



Corsica River Yacht Club December 2016 Newsletter

Ship Point 2016



The Corsica River Yacht Club has come a long way since its humble beginning as an old boathouse located in Emory Cove in 1899!



***Happy Holidays and enjoy
our review of 2016!***

CRYC Winter Social (Feb 28)

After a wintry January and February, members gathered at Doc's Riverside Grill in Centreville for our Winter Social. With a good turnout of members attending we were very cozy in the dining room. The food was outstanding as usual from Doc's with an excellent selection of hot hors d'oeuvres on the buffet table. CRYC provided door prizes for a few lucky members followed by a short update about plans for the Summer.



CRYC Spring Cleanup (Apr 16)

On this Saturday, CRYC held its usual Spring Cleanup day. With a good turnout, we accomplished a lot. The pavilion was washed down, the storage room completely emptied and washed out and bathrooms cleaned and ready for use. Weeds were pulled around the flag pole and around all the trees. The boat racks were repaired and boats reloaded on them and tied down. The picnic tables were put back in place in the pavilion and boats moved from the pavilion into the boat storage area. The grass was cut and the area behind the pavilion neatened up. Overall, the Club was put into good shape for the coming season. Thanks to all the members that came out and helped.



CRYC Annual Regatta (22-24 Jul)

This year was our 75th year of hosting the Annual Regatta! It was HOT, HOT, HOT and we went through 15 cases of water on Saturday alone. Typical in our area, there was a little breeze on the water so the sailors, support boats, and race committees were happy on the Corsica and Chester Rivers. However, we heard the sail across the Bay was a different story as the winds diminished and the big boats swirled in circles waiting for hints of breeze. Ugh!



The socials on the land started Friday night with our traditional pre-regatta picnic. CRYC provided a ham and everyone else brought their favorite dishes to share. Those that attended caught up on various happenings of the Club and members while enjoying a nice meal along with preparing for the next day's event. Overall a good time was had by all, particularly since the beer truck was open tap as is our tradition! Thanks to Jessie Keating for organizing our picnic!

Saturday's social was a big success with 170 dinners sold and tremendous turnout of volunteers to prepare those meals for all the hungry appetites. A big thank you to the Campbells for organizing all the support and serving those dinners with a smile, despite the heat. The music was outstanding as usual. Everyone enjoyed Eddie Finkner's bluegrass band before dinner and then Vic Vacuum and the Attachments rocked the pavilion after dinner as the younger group braved the heat and danced into the evening.



The event closed on Sunday following the second day of sailing. This event was a big success and thanks to everyone who helped whether that be race committee, support boats, meal preparations, registration, or just those that came for a good time. Every event has some glitches, but this year we had two exceptionally big issues happen. The dock hoist failed on Wednesday before the event and Ridgely Kelly jumped into

action to get it fixed before the event. And then on Saturday the water tank bladder ruptured and our site had little to no water pressure for all those hot and sweaty sailors. Mike Sipes was our hero as he kept enough pressure going for the toilets Saturday evening and then purchased and installed a new tank early Sunday morning before most were up and about. Thank you Ridgely and Mike!

CRYC Junior Regatta (Aug 10)

This year the Junior Regatta moved to August to accommodate CBYRA's junior schedule as the Junior Olympics were being held in Lewes, DE during July. So, in August we successfully held our Junior Regatta with a lot of volunteers from CRYC. The turnout was good with participation in Optimists, Lasers, and Club 420s from local Yacht Clubs. Competition was tight among all classes and following the races, CRYC volunteers cooked hotdogs and burgers on the grill for all to enjoy. It was a great day for sailing and thank you to all who helped make this day successful.



Labor Day Picnic (Sep 5)

CRYC held a Labor Day picnic this year under the pavilion. Members brought a dish to share and the Club provided burgers and hotdogs for the grill.



Blue Herons always welcome at CRYC!



Pumpkin Patch Regatta & Corsica Days (Sep 18)

CRYC was asked to be the venue for Corsica Days this year, so we combined this with our Annual



Pumpkin Patch Regatta. The event turned out fantastic with lots of visitors to CRYC to look at the

various booths and kid's activities. There was live music, pony rides, pumpkin painting and carving, and face painting. CRYC setup a booth to inform people about our Club and the sailing program run



each summer for kids. The regatta



was lightly attended, but that didn't affect the event as a good time was had by all. Again, thanks for all the volunteers.

Annual Meeting (Oct 23)

With the promise of oysters on the half-shell as well as fried,



about 50 members. The oysters did not disappoint as they were eagerly consumed. With the large turnout, there were also numerous side



dishes, desserts, and a spiral-sliced ham smoked by our yet to

be announced new Commodore. Jessie Keating's Fall harvest medley was amazing with lots of requests for her secret recipe. The afternoon was sunny and a mild temperature leading to a very pleasant time at Ship Point under the pavilion.



Wick Dudley brought the meeting to order by thanking the members of the Board for the last two years as well as the many members who helped with the Club's activities. Significant improvements have been made to the Club over the last year! They include reconfiguring the dock pilings and

adding two new floating dock sections; adding a hand rail on the gangplank for increased safety; installing a new concrete sidewalk in front of the storage room; rewiring all the pavilion outlets for 20 amps along with adding a special



outlet for the beer truck; and finally roughing in four overhead ceiling fan receptacles in the pavilion. Along with those improvements, the Club received another safety boat, a donated Comet, and acquired a 15HP engine. Before turning it over to the Nominating Committee, Wick



spoke about an opportunity to partner with the YMCA in Centreville for Junior Sailing next year. The big advantage of the partnership would be their expertise in camp management and marketing along with our great venue and existing fleet. The next Board will certainly pursue this opportunity.

Next, the Nominating Committee presented their slate of Officers and Directors and the membership in attendance voted unanimously to accept. There were a few surprised looks when it was announced that Andy would be returning as Commodore after only a four-year break.



New Board of Directors

Commodore: Andy Wood

Vice Commodore: Mike Hollis

Rear Commodore: Mike Sipes

Fleet Captains: John Foster & Art Silcox

Treasurer: Joe Doll

Secretary: Byron Luna

Director: Jessica Keating

Director: Gayle Jayne

Director: Gail Owings

Director/Webmaster: Joe Della Barba



Comet Pumpkin Bowl, Nov 5

By Betsy Kulman

A brisk autumn day spent racing on a Comet is hard to beat. The air is crisp; the water moves differently without the sludgy feel of summer. Ducks flying overhead cast shadows on the shoreline foliage - turned the color of wheat or biscuits. It is an excellent setting for a sailboat race.



The banter among the skippers and crew is friendly, always helpful. Coffee is served on the back of someone's car. The sound of easy laughter carries on the wind. These are sailors who know one another well. These moments form a precious tradition.

Last-minute sailors arrive to fanfare (no names, please) and rig their boats. Mainsails are pleated against the deck, awaiting launch. The Skippers Meeting is quickly over and now it's time for business. Help is everywhere as boats are lowered into water by crane. We wind our way to the Race Committee Boat – working out any rigging kinks as we go -- and get ready... wait for the starting gun.

Three minutes. The shimmer of the water dances just off the bow. Two minutes. We circle, waiting, gliding slowly, getting ready. One minute. Tack the boat, hang back, Ten seconds. The horn blares. The sailors spring into action and it begins. ALL CLEAR is sounded. We're off.

HEY! WATCH OUT!! HEY!! THANKS A LOT! HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?? HEY! I NEED A LITTLE
ROOM HERE!! I'M GIVING YOU PLENTY OF ROOM!

Racing on a Comet is a contact sport. If not from other boats striving to get around the racing marks, then the ducking, the rolling, the hiking, and sometimes the slip of the foot by crew or skipper. Racing demands being focused and present in the moment.

But when the wind is right, when the water is right, when the boat is right, racing a Comet feels like the only right place to be in the world. Last Sunday's Pumpkin Bowl was such a day. Almost heartbreaking in its perfection -- because too soon it would be just a memory.



The fifth race is finished. On this brilliant afternoon – warm but just warm – we head back to the dock, any momentary crossness spoken from Skipper to Skipper forgiven and forgotten. Because now the real sailing begins.... the recalling. Sharing in minute detail - every tack and wind shift – the success or failure of the bend in the mast and its performance on each of the races.



So perhaps – after all - a day spent on the water is etched in memory far more deeply than the race itself. In any case, it will have to sustain. The Pumpkin Bowl marks the end of the Fall season, and next year’s Spring sailing, with its own colors, birds, foliage and promise, can’t get here too soon.

Site Closing Work Party (Nov 12)

About 20 people turned out to help close Ship Point as winter approached. The storage room was straightened up and refrigerator and freezer were emptied. The grounds were spruced up including removing large tree trunks and



moving boats to better locations for the winter. Boats were assessed for repairs and maintenance needs for next year. When work completed, everyone feasted on hot dogs and hamburgers cooked by the Commodore.



Mike Sipes winterized the bathrooms and water systems and padlocks were placed on the bathroom doors. Water



and electricity will remain turned off until CRYC re-opens sometime in April



2017. Visitors during the off season are asked to pack out their trash and to be aware that bathrooms are not available.

Miscellaneous Pictures CRYC 2016



Relocating pilings for the new floating docks.



Stargazing Bonfire –
Last event of the year.

Thanks to all the volunteers for making 2016 a great year for CRYC.