

THE RIVER VIEW VIEWS

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From The Helm

The Labor Day Rendezvous at Saint Clair Marina was the best-yet rendezvous this year!!!

Ten boats, you know who you are, plus drive-in members. We ate, golfed, ate again, played games, cooked out, ate and drank, joked around, had fun, decorated our boats and laughed. What at weekend!

The best decorated boats were Jim & Carolyn Roth who took first place and Ron & Ruthie Sherman who came in a close second. Both boats stood tall in the harbor.

The menu items were too much to mention, also too much to eat, but we persevered and ate it all. All the breakfasts, all the lunches, all the appetizers, all the dinners, all the deserts, plus a few treks to the ice cream parlor. Not to mention all the beer, pop, water, mixed drinks and Bloody Marys. Thank you all for your generosity, it was a great time.

We had a splash down by Barbie Taylor who went in between the dock and Jim Roth's swim platform, a distance of about 12 inches. Lucky she's so "undernourished" (compared to the rest of us); anyone else would have got jammed in that small of a space and crushed

their rib cage. Barbie had a bumped knee, which we iced down right away. She seemed OK the next morning although she had some badly bruised feet and soreness but *For Fun Sake* ... valiantly continued with the party.

For those of you who may not know, when approaching the Saint Clair bridge alone, you must call on channel 9 to get the bridge to open. It will not open at the hour and half hour unless there is a boat to go through and that boat calls the bridge master. Carol and I found this out when we thought we would watch the Alfaro's and Pritchards go through the bridge. We sat there for about ½ hour while the two boats waited for the bridge to open. When it did not open we wondered why and I went on top to see the bridge master watering his flowers. He explained that you must call. The boats tied up on the wall and waited for the next opening. Carol and I went for ice cream. When we returned, they were gone and that marked the end of a great rendezvous.

October 3rd marks the planning of the next River View Bridge with nominations and the famous Pizza Party. Being on the Bridge has been fun. We have planned parties, outings and get-togethers. Even the planning

meetings have been fun. Our members always step up to offer help when needed and that makes the job very easy. I have enjoyed the task and you may also, so please consider running for one of the positions.

Commodore Joe

Advice from the Vice

August was a full month of "For Fun's Sake" beginning with an excellent turn-out at Jim & Carolyn Roth's house for the annual Big Stud Warrior ceremony and concluding with the Labor Day Rendezvous at the Charles F. Moore St. Clair Marina organized by Fleet Captain/P.C. Herb Alfaro.

Not counting the Blessing of the Fleet where 14 boats participated, the ten boats that successfully docked at St. Clair represented the largest rendezvous in the past two years. Though not surprising, the Labor Day Rendezvous historically has been the best attended trip. The record being 22 boats at Chatham, rafted 2-3 deep - with Mary Lou popping the circuits with her hair dryer. Fleet Captain/P.C. Herb Alfaro smooched with Harbormaster, Avery Armstrong, they even exchanged email addresses and we are now in "the book" for 10 slips, hopefully together, for Labor Day 2009 (see following note on Labor Day at Kean's - serving boaters since 1931).

Our next event is the canoe paddling excursion organized by P/C Joe Clapper. On Saturday September 20th we will convene at the Village Canoe Rental in Milford for a trip down the

Huron River, actually this is part of the Big Stud Warrior ceremony. Shove off time (I guess that is canoe terminology) is 10 a.m., we will put three people in a canoe and the fee is \$35 per canoe. The best approach, given I-96 isn't closed because of Wixom Road construction, is to take I-96, exit and go north on Milford Rd. Google the address so you can find your way through Milford, the address is: 1216 Garden Rd Milford 48381. See their web site at <http://www.freewebs.com/villagecanoe18/>

Saturday September 27th is the annual progressive dinner at our new venue, Metro Beach. Plan to arrive by 10 a.m., we will play some golf and then commence with eating and drinking. We will round out our weekend of eating with the traditional egg boil on Sunday morning. For the past four years we have had great weather for this event and long range forecasts call for sunny and mid 70's for the weekend.

Friday October 3rd will be the annual bake sale and nomination of Bridge officers for 2009; we had a preview of the bake sale with Secretary Carol Bacile's bundt cake at the September meeting.

Saturday October 4th at 4 p.m., will be the haul out party around the pool area. We will do the usual: hot dogs, beer and soda provided by the Club and please bring a dish to share with fellow RVYC members.

Several members have already volunteered for the Commodore's Ball committee;

we will have our first planning meeting some Sunday afternoon in October (to avoid having to watch the Lions).

Update from Mike "there will be no changes" Litt. I am not sure what happened to his strategy of filling the Marina by marketing to the Grosse Points but TWBNC wants Kean's (serving boaters since 1931) to become a destination for boaters - his model is Algonac Harbor Club. For example, Labor Day 2009 will be a three day extravaganza with Tiki Bar, live band and a dunk tank that he will occupy - he wants it so compelling that The Drifters will stay at Kean's rather than travel to Algonac (I didn't feel it was necessary to tell him of RVYC plans.) Also, this winter the room we use as a meeting room will be converted to a banquet hall to be rented out for catered events for \$600 a night. He plans all new lighting fixtures, big screen TV, cut glass french doors and new tables and chairs plus he will remodel the women and men's rest rooms to make them handicap accessible. TWBNC had not considered RVYC but his initial reaction was that we would be "grandfathered-in" to use the room for meetings - subject to potential rentals from paying customers. He committed to working with us to accommodate meeting needs, "maybe you can use the St. Clair room" TWBNC said. The remodeling will be from January to April so to quote one of our more outspoken members ... "the bottom line is" ... we will need to find another venue for the Super Bowl party and be flexible on meeting locations during 2009.

For Fun's Sake
VC Ed Pritchard

Sunshine Person Report

Our best wishes are extended to P/C Joe Clapper who continues to recuperate from his recent double by-pass heart surgery. Joe, we all wish you continued good health and happiness. Stay Well!!

Newsletter Editor's Report

We failed to mention in last month's newsletter, a further note submitted from Sandy and Ray Lacy regarding their annual Lupus Fund Raiser held on July 12th, an event that several RVYC members graciously and generously participate in. They raised \$1850 at the event attended by 80 participants and they are very appreciative of the efforts of Herb & Joyce Alfaro and Don Leone for their help.

October Birthdays

Dave Passmore - 2
Dave Hall - 7
Mary Gavin - 9
Ed Murphy - 16
Mary Lou Payette - 20
Ray Brown - 27
Ken Armstrong - 30
Gracie Spicer - 31

October Anniversaries

Dan & Jill Martyka - 2
Jeff & Beverly Niermann - 10