submit articles, letters and notices for editorial review and possible publication. Submission by e-mail or compact disc is encouraged.

© COPYRIGHT 2011
MOUNT VERNON YACHT CLUB
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Cover artwork by Don Cannavaro

Deadline for Next Issue:
15th of the month

Beacon@MountVernonYachtClub.com

WELCOME ABOARD continued from Page 1

They both are very excited about being MVYC members and are looking forward to the opportunity to feel more a part of the Yacht Haven community through club membership. The special events and activities for families is something that appeals to them, as does the opportunity to meet even more new people.

Dan Schweih and Bianca Medrano

Dan and Bianca are business owners in the area and are all-around fun people. They have been focused on starting and running their company, Window Universe, but now are ready to kick back and enjoy some well-deserved play time. The business is located in Old Town and thanks to their hard work and dedication it has become one of the largest replacement window companies in the DC Metro area.



While “all work” has made them successful, they now have the chance to add some play and relaxation to their schedules. They discovered MVYC when they were looking to buy a boat. Once they came to a TGIF to meet our members they knew they wanted to join us.

Dan and Bianca are looking forward to becoming active Club members, meeting even more new people, and getting more involved in the community. Dan said he is ready to roll up his sleeves and Bianca sounded very enthusiastic about jumping in on social events. You can be sure one place to find them will be on the river in their 23-foot Yamaha boat – either at the fine local riverfront establishments like Tim's or as one of the boats that raft-up on any given sunny afternoon. They tend to drive company vehicles that are particularly noticeable, so if you see a Window Universe vehicle in the parking lot please don't hesitate to stop by and say hi.

Upcoming Meetings...



Membership Meetings

Suspended until September

Board Meetings

July 18
August 15
at 7:30 pm
3rd Mon of the month

Social Committee Meetings

Suspended until September

Rules to Live By

Just a reminder, that all MVYC members – new and seasoned – should visit our website (http://mountvernonyachtclub.com/forms/MVYC_Rules_and_Procedures.pdf) and refresh their knowledge of our rules and procedures.

For example, did you know that MVYC members are entitled to rent out our clubhouse for their own private functions? That's right. This is your venue to use and enjoy. Knowing the rules that govern club rentals will help to ensure that things go off smoothly for all members and their guests.

If you are planning an event and are interested in the clubhouse, please contact Joan Jones (703-780-2965 or NCCNL@aol.com) to check availability and get the reservation process rolling. Remember, all requests for exclusive use of the clubhouse have to be approved by the Board, so plan accordingly to factor in the monthly Board meetings.

Initiating this process early extends to other members the courtesy of advance notice of when the clubhouse will be rented and generally off-limits (with the exception of the Crow's Nest). It is also the best way to alert members that parking may be a bit tighter. In response, members should return the courtesy by keeping those parking spots closest to the clubhouse available for guests, thinking ahead and not depleting the inside ice makers, and generally being respectful so as not to interfere with another member's special event. Remember, the overarching purpose of our rules is to “set a standard that will enable all members to be comfortable in our new facility.”

On Your Mark

by Juliette Clark, Swim Team Chair



The pool warmed up quickly after the late May heat wave, and that meant that the littlest Dolphins didn't turn blue at swim practice. That's always a good thing, because as we all know... "there's no crying in swimming!" So it was a bunch of happy Dolphins at the first day of practice in the hot sun under the direction of Head Coach Mark Murray and Assistant Coach Joe Bradley. The swimmers started right off, just like last summer's season had never ended!

Once again, we have the smallest team in DCCL, but we are a mighty little bunch. Many of our swimmers are in the water year-round, and many others are athletic year-round in other activities, such as soccer or softball. Summer swimming is a great chance for our athletes to stay in shape and bond with friends of all ages. It warms the cockles of my heart (with a nod to the Toon Fleet) to see the 7 year-olds hang out with the 12 year-olds like they are all in the same family.

We have five dual meets, Relay Carnival, and All Stars ahead of us. Three of our meets are at home this year, so be sure to stop by on June 25, July 9, or July 16 to cheer on our team. Get a world-famous hot dog and visit the Ship's Store while you are there.

The Dolphins are hosting the annual 4th of July party again this year to be held on... wait for it... the 4th of July! The party starts at 12:00PM and features great food and fun games, including the ever-favorite "pain dive" and the greased watermelon contest. This traditional pool celebration has been going on for a LONG time, and if you have never been, you must come this year and see how MVYC does July 4th in style!

Our season wraps up at the end of July with our annual awards banquet. Check out this space in September's Beacon to see how the Dolphins fared at All Stars and to see if the mighty Catrons (Ryan and Sydney) break more team records.

Pool News

By Amy Walker, Pool Committee Chair



HI folks!

I hope you have had to chance to enjoy the pool and some of its new furniture. I have just a few things to call to your attention so that together we can run the pool smoothly.

- 1) Parties at the pool: Please contact me if you plan to have a party at the pool. I am happy to accommodate. I like to keep the guards informed of special functions and if I need to schedule more guards. There is a calendar in the guards office that you can "write in" when you would like to have your party. We welcome your guests. They may become future members!
- 2) Basketball hoop: The b-ball hoop decided to take a little break but it will be coming back. Thanks to Kevin Wirth for his research and results. We hope by the time you read this it will be standing back on the deck ready to challenge you.
- 3) Bathrooms: If you find the bathrooms need refills on paper products or soap, please inform the guards. Though they do check often, it never hurts to more eyes checking up on it.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!
Peace,
Amy Walker

AQUAPOWER
Pressure Washing
Tim Fitzgerald
703-853-0873

Residential and Commercial
Decks, Fences, Patios
Aluminum & Vinyl Siding

703-853-0873
fitzgerald151@verizon.net

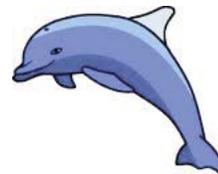
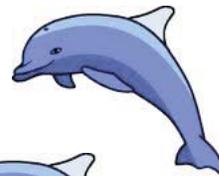
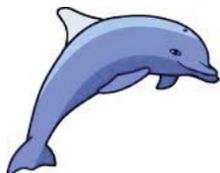
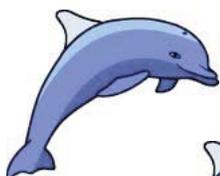
Join the Mighty MVYC Dolphins for the 4th of July!

Monday, July 4th

MVYC Pool

Pool Games begin at 12 noon!

Be there or be square!



Bosun's Whistle from Page 1...

Separate fobs may be obtained for members' children over the age of 8 which will provide access to the Pool and the pedestrian gate only. For dependents of legal driving age, the additional cards or fobs also may be programmed also to allow access through the vehicular gates. If you need additional cards or fobs, please contact Jack O'Malley.

In addition to Jack's great work on getting the new system set up, many thanks to the large cast of volunteers, including Bill Gard, Jim Lexo, Marianne Kettels, Harriet Singleton, Madeline O'Malley, Joe Fitzgerald, Jack Ferris, Don Basham, Stefan Tahmassebi, Dick McCormack, Pat McCarthy, and Pam Beggan all of whom assisted in getting the new cards distributed to the members. Special thanks to Jerry Gray for programming the system, to Lauren Bazel for data input, to Amy Walker for pool control/assistance and to our contractor George Holtz of Patriot Systems for a timely and successful system installation. We could not have done it without their help.

June also brought a bit of unwanted excitement to the MVYC Marina. On Friday evening June 10 there was a fire on board Jim Fletcher's boat. Luckily, at the time of the incident, the vessel was tied up at the far end of the gas dock so no other boats were close by or involved. More importantly, no one was on board at the time and no one was injured. There was also no damage to the marina or other Club facilities and gas dock operations were back to normal by the weekend.

The fire was confined to the interior of the boat and, thanks to calls from many Club members, the Fairfax County Fire Department arrived and got things under control fairly quickly. As of the writing of this article, determination of the cause and origin of the fire awaits further investigation. The Club extends its sympathies to Jim and Sharon.

While the damage to the Fletchers' boat was truly regrettable, we were fortunate in many ways. Most of all, no one was physically injured in the incident. Second, having been moved to the gas dock earlier in the day to undertake some maintenance, the fire did not threaten adjacent vessels and the entire port side of the boat was readily accessible to the Fire Department. Finally, the fact that the boat was diesel fueled lessened the threat of a potentially catastrophic explosion. Regardless, the incident is a stark reminder to all of us that the result could have been much worse and that the safety and security of our boats and our facilities should be foremost in our minds.

On a happier note, now that summer is really here it is time to take pleasure in another great season. School is out. The Fourth of July is looming. Picnics, lazing on the water, raft ups, cruises and days in the sun are beckoning. Enjoy!

Additionally, since the Beacon staff will be taking its usual summer vacation and therefore there will be no August issue, remember to mark your calendars now for our annual Wounded Warriors Picnic at noon Saturday September 3rd.

House Reminders

Contributed by Don Basham, The House Guy



We still have folks opening window blinds on both the Crow's Nest and 2nd Floor Main Level and not lowering them when they depart. Please help to conserve energy and keep our new carpet spiffy. You all seem to be doing your part in emptying and sorting the trash from the recyclables. And WE ALL say "THANKS". I still only hear from a couple of members about problems and attempt to fix them when notified; but I find many problems that have not been reported and should have been. Let me know when you see a problem and when you need something that I can be of service about.. I am currently trying to get some cost figures on fixing the Bar Level west side windows that have accumulated moisture between the glass panes. When I get a reasonable estimate on this, I will have them purged and you will be able to see the light. I will be cleaning the A/C units next week and this will cause some odor. Please bear with me as this is necessary to keep them running at top efficiency. Hope everyone is having a great summer as this weather has been terrific.

Toon Fleet News

by Bart Hewitt, Toon Fleet Co-Weenie

The members of the Toon Fleet have had an unusual, but exciting time during this early part of the boating season. Sadly, none of the excitement involved the Toon. We launched the Toon and put'er in'er slip about a month or more ago. However, due to the many demands on our time - a week at Deep Creek Lake, a lot of biking, hours of resting, pulling lawn weeds, more resting, tending to our precious Misty-The-Dog, tending to our bird feeders, going to New Jersey, and a lot of other stuff including resting - we have only taken the Toon out on the river once. We're pretty sure she is still in her slip; but we'll check again soon to make sure. Meanwhile, I know that many of you want to ask the question, "Who, in his/her right mind, would willingly go to New Jersey? Well, my sister lives up there and it was her birthday. We'll be planning our first Toon Fleet Raft-up of the season soon, probably to be held sometime during the next several months. One little-known fact: the Toon Fleet doesn't just raft up will-nilly; we actually hold practice raft-ups to make sure we remember how to do it. Look for us just off Mount Vernon, furiously bobbing up and down and rocking side to side due to the !@#%&* wakes thrown up by those !@#%^&* power boats.

The MVYC Dolphins Swim Team
cordially invite YOU to celebrate the
4th of July at the Pool!

FOOD!

Drinks!

POOL GAMES!

The fun begins at 12 noon.

**(The annual slow-pitch softball game
begins at 10 AM at Grist Mill)**

**All proceeds benefit the
MVYC Swim Team**

GO DOLPHINS!

On The Docks

Submitted by Jerry Gray, Marina Chair, marina@mountvernonyachtclub.com

The temperature is up and most of the floating debris has naturally washed out of the marina, now we can look forward to hydrilla. We boat - therefore we put up with anything.

We are as full as I can ever remember and still have boats on the wait list, with just a few small slips available. Fuel prices soared at the beginning of the season topping out at \$4.22. Fuel purchased in Mid June has us once again under \$4.00 per gallon, and I hope prices continue to fall over the summer. Watch overfilling your fuel tanks in this weather - the cool fuel expands in the heat resulting in leakage from fuel vents on boats as the fuel warms in hot weather.

Regular maintenance of the marina continues with a number of electrical problems being repaired in June, including bad outlets on B dock, E dock, and one electrical connection on D dock that was, at times, underwater. I'd like to thank Don Basham for volunteering to repair a couple of the outlets.

Nautical term of the month: **hot (adj)**

Definition: 1) July and August at MVYC.

Social Committee Report

By Clay Collier, Social Committee Chair

Summer is off to a great start with wonderful weather for the Memorial Day weekend. June was also a busy time at the club with lots of TGIF's, boats getting ready for the season and, well, we are continuing to remove a good part of Maryland and West Virginia from around the docks.

Two events from May that I want to mention:

Commissioning Day was, again, a huge success. A huge thank you to Jacque Knight and Susan Rehe for a wonderful day! Despite the initial rain, the sun appeared just in time for the bagpipes, the marine patrol, the dignitaries, and of course, the champagne. The point looked wonderfully festive...and a special thanks to all who decorated their boats for the celebration. And if anyone knows the condition of the photographer who wanted to get the perfect angle for the cannon shot and ended up being a little too close to the end of the cannon, please let me know! I'm sure the shot was great, but he may have paid a price for his creativity!

The Mother's Day Tea celebrated many of the women in our lives. A big thanks to Pam Beggan for chairing this event once again. More than 50 women enjoyed and old fashioned afternoon tea while donning beautiful hats and celebrating the wonderful things our Mothers and others do for us. This was a wonderfully genteel way to spend a spring afternoon!

The biggest event for the summer is the 55TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY ON THE POINT... June 26. Since articles for the Beacon had to be in by June 15th (or face the wrath of the Tune gods!) I will report on the fun we all had in the August Beacon.

Since the next social committee event isn't until September I have cancelled the June, July and August committee meetings. We will resume in September but feel free to contact me with any interest in participating in planning any of the fall events.

See you on the docks!!

Please note:

According to a time-honored tradition, the BEACON will not be published in August.



July 2011



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31  5 pm Swim Team Awards Banquet | |  |  | | 1 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF | 2 |
| 3 7 pm 4th of July Parade of Lights | 4 12 Noon  4th of July POOL PARTY! 7 pm DC Fireworks | 5 9 am Yoga Class | 6 | 7 8:30 am Yacht Haven Garden Club | 8 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF | 9 9 am  Dolphins Home Swim Meet vs. Hidden Creek Country Club |
| 10 | 11 AM Closed for Cleaning | 12 9 am Yoga Class | 13 | 14 | 15 9 am Yoga Class PVYCA Float In → | 16 9 am  Dolphins Home Swim Meet vs. Evergreen Country Club |
| 17 → | 18 AM Closed for Cleaning 7:30 pm MVYC Board Mtg | 19 9 am Yoga Class | 20 | 21 7:30 pm Coast Guard Auxiliary Mtg | 22 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF | 23 |
| 24 | 25 AM Closed for Cleaning | 26 9 am Yoga Class | 27 | 28 | 29 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF | 30 |



August 2011



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------|--|-----------------------|-----------|---|--|----------|
| | 1 AM Closed for Cleaning | 2 9 am Yoga Class | 3 | 4 8:30 am Yacht Haven Garden Club | 5 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF | 6 |
| 7 | 8 AM Closed for Cleaning | 9 9 am Yoga Class | 10 | 11 | 12 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF | 13 |
| 14 | 15 AM Closed for Cleaning 7:30 pm MVYC Board Mtg | 16 9 am Yoga Class | 17 | 18 7:30 pm Coast Guard Auxiliary Mtg | 19 9 am Yoga Class Red Brown Memorial Cruise → | 20 |
| 21 → | 22 AM Closed for Cleaning | 23 9 am Yoga Class | 24 | 25 | 26 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF | 27 |
| 28 | 29 AM Closed for Cleaning | 30 9 am Yoga Class | 31 | | | |



THE MOUNT VERNON YACHT CLUB
4817 TARPON LANE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22309



Long-Term Care

Over the course of a lifetime you save and invest to achieve many goals. But have you taken into account how the future need for long-term care can impact your financial security, your quality of life and your family's well being?

As a member of the Mount Vernon Yacht Club, you and your family are eligible to receive **PREMIUM DISCOUNTS** on long-term care insurance from John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.). Eligible family members include:

- Spouses
- Parents
- Siblings
- Children
- In-laws
- Step-parents
- Step-children

For more information, please contact:

Faisal Syed-Haq

financial advisor

703.287.7134 fsyed-haq@jhnetwork.com

INSURANCE, INVESTMENTS, ESTATE PLANNING
RETIREMENT PLANNING, FINANCIAL PLANNING

Long term care insurance is underwritten by John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.), Boston, MA 02117. Offering John Hancock Insurance products. Register Representative/Securities and Investment Advisory Services offered through Signator Investors, Inc., Member FINRA, SIPC, a Registered Investment Advisor.

8607 Westwood Center Drive, 3rd Fl, Vienna, VA 22182 (703) 893) 2550

180-20110228-68782