

# Let the Season Begin!

by Susana Gomez

Sunday, May 1st, the sunshine broke through the rain clouds just in time for the Mount Vernon Yacht Club's 49th Commissioning Day ceremony. The Mt. Vernon Community Band entertained us with their patriotic music. The U.S. Coast Guard presented the colors. And in addition to commissioning our sail and power fleets, the Mt. Vernon High School Crew Team commissioned two new shells. Each was punctuated by a champagne toast.

Rev. Huey Sevier of St. James Episcopal Church blessed



Past Commodore Jerry Skelly looks on as Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland pledges to help MVYC fight for funds to dredge a channel to our marina. (Photo: Stuart Matthews)



The colors were presented by the Honor Guard of the United States Coast Guard. (Photo: Russell Poe)

the fleets. Bart Hewitt sang a stirring rendition of the National Anthem, and our very own Mount Vernon Yacht Club Singers, accompanied by Past Commodore Jim Hamrick, led us in singing America The Beautiful.

Past Commodore Jerome Skelly did a superb job as Master of Ceremonies. Commodore Bonnie Brene-man gave inspiring remarks and introduced the Board and former Commodores. All in all, it was a traditional, patriotic and intergenerational event that made us all feel proud.

(See **Commissioning Day** on page 4)

**No Membership Meeting This Month**  
 Next Board Meeting: 20 June 7:30pm  
 Next Membership Meeting: 1 September 8pm

**In This Issue:**

Bosun's Whistle .....	3	Gas tax refunds.....	9
Pool Opens Soon!.....	5	Newcomers Party.....	12

# Bow Lines

*Chris Ruckman,  
Vice Commodore,  
Beacon Editor*



As I mentioned last month, Alexandria City Marina will hold a memorial service on June 4th for Deke Heath, who died in March after 19 years as Dockmaster. Details are still being finalized, but the service will probably involve a memorial boat parade and a service at Old Dominion Boat Club. For details, call Laura Seidler at Alexandria City Marina (703-838-4265).

The Connection Newspaper had an especially nice article about Deke, and you can read it online by visiting this web page:

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=49783&paper=59&cat=104>

Now on to a topic of special interest to the Club's power boaters: the price of boat fuel.

MVYC's fuel dock is charging more for fuel this year than last year, and some patrons have wondered who sets the price. I think people worry that the Club might be using the fuel dock as some sort of profit center ... after all, certain Vice Commodores do have boat payments to make!

How I wish that were true — but the reality is more mundane. The Marina Rules spell it out: "The Marina Chairman will set gasoline prices. The gasoline will be sold on a non-profit basis, and the price will be set to adequately cover the Club's expenses."

In other words, we choose a price that will just cover our purchase price plus operating costs such as maintenance of the fuel pump and the underground tank. This year's price, though higher than last year's, is cheaper than most commercial marinas in our area.

But when you plan your next visit to the fuel dock, be prepared to wait in line! The Vice Commodore refuels his boat the same way a noted Boston politician once encouraged people to vote: early and often.

## More from Commissioning Day 2005



Virginia Nelson and Diane Wilson enjoy the lovely weather. (Photo: Russell Poe)



Commissioning Day was enjoyed by young and old alike! (Photo: Russell Poe)



It's not the length of the barrel — it's how many people you have to warn about the blast! (Photo: Russell Poe)

## The BEACON

Published monthly by  
the Mount Vernon Yacht Club  
4817 Tarpon Lane, Alexandria, VA 22309  
Bonnie Breneman, Commodore

### Beacon Staff

Editor: Chris Ruckman  
Editor's Editor: Diane Wilson  
Photographer: George Holthaus  
Photographer: Russell Poe  
Circulation: Mark Thompson

Beacon Editor, 4762 Neptune  
Drive, Alexandria VA 22309  
703-799-4564

[Beacon@MountVernonYachtClub.com](mailto:Beacon@MountVernonYachtClub.com)

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 2005 Mount Vernon Yacht Club, All Rights Reserved.

Cover artwork by  
Don Cannavaro

**Deadline:  
15<sup>th</sup> of month**

# The Bosun's Whistle

Bonnie Breneman, Commodore



As you probably know if you visited MVYC over the past week, United Christian Ministries held a large fundraiser at the Point on Saturday, May 21st.

The event, billed as "Under the Stars," seems to have been a success for the organization. Because 200 or more attendees were anticipated, the Board made a decision to use a parking management process not formerly needed. Thanks to the membership for cooperating with the parking management situation.

Because of some questions from MVYC members before, during and after the event, I feel compelled to clarify our "Use of the Point" rules. First and foremost, we never exclude members

## ... UCM held a large fundraiser at the Point on Saturday ...

nance and safety well in hand, and are anticipating a great season.

The Social Committee and the Swim Team have several

events planned—see notices elsewhere in the BEACON. The Sail and Power Fleets have already begun their schedules. The grounds and house are ready for the continued enjoyment of the membership. Are we not the luckiest people in the area to have this wonderful venue for year-round activities?

Membership meetings, as usual, have been suspended until September. The Board will continue meeting the third Monday of each month to assure the fiscal and physical well-being of our Club.

The Nominating Committee will soon begin its annual search for volunteers for the 2005-2006 Board. Please consider how YOU can promote and support MVYC with your participation.

See you around the Club!

*Long-time MVYC member Colonel **Richard H. Lally**, USAF (Ret) passed away on May 1. He was sorely missed on Commissioning Day — an event in which he and his wife, Joan, participated for some 25 years. The couple could usually be found relaxing on their boat at the end of A-Dock. A Memorial Mass will be held at the Fort Myer Chapel and he will be buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on August 3, 2005.*



Zoe Stavropoulos tries out one of the rowing machines brought to Commissioning Day by the Mount Vernon Crew Team. (Photo: Alexi Stavropoulos)



Joan Jones and Susan Rehe were among the many tireless volunteers that made it happen! (Photo: George Holthaus)

(From *Commissioning Day*, page 1)

Invited dignitaries included Sen. Toddy Puller, Delegate Kris Amundson, Fairfax County Chairman Gerry Connolly and Mt. Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland. They truly enjoyed our annual commissioning day.

At the end of the ceremonies, club members and guests were treated to an exciting race by the Mt. Vernon High School Crew Team. It was fun and we were all cheering them on with Tom Pojeta blowing the horn on his boat.

Commissioning Day was a success because of the hard work of many club members. In particular, I would like to thank Mary McGowan, Mario Moreno, Susan Rehe and Zita Pojeta.



Commissioning Day always provides a great opportunity to meet our elected officials. Left: Virginia Senator Linda "Toddy" Puller was dressed for the occasion in Ben Pogue's favorite hat. Center: Representative Kristen Amundson literally rearranged the internal workings of the Commonwealth's governing bodies to make sure she could attend! Right: Fairfax County Chairman Gerry Connolly speaks to the crowd. *Photos: George Holthaus*



The MVYC Singers led the crowd in singing "America the Beautiful." *(Photo: Stuart Matthews)*



The Mount Vernon Community Band provided just the right atmosphere. *(Photo: George Holthaus)*



The MVYC Board of Trustees. *(Photo: George Holthaus)*

Special thanks to the many other volunteers whose efforts helped make this special day possible: Roy & Norma Avery, Peter Baldwin, Chris & Lauren Bazel, Pam & Neal Beggan, Cathy Bradford, Greg & Julia Casey, Richard & Anna Diefendor, David Donnock, Virginia Edgell, David & Paula Givens, Jim Hamrick, Bart & Evelyn Hewitt, Mary Ann & George Holthaus, John Ichter, Joan & Ron Jones, Tom Kline, Ed & Jacque Knight, Russell & Kate Magnuson, Chuck & Anita Manka, Stuart Matthews, David Miskimens, Don Myers, Ted Pearsall, Russell Poe, Tom Pojeta, Royce & Chris Radeline, Greg & Eric Rehe, Claudia & Ron Reinsel, Jack & Brenda Sanders, Jerry & Marge Skelly, Pat & Karin Stallings, Don Waller, Lew & Mike Wetzal, Carol Whited, and Ed & Margaret Zebrosky.

# Pool News

Revae Moran, Pool



## It's Pooltime!

Yes, it's time for fun in the sun — the pool is sparkling clean and ready to go! Bring your suit, some sunscreen and a towel, and get ready for some serious relaxation. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful, large pool at MVYC. If we keep an eye on safety, we can make sure that everyone stays safe while having a great time.

The pool opens on Saturday, May 28th, and will be open from 11 am to 9 pm every day, weather permitting, through Labor Day.

For those with of you with children, encourage them to join the Swim Team so that they can learn to swim well and be safer in our boating environment. Contact Ellen MacNair at (703) 780-9713. Afternoon practice begins on Tuesday, May 31st at 4:00 pm.

We have formed a Pool Committee to make sure that our pool contractor, Winkler Pools, maintains the pool and bathrooms in a clean, safe condition. The committee also has plans to have a couple of pool parties in July and August in which the pool will be kept open later than normal. Stay tuned for more on this soon.

In addition, the committee has written up a list of expectations for the lifeguards, including what we expect of them and what they can expect of us. One of the first items on the list is that the lifeguards can expect to be treated with respect by the members, their children, and their guests. Another is that we expect the same treatment from them. Please forward any comments and concerns you have about the pool to Revae Moran, the Pool Committee Chair, at (703) 619-4924 or [blindcat@verizon.net](mailto:blindcat@verizon.net).

Refresh your knowledge of the MVYC pool rules – you received a copy when you joined, and they're posted on the website. Here are some highlights:

- The pool is for the exclusive use of MVYC members, their families, and guests. Guests must be accompanied by a member at all times.
- All members and guests must sign in when entering the pool area. This rule will be enforced more vigorously this year.
- The Pool Manager and other lifeguards are

responsible for maintaining a safe and orderly operation of the pool and, as such, have authority for the management of the pool, including the right to evict anyone (members, families, and guests).

- Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied at all times by an adult supervisor (parent or caregiver). For the pool area only, children under the age of 8 may be accompanied by a brother or sister age 15 years or older (with the written permission of their parents). The brother or sister must remain with the child for whom they are responsible at all times.
- If you plan to take a child wearing diapers into the pool, the child must also wear tightly fitting plastic or rubber pants. This is a Fairfax County health ordinance.
- No glass or other breakable items are allowed in or around the pool area.
- Please, no wet bathing suits in the clubhouse. This really makes a mess!

In addition to these rules, the Pool Committee has asked Winkler Pools to make sure that one of the lifeguards is sitting in the lifeguard chair any time that anyone (adult or child) is in the pool.

Finally, the only entrance to the pool is through the door with the cipher lock that leads to the pool through the bathrooms. The large side gate will be kept closed and locked except when deliveries are being made.

Have fun at the pool and please remember - safety first!



Commodore Breneman addresses the crowd with Board members and Steve Donock's *Last Resort* in the background. (Photo: Stuart Matthews)

# On Your Mark —

*Mike MacNair, Swim Team*



*by Cindy Ksenics*

That time of year is fast approaching when creatures shed their skins (as it were) and become aquatic -- that'd be Dolphins, in our neck of the woods!

Yes, the MVYC Dolphins will make their debut on Friday, June 10 at 6pm for Time Trials at our very own pool. We kicked off the season with a potluck, where swimmers and families got reacquainted and pumped up about a great summer of swimming, fun, excitement, and everything that makes our team cool.

And what's so great about our swim club? We ALL make it happen! We all pitch in, find our niche, and catch the excitement of youth, competition, and family. Whether we're swimming, timing, judging, herding kids, or flipping burgers, we're all there with the same goal: to give our kids a great experience and create memories. Who can forget the whole team (timers too!), together, poolside, cheering on little five-year old Thomas Wise as he toughed it out and finished his 25-

meter free? We may not have huge throngs of people like some clubs, but we make up for it in spirit!

This year's Head Coach is MVYC's own Dolphin alum Brooke Sorber. Brooke comes back to us after another year of active academic and athletic life at UVA. She sets a great example for goal-setting, achievement, and success.

Assistant Coach, Ryan Doyle, comes to the Dolphins with a wealth of swim training and competitive experience. A member of the Curl-Burke swim club, she has trained with some of the best and will bring a keen eye for teaching and refining technique and competitive skills.

With coaches like these, our kids are getting valuable training and experience! Joining the MVYC swim team, your swimmers will get the best swimming lessons for the best price! No child is too young, and it doesn't matter if they can swim one meter or 50. Remember Briana Burke's first time trial (at big, scary Belle Haven CC) when the coach swam with her, or Lauren Thomas refusing to swim without coach Brooke? Your children will be taught, cheered and encouraged until they succeed. In a neighborhood like ours with so many water-happy folks, good swimming skills are a must. It's never too late to register: \$75 for the first two children in a family, \$30 for the third and beyond.

Always remember: "Don't wait for your ship to come in; swim out to it." Hope to see you poolside!

## 2005 MVYC Dolphins Schedule

1 May	6:00 p.m.	Kickoff Pot Luck Dinner	MVYC
15 May	4:00 p.m.	Stroke and Turn Clinic	George Mason
31 May	4:00 p.m.	Afternoon Practice Begins	MVYC
10 Jun	5:30 p.m.	Time Trials	MVCC
17 Jun	6:00 p.m.	Pizza and Pictures	MVYC
18 Jun	9:00 a.m.	Fairfax Country Club	MVYC
25 Jun	9:00 a.m.	Westwood	Westwood CC
27 Jun	8:00 a.m.	Morning Practice Begins	MVYC
4 Jul	10:00 a.m.	Softball and pool games	MVYC
7 Jul	5:00 p.m.	Springfield CC Meet	MVYC
9 Jul	9:00 a.m.	Mount Vernon CC Meet	Mt. Vernon CC
10 Jul	9:00 a.m.	Relay Carnival	Fairfax CC
12 Jul		Kings Dominion Trip	
16 Jul	9:00 a.m.	Hidden Creek	MVYC
23 Jul	9:00 a.m.	Evergreen CC	Evergreen CC
30 Jul	9:00 a.m.	All-star qualifiers	Springfield CC
31 Jul	10:00 a.m.	All star finals	Fairfax CC
31 Jul	6:00 a.m.	Banquet	MVYC

## Water-Front View

*Bill Gard &  
David Miskimens,  
Marina Co-Chairs*



### **Hitches & Glitches**

As we enter the busy boating season, the MVYC Marina Committee would like to make a few suggestions to ensure the safety and convenience of our members and their guests.

The first issue has to do with parking boat trailers at the Club during day trips on the river. Club rules require that trailers in the Marina area be parked parallel to the curbing south of the boat ramp on the west side of the driveway (across from the parking spaces). Parked trailers must not remain hitched to their tow vehicles. Trailers should be unhitched, and the vehicle parked in a regular parking space. Please do not just

pull your trailer up and leave it by the pool, blocking all of those parking spots! Restrictions on leaving trailers overnight are explained in the MVYC marina rules, which can be found on the website.

The second issue has important safety implications. Some boats in our marina have electrical hook-ups that are questionable at best, and may even violate safety codes. Such equipment could ultimately lead to fire, serious injury, or both. The Marina Committee and other Board members are looking into

electrical "best practices" at other marinas as well as researching marina maintenance and engineering web sites. We'll publish our findings soon.

In the meantime, here are several things we all can do:

Check your connectors on the shore power cord as well as on your boat for corrosion, other damage, or dampness. Poor power cord connections interfere

*(See **Marina**, page 8)*

## ... Never use auto- mobile battery chargers on boats ...



**Crew athletes prepare to take to the water. The Mount Vernon Crew Team took part in the Commissioning Day ceremonies as the unofficial "third fleet" of MVYC, with students showing off their vessels and conducting a race in Dogue Creek. (Photo: Russell Poe)**



**The Mount Vernon Crew Team. (Photo: George Holthaus)**



**The two crew shells raced to a thrilling photo finish. (Photo: Stuart Matthews)**

(From *Marina*, page 7)

with grounding potential, and rank among the leading causes of fires on boats. Poor ground connections also contribute to stray underwater currents that can do damage to stern drives and cause zincs to erode faster than normal. (And, how would you like to be in the water with stray underwater currents?)

**Never use automobile battery chargers on boats.** They provide no isolation, and are a frequent cause of grounding problems and stern drive damage.

Extension cords should not be used on boats unless plugged into a GFCI outlet. (Note that 20- and 30-amp twist lock marine outlets are not GFCI-protected.)

These are but a few of the common electrical problems in most marinas. We think we're a pretty typical marina, and are no exception to these problems. In addition to our own research, we're soliciting bids to survey the MVYC marina for underwater stray current problems. We hope to have a reasonable proposal soon for this important safety check.

If you want to learn more about electrical issues with boats and marinas, you can find a good article on the web by linking to:

[www.yachtsurvey.com/corrosion\\_in\\_marinas.htm](http://www.yachtsurvey.com/corrosion_in_marinas.htm)

**Nothing's too big  
for us to ship.**  
Ask about our freight services.

8647 Richmond Hwy  
Alexandria, VA 22309  
703-619-0500  
M-F 9am - 7pm  
Sat - 9am - 5pm  
Sun - Closed

©2004 Mail Boxes Etc., Inc.

**15% OFF**  
**FREIGHT SERVICES**

15% off freight and shipping. Offer is not valid in combination with any other offers. Valid at some locations only. Restrictions apply. ©2004 Mail Boxes Etc., Inc. 7/31/2004

The UPS Store™



The UPS Store™

# CALL PAT!

*"The Boater's Choice"*

REALTOR® for 3 former Commodores  
MVYC member since 1982  
Multi-Million Dollar Producer  
Mount Vernon Specialist



**PAT HILL**  
**CRS, GRI**

Office: 703-960-8900

Res: 703-360-4089

Email: [pat.hill@cox.net](mailto:pat.hill@cox.net)







## CBYCA Report

*Jacquie & Ed Knight*

### State Streamlines Gasoline Tax Refund Form

Virginia boaters worried about soaring fuel costs can be thankful that the Virginia gasoline tax will remain unchanged for another year. And, they should remember that tax refunds for gasoline and diesel fuel used for recreational boats can help ease their pain at the pumps.

Full state tax refunds of 17.5 cents per gasoline gallon and 16 cents per diesel gallon are available for boaters who save their receipts and send them to DMV along with copies of forms available from any DMV office or the internet ([www.dmv.state.va.us](http://www.dmv.state.va.us)).

Form FT216 will be available until July 1, when a new form, TS217, will become available. DMV will accept the old forms, but boaters will find the new ones easier to fill out because the new form will apply only to boats, not other vehicles.

Betty Jessie at DMV advises boaters to be sure to include their boat registration number when submitting refund request forms.

She also urges boaters to protect receipts from water and other damage so they are readable. And, receipts should be in the name of the applicant.

If boaters follow these few, easy guidelines, they should get their refunds in about 45 days, according to DMV. For further information, contact Betty Jessie (804-367-0931 or [betty.jessie@dmv.virginia.gov](mailto:betty.jessie@dmv.virginia.gov)).

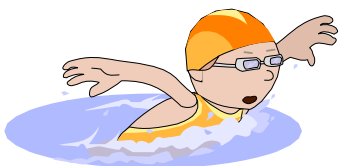
In fiscal year 2004, Virginia DMV processed 4,500 individual claims from recreational boaters and paid out over \$1 million. According to the Department of Game and Fisheries, Virginia has about 240,000 registered boaters. So, save those receipts! And find yourself the correct form from DMV.



## Join us for MVYC's annual 4th of July Celebration!



10 am Softball at Grist Mill Park

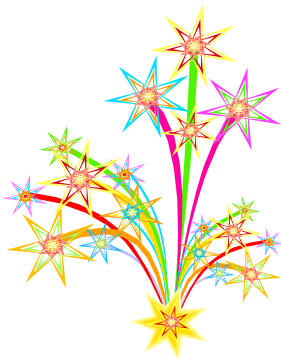


Noon Swim Team Pool Party  
Hot dogs & sodas etc. for sale  
Pool games with prizes for the kids

Aft/Eve BBQ & Picnic on the Point  
(Charcoal provided for BBQ'ers)



At Dark Watch Fort Belvoir's fireworks from the Point



Gunpowder and boats full of gasoline don't mix, so:

**No fireworks on the Point except hand-held sparklers.**

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!



# Power Fleet News

*David Miskimens,  
Power Fleet  
Captain*

Hey boaters, it's a totally boating season already. We've had a longer-than-usual spring, and that means warm days and cool evenings — perfect for sunset cruises!

We had a good turnout for the courtesy safety inspection. Fourteen vessels were checked out for the proper safety equipment and the owners received vessel safety inspection stickers. Well done! Oh, and I would like to give a special thanks for Alexi Stavropoulos, Gene Diotalevi, Chris Ruckman and Diane Wilson for orchestrating the inspection and the hot dog roast.

We conducted another "Photo Op" day to take some pictures of our fleet. It was a little windy, but we had a good turnout. It was amazing to see the "Toon" fleet out there first thing in the morning! Yes, Bart and Evelyn Hewitt along with Glenn and Carol Whited were the first to show up, representing their own Pontoon

("toon") Fleet! Unfortunately, by the looks of the pictures this time, it looks like we may try this again sometime soon. One picture that actually turned out was our newest addition to the power fleet, shown below with Jim Gordon and DeeDee Kaufman proudly at the helm.

Please join us for the MVYC 4th of July Parade of Lights. It's going to be an especially big turn-out on Saturday, July 2nd this year as we combine a few boats from our neighboring marinas. Watch for the Flyer around the Clubhouse and in next month's Beacon.



## **MVYC Independence Day Parade of Lights**

**Decorate your boat for the  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade  
of Lights.**

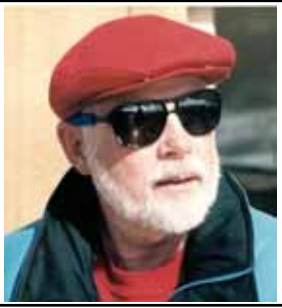
**Collect your red, white and  
blue lights, and outfit your  
vessel for this fun event on  
Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30  
PM**

## **DC Raft-Up: Saturday, June 4th**

**Interested in a mini-cruise to  
either Alexandria or Capitol  
Yacht Club on June 4th in  
conjunction with the memo-  
rial service for Deke Heath?  
Contact Power Fleet Captain  
Dave Miskimens for details!**

# Membership News

Bart Hewitt,  
Membership



Coupla days ago, I was reminiscing about some of our past members. Like Boob and Whiney Pooter. They didn't know squat about boating, but wanted to get into it, so they bought a used 22' cruiser. Launched it one Saturday, but couldn't get it to go faster than about 4 knots. Limped back to the marina, got Andy Salko and Don Waller to check the engine - nothing wrong. Until Andy waded into the lagoon and found the trailer still securely strapped under the boat. We really miss the Pooters. Ol' Boob 'n Whiney.

'Course, our newest members, Paul and Kristin Whitridge, not being boat owners, will not have those problems. Paul owns Mount Vernon Pools, Inc., and according to his bio, he likes hiking, trap shooting, golf and fishing. "Unfortunately," he writes, "he is not very good at any of them." Kristin likes running, hiking, camping, and reading. And like a few of MVYC's most talented and respected members, is from New Jersey. (Ahem.) They have two little ones, James (1), and Abigail (3.5).



Crew team members prepare for their race in Dogue Creek on Commissioning Day. (Photo: Alexi Stavropoulos)

## Applications Posted

by Bart Hewitt, Membership Chair

Pursuant to Article XV, Section 2(c), The Bylaws of the Mount Vernon Yacht Club, Amended October 3, 2002, the following application for membership has been posted. This family may be offered a membership when an opening becomes available.

*Bob and Bonnie Livingston, 7703 Northdown Road, Alexandria, VA 22308*

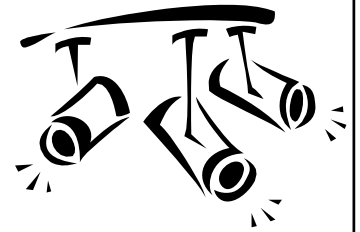
*Erich Molina and Suzanne Murtha, 4005 Gibbs Street, Alexandria, VA 22309*

Some MVYC'ers are celebrating membership anniversaries, and are way too smart to be found strapped under anything. They include Ebba Jo Spettel ('71), Jerry & Marge Skelly ('77), Dave & Gloria Curry ('80), Don & Norine Vogt ('83), Chuck & Anita Manka ('84), Chuck & Michele Downey ('85), and Jim & Sharon Fletcher ('85).

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't applaud all of the VOLUNTEERS who have upgraded the C-Dock/D-Dock part of our marina, spiffed up our grounds and Clubhouse, organized our TGIFs, Commissioning Day, and lots more. Shoot, man ... the list is long and very gratifying. MVYC thrives because of its many volunteers. Y'all thank them when you see them. Be proud, I say PROUD, if ye are one, Matey.

Finally, if you have a suggestion, a complaint, a change of phone, address or E-mail, or if you just want someone to loosen those trailer straps, call me at 703-799-0401, or E-mail me at our relatively new E-mail address - [behewitt@cox.net](mailto:behewitt@cox.net).

## New Member Spotlight



*New Members: We would love to introduce you by publishing a few paragraphs describing your family. Please contact Marge Skelly ([mmskelly@cox.net](mailto:mmskelly@cox.net) or 703-360-8374) or Membership Chair Bart Hewitt ([Hewitts.House@Verizon.net](mailto:Hewitts.House@Verizon.net) or 703-550-6023).*

**MELISSA & DAVID NARINS** have lived in the Collingwood Springs neighborhood of Alexandria for over eight years. David does consulting work for the Government on intelligence matters. Melissa does part-time public relations consulting work from their home. Their two children (Haley, age 9 and Will, age 7) attend Stratford Landing Elementary School. They both love to swim and boat. Haley is very interested in music and dance, while Will is currently playing baseball. Melissa is very involved in the Stratford Landing Elementary School PTA, co-chaired the school's 2005 Silent auction, and plans to co-chair their 2006 event. David has coached Will's Gunston Micro Soccer team for the past two years. They both enjoy running, the beach, spending time with family and friends, a good book, and a good glass of wine. When time allows, David likes to hit the links and Melissa loves horseback riding. They have been boating with friends and family for many years. Last year, they purchased their own boat, a 24-foot Sea Ray Sundeck. They are looking forward to time on the river where their kids can enjoy swimming and tubing. They understand that MVYC relies on member participation to operate, and are more than willing to join in that effort.

# CAPTAIN MORGAN WILL BE THERE! WILL YOU?



## “Pirates of the Caribbean” Newcomers Party



**Saturday June 11 6:30 PM**

Come and meet the Club's newest members!  
Tropical Drinks and Dinner

*Come dressed as a  
pirate or tropical bum, or  
risk being taken hostage and  
forced to walk the plank!*

\$25 per person (checks payable to MVYC). Adults only.

**Your check will be your reservation.**

Mail your check to Roy and Linda Gurnham  
4405 Dolphin Lane, Alexandria, VA 22309 by June 4

## VE Day Party

Stuart Matthews held a memorable TGIF to mark the 50th anniversary of VE Day. The Clubhouse was decorated in period flags, and there was a fascinating display of war memorabilia including a vintage truck parked outside. There was food galore. (Does MVYC do ANYTHING without food?)

Right: WWII articles, including photos and a unique lighter made from spent shell casings, adorned the display tables.

Below: New members Ron and Claudia Reinsel pose in front of vintage flags.

Lower right: Lew Wetzel and Ed Zebrowski still look as dashing as ever in their uniforms.

(Photos: George Holthaus)





## In the Spirit

*Susana Gomez & Zita Pojeta  
Social Committee*

**Commissioning Day** was a beautiful breezy day. Many members were there bright and early, ready and willing to help set up for the ceremony. Trucks were hauling chairs, tents and other items from the Clubhouse and storage area. Others were putting up tents, chairs, moving tables, and carrying cases of drinks to be chilled. A big thank you to Susana Gomez and Mario Moreno for chairing this event, and to everyone who helped. I would especially like to thank Susan Rehe for being in charge of refreshments again this year, and Mary McGowan for helping Susana and Mario direct the set up of the Point.

Now that the fleets have been commissioned and the boats are filling the slips, we will be having more informal get-togethers on the Point, docks or boats. These impromptu gatherings are a big part of the social life at the Club, and a good reason for looking forward to summer.

The **Mother's Day Tea** was lovely as usual, thanks to Pam Beggan and Blair Beggan Kelly. This annual event is one of the social highlights for many women in the Club. The tables looked beautiful and the food was enjoyed by all.

The next really big party will be the **Pirates of the Caribbean Newcomers Party** hosted by Linda

& Roy Gurnham. It will be **June 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M.** The party will be the Newcomer's Party where we introduce our newest members. The party will be held around the pool. Wear your colorful tropical dresses or shirts, pirate's outfits or anything you want, but do come! Captain Morgan will be there! Will he walk the plank or will you? Knowing Roy, the decorations will be outstanding. There will be good food, tropical drinks, beer, wine, and music. All of this and a fun night under the stars for just \$25 per person. Your check payable to MVYC will be your reservation. Please mail your checks to Roy Gurnham today. The deadline is near! See the flyer for details.

The TGIF's continue every week. Call Joan Jones (703) 780-2965 if you would like to host a TGIF.

In the May Beacon, I asked if any parents are interested in hosting children or teenage events or family nights at the pool, club or point. If you are interested, please call Zita Pojeta at (703) 780-3684.



Gloria Curry (center) gathers with two daughters and two granddaughters at the annual Mothers Day Tea. (Photo: George Holthaus)

MVYC wishes to thank


## Holly Woods and Vines

for loaning us some beautiful plants to decorate the Club on Commissioning Day!


*Holly Woods and Vines  
8453 Richmond Highway  
703-799-1607*



**MVYC Club Calendar – June 2005**

<b>May 29</b>	<b>May 30</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> Morning - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	<b>May 31</b> Swim Team - Afternoon Practice Begins	1	2 Garden Club Mtg - 8 am - 2 pm	3 7 pm - TGIF	4 Sail Fleet Race 3 & 4 - Spring Fling Regatta
5 Sail Fleet Race 5	6 Morning - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	7	8	9	10 6:00 pm - Swim Team Time Trials @ MVYC 7 pm - TGIF	11  <b>7 pm - Newcomer's Poolside Party</b>
12 Sail Fleet Race 6 Eve - Private Party	13 Morning - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	14	15	16	17 6 pm - Swim Team Pizza & Pictures 7 pm - TGIF	18 Swim Meet @ MVYC against Fairfax CC Eve - Private Party
19 Sail Fleet Make Up Race Eve - Private Party	20 Morning - Clubhouse closed for cleaning 7:30 pm - Board Mtg	21	22	23	24 7 pm - TGIF	25 Swim Meet @ Westwood CC Power Fleet - Tim's Fireworks Raft-Up Sail Fleet - Craney Island Night Race Eve - Private Party
26	27 <b>Swim Team - AM Practice Begins!</b> Morning - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	28	29	30	July 1 7 pm - TGIF	July 2

**MVYC Club Calendar – July 2005**

3	4  <b>Fourth of July!</b>	5	6	7 Garden Club Mtg - 8 am - 2 pm Swim Meet @ MVYC against Springfield CC	8 7 pm - TGIF	9 Swim Meet @ Mount Vernon CC
10 Relay Carnival @ Fairfax CC	11 Morning - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	12 Swim Team - Kings Dominion Trip	13	14	15 PRYCA Float-In in Crisfield MD (thru Sun) 7 pm - TGIF	16 Swim Meet @ MVYC against Springfield CC Afternoon/Eve - Private Party
17	18 Morning - Clubhouse closed for cleaning 7:30 pm - Board Mtg	19	20	21	22 7 pm - TGIF	23 Swim Meet @ Evergreen CC Eve - Private Party
24	25 Morning - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	26	27	28	29 7 pm - TGIF	30 All Star Qualifiers @ Springfield CC Eve - Private Party
31 All Star Finals @ Fairfax CC	<b>August 1</b> Morning - Clubhouse closed for cleaning	<b>August 2</b>	<b>August 3</b>	<b>August 4</b>	<b>August 5</b> 7 pm - TGIF	<b>August 6</b>