

– Fayerweather Yacht Club – FOGHORN

Fayerweather Yacht Club
51 Brewster Street
Bridgeport, CT 06605
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fycct.org



April • 2020 • Volume CI • No. 4

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Kmpierce2013@gmail.com



FROM THE HELM

Dear Friends and yet to be Friends at Fayerweather

This has been a challenging period to keep up with the constant State and Town requirements being initiated to fight the Covid-19 virus. It seems that while the virus is amplifying its presence here it is diminishing in China. That would suggest there will be a summer of fun in the sun at Fayerweather. Unfortunately, we still have to manage the Club in the best interests of all of you while we persevere through this difficult time.

I wrote to you last week and have sent out a separate Letter from the Commodore today reiterating that the Club is closed. I want to reinforce that notice and make sure you understand that even though you have a key to the Club we are asking you **not** to go there for the safety of all. The Club being closed also means the grounds are closed. Please heed our request and stay out of the Clubhouse and off the grounds until further notice. The Officers and some Committee Chairs need access to the Club to manage it while it is closed so please don't be surprised if you see an occasional person going in and out.

In accordance with the new state restrictions we have decided to postpone the clean-up days on April 4, and Good Friday April 10 and are cancelling the April General Membership Meeting due to the restrictions on sizes of meetings and the health threat to us all. The Board will continue to meet as needed via video conferencing as we did for our BOG meeting last night.

In response to the Club closing we have reduced utility and electronic usage to a minimum and reduced garbage pickup. Our goal is to keep expenses down while our income is nonexistent due to the Club's closing. We plan to continue work on the new gas tank and gas pump during this period. Work started on it again last Friday and we hope it will continue until all the construction work for it is complete.

Unfortunately, the closing of the Club caused the cancellation of many parties and events. We expect to reschedule many of them during the summer and fall and ask you make a special attempt to come to the parties to support the Club as much as you can. You will have plenty of opportunities to come down to your Club and enjoy it and support it.

We are hopeful that when the "all clear" siren sounds our members will be back to Fayerweather to not only enjoy the planned social events and beautiful waterside location we enjoy, but also to relax on the deck and patio and talk about what it was like to go through this trauma and how fortunate we are to have Fayerweather to do just that.

Commodore, Andrew Cross

**Calendar of
Events**

**The Club is
Closed
until
Further
notice.
Please
follow our
website for
update**

**We look forward to
getting back to a
regular schedule
soon!!!!**



FROM THE VICE COMMODORE

Our Vice Commodore went on an extended trip, but will be submitting to the Foghorn next month.

Bob Ellwanger, Vice Commodore

vice@fycct.org

In the Meantime:

Dear members:

YES, Spring is here – Officially, Thursday, March 19!

Spring is our busiest new member recruitment period – Even when the Club is closed due to this mess so we would like to ask you to focus a bit on the future....

The Board recently passed a motion to give a \$25 chit account gift to any member being a first sponsor of anyone that applies to Fayerweather prior to May 7 and ultimately becomes a new member. This offer was made prior to the shut down, so I expect it will be extended past the current date.

I'm just asking you keep the fact in mind that the club is membership driven and if we all think of folks – and help find new members – we can soon be near our predicted membership for the year. Unfortunately, we cannot show people around, but we will be able to soon enough.

Commodore, Andrew Cross





From the Rear Commodore

We had a fabulous celebration of St. Patrick's Day planned with our members, Pyramid Shriners Pipes and Drums, [Sheeaaun Academy of Irish Dance](#) and Lake Ave Project. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and to keep everyone safe and healthy we chose to cancel the party. What we lost was the joy of spending the evening together. BUT we have decided to have an all green event in honor of the Irish in the

late summer or in September as a halfway back to St. Patrick's Day.

Although we are postponing the Race Night for now, we know it will happen later in the year, so we are going to have a lot to look forward to. And we have given the Easter Bunny sufficient notice that he too will be safe at home on Easter Saturday.

We hope that at our next writing we are able to give you a more permanent schedule of events to bring us all back together again. Below are the parties still "on the books" as of now...we'll keep updating as we go forward.

Email me at rear@fycct.org. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Kim Pugh – Rear Commodore rear@fycct.org

May 2	Race Night: Possible TBA
May 23	Opening Day & Summer Kick Off Party
June 27	Clambake
July 25	Luau
August 15	Wear All Green Party
September 12	Harborfest

September 20	Rib Fest & Corn Hole
October 4	Oktoberfest
October 24	Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament
November 20	Pre Harvest Wrapping Party
November 21	Harvest Dance
December 13	Children's Christmas Party



Chef Vicki Robinson

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Fayerweather Yacht Club SHIP STORE February Featured Items



Women's Quilted Vest \$48
100% quilted micro-polyester, thermolite insulation for minimum weight and maximum warmth, windproof and water-resistant.



Waffle Knit Zip Pullover \$30
Three-dimensional waffle-weave looks great as a light jacket or additional layer. Cranberry (shown) for women; navy for men.



24 oz. Insulated Mug \$23
Double-wall thermal insulated tumbler. Limited quantities are available.

We also have a supply of men's and women's navy windbreakers in all sizes. Features an adjustable hood, cuffs, and hem, with waterproof zippered pockets. **\$48**

Auxiliary Officers

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Debra Rosati

Vice President

Kristie Nemeth

Treasurer

Carrie Shelton

Recording Secretary

Deb Conrad

Financial Secretary

Diane Billings

Board of Governors

Karen Clark

Judy Duva

April Kleinman

Beth Michael

Lindsay Whitin

Sunshine

Darci LaBash

Auxiliary Corner

Hello Auxiliary Members,

I hope you are all healthy and untouched by the virus. Fortunately, we were able to have our March meeting and had great attendance.

We decided to continue to support the Norma Pfriem Breast Center as our Charity of the Year and voted to donate potted plants to place around the yard for spring/summer.

We prepared a list of suggested improvements that were presented to the Commodore. The most frequent comment was for rug or new flooring and painting the Penfield room. There were also some comments about fixing up the outside, paving, plantings, etc. For the full list, attend our next meeting...whenever that will be. Hopefully May 13th.

We had a wonderful presentation on Hypnotherapy by Robert Barnett, MBA, PMP, Certified Hypnotherapist. He talked about what Hypnotherapy is, how it works, how it can be used and how it can help to boost your immune system. Did you know that only 5% of our thoughts are conscious and the remaining 95% is unconscious? To change bad habits, we need to break the programming in our unconscious mind and create new programs. Some of Bob's success has been working with clients with ADHD, Tourette's syndrome, or issues related to anxiety, insomnia, sports, weight, and smoking. If you are interested in learning more, Bob offers free consultations and remote sessions (what we need now). His office is High Performance Hypnotherapy. HighPerformanceHypnotherapy.com or 203 816-0015.

All events for April, including the Meet n Greet are canceled. The bunnies that were collected will be stored for next year. Please hold onto them at home. Anyone who created or was planning to create a basket for the Meet n Greet, please hold onto them. We may reschedule the Meet n Greet for later in the year.

NEXT MEETING: MAY 13TH – unless canceled due to Covid-19. Hopefully not, but I think I'm being overly optimistic.



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Sailing Corner

I have seen almost every Zombie movie, from World War Z, Zombieland to Dawn of the Dead. The one constant in all those films is:

ZOMBIES CAN'T SWIM

It's time to get your boat in the water!!!!

With the coming apocalypse and the warm weather, it's time to start prepping our boats! 1st Race is May 13th! Skippers Meeting May 6th at FYC. Wednesday Night Racing ("WNR") is up on Yachtscoring.

All are welcome to sail WNR. It is a great way to improve your boat handling and meet other sailors at the club. Beginners are welcome and encouraged. To be scored in WNR you must have a YRALIS PHRF certificate.

This year we will be starting a new perpetual award for FYC sailors only. The "Tom Bobbin - Best Overall Sailor" perpetual award will be given to the best overall sailor from both the spinnaker and non-spinnaker divisions combined. The award will be calculated as the best overall scores across all races, no dropouts.

PHRF Certificates

To be scored in any regatta your boat will need to have a PHRF certificate. The certificate process for most boats is very simple. There is a form on the organizations website that needs to be filled out. Most of the information for your boat can be found on the manufacturer's web site. There are handicaps +/- for roller furling, Genoa size as well as other modifications. The regulatory organization ECSA or YRA will determine your PHRF rating once the form is completed.

Below are the web sites for each organization.

ECSA: <http://ecsa.net/> (opens for registration in March)

YRA: <https://www.yralis.org/>

Ladies Sailing

We are scheduling two Ladies sailing events this year and are starting to plan other activities.

- Friday July 24th, Women's Skipper event at BRYC, All FYC skippers and boats are invited to this fun event. It is a casual race event, for all boats, the only requirement is that the skipper must be a Lady.
- Ladies Big Boat Program – more on that in the next issue

Calendar of Events: The 2020 schedule:

Feb 2 – April 26 th	Frost Biting Ideal 18's – on HOLD due to COVID-19
May 13 th – Sep 9 th	Wednesday Night Series
July 18 th	FYC/BRYC Sail Park City Regatta
July 24 th	BRYC Women's Skipper Event
July 25 th	RUM Runners Race – Essex CT (ECSA)
Sept 11 th	PYC Annual Falkner Island Overnight Race
Sept 13 th	FYC Ken Johnson Memorial Race
Sept 13 th	Women @ the Helm – Old Saybrook (ECSA)
Sept 19 th	Brent C. Donahue Cross Sound Race
Oct 24 th	BRYC/FYC Halloween Race
Nov 27 th	Wild Turkey Regatta



CAPTAIN JOHN BILSKI

Sea Tow Southern Connecticut
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Fleet Captain's Corner:

Our tutorials continue.....

Anchors and Anchoring: Part II – Detail

Anchoring:

Circle the wagons! Circle the wagons! Circle the wagons! So it was in the old cowboys and Indian years when Tom Mix was our hero, it should be when picking your anchoring spot. We are now in chapter three of the anchoring procedure and protocol.

First we pick our spot where we want the boat to sit at anchor then we do two or three circles around that spot to determine that indeed there is sufficient water for our draft, should the boat swing to a different wind or current...or should the tide go out.

As to the actual anchoring process, there are certain activities that should take place each time we anchor. The first is to slowly lower, not drop the anchor...then allow the boat to drift astern, all the while letting out more and more chain and or line (rode). This going astern can be done with engine in 'slow' astern mode, or merely allowing the current and wind to do this job. Let out line slowly to prevent the rode dropping on top of the anchor and becoming fouled.

After the anchor has hit the bottom, allow twenty to thirty feet of rode to run out, then snub up and see that the anchor is grabbing and holding fast to the bottom. This 'snubbing' can be done by hand or by wrapping around a cleat on the bow. Once you feel that the anchor is solidly in the bottom, allow more to run, to the point that you have an amount in the water that will be adequate to your needs.

You are not finished quite yet. After adequate rode is in the water, back the boat down HARD. When you see that the rode begins to rise to the surface, you can be sure that the anchor is well set. At this point, look over at other boats at anchor or the shore to be sure that you are stationary. A few extra minutes spent doing these basic steps, will result in many hours of peaceful sleep.

As to the reverse process, drive the boat slowly forward until the rode is vertical. Allow the boat to raise the anchor out of the bottom. This is done by snubbing off the rode on a bow cleat and slowly, using the engine. Drive forward until the anchor clears the bottom. An anchor windlass is a great advantage here, but merely having a bow roller will make life much easier as well.

Boats about to fish can of course use much less rode...the chances of them coming too close to other fisher folk are much less than a boat that is out there cruising. Cruisers should have at least seventy feet of rode to hold their positions. Fishing boats can have fifty to sixty feet out and be secure.

One final note: do not forget to attach your safety float to your anchor prior to lowering it. This could save many problems down the road as we spoke in Chapter Two.

Bob Butler, Fleet Captain Saxtaps@charter.net



The Media/Communications Committee is looking for individuals with experience in website development, understanding of back end work, and email blasts. Please contact Emily Hyde at emchabot@gmail.com if you are able to assist.

Fishing Corner:



April '20 - Fishing Report

Remember to save the date for our annual Mother's Day Brunch 5/10/20! Hopefully the Club will be back open by then.

Stay tuned!!!!

All fisherman are liars, expect you and me. And I'm not so sure about you!

Keith Jamaitis ~ FYC Fishing Committee fycfishing@fycct.org

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