

From the Commodore 2020

Commodore Rock Rockwell

Greetings all to the year we can all see clearly! Yes, I am a punner. But I am absolutely honored to be the Commodore for 2020 and looking forward to a great season of boating with fun social activities. We have a full schedule of seminars, set up by Dennis Marlin, Vice Commodore, with NSA and monitored by John Coombs, Rear Commodore and an ambitious but fully doable schedule of cruises and events. Our NSO group activities in coordination with NSA and ODC worked out very well in 2019 and we are going to continue that with possible expansion where it makes sense to do so.

There is a possibility that we will cooperate with NSA and ODC for fundraising events which would go to a separate account aimed towards needy organizations and groups associated with the water – Ocracoke comes to mind as they suffered so terribly during last year's storms. Hopefully we will not have any visits from storms with the accompanying winds and surges this year but every sailor knows to plan for the worst and hope for the best!

A quick look at the schedule for 2020 has us kicking off the season with the always popular Oyster Roast in March followed by "Shake off the Cobwebs" cruise to Vandemere. April really picks it up with a Shakedown/MOB refresher, Commissioning Day, and Cruises to River Dunes and Beaufort. May starts with a Steakout on May Day and then we go on the long cruise to the Chesapeake. Dennis has set up a great trip and I encourage everyone to participate to the maximum extent you can. In June we will do the Which Way the Wind Blows for those not going on the spring cruise. For July we will do the Dock and Dine in New Bern, enjoy the Annual Picnic at Arlington Place (swimming optional but encouraged), and go on an overnight to Ocracoke. In August we have the Full Moon on South River (anyone have stories from Full Moon events in the Caribbean?), and a quick trip to Bath. We have another full moon event in September, the Regretta Regatta, and a cruise to Washington. October concludes our organized sailing with the Mum Fest cruise to New Bern, the Commodore's Cup and a Full Blue Moon sail. That is a lot and as always weather and other considerations may cause changes but sailors are flexible!

There are other events to consider as well such as The Dinghy Poker Run, the Summer Solstice Race, the Sailpack Collegiate Regatta, as well as Croaker Fest, the Front Porch Festival, the Ocracoke Festival, Oriental Boat Show – I could go on but the point is there is a lot to do in Oriental and it is always entertaining. Must have something to do with why we all decided to live here in such a great location!

Still need a few cruise captains for some of the events and I encourage you to seek out Dennis Marlin and help him fill in the open spots. Remember, we are a group of volunteers to help other members with sailing, cruising, mooring, and repairs. Bravo Zulu to our Board and spouses for their help and support in carrying out all of these activities – Fair Winds and Following Seas to all!