



The Bosun's Whistle

Submitted by Ron Reinsel, Commodore

ON TO THE HOLIDAY SEASON

As the last leaves fall and the final Thanksgiving leftovers devoured, we turn to the final month of the year and give our own thanks for a wonderful year on the water and at the Club. Most importantly, however, we also are busy preparing for a new year.

With the Club elections behind us and a new Board ready to take up their posts, I want to again thank Angie Miskimens and Petra Gray and their entire Committee, including Barb Baker, Marge and Jerry Skelly, Des and Ann Wassell, Diane Wilson and Chris Ruckman, and Ed and Margaret Zebrowski, for organizing a fabulous Commodore's Ball. Special thanks to Pam Beggan for her invocation, to Ed Zebrowski for serving as our Master of Ceremonies, to Russell Poe for his photography and to David Donock for serving as our Flag Officer.

If you did not happen to attend the Ball, you not only missed a wonderful affair and ought to make it a point to attend next year, but you also missed a special recognition and presentation to our retiring Beer Fairy, Russell ("Pokey") Poe. Pokey has for years made sure that our thirsts are quenched and our beer lockers never empty. He has our great appreciation for all that he has done. But, as day follows night, Beer Fairy also follows Beer Fairy. We were also proud to inaugurate Joe Castor as Pokey's successor and assure you that he has duly sworn to fulfill his weighty obligations.



Outgoing Beer Fairy,
Russell "Pokey" Poe



Incoming Beer Fairy,
Joe Castor and wife Stephanie

continued on Page 4....

Commodore's Ball and Change of Watch 2011

By Angie Miskimens



One hundred and two Mount Vernon Yacht Club members and friends gathered to honor our retiring board members, directors and Commodore Ron Reinsel. The commissioning of the incoming board members and directors was followed by the Change of Watch. Commodore Reinsel gave special thanks to Russell Poe for his many years of dedication and commitment as our beer fairy. He also honored our incoming beer fairy, Joe Castor with words of wisdom and you guessed it – his very own set of wings!

Ball Committee members, co-chaired by Angie Miskimens and Petra Gray, provided the assistance needed to make this event a huge success! Big thanks to Barb Baker, Marge and Jerry Skelly, Margaret and Ed Zebrowski, Ann and Des Wassell, Lauren Bazel, Chris Ruckman and Diane Wilson for making it all come together.

Special thanks to Pamela Beggan for her musical invocation, Russell Poe for photographing each arriving member and to the Master of Ceremonies Ed Zebrowski for livening up the evening! Thank you to David Donock for handling the flags for the Change of Watch ceremony.

An evening of socializing with club members, getting to know new members and dancing with music provided by the DJ from Bristol Sounds made the evening one to remember.

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



Commodore's Ball



Photos courtesy of Russell Poe

Upcoming Meetings...



Membership Meetings

December 1
January 5
1st Thurs of the month

Board Meetings

December 19
January 16
at 7:30 pm
3rd Mon of the month

Social Committee Meetings

December 12
January 9
at 7:30 pm
2nd Mon of the month

2
0
1
1

An MVYC Christmas

By N. Clement Mooring

'Twas the tide before Christmas and all through the boat
Not a fixture was leaking, we continued to float.
The dock lines were strung from the fore to the aft
In hopes no misfortune would befall our craft.

The crew were nestled all snug in their bunks
With visions of Yellow Birds served up by monks.
First Mate in her slicker and I an old cap,
Had just snuggled up in hopes of a nap.

When out on the marina there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my berth to see what was the matter.
Away to the deck I flew like a flash,
Tripped on the gunnels and fell with a crash.

The boom on the mast of the neighboring scow
Gave it the look of an ancient mid-eastern dhow.
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sloop and its crew drinking beer.

With a little boat driver, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be Captain Nick.
More rapid than sea gulls his cruisers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name:

"Now, Rinker! Now, Sea Ray! Now, Pearson and Viking!
On, Cobalt! On Carver! On, Donzi and Bristol!
From Commissioning Day 'til last gasp of fall,
Now splash away! Splash away! Splash away all!"

As ships' flags in a wild hurricane fly
When they part from their lines and mount to the sky,
So up to the House-top his vessel it flew,
The sloop at full sail, and Capt. Nicholas too.

And then, with an inkling, I'd soon have the proof
of the true meaning of this mid-winter spoof
As I drew in my hand, and was turning around,
Down the chimney this Skipper he came with a bound.

He was dressed all in oil skins from his head to his foot,
His dinghy boots were tattered with gashes and soot;
An old canvas seabag he had flung on his back,
He looked like a sailor just rolled out of his rack.

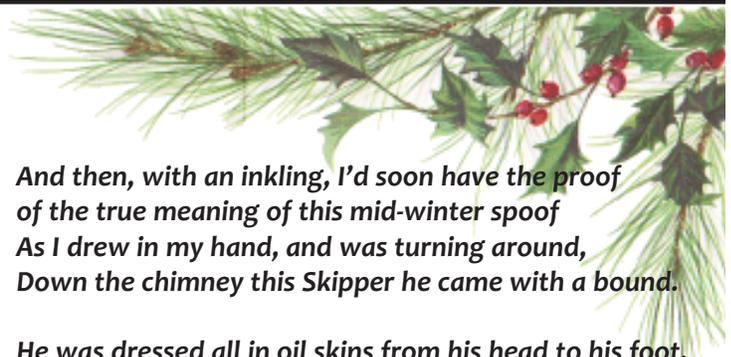
His eyelids -- how wrinkled! His forearms -- how hairy!
He reeked like old hoses, his breath smelled of sherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow
And the beard of his chin yellow, as a name in the snow.

The stump of a stogie he held tight in his mouth
And the smoke of it blew from the north to the south;
He had a broad face and a larger beer belly,
That shook when he laughed like old naval jelly.

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old salt,
And I laughed when I saw him come to a halt.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
He filled all the deck shoes; then turned with a jerk.
Laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the masthead he rose.

He sprang to his boat with a sharp Bosun's whistle
And away they all sailed like a sleek racing Thistle;
But I heard him exclaim ere he hove out of sight
"Merry Christmas MVYC and to All a Good Night!"



CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY

Sunday December 11th, 2-P.M. at the MVYC Clubhouse

Come one come all to our annual Holiday celebration! There will be music, cookie decorating, crafts for all to enjoy and a special visit from Santa by boat.

Shhhhhh....Parents, please bring a small, inexpensive, wrapped gift with your child's name on it to the Crow's Nest by P.M. on Sunday before the party.

PLEASE BRING AN APPETIZER OR A SWEET TREAT TO SHARE.

Any questions, please feel free to contact Dawne Ragland at ddgragland@cox.net or Julie Thomas at jthomas83@verizon.net.



Bosun's Whistle from Page 1...

I want to again thank the out-going members of the 2011 Board for all of the time, effort and hard work that they dedicated to our Club. To retiring Rear Commodore Jack Sanders and Board members Stewart Matthews, Jack O'Malley, and Amy Walker: you have the great gratitude of the entire Club, and my most sincere appreciation, for all that you have done and will continue to do.

We also welcome a great new Board and are pleased to announce their specific jobs for 2012:

Jerry Gray continues as Vice Commodore. Steve Donock assumes the post of Rear Commodore and, together with Jerry Gray, will chair the Marina Committee. Alexi Stavropoulos and LuAnne Kirkland will, respectively, continue as Treasurer and Secretary. Don Basham and Lauren Bazel both continue on the Board and have graciously agreed to also continue in their positions as House and Membership Chairs. Clay Collier also returns to the Board but, after an excellent year as Chair the Social Committee, will bring his talents to leading the Grounds Committee. The new Board members have also accepted their new responsibilities. Mike Holland will assume the duties of Security Chair; Harriet Singleton will Chair the Social Committee; and Holly Evans will Co-Chair the Pool Committee with Amy Walker.

Please join me thanking each of them in advance for their service and show that appreciation by volunteering for their committees and projects.

In the meanwhile, enjoy the holidays and on to a great New Year!

From the House Guy

by Don Basham, House Chair



The lights on the 1st and 2nd floors continue to be an issue, frequently being left on when nobody is present. Also, the blinds in the Crow's Nest are often left open with nobody present at least once per week. Please turn out the lights when you are the last to leave the Club. The foggy window on the 2nd floor has been replaced, thanks to Jim Hamrick. Jim Gordon has power-washed the outside of the club, and it looks as good as if it had been painted. The west entrance decking is scheduled to be replaced the week of 21 November. Even with this large expense, we will probably finish the year under budget for the house, and that excess can be used on other club projects. I will be cleaning the ice machines, probably 15 and 16 November. The first several loads of ice after the cleaning will taste funny, and will contain some of the cleaning solution residue; so do not use it. When I have completed the process, I will discard all of the ice in the machines.

AQUAPOWER Pressure Washing Tim Fitzgerald 703-853-0873 Residential and Commercial Decks, Fences, Patios Aluminum & Vinyl Siding 703-853-0873 fitzgerald151@verizon.net

Annual Toon Fleet Ball Cancelled

Due to medical issues associated with fully one-half of the entire toon fleet membership, we regret to announce that the Ball is cancelled. Fortunately, those medical issues are being resolved successfully. Meanwhile, all monies not already spent by the TFC (Toon Fleet Captain) on aspirin and vitality pills will be returned to fleet members in the form of loose change. Contact the TFC in the usual manner. You will quickly receive the usual response.



U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary: Boating Safety Training Schedule

The final schedule for Coast Guard training has been released, and is as follows:

December 3 and 17 February 4 and 18

January 7 and 21 March 3 and 17



a HOLIDAY PARTY at MOUNT VERNON YACHT CLUB

Saturday, December 10th

6 to 9 PM



Enjoy a Pot Luck Feast with Your Friends and Guests

Bring a Dish for 10 People

*Wine, Beer and Sodas
provided by the Club!*

Last Names starting with:

A to H: Entrée -Protein or Veggie

I to P: Hors Oeuvres

O to Z: Dessert



Call Mary Galloway with questions @ 703-799-3187

MVYC New Year's Eve Bash

Saturday, December 31, 2011

9:00 - ?



Usher in 2012 with good friends, great music and a little bubbly!!!

Back by popular demand - DJ James with all your favorite music.

Festive Dress

\$35 per person includes: beer, wine, mixers, light snacks and entertainment
\$30 per person if payment is received by December 10 (MVYC Holiday Party)

Please RSVP with payment by December 23 to:
Dan O'Keefe, 13709 Northborne Dr., Centerville, VA 20120

December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:30 am Yacht Haven Garden Club 8 pm Membership Mtg	2 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF	3
4	5 AM Closed for Cleaning	6 9 am Yoga Class	7	8	9 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF	10  6 pm Adult Holiday Party
11  2 pm Kid's Holiday Party	12 AM Closed for Cleaning 7:30pm Social Cmte Mtg	13 9 am Yoga Class	14	15 7:30 pm Coast Guard Auxiliary Mtg	16 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF	17
18	19 AM Closed for Cleaning 7:30 pm MVYC Board Mtg	20 9 am Yoga Class	21	22	23 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF	24
25 	26 AM Closed for Cleaning	27 9 am Yoga Class	28	29	30 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF	31  9 pm New Year's Eve Party

HAPPY NEW YEAR January 2012 HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 9 am Yoga Class	4	5 8:30 am Yacht Haven Garden Club 8 pm Membership Mtg	6 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF	7
8	9 AM Closed for Cleaning 7:30pm Social Cmte Mtg	10 9 am Yoga Class	11	12	13 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF	14
15	16 AM Closed for Cleaning 7:30 pm MVYC Board Mtg	17 9 am Yoga Class	18	19 7:30 pm Coast Guard Auxiliary Mtg	20 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF	21
22	23 AM Closed for Cleaning	24 9 am Yoga Class	25	26	27 9 am Yoga Class 7:30 pm TGIF	28
29	30 AM Closed for Cleaning	31 9 am Yoga Class	Did you know???			
				Americans purchase an average of 100 cans of Campbell's Soup every second of every day in the month of January.		



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