

Latitude 41.46.50

Longitude 87.34.42



A JACKSON PARK YACHT CLUB PUBLICATION

# FOGHORN

6400 Promontory Drive, Chicago IL 60649 ♦ 773-684-5522 ♦ [www.jacksonparkyachtclub.org](http://www.jacksonparkyachtclub.org)

Foghorn Editor Jane Leuthold

Foghorn Photographer Steve Pitman

## From the Bridge

By Commodore Mary Avellone (Hot Flash)

We at JPYC love our little club. The glorious view from our porch makes us forget we are in the city at a weekend brunch. Even better are sunsets over the old Coast Guard Station, silhouetting its widow's walk, wind vane, and cupola. Don't let the serene montage fool you. The racing program, social events, and community service filled the 113<sup>th</sup> calendar, outdone only by spontaneous Corinthian conviviality.



Race Committee Chair Janet Hansen represented JPYC in the Lake Michigan Sail Race Federation, Frank Wittosh served as a member-at-large in Lake Michigan PHRF, and starting timer Scott Meyer's deep and authoritative voice made even novice RC members perform like pros. We thank power boaters providing the RC use of their boats including David Truit (Intrigue), Brenda Murzyn (Captain & Cook), and Peter Hastings (Skylark).

We hosted a race day for the Judd Goldman fleet and sponsored Sea Scout Ship Neptune #5212, skippered by Dick Snow and Johann Hudson, boasting 22 members with 8 leaders.

Jane Leuthold topped the masthead of the *Foghorn*, Paul Thompson and Ernest Coleman kept us secure, Boyd Jarrell kept House matters in order with Steward Daryl Jones' able service, and Deb Farino and Igor Pismensky made our galley service work smoothly. With Treasurer Brenda Murzyn's guidance, we managed to keep our ship a tight one fiscally, while retaining the amenities we so enjoy. Ken Harris arranged events including monthly parties with terrific talent, Jim Lett made Kid's Day fun-filled, and Cherie Parker coordinated the Saturday Socials. We thank Pam Rice and Ted Graves for providing films for the year-round Friday potluck/movie nights and Lisa Jewell for getting our new computer running and key card system up to date.

These, and other spontaneous gatherings, including bean bag contests and lively debates, demonstrate that though our setting is serene, it is always happenin' at JPYC. If you are a member, you are a volunteer. We are proud of our diversity and our welcoming spirit. I thank all who helped make it that way this 113<sup>th</sup> season.

## The Bi/Tri State Regattas

By Jim Valek , with pictures by Jim Valek and David Travis (Mischief)

The Bi-State and Tri-State Regattas kicked off September 5. JPYC boats, Mr. JJ, Mise en Place, DEDA's Toy, Providence, Mischief, and Pepperke 2.0, geared up on Friday afternoon and headed downtown for the start. We on Mr. JJ, under the command of Captain Jerry Lezak, loaded up with cold cuts, brownies, licorice, and beer and set off. Jerry and his crew are pictured to the right (author Jim is on the far right in the green shirt).



MR.JJ got off to a decent start. On Jerry's advice, we headed east, which turned out to be the correct ticket. The wind picked up, nearing 12 knots, and we were able to fly over the finish line just as the sun was rising over the harbor at St. Joe.

Jerry was happy to learn later that we took first in the PHRF 5 class. We later learned that Providence came in second in this race, and in the PHRF 4 class, Pepperke 2.0 took second. It was a great showing for JPYC. We all enjoyed the warm welcome at St Joe. Gloria Fallon helming on Mischief is pictured below with Pepperke 2.0 in the background.



On Sunday, during the race from St. Joe to Michigan City, a poor start doomed us, and we performed several fire drills on deck, trying to get our sails right. I lost my lucky hat, which further doomed Mr. JJ. The only good decision we made was to start the engine and motor in. We rafted up at Michigan City and broke out our provisions. Good music and good neighbors made our night.

On Monday, the race back to Chicago featured steady winds from the North that made for a great sail. In PHRF 5, DEDA's Toy ran a great race, finishing second. Mr. JJ dropped to 8th<sup>th</sup> for the day, with Mise en Place finishing 11<sup>th</sup>. In PHRF 4, Pepperke 2.0 continued with efficiency, finishing 4<sup>th</sup>.

Coming back to JPYC is always a tremendous feeling. We felt like kids at summer camp, not wanting to go back home. The smell of sizzling meat on the grill welcomed us, and a beautiful spread was laid out in the dining room. Good food, good fellowship. Kudos go to all those who participated in and helped with this terrific event. Special thanks go to Janet Hansen and the Race Committee for all of their hard work.

# Kids Day

By Becca Valek

Quite a few years ago Kids Day was made; today the Lett family helps run it. Main organizer, Mr. Lett, says, "I just love this day." On August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 am there was the design your own boat competition. You get a cardboard box and turn it into a sailboat. My Sister Sarah, Brother Jimmy, and I made a boat. Katie Lett helped us. I sailed in it. Anna Evans (below left) designed a very nice boat with a paddle.



*Author Becca Valek at Kids Day*



The youngest sailor (above middle) was two years old. He went first so he was a little scared. He got wet, but he still loved sailing. After we sailed, we zip lined into the harbor. You just hold onto a bar, run, jump, and let go when you're over the water. We all went about five times since it was so fun. Sarah

Valek is pictured zip lining above right.



My dad, Jim Valek, sails on a boat called Mr. JJ. The Js stand for Jenna (left) and Jacob (left), who are Captain Lesak's grandchildren. The inside of the boat is just like a house. There are two beds, a bathroom, a table, a couch, a little control station, a sink, and a microwave.



They are very friendly people, too. Captain Lesak is very nice. When I go with my dad on Wednesday, Captain Lesak, lets me sail with them like I'm part of the crew.

**Reminder from Cherie Parker: Make sure to keep your door key card to use next season. As long as you renew your membership, that card will be good for next year. Remember, cards are no longer issued every year, so put your card in a safe place to have it for next season. Should it be misplaced, there will be a \$10 fee to replace it.**

## Commodore's Cup Party

By Foghorn Editor Jane Leuthold (Optimality)



Jackson Park Yacht Club members celebrated the first year of Commodore Mary Avellone's leadership with enthusiasm and good cheer on September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Commodore's Cup Party. The fun began with the Saturday Social hosted by Bill and Iris



Bestow and Eunice and Jack Jackson-Lyle. Blue's Man Smiley Tillman (pictured above right) was joined by keyboardist Matt Tippy (above left), to provide the sweet music. Smiley crooned "What a wonderful world" as the sun sank behind the Coast Guard Station, and we all agreed. Iris serving great food is pictured to the right and Eunice serving great rhythm is pictured to the left.



Dinner, provided by Mario and Lila Gandarilla of the Terrace Grill, was outstanding as usual, including a mixed green salad, roasted beef tenderloin, grilled tuna steak, and tiramisu. Guests enjoyed sit-down table service, table cloths and flowers on each table. Thanks go to Lila and Mario for this special dinner and for a season of good eats.



The party was all about Commodores – present, past, and future. Commodore Mary is pictured left receiving a standing ovation from the membership, thanking her for her service as our current Commodore. Like the rest of us, she had fun at the party (above right). Past Commodores Frank Garner and Wanda Robertson joined in the celebration as

did the members of the current Bridge. Vice Commodore Dennis Hansen and Rear Commodore Steve Pittman are pictured to the right with Commodore Mary.



## Racing Report

By Race Committee Chair Janet Hansen (December's Child)

What an amazing year for JPYC racing: the Lutz, Raske , Tri and Bi State Races, the MORF Open, Judd Goldman Racers, and the Wednesday night series. We had tremendous volunteer efforts by many, including two Sea Scouts, Darren McCormick and Keith Davis. Brenda Myrzun, Peter Hastings, Ted



Graves, Jim Webb, Paul Thompson and Dave Truitt all volunteered their boats and times for the weekend races. Steve Pittman, Leslie Travis, Dennis Hansen, Jon Hansen, Mike Rummery, Scott Meyer (and friend), Mary Avellone (and friend), Dick Baumann, Mike Fitzek, Stan Gratt, Steve and Jeanie Novota, Joe Karr, Michele Jarrell, and others, were loyal helpers. Dick Schweers, Lloyd Karzen, and Kelly Hutchinson came from other RC's to help us on the Lutz. Dennis Hansen is assisted by Lloyd Karzen (left) in setting

marks. I am very grateful to all the on the water crew as well as all the land crew that helps maintain the boats

All of our races went off well, but most importantly, WE HAD FUN!!! The weather did not cooperate very well with our Wednesday nights, but we had anywhere from 4 to 15 boats participating on any given Wednesday night. Many of our sailors took honors and will be picking up trophies at the Chicago Yachting Association Ball as well as our own JPYC Awards night.

Looking forward, JPYC's new member Andy Cohen, has agreed with several other members to get the F-J's up and flying for Frostbiting this year. A schedule of some training on the boats and the actual racing will be posted soon.

## Reflections on Racing

By Jon Hansen (December's Child)

Racing is a sport designed to test your patience and prompt decision making ability. This was particularly true for the Friday start of cruisers on the Mac. The start turned out blustery, wet, and dangerous. Winds howled out of the SW at 12 kts, waves rose 5+ feet, and a water spout rose above us. All in all, the start of about 25 or so boats went well; personally we got pushed down the line at the start, but flew out of the gates once we righted ship.



There can also be a lot said for the start of Wednesday night races. It's a dog fight on the little line between the break wall and JPYC's whaler. In a sailor's mind, a race isn't relaxing, it's a discussion between captain and crew on what to do next and how to do it better and faster than the boats around (and hopefully behind) you. As much as the Mac offers an immense feeling of accomplishment, the 5-mile Wednesday-nighters provide the most fun in the summer.

## Sea Scout Report

By Captain Johann (Robert Smalls and Ship 5212)

As the days grow shorter and temperatures plummet, one cannot ignore the fact our sailing season will be ending soon. For the Scouts, it marks the ending of on-the-water sailing fun and instruction, but the beginning of the many off season events and activities. It's also a time when I reflect on what makes Jackson Park Yacht Club's Sea Scouting program the best there is. We're fortunate to have dedicated leaders to help share the responsibility of providing a safe and fun program. Captain Reginald Rush stands out as an exceptional leader and our Skipper Richard Snow is in his 39th year in Scouting! We have club members like Frank and Tess Gardner, Dave and Joan Dobbs, Ray and Jane Leuthold, and many others who pledge their financial support insuring our program stays afloat. Our Commodore Mary Avellone, who is very knowledgeable of Sea Scouting, has been very supportive as well.



One of the highlights of this season was when Chicago Police Marine Officer Mitch Storey visited our group (photo). Not only did Officer Storey keep his promise of giving the Scouts a tour of their vessel, he took them for a thrilling ride through prohibited waters by the 63rd Street Intake Crib. The smiles on the faces of the Scouts tell it all. With exceptional leadership, support of our Commodore and Club members, and support of others in

the boating community like Officer Storey, how could we have anything but the very best Scouting Program?

## New Members in 2009

By Cherie Parker (Dippy K II), Membership Chair

Cherie is pictured to the right with new Associate Members Joe and Maureen Karr. The Club welcomed the following new members to our fellowship this year:



### Resident:

Bob Maloney  
Joe and Maureen  
Karr  
Tommy Browning

### Intermediate:

Andrew Cohen  
Jon Hansen

### Associate:

Janet Bell  
John Caldwell, Jr.  
James Evans  
Leslie Graves

Gary Harris  
Gary and Lisa Miller  
Terry Stoklosa

## Thanks to Mario and Lila!

By the Galley Committee, Igor Pismensky (Unbalanced) and Deb Farino (Two Acres)

While it is sad to see the Galley shutting down, we can look back on a successful Galley season. We were fortunate to have Mario and Lila Gandarilla of the Terrace Grill run our Galley. Things started slowly due to mild weather, but once everyone settled in, many members became fans of our galley hosts, so much so that their talents were used by other committees.

The entertainment committee availed themselves of the Gandarilla's skills to cater Blues Fest with terrific



success. Our racing committee asked Mario and Lila to work various racing events, including the Judd Goldman races. According to Fleet Captain Jan Hansen, "Wednesday night boaters loved the differing fares." Commodore Mary Avellone, who commissioned Mario and Lila to cater the Commodore's Cup dinner, had this to say: "I was most pleased with the delicious plated Commodore's Cup dinner. They were flexible, reliable, courteous, and cool-headed ... and worked within our budget." Some club members even had Mario help with their popcorn parties (the shrimp

purchased by Diane Jaderberg and prepared by Mario are shown below). Mario and Lila are pictured above.

The Galley Committee found that Mario and Lila's professionalism made it easier to roll with the unexpected surprises, like when the power went out or when the phones didn't work which deferred credit card charges. The Gandarillas made the Galley Committee's life so much easier and we thank them. Of course, we also need to thank our club members for making Mario and Lila feel welcome. Consequently, we anticipate them returning next season and many more to come.



## Where's the Popcorn?

By Social Organizer Cherie Parker (Dippy K II)

The following members deserve huge kudos for hosting Saturday Night socials during the 2009 season:

Vonnie Nelson, Frank & Tess Garner with Pam Rice, Paul & Wendy Thompson, Jon & Kathleen Dopkeen with Janet Fogelson, Steve Pittman, Dennis & Jan Hansen with Ted & Wendy Graves, Ray & Jane Leuthold, John & Cherie Parker, Matt Clifford with Carol Corcoran, Wes Smith, Diane Jaderberg, Jerry & Marilyn Lesak with Bart & Marilyn Hogle, Michelle Jarrell and Boyd Jarrell, Bill & Iris Bestow with Eunice and Jack Jackson-Lyle, Brenda Hampton with Eunice and Jack Jackson-Lyle, Jerry Hutchison and Kevin Randall, Mike and Trudy Fitzek, and Dave and Stephen Dobbs.

## From the Foghorn

By Foghorn Editor Jane Leuthold (Optimality)

You will notice that this issue of the Foghorn flies a new masthead featuring a white on blue burgee, instead of the incorrect blue on white version of earlier 2009 Foghorns. The need for change was brought to our attention by Commodore Mary, also sometimes known as Burgee Mary. Thanks to Steve Pittman and Igor Pismensky for joining forces to design the new and improved masthead, and thanks also to Mary for all she does to keep our burgee collection organized, labeled, and up-to-date.

The Foghorn published five issues this year. This wouldn't have happened without the help of so many of you. Thanks especially to Steve, Igor, and others for being on hand with their cameras to record Club events, to Dennis Hansen for running off the print copies, to Steve for mailing them out, to Steve, Mary, and Ray Leuthold for their prompt and brutal editing, to Pam Rice for finding the Foghorn a place on the JPYC Website, and to Cherie Parker for alerting the membership when a new Foghorn was available. But the biggest thank you goes to all of you who wrote articles, from the youngest (Becca Valek, ten years old, writing in this issue) to the oldest (you know who you are); your writing enhanced all of our lives.

The Foghorn provides a rich Club history, which is why past issues need to be accessible to the membership and others. A temporary website has been created to link to the past five years of issues (<http://sites.google.com/site/foghornarchive/>).

A special winter issue of the Foghorn is in the planning. In addition to covering the Halloween Party, Frostbite Regatta, and other events that occur between now and then, the Winter issue will feature articles written by Commodore Mary on why the Commodore's boat has not been in the water for the past three years, by Art Smith remembering some boat models from his youth, and by Paul Thompson on his return trip from the Mackinac. Others with articles to submit please get them in by mid January.

### Coming up in Late October, November and December

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Fridays</b> | <b>Potluck and movie</b>                          |
| <b>Oct 24</b>  | <b>Work Party</b>                                 |
| <b>Oct 25</b>  | <b>Frostbite Regatta at<br/>Burnham Park YC</b>   |
| <b>Oct 31</b>  | <b>Halloween Party</b>                            |
| <b>Nov 14</b>  | <b>CYA Ball</b>                                   |
| <b>Dec 8</b>   | <b>Members Meeting</b>                            |
| <b>Jan TBA</b> | <b>Annual Dinner Dance<br/>and Awards Banquet</b> |
| <b>Jan 15</b>  | <b>Foghorn Submission<br/>Deadline</b>            |
| <b>Jan 31</b>  | <b>Winter Foghorn</b>                             |