

The Log

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FROM THE QUARTERDECK

CELEBRATING OUR 75TH YEAR



What were the odds of survival...



...for the incipient Urbanna Sailing Association, born in 1939 during the tail end of the Great Depression with war clouds looming, with its membership decimated during World War II, a recently established competing yacht club just across the Rappahannock on Carter's Creek, no property available for purchase on Urbanna Creek for permanent facilities, and a two-hour drive from Richmond (with gas rationing during the War) where the nucleus of its membership resided?

Perhaps we should reflect on the tenacity of our early founders and members. McDonald Wellford, a club founder and first historian, described the first year of the club's history as follows:

The first season was in all respects a success. The Association grew and flourished, and before a year had passed had become incorporated as the Urbanna Yacht Club. It had a fleet of thirty-five enrolled sailing yachts, sixty-three members, and had rented quarters for the Yacht Club at Urbanna, and had been made a member of

the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association.

Somehow the Club survived its first ten years in Urbanna in spite of the absence of 35 active members who were called to active duty during the War. Further, later in the decade of the Forties, membership began to wane due in large part to the lack of a permanent clubhouse, and no property owners on the Creek were willing to sell to the Club to the dismay of all.

Most fortuitously, a Site Selection Committee recommended the purchase of a most ideal site on Fishing Bay and Jackson Creek and the rest is history. The Fishing Bay Yacht Club has grown in membership and programs to be one of the premier sailing clubs on the Chesapeake Bay as you will read later in accompanying pages of this Log celebrating the achievements of our 75th year.

Jere Dennison
Club Historian



MEMBERSHIP

SECRETARY & MEMBERSHIP CHAIR 2014 REPORT

In celebration of Fishing Bay Yacht Club's 75th anniversary, the Board of Trustees approved a set of limited-time offer special membership initiatives, valid in 2014 only. We took these steps to promote the sport of sailing, which is our mission, and in an attempt to restore membership to previous levels. Our prior ten year decline in membership and participation, parallel to the alarming trends outlined in a report from US Sailing, underscored the need to take this sustainability initiative. Also, we wanted to recruit members less than 40 years of age. Reaching a younger demographic is our most challenging objective and the one most critical to our future.

The essence of this year-long membership campaign was a significant reduction in the initiation fee for a new or returning member, which was \$2800. The following limited-time offers made becoming a member in Fishing Bay Yacht Club an opportunity one could not afford to miss.

- Persons age 20 – 30, a \$300 initiation fee, with a "Forgiveness" credit for each year they remain in the Club, completed in 5 years.
- Persons age 31 – 40, a \$500 initiation fee, with a "Forgiveness" credit for each year they remain in the Club, completed in 5 years.
- Persons 41 and older – a \$1,000 initiation fee with pay off in one year.
- Crew member offer – with sponsorship of the skipper, a crew member who has crewed for at least a season, may join with the initiation fee waived (pay no initiation fee).
- Boat partnership offer – when both partners join at the same time, they would pay only one (1) initiation fee, based on the age brackets described above (oldest partner).
- Re-applying former members offer – 25% of the initiation fee based on the age brackets described above with pay off in one year.

This special membership initiative generated **87 new member units, bringing our membership count almost back to our 2001 level.** Following is a brief description of the results:

- 12 new members in the 20-30 age bracket
- 12 new members in the 31-40 age bracket

- 63 new members in the 41-80 age bracket; of these, 7 were former members who rejoined
- 34 came in as sponsored crew
- 58 Family units, including 36 families with Junior age children
- 27 Single Adults, including 1 Single Adult family with Junior age children
- 85 Club members sponsored one or more new members (2 sponsors per applicant)

2014 Membership Committee members: Mary Almany, Ted Bennett, Matt Braun, George Burke, Janet Moyers, John Wake, and Doug Anderson, Chair.



ONE DESIGN - BY THE NUMBERS

ONE-DESIGN 2014 SEASON BY THE NUMBERS

FBYC's 75th year of One-Design racing included the usual offerings of a spring, summer and fall series, our 4th of July long distance race and the FBYC Annual One-Design Regatta. What follows is a snapshot of the season, by the numbers.

- New Open House Regatta: 25 participants in the "22' and Under" division

- 35 PLUS: number of club races sailed by EACH of the Front Runner, Flying Scot and Laser fleets.
- 195: number of race starts put on by volunteer race committees
- 20: jars of salsa consumed in post race socials
- Over 100: volunteers providing race committee, social, and support help
- At least 3: broken jib stays
- 1 broken jib halyard
- 1 lost mast
- 0 marriages at sea this year performed by One Design skippers



Hampton One-Design Nationals



Scots in the Summer Sea Breeze



Action at the Hampton One-Design Nationals



Hamptons rounding the windward mark



Captain Braun and a well trimmed boat



Getting ready for the first race at the ACC Laser Masters.



Scots at AOD



Front Runners at the 2014 AOD

CRUISING - BY THE NUMBERS



**2014 CRUISING DIVISION
ANNUAL REPORT**
Submitted by **George O. Sadler,**
Commander Cruising Division

For the 2014 season, the cruising division participated in eighteen events. In all, over twenty different FBYC boats participated, with as many as twenty-six boats attending the combined FBYC/OCC Mid-Chesapeake Bay Rally.

Our events included:

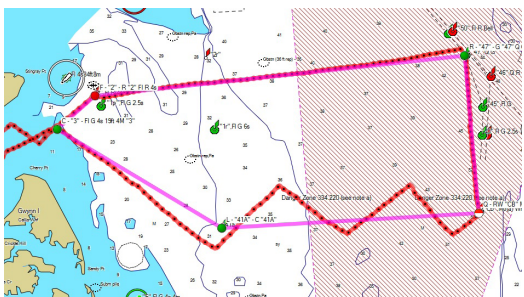
- 18 events planned and executed more than 20 FBYC boats participated
- 26 boats attended the combined FBYC/OCC Mid-Chesapeake Bay Rally
- A total of almost 900 nm of cruising routes covered on the Chesapeake Bay
- 1 safety seminar for the Virginia Boater's Card
- 1 safety seminar for cruising couples concentrating on Suddenly Alone and including onboard practice of person overboard and other safety procedures
- 1 onboard training session discussing the use of modern radar
- 3 Captain's Choice cruises to nearby rivers and creeks, many including a pre-cruise dinner at the club
- 1 cruise that specifically invited grandchildren to attend
- 9 other destination cruises, including cruises of up to ten days
- 5 other yacht clubs visited
- 1 race event, the Leukemia Cup, where cruisers were invited to participate
- 12 cruising couples were event chairmen and social chairmen for our cruises and parties

Several new members joined both the training sessions and a few of the cruises, and we are optimistic that even more new members will join the cruising events next year.



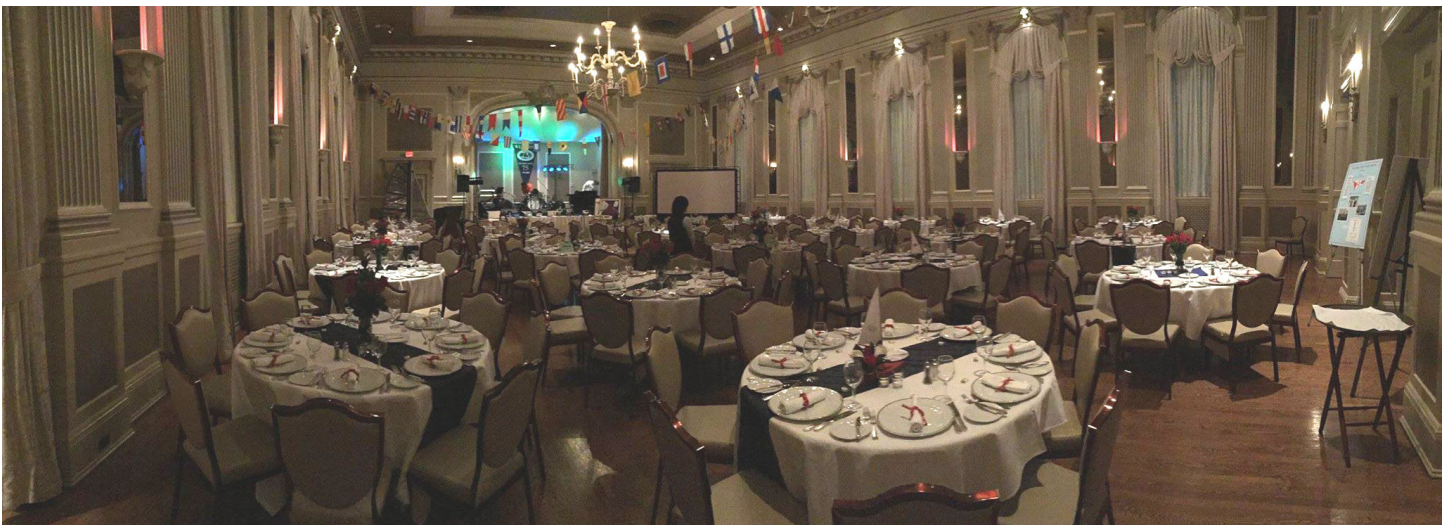
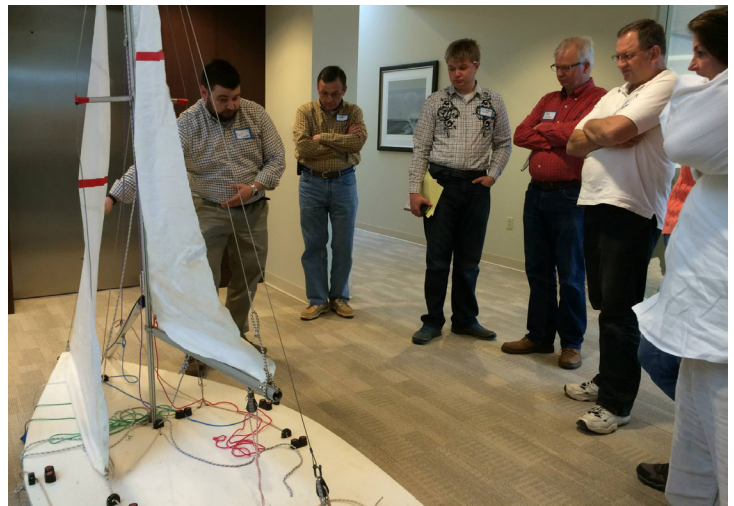
OFFSHORE - BY THE NUMBERS

- Number of offshore races in 2014: 27
- Number of FBYC Boats sailed to Bermuda: 2
- 1500 oysters purchased, 1200 oyster shucked, 200 oyster eaters closing day



SOCIAL - BY THE NUMBERS

- 450: number of attendees at the Open House Pickin' Party
- 54: boats registered to race in Open House Regatta
- 12: participating boats in Sunflower Raft-up after Open House Regatta
- 65: volunteers for Open House Regatta and party
- 40%: increase in attendance at the major social events in 2014 from previous year
- 50%: membership increase in YAMs (Young Adult Members - under 40)
- 11: number of YAM events in 2014
- 9: number of FBYC boats that dedicated their time to help with Crew Training
- 13: number of FBYC members that dedicated their time as instructors for Crew Training
- 4: types of knots taught at Crew training class



JUNIOR - BY THE NUMBERS

From March to November, we had a wonderful year!

- 250 *individual* juniors
- 13 separate programs and regattas
- 18 individual parents volunteered for leadership roles lasting throughout the year

Opti Kids

- 38 juniors ages 5 to 8 participated in 2 classes

Junior Week

- 145 total juniors aged 6 to 18 participated in 10 classes
- 50 adults volunteered for the entire week
- 17 adults volunteered as lead and assistant instructors, with many more assisting
- 25 borrowed boats to serve as support fleet
- Entertainment every night, including a pool party, a rock band, ice cream, and a catered dinner for 250
- \$3,195.00 was raised during the charity Sail-A-Thon for leukemia research

Commonwealth of Virginia

Junior Championship Regatta

- 88 competing yachts from around the Bay and surrounding states
- 6 classes; 9 races in each class
- 400 breakfasts and lunches served, and 150 dinners served on Saturday night

Private Lessons

- 44 hours of private lessons were sold

Race Teams

- 46 different juniors raced on our 5 teams throughout the year
- 5 coaches were hired for the summer
- 5 support boats used on a full-time basis all summer
- More than 300 launches/retrievals of trailer boats
- 23 regattas sailed as a team
- 14 of those regattas we won
- 32 of our kids placed in the top 5 of their division in at least one regatta
- 2 sailors were invited to participate on the USODA National Team and to represent the United States in two international regattas

YMCA Camp

- 20 juniors participated





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