



RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER YACHT CLUB

IRVINGTON, VA 22480

November 2020

THE HEADWAY

L'eadanse Wins 2020 Turkey Shoot Regatta with RRYC's Jesse Swartz's Irrational Exuberance in Third

By Tom Wicks



L'eadanse 1st to cross the line, Tim Scheid and team.

The Annual Hospice Turkey Shoot Regatta (HTSR) is one of the best fall events, as well as one of the largest regattas on the Southern Chesapeake Bay and the largest of the US hospice regattas. The 25th edition was again co-hosted by Rappahannock River Yacht Club (RRYC) and Yankee Point Racing and Cruising Club (YPRCC), and held on the Rappahannock Oct. 3rd under blue skies, scattered clouds and variable winds. Given COVID-19 cautions, the event this year comprised only a one-day, pursuit style race, with a no-contact skipper meeting and none of the wonderful gatherings and music by DeadRise that

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RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER YACHT CLUB

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Comments from the Commodore

By Danielle Kuper

- I hope that you will attend the Annual Meeting at the spacious Hills Quarter Community Center, 723 Old Saint Johns Road, Irvington, on November 21st. at 4pm. Out of caution, we will not have the traditional social afterwards but we did want to provide everyone with the option of safely gathering. Please be sure to send us your proxy form in a timely manner if you won't be there in person. It is important that we have a quorum. Brad and Joanie Perry are working on a virtual meeting option. When details are ironed out we will let you know.
- A huge thank you to Tom Chapman and Jerry Latell. In spite of all the pandemic-related hurdles that got in the way, they managed to organize yet another fun and well attended Hospice Turkey Shoot Regatta.
- Thanks to outgoing Membership Committee Chair Ann Vaden for organizing a great orientation meeting for this year's new members on the porch. Fueled by Ann's home baked muffins and the rare opportunity to meet and chat, a spirit of energy and optimism prevailed. Many thanks to new member Linda Lowell for volunteering to take over as *The Headway* Editor.
- It has been my privilege to serve the RRYC membership as Commodore this year. I have enjoyed getting to know more of you as the club was a busy place in spite of having no social events to speak of. The dock was completed, several infrastructure improvement projects were undertaken and we had a surprisingly active fall sailing season.
- The club remains financially healthy, the slips are fully rented and our membership grew this year. I much appreciate the input and guidance from the dedicated group of this year's Officers and Directors and the 24/7 support of Kent White. Thanks for the opportunity to serve!



From the Vice Commodore

By Ian Ormesher

“Rounding out the season!”

It was great to see the culmination of our year-on-water sailing activities undertaken with such enthusiasm and high turnout! Other articles in this edition of *The Headway* cover the Typhoon and Turkey Shoot activities, but I would like highlight some of the Typhoon action from the last race night of the Typhoon fall series. This may have been the most wind I have seen our Typhoon fleet race in — the photo below is a sample of the action and other photos are on view in the website (rryc.org) photo album for the event. Congratulations go to John Congdon, in his first year of G competition, who posted a near clean sweep of 1st's in his race tally for the season, albeit this day proved to be an exception. Well done John!

The PHRF finale for 2020, “The Commodore’s Cup,” was another well run and well attended event. Eleven boats started the day, and we raced two classes in blustery conditions. The classes were split with faster (race) boats in one class and more leisurely cruisers in a second. It may surprise you to read that Tom Chapman’s *Hot Air* team took first place in the race boats, OK, I didn’t think it would surprise you. Doug Lyle also did very well, single-handedly steering his 19ft *Siduri* to first overall among the cruisers. Tom Chapman took a clean sweep of firsts in all the club PHRF’s this year, an exceptional feat and well done Tom!



Typhoons in wind.

Photo Ian Ormesher.

We are starting to look ahead and plan for next year’s event. We currently have a race seminar scheduled in March, but I am keen to hear whether you would like additional in-person seminars scheduled for the winter. Feel free to drop me an email. We are also keen to get our sailing season active early in order to make best use of the great spring weather— so look out for tweaks to our calendar in the coming months. And once again, suggestions are welcome.

Fair winds,
Ian

From the Rear Commodore

By Charles Springett

Not much to report this month. The Beavers continue to take care of smaller projects around the club. *Wild Fire* has been winterized and is on its way to Rappahannock Yachts for the winter, *Doug Power* will shortly be on its trailer in our storage area. The bathrooms will stay open for now, but once winter sets in they too will be closed. Overall, I think we can say our facilities are in good shape, and we are looking forward to the time when normal social activities resume and we can take full advantage of them.



Photo by Mike Kennedy.

***New front door to welcome members
back when we get past this pandemic.
The Beavers did it!***

Turkey Shoot Regatta

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are normally part of the Turkey Shoot. Even with those limits, it attracted 82 of the area's finest sailors (with 26 entries from RRYC) in their diverse and handsome boats and sails, painting colorful images on the canvas of our River. Including aerial shots also by drone, Yours Truly Photography captured images of the boats not usually seen. (<https://vando.imagequix.com/g1000819321#images>.)

With forecasted winds of N10-15 knots and 65° F, 68 boats met by 1100 to challenge the 10-mile planned course, with a "rabbit" start based on ratings in inverse order (e.g., Typhoons first) and the winning boat to be the first across the finish line. This style allowed some "skirmishes" among similarly rated boats such as the Typhoons and some swift J-24s and San Juans.

However, the winds lightened and shifted, creating local doldrums with little air, and slowed groups of boats at points on the course, forcing trimming and new tactics until wind returned. Then, in the early afternoon, as an 8-10 kn easterly breeze filled, the final leg, originally downwind, became an upwind tacking battle, with finishers sometimes dueling in pairs and triples up to the finish line, crossing at angles, often just seconds apart.

The results! First Place Overall went to Timothy Scheid of Bohannon, VA on his Santana 35 *L'eaudanse*; his and the boat's name will be engraved on the Virginia Spirit Trophy. In addition, he will receive a free room and slip for next year's Regatta, courtesy of The Tides Inn. Former winner Bob Fleck of Fishing Bay Yacht Club (FBYC) aboard his Olson 911S *Mad Hatter* finished a close Second Place Overall in a tacking duel. Top RRYC finisher was that green machine *Irrational Exuberance*, a J-30, crewed by owner Jesse Swartz and his wife Michelle, along with tactician Steve Donofrio and his wife Linda.

The Top Ten finishes are listed below by boat name, yacht type and length, owner's name and club affiliation. Additional notes follow. Complete results may be found on [Yachtscoring.com](https://yachtscoring.com). Please note that there was no award ceremony nor any of the usual gatherings, so this year we do not have photos of award winners.

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Turkey Shoot Regatta

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1. <i>L'audanse</i>	Santana 35	Timothy Scheid	Unaffil.
2. <i>Mad Hatter</i>	Olson 911S	Bob Fleck	FBYC
3. <i>Trilogy</i>	Irwin 38	Wayland Rennie	FPYC
4. <i>Silver Fox</i>	Santana 20	Winthrop Schwab	YPRCC
5. <i>CEIL</i>	Peterson 34	Ben Ackerly	FBYC
6. <i>DOLCEFARIENTE</i>	Herreshoff S 27.5	Charles Schaffner	YRYC
7. <i>Irrational Exuberance</i>	J 30	Jesse Swartz	RRYC
8. <i>Thistledowne</i>	SJ 21	Bill McClure	FBYC
9. <i>ScubaKat</i>	SJ 21	Michael Chesser	FBYC
10. <i>DIANTHUS</i>	CS 36M	David Tabor	FBYC

We congratulate the top ten, welcome new top finishers and thank them all for their support, often given over many years.

Of note: We were delighted to see *Trilogy* return with Wayland Rennie of FBYC, who at 92, has won the trophy three times ('98, '06 & '07). Finishing 3rd overall, he came close to repeating again! He challenges all you youngsters — get out there! Local sailor Win Schwab, who with his wife support this fund-raiser, gets out there and competes with boat co-owner Ed Richardson, both of YPRCC: he placed fourth this time on *Silver Fox* and was winning top finisher for their club.

We welcomed back last year's winner, Chuck Schaffner of the York River Club, aboard his classic Herreshoff S *DOLCEFARIENTE*, ever competitive, finishing 6th and taking the best wooden boat accolade.

Previous FBYC winners Bill McClure ('12) in *Thistledowne* (#8) and Michael Chesser ('10) in *ScubaKat* (#9) showed their competitive spirits, while FBYC's David Tabor on *DIANTHUS* tacked across the line in 10th, just ahead of three very competitive sailors: RRYC's Arabella Denvir in her J-24 *Trouble* (she finished second for our club, edging by previous regatta winner ('15) Warren Ryan of YPRCC in *Whistler* and Bob Montague (unaffil.) aboard *Prudence*, a Sailmaster 22. (See photo below "*Trouble...*")



Picture by Tom Wicks.

***Trouble, Prudence and Whistler (L-R)
fighting for the finish***



Picture by Tom Wicks.

Radio Flyer in for 2nd Typhoon spot

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Turkey Shoot Regatta

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Not far behind was *Mad Cow*, with John Congdon at the helm, first among the Typhoons and third for RRYC. Costumed as cows, John and his daughter Mary have a sense of humor as well as sailing skills. Then *Radio Flyer* (with Mikey Kennedy at the helm and Gary Hooper tactician) tacked in for the second RRYC Typhoon finish, 4th for RRYC, after battling with Lew Thatcher's *Catitude* near the finish line. (See photo on page 5 "*Radio Flyer*" .) *Radio Flyer* was followed by RRYC 5th place finisher, *Goshawk*, a Flying Scot sailed by Tom and Susan Richardson with son John. Glenn Solt was RRYC 6th placer in *Freedom*, while RRYC's Gregg and Lisa on *ÇaVa* rounded out the top three Typhoons. RRYC member Jack Geier finished second in the wooden boat category aboard his S&S *Bayadere*.

A good spirit award should go to Brian Holdaway of FBYC! Brian hung in there to finish last in the allowed 5-hr time aboard his Cal 39 *Second Wind*.

The John and Carole Jean McConnico Trophy, awarded to the yacht club or marina with the best three finishers, went this time to Fishing Bay Yacht Club (FBYC). Without doubt, RRYC will endeavor to win it back next year.

The Most Beautiful Boat Award went to *First Light*, a Hans Christian 33T owned by Charles Hall of Regent Point Yacht Club.

Begun by John McConnico and Chuck Harney 30 years ago as a classic sailboat race, the Annual Hospice Turkey Shoot Regatta is now hosted annually as a fund-raiser for Hospice Services by a combination of area groups—Rappahannock River Yacht Club, Rappahannock Yachts, Yankee Point Racing and Cruising Club—with support from many others in the greater Irvington community. Funds raised go directly to support our two local agencies: Riverside Hospice Agencies, 7358 Main St., Gloucester, VA 23601 and Hospice Support Services of the Northern Neck, PO Box 262, Warsaw, VA 22572. Normally, we would see many volunteers from those agencies helping in the tent, serving food and beverages, and selling souvenirs, but those activities were curtailed this year.

Co-Chairmen George Bott (YPRCC) and Tom Chapman, along with the HTSR Committee, again organized this overall event while Jerry Latell of Evolution Sails co-chaired. And Karl and Nancy Hamm of YPRCC donated the use of their power cat as the race committee boat. The Race Committee included George Kuper, Brian McCauley, Jen Resio, Sandy Porteus, Pete Clay, Ginny Clay, and Heather Sheehan. Kimberly Vail led Registration and prepping Skipper's Bags.



Picture by Tom Wicks.

Despite some doldrums, marks could get hectic.



Picture by Tom Wicks.

RRYC's first finisher Irrational Exuberance.

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Turkey Shoot Regatta

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Picture by Tom Wicks.

First and funniest of Typhoons, RRYC's John Congdon and daughter Mary on Mad Cow.

Co-founder and Chairman Emeritus John McConnico, on behalf of the committee, has offered his gratitude for all the support from the committee members, the local clubs, marinas and businesses which donate time, space and other resources each year, and for the participation of the bay sailing community with its hundreds of sailors who have sailed with us over the past 30 years.

Commodore's Cup Regatta Closes Rappahannock River Yacht Club Racing Season

By Tom Chapman

On a cool and breezy Saturday, October 17, eleven boats went out to race in the Commodore's Cup, the final event of the Rappahannock River Yacht Club's (RRYC) 2020 racing season on the Rappahannock River. PHRF Fleet Commander Glenn Solt said, "it was good to see many new racers on the course in addition to the regular racing crews."

Principal Race Officer Jerry Latell set up three windward-leeward races varying from 2 to 3.6 nautical miles to challenge the racers' tactics and strategy in breezy conditions, with 12-20 knot NNW winds, and wind shifts of up to 40 degrees.

In the 6 boat B Fleet, the racing was very close, with each of the top three boats winning one of the races and all finishing within less than a minute of each other. In the third race, the margin between first and second was 13 seconds.

The B Fleet also had new-to-racing, *Flowing Grace*, Cynthia Miller's Pearson 30, distinguished by an all-female crew consisting of skipper Samantha Van Saun, Cynthia, Gillian Thaxter and Mary Burgess. Race Committee member Mike Kennedy noted, "I think they had the most fun of anyone on the racecourse." *Flowing Grace* crew member Mary Burgess said, "The crew of *Flowing Grace* enjoyed the day learning new racing tactics, growing together as a team and being challenged by the windy conditions."

Overall, first place in the B Fleet went to Doug Lyle in his Siren 17, *Siduri*; second place Ian Ormesher and Judy Fay in their Gloucester 22, *Pocahontas*, and third, Eddy Whichard in *Life of Riley*, his Catalina 27. Other competitors included Jim Ward and his team on *Brightwindbridled*, his Hunter 27.

Racing in the 5 boat A Fleet had a new element, as John Congdon brought *Bombshell*, his Xp44 to the course with a crew of which he said, "we are training for future races and just trying to have fun today." First overall in the A Fleet went to Team *Hot Air*, a J24, (Jeff Branflick, Bill DeCoste Jr, Lew Thatcher and Tom Chapman), second to John Congdon and the *Bombshell* team and third to Arabella Denvir and her

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Commodore's Cup Regatta

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team on *Trouble*, her J24. There was close racing in the A Fleet for second place with all boats tied after two races. For complete results see below.

After racing awards, were presented by Glenn Solt, on the Club Porch, with required social distancing and masking. John and Tammy Jo Arsenalt and Pam Ward served chili dogs and snacks to all employing contact free procedures.

PRO Jerry Latell's race committee were John Latell, Mike Kennedy and Henry Latell on the Signal Boat and Greg and Sue Kirkbride on the mark boat. Dressed in full foul weather gear and bounding around in the waves and spray setting marks, Sue said, "the water was warmer than the air." All competitors congratulated the Race Committee for the successful day as well as Fleet Commander Glenn Solt for a successful season in these challenging times.

Fleet A		Series					
Fleet A		Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Total	Place	
<i>Hot Air</i>	Tom Chapman	1	1	1	3	1	
<i>Bombshell</i>	John Congdon	4	3	2	9	2	
<i>Trouble</i>	Arabella Denvir	2	5	3	10	3	
<i>Freedom</i>	Glenn Solt	3	4	4	11	4	
<i>Irrational Exuberance</i>	Jesse Swartz	5	2	5	12	5	
Fleet B							
<i>Siduri</i>	Doug Lyle	2	1	2	5	1	
<i>Pocahontas</i>	Ormesher	3	2	1	6	2	
<i>Life of Riley</i>	Eddy Whichard	1	3	3	7	3	
<i>Flowing Grace</i>	Miller/Van Saun	4	4	4	12	4	
<i>Brightwindbridled</i>	Jim Ward	5	7	7	19	5	
<i>Possum</i>	Wells/Richardson	7	7	7	21		



Photo by Commodore Kuper

Greg and Sue Kirkbride keeping dry and warm.



Photo by Commodore Kuper

*Irrational Exuberance, Bombshell and
Hot Air going upwind.*

Cape Dory Typhoon Fleet — Fall Series

By Bob Damon, Typhoon Fleet Commander

In common with sailing fleets in our area and around the country and world, RRYC has faced an unusual year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although we cancelled the Spring Series and Nationals, our fleet was able to persevere with the Single Hand Race as well as participation in PHRF events in June. Fortunately and for such reasons as our remote location, a decline in new virus cases, and observation of sound preventative measures, we were able to get the Fall Series up and running.

With the exception of a single day, the weather was perfect and while the breezes were light for the first 4 days, on the final day we had nearly perfect wind for Typhoons. Whereas the Daysailer and Open versions did well on the lighter days, on the last day the Weekenders dominated.

Over the course of the series, we had 15 boats participate, similar to normal numbers in past years. We had 5 race days with one cancellation due to weather. Congratulations are in order to the Top 4 boats:

- 1st *Mad Cow*: John Congdon and Mike Miller
- 2nd *Not Hot*: Tom Chapman and Ed Johnson
- 3rd *Radio Flyer*: Mike Kennedy and Tom Watkins
- 4th *ÇaVa*: Gregg and Lisa Shivers

A big thank you goes out to all the folks that volunteered for Race Committee, especially to Hal Starke, who while he did not want to commit to being the PRO for all the series, did volunteer for 3 of the 5 days. Thanks also to George Kuper and Bob Damon (under the watchful eye of Ned Crockett) who also served as PRO. A big thanks especially to Ned and Stan Crockett who volunteered at the last second on the first day of racing to man the Mark Boat using Stan's Boston Whaler because *Doug Power* was out of commission; also to Gary Hooper and Charles Glenn who volunteered at the last moment to man the mark boat on another occasion when the volunteer for that day could not come out.

Thank you also to the 2020 Fleet Committee consisting of Ned Crockett, Communications; Lisa and Gregg Shivers, Scoring; and Leslie Damon, Social Activities.

We had a lovely evening on Wednesday, October 14th for our Fall Awards Social put together by Leslie Damon, with catered appetizers from River Market. It was nice finally to have a get together even with distancing and masks!

Up next is the RRYC Annual General Meeting on Saturday, November 21 at 4 PM at the Hills Quarter Club House. We will be awarding the Typhoon Sailor of the Year and Typhoon Corinthian Sailor Awards at this event, so don't miss it. See you ALL there!



Photo Jane Wells

Race Committee volunteers like George Kuper made the Typhoon Fall Series a success.

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Typhoon Fleet

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Photo Jane Wells

Typhoons wing-on-wing around the mark



Photo Lisa Shivers

Last night of the series — see the full moon rising

RRYC 2020 Annual General Meeting and 2020 Election of Officers

The 2020 Annual Meeting of Members will be held at the Hills Quarter Community Center on 21 November at 4:00 PM. A notice of the AGM was sent to all RRYC Active Members 19 October along with a Proxy form for the election of club officers for members unable to attend the meeting.

This venue was chosen to allow social distancing of attendees. All attendees are required to wear masks. Members who cannot attend but wish to observe the meeting will be able to do so remotely. (Details of how to join will follow at a later date.) No voting will be conducted remotely, as it would be difficult to administer.

Members who do not plan to attend the meeting should fill out the furnished Proxy form and mail or e-mail it to the RRYC Secretary by 15 November. It is very important that we have a quorum of

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Annual General Meeting

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members and proxies in order to be able to conduct the club's business during this meeting. Members whose proxies have gone missing in their email boxes should contact Ken Vincent, RRYC Secretary prior to 15 November.

Nominees are:	Commodore	Charles Springett
	Vice Commodore	Ian Ormesher
	Rear Commodore	Ken Vincent
	Treasurer	Jesse Swartz
	Secretary	Sue Kirkbride

Two year BOD terms:

Glenn Solt
Samantha Van Saun
Tom Wicks

Second year of BOD term:

Leslie Damon
Tom Linville
Michelle Ritter

The nominees have provided their biographies below.

Commodore - Charles Springett

I was born in England in 1945 towards the end of the Second World War. I started sailing as a teenager in small wooden sloops in the North Sea with my high school naval cadet group. I joined a US drilling contractor working in the North Sea in 1968 after obtaining a degree in Mechanical Engineering. In 1971, I moved to California and eventually retired as Vice President of Engineering from the same company in 2001, and moved from Texas to White Stone and the house I live in now.

I was married for 36 years to Rina, also an enthusiastic sailor and the mother of my two children, one of whom also lives in White Stone. Rina passed away in 2005. Sue and I have been married for 13 years; we divide our time between her home in Annapolis, Maryland and here. We have sailed together on *Ariel*, our 41ft Bristol sloop from Maine to the Florida Keys, the Bahamas and the Caribbean, and in 2015 we took a three year sabbatical and sailed *Ariel* to Europe via Greenland and Iceland, then to the Mediterranean and back to the US via Morocco, Cape Verde Islands and the Caribbean.

I have been a member of RRYC since 2003 and have served as Rear Commodore (a position I very much enjoy) on three separate occasions. If elected I am looking forward to serving the club I love as Commodore.

Vice Commodore - Ian Francis Ormesher

From age 4 through 13 Ormesher lived as far from the sea as possible (about 75 miles!) in his native England. At age 13 he moved to the coast near the Lake District and so began his enduring relationship with the sea and all things nautical. After completing a degree in Civil Engineering in Swansea, Wales, where he owned his first boat, Ormesher joined the Army. As a young officer he specialized in diving including

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Annual General Meeting

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underwater construction and demolition. He then joined the Cable & Wireless group of companies. In 1999, Ormesher relocated to Fairfax County, VA in 1999. He now works as a consultant in the cell tower and utility industries.

He and wife Judy Fay own two boats, the classic Strider 35 *Galeneia* which, more often than they desire, is docked at RRYC, as well as a trailerable Gloucester 22 *Pocahontas*. Sailing, fishing and rugby are key areas of interest for Ormesher. He is particularly keen to encourage youth of all ages and sexes to engage in physically active and thought-demanding pastimes. Consequently, he regards sailing as sport that should be nurtured and enabled to flourish by emphasizing availability, fun and personal fulfillment.

Rear Commodore - Ken Vincent

Water? I learned to swim in it in the Navy. Learned to walk on it in the Marine Corps. Learned to sail on it in the school of hard knocks. Bought a Hunter 34 in 2001 and pretended to know how to sail, learning as I went. Learned how to run aground and get afloat, fix the engine, swat biting flies, etc. In 2003 bought a Pearson 422 and discovered a whole new level of technical, mechanical, and boat handling challenges. Sailed to Marblehead, MA, and learned the value of an autopilot and a clean fuel tank. Sailed to Beaufort, NC on the ICW and returned around Cape Hatteras, thereby learning why the ICW was built. Sailed to the Bahamas and learned about Customs and that I really, really wanted a chart plotter. Sailed to Maine and learned all about lobster pots, lobster rolls, and COLD water. Sailed all around the Chesapeake Bay and learned the great camaraderie of fellow RRYC cruisers. Having served RRYC as a Director, Secretary, Cruise Captain, and Beaver, I look forward to serving in additional capacities in the years to come.

Treasurer- Jesse Swartz

I moved to Irvington in 2016 after 35 years living and working in Baltimore and joined RRYC in 2018. After owning power boats in Oxford, MD and Baltimore Harbor for 30 years, I began sailing in 2017 and bought *Irrational Exuberance*, a J30 which we race in RRYC's PHRF racing program. In addition, I serve RRYC as a member of the Beavers. My wife Michele Coiron, a native of New Orleans, lived in NYC, Atlanta and DC before Baltimore. My son Jesse lives and works in Seattle, WA.

My educational experience includes a BA in Economics from Bucknell and a MS in accounting from University of Baltimore.

As a CPA I have worked in various finance jobs as a CFO, Managing Director and Loan officer for various banks and companies. I continue to work as an independent CPA.

Michele and I greatly enjoy Irvington and being active members of RRYC. I am looking forward to using my financial expertise as Treasurer in service to our membership if elected.

Secretary - Sue Kirkbride

Sue is a transplanted Yankee, having grown up at Giant's Neck Beach on the Connecticut shore. Unfortunately boating was discouraged due to a relative's tragedy on the water. That changed when she met Greg and had a few outings while he was on sailing crews at the Coast Guard Academy. They were married, after she finished at UCONN and he left his first cutter out of Boston, and the adventure began. Besides Connecticut and New York, Sue has lived in the Tidewater area, Texas, Miami, New Orleans, and now Bethesda, MD. Sue and Greg got to know the Northern Neck by visiting family from 1994. However, they never had much opportunity to be on the water until they inherited their house in 2006. As is typical,

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Annual General Meeting

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they were “coming-here’s”, residing in Irvington during weekends and much of Sue’s summer break from school. Sue came recently to regular sailing, after Greg and she purchased *BELLA*, a Ty Weekender, from Al and Finlay Smith in the spring of 2014. Before *BELLA*, Sue and Greg were wet and wild in a 14-foot Tasar they sailed in South Texas, with sore muscles and occasional man-overboards. After that they periodically sailed on friends and relatives boats, and took advantage of Navy Sailing Association daysailers in Annapolis and Norfolk. Her first membership with a yacht club is RRYC, having joined in July 2014. Her in-laws had been members of the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club and the now-defunct Windmill Point Yacht Club, but those her only previous exposures to club sailing. RRYC has greatly enhanced her Northern Neck experience and enjoyment through the members and the activities (even racing – who knew!). Sue has served on the Social Committee, been involved with the Social Activities Work Group for the Long Range Plan and was a board member during 2015-2017. She has helped with Ty and PHRF race committees, lately as part of a mark boat duo, and with Junior Sailing Regattas. She looks forward to even greater contribution and participation if elected to serve as Secretary. Sue had several occupations, including being a member of a meat packers union, and managing a liquor store, before opting to become an educator, now with over 30years experience with several subjects in the different paces she has lived. Sue taught science and math in middle school, at St. Bartholomew’s School in Bethesda. In addition to kayaking and sailing, she enjoys walking, cycling, SCUBA diving/snorkeling, and camping.

Director- Glenn Solt

Prior to retiring and moving full time to the Northern Neck Glenn and his wife Jody made their home in landlocked Whitehall, Pennsylvania, where they raised their two daughters. In the late 70s they started a construction company primarily focused on contract and speculative residential construction as well as small scale property development. After selling the company, in 1996 Glenn assumed the role of Whitehall Township Executive, and was elected to three terms in that capacity. In the middle of his third term, called upon by Lehigh County, he would go on to serve first, as Director of Capital Projects, and subsequently as General Services Director. Finally, tired of driving six hours to big water, their love of sailing finally prompted early retirement in 2014 and the move full time to the Northern Neck.

Glenn began sailing in the late seventies when he traded his hand built canoe for a sailboat. This was a Sunflower, one of those vinyl coated things similar to a sunfish but really cheap. He was hooked and within a couple of weeks was looking for a bigger boat. That was about 15 boats ago! He now sails an Alerion 28, racing PHRF locally at every opportunity. Glenn and Jody also spend time cruising on their trawler, kayaking (Jody more than Glenn) and zipping around in their little Boston Whaler. You can never have too many boats.

Since becoming RRYC members in 2019, Glenn has assumed the duties of PHRF Fleet Commander. He looks forward to contributing to the club’s success in any way he can. Prior to Covid 19, the Solts were frequent attendees at the First Fridays. Like everyone at RRYC, they are looking forward to a return to a sense of normalcy and more socialization in the club.

Director - Samantha C. Van Saun

Growing up in Washington DC, Sam spent most weekends and summers sailing with her family on the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. They discovered Irvington by boat and stayed in the marina at the

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Annual General Meeting

(continued from page 13)

Tides Lodge when Sam was 13 years old. Years later, in 1996, Sam's parents decided to retire to Irvington and join the Rappahannock River Yacht Club (RRYC).

As a teenager, in addition to cruising with her family, Sam attended St. Mary's Sailing School for four summers where she learned to race Lasers and 420's. She taught lake sailing and racing there as well as cruising at Camp Robin Hood in Brooksville, ME for two summers. When on break from college, Sam cruised in the Caribbean. After graduation, in the summer of 1998, she taught dinghy and keelboat sailing at RRYC.

Sam graduated with a B.A. in Economics and Dance from Kenyon College, after which she engaged in non-profit and humanitarian efforts in DC and abroad and earned two master's degrees. Over 15 years in the international nonprofit sector, Sam managed, started, and sat on the Board of Directors of several international nonprofit organizations in the arts, education and humanitarian sectors.

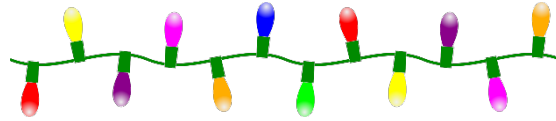
In 2012, Sam moved to Irvington, VA on a "temporary" basis, but once here she reconnected with Arabella Denvir and her sailing roots. Sam worked with Premier Sailing for four years while building her real estate business with Select Properties of Virginia and managing political campaigns. In 2019, Sam started a financial services business, now Van Saun Financial, in which she often partners with Hock Financial Group.

Sam joined RRYC in 2017 and was the Chair for the RRYC Junior Regatta 2017-2019. She has raced in and served on race committees for multiple Typhoon, PHRF, and Turkey Shoot races/regattas.

Sam also enjoys being active in the local community where she serves as Founding Board Member and President of the Irvington Virginia Business Association (IVBA) and the Chief Election Officer in the Irvington precinct.

Director- Thomas Wicks

Tom Wicks has been messing around in boats since the age of 7 on the rivers, lakes and sea coast of Maine, before he started sailing in a Rhodes 19 near the Portland Head Light in Cape Elizabeth at 17. After earning a BS from U of ME in Biology and Chemistry and while earning a Ph.D. in Physiology and Pharmacology at Georgetown U, he fell in love with the Chesapeake where he continued sailing on Westerlies and Pearsons. Although his career in pharmaceuticals was all-encompassing (with years in executive roles including a stint as Acting CEO of Odyssey Pharmaceuticals), and took him away to NYC, New England and overseas at times, he continued to sail with friends, on charters, and finally in his C&C 36. He sailed most of the Bay in the 90s, New England waters in the 2000s and, aboard his *Freedom 35* sloop, he returned to the Chesapeake in 2012. He joined RRYC with his wife Cheryl in 2014 as Cruisers. Tom has since served on the Social Activities Work Group, served five years as a Beaver, two years as Cruise Commander (one with wife Cheryl) and five years as Pharmacist's Mate (first aid cabinet). He has been a Volunteer of the Year co-awardee and a frequent contributor to *The Headway*. He recently has assisted with club publicity, web site improvements, social activities, and with the 2019 Cruising Seminar. In addition, lately he has helped publicize the annual Hospice Turkey Shoot Regatta. He enjoys serving on the BOD and hopes to continue. He plans to help keep the club a delightful place to socialize and to enjoy the boating programs and to help attract others to join us.



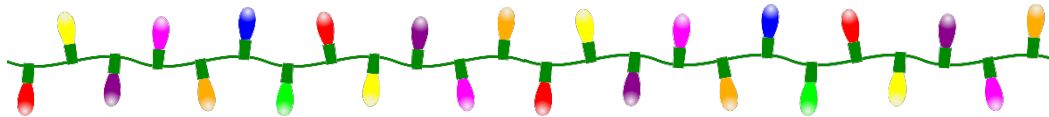
Lights on the Creek boat parade on Carters Creek Saturday, November 28, 2020 at dusk

Please follow the web site below to register your boat.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4faaa923a6f8c07-lights>

Should you require a slip prior to or after the parade, there are limited slips available on Carters Creek for early registrants. Please register your boat by November 14, 2020. Email your docking requirements to me at LightsontheCreek@gmail.com

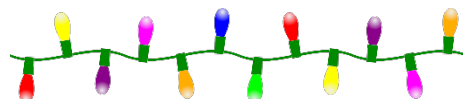
Rendezvous point: Entrance to Carters Creek near RRYC.



**The Rappahannock River Yacht Club is organizing this year's
boat parade
*Irvington, VA***



Begin the Christmas season with a colorful boat parade!



Here's what some RRYC members have been doing...



1. Walking through Hughlett Point – Part 1 - Mary Carol Taylor
2. Single-handing Yankee Dolphin Hull 237 (ex *Equinox*) this past weekend – Burke Johnson
3. Members Burke Johnson and Norm Faulkner of DeadRise rockin' Yopp's Cove on Labor Day – Burke Johnson
4. Burke, Norm and Gregg Shivers (and the rest of the band) playing on Labor Day – Burke Johnson
5. Walking through Hughlett Point – Part 2 – Mary Carol Taylor

Welcome Our New *Headway* Editor

It has been our honor to serve as *The Headway* editors since the September 2016 issue, now some 51 issues ago. We welcome Linda Lowell as the new editor for *The Headway*, and we wish her the fun and success that we have enjoyed. Take note, the email address for *The Headway* will change accordingly to editorrrryheadway@gmail.com.

With grateful hearts,
Brad and Joanie Perry

Introducing Linda Lowell...

Delighted to be a new member of RRYC, Linda volunteered to take on the task as best suited to her interests, education and professional experience. She graduated Magna Cum Laude in English Literature from Harvard (Radcliffe) with hopes of writing fiction, but Necessity and single-motherhood pushed her to New York City where she found employment in various investment banks writing research papers for distribution to institutional mortgage-backed security investors, ultimately leading small teams of analysts in the publication of weekly and monthly market reviews.

Submitting Items to *The Headway*

All items for publication should be submitted via email to editorrrryheadway@gmail.com no later than the 22nd of the prior month (i.e. by November 22 for December publication). For consistency's sake, whenever boat names are included, please italicize them only (not in all caps, not in quotation marks). Please provide photographer name with any photos submitted. For quality, photos should be jpeg files not inserted in a word file. Spell out numbers under 10 or that begin sentences. Use a 12-hour clock for all times (e.g., 4:00 p.m.). Articles should be limited to no more than 1,200 words, or alternately split into multiple parts with a 1,200 word limit per part, to run in contiguous issues of *The Headway*.



Club Calendar

November - December

November

- 6 First Friday
- 17 VIA Meeting
- 21 Board of Directors Meeting 3:30
@ Hills Quarter
Annual Meeting 4:00
@ Hills Quarter
- 28 Lights on the Creek

December

- 4 First Friday



The Headway is the official publication of the Rappahannock River Yacht Club
P.O. Box 55, Irvington, VA 22480 804-438-6650 Web site: www.rryc.org
Danielle Kuper, Commodore
Linda Lowell, Editor
Submit articles by the 22nd of the month to editorrycheadway@gmail.com



Date-Sensitive Material

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