

# February, 2008 News

## **From the Commodore:**

Welcome to the 2008 Hampton Roads Fleet 30 "Cruising for Fun" sailing season. We are fortunate to have so many familiar long-term members. The fleet welcomes back all those 2007 new members who have strengthened our organization. And a very special greeting to those new members who have already joined in 2008!

Hopefully you will find most of your club's needed cruising information in the monthly newsletters, e-mail cruise reminders and at [www.fleet30.org](http://www.fleet30.org). Please feel free to call me or one of the club's officers for assistance too. We are a friendly bunch of boaters and I am confident that every member will be glad to help you in any way they can.

Cruising chairs Laurie and Jim Dombey have continued in 2008 where they left off in 2007. The HRF30 Holiday Celebration was graciously hosted by Renee and Kerry May, Robin Garelick and Jay Rickles. It was great to see so many of you in attendance for the festivities. The Downtown Hampton on Ice Cruise was accompanied by seasonal winter weather with thanks to the Dombey's for being cruise captain's. And mark your calendar for February 9th when Bev and Mark MacMahon (Calypso) host our next event "Cruising Experience" with guest speaker(s).

Thanks in advance to all of our 2008 cruise captains and fleet officers who volunteer to make the extra effort to insure the success of our club and its activities.

Go sailing. Have fun.

Eric  
E

## **February Fantasy Cruise February 9, 2008**

Join Fleet 30 for a February Fantasy Cruise

6:30 PM at the home of Mark & Bev MacMahon

What better way to spend a cold February evening than fantasizing about all those exotic ports you dream of visiting!

Why not come and listen while three of your fellow cruisers share their experiences as they have turned their fantasies into realities!

As with most things in life, sharing cruising stories is always more fun when accompanied by good food and drink. Beer, wine and soda will be furnished. Please bring a dish to share.

(23 Bay Front Place is located at 37°03.5' - 76°17.03' or in the Pointe at Salt Ponds. Cruise north to the end of N. First Street. Go through the gate, turn to starboard, and proceed to the ninth house on the port side. Anchor wherever you can find a spot. For more information, call Mark and Bev at 848-1574)

# St. Patrick's Day & Equinox Sock Burning Ritual



**When: Saturday, March 15, 2008  
15:00 Hours**

**Where: JJ & Anne O'Kane's**

**20143 W. Magnolia Ct  
Smithfield, VA**





## 2008 Cruising Schedule

Jan . 05 Fleet 30 Holiday Celebration @ Southall Landings Arrimar

Jan . 19 Downtown Hampton on Ice Cruise Cool Change II, E

(Jan 23 - 27 Baltimore Sailboat Show) [www.strictlysail.com](http://www.strictlysail.com)

Feb. 9 February Fantasy Cruise w/ guest speaker(s) Calypso

Mar. 15 St Patrick's Day/Sock Burning Escapade

Apr. 19,20 Seventh Annual Blessing of the Fleet \_\_\_\_\_

May 10,11 Mother's Day Cruise to Portsmouth/Gosport Arts Festival Diva  
Tidewater Yacht Agency, Inc. 393-2525

May 23-26 Memorial Day Cruise to Mobjack Bay \_\_\_\_\_

(Jun. 1-3 Hampton Blackbeard Festival) [www.blackbeardfestival.com](http://www.blackbeardfestival.com)

Jun. 6-8 Thirty-Second Annual Harborfest Inspiration, Magic

Jun. 11 (Wed) Cruise Week Planning party Cool Change II

(Jun. 21,22 Cock Island Race - Portsmouth )

Jun. 21 - Jul 6 Cruise Week to Baltimore Rest Stop, Sanity II

Jun. 28 - Jul 6 Cruise Week to The Potomac \_\_\_\_\_

Jul. 26 Willoughby Night Sail Cool Change II, Quantum Leap

Aug. 2,3 Smithfield Ham Poker Run \_\_\_\_\_

Aug. 16,17 Salt Ponds Pool Party / Dinghy Cruise \_\_\_\_\_

Aug 29-Sep 1 Labor Day Cruise to Tide's Inn (804) 438-5000 \_\_\_\_\_

(Sep. 6, 7 Hampton Bay Days)

Sep. 12,13,14 Fourth Annual Virginia In Water Boat Expo and Sailfest Inspiration

Sep.20,21 Cruise to Bay Creek Marina (Cape Charles) \_\_\_\_\_

Sep.27,28 Neptune Festival Regatta: Race to the Light Thrill Seeker

(Oct 2-6 Annapolis Sailboat Show) [www.usboat.com](http://www.usboat.com)

(Oct 8-12 Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race)[www.schoonerrace.org](http://www.schoonerrace.org)

Oct. 25 Halloween Party \_\_\_\_\_

(Nov. 3,4 Urbanna Oyster Festival) [www.urbannaoysterfestival.com](http://www.urbannaoysterfestival.com)

Nov. 8,9 Land Cruise to Wine Country \_\_\_\_\_

(Nov. 29 Norfolk Lighted Boat Parade) [www.festevents.org](http://www.festevents.org)

Dec. 6 Twentyth Annual Hampton Holly Days Lighted Boat Parade \_\_\_\_\_  
[www.hampton.va.us/parks/holly\\_days/](http://www.hampton.va.us/parks/holly_days/)

Jan. 3, 2009 (Sat) Fleet 30 Christmas Party

## **Cruise Week Tentative Schedule**

For those of you planning on enjoying the two week cruise this summer, here is the preliminary information for you to consider.

Cruise Week 2 will have a different format this year as the extended cruise will leave Hampton Roads a week in advance of the one week cruise and meet the one week cruisers on the return leg. The highlight of this years cruise will be a two night stop in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. The two week cruise will depart Hampton Roads on Saturday, June 21 and is scheduled to return on Sunday, July 6. The tentative itinerary is listed below.

Saturday - June 21: Piankatank River (marina or anchorage)

Sunday - June 22: Solomons (marina or anchorage)

Monday - June 23: Herrington Harbor South (marina) or West/Rhode River (anchorage)  
depending on weather

Tuesday - June 24: Annapolis (marina or mooring ball)

Wednesday - June 25: Baltimore Inner Harbor East Marina

Thursday - June 26: Baltimore Inner Harbor East Marina

Friday - June 27: Worton Creek (marina, mooring ball or anchorage)

Saturday - June 28: Rock Hall (marina or anchorage)

Sunday - June 29: Wye River (anchorage)

Monday - June 30: La Trappe Creek (anchorage) or Cambridge (marina or anchorage)

Tuesday- July 1: Oxford (marina or anchorage)

Wednesday - July 2: Solomons (marina or anchorage)

Thursday - July 3: Chrisfield-Spring Cove Marina

Friday - July 4: Chrisfield-Spring Cove Marina

Saturday - July 5: Piankatank River (marina or anchorage)

We are trying to get an approximate boat count for the two week cruise. If you are planning on going, please contact Jim Dombey at [jfandlasailingd@juno.com](mailto:jfandlasailingd@juno.com) and let him know that you are planning on coming. This will help in planning any other events during the cruise. There will be a Captain's meeting on Wednesday, June 11, so mark that date on your calendar.

Also, Fleet 30 has a block of slips reserved at the Inner Harbor East Marina in Baltimore. The cost is \$2.10 per foot. You should call the marina directly at 410-625-1700 to reserve a slip. Tell Captain Bill that you are with Hampton Roads Fleet 30 Sailing Club. Reservations should be made before June 10. Baltimore's Inner Harbor can be quite busy at that time of year.

Jim Dombey will be sending out info on the Spring Cove Marina reservations as that stopover will include the one week cruisers as well.

We have an exciting and aggressive schedule for this year's cruise and hope that the weather cooperates. In any event, we will be flexible.

We will be sending out more information as we get closer to the dates.

Dave & Mary Alexander - SANITY II

Pat & Arlene Connelly - Rest Stop

Cruise Captains

## **Treasurer's Report**

### Treasurer's Corner

The 2008 membership drive is off to a hot start. We have already had 51 members pay their 2008 dues. This includes six new boats to the club. Now is the time to pay your dues if you have not already done so. You can send in your membership form electronically and mail your check, or you can print the "printable" membership form and mail it along with your check to me. Both of these are located on the web site.

The on line membership roster is updated periodically as new members join. Any former member not paid by April 1 will be removed from the roster as part of our annual updating of records. Cruise Captain's, here is your budget for 2008 cruise events. Remember, if your budget is \$100 or less you do not need to submit receipts for reimbursement. After the event I will contact you to confirm what amount to reimburse (up to the budget limit). If your budget is over \$100, please provide receipts to me (Christmas Party).

- Fantasy Cruise - \$100
- St. Patrick's Day - \$75
- Blessing of the Fleet - \$100
- Mother's Day - \$75
- Memorial Day - \$75
- Harborfest - \$50
- Cruise Week Planning - \$50
- Cruise Week 1 - \$75
- Cruise Week 2 - \$75
- Night Sail - \$75
- Poker Run - \$75
- Dinghy Cruise - \$75
- Labor Day - \$75
- Cape Charles - \$75
- Neptune Festival - \$50
- Halloween Party - \$100
- Wine Cruise - \$75
- Lighted Boat Parade - \$75
- Christmas Party - \$400

## Racing News



It was good to see so many members at our Christmas party January 5<sup>th</sup>! Congratulations to Jim Lant for his surprise victory (especially to Jim!) as the Fleet 30 High Point Champion for

2007. This was the inaugural award in what we hope will be an annual award for the club, presented to the member that accumulates the most points over the season on the following scale:

- 1 point if you raced
- 2 points for 4<sup>th</sup> place
- 3 points for 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- 4 points for 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- 5 points for 1<sup>st</sup> place

I'll do my best to capture and record all our members' activity on the race course, but I would certainly appreciate a note just to be sure I don't miss anyone.

Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> is the date for the racing clinic, "Murphy Goes Racing - 2008, Going Faster - It's all About the People" that I mentioned last month. I understand that the venue sold out a week or two ago - hope some of you made your ressesies early. Another date to mark on the calendar is Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> (no joke!) at 6:30 pm at the Mariner's Museum in Newport News. This is the Cruising Club of Virginia's (CCV) date for their annual Racing Rules Seminar. It's free and open to the public. Don't worry; they keep it light and informative (about an hour).

More racing news: CCV announced a new evening race, the Moonlight Triangle Race, which will take place late in the day on July 26<sup>th</sup> with the finish probably around midnight after sailing a mid-distance course within the area between the mouth of the York River, Buckroe Beach and Ocean View. Note that this is the same Saturday as our Fleet 30 Willoughby Night Sail. Lots of opportunities for an evening sail that day! CCV also is offering Cruising Class racers who join CCV (Club membership = \$25) the opportunity to race FREE in any CCV race during the season (with the exception of SBRW). This is a great deal as the normal racing membership is \$110 - \$125.

Now that the Holidays are over, some of us may have made resolutions to shed a few pounds. Now's a great time to put the boat on a bit of a diet, too. (You *are* regularly visiting her, right?) Take the time to scrutinize all of the items that have been accumulating over the months that are making you consider repainting that waterline: all those buckets, brushes, & cleaners; folding chairs and roll-up dinghies, the spare sails in the V-berth you haven't bent on in three seasons, or all those paperbacks you didn't finish reading from Cruise Week. Little things do add up in weight and do affect sailing performance. About that BBQ on the stern rail - they'll cook you a hot dog at the race party!

The idea is to "lighten the ends" - remove as much weight as possible from the ends of the boat - it's preferable to have the weight concentrated over the keel as much as possible. This will

minimize the "hobby-horsing" effect and improve handling. Please note that cold beer is considered "movable ballast", which is very desirable on all sailboats and should not be included on the skipper's list of items to leave at the dock!

Good Sailing!

Andy

### **From Denny and Rhonda**

Hello, Everyone. We had a great New Years celebration with cousins in Miami. Watched the fireworks from the rooftop pool of a Marriott in South Beach. We got there by anchoring at the entrance to Collins Canal, taking the dinghy up the canal and walking the 8 blocks to South Beach. Coming back to ADAGIO that night was scary, going under bridges a foot higher than our heads, with local homeless people sleeping on the banks. Then, on to the Keys, and a 5 day wait for winds to die down. We spent 3 nights in tarpon Basin, and 2 at Islamorada. By then at least we could dinghy ashore and enjoy the fun at Lor-e-lei's. Denny even got to play a few songs at one of the local pubs. We left Sunday and followed the West Coast up to the Little Shark River in the Everglades. This picture was taken near sunset, but hardly captures the serene beauty of this place. Dolphins could be heard breathing all night long. Today we had a nice ride up to Marco Island, on emerald green gulf waters that were remarkably flat. We hope to be in Sanibel tomorrow, and Cape Haze (Englewood) by Wednesday for a couple months of R&R at the marina of the same name. We'll be close to Holly and some old friends in Sarasota, and hope to receive guests from up North (hint...).

Love to all

Denny & Rhonda

Denny Botkin & Rhonda Burrell  
411 Walnut St #4189  
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
757-846-6154 757-846-6300  
ADAGIO



## From Denny and Rhonda

Hello, All. We made it up to Cape Haze in one day after leaving Marco Island. The Gulf was so flat, we went all the way to Boca Grande Pass on the "outside". Cape Haze is a few miles south of Englewood, which is south of Venice. Except for the occasional "cold front" (lows in the upper 40's, highs in the upper 60's), the weather has been wonderful (lows around 60-65, highs in the mid 70's to low 80's). Today we took the dinghy to a very secluded beach on Don Pedro Island, a state park accessible only by boat. But they still have a large pavillion, picnic tables and "facilities". It's amazing how Florida has carved out so many state parks in areas dominated by multi-million dollar homes and condos. The picture attached shows Rhonda in her element, searching for shells on a nearly deserted beach. Looking forward to a visit from a Baltimore friend in early February. Anyone else interested?

Love to all, Denny & Rhonda

PS: Please forward to anyone I missed. Also, let me know if you got this more than once. Thanx.

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