



July/August 2004

[Raft Up](#) – July 31 (See Rear Commodore Report)

[Wednesday Night Awards](#) – September 8

[Peninsula Cup Regatta](#) – September 18-19

[Huntington's Disease Regatta](#) – October 2-3



Report from the Commodore



I hope you all are having a really terrific summer. We've seen a lot of good racing in the Wednesday Night Series and so far have lost only one race due to weather. If we have no other cancellations, we no will set a record for completed races. Congratulations to Don Corey, Sam Bender and Mike Brawley for winning the Spinnaker and Non spinnaker A and B divisions respectively for the first half of the Series.

The Board Meeting held on July 8 marked the beginning of the process to determine who will help Doug Riley lead the Club to bigger and better things next year. We have a number of talented folks who have contributed in many ways this year. In addition to the fine efforts of Doug and Jim Juhl, a special thanks goes to Steve Battel for sacrificing his body several times on Race Committee as well as all the others who also have "volunteered" in that capacity. As we go forward, the Nominating Committee consisting of Doug, Jim, Aaron Wood, John Cooper and Mike Brawley will be contacting various folks to determine interest in filling the posts of Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Secretary and Fleet Captains for 2005. We'll also need dedicated people to fill potential vacancies on the Board of Trustees.

As we went through the process last year, many people told me they weren't able to accept a position this year but would consider accepting a post in the future. Well, the future is now. Several people also felt that they just didn't know enough about such things as race management to accept a position. But we've all been there and gradually learned what we needed to learn along the way. And believe me; the giving of your time and talents to the membership is greatly appreciated and very rewarding. So, if you have a vision for the Club or have ideas that you would like to see implemented, and are interested in any of the posts I've just mentioned, please contact any of the Committee members. They would love to hear from you.

See you on the water.

Rick Rowan, Commodore



Report from the Vice Commodore

If a tree falls in the woods and no one is around, does it make a sound? By the same token, if you hold an event and no one shows up, is it still a successful event? Participation has suffered this year in ways we haven't seen in a long, long time. This is in no way an indictment of the membership, but we continue to scratch our heads and wonder what we may be doing wrong. Time and again, we hold high-profile events with fun social activities and make every effort to publicize what's upcoming, then only a few boats show up.

Since the last newsletter, we have conducted the Ramsey Creek Regatta which had only 7 participants...The Hospice Regatta, an event that enjoys high participation all around the country, had only 13 keelboats enter lakewide. We do have a good number of registrants and participants for the Wednesday Night Series, and the Summer Twilight Series has a few more participants than last year, although some members are not participating in this event for the first time in years. Participation in the Frogmore Stew, the Pursuit Regatta, the OYC 30th Anniversary Regatta, and even the Chili cook-off was disappointing to those who worked hard to put those events on.

We well recognize that other life factors do affect the ability to get out on the water...I myself am not racing in the Twilight series due to a number of reasons unrelated to the event itself, specifically other commitments and schedule conflicts. Connie Berchem's recent email and the responses to that email show us that people don't necessarily NOT want to come to OYC events, they just have other lives to lead off the water.

We are learning some lessons...Attendance at the Frogmore this year was miserable but we now realize that it should have been conducted a bit earlier in the year and that we should have avoided area schools' Spring Break. We've discussed having one-day events...two to three races then a social event/party afterwards all in one day to allow people to participate but not dedicate their entire weekend to a regatta. Series should be more compact and not stretch out over two or more months to get in 4-6 races...Interest wanes over time. These kinds of ideas have a lot of merit. We would like to hear more ideas from the membership as to what we can do to increase participation in ALL events. This is your Club...Please let us know what your ideas and desires are.

Respectfully,
Doug Riley, Vice Commodore
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Report from the Rear Commodore

The Raft Up event on Saturday of the Ramsey Creek Regatta was so much fun we've decided to do it again. I've talked with several OYC'ers that think it would be fun to join the big Lake Norman Raft Up on Saturday July 31. Last years event holds the record for the largest number of boats (944), and the organizers are hoping to break the record again this year.

We'll plan to meet as a group, before joining the raft up so we can stay together for the fun. There will be a temporary "D" mark about 250 yards from I77 in Davidson Creek (North Harbor Grill area). It will be well past the major raft up traffic, so it should be relatively calm place to meet. Let's plan to meet there at 3:00pm on Saturday the 31st of July.

After we're all together we'll head over to join the others. OYC will provide Margaritas, beer and soft drinks. Hope to see you there!

Check out the web site at: <http://lakenormanraftup.com> for more information, and give me a call if you have any questions, 704-293-0780.

Respectfully,
Jim Juhl, Rear Commodore
