



Rocky Fork Sailing Club

The Jibsheet

April 2025 | #173

Upcoming Events

- Apr 12th- 1st Mast-up
- April 27th - 2nd Mast-Up
- May 3rd - 3rd Mast-Up
- May 4th - Race 1

New Members for 2025

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

Charlie Lubbers

Scrivener's Notes

by Jon Hill

Hello Everyone! The Jibsheet was ready and then we had to delay until the decision about rescheduling the first mast up was made. I appreciate everyone's patience with me.

I know I am missing new people and as soon as I get that list, I will update. I want to take a moment to thank Larry Hess for EVERYTHING he does. He has been our long serving secretary, he constantly volunteers at events and he will even share his Milwaukee power tools. Larry is term limited as Secretary this year, meaning this will be his last. I don't know any board member that has made as much of an impact as Larry has. I believe serious consideration should be given to a vote by the club to make an exception for allowing Larry Hess another term. Not a change to the bylaws, just a yearly vote to overrule that one for Larry and him only.

I only received three submissions this month so our fearless leader told me to fill

Commodore's Corner

by Bill Parker



As we embark on a new sailing season and commissioning our boats, it is probably wise to indulge in some repetition of the things we should be putting on our task lists.

We all have things we HAVE to do to our boats before they go in the water. We also have things we WANT to do to our boats before then. I have found it good to take care of the things that have to be done first, then the things I want to do. This might seem to be self-evident, yet I have been comforted in the fact that I am by no means the only person who mixes these up. When you are developing the list of what has to be done, it might be good to look at the motor first, as any problems that have to be dealt with might require parts and/or

space. Many of you need some learning and culture so I am going to start including poetry and whatever else I can find. If you want that to stop - CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR JIBSHEET!

service, and therefore lead time.

Once you get the things done that have to be done to the boat, it is probably a good idea to move to the things that always have to be done to the trailer. Check tire pressures, lights if you can easily hook it up.

Make a list of the things you have to take to commission your boat; jack, gas can, etc. Find them early so you can just load them up.

Now you can move to the things you want to do with a clear conscience. The majority of us will never get to the end of this list. That is the nature of boat life.

You should also know I am very good at telling people what they should do and totally ignoring my own shortfalls.

I look forward to seeing all of you at Mast-Ups. If you know you are going in on a certain mast-up day, please let us know.

Single Handed by Anonymous

*There is a quiet brotherhood
of old sailors who cast off alone
but never truly are.
You can spot us in the marinas
tying lines with practiced hands
murmuring to no one
or maybe to someone
who once stood beside us at the helm.
The tiller rests easy in our palm
a quiet companion in the hush between waves.
No voices, no footsteps
but you're here
never a ghost or shadow
but something warmer
steadier.
The wind speaks in full sentences
if we are paying attention.
It listens too
gathering our thoughts as they rise
carrying them across the water
and disappearing
like all the promises
you no longer keep.
Every line we pull
carries the shape of your hands.
Every turn of the compass*

*points to some story
we almost lived.
We sail alone.
We never feel alone.
The stars blink like you are winking.
The waves lap against the hull
as reassuring as your voice once was.
The sea keeps us company
like all the memories you left us with.
Even in the silence
you are louder than the waves.
Single handed they call it
but yours is still the hand
we are grateful to have held.*

1st Mast Upby Tim Stone

It's that time of year again. Attached is a mast up check list to help you get ready.

Remember Mast up starts promptly at 9:00 am and concludes by 3pm.

Come early, stay late and join in with helping.

(Scrivener's Note: Tim provided an excellent checklist through the Groups.io but I couldn't get it to upload correctly. [Here is a link to the version Doug provided last year](#).)

Romeo Lunch by Bob Inkrot



(Scrivener's Note: There was no story or explanation with this submission. The Scrivener cannot explain what the Romeo lunch is because young, attractive men weren't invited.

Racing Season 2025!
by Rob Alpern



The 2025 racing season is coming up fast! Our first races are on Sunday May 4 and Saturday May 17, so get ready. Remember, while competitive, FUN comes first in our races...that's the foundation of our casual racing program.

We had record-breaking numbers last year in terms of participation and hope to keep the trend going. So whether you're a veteran, a novice or just wish to crew, come on out. We always meet at 12:30pm at the base of the steps in the center of the marina for the Skippers' Meeting.

Why race? For a start...

- Have fun
- Get to know more club members
- Improve your sailing skills
- Challenge yourself
- Enjoy the thrill of competition
- Win flags and awards (no guarantees!)
- Help continue our club's 60-year history of vibrant racing

We have 15 races over 11 race days scheduled this year...check the calendar for the dates. Plus three additional days for Spring Regatta, and make-up/fun races. Included in the schedule are the club's long-standing traditions of a Poker Run and a Scrabble Run, as well as the third running of the Shockey Memorial.

The racing rules will be nearly the same as the past few years, just a few small tweaks made. They are posted on the club's site. Note that US Sailing's "Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028" recently was published, and these latest rules will govern our races (no significant changes from RFSC's perspective).

We look forward to a GREAT season of camaraderie and fun out on the lake.

And hearty congratulations to last year's Rocky Fork Cup winners – 1st Place: Juno (Ken Kirchmayer), 2nd Place: Odyssey (Rob & Cara Alpern); 3rd Place: St. Somewhere (Cliff & Patti Watkins). Both Line Honors and Shockey Memorial Race were won by Juno, the Scrabble Run by Odyssey, and the Poker Run – again - by Rod Daniels of Kallista.

COME ON OUT AND RACE THIS YEAR!

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