

THE RIVER VIEW VIEWS

Volume 23 Issue 4

April 2009

Commodore

Ed Pritchard
734-502-1674

Vice Commodore

Jim Baran
313-584-5016

Rear Commodore

Hunt Taylor
248-475-9238

Treasurer

Lynn Koleski
734-420-5391

Secretary

Carolyn Roth
248-982-4675

Past Commodore

Joe Bacile
248-471-5002

Director

Mike Schrage
313-343-0201

Director

Jim Roth
248-982-4809

Fleet Captain

Ruthie Sherman
248-408-7117

Sunshine Lady

Carolyn Roth
248-982-4675

Newsletter Editor

Carolyn Roth
248-982-4675
email: jrcstime@yahoo.com

Web Site

www.rvyc.info

Commodore's Corner

Doesn't it seem just like yesterday that the many RVYC faithful listened to a 30 minute rendition by newly anointed owner of Kean's Marina (servicing boaters since 1931), Mike Litt, at our April 2008 meeting with the proclamation, "there will be no changes." And his presentation was delivered without a Teleprompter!! Way to go Mike! As promised, we have extracted from the time capsule Mike's commitments to boating and Kean's for 2008.

1. Kean's will remain Kean's (servicing boaters since 1931 and apparently serving them into the future.) *This is true; the name has remained the same as evidenced by the banner which now serves as a sunscreen on the deck by the pool.*
2. Staff, including many of our favorites, will remain the same. *From what I can tell only Kenny has remained, with John Kean making cameo appearances.*
3. There will be no increase in slip fees. *It seems if your payment schedule is one-time in September this is true; others who elected different payment schedules reported slip fees have increased.*
4. It is highly likely that the DYC shuttle will be stationed at Kean's – probably by Jack Kingston's boat. *Didn't happen.*
5. Will not sponsor a shuttle to Sinbad's, but his motto is, "If you can afford it we can build it." *Right; no shuttle to Sinbad's.*
6. X-smoker Mike is disgusted by people flicking their cigarette butts on the grounds, so red painted coffee cans will be strategically placed in the marina for butts (just like at boot camp) *Butt cans were placed.*
7. Forecast to "fill the place up by 2009" with a strategic marketing program aimed at the Grosse Pointes (or just get a bunch of DYC boats to dock at Kean's) *No sign of any additional Grosse Pointers; Director Mike Schrage, attuned to recognizing Grosse Pointers, will continue to keep track.*
8. Problem-free spring launch. *Some people will debate how problem free it was – but it was a learning experience for Mike.*

We did encounter some situations not covered in his soliloquy; barred from using the “Banquet Room” porch (i.e. our meeting room), no pets on the docks, pool hours extended, and plans to convert the upstairs room into a for rent reception hall with new lighting, French doors and full catering facilities. To bring you up to date, Mike did have his team remove the cement walk on the parking lot side of the office building and has installed a boardwalk. The upstairs washrooms are functional (not sure how much remodeling took place) and the Banquet Room is still basically the meeting room: no French doors or new lighting. Mike’s 2009 plan, at least as of January 2009, is to model Kean’s after Algonac Harbor and make Kean’s a destination of choice by offering: popcorn and movies in building E on Friday nights for \$1, a permanent event tent by the 300 dock for clubs to meet etc, live entertainment during some of the notable summer events (ticket prices TBD), a concierge service to obtain event tickets for transient boaters and providing a limo service to haul people around town for \$25. While it is exhausting to talk with Mike; has plenty of ideas and I feel some of them will stick to make Kean’s a more attractive marina for seasonal and transient dockage.

As you know, we are using the newsletter to provide more information in lieu of monthly membership meetings. We are planning to conduct traditional membership meetings this year; here is the schedule:

Friday, May 1, 8 p.m., at Kean’s Banquet Room; nautical auction night, (hint: bring things to decorate a 34’ Tolleycraft).

Friday, July 3, while on the Belle Maer rendezvous hosted by PC Passmore, Carol and the Middlekauffs.

Saturday, Sept 5, Saturday while on the Labor Day rendezvous to the St Clair Marina

Friday, October 2, at 8 p.m., at Kean’s Banquet Room; bake sale and nominations

Friday, November 6, at 8 p.m., at Kean’s Banquet Room for 2010 Bridge election and losers drawing.

Friday, December 4, at PC / Treasurer Lynn Koleski’s for the Christmas party.

I hope everyone is contacting Fleet Captain Ruthie Sherman to get on the rendezvous schedule for 2009. She has trips planned reminiscent of past years when fuel wasn’t north of \$4/gallon and Float n’ Stoke is eager to get on plane.

With street prices of premium hovering around \$2/gal, here is what we faced in April 2008: “West Texas Intermediate crude for June delivery was down \$2.08 to \$113.55 per barrel shortly after the Federal Reserve cut interest rates by a quarter of a percentage point to 2 percent and not long before the close of floor trade on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Brent crude was 98 cents lower to

\$112.45 per barrel on the ICE Futures Europe exchange in London. Nymex May gasoline dropped just under a cent to \$2.93 per gallon while May heating oil was down 5 cents to \$3.19 per gallon. At-the-pump gasoline and diesel prices in the United States hit new highs again as regular unleaded gasoline jumped a cent overnight to \$3.617 per gallon and diesel was up 0.6 cent to \$4.25 per gallon.”

Float n’ Stoke launch: May 17th. See you at the Nautical Auction and around the boat yard.

Commodore Ed Pritchard

Vice Views

April at last, time to get the boats ready for the water, and with the water levels being what they are, we’ll have plenty to float the boats in. It’s also the time of year you go down to your marina with the intention of putting in a good day’s work, then get side-tracked talking with fellow boaters whom you haven’t seen for a while. After the beer and bull are done, your daylight is gone, so you have to come back another time and finish the job.

May is just half a month away, and to celebrate the fact, RVYC will have its first general membership meeting of the year on Friday, May 1st at 8 p.m., upstairs at Kean’s. Hope you can make it, since we haven’t seen a lot of RVYC folks since anytime last year.

The Fitting-Out Party is set for Saturday, May 9th, at 4 p.m., it will be at Kean’s, with location (inside or outside)

TBD depending on the weather. The whole idea of the party is to take a break from working on your boat, so if your vessel is not yet floating, put down your tools and take a pause for the cause (FUN). If it is in the water by that day, come and celebrate the fact. Bring along any dock friends and show them what a nice group of people you associate with ... could lead to a new member or two. Those of us who have no boat should plan to come and commiserate with other non-boaters, FOR FUN'S SAKE!

V/C Jim Baran

Greetings from the Rear

The Venetian Theme, Parade, Blessing of the Fleet and Party

The 2009 Venetian Blessing of the Fleet is scheduled for Saturday June 13, 2009. The theme of this years Venetian is "Favorite Sports Team". The definition of one's "favorite sports team" is whatever sports team in the world that you somehow favor. It could be a football team with the worst record in the world (I can't think of a good example). It could be your favorite professional baseball team. It could be your favorite high school team. It could be your favorite college team. It could be the college where your life savings were used to put your children through those 8 years of schooling and still not having diplomas to show for it. It could be your favorite Australian Football team. It could be Al Capp's favorite European soccer team.

The club did receive official approval and sanctioning from the U. S. Coast Guard for the official parade route from Kean's Marina down to the Belle Isle Bridge circling back around in DYC and back to Kean's dock where the blessings will be delivered to each yacht, punctuated by a cannon shot.

You cannot have a favorite sports team without having a "tailgate party". All the details for the "tailgate party" have not been worked out besides trying to get as many boats docked stern-in at the Kean's 100 Dock. The preliminary plan is to have a tailgate menu featuring Barbeque (ribs, chicken, pulled pork), an assortment of side dishes, dessert and UVa's world famous "trash can" Hawaiian Punch (Jim R. - I'll be seeing you about some grain alcohol).

Schedule of events for June 13, 2009:

- 7:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. boat decorating
- 1:00 set-up tables and cover, cooking area
- 2:45 blowers on
- 3:00 parade and blessings
- 5:30 start cooking; mix and taste "trash can" punch; taste again
- 6:30 dinner

As additional details are formulated and agreed upon they will certainly be communicated in next month's news letter.

Best regards,
RC Hunt Taylor

Treasurer's Report

Please see our current financial statement attached to this newsletter.

Lynn Koleski, Treasurer

Note from the Fleet Captain

It is certainly understandable that things come up and events are forgotten, but Sunday April 5th, we had an event scheduled for the Detroit Zoo and dinner at Howe's Bayou afterward. We had 13 people signed up and Lynn Koleski is the only one who showed up along with Ron and myself. The Pritchards canceled 2 weeks ago and the Alfaros called early yesterday to cancel. THANK YOU ED AND HERB!!! We waited for one half hour, and then started making phone calls.

The newsletter has the events in it every month. Please put it on your calendar so you don't forget. If you sign up, you must think it will be a fun thing to do, so try to remember that you signed up and when the event is.

I would greatly appreciate a phone call, at least by the morning of the event, if you can't make it. Then if many cannot go, others can be called and the event possibly canceled or if only one person, couple, or family is still going. They can then make an informed decision whether to still or go not. Please put my cell number in your cell phone contact list so you can call me from anywhere at 248-408-7117.

It would also be a good idea to call the reserved marina in the event of a cancellation as well.

They hold a spot for each of us, and if it isn't being used, they could rent it to someone else. The club may not be welcomed another year if many of us don't show. Most marinas do not require a deposit and take us on our word that we will be there. The marina's phone number will be listed on the event calendar in the newsletter the month prior to the rendezvous. TAKE THE NEWSLETTER ON BOARD WITH YOU! It will have a lot of information that you may need or want for that rendezvous.

I sincerely thank you for your consideration in this matter.
xo, Ruthie

Note from P/C Ron Sherman

I just joined the Boston Whaler Club and received this offer. The Boston Whaler Owners Club has renewed an agreement with Sebago to receive access to their "Friends of the Industry" purchasing program. This program entitles Boston Whaler Owners Club members the opportunity to receive the best marine shoe in the industry at a 40% discount. With such a huge response last year, the program has been revived for another month. Orders must be placed by April 30, 2009. Simply visit Sebago's special website at www.sebagoprodeal.com. Log in with the user name "boston" and password "bostonwh0309", to gain access. Both the user-name and password are case sensitive.

Sunshine Report

Our best wishes are again extended to P/C Ray Brown and P/C Joe Clapper who are both still recuperating from recent health issues. We want them both to know they are in our thoughts and prayers.

From The Editor

The Month of April ... the simple list ...

1862 was the year the first U.S. income tax was levied. Abraham Lincoln signed into laws this revenue-raising method to help the federal government pay for the expenses of the Civil War. Remember to mail your return out on time to avoid tax battles of your own!

And 143 years ago, Henry Bergh, A New York aristocrat, formed the ASPCA after witnessing a cart horse being abused by its owner. April is Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Month. Honor our furry friends with a donation at aspca.org.

For the Month of May ... On May 1st ... need a good excuse to ring and run? Revive an old time tradition: Set a basket of blossoms on the stoop of a relative, friend or next door neighbor, hit the buzzer, and then disappear with a spring in your step.

May Birthdays

Brenda Roth - 13
Jill Martyka - 17
Bob Caza - 23

May Anniversaries

Bob & Susan Cieslak - 5
Michael & Martha Conrad - 6
Wayne & Choux Wingert - 13
Pat & Judy Thul - 18
P/C Herb & Joyce Alfaro - 19
P/C Ken & P/D Diana Wilkerson - 20
Hunt & Barbara Taylor - 22

Treasurer's Report for April, 2009

Commodore's Ball 2009

41 Paid Tickets **(\$2,255.00)**
Plus 4 tickets for Joe Bacile
Total: 45

Expense

Laurel Manor Deposit 2/3/08	250.00
Laurel Manor Balance	1910.24
Balloons	38.75
Commodore Flowers	31.78
Flowers for Tables	15.99
Programs	43.46
P/C name tags engraving (6)	29.20
Sunshine / newsletter gift card	25.00
Fleet Captain gift card	25.00
Commodore Gifts	
Gift Card – Flemings	100.00
Lemoncillo	18.00
Italian Flag	31.80
P/C Pin	284.08
Gag Gift	6.00
Band	400.00
Band – tip	100.00
P/C Epauettes & Stars	27.00
Engraving – LeeVauris Award	<u>25.00</u>

Total Expenses: **3361.40**

Club Subsidized for 2009: **\$1,106.40**

Club Subsidized for 2008: \$1,095.11

Total Dues Paying Members: 60

Total Amount in checking as of April 1, 2009: \$1,738.33

Plus Petty Cash Fund 62.60

Total Available Funds: \$1,800.93

FLEET CAPTAIN'S RVYC 2009 Schedule of Events

Please email Ruthie @ apaigeofsummer@sbcglobal.net to add your name to any event or sign up at any RVYC function in the Rendezvous Sign Up Book. As we get closer to the boating season, further details will be updated on events. The dates currently posted will remain the same, but the few with question marks have not been finalized as yet... too early to set up!

Sunday, April 19th - Purple Rose Theater in Chelsea, MI

For April 19th Purple Rose Theater we will not be carpooling or taking a bus. I looked into a bus and it was \$125.00 per hour for 5 hours ... a bit steep! Simply follow the directions below and you will have no trouble. Tickets are at Will Call and I will be there 45 minutes before show time to get them. Please note that they will not allow you to be seated once the program begins. They will wait until intermission, so be prompt. See you there!!!

Show at 2 p.m., followed with dinner at The Common Grill.
We have play tickets for 23 and dinner reservations for 23 as well.
They will put us at tables of eight; they agreed to separate checks by couples.

Participants: Baciles, Barans, Crains, Helms (6), Rose Loose, Passmores,
Pritchards & Shermans (4) & Thuls

Directions: The Purple Rose Theatre Company is located at 137 Park Street in Chelsea, Michigan: 1 hour from Detroit, 2 hours from Grand Rapids, 15 minutes from Ann Arbor.

From Detroit/Ann Arbor/Points East Take I-94 westbound to the Chelsea/Manchester exit #159. The exit ramp will curve sharply to the right to a traffic light (M-52.) Turn left at the light and travel approximately 2 miles north on M-52 until you reach downtown Chelsea. The first downtown traffic light will be at the intersection of Park Street and M-52. Park Street is labeled as South Street on the opposite side of M-52. Turn right at this light. The theatre (brick exterior) is on the left side approximately 100 yards down Park Street. Parking is available on Park Street or in the municipal lot next to the theatre.

The Common Grill is 1 block from theater, walking distance. They have a great website with menus and such at www.commongrill.com.

Memorial Day Weekend, Saturday & Sunday, May 23-24 - Cove Marina

10 boat wells reserved.

Participants: Alfaros, Baciles, Pritchards & Shermans

Venetian - Saturday, June 13

Theme is Favorite Sports Team

Participants: Alfaros, Koleski, Pritchards, Shermans, (senior) Roths,
Taylors & Thuls

Put-In-Bay – June 26 & 27

With weekday(s) before or after for those who prefer the quieter island.

This is still to be finalized after discussion at next meeting.

Fourth of July Holiday at Bel Mar Harbor - July 3rd & 4th

(details to follow)

July 17th & 18th - Metro Beach

(details to follow)

Green and White Party - Saturday, August 1st

(details to follow)

Lake Huron Trip - August 8th thru 15th

Ports of call: Lexington, (bury the commodore??) Port Austin, East Tawas,
Caseville (cheeseburger in paradise festival), Port Huron

Labor Day Weekend, September 5th & 6th - St. Clair City Boat Harbor

Toga party on the 6th

Progressive Dinner at Metro Beach - Saturday, September 26th

(details to follow)

Oakwood Cemetery Walk in Northville - Sunday, October 11th

(historical, not scary! details to follow)

Month of November - possibly visit Thanksgiving Day Parade Company

(details to follow)

Christmas Party - Friday, December 4th

(at Lynn Koleski's home)

Month of December - Holiday Nights and Dinner at Greenfield Village

(possibly on a Saturday?)

Saturday, January 30th, 2010 - Commodore's Ball

To be held at Laurel Manor