



THE MARK

September 2009

Vol. XXXX, No. 9

Commodore's Comments

Carl Bjerregaard

ABYC's racing season is about to begin, and this column will try to encourage new sailors to give racing a try and to also encourage skippers to make the calls that find crew members. We need to have more boats, especially the club boats (the Hunter 23 & even the Flying Scot) on the starting line.

Like most clubs, we race under Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF) system. PHRF allows dissimilar kinds of sailboats to be raced against each other. Its aim is to cancel out the inherent advantages and disadvantages of each kind of boat. For example, if boat A has a PHRF rating of 15 and boat B has a rating of 30 and they compete on a 1 mile course, Boat A should finish approximately 15 seconds in front of boat B. Results are adjusted for their handicap by the race committee after the race is over. Theoretically, then, if all crews and all conditions were identical, all boats would be tied after their handicaps are applied.

A new boat's rating is determined by the designer and the area's PHRF committee. Local

measurers often add or subtract to that rating to fit their particular needs. Those fleets report their boats' ratings to the United States Sailing Association and they in turn publish "The PHRF Handbook" that lists all boat designs and their ratings for the United States and Canada.

At ABYC we determine each boat's rating by taking the mean average of all like designs listed in the handbook. We then award additional seconds per mile for equipment that slows the boat down: a two bladed prop that doesn't fold gets 6 seconds per mile, a three bladed prop that doesn't fold gets 12, a roller furling jib gets 6 seconds per mile, and a roller furling main, 12. An inboard engine is awarded 6 additional seconds because of its added weight.

The largest jib allowed in PHRF is 155%. ABYC awards 1 second per mile for every 5% less than 155. This means that that if you have a 100% jib you get 11 seconds per mile, a 135% would be 4 seconds per mile, etc.

The Hunter 23 is a good example of how the PHRF system works. That boat has a shallow keel that is slower than a deep

keel. Its basic rating in the PHRF handbook takes that into consideration. It also is awarded 11 seconds for its 100% jib, so it can win even if it's the last boat across the finish line. She's just waiting for a skipper and crew to take her racing.

I hope this summary of how PHRF works has enticed some ABYC folks to come out and join the fun. Some of the above article uses sentences little changed from Wikipedia.

Scuttlebutt

Marcia Bjerregaard

We read that Don Reeder's Harmony 22 has arrived and ready to be worked on.

Good news to all those concerned is that the Clubhouse's "ship's bell" has returned!

While the Scuttlebutt editor is away, will members please send in newsy tidbits from on or off the water?

MEETING NOTICE MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, 12 Sept 2009

Clubhouse

1800 - Social

1900 - Covered Dish Dinner

1945 - Meeting

2000 - Program

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Vice Commodore's Corner

Frank Hankins

Fall is soon on us, and not too soon for me. September really is the month that the ABYC shucks off the dog days and starts cranking again, with the last quarter about the busiest of the year. We anticipate a strong sailing season, starting with dinghy races on August 29th and September 26th; Changes In Attitude (CIA) will follow each of these races in the evening..

We will be remembering our favorite Puffin sailor, with the spring and fall series winner taking the Kate Morgan memorial trophy. We have Holder 12's as an addition this year, available to all club members who'd like to be a part of these fun races. Boats, sails and all gear are ready, so give me a call for details.

PHRF races begin on September 19th, and this may be more competitive than we've seen in a while, with several more Harmony 22's and new member-sailors in the mix. In fact, we are welcoming six new members from the last two months, and will be feting all new members of this year at the Vice Commodores Regatta dinner on

October 17th.

Be sure to come to the meeting and program on September 12th, and you won't want to miss any party thrown by Sue and Kingsley Ross (the 19th). If anyone would like to sail the Flying Scot, I plan to keep it at my dock for a while (tropical storms permitting) so we can get some practice in for GYA races. She will be pretty much ready to go, so call me for information. There is a Flying Scot race for seniors at the end of August in Biloxi (no minimum weight) so 50 and older, come on out.

Our wandering Commodore won't be back (he's conducting an orchestra on the 22nd and you can hear him on streaming audio at bluelake.com) until mid-October, so if you have issues he'd normally solve, please call me.

If you have a boat at the ABYC docks, please review the hurricane plans on the website. This year is supposed to be somewhat calm for storms, but Claudette, thankfully not much of a problem, was a reminder of how fast storms can form in our area. See you around the club.

Thanks to the fine work by John Hamilton, Ivor Groves, and

Ted Gilbert the racing marks were cleaned, painted, and placed back in their positions on the water for the Fall Race Series.

Rear Commodore's Corner

Ed Fries

Thanks to those who came and helped clean up the Clubhouse and grounds. If something needs to be done, let me know or feel free to take care of it yourself. Or give me a call - 591-4620

Beach Cleanup - 19 September

The Shell Point Beach Pavilion will be the HQ for the annual clean up of the area. Other Wakulla sites are the St. Marks Yacht Club, Woolley Park in Panacea, and the Mashas Sands Beach parking lot. For more information, call - 926-0830

Jr. Board Member Report - Social Information

Lorna Tweedie

The days go by astonishingly fast and here we are, already into the month of September. Rest assured, ABYC is still on board!

The ABYC Scout dinner on August 22nd was so good. With a \$10 donation, folks dined on a great Italian meal elegantly served by Scouts amid soft candlelight and music. If you missed it, the Scouts will still be happy to accept

your donation of whatever amount.

The August CIA on the 29th will be hosted by Johnstons. Thanks very much. More hosts are needed to host CIA's for September, October, etc. Please sign the list in the Club to offer your assistance.

Going into September, we're getting closer to having a larger "fleet" of members participating. The ABYC vacationers who fled for the summer are gradually returning and getting back to the

business of boating! And, getting into the Fall months also brings about a desire for football. So, ready yourself for a rousing ABYC football party on September 19th!

Please see party details in this MARK by Sue Ross and be sure to make your reservations promptly.

Please note, again, that hosts are still needed for upcoming CIA's, Changes in Attitude.

ABYC BOARD MEETING Summary Minutes

Please be aware that the minutes upon which this summary is based have not been approved by the Board. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, but errors may inadvertently be present.

Members of the Board met at 1538 in the ABYC Clubhouse. Present were VC Frank Hankins, Jr. Board Member Lorna Tweedie, and Scribe Henry Depew. There not being a quorum at this time, issues to be considered at the next Board Meeting were reviewed.

As required by the Constitution, a petition to the Board to bring the amendments proposed to the Constitution and By-Laws by the Constitution/By-Laws Committee was submitted. Since the Board takes no action on such petitions, the petition was for the information of the Board members present. The proposed amendments to both documents will be published with the September issue of THE MARK and will also be made available on ABYC's web site (ABYOnline.org).

The pool lounge chairs need to be repaired or replaced. The cost is about the same (although the replacement chairs are not as well built as the current ones).

The Beachton Yacht Club/ABYC Regatta is now scheduled for Sept. 26th.

The security system repair is not complete, but should be shortly.

A battery, float switch, and bilge pump is needed for the Flying Scot if it is to be kept in the water at Frank's dock.

The Scout Social is either the 15th or 22nd of August. Lorna is to check on which date is best. The alternate date will be a "work day" at the Clubhouse.

Two race marks were lost when the anchoring system failed. Re-

placements are available and will be set before the start of the PHRF Fall Series.

The question of approving membership applications by Edith McCarty, Don Hanson, and Jill Voorting required a quorum. The meeting was recessed while phone calls were made and approval obtained from Phil and Maxie. Once the phone votes were received, the meeting was re-convened and counting the phone votes and those present a quorum was obtained and with the approval of those present, membership will be extended to these people.

There is no CIA host for the August CIA. The September social will be hosted by Kingsley & Sue Ross and the October social will be hosted by Frank & Patty Hankins.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Henry Depew, Scribe

MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Starting with a joke about a grasshopper named "Bob", VC Frank Hankins called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM with 15 members and guests present. After reviewing the Board's activities and asking for any questions/comments, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

A very informative program by Gary Blankenship and Olivier Chamel on simplified boat building was enjoyed by those present. In addition, one of their boats was in the parking lot for all to look at.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Henry Depew, Scribe

Constitutional Amendments

C. Henry Depew, Parliamentarian

The committee appointed by Commodore Bjerregaard has completed its work and a copy of the proposed amendments to the Constitution are attached and will also be available on ABYC's web site for your review.

While the By-Laws revisions are a "work in progress" at this time, the committee hopes to have a working draft on the web site before the end of September so that the membership can see how the proposed changes in the Constitution will be handled in the By-Laws. A formal vote on the proposed amendments to the Constitution (article by article) will be taken at the Annual Business Meeting in November, 2009.

The reason for this somewhat confused approach is the requirement that proposed constitutional amendments be printed with the September issue of *THE MARK* while proposed By-Law changes have a different time frame. Your Parliamentarian and Editor are trying to meet the requirements in a reasonable manner.

Committee members:

Tony Cleveland
C. Henry Depew
Maxie Glenn
Phil Werndli

Beachton YC/ABYC Regatta

If all goes as planned, member of the Beachton YC will join ABYC members for a day of dinghy and sailboard racing at Shell point on Saturday, Sept. 26. The CIA that evening will be the social for the event. Details to follow.

See you there!

PHRF RACE DATES

Plan now to participate in the PHRF Fall Race Series. The tentative dates are:

Sept. 19	Oct. 31
Oct. 3	Nov. 1
Oct. 17-18	Nov. 14

The skippers' meeting will be at the Clubhouse at 1030. Come out an enjoy a day on the bay!

GYA – Flying Scot

Marcia Bjerregaard

I hope to get three guys to go to GYA Flying Scot regattas at least once this fall and three women to go another time.

Upcoming dates: Sept. 5-7, 12-13, & 26-27, Oct. 24-25

Hope to hear that Don Reeder's taken time out from his repair tasks to sail the Flying Scot in the over 50 regatta.

Notes And Hints From Near And Far

C. Henry Depew

The newsletter of the Seminole Power Squadron, *Smoke Signals*, carries a column of information entitled "The Doctor Is In".

Among the suggestions you might want to consider is to take a cup or two of melon with you in the ice box. This hydrating fruit will help overcome heat exhaustion. The fruit contains potassium, a nutrient that helps maintain the minerals that get lost when you have been sweating.

It seems that some silicone caulk has a shelf life of about two years. After that point, the

"activator" within the caulk ceases to work and the caulk will never "fix". The result is somewhat the same as with glass resin when the hardener will no longer work. And, unlike resin, you cannot induce more chemical to finish the job. The only solution seems to be to remove all the "squashy" caulk and start over.

Many of the newer power boats have a "kill switch" that connects to the operator to shut down the engine if the operator falls overboard (or some such disaster). Some people have installed the same type of switch in a "hidden" location to prevent the starting of the boat's motor when they are not around. If you have a diesel engine that uses glow plugs to start, a cut-off in the wiring to the glow plug circuit will provide the same type of "engine will not start" situation if you so desire.

If you are interested in the latest "Green" products, you might want to take a look at the line being sold by Thetford Corp. at:

thetford.com

The potential unreliability of GPS in the future is getting noticed in the professional marine publications. The Sept. issue of *Professional Mariner* (p. 48) had an article on the subject (and the need for alternative navigational tools, like a sextant) for commercial vessels.

There are a number of web sites for viewing storm information another one can be found at:

<http://www.intellicast.com/>
Click on the "Radar" option and then "pan & zoom" to your area of interest.

TAILGATE PARTY

Not that we need much of an excuse for a party at ABYC but Saturday, September 19, Florida State will play Brigham Young University (BYU) in Utah. We thought about chartering a flight out to Utah for ABYC members but hey, the game is on the tube and we have all the fixin's for a tailgate!

Since we realize that everyone did not attend FSU (the host and hostess included) everyone is asked to wear their school (adopted works) colors. The bar opens at 1800 leaving plenty of time for everyone to explain why their team is not ranked #1 and stake out a seat. Game time is 1900. The menu will include hor'dourves, coleslaw, chicken wings, baked beans and dessert.

Call Sue and Kingsley @ 926-8226 or 284-8385 to make reservations by **Tuesday Sept 15**.

See ya at the game!

DATE: Sept. 19

TIME: 1800-

COST: \$10/person - est.

**Changes in Attitude Social**

Date: 26 September, 2009

Time: 1800 - 1930

Light appetizers will be served and the bar will be open.



ABYC UPCOMING EVENTS - 2009

September

- Sat.-Mon 5-7 Labor Day Cruise
Sat. 12 Board Meeting - 1530-1730
Monthly Meeting - 1800-
Tue. 15 Football Social Reservations Due
Sat. 19 Beach Cleanup - Shell Point Beach pavilion
PHRF Race - 1030 - Clubhouse
Football Social - 1800- (see p. 4)
Tue. 22 Fall Equinox - 2118
Sat. 26 Beachton YC/ABYC Regatta & Dinghy Races - 1300-
CIA - Clubhouse - 1800-1930

October

- Sat. 03 PHRF Race - 1030 - Clubhouse
Board Meeting - 1530-1730
Monthly Meeting - 1800- Nominations
Sat. 10 Work Day - 0900-1400 - Clubhouse
Sat-Sun 17-18 VC Regatta and Social
Sat. 24 Dinghy Races - 1300-
Sat. 31 PHRF Race - 1030 - Clubhouse
CIA - Halloween Theme - 1800-1930 - Clubhouse



**ABYC PHONE NUMBER
850/926-7775**

NOTE: The above calendar is valid as of the print date. For up-dates/changes consult the Expanded Calendar at ABYC's web site (ABYConline.org).

The MARK September, 2009

Apalachee Bay Yacht Club

Commodore:	Carl Bjerregaard	926-7835
Vice Commodore:	Frank Hankins	926-9484
Rear Commodore:	Ed Fries	591-4620
Purser:	Maxine Glenn	926-5024
Scribe:	C Henry Depew	386-1665
Sr. Board Member:	David O'Hara	668-7810
Jr. Board Member:	Lorna Tweedie	926-8309
Past Commodore:	Phil Wernkli	386-7646

Web:

<http://ABYConline.org>

Mark Email and Address:

sisu26@nettally.com or

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