



www.MountVernonYachtClub.com

Volume 46 No. 10

November 2009



The Bosun's Whistle

Submitted by
Bill Gard, Commodore

Those of you who get MVYC emails and who explore the MVYC Web site already know that in September, the Mount Vernon Yacht Club Board of Trustees voted to award MVYC's Distinguished Volunteer Award to Jim Nelson.

Jim is a long-time club member and former board member who not only volunteers his own personal services, but who also donates equipment and labor from his company, Woodlawn Tree Service, to help out on grounds cleanup days and many other efforts. Jim sends equipment and skilled workers to do special jobs like removing deadhead logs from the launch ramp, clearing brush from the out lot, thinning and shaping trees on the grounds, and working on the flagpole at the point.

Jim has never refused a request for help and will not accept any payment for his company's services. His generosity is indeed appreciated.

To read more about Jim and his contributions, please go to the MVYC web site at www.mountvernonyachtclub.com, click on ABOUT MVYC, click on COMMUNICATIONS, and then click on VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH. This navigation procedure will take you to the area of the web site that lists all our members who have been named "Distinguished Volunteer" since the award's inception in late 2008.

continued on Page 4...

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP MEETING THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5th

Please plan to attend.

A quorum is required for election
of officers by acclamation.



We'll see you at the
2009 COMMODORE'S BALL

Saturday November 7 at Mt Vernon Country Club

Oktoberfest (in October!) at MVYC

Submitted by Peter Esser and Stefan Tahmassebi

The "original" Munich Oktoberfest, which, strangely enough, kicks off in mid-September of every year and runs for just over two weeks, commemorates the marriage in 1810 of Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria to Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen. This year alone, to celebrate those long ago nuptials, hundreds of thousands of people from all over the world visited the Munich festival grounds, or "Wies'n" to dress in *Dirndl* and *Lederhosen* and have some *Spass*. Something like 6.5 million liters of *Festbier* were enjoyed. One hundred and eleven *gebratene Ochsen* were consumed. And approximately 145,500 *Biergläser* found a new home, meaning that a certain commodore's mug isn't alone in having been *geklaut*.

Easily topping the *Heimat's* Oktoberfest, MVYC once again opened the Yacht Haven festival grounds to nearly 110 members and their guests on October third. Against a backdrop of festive *Akkordeon* music and traditional *Gemütlichkeit*, revelers enjoyed a simple celebration featuring great food (including a particularly delectable *Blaukraut*), excellent beer, including 5 gallons of Braumeister Esser's home brew served in a traditional wooden keg, as well as a boatload of *camaraderie*.

Thanks to the spirit and labor of committee volunteers including Don Basham, Chris & Lauren Bazel, Bill Benz, Kim and Steve Donnock, David and Paula Givens, Lu Anne and Jeff Kirkland, Tom Kline, and Jane and Mitchell Mutnick, some of them hauling chow, and others making short work of 55 pounds of potatoes, 15 pounds of bacon, 25 pounds of onions, somewhere in excess of 300 Brat- and Knackwurst and various other victuals, we all left the *Festzelt* full of cheer and good memories, but not before many hands (*Danke*, anonymous cleaner-uppers) made light work of the cleanup and a last *Maß* of beer made the rounds.

Best of all, no one seems to have left anything behind, unlike in Munich, where post-festivity tallies are just in on what was deposited in the *Wies'n* Lost and Found:

- o 1,250 items of clothing
- o 420 wallets
- o 75 cameras
- o 1 fishing rod
- o 1 toaster
- o 1 tooth
- o 700 passports
- o 320 mobile phones
- o 3 crutches
- o 1 chess clock
- o 1 dog
- o and, as every year, 1 set of dentures

Photos - Page 3!

The BEACON

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

BILL GARD, COMMODORE

BEACON STAFF

Editor: Bart Hewitt
Asst Editor: Blair Beggan
Asst Editor: Chris Lewis
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 2009

MOUNT VERNON YACHT CLUB
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Cover artwork by Don Cannavaro

Deadline for Next Issue:
15th of the month

Beacon@MountVernonYachtClub.com

Upcoming Meetings...



Membership Meetings
November 5 (Quorum needed!)
December 3
at 7:30 pm
1st Thur of the month

Board Meetings
November 16
December 21
at 7:30 pm
3rd Mon of the month

Social Committee Meetings
November 9
December 14
at 7:30 pm
2nd Mon of the month



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Contributed by Jerry Skelly, Membership Chair

We have 219 members.
Two applicants are awaiting Board approval.
One additional application has been posted.

Social Committee Report

Contributed by Claudia Reinsel, Social Committee Chair

What a great October!

Veilen Dank to Peter Esser and his committee for a Great Oktoberfest Party. Great food, great beer and great music were enjoyed by more than 100 Club members and guests on a beautiful October evening. It was Bavaria on the Potomac! Thanks to all on the super committee for the cooking and decorations. The party was truly Wunderbar!



And what a pleasure it was to have COLD FUSION play prior to the Oct 9th TGIF. Kids of all ages enjoyed the swinging sound and audience participation. Thanks to Marge Skelly and Nancy Valley for coordinating this lovely evening. We welcome Cold Fusion back in the Spring for an all-Club Event - a Family Evening on a Sunday.

Thanks to Jeannine Simmons for a great Halloween event complete with costume parade for little ghosts and goblins prior to the "Poyster Roast" on October 25th. And thanks to all of Russell's shuckers for their expertise. Hope you all enjoyed!

See you all at the Commodore's Ball Nov 7th!

And mark your calendar for the Adult Christmas Party on Dec 12 and the Children's Christmas Party (with Santa) Sunday, December 13th

If you'd like to host a TGIF, contact Joan Jones (703-780-2965) for information.

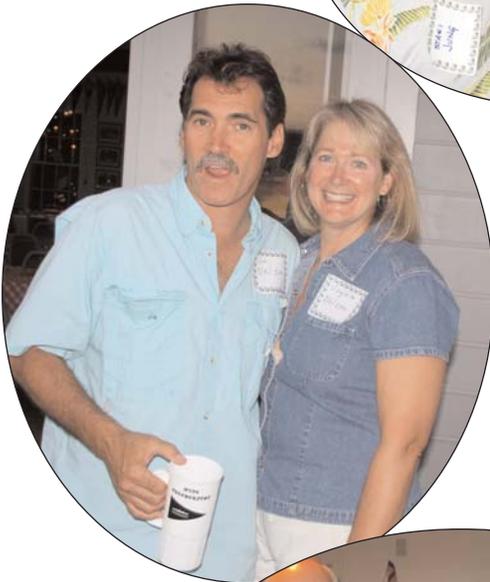
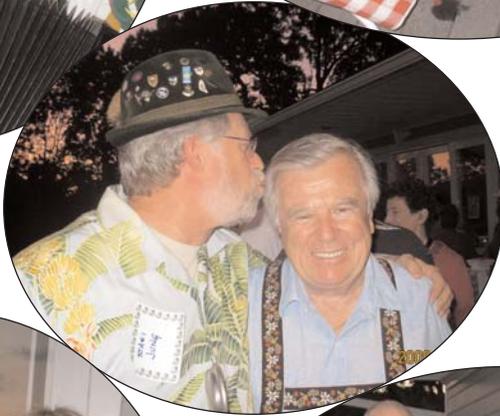


MVYC BIKERS KILL SEAGULL

Contributed by Bart Hewitt

On Saturday, October 9th, eight MVYC members rode in the annual Seagull Century, a 100-mile ride from Salisbury, MD to Assateague Island and back. The riders were Bill Gard, Jerry Gray, David Donock, Bart Hewitt, Adriene Pessell, Alexi Stavropoulos, Mike Holland and Damara Galliot. The intrepid MVYC Eight, along with some 8,000 other riders, braved chilly temperatures, occasional rain and fierce headwinds to complete the daunting course which follows country roads through the beautiful Maryland farm and forest country. While not quite the event's fastest riders, the MVYC riders were unquestionably among the best looking, due to the spectacular "MVYC Raptors" riding jerseys that Bill Gard had specially made for us. In spite of the challenging conditions, spirits remained high throughout the eight-hour ride, thanks to the superb efforts of the SAG (Support and Gear) Team that provided food, drinks and loving comfort at several points along the course. The SAG Team included Karen Gard, Petra and Alex Gray, Christine and Zoe Stavropoulos, Marianne Ketels, Evelyn Hewitt, Catalina Holland, Mike, Kathryn and Ann Galliot, and Wrigley. We're already looking forward to next year's Seagull, and encourage more MVYC riders to join us.

Oktoberfest!



So while this Bosun's Whistle is about Jim and his well-deserved volunteer award, it's also intended to draw your attention to all our Distinguished Volunteers and remind you about our web site and its features. I'd like to refer you to a separate BEACON Article in this issue in which MVYC Director of Communications Gene Diotalevi and Webmaster Mike Holland discuss MVYC's email capabilities and the information available from the web site. Please be sure to read that article and take advantage of the significant advances in communications available to all of us. These are the ways the Board and I try to communicate with the membership and how the membership can communicate with the Board.

According to Gene, "Between e-mail and the web site, the Internet has become our primary means of communication with the membership. Based on savings and the speed of electronic communication, we will continue to explore, grow and use this capability."

On The Docks



Submitted by
Marina Co-Chairs

Jerry Gray & Ron Reinsel

Oh No - November!

Oh no! It has been a great boating year, but it is almost that time again. You know, the feeling of that first morning you walk out of the house to pick up the newspaper and are surprised to see the wisps of steam curling from your mouth. Oh no! The Indian summer has run past autumn and the chill of winter days is not far off. The boating season has about run its course. It is almost that time for your thoughts to turn from those warm and lazy weekends with your boat on the River to the prospects of ever shorter days and colder nights, the first frost that's just around the corner, and then the freeze and snows that are sure to follow. Oh yes! It is almost the dreaded time to winterize.

Whether you pull your boat from the Marina to spend the winter undercover "on the hard" or will ride through the season in your slip, it is about time to take on the annual rites of preparation. While we are generally good until later in November, don't get caught unawares by an early freeze.

If you will be leaving your boat in the Marina for the winter, in addition to protecting your boat's internal systems, remember to check out, and if necessary replace, worn docking lines and make sure it is well secured. Clean out your drains and scuppers. And plan on coming to visit your boat regularly over the winter. It misses you and wants to feel loved. It will also give you the chance to make sure that it is surviving the season.

Members who may be interested in relocating their boats within the Marina during the winter months should contact the Marina Chair so that we can schedule and coordinate moves and generally keep track of who is where.

If you will be using electric bubblers or ice eaters over the winter months, please inspect the equipment - particularly the cords and connections. The equipment must be marine grade and in suitable condition for outdoor use. Stray current is both dangerous and particularly destructive in a marina environment, so do your part to avoid letting it get loose. Also remember the simple rule about unattended onboard heaters - don't use them. They are both unreliable in the event of power failure and, more importantly, pose a potential fire hazard both to your boat and everyone else in the Marina.

The Marina itself will also be preparing for winter by pulling in the channel makers and shutting down the water system. We will try to keep the water running as long as possible and will give as much advance notice as we can of the actual water cutoff date.

Finally, this month's nautical trivia: What is it to Sally Ship?



"Sally ship" was not a ship at all but a method of loosening a vessel that ran aground from the mud holding her fast. In the days before sophisticated navigation equipment, ships ran aground much more often than today. A grounded ship could be freed with little or no hull damage if she could be rocked out of her muddy predicament. To free her, the order was given to "sally ship". The crew gathered in a line along one side and then ran from port to starboard and back and forth until the vessel began to roll. Often the rolling broke the mud's suction and she could be pulled free and gotten underway.

The Ways We Communicate

By Gene and Mike

... In which Gene Diotalevi and Mike Holland, our MVYC communications team, enumerate their observations about what happens in the MVYC ether and how MVYC members and officers can get information, get in touch, and get things done.

E-mail

For general email, the communications staff has the ability to send email directly to the membership. For club-wide dissemination of information, send your email to: communications@mountvernonyachtclub.com

For items of a personal nature, limited focus, or sales or marketing issues, the board is responsible for approval of club-wide dissemination.

The biggest complaint the communications team receives from members is, "I don't get e-mail." The main reasons for this is:

We don't always have current email addresses - it's important that members keep us informed of e-mail changes. A request from the communications team - please log on to the web site and ensure all information is correct:

- o Go to www.mountvernonyachtclub.com
- o Click "login" on the upper right hand corner of the web site.
- o Submit user name and password (NOTE: see security alert at end of this article)
- o Click "login"
- o Find your name and ensure the information is correct.
- o If correct, do nothing.
- o If not correct, please send the correct information to: communications@mountvernonyachtclub.com

Additionally, the club has over 300 email users receiving MVYC email. Many DoD and corporate email servers send MVYC emails directly to spam. If you're not receiving email, please review your spam filter and your spam folder.

We also receive comments about the online calendar. We want to assure you that we are working with Secretary Peter Esser to develop the procedures necessary to ensure that this tool is accurate, timely, and easy to update.

Web Site - www.mountvernonyachtclub.com

The web site is for members and run by members. As such, we need your input. Please send your ideas and requests to Communications via e-mail. Send comments to: communications@mountvernonyachtclub.com

Here is a partial list of the things you can find on the MVYC Web Site:

1. Homepage

- a. MVYC Distinguished Volunteer awards
- b. Link to the newest Beacon
- c. Upcoming events (usually within 4 weeks)
- d. Tide chart for Mount Vernon
- e. Local weather

2. The Membership page has loads of links and info.

On the left hand side of the membership page you will find:

- a. About MVYC
- b. Bylaws and Regulations
- c. Club Facilities
- d. Club Organization
- e. MVYC Communications
- i. Commodore's Corner
- ii. Volunteers of the Month (Past)
- f. MVYC Social Activities
- g. Officers, Directors, and Committees Information
- h. Physical Layout



Screen shot - MVYC website

A link to the membership application is also found on this page.

continued next page...

The Ways We Communicate continued...

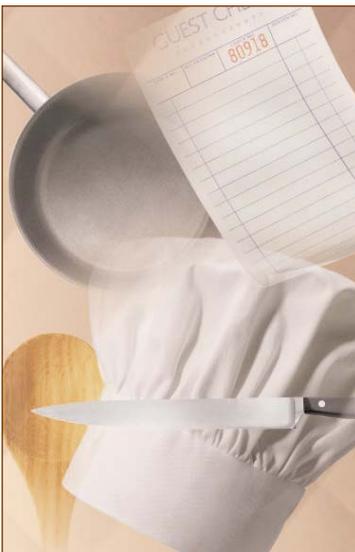
3. **Fleets**, each fleet has its own page that gives its mission and event calendar
4. **Swim team** has its own page with tons of swim team info including schedule, registration and directions to meets
5. **Calendar & Activities** allows members to browse events past, present, and future. You can click on each event to get more detailed information.
6. **Photo Gallery** has lots of photos from most of the big MVYC events from 2008 and 2009
7. **Ships store** : <http://www.wickssports.com/MVYC/>
8. **Useful Links** has tons of links to boating web sites.
9. **Newsletter page** has all the news letters from 2004 to present
10. The **"Secure" Database** is found by clicking on the login icon on the upper-right-hand corner of any of the web page of our web site. (See Security Alert below.) After logging in a member will be able to:
 - a. Download the entire membership list into an editable excel sheet which can be imported into email applications like MS Outlook
 - b. Search the membership list by letter, first or last name, by boat name, etc.
 - c. Read board meeting minutes
 - d. Read membership meeting minutes

Maintenance and support of these efforts are provided by MVYC members. Your MVYC communications staff appreciates your patience and understanding.

Security Alert: Part of the MVYC web site is available to the general public, but part of it is secured with a user name and password. We are not printing that user name and password in this article because if we did, web crawlers would be able to read them, and the Club's private user name and password would become public knowledge. If you need the user name and password, please send an email with a valid email address to: communications@mountvermonyachtclub.com. The communications team will reply with an email letting you know the MVYC user name and password.

Don's Recipes

(as requested by many members)
Contributed by Don Basham



ROTKOHL (Red Cabbage)

- 1/4cup Bacon Grease
- 1/4 cup Apple Cider vinegar
- 1 cup Sautern Wine
- 4 cloves
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/4 cup Brown Splenda
- 3 # Red Cabbage
- 3-4 Sour Green Apples
- 2 Large Onions
- 2 Fennel Heads

Shred the cabbage and dice apples, onions and entire fennel, including tops. Mix first six ingredients in large pot and bring to a boil. Drop back to high simmer and add remaining shredded and diced ingredients. Simmer for approximately 1-2 hours until all vegetables are tender. Serve with Knockwurst or Bratwurst or other large sausage.

APPLE/PECAN PIE

- 1 Apple (diced to approximate 1" cubes)
- 1 8-12 oz package of Pecans
- 1/4 stick Butter
- 2 large Eggs
- 1/4 cup Karo Syrup
- 1/4 cup Grand Marenier
- 1 pie shell

Place Pecans in bottom of pie shell with apples on top. Melt butter and mix in eggs, syrup and liqueur and pour over pecans and apples. Bake at 400 degrees for 45 minutes until golden brown.

November 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 AM Closed for Cleaning	3 9 am Yoga Class	4 7:15 pm Yoga Class	5 8:30 am Yacht Haven Garden Club 8 pm Membership Mtg	6 9:30 am Yoga Class 7 pm TGIF	7  6 pm Commodore's Ball
8	9 AM Closed for Cleaning 7:30 pm Social Cmte Mtg	10 9 am Yoga Class	11 7:15 pm Yoga Class	12	13 9:30 am Yoga Class 7 pm TGIF	14
15	16 AM Closed for Cleaning 7:30 pm MVYC Board Mtg	17 9 am Yoga Class	18 7:15 pm Yoga Class	19 7:30 pm Coast Guard Auxillary Mtg	20 9:30 am Yoga Class 7 pm TGIF	21
22	23 AM Closed for Cleaning	24 9 am Yoga Class	25 7:15 pm Yoga Class	26 	27 9:30 am Yoga Class 7 pm TGIF	28
29	30 AM Closed for Cleaning	Have a Delicious Thanksgiving!				

December 2009

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



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

SAVE THE DATE!

**Children's Holiday Party
Sunday, December 13th
2 - 4pm - MVYC Clubhouse**

Please join us for cookie decorating, crafts, music
and a visit from SANTA BY BOAT!

Shhhh....

Parents - Please bring a small, inexpensive, wrapped gift with your child's name on it to the Crow's Nest by 1PM on Sunday before the party.

Bring a snack to share!

