



CBGBOA NEWSLETTER

The Official Publication of the
Chesapeake Bay Grand Banks Owners Association
www.cbgbob.org

June 2011

President's Message

Sam Nicholson – *Dr. Nick*

Spring is here and speeding along. I am sure that all of us are involved in getting our boats ready for the cruising season. The *Dr. Nick* has been out of the water for about three weeks and will return to her slip very soon. As usual the surprises have come along; this year's was the replacement of both sets of shaft cutlass bearings. Her bottom paint is in bad shape, but soda blasting will have to wait to next winter when (hopefully) costs will be more manageable.

As we prepare for the season I would like to remind you of three excellent sources of information for maintaining our boats. The first is John Shannahan's Dickerson Harbor "Boatyard Blog" written daily by Alan Willoughby; <http://oya.com/yardblog/>. The pictures and comments about the work being done provide helpful leads to finding and solving problems on a boat. The second is the official Grand Banks discussion board at <http://www.gbbeacon.com/> which has links to a lot of general information in support of the enjoyment of these

boats. The third is the discussion board run by the International Association of Grand Banks Owners at <http://www.grandbanksowners.com/>. Though this site will request a donation for its support, it has a wealth of knowledge on Grand Banks boats, from the earliest to the latest. The repair forum contains very extensive (and searchable) information. Also there are numerous links to other sites of interest.

Welcome to new members Jeanne and Ron Turnow with *Grand Yankee* (Classic 49, #18); Carole Pollock and David Sullivan with *Freedom* (a 1988 Classic 36); Marcia and Russell Barron with *Paper Moon* (Motor Yacht 42, #795); and Kim West and William Kryzak with *Illiam* (Sedan 32, #805).

Our March brunch was a big success and I want to thank Anita and Rocky Lowe and Charlotte Featherstone for their efforts to make it so. As I mentioned then, our cruising schedule is posted at the CBGBOA web site: <http://www.cbgbob.org/>. Please review this schedule and sign up for one of the weekend cruises and, of course, the September rendezvous.

As a reminder this fall we will need folks to fill the capable shoes of our present Board Members:

Rocky Lowe – Treasurer

Anita Lowe – Membership

2011 Pipeline

July 13-14 Mill Creek off Whitehall Bay – John & Linda Alan. Anchor in Mill Creek, Cocktails aboard "Sunrise". Bring an appetizer and your beverage of choice. Dingy to Cantler's Riverside Restaurant for crab dinner.

August 10-14 Northern Bay Cruise w/ Sailing Club of Chesapeake - Bob & Liz Hammond. 10th-Anchor in Back Creek and tour Mt. Harmon Plantation, 12th cruise to Fairlee Creek with dinner at Great Oak Marina (as desired), 14th travel home.

Sept. 21-25 Fall Rendezvous – Roger Granum. Join us in Deltaville, Va. to visit the Wings and Wheels air & car show, a bus trip to Yorktown Battlefield, a Dinner Dance Saturday evening and Brunch on Sunday.

CBGBOA Officers

President: -----Sam Nicholson

Membership: -----Anita Lowe

Secretary: -----Carolyn Williams

Treasurer: -----Rocky Lowe

DIRECTORS

Past President: -----Pepper Holmes

Chair, 2011 Rendezvous: ---Roger Granum

Webmaster: -----'Willow Works' WEB Design

Newsletter Editors: -----Joe & Rosa Gibson



Carol Williamson – Secretary

Joe and Rosa Gibson – Newsletter

If you are interested in volunteering for one of these positions, please discuss the job with the incumbent and if still interested please let me know. From the vast list of volunteers, I will select a slate of candidates to present to the membership at the Rendezvous in September.

And, of course, Sharon and I look forward to seeing you all

Officer Reports

Newsletter Experiences:

Joe Gibson – Surprise

I want to begin this article by thanking the Association for the support we have received during the three years Rosa and I have published the CBGBOA Newsletter. We were newer members when we began in 2008 and you fully supported our work. You provided articles and suggestions for articles. You've kept us informed of activities within the association, and you have given us many complements on the issues we have published.

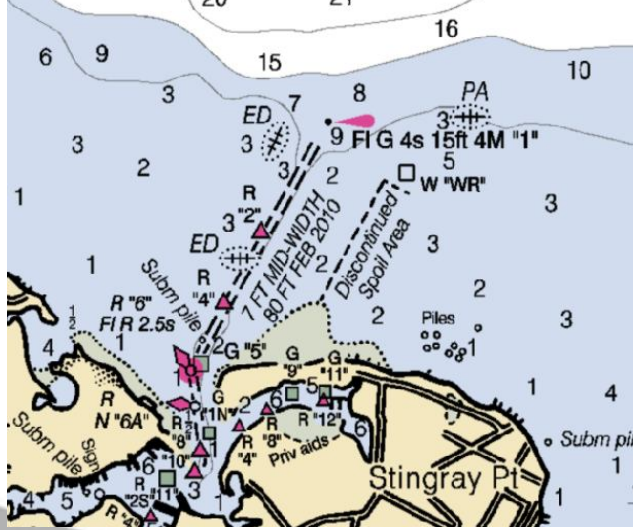
Your articles have provided interesting reading for our members and especially for us as we edited them for publication. Much of the editor's job is having an article and pictures fit into the space available and we've thus read every entry to understand content to condense as needed. Many described exciting cruises. One described an innovative snow load tent when a shed was not available. Some focused on complex boat repairs with at least one describing repairs made while at anchor. One initiated a series of articles on a specific repair – yes that was on holding tank repairs. All were written expressing the pride of owning a Grand Banks yacht which we all share.

We also thank you for our experiences. We did not clearly know then how we would accomplish all of the publishing tasks. We were just beginning our winter cruise lifestyle with plans to immediately depart for warmer Florida waters. Fortunately we learned tasks while still at home. When time for the third issue approached we were cruising through Georgia heading home. We worked onboard to finish editing articles before reaching Beaufort SC. There we sent the e-mail issues through Port Royal Marina's internet connection and borrowed their van to visit the local Staples to reproduce and mail copies. Since then, many of our issues have been published while traveling, and we've

CBGBOA 2011 Rendezvous

Regatta Point Marina, Deltaville, VA, 21-25 September

Marina is in Broad Creek on the Rappahannock River



side of the Stingray Point peninsula. The entrance channel was surveyed in 2010 per NOAA chart 12235 which you should use for navigation. The marina's floating docks are located on the port side of the channel immediately inside the creek.

The highlight of the rendezvous will be a guided tour of the Yorktown battlefield on Friday, 23 September. We will be taken from the marina by double-decker bus to Yorktown with a buffet lunch en route. The bus carries a maximum of 81 passengers; therefore, you are urged to sign up early for the rendezvous by going online to the CBGBOA website at <http://www.cbqboa.org/> and log in on the "Members Only" section. First Come, First Served!

A Rendezvous Registration Form and a Yorktown Tour Registration Form will be mailed to all CBGBOA members; a response is requested no later than 15 August. A
schedule

learned of the many ICW ports where commercial printing services are available.

Publishing in Beaufort was just one of the many fond memories we have, but as you may have experienced in your life, the excitement of doing a job sometimes matures and eventually instead of an exciting quarterly task it becomes a chore. I recognized that Rosa and I reached that state in May when I missed our planned publishing date. I write this to sincerely apologize for this issues

Published four times per year. Sent by US Mail and e-mail to all CBGBOA Members. We seek articles of interest to other CBGBOA members. E-mail proposed articles to joe@joesboat.org or mail to 804 Pheasant Run Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

Members who do not need printed copies should notify Joe Gibson at the above address.



delay.

We will work diligently to publish our summer issue on time, but I now know we will not renew our commitment to this job for another year. We are thus seeking a volunteer to become CBGBOA Newsletter Editor beginning in October. I'm confident the association will continue to provide you the support we have recognized and sincerely enjoyed. I also believe you will enjoy the excitement of editing and publishing issues as we have, and for sure we will be available to help you get started in the job. Yes, I'll share data on the ICW spots that are friendly to publishers. If you are interested please contact us or a CBGBOA Officer.

From Our Boat to Yours

THEY DONE ME RIGHT!

Roger Granum - AURORA

Last November, when I took "AURORA" south to Atlantic Yacht Basin (AYB) for wintering-over, among the many things I asked James Taylor, the Yard Manager, to do was repair my swim platform. When arriving at our September 2010 rendezvous in Cambridge, Maryland, I was backing into the slip with 4 crewmembers aft and backed into a piling with no warning from my less-than-alert crew [all of whom are cousins!]. I had experienced a similar incident a few years earlier and was aware of the approximate cost of such a repair.

When I received my invoice from AYB for the repair, I tell you: I was shocked, shocked, shocked! It was nearly five times the cost of my previous repair. I immediately inquired from another source what the cost would be to replace the platform with a new one and found that it would be approximately half the cost of the repair. On the advice of a friend, I wrote a letter to AYB, in essence saying that I felt I should have been given the option of replacing rather than repairing the swim platform.

To make a very long story short, when I arrived at AYB in early April to pick "AURORA" up for her return to her slip on the South River, I was very pleasantly surprised to find that AYB had agreed to credit to my account essentially what I had requested. I had a long talk with those who had worked on the platform, who explained why the repair cost so much. In essence, I have a beautiful, nearly new swim platform. Some lessons learned:

If you have damage that can be confirmed by photography, do so, because if you have to submit an insurance claim, have proof of the damage [I did not].

Request an estimate of repair costs if you think it will exceed \$1000. If the cost does exceed that amount, consider an alternative, such as replacement.

There is no doubt in my mind that Atlantic Yacht Basin is truly a class act. The workmanship on the swim platform was superb. AYB could have argued that since I requested that they "repair" the platform, they were not obligated to provide an alternative – but they recognized that an alternative was available and should have been made. I will return there, because the yard is superbly maintained, the workmanship is among the best, and, most importantly, they know how to treat their customers.

CBGBOA Cruise to Rock Hall

Bruce & Sandy Fenton – Quest

On July 9, 2010 CBGBOA members cruised to Heaven Harbor Marina in Rock Hall for a weekend getaway. Nine boats cruised on a lovely Friday afternoon.



The pessimist will say that it rained on Saturday; the optimist will say we finally got to wear all that expensive gear we've been carting around for years! We certainly were a colorful bunch that day!



Haven Harbor CEO Jonathan Jones gave us an extensive tour of the marina and its facilities including many different workshops such as the high-tech paint area, machine shop, and rigging and woodworking buildings.



He answered extensive questions. Haven Harbour is the factory authorised Grand Banks service center for the Chesapeake Bay.

Our scheduled 'yard sale' for various boat and household items had to be cancelled due to the weather, but Haven Harbour personnel graciously motored us all over Rock Hall to visit three small, but very informative museums: the Watermen's Museum, the Rock Hall Museum, and the Tolchester Museum.

After some time back on our boats to rest and freshen up, the Bay Wolf Restaurant sent a van to pick us up for dinner at their downtown Rock Hall location. Bay Wolf serves a unique Austrian cuisine along with a traditional Chesapeake Bay menu. A nice time was had by all.

The weather cleared in time for the cruise home on Sunday, July 11.... And once again it was proven that it's always fair weather when good friends get together.

Bringing Surprise Home

By Rosa Gibson - Surprise

Joe and I made a trip to Great Bridge, Virginia early in May to bring 'Surprise' home for the 2011 boating season. We arrived a few days before she was ready as we wanted to see her out of the water. We were pleased with the work done at Atlantic Yacht Basin. Bottom cleaned and painted, prop repaired, line cutters (bring on the crab pots) and zincs replaced.

We left AYB on May 7th in time for the Great Bridge and lock openings. We traveled with four other boats at a speed timed to minimize the wait for other bridge openings. As well as you plan things, there is always Murphy's Law. The railroad bridge adjacent to the Gilmerton highway bridge is usually open. With our luck it went down for a train to pass just prior to the scheduled highway bridge opening. After about a 40 minute wait both bridges opened for us pass and we continued north.

We cruised on into the Portsmouth and Norfolk portion of the Elizabeth River and out past the commercial and Navy docks. Several small and one large aircraft carrier were in port making an interesting cruise past the naval base. We crossed the Hampton Roads tunnel into the Chesapeake Bay heading for the eastern shore and Cape Charles. It was a pleasant cruise across the bay with 1 to 3 foot waves and little shipping traffic. We passed Cape Charles harbor and entered the Bay Creek Marina in Kings Creek about three in the afternoon. There were few boats in the marina, and of those few, there was another named 'Surprise'. We had a lovely dinner in the upper level of the resort's restaurant watching a beautiful sunset across the bay. A very relaxing evening!

Sunday morning's rain and gray skys were predicted to clear so we departed about eleven heading to Crisfield. The gray clouds gave way to clear blue sky as the seas calmed with a light easterly wind. We confirmed our arrival time with Somers Cove Marina in Crisfield and they assigned a slip. When we arrived about an hour after they were scheduled to close the dock master was waiting and helped us tie up. He said he was doing paperwork but we are pretty sure he stayed to see us in. Surprise was his only boat in for the night.

Mother's Day in Crisfield must have been successful. We walked to a familiar restaurant close by and they were cleaning up. "Sorry", they said "we had a buffet and all the food is gone". Oh well, we did find a pizza place open...

Our cruise Monday was for either our home port or Solomons. The cruise through Tangier Sound and Kedges Straight had been protected from a brisk north wind, and the seas drastically changed as we turned towards the north in the bay. The 15-20 knot wind had been building for many hours and we headed into 4-5 foot chop which Surprise handled beautifully. We did not. Solomons and the beautiful calm Patuxent River became our firm destination and we tied up at Solomons Yachting Center for the night. After dinner at our favorite restaurant, the CD Café, Mother Nature lulled us to sleep with a gentle rain dancing of the cabin roof.

We awoke to a very windy day, much stronger than the day before and were thinking about staying the day. Joe kept checking wind speeds reported by the Cove Point weather buoy and as the morning progressed they calmed. We set out, and later when we rounded Cove Point to enter the bay the sea had calmed to an easily manageable two to three foot waves. By the time we approached Poplar Island we felt like we were cruising upon an iridescent sea of Jell-O with long easy swells. We were reminded just how unpredictable the Chesapeake Bay can be and how quick sea conditions can change..

What a wonderful feeling to finally see the Bay Bridge in the distance, the communication towers east of Annapolis and that little dot which is Thomas Point Light marking our turn into the South River. We were almost home.

Our first cruise of the season was completed. We had paid attention to what was around us, taking nothing for granted. We monitored the weather forecast and were ready to alter our plan if necessary. We did so when needed and were safe and comfortable. Welcome Home, Surprise. We're ready for the season.



2011 Deltaville Rendezvous Schedule

Wednesday, 21 September:

- Arrival at any time after 0900. Call on Channel 16; the dock master will ask you to switch to Channel 72.
- 1800 - ? Informal pot luck supper; BYOB. There are 4 barbies (2 charcoal, 2 gas) available.

Thursday, 22 September:

- Breakfast on your own or a continental breakfast provided by Regatta Point.
- 0900 - 1200 Technical presentations/discussions [presenters are Peggy Hall and Steve Zimmerman].
- 1200 - ? Lunch. We suggest "Take a Boat to Lunch". Regatta Point owner, Jack Dozier, has a restaurant and marina in Urbanna; boats in the rendezvous that cruise to Urbanna can stay at his marina free of charge with no obligation to eat at the restaurant. Another lunch destination suggestion is Tides Inn at Irvington.
- 1300 - 1700 Games and/or informal discussions. Carolyn Bowden ("CB") of Lily Pad will have available at Regatta Point field games, e.g., horseshoes, badminton, croquet, dingy races; or informal discussions among members concerning mutual issues can be organized. Transportation will be available to visit local sites in Middlesex and Lancaster Counties.
- 1800 - ? Cocktails and a buffet dinner (roasted suckling pig) catered by The Galley Restaurant. BYOB, but bar set-ups will be available.

Friday, 23 September:

- Breakfast on your own or a continental breakfast provided by Regatta Point.
- 0900 - 1000 Peggy Hall will have a second presentation.
- 1030 - 1800 Board double-decker bus (81 passengers) for a visit to the Yorktown Victory Center and Battlefield. Buffet lunch will be served en route at the Piankatank River Golf Club.
- 1830 - ? A "Taste of the Vine" wine tasting with hors-d'oeuvre. Details to be provided later.

Saturday, 24 September:

- Breakfast on your own or a continental breakfast provided by Regatta Point.
- 0830 - 1000 CBGBOA business meeting.
- 1000 - 1200 Presentations by Jarrett Bay and Grand Banks.
- 1200 - 1300 Lunch courtesy of Jarrett Bay.
- 1300 - 1700 Transportation will be available to visit local sites in Middlesex and Lancaster Counties. The Antique Wings and Wheels show at Hummel Airfield should be the highlight of the afternoon.
- 1800 - ? Cocktails (BYOB with setups provided) and a dinner-dance. Dinner will be catered by "Something Different". Jack Dozier, owner of Regatta Bay and Publisher of the Waterway Guides will be the featured speaker.

Sunday, 25 September:

- 0900 - 1100 Brunch provided by Regatta Point.
- Departure at your convenience.



Chesapeake Bay Grand Banks Owners Association
804 Pheasant Run Drive
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

