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# RRBC RIFT RAFT

Volume XXX, Issue 3

200 Player Avenue, Edison NJ 08817

July 2015

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## From the Bridge

Mike Beaudrow

*Commodore*



As we are about half way through the year the boating season, I would like to take a minute to talk about where we are and where we hope to be headed.

We have made good progress this year, and as always this does not come easily. I have notice that many people are working and we have completed many things and this has left time for all to enjoy their families and the club.

I would like to talk about some of the highlights, and I'm sure that I will be forgetting some things, my apologies.

Although this year's dock work was not the most work that we have done in a given year, it was the correct amount of work that we need to do to maintain the dock system and it matched our ongoing budget needs. This was accomplished even though we had a late winter.

Once the weather broke everyone jumped in to help, the docks and electric were ready on time. Nice job by all!

I hope that you either noticed or been a part of, but we are slowly cleaning the club up. It started with the down stairs room then the patio and now the area over by the sheds is coming together. And we will be continuing the effort. Again stand up and applaud yourselves .... Great team work.

I must say something about the Bar.

As we all know Don maintained the inner workings of the Bar for many years. With the sudden passing of Don, we as a club were left with a challenge. The Bar is something that we all enjoy, and a must have for club's revenue. This comes with a price of a great deal of behind the senses work. After Don's passing, the Board stepped up and made a quick temporary appointment of Frank Cummings. In the following weeks Frank took on this challenge without knowing what was ahead. Within the first month Frank faced credit issues with the distributor while never skipping a beat on the club inventory. He had to understand and complete the Bar banking records. This was followed by him having to learn how to files state sales taxes and if that was not enough our club license renewal came due and the renewal system just went electronic. Frank chased it all down while never losing a sale. Frank has also reevaluated the pricing system. Working with his team they are initiating a cash register system and in the future they are working towards an inventory control system. **Please join me in saying a Well Done to Frank and the Bar staff.**

Over the past few months we have been enjoying an influx of new members. As I look around I see people opening up their arms and making these folks feel welcomed, all I can say is OUTSTANDING..... Thank you❖

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“The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits.” — Albert Einstein

## Jay Comes Out

Senior member Jayson Ditzel came out of his fathers' Tom Ditzel shadow when he successfully ran and won a prestigious seat on the RRBC board. Tom Ditzel is a past commodore and now Jay has stepped up into the leadership of the club. Jay eked out a narrow victory over newly minted senior member, Tom Stolte. Jay ran on a platform that included increasing the quality of wine served at the bar. Congratulations Jay ❖

## Off the Schneid

Raceboat Randy Schluess is off the schneid with his boat Typhoon. Randy turned in a blistering performance in winning his first race of the season at Seaside. Then followed that with another victory ❖

## On the Leash

In June, the membership passed a rule that requires all non-service dogs to be leashed when on club property. Even when leashed, no dogs are allowed in the building or Tiki Bar to conform with Middlesex County laws regarding animals where food &/or drink are served ❖

## Welcome Aboard

Under the welcoming leadership of commodore Mike Beaudrow, RRBC had two new applicants for membership in June. They are:

Tom Burke – J Kopelson sponsor

Bryan Serino – J Ditzel sponsor

And a third is knocking at the door.

## Commodores Scholarship

At the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting it was announced that Johnny Donnelly Jr., son of senior member John and his wife Candice was the recipient of the 2015 Commodores Scholarship. Use the money well Johnny and may you go from strength to strength ❖

## Hats Off

Hats off to all those who helped with both the gabion wall and putting the fence on top. Once again, club members volunteer their time to make the RRBC a better and safer place ❖



## Membership Anniversaries

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

John Abbott, Howard Askelson, N. Thomas Brescia, Billy De Almeida, John Donnelly, John Forner, Richard Gabriel, Jon Kopelson, William Micklos (Sr.), E. Brian Miller, John Spielman, Mark Aziz, John Catsoulis, Frank Cummings, Brett Greiner, Walter Janosz, Joe Kapcsandi, Nicholas Miragliotta, Alex Minacapelli ❖



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## IN SEASON ACTIVITIES

With the 2015 season upon us, we have a plethora of fun in sun festivities taking place. Don't be a stranger, come, partake, and volunteer. A happy time for one and all.



## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### AQUAPALOOSA

PLACE – JUST OFF DONALDSON PARK

WHEN – **JULY 4**

Join 30+ boats rafting up and enjoying life on the majestic Raritan. Shirts can be ordered from Barbara Crowley

### ROCK THE CLUB

PLACE – OUTSIDE

WHEN – **JULY 11**

Top quality music and food makes this a lively event.

### CLUB HOSTING

PLACE – INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

WHEN – **JULY 18**

One of the biggest events of the year. Live music, great food, music, dancing and libations. We welcome visitors and dignitaries from other clubs.

### SILVER BULLET TOUR

PLACE – HAVERSTRAW ON THE HUDSON

WHEN – **JULY 20 - 23**

There will be access to shore power, pools and other fine amenities. Past Commodore Bill Scott has the details

### TIKI PARTY

PLACE – OUTSIDE

WHEN – **AUGUST 8**

Live music, libations, food and fun.

## From the Navigator

Andy Stevens

Our circulation is growing exponentially. If you would like to advertise, reach out to the Navigator. In fact, Google searches on names in the Rift Raft return a link to this venerated periodical. A shout out to Mike McGlynn for his expert photography

If anyone would like to have something included, feel free to submit it. Please send submissions to [ADStevens@aol.com](mailto:ADStevens@aol.com) ❖



## Raritan River Boat Club

[www.RaritanRiverBoatClub.com](http://www.RaritanRiverBoatClub.com)

For membership questions, please call either:

Fred 908.720.5577 or Jay 732.322.9118



## Congratulations Peter

Congratulations to Peter Lucarelli on receiving unanimous approval from the membership. Peter crossed the threshold from Probie to Regular Member with flying colors. Maybe it was the flowers he planted or maybe it was the quality with which he cleaned bathrooms. Either way, Congratulations Peter. Your next milestone is Senior Membership. Don't forget, as a first year member you have 12 months to complete another 50 house points or you become a Probie again.

## Congratulations Tommy Jr.

Congratulations to Tom Crowley Jr. upon becoming a Probie. Tommy grew up at RRBC and has some big shoes to fill. His father and both grandfathers were commodores. By 2025 we expect to see a picture of Tommy wearing a captain's hat, hanging on the wall.

## Questions and Answers

Q: Are all proposed rule changes supposed to be posted on the bulletin board for 30 days and be subject to a second vote?

A: That is a good one. We will try to find the answer.

Q: Is it true that revenue from the bar fell significantly recently?

A: Yes it did. There was a sharp drop in demand for Ultra.

Q: Why do we always see Probies manning the BBQ grill at club functions?

A: Aside from being inspired to help out at the club, it is a great way to meet people and let them meet you.

Q: Do only senior members vote on the annual budget?

A: The club practice is yes although it is not listed in the rules in the privileges section of Sr. Membership. To find it, look under the Dues section.

Q: Who will be the first Probie to ring the bell at the upstairs or Tiki?

A: The one who wants to make friends the quickest.

Q: If a dog has a leash attached to him, does someone have to

## Half Mast

The flag was lowered to half-mast as Ray Salva, Life Member, went on the everlasting cruise.

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### *Condolences to the Salva family*

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Ray was a Life Member of the club whose tenure spanned many years. Ray loved to take his Hatteras yacht out and explore the waters. The fun loving guy he was, he would always keep the libations flowing. This went hand in hand with the fact he was a businessman who at one time worked for a liquor distributor.

Ray, you will be missed ❖

## Enjoy Your Toys

Billy D, Jimmy V, Mike K, (tall) Alex M all got new boats. Enjoy your new toys. Tom & Tom C, you always seem to get new ones. Please arrange time with Frank, the club measurer. ❖

hold the other end to be compliant with the new rule?

A: Don't be a wise guy.

Q: Can I use a 30 or 40 ft. leash for my dog?

A: Again, don't be a wise guy.

Q: What is the waiting period before someone can submit an application for membership?

A: Nothing is stated in the constitution or rules.

Q: Who can explain to me how to use the new cash registers?

A: Dick Crowley or Frank Cummings. ❖

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## Club Opening

On Saturday 5/16, Fleet Captain Fred Diem and Galley Chair, Ron Cichalski, joined forces to help the RRBC host another wonderful Club Opening.

Dignitaries from clubs far and wide graced us with their presence as we officially raised the flags, fired the cannon (gun) and started the 2015 boating season. With Rear Commodore Richie serving as DJ, we partied for hours.

Although a fun time, we paused and paid our respects to members no longer with us. Thank you to those named and those who helped❖

## The Poker Run

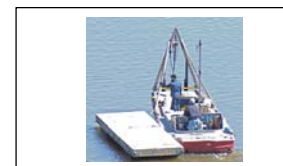
On Saturday 6/20, the club hosted the Poker Run.

Often called the most fun single activity at the club, boats head off collecting cards while dreaming of riches. The first stop of the day were the docks in New Brunswick, where the Miragliotta and Diem families gave out the second envelope. That was followed by Alex and his party boat moored near the power plant. Then one headed out further down the river to see the old man and the sea, Papa Simun in his rain slicker handing out the fourth envelope. Next was SRBC with their wonderful show of hospitality.

Close to 300 hands were sold, run by the first lady of the club Sue Beaudrow, who had it down to a science.

A sumptuous Italian dinner followed served by the former first couple Bill and Linda Scott. Thanks to Fleet Captain Fred, First Lady Sue and all the helpers

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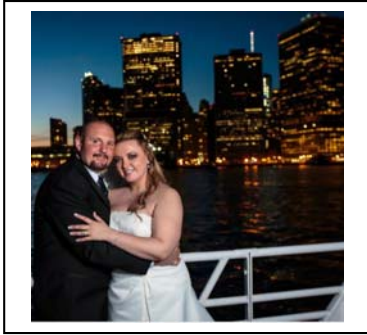
- Service Repairs & Upgrades
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## Mazal Tov (Good Luck)

Best wishes go out to **Joseph Katarski** on his recent marriage to **Jenn McKenna**. Joe and Jenn tied the knot in an April ceremony that was attended by many members of the RRBC. Keep us posted as to when we will see a Joe Jr.



There is authority that a marriage performed by a ship's captain on the high seas is valid. In Fisher vs. Fisher in 1929 the New York Court of Appeals held that "in the absence of any such law which condemned the marriage ..." such a marriage was valid. The court also reasoned that Congress "had recognized that on board a ship at sea ... there is ... a law of marriage,"



Best wishes go out to **Rich Gabriel**. Rich proposed to **Jackie Miller** and for some reason, she accepted. Word has it that Rich is already planning on expanding the family. Maybe the Commodore, Mike Beaudrow will officiate❖

## Thank You Rear Commodore (from the Navigator)

On a personal note, I would like to thank Rear Commodore, Rich Aszman, for crawling into my engine compartment and solving the mystery of water leaking into it. Just another shining example of how one club member helps another❖

## Be Careful on the River

Sunday, June 14, 2015 - Authorities say a **body found in the Raritan River** is likely that of a missing Newark woman who reportedly had been swept away by the current.

Using a side scan sonar device, state police initially located the body around 8:30 p.m. Saturday. It was about 50 yards offshore, but the river's strong currents prevented a dive team from reaching the body.

The body was removed from the water around 7 a.m. Sunday. The Coast Guard and several local agencies had conducted a lengthy search that started early Saturday, shortly after a friend reported that the 22-year-old Newark had entered the river near the Victory Bridge in Perth Amboy and then disappeared. The woman's name has not been released.

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### **Body found in Raritan River ID'd as suspected Driscoll Bridge jumper-** updated May 18, 2015 at 3:20 PM

State police say the body discovered floating in the Raritan River Saturday has been identified as Michael Beadle, the High Bridge man suspected of jumping from the Driscoll Bridge in April. Investigators have determined that Beadle, 52, died by suicide. No foul play is suspected, said New Jersey State Police spokesman Sergeant Jeff Flynn Monday.

Beadle was reported missing on April 7, after a van registered to him was spotted that afternoon sitting on the shoulder of the bridge with its hazard lights turned on. State police arriving at the scene that day found the vehicle empty with its engine running. Investigators later initiated a search of the waters surrounding the Driscoll Bridge, but beadle's body was not recovered until Saturday after civilian boaters reported seeing his remains floating near the base of the Driscoll Bridge.