

FROM THE QUARTERDECK

NOVEMBER 2013



VANISHING POINTS

One year ago you elected me to serve as your Commodore. I was honored and humbled, eager to fulfill your expectations, ready to learn and serve. In the interim I have attended Board meetings, committees. spontaneous dockside "policy summits," and answered innumerable emails or phone calls, and I am pleased to report that

I am now, finally, ready to be your Commodore. In several weeks John Wake will answer a similar summons, and in twelve months he also will be ready - humorous, perhaps, but uncomfortably close to reality.

FBYC, compared to the day in 1984 that I first arrived to crew on Tony Sakowski's Mobjack, is more complex in organization and infrastructure. Although we can take comfort in the economic health of the club, we have to face the troubling reality that sailing, along with many other avocations that require a learning curve, is down across the nation. We are in the crosshairs of a "cultural divide." If your Board members seem to be gazing toward some distant vanishing point that eludes you, it is because they are. We hope that this vanishing point properly defines our perspective and contains the answer to our biggest conundrum- membership. How do we stop its slow attrition and stimulate its growth against the adverse current of a powerful national trend? Membership is our challenge for the future, our greatest policy imperative for the present, and our driving theme for the initiatives of 2014.

Luckily, sailors are optimists. If not, they would never accept one inch of plastic hull separating them from eternity. FBYC volunteers are not shy of a challenge, and previous QUARTERDECK articles have told the story of how they have used their optimism, not blindly but tempered by thoughtfulness and reflection. The high points of that story are worth revisiting: the voluntary participation of more than half of our members in a survey that provided a consensus and a substrate for future planning, the gathering of dozens

of volunteers in focus groups over the winter to discuss concrete goals emerging from that survey, the ultimate filter of a core committee that resulted in a new long range plan, the pursuit of that plan's most pressing priorities through the formation of ad hoc committees that were tasked with addressing event modernization, membership initiatives, adult sailing programs, young adult participation, and our upcoming 75th anniversary in 2014, all with the common theme of growing our membership.

Space prevents my honoring all the volunteers who devoted so many hours to these tasks. But there are a few members whose contributions, and their extraordinary time commitments, require a salute and a profound word of thanks. Strother Scott, for being the Webmaster who became the New Web builder and, in so doing, is revolutionizing the way our club will conduct its future administrative functions. Noel Clinard, for organizing and conducting our most complex initiative of 2013, the Long Range Plan. Deborah Usry, for her painstaking and professional synthesis of the take home points from that plan's survey. Doug Anderson, for leading the selection of a new FBYC Executive Secretary, for guiding the process for transition of that position, and for picking up every loose end that I missed in the wake of those missions. Caroline Garrett, for bringing newer ideas to older minds as she guided the Board toward innovative program changes, and finally, John and Matt, with whom serving has been an honor and a happy marriage of roles: two men of action helping an excessively reflective Commodore to overcome his inertia.

In the final analysis, the accomplishments of this year are not so much about the building of docks or the dredging of channels as they are about the search for our future identity as a yacht club and as a body of members. And so, while I now approach my own vanishing point as your Commodore, I hope that our membership will accept the challenges outlined herein. Growing membership is the job of all- it cannot succeed through Board actions alone.

I look forward to our final celebration of the 2013 season, the Commodore's Ball, and hope to see you there.

George Burke

FBYC BOARD HIGHLIGHTS - September 2013

Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Commodore George Burke.

REAR COMMODORE - MATT BRAUN

LOG – **Nica Waters** announced the introduction of a new column called "Volunteer Spotlight".

HOUSE – A termite protection evaluation will be taking place at year end due to some observed possible termite damage.

DOCKS – Slip dredging is going forward as planned.

SOCIAL – Postcard mailings for the Commodore's Ball (November 16) have been sent out and registration for the event is already open on the website.

GROUNDS CHAIR – Fall Clean Up date to be set, and a schedule for pool repairs is being established.

WEB MASTER – **Strother Scott** reported on the great progress being made on the new member database. While some glitches still exist, they are being managed. He requested help on how to organize the boats in the database – whether to define by fleet, division or other category. The website will be down for a short period while the data is being moved to a new server.

VICE COMMODORE - JOHN B. WAKE JR.

OFFSHORE DIV. CDR. – **Paul Wash** has received a lot of feedback on implemented changes to the Offshore Division, and there will be a follow-up meeting held to see if these changes were successful. Long distance results have been posted. Need to promote the Closing Day Awards ceremony to ensure good attendance.

CRUISING DIV. CDR. – **Doug Selden** reported that the closing dinner will be held at the Club on October 26th. A survey was sent out to registered cruisers to gauge interest in chartplotter navigation. Southbound boats are encouraged to go the East Coast Alert website.

FLEET LIEUTENANT – David Clark reported that the Whaler, Sandpiper and skiff are all running erratically and suggested that these engines need to be professionally evaluated. FBYC personnel regularly change the oil, filters, etc.; however, they may need more extensive repair. Recommended that the upcoming winter would be a good time to take care of these inspections/repairs.

JUNIOR DIV. CDR. – Many key volunteers have been lined up for next summer's Junior Week.

NEW BUSINESS:

Two amendments to FBYC bylaws were proposed. These will be presented for a vote at the November Board Meeting.

- 1. Fleet Lieutenant: The Fleet Lieutenant shall be named by the membership at the annual meeting from among the trustees elected by the membership at the meeting. He shall be responsible for (1) supervision of the maintenance and operation of all mechanically powered vessels and launches owned or leased by the Club, (2) ensuring that there is a qualified operator on board each time a vessel or launch owned or leased by the Club is used, (3) establishment and maintenance of Club-maintained aids to navigation and course marker buoys, and (4) procurement and maintenance of all equipment and supplies necessary for the respective race committees to conduct all sailing events.
- 2. Young Adult Member Chairman: The Young Adult Member Initiative (YAMI) Chairman shall be appointed by the Commodore. He shall coordinate the schedule of YAMI social activities with the Sailing Events Committee. He shall be responsible for appointing and overseeing individual YAMI Event Coordinators who shall be responsible for planning, organizing and conducting a suggested (9) monthly YAMI activities/events throughout the year. The YAMI Chairman may appoint as many members to the YAMI monthly Committees as he sees fit. During the year, he shall be responsible for notifying membership of monthly events in a timely manner.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

OCTOBER 2013 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

APPLIED FOR MEMBERSHIP

Mr. & Mrs. James L. Sturdy



Mr. & Mrs. James L. Sturdy (Jim & Gwen) – Jim grew up sailing and racing Sunfish and Lasers and crewing on International 210's. Gwen grew up sailing Widgeons and a variety of day

sailers. Jim and Gwen

recently purchased a Pearson 30 and plan to get it cruise ready during the fall and winter and possibly PHRF raceworthy over the next few years. They are the parents of four children, Lauren (age 25), Ian (age 23), William (age 20), and Carina (age 17). Sponsors: David B. Clark, Gregory A. Watt.

SPECIAL NOTICES



The Annual Awards Party is now the...

COMMODORE'S BALL

Saturday, November 16, 2013

cocktails • dinner short awards presentation Motown band • dessert bar

The Country Club of Virginia
Westhampton Club House
6031 St. Andrews Lane • Richmond, VA

6:00-6:30 annual meeting 6:30-7:00 cocktails & appetizers 7:00-8:30 dinner & awards 8:30-10:00 dessert & dancing

DINNER, AWARDS, DESSERT & DANCING

Adults \$45.00 • Non-member Adults \$55.00 Prices above include one glass of wine. One more if you steal your neighbor's while he/she is claiming a trophy.

Cash bar

Teens (13-17) \$30.00 · Children \$15.00

New Option • DESSERT & DANCING

Join the party after the awards presentation for desserts and live music

Members \$15 • Non-members \$25

Bulk rate 4 pack - dessert/dancing tickets for \$50

8:30 pm -11pm • Cash bar

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY NOVEMBER 13

Questions? Contact Connie Garrett sailconnie@gmail.com

*date change from Sailing Events book



NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS: MEMORABILIA SOUGHT FOR FBYC 75TH ANNIVERSARY PUBLICATION By Jere Dennison

Historian

Way back in the 1980s, I recall (inexplicably) a droll remark by Commodore Ian Lorimer at our Annual Meeting. Basically the gist of what he said was: "A wise man once intoned that we shouldn't worry about where we're going because we'll know when we get there!" I suppose we have now "gotten there," at least to our 75th year in 2014 which began at Urbanna in 1939. Three-quarters of a century...wow, that's even older than your Club Historian.

As part of the celebration being planned for next year, your Historian (along with a small committee of club elders) has been tasked with producing a history publication that will encompass the highlights of all 75 years.

While we have much material to work with, we may have room for more that would be meaningful in memorializing our history. So, if any of you have photos, anecdotes, or other memorabilia from the past that you would like to propose for the booklet, please submit them to me as soon as possible via email: jerepaula@verizon.net or jeredennison@hotmail.com. Or call me at 804.398.0165 to discuss. Thanks.

FBYC Fall Clean-Up Is Scheduled for Saturday, November 23rd

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, November 23rd at 9:00 a.m., we will have our annual FALL CLEAN-UP of the Club grounds. We will gather at the Main Clubhouse around 8:30 a.m. for coffee and task assignments. Usual tasks include: leaf raking, mulching and pruning, Bring your favorite yard tool or use ours... All ages are welcome! Complimentary lunch will be served around Noon. To sign up, email me directly at odellken@aol.com or call my cell 804.241.6080. Registrations can also be made at www.fbyc.net.

Hope to see you on the 23rd!

Ken Odell, Grounds Chairman

MEMBERSHIP NEWS / VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT / BOARD HIGHLIGHT

MEMBERSHIP NEWS YOU CAN USE Doug Anderson, Secretary/Membership Chair

We have some *very* passionate people in our Club. For example: Kenny Cobb is passionate about math ("My Mom makes great 3.14159") and racing. John and Sharon Wake are passionate about riding bicycles and Flying Scots. Nica Waters is superpassionate about exercise, cooking, health foods, lawn mower repair, and family cruising. Mike Dale is passionate about his music, his political perspectives, and Offshore racing. Jon Deutsch is passionate about photography and Laser sailing; he'll travel almost anywhere to a Laser event (or an E. Carolina football game.) Julie Ann Wash is multi-passionate; she's into children's clothing, gourmet food, supporting Children's Hospital and *Cheeky Monkey* racing. John Koedel, Jr. is a talented, meticulous model railroad builder and cruiser. Our Club members generally are passionate people, fervent in striving for self-expression, excelling in achieving and fulfilling their dreams.

Think for a moment about your own passions, sailing included. A non-passionate sailor is an oxymoron. The folks who stay with sailing are as a rule passionate about sailing. They don't need permission to be sailors; they view sailing as a birthright and a destiny. So, we hold these truths to be self-evident: we are a bunch of passionate, strong personality individuals, and we can't be otherwise. Sometimes, we're even opinionated. We recognize and respect these traits in each other, but not always. At times we struggle, as strong personalities with passionate view points, to find common ground. That's where leadership makes a difference.

Leadership in a yacht club like FBYC is an elusive quality. While FBYC is not unique in being a member-owned and member-operated yacht club, we are truly distinctive in our ability to offer the range of sailing events and related activities that we put on annually. This is evidence of our passionate, strong personality nature. We are able to accomplish these heroic feats of will because we have learned to work together. And we have learned that leadership equates with service.

We are fortunate in having outstanding leadership in our formal roles of club management; we are equally fortunate in having a multitude of members who lead by serving in the broad array of jobs that get the work done. Servant leadership is key to our success. In truth, in fact, and in substance, your leadership in FBYC happens when you take on a job that serves the Mission of our Club. You, we, are the leaders who make the decisions.

Want to give meaningful expression to your membership in FBYC? Take a service leadership role, and passionately fulfill your task. We want and need your leadership. Fly your Burgee proudly; as a fellow leader in our Club, I salute you.

How to Join FBYC! Prospective Members are encouraged to see membership info on the Club website (fbyc.net). On the top line above the Logo, see "How to Join FBYC." FBYC welcomes applications for membership.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Mike Chesser



Mike joined FBYC in 2006 after having been a member of Lake Norman Yacht Club for many years, including 9 years on the board and a role as Commodore in 2001. He was attracted to FBYC for how a "volunteer" club operates, and its great

racing and social programs.

Having owned and raced a Hobie 16, then a Thistle, and most recently his SJ 21, Mike always had an attraction to One Design racing, but he has also done extensive keelboat racing on Soverel 33's, a Tripp 26, an SR 33, S2 7.9's, and many others leading to participation in the US Sailing Offshore Championships in '99 - '01. Locally, he enjoys being a regular part of the *Red Sky* and *Cheeky Monkey* crews when not racing his own boat.

Mike enjoys the many other social programs the club has to offer, contributing whenever he can, but especially on the race management side as a US Sailing Certified Race Officer. "It was a lot of fun helping with this year's PRO training and I'm looking forward to next year for more of the same. Throw in this year's delivery of a Swan 44 from NY to Antiqua and it is safe to say I enjoy just about every aspect of sailing!"

BOARD HIGHLIGHT



Doug Anderson is the current FBYC Secretary & Membership Chair. He and his wife, Jane, joined in 2006 when they moved to Richmond, and were regular volunteers for social and racing events until her passing in 2008. Doug was appointed Club Chaplain in 2011 and conducts our annual Blessing of the Fleet service on Opening Day. Doug and Jane were active racers.

sailing Flying Scots and J-22's for nearly 25 years before buying a Pearson 28, then a Beneteau 32, then their Hanse 370, *Red Sky*. Doug races in the Non-Spin Fleet and does an occasional cruise with the Cruising Division sailors. His Club Secretary & Membership Chair duties are described in our Club Bylaws, Section 1, found in the annual Yearbook.

LONG RANGE PLAN

WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT IN THE LONG RANGE PLAN? By Noel Clinard, LRP Chair

The most important aspect of the Long Range Plan (LRP) is recognition of the critical state of membership recruitment and retention. Simply put, the club is not sustainable at its current trajectory of membership. The average age of our members is over 50. Aging ineluctably diminishes our headcount by mortality and infirmity, erodes participation, and halves dues revenue when members move into Ancient Mariner status by the dozen or more each year. Coupled with nagging "normal" resignations from family change, including divorce, retirement, relocation, and change of interests, our demographics cause membership to plunge downward in a dizzying gyre, unsteadied by our current modest rate of recruitment and retention. The LRP attempts to create a checklist, like the test pilot in The Right Stuff, trying to pull out of a deadly spin, asking "have you tried A, have you tried B, have you tried C" as the ground rushes relentlessly upward. We still have many options to avoid the crash, but they cannot be deferred while we guibble about altitude, time to impact, and priority of remedies, before we "auger in."

Despite the heroic efforts of recent Membership Committees, the net result each year is negative; departures exceed inputs by about 5 per year, totaling a net loss of about 30 in 6 years. Even with the magnificent efforts of the current Committee and Chair, 2013 has been just as bad. If you value each member at about \$1,000 each, it doesn't take many years before the average budget surplus is eroded to the breakeven point, and the dues and fees of the remaining members must be raised. A slowing initiation rate similarly reduces the larger initiation fee's ability to offset dues losses.

While we still have air beneath our wings, we need to play all the options we can to maintain altitude. Options identified by the LRP Membership Subcommittee, or added by the post-LRP Membership Task Force (meeting currently), and to be considered by the Board and Finance Committee may include:

- Conducting a "membership drive" with discounted initiation fees during our 75th Year Anniversary Celebration.
- During that celebratory year, offering skippers "vouchers" for distribution to long term, non-member, crew, to incent them to join.
- Examining the appropriate long-term level of the initiation fee.
- Simplifying the membership process, reducing the number of sponsors to one, and shortening the "waiting period".

- Considering new categories of membership, such as two "bona fide" boat partners, as a "family equivalent" for initiation fee purposes.
- Further reducing the overall cost to young adults, and crediting them back by forgiveness of initiation fee in each year of continued membership.
- "Indexing" the eligibility for Ancient Mariner status to age 72 and 25 years of membership, recognizing the increased vitality and participation of older members, while "grandfathering" over two dozen pending candidates until December 2015, and making Ancient Mariner status optional for active members.
- Communicating clearly on the website "How To Join" the club.
- Provide talking points for members to script active recruiting.
- Creating a one year "Sailing Membership" for non-members enrolling in an adult sailing program in club-owned boats, with fees credited against subsequent initiation fees upon joining.
- Improve retention and participation by providing "How To" guides for all members (How to use a club boat, etc.).
- Strengthen the assimilation of new members into participation, volunteering and recruitment by mentoring them.
- Emphasize the duty of recruitment to every member.

But its not all about price marketing. It's also about contemporary design of our programs and facilities. The October 18 <u>Wall Street Journal</u> article "Mercedes Sheds 'Old' Car Design" gives us some food for thought. Burdened with a median customer age of 57 (sound familiar???) and an image as "grandpa's car," the company's youngest-ever design chief led a sweptback redesign of the company's entry level cars and SUVs, reaching even into the staid S-Class. His challenge? To "bring in additional, more youthful customers while respecting the values the Mercedes-Benz is admired for." Similar efforts by FBYC's Young Adult Initiative, headed by Caroline Garrett, are critical to the club's success and need your support.

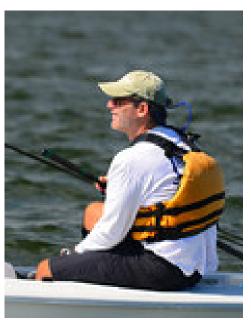
The Club can pull out of this spin, but we'll need to punch many of these pricing and design buttons, and more, just to fly straight and level; and we'll have to make extraordinary efforts to regain altitude. These efforts will need your membership support and participation. If you have other ideas, your Membership Chair, Doug Anderson, and other club Officers and Board Members would be happy to entertain them.

RACING

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2013 LASER MASTERS







RACING













JUNIOR / CRUISING

FBYC LASER RACE TEAM DOMINATES!

During September, qualifying regattas were held throughout the country for the highly prestigious 2013 ISSA High School Singlehanded Championship for the Cressy Trophy. Sailors competed to qualify for the honor of representing their high school and regional districts at the finals, the Cressy National Championships, which will be held November 2-3 at Sail Newport in Newport, Rhode Island. Only 36 juniors from across the entire United States qualify: 18 for Laser Radials, and 18 for Laser Full Rig. Incredibly, the 2013 Fishing Bay Yacht Club Laser Race Team placed three sailors in the national finals!

The Mid Atlantic Scholastic Sailing Association division regionals were held at Rochester Yacht club in New York over September 2-3. High school sailors from Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey competed for the top four spots in each fleet to qualify for the finals. Race Team members Alexander Hanna placed 3rd, Graham Alderman placed 15th and Nathaniel Llewellyn placed 16th in the large Laser Radial fleet and Eric Roos placed 4th in the equally competitive Laser Full rig fleet. Both Alexander and Eric qualified for the finals in Newport! (Former team member and Eric's brother, Conrad, qualified for last year's finals, held in California.)

On September 21-23, the regionals for the South Atlantic Interscholastic Sailing Association division of the ISSA, composed of North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and Florida, were held at the Florida Yacht Club in Jacksonville, Florida. Race Team member Hannah Steadman qualified for one of the two available slots to represent the SAISA division in the Radial at the finals!

Of the 36 juniors from across the country who qualified to sail in the Cressy National Championships, three are members of FBYC! Look for a full report on the finals in the December Log.





CAPE CHARLES, KIPTOPEKE STATE PARK CRUISE (AUGUST 23 - 26), LED BY MIKE CAMP AND SYDNEY FLEISCHER

With eleven boats and 30 on board, the FBYC three day cruise to the Eastern shore and Cape Charles, Virginia, was by all accounts a big success. Thanks to the arrival of a cold front, both the trip down (23 nm) and the return trip were graced by moderate, favorable winds. Events commenced on Thursday evening with a congenial beer, wine, sodas, and appetizers briefing/get-together at Fishing Bay. As the boats arrived one-by-one at the Cape Charles Town Harbor Marina on Friday afternoon they received an accommodating welcome by new marina facilities and the floating docks. The passing front Friday evening was only a light rain event, and, although it eliminated a sunset gathering on the beach, the group's ingenuity turned the moment into another chance to eat, drink and enjoy each others company under the marina overhang.

We awoke Saturday to crisp, clear, ideal weather, and many expressed satisfaction at being able stay and enjoy the surroundings as opposed to shoving off for another port. Some took their boats 6.3 nm south to visit the concrete ship breakwater, the beach, and the birding paths/hikes at Kiptopeke State Park, while others stayed to enjoy the historically interesting Cape Charles and the nearby beach and dunes. Saturday evening we celebrated our cruise with dinner at the nearby Kelly's Gingernut Pub, and it is fair to say that the conviviality quotient was high.

On Sunday morning the boats left on varying schedules to enjoy a leisurely sail back to Stingray Point and Deltaville. We were all pleased to have so many guests on board for this cruise. They included Chris Lindbloom and Nancy Glinn Powell, Thomas Park, Hank Richeson, Boone and Frank Ferrebee, and Richard and Kay Clary.

CRUISING / YOUNG ADULT MEMBERS







YOUNG ADULT MEMBERS

Despite threat of rainy weather, a dozen YA members and children set sail in October for an afternoon cruise. We cruised over to Gwynn's Island in a good breeze and enjoyed unusually warm temperatures. The kids had a blast on the boat. Don't forget to sign up for the Commodore's Ball evening for dinner or come later to join for the dessert and dancing. Head to the website to sign up!





Gwynn's Island Retreat











Breathtaking 1000+ ft. waterfront on 2.39 acres, plus extra 4.4 non-waterfront parcel. Wide views. Bright and cheery sea captain house ideally situated on south side of island for protection and quick access to Chesapeake Bay. Sun porch. Two docks. Vintage waterman shed. Garage/workshop. Garden shed. \$739,000. Elizabeth Johnson 804-240-5909



Elizabeth Johnson (804) 240-5909 www.WaterfrontandEstate.com

Equal Housing Opportunity

Bayhouse Sailboat-Depth Water on Protected Piankatank Harbor













• "Bayhouse" exudes a unique blend of elegance, peace & harmony • Lovely wide views on Healey's Creek + Custom sanctuary sited on 3.5-acre deep water acres • Impressive list of quality features & finishes • Quality waterfront community + 500' of waterfrontage just off Piankatank River + Pier with 6-9' MLW & 2 boat lifts + 4 bedrooms ~ 4.5 baths ~ 2 master suites + 4,614 sq. ft., extensive waterfront decking with hot tub + Brick & slate courtyard



Neena Rodgers, Realtor, ABR 804-436-2326 neenasrealestate@gmail.com www.neenasrealestate.com



BURGEES For Sale

X-Small 8" x 12" \$ 22 \$ 25 Small 10" x 15" \$ 30 Medium 12" x 18" \$ 35 Large 16" x 24" X-Large 24" x 36" 70

Prices include shipping and handling. Make checks payable to FBYC.

FBYC

2711 Buford Road #309 Bon Air, VA 23235



Chesapeake **Yacht Sales**







New 2014 Catalina 315 \$10,000 Buver's Incentive

1991 Hunter 35' \$39,900

Deltaville. Boating Capital of the Chesapeake







2005 Grady White 23' \$49,500

2004 Pursuit 31' \$89,900

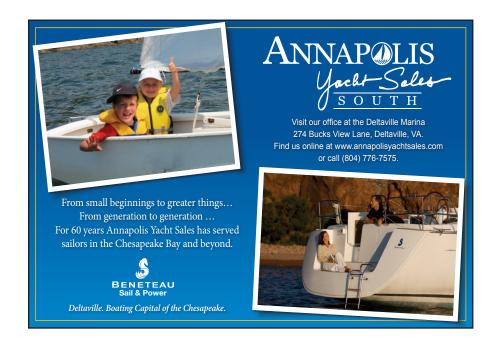
Large Inventory Pre-owned Power & Sail (804) 776-9898 www.cysboat.com

FBYC TRADEWINDS

FOR SALE: 1982 Columbia 8.3 Free Enterprise owner seeks a member to buy 1/2 share in partnership in the boat. 27 ft. sloop on the W. Pier. Roomiest 27 ft. boat around cruise air. Asking \$5,000. Call **Eliot Norman**, 804-721-7851.

FOR SALE: Colgate 26 "Blue Moon " 2005 .4 sets of sails (2 new) ,2 x 155% Genoa , 2 spinnakers .Dry storage each winter at Norton's .New bottom paint this spring and awlgrip wax each year .Custom winter cover from the Ship's Tailor .Triad custom trailer with electric brakes ,never in the water .Recent small "Nose job " after kissing " Nereid " . Excellent well cared for stable all around boat. Contact Walter Bundy, 804-337-2621.

WANTED: The Deltaville Maritime Museum is seeking boat and car donations. All proceeds benefit museum and park programs and future development.







2711 Buford Road #309 Bon Air, VA 23235

