

BYC Happenings

Volume 4, Issue 5

By Rose Restuccia

April 2003

FROM THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE:

Mardi Gras was great! All but 2 of the 104 people attending had a wonderful time. The 2 who didn't had to get up way too early on Sunday morning. The next event is our BYC traditional Sunday Brunch on April 13th starting, as always at 11:15 AM. Besides a gourmet buffet, there will be live entertainment and a couple of other surprises which all of us kids will enjoy. Due to the large turnouts for both Mardi Gras & Christmas we are limiting the number of tickets for the Brunch, and limiting ticket sales to members and their families. Tickets are \$10 for adults & \$5 for children 12 and under. The Entertainment Committee has a mail box in the podium if you'd like to leave or mail a check (made out to BYC) for tickets, and you better do so quickly because, as you all know, tickets always sell out for this event.

PLEASE NOTE: Smoking will not be permitted at the tables for the entire event.

Opening Day is scheduled for May 3rd, tickets will be available soon. This year the ceremony will be around 5 PM. Happy hour will start around 3:30. It should be very interesting watching our officers perform after they've bent their elbow a couple of times.

Fleet Captain Memo:

This month's Cruise meeting will be held on Friday, April 11, 2003, at 8:00 PM. Discussions on activities during the cruise will take place, as well as cost updates. If boat captains have not given me their ship spec information, I will need it at this meeting in order to finalize docking reservations along the cruise route. The Trailer Boat meeting will be held Wednesday, April 9, 2003, at 7:30 PM.

We are looking forward to seeing more participants to assist developing boating activities. Your input is necessary in order to create exciting and fun day/short boat trips that we all can enjoy.

FROM THE REAR COMMODORE....

Could it be? Is Spring really here at long last?

The snow is disappearing and the docks are reappearing! Mandatory work parties are scheduled for the next two weekends -- March 22-23 and March 29-30. As I did for the fall work parties, crews will be arranged and a list posted at the sign in sheets. All projects that need to be addressed will be assigned to members as they sign in. It is very important that everyone sign in before the workday begins. This is the only way we can be sure you get credit for your work. I'm looking forward to a successful and productive work party and a great boating season!

Cindy

Princess the Bordentown Yacht Club is seeking individuals to represent our club as the princess for the year 2003, applications deadline is by the end of the April 7th General Membership Meeting. Contact Virginia Glenk for more information at 609-298-0339 between the hours of 5 and 8pm. (See attached Application)

What a wonderful note from a new member:

Watching The Docks Grow.

Being a new member, this was my first year putting in the docks. What an experience this has been. It all starts with the pre-work party. (why do they call these parties???) Then the work parties just four more days and it is done. If I did not see the docks in the water last year I never would have believed that all those piles of docks actually go in the water and come out looking like our Yacht Club.

Start the crane... fire up the work boat... where is the bucket of bolts?... is this ramp for the south end or the north end?... Keep moving, get the docks in the water... Use the safety boat to move those docks... break time, great food....do not forget that dock needs pilings... where does this dock go?.... Here stand on this corner help me line that bolt up.... do not forget the cotter pin.... Oh No here comes the next section let do this all over again.... Now lets get the pilings in....Then there is the electric, miles and miles of power lines, or is that just a couple of hundred yards? Do not forget the water lines. Oops fix the leaks, how many fixtures do we have to put in? Yes we will get it done for April first.

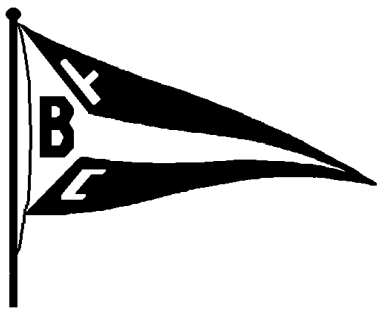
Done. Now I know why they call them work parties, five days of hard work now and we get to party for seven months. It sounds like a fair trade to me.

A new member

Get Well note to Robert Austin on his knee surgery.

FOR SALE

**Cruisair; Carry on Air Conditioner
5000 BTU with deflector for \$375.00
Call John Zidzik @ 215-493-2931**



Up River

Bordentown Yacht Club Newsletter April, 2003



EVENTS FOR APRIL

- 7th - 8pm General Membership Meeting
- 9th - 8pm Small Boat Meeting
- 11th - 8pm Cruise Meeting
- 13th - 12 to 3pm Sunday Brunch
- 16th - 7pm Jr. Membership
- 18th - 8pm Cocktail Party
- 3rd - May Opening Day

www.bordentownyachtclub.com

HAPPY EASTER

Important Information Inside
Correction Requested

Legislator's eye boat safety education

Bills would make recreational watercraft users gain certification

Saturday, March 08, 2003

BY MARYANN SPOTO
Star-Ledger Staff

It's not just for Jet Ski operators anymore.

An Assembly task force studying the hazards on some of New Jersey's most congested waterways wants mandatory safety certification for recreational boaters to start by the summer of 2004.

With complaints about boating violations and near misses on the rise, lawmakers want to require operators to pass a boating safety course or give up their seat behind the wheel.

Although two versions of a legislative proposal are in the state Assembly and Senate, Assemblyman Robert Smith (D-Middlesex), chairman of the Task Force on Waterway Safety, said he and his colleagues will now digest information gathered at three public hearings around the state to determine what recommendations will be most helpful in alleviating the conflicts inherent to a growing number of people taking to the water.

"I'm quite confident that after hearing all the testimony and putting all our heads together, we can come up with something substantive," Smith said at the opening of the last meeting yesterday in the Toms River community of Pine Beach.

Legislation proposed by Sen. Andrew Ciesla (R-Ocean), introduced earlier this year when a separate commission was considering imposing speed limits on the chaotic Barnegat Bay and some of its tributaries, phases in the requirement over four years. By June 1, 2004, those 35 and under would need the certification; by June 1, 2005, it would apply to those 45 and under; by June 1, 2006, it would target those 55 and under, and by June 1, 2007, operators over 55 would need to undergo this safety education.

His proposal, however, does not apply to operators of sailboats, a provision that at least one person at yesterday's hearing said should be rectified.

"It should be all boaters -- sail boaters and power boaters," said Jerry Donofrio Sr., director of state legislation for the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association. Smith said he wants some form of mandatory education in place by the summer of 2004. When personal watercraft grew in popularity in the 1990s, the Legislature responded to the increasing number of accidents involving those vessels by requiring operators to be over 13 years old and to pass a boating safety course.

With the personal watercraft rule, New Jersey is one of only 19 states in the country to mandate some type of boater safety course, according to Bill Gossard of the National Transportation Safety Board, one of eight people to testify at yesterday's hearing. He said 13 other states are considering implementing mandatory education, but only six of them have legislation introduced.

He said a 1993 NTSB study of recreational boating accidents in the country revealed 81 percent of those operators had never taken a safety course. In 2001, the U.S. Coast Guard backed up those figures with its own data on boating fatalities, which showed that 80 percent of the operators had not taken a safety education course, he said.

Daniel Rutherford, president of Ocean Marine Specialties Inc., a Cape May-based marine accident reconstruction business, said the New Jersey State Police, which keeps statistics on boating accidents, only sees a fraction of the incidents that occur on New Jersey's waterways. Based on the insurance claims filed, he estimated that for every accident reported to police, 10 others are not reported.