



# Rocky Fork Sailing Club

## THE JIBSHEET

April 2026

### In This Issue...

- Notes from our New Commodore
- Everything you need to know about mast-up in our trying times from Tim Stone
- Social Committee plans from Marcia Lehar
- Racing info from Rob Alpern
- Notes from the New Scrivener
- A Sort of a Joke

### April Calendar:

- **First Mast-Up, Saturday, 11 Apr 2026, Fisherman's Wharf 9:00 a.m.**
- **Second Mast-Up, Sunday, 26 Apr 2026 Fisherman's Wharf 9:00 a.m.**

### May Calendar:

- **One Fun Race, Saturday 16 May 2026 Main Lake 12:30 p.m.**
- **Cheeseburgers in Paradise, Saturday 16 May 2026 Sycamore Shelter, 6:00 p.m.**
- **Monday 25 May 2026 Memorial Day**
- **Two Fun Races, Saturday 30 May 2026 Main Lake 12:30 p.m.**



### The Commodore's Corner from Drew Hadley

Ahoy 2026 RFSC,

Greetings from your new Commodore – I am thrilled about the upcoming season and eager to serve the Club. I want to extend thanks to Commodore Bill Parker for his outstanding leadership over the last two years. It's been eye-opening to see how much work Bill did behind the scenes to keep our RFSC ship on an even keel—THANK YOU Commodore Bill! I also want to thank our newly elected officers and those who have finished their terms—your dedication and leadership are truly valued.

It's hard to believe we're about to launch the 2026 sailing season with our first mast-up on April 11th. I look forward to seeing Club members join forces to ensure a safe and successful launch day. If you're planning to launch on April 11th, be sure to read the note below from Tim about what's needed for success at Fisherman's Wharf. And a big THANK YOU to our Rear Commodores team! They've made several trips to the lake to check conditions and logistics, and put together a plan to launch as many boats as possible while construction continues at East Shore Marina. Preparation will be key for launch at Fisherman's—make extra sure you're ready if you're launching on April 11 or April 26.

Concerning construction, RFSP Manager Cory Cover reports that the Launch project is on schedule for official opening on May 22nd. We should be able to start launching bigger and deeper draft boats soon after. Overlook work is progressing, and will include a courtesy dock north of the restaurant. With the Overlook reopening as a commercial facility, it will mean changes to our social event locations—more details to come.

With the challenges to "normal" operations at the lake, I think about how much I appreciate the many experienced club members who have taken time to help me – from mast-up and launch to outboard maintenance, getting the most out of my boat, and the end-of-season recovery and mast down. The shared wisdom and commitment of our members has greatly improved my sailing experience (and saved my boat more than once). Please take a moment to thank all those club members who help make your sailing safer and more enjoyable!



## Mast-Up 2026 from Rear Commodore Tim Stone

Due to the closure of the East End ramp and parking lot we are planning the April mast-ups at Fisherman's Wharf ramp. This parking lot is much smaller than East End. With that in mind we will be setting up a schedule for boats. **You must be on the schedule to launch. Due to the low water level we will be launching only boats 22' and below swing keel.** Please let us know if you want to launch in one of the sessions **three days prior to the 11<sup>th</sup>. You can send us notice at the club Groups.io website using the messages,** or email me directly at [tpstone3756@yahoo.com](mailto:tpstone3756@yahoo.com).

We will do a morning session starting at 9 AM and an afternoon session starting at Noon, concluding at 3pm. We will stage boats for mast up in those sessions. If you get scheduled on the 11<sup>th</sup> please arrive at the beginning of the session you are assigned, in order to be put in the rotation. Also, be prepared to help with other boats first.

For volunteers, please plan to work the entire day as our goal is to launch as many boats as possible. Also, volunteers please park at the parking spots in front of the docks on the road to the lot, not in the lot. That goes also for any vehicles not towing a boat. For those towing boats there will be a lot attendant to stage where you are to park. We will be sending a club email asking for participants and you can simply respond to it. We will let you know which session you will be assigned to.

Preparation is key, make sure you have your boat, trailer and motor ready for launching. If you have an issue we will have to pull you out of line and place you at the rear so as to not impede other boats. Also, to launch as many as possible **we will put masts up only.** You can put booms, sails and anything that can be done at your dock after launching. Note we will only be using the left ramp for launching. Because this is a very narrow ramp put fenders on both sides. You will need dock lines on the port side for launching. Before arriving, if possible, have your motor mounted with gas line attached and test fired. The launch ramp team will assist you in line up and getting in. Keep your keel and rudder up and use your motor to move away from the ramp due to the shallow water. You can lower your rudder when you reach deeper water (headed toward the lake). Make sure your tires are fully inflated as due to the low water your trailer may scrape as the ramp is steep.

Caveat; we will arrange for one of you to be the test boat and first in line. It will be one of the smaller boats. We will have a power boat to assist if you get stuck on the berm. If we find that the smaller boats can't launch we will cancel the mast up and regroup. We hope that it rains for a couple of days prior to the 11<sup>th</sup> as this will temporarily raise the lake and facilitate launching. If it's raining we will continue the launch if there is no lightning. Dress appropriately. We could have other non-club boats at this ramp as it is public. We have plans to work with the public.

We highly recommend towing to Fisherman's Wharf via Chestnut. Spruance is very narrow and winding. Once you have launched, your vehicle and trailer must leave the lot immediately to make room for other boats. FYI, If you haven't arranged for trailer storage there is a facility for indoor storage very close to ramps. The cost is \$250 for the summer. This will be first come first served. This facility does not have outside storage. There is a much smaller facility that does have outside storage but very limited numbers. We will post contact info on groups.io. **There is no storage in the park lots.** If you're not storing locally then have your vehicle and trailer driver bring your rig to the East End docks.

Although this will be challenging, please bring a Can-Do attitude, and come to help.

Your rear commodores: Tim Stone, Ken Berger, Cliff Watkins, Phill Hort, Willard Crabtree



### Social Notes from Marcia Lehar

Your Social committee members welcome you to a new season. Myself, Tonya Larson, Sara Mohn and Shirley Orwick will be planning our monthly events. Without use of the the Overlook this year we will need be creative, so be sure to watch for our emails posting the locations.

Starting with “Cheeseburger in Paradise” on May 16<sup>th</sup> we will be at the Sycamore Grove Shelter. Timing as usual – gather at around 5PM and dinner at Six. (Volunteers – we’ll send out a time closer to event).

Just looking at the volunteer list for this event we should have a great turn-out. *We will have a special request for a “Grill Captain” or two.*

This year we may introduce some more “friendly” competition. Most are familiar with the fall Chili Cook-off. We may throw in some more opportunities for everyone to show off their cooking skills. Throughout the season we may create competition for categories like “appetizers” or “desserts.” We can all enjoy a variety of treats!



### Racing Notes from Rob Alpern

Greeting Sailors! The lake may be low but our spirits are high as we plan a fabulous racing season for 2026! For non-racers, we welcome you to come crew on a boat for a race, or two, or three, and get a taste of it. 20–25% of the club typically participates in racing, and we’d love to grow it more. Of course, for those who have raced in recent years, we welcome you back for more fun! While competitive, note that our racing program is primarily focused on FUN for all participants.

All of our race days will start with the Skippers Meeting at 12:30pm at the bottom of the steps. If you wish to crew, just show up to the Skippers Meeting and we’ll get you on a boat.

Due to the expectation that some boats won’t be able to float until June due to the lake level issue, the Rocky Fork Cup Racing Series won’t start until mid-June, but nevertheless for those whose boats are ready, we’re going to have some fun races in May. They’ll be the same or similar to our Cup races, but the results won’t count toward the Cup.

Our first three racing dates for 2026 will be:

Saturday May 16 One Fun Race

Saturday May 30 Two Fun Races

Saturday June 13 Races 1 & 2 (with the first race being the Shockey Memorial Race and a new winner is guaranteed because Juno will be the Committee Boat!)

- Despite the late start of the sailing season, we’re planning a full 15 races over 9 race dates this year (plus make-up or fun races)

### Notes from Bill Parker, Your New Scrivener

Greetings Fellow sailors, I am looking forward to serving as your Scrivener this year. I have all sorts of plans to add new features to the Jibsheet, Alas, there was so much content for this issue I will have to save them for the next issue. If you have ideas for content for future issues, please do email me at [wmeparker@cinci.rr.com](mailto:wmeparker@cinci.rr.com). I will always endeavor to release each issue on the first of the month. If you have content to send me, please have it in by the last week of the previous month.

I am hoping to include many more photos in coming issues. If you have photos that haven’t yet been uploaded to the groups.io site, feel free to send them to me and will consider using them in the Jibsheet and then posting them to the site.

### Joke of the Month

I bought a sail for my boat on [amazon](https://www.amazon.com) the other day. Today it dawned on me that it's not the right size so I called to cancel. They said it's too late. That sail has shipped.