



Rocky Fork Sailing Club

THE JIBSHEET

June 2026

In This Issue...

- Notes from the Commodore
- New Details on Events from Marcia
- Racing Stuff
- Mast-up at the New Launch
- A Sort of a Joke

June Calendar:

- **3rd Mast-up, June 6, East Shore Launch, 9AM –3PM**
- **Pirate Potluck Picnic, Saturday 13 June 2026 Sycamore Shelter, 6:00 PM**
- **Races 1 & 2, Saturday June 13 (with the first race being the Shockey Memorial Race and a new winner is guaranteed because Juno will be the Committee Boat!) . 12:30PM**
- **Father's Day, Sunday June 21, 2026**
- **Night Sail and Raft-up, Saturday June 27, 8PM**
- **Races 3&4, Sunday June 28, 12:30PM**

July Calendar:

- **Our Country's 250th Birthday, July 4th, 2026.**
- **Races 5&6, July 11, 12:30PM**
- **Race 7, July 18, Poker Run**
- **National Birthday Dinner, Saturday July 18, Amvets on North Shore Dr. 6:00 p.m.**
- **Mooring Ball Removal, Sunday July 19**
- **Rumble in the Hills, July 25 & 26**

The Commodore's Corner from Drew Hadley



What a season this has been! In late April, we were looking ahead to the ramp project completion, a return to full lake level, wrapping up winter boat work, and getting into the summer sailing season. Just a month later, a lot has changed, and much is still underway.

First, many thanks to our Rear Commodores for their creativity, planning, and hard work in getting as many masts up and boats launched as possible. Through successful low-water launches at Fisherman's Wharf and an extra mast-up day at the new East Shore Marina ramp, we've broken new ground, learned a great deal, and safely launched many boats. Our Rear Commodores have been outstanding, and thank also to all the volunteers who helped at those mast-up events.

It was also wonderful to hold our first official social event of the season, Cheeseburgers in Paradise at the Sycamore Shelter. Many club members attended, we managed to avoid the storms, and I appreciated the chance to recognize Past Commodore Bill Parker and share an update on the ramp project challenges. Thanks to our Social Committee for making it such an enjoyable event, and especially to Mike Smith for the many hours spent getting the Sycamore shipshape in advance.

The hottest topic of the season has naturally been completion of the ramp and the design problems that have prevented many of us from launching. I've shared background and there's more detail available here: [RFSC Ramp Update 05-26](#). The past few weeks have been busy and productive towards both short-term and long-term solutions. State Park and broader ODNR staff (including ODNR Director Mary Mertz) have been actively engaged, and they've continued to express commitment to fully restoring our access at the East Shore ramp. They've also reinforced the value they feel with our Club's 60+ year partnership with Rocky Fork State Park. We've had a small working group meet with the staff, have gathered and shared boat and trailer dimensions and our needs, and have had working sessions at the lake. While it will take some time for both short and long term fixes, they're aggressively looking at options, and we hope to have more detail in the next week. I'll share more via Groups.io as soon as we get more information. We've also gotten an update on plans for the dam gate replacement and prep completed while the lake was lowered this spring. Cory Cover confirmed that the lake level will be maintained at full pool through the end of October, so our season will not be shortened at the end. Dam repairs will be completed this fall through Spring 2026, and will ensure long-term reliability and safety for the lake level control. While it's been a frustrating spring, I see progress and am optimistic for our future.

Rob Alpern recently told me this feels like an especially social season because of the launch challenges and limited sailing opportunities. I think that's true, and I hope those who have been able to launch will invite as many crew as possible and help others enjoy sailing camaraderie on the water. I also hope we'll see strong participation in our social events to continue enjoying time together as a club while we look forward to having everyone back on the water.

Social Notes from Marcia Lehar



Social was pleased at the number of members who came out Cheeseburger, regardless of threats of rain and the few boats actually in the water. The sun came out just as dinner started, and it was very pleasant sitting and talking.

Pirates Potluck is June 13th at the Sycamore Shelter and it is our one official carry-in dinner so bring your favorite appetizer, entree, side or sweet to share. Tonya Larson (tklarson99@aol.com) is our contact for this event.

We have a theme change announcement for our July Event:

In honor of our country's 250th anniversary, what was going to be the Luau on July 18th will now be a birthday party for U.S.A.! We encourage patriotic costume and will be decorating the picnic shelter accordingly. If you have ideas for other ways to celebrate, feel free to email me at the address below. More details as we get closer to the event. It will be held at the Amvets on North Shore Dr., a new venue for us.

Our member volunteers make these events happen. If you are one of our newer members, please introduce yourself to our committee and we'll find a way to get you involved! Email me at leharmf@gmail.com if you are interested. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone and catching up!

Racing Notes

Ahoy fellow Sailors!

The launching ramp situation is putting a damper on our racing schedule this month. Our net scheduled race days for are June 13 and June 28. We are hoping to have enough boats in the water to go racing, but stay tuned to your email for an update.

To try and keep you enthusiastic about racing, here are some links to some interesting racing videos:



These are some highlights from the two-handed race at Southport Yacht Club with a mix of boats. As we all tend to race two-handed, I thought it might be interesting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYDYTLfIXI>

This is a video on starting tactics. Low on production values but a good lesson nonetheless:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNN0eFMqbuw>

This is a clip video from the J yacht regatta in San Francisco:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3nMkV_qVxxA

Last, but not least, a quick, 4 minute tutorial on the basic rules of sailing. 90% of what you need to know in a short video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vuQgxGQIoDA>

Mast-up June 6 (This Saturday at the New Launch)

We now have some experience in launching boats at the newly "renovated" launch, and there are a lot of boats that will be able to make it to the water. There have been successful launches of Catalina 25s and Hunter 260s. That Catalina 22s and other 21-23 foot boats can make it has always been true.



This will be a crowded launch day. Please arrive early, as prepared as you can be, and with a willingness to be flexible. As usual, we start at 9AM and hope to be done by 3PM. Using the new launch will take more time than usual, so plan accordingly. If you have a boat and trailer combination that might be in the "grey area" depth-wise, get with Cliff or Tim and ask them what you should do.

As far as larger boats are concerned, we still don't know exactly what our options will be. We are hoping for a "quick" option from the State, and have discussed possible permutations. As soon as we know something, you will hear about it.

2026 Rear Commodores: Ken Berger, Tim Stone, Willard Crabtree, Phil Hort, Cliff Watkins

Joke of the Month:

A sailor brings his boat up to a restaurant dock to eat lunch. The dockhand says, "I'm sorry, sir, but I can't let you dine here today. This establishment has a necktie policy, and you are not wearing one."

"Of course I don't have a tie on," replied the sailor, "I'm on a boat!"

"Well, go down below and put one on," said the dockhand.

"I don't HAVE one!" shouted the sailor.

The dockhand, not wanting to turn away a customer, said: "Well, why don't you just find something that approximates a tie. That should be OK."

After some time, the sailor comes out with a pair of jumper cables. "This is all I could find to put around my neck," he said.

Sighing, the deck hand said: "OK, I'll let you in with those, but just don't start anything."