

# THE RIVER VIEW VIEWS

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**FROM THE HELM!**

As I sit here at my desk, I can't help day dreaming. The weather is close to 70 degrees, and the sun is shining. *Fantasy* is almost ready for the water, which will really make for a perfect day.

Our Club had a nice turn out at the Polish Yacht Club. That place always amazes me. The food is great, service is great, and they do a lot of business at a location that should spell failure, but they keep their standards high and people keep coming back.

This reminds me of another Yacht Club that is still successful because their members also set the high standards and live up to their motto, "**For Fun's Sake.**"

Coming up at the May meeting is our annual **Used Boat Item Auction**. This is a good place to donate things you no longer need or use. Just bring these items to the meeting **Friday, May 7, 2004**. All proceeds go to R.V.Y.C.

Keep an eye on our schedule for the rest of the year and plan to join us as often as you can.

**TAKING STOCK**

Today in the markets, helium was up; feathers were down.

Paper was stationary.

Elevators rose, while escalators continued their slow decline.

Mining equipment hit rock bottom.

The market for raisins dried up; Coca-Cola fizzled.

Balloon prices were inflated, and Scott Tissue reached a new bottom.

See you soon! Also, be sure to check our website, [www.rvyc.com](http://www.rvyc.com)

**Commodore Ray**

**VICE VIEWS!**

April has all but come and gone and now it's time for fun! But not so fast, we still have to get the boats ready to endure all the trips this club takes each summer. By now, most of us are old hands at "fitting out" a boat. What is "fitting out"? It is the opposite of "Hauling out" and a much more pleasurable activity as it marks the bright start of a new season rather than heralding the dark, damp days of winter, "Fitting Out" means different things to different people. Essentially it means preparing your boat for the new season. We will be having our annual **Fitting Out Party on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 4 pm at Kean's**. The Club will supply hot dogs, pop, and beer for all that attend. Those of you who are finished fitting out your boat (oh, how lucky you have been with this fantastic April weather), can bring a dish to pass for those less fortunate.

Speaking of Fitting Out, here's some information I found on the Internet about fitting out a boat that you may find interesting:

- First, off come the winter covers. Once the covers are off, open every hatch, door, port-light, locker door and cupboard you can, and lift floor-boards and engine hatches if possible also, to thoroughly air the boat. An electric fan-heater inside the boat can help here.
- Install the hull drain plug.
- Give the exterior a good scrub-down. Yes, close hatches, doors and ports before hosing down!
- Check over fittings, including instrument transponders, with great care, and remember that catalytic action can eat metal away under the paint skin. You should use phosphor-bronze or marine-grade stainless steel (not any stainless steel) for any through-hull bolts. Replace any badly eroded anodes. (By the way, you never paint these.) Then look over all rudder and prop-shaft mountings with great care, checking for any play and looseness. Propeller nuts should be tightened and split-pins replaced (always keep spares on board). A corroded or bent propeller should be refurbished. Examine exhaust ports and any other outlets.

- When thoroughly dry, (and any repairs done), most will paint the bottom with antifouling paint such as *Micron Extra*. Always wear a mask and protective clothing when removing anti-fouling as it contains poisons, and protect yourself also when applying it.
- Here's a tip for Ray: Always apply an undercoat to a wooden boat before using a high copper content anti-fouling. The penalty for not doing this will vary, but the worst possible case, to use an example, is probably a wooden hull, copper fastened and with galvanized fittings. A direct application of copper anti-fouling will effectively electrically link the heads of all the fastenings and make one pole of a fairly large battery, the galvanized fittings will provide the other pole and with salt or river water as an efficient electrolyte it is likely that all the galvanized fittings will need to be replaced in two seasons or less. Apparently this is a little-known fact.
- Check that the hull drain plug is still in.
- Deck fittings should be removed every few years, to inspect the wood beneath. Put a good coat of sealing compound beneath and in the bolt holes before refitting.
- If you spot a leak, you may want to try *UniBond*, an inexpensive PVA (poly-vinyl-acetate) glue-sealant much used by decorators and carpenters. This is a white liquid that can be thinned with water, and sets to a hard translucent finish, ideal for sealing cracks and leaks. It's definitely worth a try
- Inspect all fittings – seacocks, bilge pumps, float switches, keelbolt heads, log, depth-sounder, anode bolts and connections, etc. Bilge pumps and float switches should be removed, cleaned and serviced. Anode connections should be carefully cleaned and left coated with waterproof grease as a protection, and any corroded connecting wire replaced.
- Check your anchor links, swivel-links and shackles for wear, loss of galvanizing, etc., and ensure all shackle pins are tight. Then go below and clean out and examine the chain locker (and ensure the on-board end of the anchor chain is made fast!)
- Check every single light in the boat, especially navigation, instrument and emergency lights. Repair any that don't work. Renew the fitting if it is bad, for it will magically reappear, usually at the worst possible moment!

- Check that you have a full inventory of spare bulbs, with two spare sets for navigation lights.
- Check that hull drain plug again!
- Lastly, check over all First Aid, lifesaving and distress equipment, do an inventory of buoyancy aids, and test the ship's radio (and other instrumentation).

That's about it, aside from all the things I've forgotten, so break out the cocktails to celebrate the first cruise of the season! If you have done all the above successfully, you deserve it! Oh, and did I mention to check the hull drain plug?

If you would like to see more of this article, go to <http://www.tradboatrally.com/fitout.html>. It's really quite humorous!

Well, gotta go, but I'll see you at the docks!

### **Vice Commodore Ron**

#### **FROM THE REAR!**

Ahoy, Mateys! As we get closer to the Venetian Festival, some of us may need to freshen up on our Pirate-ese! First of all, if you say "Booty", you are talking about Doubloons, Pieces of Eight, or other kinds of treasure. Second, you need to get your ship ready. Any self-respecting Buccaneer wouldn't be caught dead on the high seas without a minimum of two Six-Pounders pointing out of the gunports on each side of his ship.

(It is quite important that when cutting the gunport holes from inside the ship, you are cutting **above** the waterline....) Make sure your Jolly Roger is flying high to let other Scurvy Dogs know **you** are not one to be trifled with! Plenty O' Rum had better be on board, along with the crew's favorite hard liquors. Also have a Hempen Halter handy for any Scalawags that need to dance the Hempen Jig! The Cap'n needs his hook polished and sharpened, ready for any Hornswogglers that be needin a lesson!

And to the crew: All Pistols and Cutlasses are to be cleaned, loaded, and always ready at hand. If'n the Cap'n tells ye to "Raise the anchor," Ye best do it *smartly*, or a Cat O'nine Tails could be ye reward! There'll be no Hangin the Jib when it's time to cook the Cackle Fruit, just a quick "Aye", and get the crew it's breakfast. Avast, Matey seems as if the pint O' Nelson's Folly nearly caused the Rear to leave out the most important part! Just to make sure ye don't end up Marooned after the festival, it be strongly suggested ye refer to the better half as "**Me little beauty**", not "**Ye scurvy galley wench**" (Fun is fun, but the wife just *may* know the meaning of a "Keelhaul", and may try it!)

Well shiver me timbers, it's time for this lubber to get another mug O' grog. Hope this keeps ye (and me) *out* of trouble, and *in* the FUN!

### **Vice Commodore Jon**

## **FACTS FOR THE FLEET!**

### *Mudhens Game added to 2004 Summer Schedule*

Based on the interest expressed at the April 2 meeting, we have arranged for a club trip to the Mudhens game on Sunday August 1. Game time is at 2:00pm. Everyone is on his or her own to set-up a car pool for the drive down. In addition, Jim Baran has extended an invitation to stop by after the game at RVYC South for a spot of their hospitality.

We will be in the Party Deck along the first base/right field side of the stadium. The Deck has picnic tables for eating and socializing and, for you baseball purists; we will also have upper deck reserved seats. Children under 3 are free and there is a \$2 discount for children 3 - 12 years old.

The picnic buffet will feature grilled bratwurst, grilled chicken breast and corn on the cob plus all accompaniments, dessert and sodas. Beer, wine and drinks can be purchased at a concession stand. Tickets will be \$24.22 per person that includes stadium admission, food, gratuity and tax. We need a minimum of 25 so start bringing your checks, made out to RVYC, and sign up for the game.

### **Fleet Captain Ed**

### April Birthdays

7 – Barb Leone  
12 – Ray Lacey  
16 – Ron Bickel  
18 – **P/C** Jim Baran  
18 – Larry Thomas  
20 – **P/C** Jean Pritchard  
25 – Robert Nixon  
26 – Diane Deptula

### April Anniversaries

7 – Joe & Carol Bacile

### Other April Dates

24 – Last Night of Bowling

### May Birthdays

4 – Lee Vauris  
5 – Becky Schlice  
13 – Brenda Roth  
15 – John Seedott  
17 – Jill Martyka  
23 – Bob Caza  
27 – Patti Jordan

### May Anniversaries

7 – John & Peggy Cornwell  
18 – Pat & Judy Thul  
19 – Herb & Joyce Alfaro  
20 – Ken & Diana Wilkerson  
24 – Ron & Ellen Bickel

### Other May Dates

5 – Cinco de Mayo  
**7 – Meeting @ Kean's, 8 pm  
Auction to follow**  
9 – Mother's Day  
**15 – Fitting Out Party @ Kean's, 4 pm**  
24 – Victoria Day (Canada)  
**29/31 – Cove Rendezvous**  
31 – Memorial Day (Observed)

### **Some more dates to keep in mind:**

#### **MAY**

**7 MEETING 8 pm @ KEAN'S  
AUCTION OF USED BOAT ITEMS**  
**15 FITTING OUT PARTY 4 pm @ KEAN'S**  
**29 MEMORIAL WEEKEND @ COVE MARINA thru 31st**

#### **JUNE**

**4 MEETING 8 pm @ KEAN'S**  
**12 METRO BEACH WEEKEND**  
**19 VENETIAN WEEKEND @ KEAN'S "PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN"**

#### **JULY**

**2 MEETING @ KEAN'S**  
**3-10 WEEK IN LAKE ERIE:**  
**3-4 MIDDLE BASS ISLAND**  
**5 KELLEY'S ISLAND**  
**6 CEDAR POINT**  
**7 PUT IN BAY**  
**8 PELEE ISLAND**  
**9-10 LEAMINGTON**  
**15 GOLD CUP RACES**  
**24-25 ALGONAC MARINA**

## Memorial Day Rendezvous – Cove Marina

**Where:** Enter the Thames Rives at the Lighthouse Cove on Lake St. Clair.  
Coordinates: Lat 42.18.00 Long 82.27.66. Hang a right at Radlin's Marina and follow the channel to the Cove.

**When:** May 29 – 31, 2004

**Participants:** Abernethy(?), Brown, Bunge, Clapper, Dawes, Jordan, Koleski, Pritchard, Roth Jim, Roth John, Schrage, Sherman, Vauris

**Marina Telephone number:** (Canadian marinas all monitor channel 68.)

➤ 519-682-3841

***The Club will monitor Channel 72 while on the water.***

### Itinerary:

#### **Saturday, May 29**

- ❖ Be on the river in front of Kean's at 9:30 am
- ❖ 12:30 pm Buy a Poker Run Card
- ❖ 1:00 pm Haggis throwing event – female only
- ❖ 1:45 pm Bocce ball tournament
- ❖ 4:00 pm Horsd'oeuvres party
- ❖ Dinner at one of the local restaurants
- ❖ Campfire with smore's (bring some fire wood)

#### **Sunday, May 30**

- ❖ Breakfast at Spooters
- ❖ 11:00 am tee times at Tilbury Golf and Curling Club
- ❖ 1:30 pm Bocce ball or miniature golf tournament
- ❖ 6:00 pm Pot luck dinner – bring a grill, something to grill and dish to pass
- ❖ Campfire with popcorn (bring some fire wood)

#### **Monday, May 31**

- ❖ Movement back to home marina