
RRBC RIFT RAFT

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February 2015

From the Bridge

Mike Beaudrow

Commodore



Fellow members, as we begin 2015, we have just completed a strong budget for the club with many exciting plans and programs in store for this year. Some of our project highlights are to finish the bulk heading on the upstream side of the club, installing a new hard wood floor in the meeting room, continue our dock improvement program, and continue our electrical improvement program. We also have other projects to complete for the upkeep and the safety of our club. Although this is an aggressive plan, I believe that we have the right people in place in our offices staff, committees and membership to complete these this year.

We will be starting by having dock-building parties, slip maintenance work with the work boat and starting the bulk head work as soon as we acquire the correct material. Please watch for the committee chairmen to

call for work parities soon. Right now the Dock Master, Bill Stephens has plans for our dock in day to be April 4th please remember that all slip-holders are on the dock-building committee and many hands make for light FUN work.

The club just sent out invitations to the 2015 commodore's ball, which will be held at the club on March 28th. After the leak of the great band that Glenn Hellwig booked for the event, we are expecting a strong turnout and seating might get limited, please reply early.

So far, I have talked about work at the club. This is not the main point of the organization. We all want improvements, but not at the expense of the greater good of the organization's main point of enjoying, meeting others and having fun.

Please have a safe fun summer on the water. ❖

From the Navigator

Andy Stevens

The Raritan River Rift Raft has made its way back to shore. The goal is provide an informative newsletter that services the members.

Articles from one and all are welcome.

News, club activities and key information will be shared. If anyone would like to have something published, feel free to submit it. Please send submissions to ADStevens@aol.com ❖

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Electrical Committee

The electrical committee is coming off a productive year where new panels, quick disconnects and retro fitting dock lights were installed, along with all the regular work that had to be done. Special thanks go out to committee members: Randy Bell, Mark Aziz, Tom Betsko, Andy Stevens, Joe Katarski, and Dick Crowley – co chair.

Now that we have recovered from the two horrific storms (Irene and Sandy) there are new ambitious projects in the works. If anyone has any ideas or wants to join the committee, please see Patrick O'Brien or Dick Crowley. ❖

Patrick O'Brien, Chairman

Club Finances

The Financial Secretary, Ed Burns, sent out notices for 2015 dues, activity fees and Billy Bucks. The money for that was due on January 1. However, members are not in arrears for 90 days. The club does encourage and appreciate prompt payments.

For prior slip holders, **25% of slip fees are due by the first meeting in February. The full balance must be paid by the first meeting in April.** All members on the waiting list, expecting to get a slip on SAD (slip assignment day – this year April 6), you must pay full amount immediately after being assigned a slip. ❖

From BoatUS – on trailer choices

Axles

The big question here is, how many do you need? Different-sized axles can be used to support different amounts of weight, so there's no one-size-fits-all answer. But when tandem (multiple) axles are an option, most people feel it's advantageous to get them. Sure, both initial and maintenance costs are higher. But tandems track better, ride more smoothly, and if you have a wheel come off or a tire pop at high speed, the risk of catastrophic disaster is much lower. Another axle consideration is whether to get straight axles or drop axles. Drop axles reduce ground

clearance, which makes for better stability and easier launching. But if you ever pull down a rutted or rough road, you'll wish you had that extra clearance.

Bunks + Rollers

Choosing between these two support systems depends on where and how you do your boating. Generally, bunks offer better hull support, but they can also make launching and loading a lot tougher. If you regularly use ramps with a steep angle, this isn't a problem, but at ramps with a shallow angle, rollers will make life a lot easier. If, however, you expect your boat to sit on the trailer for extended periods of time, those rollers can cause a boat's hull to deform slightly, and bunks are a safer choice.

Tongues + Jackstands

The type of tongue and jackstand you need depends on boat storage, more than anything else. If you plan to put a 22-foot-long rig into a 20-foot-long garage, then obviously, a swing-away tongue that takes three feet off LOA is a must-have. If you need to be able to make minor adjustments in a trailer's location or position on a regular basis, get a jackstand with a wheel. Beyond these two specific situations, as long as the parts fulfill the weight requirements, you don't need to spend anything extra in upgrading tongues and jackstands. ❖

Membership Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following who have membership anniversaries in the first quarter

Randy Bell, Joseph Bingert, David Potterton, Jeff Voorhees, John Cwynar, Joseph Fircha, Michael Kelly, Richard Simun Sr, Richard Crowley, William Germann, Joseph Katarski, Raymond Salva, Tom Stolte ❖



COMMODORES BALL COMING SOON

The 2015 Commodores Ball is in the planning stage. Please contact Commodore Mike Beaudrow for information and tickets. Last years' party was fun time for one and all as shown by future (?) and past commodore, Anthony and Papa Simun. See page 5 for more information



CALENDAR OF EVENTS (Q1)

SUPER BOWL PARTY

Just occurred and was a rousing success

DAYTONA 500 PARTY

PLACE – INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

WHEN – **FEBRUARY 22**

Root for your favorite driver. Model racing inside.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

PLACE - MEETING ROOM AND INSIDE BAR

WHEN - **MARCH 17**

Club members and their guests are welcome this March 17th. Refreshments will be served at the bar, and some of our dedicated club members will prepare a meal in the galley, complete with corned beef and cabbage

COMMODORES BALL

PLACE - RRBC

WHEN – **MARCH 28** COCKTAIL HOUR 6-7, DINNER 7-11

Our formal event of the year honoring present and past officers and commodores from our club and others. LIVE MUSIC !

Attention Fisherman

Note: All Striped Bass regulations are expected to change in late winter/early spring 2015.

Under current striped bass recreational size limits set by the New Jersey Legislature, anglers can harvest two fish at 28 inches or greater per day. With a bonus permit, anglers can keep a third striper at 28 inches or greater. Visit the Marine section of the Regulations page to check current Federal and State possession and season regulations for striped bass fishing in your area.

Participants in the Bonus Program can receive immediate notification of regulation updates, emergency closures, special notices, etc., by subscribing to the free NJ Marine Fishing E-mail List. For details, visit the E-mail List Subscription page.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Striped Bass Bonus Permits are available ONLY on the Division's license Web site, www.nj.wildlifelicense.com/.

For a \$2.00 application fee, individuals can immediately print one bonus permit. The permit is non-transferable and valid for the 2015 calendar year. Only one permit can be used per day. ❖

Shipmates on the Everlasting Cruise



Jimmy

Members, if you have any photographs or memories you would like to share of our past members please email ADStevens@aol.com.

“The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves.” — William Shakespeare, Julius Caesar

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair/Co-Chair</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair/Co-Chair</u>
Boating Education:	Chairman: Ken Stanley Co-Chairman: Tom Stolte	Activities:	Chairman: Glen Hellwig Co-Chairman: Alex Minacapelli
Club Chaplain:	Chairman: Ken Schock Co-Chairman: Tom Brescia	Bar: *	Chairman: Don Meseroll Co-Chairman: Frank Cummings, Rich Simun Sr.
Crane:	Chairman: John Catsoulis Co-Chairman: Pat Leonard	Building & Planning:	Chairman: Don Meseroll Co-Chairman: Mike Kelly
Emergency Response:	Chairman: Rich Azman Co-Chairman: Jim Vetrecin	Business Agent:	Chairman: Tom Brescia
Grounds:	Chairman: Jeff Voorhees Co-Chairman: Frank Schiavino	Club Measurer:	Chairman: Frank Schiavino
Hydraulic Trailer:	Chairman: John Catsoulis Co-Chairman: Jim Vetrecin	Docks:	Chairman: Bill Stephens Co-Chairman: Mike Kelly / Rich Simun Sr.
Old Trailer:	Chairman: Bill Micklos, Sr. Co-Chairman Bill Micklos, Jr.	Electrical:	Chairman: Pat O'Brien Co-Chairman: Dick Crowley
Junior Auxiliary:	Chairman: Fred Diem Co-Chairman: Jay Ditzel	Finance Committee:	Chairman: Andy Stevens
Loader:	Chairman: Bill Micklos, Sr. Co-Chairman Pat Leonard	Fund Raising:	Chairman: Open Co-Chairman: Open
Rift Raft:	Chairman: Andy Stevens	Galley:	Chairman: Ron Cichaiski Chairman: Tom Stolte
Supply, Club Apparel:	Chairman: Bill Scott Co-Chairman: Linda Scott	House: *	Chairman: Tom Betsko Co-Chairman: Rich Gabriel
Tech Committee:	Chairman: Joe Katarski Co-Chairman: Glen Hellwig / Dick Crowley	Membership:	Chairman: Fred Diem Co-Chairman: Rich Simun Jr / Jay Ditzel
Website:	Chairman: Howard Askelson Co-Chairman: Rich Simun Jr.	Plumbing & Heating:	Chairman: Dan Basillico Co-Chairman: Anthony Dima
Welding:	Chairman: John Donnelly Co-Chairman: Bob Nagy	Rules:	Chairman: Pat Leonard Co-Chairman: Ron Cichaiski
Work Boat:	Chairman: Jim Vetrecin Co-Chairman: Rich Aszman	Quartermaster:	Chairman: Tom Stolte Co-Chairman: Walt Janosz
		Waterfront Development:	Chairman: Tom Crowley Co-Chairman: Mike Beaudrow

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The invitation with full details to the Commodore's Ball



Half Mast

The flag was lowered to half-mast this week, as “Mark "Yahya" Aziz”, father of senior member Mark Aziz, went on the everlasting cruise

Condolences to Mark Aziz

Many of us at the club met Mark Sr. and viewed him as a man of class and respect.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 69 years, Rose; two children, Mark Aziz and Gail Firkser, both of Edison; two grandchildren, Michael and Robert Firkser; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers please donate to the National Rifle Association, 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030 or the Susan G. Komen for the Cure (www.komen.org/). ❖

Questions and Answers

Q: I would like to rent the hall, whom should I contact?

A: Rear Commodore Rich Aszman is the person to contact. Complete an application and have it approved by the BOD. Rich then adds it to the calendar

Q: I see people wearing those stylish club shirts and jackets. Where can I get one?

A: Past Commodore Bill Scott or his lovely wife Linda are the people to contact.

Q: When someone pulls your new Jeep and family out of the

mud, what is the best way to show appreciation?

A: A big bottle of Jack Daniel's goes a long way.

Q: How can I earn extra points?

A: A committee chair earns 15 points and a co-chair earns 10.

We are still looking for a fundraising Chair and Co-Chair.

Additionally, to be eligible for senior membership, a regular member has to be a committee chair for two consecutive years.

Q: Can anyone ring the bell at the inside bar or at the tiki bar?

A: Yes, both members and guests are encouraged to. It is a great way to make new friends.

Q: Will the Rift Raft accept advertising from members or outside companies?

A: Yes for both. Members can have a free ad in the newsletter. Outside companies will have to pay a modest fee.

Q: What is the name of that contracting company that has helped out the club in so many ways?

A: Fischer Contracting Incorporated in South Plainfield.

Q: How can I become a bartender?

A: Reach out to Don Meseroll or his co-chairs, Frank Cummings or Rich Simun Sr. ❖

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Super Bowl Party

On Sunday 2/1, Activities Chairman, Glenn Hellwig, along with many assistants, helped the RRBC host another successful event.

Starting with a tailgate party that featured BBQ and Mike's famous soup, close to 100 attended a great game and great day. The keg was flowing, propane heaters were on, and the fireplace brought the temperature in the Tiki Bar to a balmy 84 degrees.

The bar went through two bottles each of Fireball, Jack Daniel's and Altos tequila – a first.

Some of the big winners of prizes were Jeff Bell, Sharon Levine, Fran Ditzel and Pat O'Brien.

Thank you Glenn and team ❖

Daytona 500 Party

On Sunday 2/22, the Daytona 500 comes to the club featuring hamburgers, hotdogs, snacks and wings. \$10 for adults is the admission and it is a cash bar. Children under 12 are FREE. Race begins at 1

See Rear Commodore Rich Azman for more details. ❖

