

THE RIVER VIEW VIEWS

Volume 18 Issue 5

May 2004

FROM THE HELM!

As I sit here on the back deck of Fantasy and watch the boats cruising by after launch, heading for their wells, I see the looks of contentment on their faces and a sense of competition. T.G.I.F. (thank God it floats.) The only thing left to do is to put everything in place and make ready for a great summer.

Last weekend we had the Fitting Out Party. People started coming at 4 P.M. and continued until after 6 P.M. Once again the food was plentiful and delicious. Many thanks to Ron and Ruth Sherman for their efforts, and to all that brought a dish to pass. I know I appreciated it and everyone that was still putting finishing touches on their boats prior to launch, did also. As always, members with or without boats, enjoy all of the events of our club. As our motto states "For Fun's Sake." This includes ALL members.

Memorial Day weekend is fast approaching and with it comes our first Rendezvous . This year it is at the Cove Marina. I hope many of you can attend. Lots of activities planned, and will be fun as usual.

We have a beautiful hand knitted afghan made by Mary Lou Tusset, and donated to the club. This will be raffled off with the proceeds to the 50th Year Celebration. The afghan will be on display at the June meeting.

THIS MONTH'S CHUCKLE:
(RVYC members should be so lucky!)

"All Drinks 10 Cents"
They can't believe their good luck! They pay the 40 cents, finish their martinis, and order another round. Again, four excellent martinis are produced, with the bartender saying. "That's 40 cents, please." They pay 40 cents, but their curiosity is more than they can stand. They've had two martinis and so far they've spent less than a dollar.

The men couldn't stand it any longer and asked, "How can you afford to serve martinis as good as these for a dime?"

The bartender replied, "Here's my story. I'm a retired tailor from Brooklyn and I always wanted to own a bar. Last year I hit the lottery for \$25 million and decided to open this place. Each drink costs a dime: wine, liquor, beer, all the same."

"Wow! That's quite a story."
The four sipped at their martinis but couldn't help notice three other guys at the end of the bar who didn't have a drink in front of them, and hadn't ordered anything the whole time they were there. One man gestured at the three without drinks and asked, "What's with them?"

The bartender replied, "They're senior citizens from Florida and they're waiting for happy hour prices."

Commodore Ray

Commodore
Ray Brown
248-642-0227

Vice Commodore
Ron Sherman
313-969-2245

Rear Commodore
Jon Jordan
248-478-4136

Treasurer
Pat Thul
248-828-3319

Secretary
Herb Alfaro
586-775-1693

Past Commodore
Lynn Koleski
734-420-5391

Director
Dave Passmore
248-446-1700

Director
Jim Roth
248-348-3787

Fleet Captain
Ed Pritchard
734-455-3391

Sunshine Lady
Carolyn Stoehr
248-348-3787

Newsletter Editor
Linda Baran
313-584-5016

Web Address
www.rvyc.info

VICE VIEWS!

Spring has sprung and the boat yard is emptying fast. Everyday I look around and see more and more of our friends and marina family in the water. It's amazing how much happier people are when their boat is tied up in their wells!

We had a fantastic Fitting Out Party on Saturday the 15th. Attendance was exceptional and the grub was endless! Thanks to everyone who brought a dish to pass, to Joann Giffer for coordinating all the dishes, and to Ruthie for being such a great cook at the grill!

We have the afghan that was made by Mary Lou Tussett. What a beautiful job she did! It is absolutely gorgeous! We will display it at the next club meeting so make sure you attend so you can see it for yourself.

I gotta go; Joe and Sue just came over for cocktail hour (priorities, you know).

But before I do, I thought it would be fun to test your *Marine Safety Knowledge*. How many of these answers did you know? They are from the USPS (United States Power Squadron), web site www.usps.org for the computer guru's out there.

Mini quiz:

FUELING

You must run your blower for at least four minutes before each startup. **T or F**

The answer is **TRUE**. You are required by law to run the blower for at least 4 minutes before every start up.

This is especially important after re-fueling because fuel vapors can build up in an enclosed space like a bilge and ignite with "explosive" consequences.

Another good practice after refueling is to open your engine hatch. This will aid in ventilation and you can check for gas fumes. If you detect any, don't start the engines - find the source of the problem and have it fixed.

Finally, while the blower is still running, check the air it's exhausting. Sniff to verify that there is no fuel vapors present, and hold something light (a small piece of paper) in front of the vent. If it's blowing plenty of air, you'll know the blower is doing its job.

ALCOHOL AND BOATING

The effects of alcohol are intensified by sun, wind and the motion of a boat. **T or F**

The answer is **TRUE**. Mixing alcohol and boating is far more dangerous than most people realize. Fatigue, sun, wind and the motion of a boat intensifies the effect, leaving you with a longer reaction time, poorer fine motor skills and impaired judgment. This means that even in moderation, drinking and boating is not a good idea.

So, the next time you're out on the water and need a drink, consider something that's refreshing and won't impair your ability to operate your boat. Consider fruit juices, a flavored soft drink or better yet, WATER.

HYPOTHERMIA

Swimming to shore is always the best thing to do when suffering from hypothermia. **T or F**

The answer is **FALSE**. Swimming to shore is not the best thing to do if you are suffering from hypothermia because swimming requires physical exertion, which will cause you to lose valuable body heat. What you should do instead is try to get out of the water as quickly as you can. If that is not possible but you are wearing a PFD, assume a H.E.L.P. position in the water. H.E.L.P. stands for "Heat Escape Lessening Position".

Cross your arms tightly against your chest, then draw your knees up close to your chest as well, assuming a fetal position.

PFD

All boats are required to carry one approved lifejacket or PFD - appropriately sized - for each person on board. **T or F**

The answer is **TRUE**. However, there are a number of exceptions. For example, inflatables are not approved for persons under 16 years of age or for persons weighing less than 36.3 kg. There are also a number of on-the-water activities and vessels for which inflatables are not approved. Details can be found in the Safe Boating Guide.

There are two types of inflatables - automatic and manual. Manual operation is simple. The replaceable CO2 cartridge is activated by pulling an inflator toggle.

Inflatables are great. They're comfortable and you barely notice that you're wearing them. So, now there is no reason not to wear a PFD every time you're on the water!

RULES OF THE ROAD

Under the "rules of the road," powerboats are required to give way to less maneuverable boats. **T or F**

The answer is **TRUE**.

All vessels are subject to the Rules of the Road. A simple rule for two dissimilar vessels is that the more maneuverable vessel (powerboat) must give way.

However, when you consider how many different types of boats there are and how many different situations you will encounter, the rules are not always so simple. For example, when two powerboats approach each other at an angle, the vessel on the port side slows down and passes behind the other.

There are rules for every situation on the water. The basic ones and the ones most often used by pleasure craft can be found in the *Safe Boating Guide*.

CARELESS OPERATION

A person operating a vessel in a careless manner could be charged by enforcement authorities. **T or F**

The answer is **TRUE**.

A person indulging in careless operation of a vessel could be charged under the Small Vessel Regulations. Careless operation includes behaviors like:

- Speeding where there are limits
- Driving at speed while visibility is poor
- Operating after dark without proper running lights

- Creating wake in a No Wake Zone
- Driving at speed in congested areas
- Traveling too close to swimmers and small vessels

These are some of the behaviors that are considered careless. Depending on the state or province, tickets or a summons to appear in court may be issued for these offenses. It's not just about the legal implications, though, **it's about everyone's safety!**

I'll see you all at the docks!

Vice Commodore Ron

REAR VIEWS!

First of all, thanks to everyone for the card, and the get-well wishes! Things are healing nicely, though not as quickly as I would like. It turns out that between my hip and leg I managed to injure quite a few muscles. OOPS!

Thanks to VC Ron and Ruthie for a super fitting out party! There was way too much food, and many excellent dishes to choose from.

We have a **great** day planned for our annual Venetian Celebration! We have Coast Guard approval for our parade on the River and a minister ready to bless the fleet. There will be three (3) **cash** prizes awarded for the best decorated boats in the "**Pirates of the Caribbean**" Parade.

Our dinner is going to be prepared by Hotz Catering Services, who will be grilling for us right in Kean's parking lot! On the menu are marinated skinless and boneless chicken breasts, 1/3 pound ground sirloin burgers, and natural casing hot dogs. They will also be serving up a fresh fruit salad, hot baked beans, and red skin potato salad.

Before dinner, tables will be decorated and set up with pretzels, pistachios, goldfish (naturally) and lots of munchies. With the much-appreciated help of Jim Roth, the Club will be providing a great selection of ice-cold beer, wine, pop and set-ups. If you wish to bring you favorite "hard" liquor, we are planning on having cups, ice, sliced lemons and limes, etc. Bring your appetite, Hotz guarantees there will be plenty for everyone!

During the night's festivities, we will be listening to our favorite CDs on a sound system provided by Pat Thul. Many thanks to Pat, and don't forget to bring your pirate music!!

After dinner, there will be a special "pirate" cake for all to enjoy. Then, it's game time! I may be a spectator this year, but sometimes that is more fun than playing!

Remember, no dish to pass, no help cooking or cleaning, just show up and have a **great time!** Tickets are twenty dollars (\$20) for adults and ten dollars (\$10) for kids who are twelve (12) years and under. **We do need a final count by our June 4th meeting!** Questions? Call me, **RC Jon Jordan**, at (248) 478-4136, **or** Email me: jonrjordan@msn.com

Or simply mail a check to me at 33940 Glenview, Farmington, MI 48335 (payable to RVYC)

Rear Commodore Jon

.....

May Birthdays

4 – Lee Vauris
5 – Becky Schlice
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

24 – Victoria Day (Canada)
29/31 – Cove Marina Rendezvous
31 – Memorial Day (Observed)

June Birthdays

5 – Ruth Sherman
7 – Dan Martyka
23 – Ken Wilkerson
24 – Robert Theard
26 – Pete Mischung

June Anniversaries

9 – Jon & Patti Jordan
22 – Dale & Pat Binkley
28 – Mike & Therese Schrage

Other June Dates

4 – Meeting @ Kean's, 8 pm
14 – Flag Day
20 – Father's Day
21 – Summer Begins

More dates to keep in mind:

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 ALGONAC MARINA

AUGUST

6 MEETING 8 pm @ KEAN'S
7 GREEN AND WHITE PARTY – KEAN'S
15-22 WEEK IN LAKE HURON
15 ST. CLAIR HARBOR
16-17 LEXINGTON
18-19 GRAND BEND
20-22 SARNIA – HIGHLAND GAMES

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, 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

- ❖ 9:30 am Be on the river in front of Kean's
- ❖ 12:30 pm Buy a Poker Run Card
- ❖ 1:00 pm Haggis throwing event – females only
- ❖ 1:45 pm Bocce ball tournament
- ❖ 4:00 pm Hors d'oeuvres party
- ❖ Dinner at one of the local restaurants
- ❖ Campfire with smores (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

Metro Beach Rendezvous

Where: On Black Creek off Lake St. Clair. Channel entrance: Lat. 42°33'55"N, Long. 2°47'43"W. We will be in the North Basin – go past the South Basin and turn left at the island. In that we could not get a reservation on the finger docks for this weekend, participants decided to go to Metro Beach on Friday night to assure slips in the North Basin. This is on a first-come-first-served basis. Bring lawn chairs, bocce balls and golf clubs.

When: June 11 – 13, 2004

Participants: Abernethy, Alfaro, Bacile, Bickel, Bunge, Clapper, Freestone, Jordan, Leone, Sherman, Thul, Vauris

Marina Telephone number:

- Harbor Master on duty from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm, 586-463-4581

The Club will monitor Channel 72 while on the water.

Schedule of Events:

Friday, June 11:

- ❖ 5:00 pm Try to get be at the North Basin
- ❖ 7:30 pm Hors d'oeuvres and libations party

Saturday, June 12:

- ❖ AM Par 3 golf tournament organized by VC Ron Sherman
- ❖ Buy a Poker Run card – see Treasurer Pat Thul
- ❖ PM Bocce ball tournament organized by PC Joe Clapper
- ❖ 7:00 Evening cookout. Bring something to grill and a dish to pass

Sunday, June 13:

- ❖ AM Bloody Mary party and Club breakfast – bring a breakfast dish to pass (Ruth promised to bring her Pecan French toast).
- ❖ Another round of par 3 golf?
- ❖ Movement to home marina.

Note on the Lake Erie July trip:

We have arranged for 12 power slips at Middle Bass Island for Saturday, July 3 and Sunday July 4. This is the island home of JR Walleye. The Marina only has 29 slips with power and demand for powered slips for the Fourth of July weekend is high. They request reservations with the accompanying \$25 deposit be in to them 30 days prior to arrival. If you are planning on that weekend trip, you need to have the deposit to them (not just in the mail) by June 3. On June 4 they will release our slips to others on their wait list. Don't wait until the last minute if you plan to accompany the Club to this "Caribbean Island" in the middle of Lake Erie.

2004 Poker Run:

The following attendees have been dealt their first down card and are "in the game":
Joyce Alfaro, Sue Grimm, Joe Clapper, Ray Brown, John Roth, Don Bunge