



Rocky Fork Sailing Club

The Jibsheet

September 2024 | #171

Upcoming Events

Sept 7 Races # 12 & 13
Sept 14 Cookout & Smores
Sept 21 Races # 14 & 15

New Members for 2024

These are our new members this year. If you see them, be friendly and introduce yourself.

If you are new but we are missing your name or boat name, please let me know

John & Kimberly Daulton
SV The River Sings

Tara Epplen
Crew/Associate Member

Mary Lou Fritz
Crew/Associate Member

Greg and Martina Kuttler
SV This Side Up

Nathan & Suzy Schneider
SV Reflections

Bob & Robyn Smith
SV Badmudda

Scrivener's Notes

by Jon Hill

Good morning all! (or whatever time of day you are reading this). Life has been good. I officiate weddings and have been very business average 3-4 a week. I also am

Commodore's Corner

by Bill Parker



Having had some really good days of sailing recently, I shouldn't complain about sitting inside air conditioning to avoid the 97 degree heat. But I am. I must admit, concerning my attitude about sailing, that it is very much "What have you done for me lately?" However, we are coming into some of the best sailing weekends of the year, so will look forward to better temps and winds.

I am pleased to announce that the members of the excellent team we have had this year on the Executive Committee have agreed to continue in their roles for 2025. Many thanks to Larry Hess, Marcia Lehar, Drew Hadley, Jon Hill, and Rob Alpern for their commitment. Many of the Rear Commodores on committees

back to school for my fall semester and earned my first ever scholarship (YEAH ME!) All of that and I still have found time to go sailing. Then on top of everything else we had a lot of great contributions to the Jibsheet this month. Thank you to everyone for that! Especially to Drew for the great racing article and pics. He included a spreadsheet with the racing results so far and I hope that is something every Jibsheet will include in the future.

have also committed to staying on next year. When I have a full list of committee members I will post it on email.

Please don't forget our two social occasions coming up, Cookout and S'Mores at the Inkrot's lake home on Sept. 14th, and the Chili Cook-off at the Overlook on Oct. 5th. We have had great events this year, and you won't want to miss these!

The Event That Shall Not Be Spoken by Bill Parker

One hesitates to mention the word "Mast-Down" but it is on the horizon. If you have not already committed to a Mast-Down day to help, please do so. That process requires people, and we all benefit from our collective skills and experience. Believe, me, what I am about to say is directed as much at me as any other member; Start getting your trailer ready.

Pulling the boat is always more fraught with potential problems than putting it in. If you have some days when it isn't boiling hot but also when there isn't any wind, spend those days on getting your trailer ready. Remember all the potential concerns; tire pressures, hitch grease, extension grease, bearing grease, electrical testing and troubleshooting, brakes. It is much easier, and less stressful, to do these things when you aren't under the gun to get the boat out.

Night Sailing by Doug Leyh



My wife Maribeth and I used to love to sail at night in Florida and New Orleans because it was cooler, had less boat traffic in and out of the marinas. I especially loved to sail when the sky was clear, the moon was full, or no moon at all. The full moon or nearly full moon reflecting off the water is magical. Sailing with no moon also has its charm because there are billions of stars you can see in the sky. You can see the Milky-way and all the constellations (you can also practice your celestial navigation).

I also love to see the flashing lights from lighthouses, navigation markers, radio, cellphone, and tv towers. The lights from the shore condos, houses on the beach, and working boats flashed upon the water with each passing wave. At certain times of the year and latitudes you would see phosphorescence trails in the water. All magical but with certain drawbacks. Night sailing offers several challenges. You cannot see or be seen as far; colors fade and shift (the red and green navigation markers turn gray to black) as the light fades. Sounds shift so you have difficulty determining what direction and distance a sound is coming from. Distances and size of objects become difficult to judge. When you are on the water at night, even on the lake, it can be VERRY VERRY VERRY DARK and disorienting (Don't Ask Me How I Know!).

There are several things you can do to make your night on the water safer and more enjoyable (I will only mention those that pertain to the lake and good weather. There are other precautions to take if you are on big water or in a blow).

Always put your life jacket on when you come out of the cabin even if you are sitting in the cockpit and especially if you go out on the deck for anything. If you are underway always have two or more people outside of the cabin. Remember to put a small flashlight in your pocket. The flashlight will help you find things and make you easier to be seen if you go in the water unexpectedly. You can use your flashlight to shine on the sails to make you more visible when another boat approaches.

De-clutter the deck so you do not get tangled up in lines or gear in the dark. If you can raise bottom the bottom of the fore sail so you can see forward better under it. Have a spotlight and sound device in a handy position in the cockpit. You can attach about 1 foot of light line and about 1 foot of Bird-A-Away (a plastic tape that is silver on one side and red on the other) or a foot long strip of heavy-duty aluminum foil to the port and starboard side stay. These strips will crinkle in the wind and help you

judge relative wind speed and direction in the dark. Put your swim ladder down and a light line with a float if at anchor. Do not go swimming after dusk!

Remember all those pictures of sailors and pirates with a patch over one eye. Well, some of that was true. Some sailors wore a patch so they would protect their night vision. Night vision and color shifts. Some of that was to help maintain their night vision in one eye. We are primarily daytime animals. We as a species do not have very good night vision. Our eyes have pupils (part of the eye that automatically opens and closes to regulate the amount of light that gets in). As the light diminishes the pupil opens to allow more light in. The problem is the eye closes faster than it opens. It can take up to 20 minutes to fully restore your night vision once a white light hits your eye. It even can be a flashlight reflection off a piece of paper. Light on the blue side of the spectrum is the worst.

The red side of the spectrum is less damaging. Many boat lights/instruments have a white and a red filter. The red is for night. The only problem is red light shift other colors on charts. We were planning a trip in the Thousand Island Chain in Florida, and I marked the route on the chart with a Yellow high lighter. Unfortunately, when I tried to read it under the red night lights the red yellow turned the highlighted route to black. Remember if you stay on your boat at night when the temperature reaches about the dew point the deck and cockpit will be covered in dew. So have a towel handy or put up a Bimini or boom tent. (Don't Ask Me How I Know!)



Racing Results!
by Drew Hadley



We've had a really nice summer of racing, with breezy conditions, more boats on the course, spirited competition, and lots of camaraderie. Some highlights since our last Jib Sheet –

On June 3rd we held a very meaningful 2nd Annual Mark Shockey Memorial Race. The day began with brunch with Mark's family, where we shared stories and memories. It was a bitter sweet gathering. After brunch 10 boats sailed with good wind, seeing Hey Dad finish in 1st, Desiderata in 2nd, and Juno in 3rd. Carolyn Shockey announced that t-shirts would be provided to race participants, and these were presented at Steak and Lobster. Please contact the racing committee if you haven't yet received your shirt.

The Shockey family also donated award flags from Mark's collection to be presented to the Shockey Memorial Race winners. Our thanks to the Shockeys for the nice remembrances and celebration of Mark.





[Include pictures of the Shockey Memorial t-shirt, images 9521a, 9524a]

With reasonable wind even through our “summer doldrums,” Races 4 through 10 were held as planned, along with a make-up for race 2. We’re averaging more than 7 boats per race, and it’s been really great to have so many (and many new participants) on the course. Congrats to all the top finishers! -

During this past weekend’s “Scrabble Run,” the 8 boats sailing had a nice taste of fall - cooler temperatures, stronger breezes, and, yes..... brief rain showers. Scrabble and race 11 results will be announced shortly.

In addition to races, the Race Committee has started brief “learning session” discussions at the Skippers Meeting ahead of races, with the idea that we all benefit from tips and refreshers on boat handling, “rules of the road,” and seamanship. We’ve also begun brief informal post-race social gatherings to facilitate story telling, lie swapping, and good-natured ribbing on the day’s events and race results.



Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for (audience)? Why should they care (benefit)? What do I want them to do (call-to-action)?

Create a great offer by adding words like "free," "personalized," "complimentary," or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take action, so consider inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining!"

Race	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
4	Hey Dad	Deiderata	Juno
5	Hey Dad	St. Somewhere	Island Girl
6	St. Somewhere	Island Girl	Hey Dad
7	Destination	Kallista	St. Somewhere
8	Odyssey	Island Girl	Hey Dad
9	St. Somewhere	Junk	Nalu
10	Kallista	Odyssey	Island Girl

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