

THE RIVER VIEW VIEWS

Volume 24 Issue 9

September 2011

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From the Helm

The Labor Day Rendezvous at St. Clair Marina added to another fun outing for RVYC. The weekend began with a very hot Friday and Saturday which did not cool down until the thunderstorms blew through on Saturday night. RVYC had a total of 8 boats docked in the marina, including the Fryfogles sailboat "Freebird".

Saturday dinner was held under the pavilion behind Dock 4 with everyone supplying their main dish and bringing a dish to pass. Stormy weather was off-and-on all night, but that kept everyone at the card tables well into the evening.

Sunday dawned with overcast skies, but that kept no one from planned golf and shopping outings. The monthly meeting began in the pavilion at 5 p.m., followed by the Wine, Cheese and Hat Party on the dock.

Congratulations go out to PC Joe Clapper for fashioning the best hat, resembling his newly acquired Michigan driver's license, with Ruthie Sherman bringing home the second place award for her "Dog Lover Sucker" hat.

Monday dawned overcast and windy, which was perfect for the sail boaters on their return trip across Lake St. Claire. My little boat was tossed around pretty good which made for a wet return trip, but all boats

returned safely for that welcome home cocktail.

Starboard and Port

The starboard side of most naval vessels the world over is designated the "senior" side. The officers' gangway or sea ladder is shipped on this side and this side of the quarterdeck is reserved for the captain. The flag or pennant of the ship's captain or senior officer in command is generally hoisted on the starboard yard. Officers in the British Navy always boarded the ship on the starboard side.

The origin of the term starboard comes from early boating practices. Before ships had rudders on their centerlines, they were steered by use of a specialized steering oar. This oar was held by an oarsman located in the stern (back) of the ship. However, like most of society, there were many more right-handed sailors than left-handed sailors. This meant that the steering oar (which had been broadened to provide better control) used to be affixed to the right side of the ship. The word starboard comes from Old English steorbord, literally meaning the side on which the ship is steered, descendant from the Old Norse words stýri meaning "rudder" (from the verb stýra, literally "being at the helm", "having a hand in") and borð meaning

etymologically "board", then the "side of a ship".

An early version of "port" is larboard, which itself derives from Middle-English ladebord via corruption in the 16th century by association with starboard. The term larboard, when shouted in the wind, was presumably too easy to confuse with starboard [1] and so the word port came to replace it. Port is derived from the practice of sailors mooring ships on the left side at ports in order to prevent the steering oar from being crushed.

Larboard continued to be used well into the 1850s by whalers, despite being long superseded by "port" in the merchant vessel service at the time. "Port" was not officially adopted by the Royal Navy until 1844 (Ray Parkin, H. M. Bark Endeavour). Robert Fitzroy, Captain of Darwin's HMS Beagle, is said to have taught his crew to use the term port instead of larboard, thus propelling the use of the word into the Naval Services vocabulary.

There are a number of tricks used to remember which side port and starboard each refer to:

- The sailor left port with a red nose (like Ed Prichard did Monday at St. Clair).
- Port and left both contain four letters.
- "No, port left"
- The common abbreviation P.S. (for postscript) can be

viewed as port ("left") and starboard ("right").

- "Star light, star bright, starboard is to the right."
- A ship that is out on the ocean has "left port".
- Terms referring to the right side are longer words ("starboard", "right", and "green"), while terms referring to the other side are shorter words ("port", "left", and "red").
- The phrase "Any red port left in the can?" can be a useful reminder. It breaks down as follows:
- The drink port is a fortified red wine—which links the word "port" with the color red, used for navigational lights (see below).
- "Left" comes from the phrase and so port must be on the left.
- The reference to "can" relates to the fact that port-hand buoys are "can"-shaped.
- A variation on the above is "Two drops of red port left in the bottle." Also, "Port wine is red; so is the port light."

Commodore Hunt Taylor

Vice Views

It's that time of year again to wonder where the summer went and start thinking about haul out time. BooHoo! One good thing to look forward to is the Haul Out party scheduled for

Saturday, October 15th at Keans. This year the theme is October Fest. We will have brat-wurst, sauerkraut, German potato salad, German chocolate cake and German beer. So make sure you stop by for some food and drink whether you're working on your boat or just relaxing. If the weather is nice it will be outside. The exact location will be talked about at the October meeting.

Vice Commodore, Rich Helm

Greetings from the Rear

Our October 7th monthly meeting is an important night because it is Nominations night. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible at the meeting. It's an opportune time to let one of the Bridge members know if you are interested in running for office or volunteering for one of the non-elected positions. Also, it's the annual Bake Sale which is always a lot of fun and adds to the Club's cash reserve.

Rear Commodore, Joey Clapper

Treasurer's Report for September

Previous balance:	\$1,680.25
Deposits	285.00
Expenses	(237.12)
Ending Balance	\$1,728.13
Petty Cash	0.50
New Balance	<u>\$1,728.63</u>

Fleet Captain Report

Please see the attached Schedule of Events for updates.

Thanks, Fleet Captain Ruthie

Sunshine Report

For those who do not have email, I recently sent out a note regarding the passing of Roger Bartlett. Roger passed away on August 24th, just six months after his wife Shirley died. The Bartletts were long time former RYYC members. They are survived by their three daughters.

The family is planning a celebration of Roger and Shirley's lives at the home of daughter Karen Moore on Saturday, September 24th, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., with a brief memorial service at 1:30 p.m. Karen's address is 27902 Copper Creek Lane, Farmington Hills 48331

And, congratulations to the Roth family. Seventh grandchild arrived on September 13th. Pdraig McCartney Roth, (yes, it's a boy, but not named after the famous golfer). Parents are Jim & Megan Roth who live in Kalamazoo. Grandpa Jim & Grandma Carolyn and Uncle John & Aunt Brenda and cousins Derek & Brian are happy for the family addition.

Sunshine lady Lynn

From The Editor

The 2011 boating season is coming to an end but with a lot of fun memories for our rendezvous and get-togethers. Special thanks to Fleet Captain Ruthie and Commodore Hunt for their endeavors in helping to make every event not only memorable but extremely fun.

On this note, the Editor feels that it is time for her to retire the voluntary newsletter editor position beginning with the new Bridge in February 2012. After having held this position for almost four years, I'm sure a change is not only good for the Club but offers another Editor time to serve under our new Bridge.

It's been a lot of fun editorializing PC's Ed Pritchard, three-peat Jim Baran and our current Son-of-the-South, Commodore Hunt Taylor. But change is always good and there are a lot of Editors-At-Large (both gentlemen and ladies) who could well fill this volunteer position. For those who are interested, please contact VC Rich Helm. When a volunteer is finalized, I'll be very happy to explain the procedure and process that we follow. It requires only a few hours of time each month and minimal computer skills. Next month is nomination month so it's a good time for those who are interested to consider volunteering for this position ... *for fun's sake!*

Sincerely, Carolyn Roth

October Birthdays

Dave Hall – 7
Ed Murphy – 16
Mary Lou Payette – 20
P/C Ray Brown – 27
Gracie Spicer – 31

October Anniversaries

Dan & Jill Martyka – 2
Bill & Elaine Middlekauff - 8
Jeff & Beverly Niermann – 10

RIVER VIEW SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2011

Signing up is easy: Use Evite invitation in your email, email apaigeofsummer@sbcglobal.net to add your name, or sign up at any RVYC function in the Rendezvous Sign-Up book. As we get closer to each event, further details will be provided.

October 7 - Membership Meeting

8 p.m. at Kean's, Nominations and Bake Sale

October 15 - Haul Out Party at Kean's

See Vice Commodore's report for details.

October 29 - Square Dance - Lazy J Ranch

625 S. Hickory Ridge Road Milford, MI 48380

Invite friends and relatives. We need a minimum of 50 people to participate. The Club has already invested a \$200 deposit that we cannot get back, so sign up ASAP so we can get a head count early, please. We will have Sloppy Joes and please bring a dish to pass if you are willing (RVYC members only to bring a dish). Cost is \$15 per person.

Participants: Alfaro (2), Baran (2), Brown (2), Carrier (2), Clapper Joe (2), Clapper Joey (2), Dell (4), Deptula (2), Fryfogle (2), Koleski (5), O'Brien (2) Roth Sr. (4), Sherman with 6 guests, Taylor (2), Thul (2) and Wingert (2)

November 4 - Membership Meeting - Elections and Pizza Party

8 p.m. at the home of PC Lynn Koleski, 39576 Village Run Drive., Northville 48167 (tel. 734-420-5391).

November Thanksgiving Day Parade Tour

Parade tour is at 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. and dinner at Polish Village Café in Hamtramck afterward.

You may pay at the door. Cost is \$12.00 per person. I need to make reservations at the restaurant, so please let me know 3 days prior if you will be joining us for dinner. **CASH ONLY accepted at Polish Village Café.**

Participants: Dells, Fryfogles and Shermans

December 2 - Membership Meeting and Christmas Party

8 p.m. at the home of Kathy and Randy Fryfogle, 1124 Trailside Blvd., Wixom 48393 (tel. 248-624-3650).

December 10 - Holiday Nights at Greenfield Village

Participants: Baran, Deptula, Fryfogle, Koleski, Middlekauff, O'Brien, Sherman and Wingert. Baciles and 2 friends will join us for the walk only.