



Blackbeard's Epitaph

Save These Dates:

December 6

Winter Series #3

December 13

BoD @ 9:30

December 20

Winter Series #4

December 25

Merry Christmas

December 31

New Year's Eve Party

January 1

New Year's Day Lunch

Fred Latham Regatta



Blackbeard Sailing Club

In This Issue:

From the Commodore	1 - 2
New Year's Party	2
McIntyre Mini Globe Race	3 - 4
Fuel Storage at Capacity	5
Ensign Season Ends/Winter Series Begins	6 - 7
Whaddya call 36 Pirates	8
Welcome New Member	9
Turkey Trot	10
Hooray for Race Committee	11
Lighted Boat Parade	12
Cool Weather is Upon Us	13
2025 ICRC Calendar	13 - 14
BSC 2025 BOD	15 - 16
A friendly Reminder	17

From the Commodore Greetings!

As I write this, it's a gorgeous fall day with the temperature in the high 60's and not a cloud in the sky. Yesterday Blackbeard hosted the annual Turkey Trot Regatta, with 38 boats registered! Not every boat made it to the starting line, but it was an excellent turnout and a great day on the water. Once again, Blackbeard members were on the water setting marks, managing the race, and manning safety boats (necessary early in the day!). On shore a fantastic team, led by Suzanne Budzynkiewicz, decorated the clubhouse and prepared a fabulous homemade turkey dinner, with all the sides, to feed the crowd. What a wonderful group of people!

This is what Blackbeard Sailing Club is about - people getting together to share their love of sailing and the camaraderie of the sport. Whether running a regatta or coordinating a cruise to an intriguing anchorage or just planning a dinner with friends at the

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

From the Commodore (continued)

club, the more people that step up to help the better the experience is for all.

We are lucky to live in a beautiful area that allows us to indulge our love of sailing year-round. We have a fantastic club of like-minded people to associate with and a wonderful place to do so. Most of us are fortunate enough to own our own boats! We have so much to be thankful for. I am amazed at my good fortune.

See you on the water,

LuAnn



NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Dec 31

8:00 PM

BSC Clubhouse

This is always a fun event with karaoke set-up provided by our own Scott and Donna Wade. Surprisingly good soloists....Hilarious group performances..... Competition between girl groups and boy bands.....Food and drink.... And some folks even make it to midnight!!

Please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share and your own celebratory beverages!

No need to sign up in advance.

Questions? Jane Staveley (janepstaveley@gmail.com or 919-961-0987)

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

The McIntyre Mini Globe Race (MGR)

by Ritchie Thomson



You have all been made aware of the Vendee Globe in a previous issue of the Semaphore. The Vendee Globe round-the-world time is 64 days 19 hours 22 minutes and 49 seconds using the Great Capes route and the stormy southern ocean. The Great Capes are [Cape of Good Hope](#), [Cape Leeuwin](#), and [Cape Horn](#)

Now we are talking about the 2006 Mini Globe Race (MGR). There are 5 legs with rest, recreation and refurbishment stops in between. At present the competitors are heading towards Cape Town, South Africa. The Mini Globe uses the “gentle” trade winds route although it is still necessary to dip south to round South Africa.

In an age where technology and \$25 million can send a solo sailor around the world in about 60 days, a fleet of courageous mini sailors is about to show it can be done for less than \$ 60,000 over many days! The current Mini Globe Race follows in the footsteps of John Guzzwell's 1955 world's first solo voyage in a 20ft home built *Trekka*.



Some excitement

At approx. 0300hrs UTC 17th Oct. 2025 72 year old Australian **Eric Marsh** reported to MGR that he was safe back onboard SUNBEAR his ALMA Class Globe 5.80 after being swept from the foredeck at night by a large wave while putting his spinnaker pole away. He was then being dragged by his tether and auto inflated Life jacket at 5-6kts. After many attempts, hampered by his inflated jacket, he was finally able to drag himself to the port quarter of the boat and struggle back onboard, wet and still very shaken, he reported, “It was the scariest time of my life! I honestly thought it was all over for me! After many attempts to get back onboard I am very thankful I am onboard.” He immediately made an emotional call to his wife and Safety Manager to report that all was OK. The boats are now heading down the eastern coast of Southern Africa where the Agulhas Current with it's countercurrents and big waves will be a constant threat and challenge.

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

The McIntyre Mini Globe Race (MGR)

Designed to Race around the World, or the Bay!



Class Globe 580
Simple Adventure

Home build with simple tools.
Basic plywood epoxy glass construction.
Buy a CNC kit or build from plans.
Active friendly helpful builders group!
Solo, Two up or with the family!
Fast Fun Secure ocean voyaging!
Strong One Design Class Certification
Trailer Home or 20 Foot container
South Atlantic Wind Vane steering
2 watertight bulkheads
removable keel
Break apart sleeved Mast
Quantum One Design Sails

5.80 Founder: Don McIntyre
Designer: Janusz Madersky
LOA: 5.80 m
Beam: 2.27m
Draft: 1.4m
Displ: 920kg
Ballast: 244kg
AVS: 145 degrees
Motor: ePropulsion Evo
Mainsail: 12.5m
Jib: 7.6m
Gennaker: 25m

Plans are Euro\$300, the fun is FREE and the Dreams are REAL!
www.ClassGlobe580.com

The yachts, known as "Class Globe 580", are one design home-built for backyard builders. They are built from plywood on timber frames and coated in glass epoxy. 580 refers to its length in meters, which is compact enough to fit in a 20ft container to and from international events. Conceived by Australian adventurer Don McIntyre, the idea emerged during his 2010 adventure sailing 4000-mile across the Pacific in an open timber whale boat with very little food, water and no charts, which recreated William Bligh's Mutiny on the Bounty journey. McIntyre, in collaboration with Polish designer Janusz Maderski, launched the one-design class in 2019, offering simple construction plans for €300. Builders can also opt for a CNC pre-cut plywood kit, supported by an active online builder's community. Currently, over 80 yachts are in various stages of completion, with about 20 in the water and another 140 builders with plans.

Competitors

Sixteen men and two women from 11 countries are navigating 28,000 miles solo around the world in identical, cramped plywood mini yachts, pushing the limits of what many believe to be possible. They range in age from 23 to 72 years.

The youngest is Briton, Jasmine Harrison. In 2021, when she was 21, she achieved worldwide recognition, becoming the youngest solo female to row the Atlantic Ocean. In 2022 she was the first female to swim the full length of the British Isles, from Lands' End to John o' Groats.

The oldest at 72, is Australian, Eric Marsh, who had always wanted to sail around the world.

Between these two in age are Swiss, French, Britons and Americans. There is even a father and son duo sailing on separate boats, Mike and John Blenkinsop.

Your opportunity

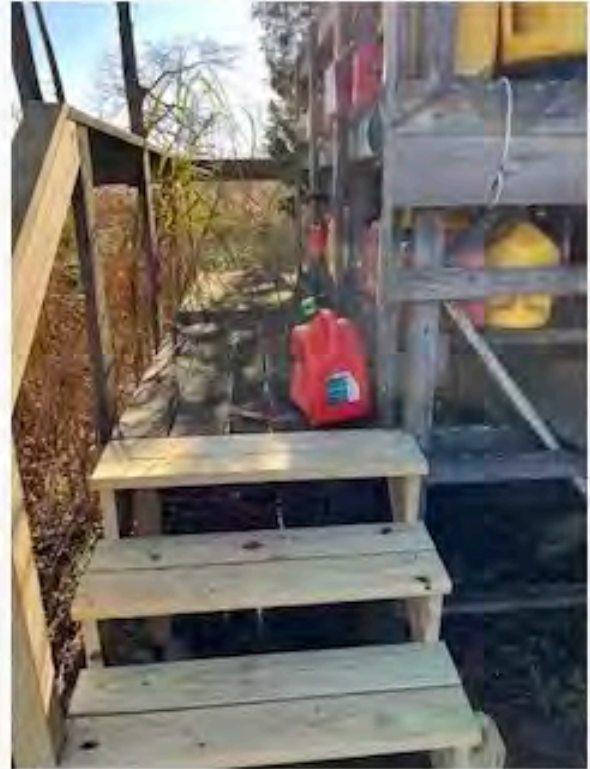
How would you like to sail around the world in a 19 ft plywood boat which you have to build yourself? Now you have the opportunity to enter the 2029 Mini Globe. Go to <https://minigloberace.com/entry-form/> for the necessary forms and information.

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH



FUEL STORAGE RACK

FILLED TO CAPACITY !!



Members,

THE FUEL STORAGE RACK IS FILLED TO CAPACITY!

Excess containers are not allowed on the walkways or roof. **Please Remove!**

All containers require members name and phone #.

Yellow tags are available in the tool room if needed.

Unmarked containers will be disposed of in January.

Cliff Lennox

Vice Commodore

vicecommodore@blackbeardsailingclub.org

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Ensign Season Over

by Mark Brennesholtz,
photos by Chris Davies

Going into the races on October 30, *Red Stripe* (McCroclin/Eckenroth) was tied with *Blue Note* (Hittner/Brennesholtz) for the lead in the Fall Series. The three races that day gave *Blue Note* a one-point lead, making the November 8 races decisive. Unfortunately, November 8 was very warm and very flat. After an hour of working on our tans, the RC abandoned for the day. Ensigns and SJ's had to be towed back to the dock. For the series of 21 potential races, three were cancelled for too much wind and six for lack of wind! *Blue Note* won the series and the years championship. *Red Stripe* was second and Blake Sohn's *Long Shot* was third.

We were happy to see several SJ's out. Mark Weinheimer's *Deuces Wild* competed in nine races and took first for the season. Hans Lassen in *Road Runner* and the Brock/Talbert *Squirrels on Highway* came in second and third. All three SJ's won at least three races. It was fun (mostly) having them at the starts and roundings. The Ensigns and SJ's are close in rating with the former doing better in heavy air and the latter in light stuff.

NYRA Halloween/Winter Series Begins

The Neuse Yacht Racing Association began November 1 as the Halloween Race, as always. A fine turnout of Navigator Class boats used staggered block starts to get nine boats underway on a distance course of 6.3 miles down and up river. After nearly three hours, Ed Thompson sailed *Dutch Wind* (one of the biggest boats out there) corrected first by less than 1.5 minutes ahead of Sheldon Shikoluk in *Puffin* (the smallest boat racing)! Ed took first, Sheldon took second, and Jeff Boenig corrected to third in *Kokomo*.

Five competed in the PHRF Spinnaker Class. With ratings ranging from 110 to 264, the handicapping is not ideal, and more boats would allow divisions within the class. But, alas...

Scoring was varied, but not particularly tight except for one spread of 7 seconds and another less than a minute. Ensign *Blue Note* had two firsts and a fourth and tied with S2 7.9 *Patriot* skippered by Jonathon Brown was 3, 2, and 1, so *Patriot* won the Halloween Spin Class on the tie breaker (first in the last race).

Winter Series #2 on November 15 was a bit of a crap shoot for air. Sometimes it was decent and sometimes glassy, but always shifty. Eight Navigator Class competitors with a carbon copy at the top. *Dutch Wind* beat *Puffin* after close to three hours. Regina Ali, who did not compete Halloween, came in third in *Crescendo*. For the series, *Dutch Wind*, *Puffin*, and Paul Mills's *Vertical Wing* are ahead. From fourth to ninth remains tight.



Blue Note oooooches around the windward mark in light air at the Halloween Regatta. No, we did not hit it!

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

NYRA Halloween/Winter Series Begins photos by Chris Davies



S2 7.9 **Patriot** (Jonathan Brown) goes to windward in the flukey air at the Halloween Races. **Patriot** won the regatta on a tie-breaker, and after seven races in the NYRA Winter Series is in second, barely.



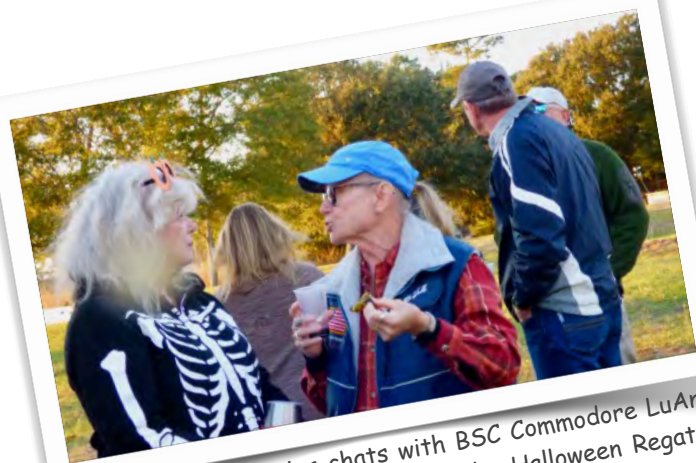
Anathema, Tom McKnight's big Chance 34, sets the chute during the Halloween Regatta.



Bad Fish's long time crew prepares to set the spinnaker on the beautiful J-29 during the Halloween Regatta.



Anathema just ahead of **Patriot** on a run in the Halloween Regatta.



PRO Stephanie Davies chats with BSC Commodore LuAnn Parins during the party following the Halloween Regatta at the "Parker RV Park."



Four Navigator Class boats approach their finish with the smallest, Sheldon Shikoluk's tiny Cape Dory **Puffin** leading the way.

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Whaddy-a call three dozen pirates around a table?

THANKSGIVING!!!!

Sincere appreciation for each member who attended and helped make the day special. Special thanks to Joni and Jim Floyd for preparing the turkeys, stuffing and gravy.



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Welcome New Member!

Nadi S. Findikli

I am originally from Istanbul, Turkey. I came to the US in 1982 to go to graduate school and since then I have lived in MI, VA, NC, NJ, and back to NC. This time I moved to New Bern because I wanted to be close to the water. Being from Istanbul, I have a love relationship with the sea. I grew up on row boats, ferries, questionable pirate water taxis. I am very much looking forward to an opportunity to join Blackbeard's SailingClub. I like enjoying my pastimes as part of a like-minded group.. I have been a caving grotto officer, mountain bike coach, dive master; all enjoyed more for being around people.

I started sailing, as such, with an original "windsurfer" in small MI lakes. After I moved to NC, eventually I ended up with a Catalina 25 berthed in Oriental. I sailed the C25 all over the Pamlico, including Ocracoke and Morehead City. That little boat taught me a lot, including what to do if you try to beat a hurricane from New Bern to Oriental and not quite make it. After moving to NJ, I switched to a Ericson 27 berthed in Rock Hall MD, and enjoyed that boat with my kids on the Chesapeake.

I have been a software engineer my entire adult life. I have worked in automotive, public safety radio, cell phones, smart watches, industrial devices, and pretty much anything I got my hand on. After working in a cell phone company in RTP for 17 years, I started my own consulting company and worked with watch manufacturers, Internet of Things device designers, patent evaluation companies, and a few others I probably forgot. I will continue until my kids graduate from college, and then retire and enjoy my woodworking and sailing full time.

As part of being an engineer, I love to tinker. I re-wired the Catalina 25 top to bottom and built a new DC panel for it. The Ericsson 27 needed new AC wiring and panel. My other passion is woodworking, which dovetails nicely with owning a sailboat.

My sailing experience has been mostly lake and sound sailing, with one jaunt to Cape Lookout courtesy of Brian Bolt, who I have known for 30 years and have caved and sailed with for that time.. Brian introduced me to Blackbeard's and since then I have learned more about the club and fell in love with the atmosphere and people. I believe I can contribute to the club as a member, sailor, tinkerer, hammer swinger. I look forward to becoming an active participant in the club. I would like to help the club and fellow club members in any way I can.

I look forward to meeting all of you soon.

Nadi S. Findikli



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Turkey Trot

by Ray Redniss

It was the worst of times, it was the best of times ... it was the winds of despair, it was the breezes of joy...

Anxious sailors gathered in the clubhouse for the 0930 Competitor's Meeting for the annual Turkey Trot Regatta. The atmosphere was enthusiastic, the usual information offered, and then the hopeful question - "Will we be sailing in the Creek or the Neuse?" "Unfortunately, with the wind from the west there wouldn't be enough room" came the response.

So, 51 brave souls in 38 one-designs ventured out on the Neuse in 10 to 14 knots... usually a welcome amount of breeze. But once on the course conditions changed. The steady breeze began to oscillate, built to 14 to 17, and gusts came in anywhere from 18 to 22! The puffy, oscillating wind and consequential wave action in the first race tested all on the water...competitors and race committee alike! The biggest challenge appeared to be for the 23 boat Sunfish Class with multiple capsizes, but the 420 Class was not immune! Righting a boat in short-chop waves and gusty wind takes strength, determination, balance, and timing! Many were able to recover and continue - many were not. Race committee running craft, with the help of spectators, sprang into action rendering assistance and escort to safety.

While the majority of the carnage was happening in the first half of the windward legs, the scene at the weather mark was anything but benign! Port-starboards, windward-leewards, inside overlaps, and crash tacks made for some exciting moments! Amazingly, collisions were not part of the scene... an obvious testament to a combination of great boat handling and pure luck!

Fortunately, the wind moderated and settled in to due west allowing 40 hearty souls in 27 boats to sail 3 additional races followed-up by a great meal and animated conversation!



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Hooray for the Race Committee!!

Last weekend's TurkeyTrot race was a very windy affair, with sunfish sailors having a rough time. Several capsized and had a hard time re-righting their boats. If the race committee mark/safety boats were not on hand, a couple of sailors could have drowned. The Race Committee does a lot more than efficiently run the races, they supply support and help to sailors in need.



VOLUNTEER



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Holiday Lighted Boat Parade

The Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club is inviting everyone in the community and beyond to join-in on this year's HOLIDAY LIGHTED BOAT PARADE, Saturday evening, December 13th.

The decorated boats will meet on Northwest Creek near the entrance to Spring Creek by 5:45pm with navigation lights on and monitoring VHF channel 69. We will proceed up Spring Creek to enter the inner Harbour and be announced to the spectators by a cannon blast. The flotilla will follow the Fleet Captain's boat at a constant speed of 3-4 kts, keeping at least 2 boat spaces between boats, making a counterclockwise circle around the shoreline by the boat ramp and marina and shoreline then turning towards the opposite shoreline back, continuing for a 2nd time.

If interested, please provide:

-  NAME OF CAPTAIN: _____
-  EMAIL: _____
-  NAME OF BOAT: _____
-  TYPE OF BOAT (sail, power, dinghy, kayak, rowboat, other) *Circle One*
-  LENGTH OF BOAT _____

This can be sent to Phil Katz katzduncan84@gmail.com. Additionally, you will be asked to sign a waiver form.

It's a great way to show-off your decorating skills and enjoy the on-water festivities. We look forward to your participation.



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Cool Weather Is Upon Us

Water to the docks will be interrupted when the predicted temperatures dip to 25F below.

Water and the Pump Out Station are expected to be shut off for the seasonal period by December 15 and reactivated in March 2026.

Cliff Lennox

Vice Commodore

vicecommodore@blackbeardsailingclub.org



2025 RACE SCHEDULE

Provided by Inter-Club Racing Committee (ICRC)

Updated 1/11/2025

Date	Day	Club	Event	PHRF	One-Design		Location
More races, events and contact information are listed on next page!							
Dec 6	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 3 *	X			New Bern
Dec 20	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 4 *	X			New Bern
Jan 1, 2026	Thu	BSC	Fred Latham Regatta		X	SJ21	New Bern
Jan 10, 2026	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 5 *	X			New Bern
Jan 24, 2026	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 6 *	X			New Bern
Feb 7, 2026	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 7 *	X			New Bern
Feb 21, 2026	Sat	NYRA	Commodore's Ball Regatta *	X			New Bern

* NYRA Boat of the Year Race

Clark Cup Series

P Protected

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Additional Events of Interest

Ensign Fleet Races - located on the Neuse River near Upper Broad Creek, New Bern, NC.

Fall Series: 7 Saturday races on Sep 27, Oct 4,11,18, 25; Nov1, 8. (Awards & social following Nov 6 races.)

Three races per day, first signal at 1255. Contact: Blake Sohn at blakesohn@gmail.com or (612) 481-9696.

Blackbeard Sailing Club Weekly PHRF Fun Sails - open to everyone at no cost, no club affiliation required.

Pursuit starts based on NC PHRF ratings - notifications via email distribution list.

Day of the week and time based on weather and daylight hours.

Contact Joan Wilson sail_kitty@hotmail.com or Ed Thompson edthompson2@comcast.net to join in.

Oriental Dinghy Club PHRF Races

PHRF Races: Apr 6,27; May 18; Sep 21; Oct 19; Nov 2,9.

PHRF Pursuit Races: Jun 8, Jul 13, Aug 10.

Contact Bob Slook for info at bslook@gmail.com or (732) 740-5591.

Sunfish Racing

>FHYC Sunfish Races - near the boat ramp on Fairfield Harbour Inner Harbour; 3 to 6 races per day, first signal at 2PM.

Spring Series: 7 Sunday race days on Apr 6,13,27; May 4,18; Jun 1,8.

Fall Series: 8 Sunday race days on Sep 7,14,21,28; Oct 5,12,19,26. (Awards & social following Oct 26 races.)

Contact Jerry Rezab for info at geraldrezab@yahoo.com or (252) 288-4124.

>Oriental Dinghy Club (ODC), Oriental NC

Dinghy Races: Apr 7; May 19; Jun 9; Jul 14 & 28; Aug 11; Sep 22; Oct 20; Nov 3 & 10.

Contact Bob Slook for info at bslook@gmail.com or (732) 740-5591.

>Hot Toddy Winter Series at Blackbeard Sailing Club, New Bern NC

2024 Schedule: Dec 7,21

2025 Schedule: Jan 11,25; Feb 8,22; Mar 8,22; Apr

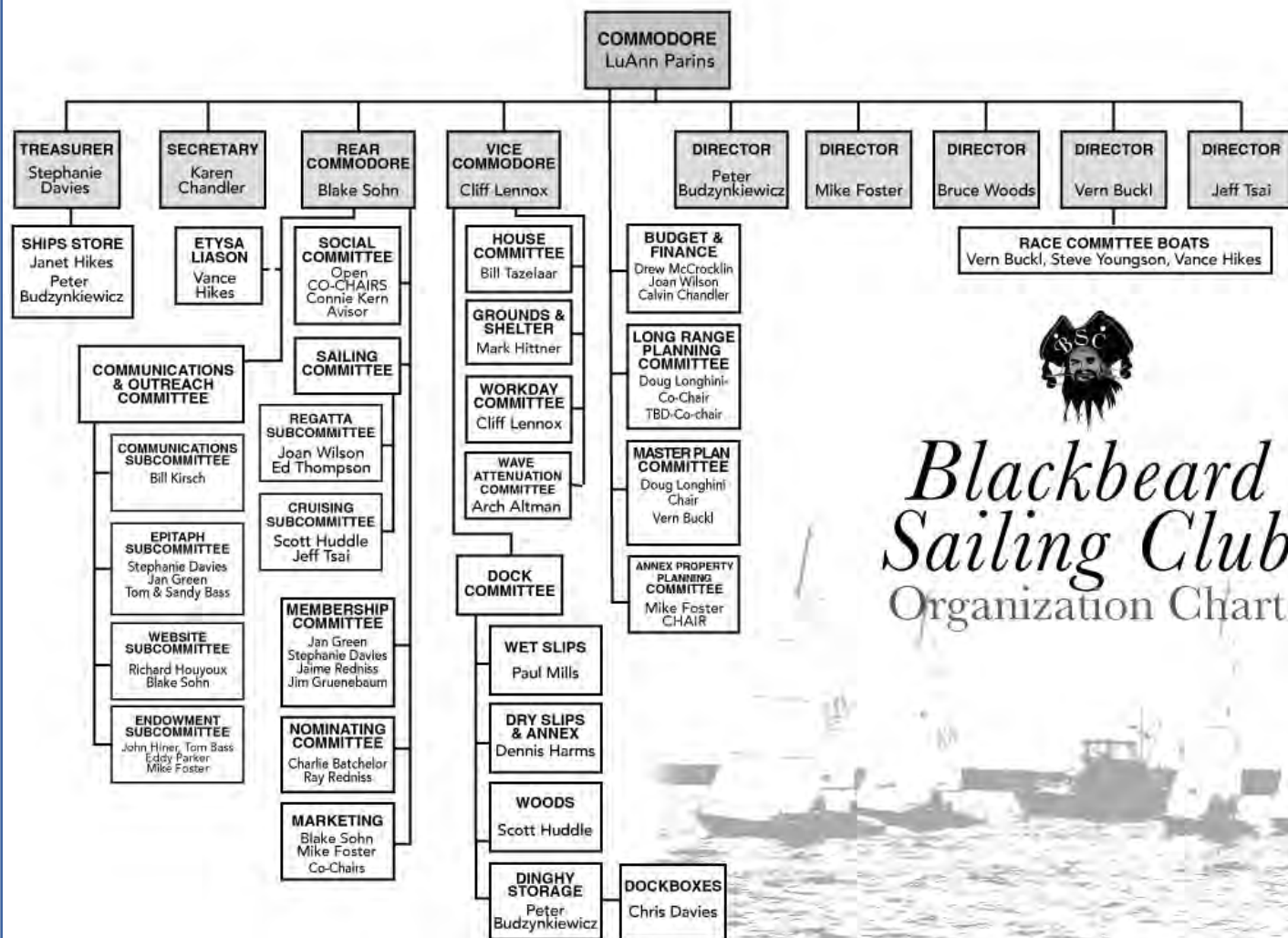
Contact Jude Brown for info at heyjfb@earthlink.net or (240) 671-5771.

Miscellaneous:

2025 Date	Day	Club	Event	Location
Jun 2-Jun 27	Mon-Fri	BSC	ETYSA Youth Sailing Camps	New Bern NC
Jul 7-Aug 1	Mon-Fri	BSC	ETYSA Youth Sailing Camps	New Bern NC
Oct 11-12	Sat-Sun		Mumfest	New Bern NC
Club	Club Name	Representative	eMail	Telephone
BSC	Blackbeard Sailing Club	Blake Sohn	blakesohn@gmail.com	(612) 481-9696
BSC	Blackbeard Sailing Club	Joan Wilson	sail_kitty@hotmail.com	(610) 357-7476
BTS	Bow To Stern	Jim Edwards	info@bowtosternboating.com	(252) 249-2424
ETYSA	Edward Teach Youth Sailing Assn	Clare Brock	clbrock@embarqmail.com	(252) 671-7462
FHYC	Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club	Leigh Hart	dol123@me.com	(919) 801-7123
FLT 8	San Juan Fleet {	Jeff Thomas	jennjeff@suddenlink.net	(252) 638-1493
FOM	Friends of the Museum (Beaufort)	Brent Creelman	brent@maritimefriends.org	(252) 728-1638
HISC	Halkers Island Sailing Club	Sonya Dean	sonyafm@hotmail.com	(919) 271-9899
ICRC	InterClub Race Committee	Joan Wilson	sail_kitty@hotmail.com	(610) 357-7476
NCO	Nautical Co-op of Oriental	Todd Cox	toddcoxvt@gmail.com	(802) 999-7572
NYRA	Neuse Yacht Racing Assn	Stephanie Davies	stephaniejaedavies@gmail.com	(949) 533-5543
ODC	Oriental Dinghy Club	Bob Slook	bslook@gmail.com	(732) 740-5591
ODC	Oriental Dinghy Club	Todd Cox	toddcoxvt@gmail.com	(802) 999-7572
PSC	Pamlico Sailing Club	Elizabeth Betts	velella6@hotmail.com	(252) 524-1213
SCOO	Sailing Club of Oriental	Rick Fears	rickfears42@yahoo.com	(916) 759-9546

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

2025 Board of Directors & Departments




Blackbeard
Sailing Club
 Organization Chart

**Volunteers are not paid, not because
they are worthless but because
they are priceless.**

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Blackbeard Sailing Club

Club Location

Upper Broad Creek on the Neuse River
1215 Barkentine Drive
New Bern, NC 28560
N35° 03.75 W76° 56.85

Mailing Address

PO Box 24
Bridgeton, NC 28519

Website

blackbeardsailingclub.org

Be sure to visit the BSC website which is loaded with official information, current news, membership directory, slip information and much more.

Email to Epitaph Editors

bscepitaph@yahoo.com

Tom & Sandy Bass, Jaime Redniss
and Stephanie Davies

Epitaph Submission Guideline

Submissions to the Epitaph are due by the 23rd of each month for the following month's publication. We welcome the membership's input including:

- stories and cruising articles
- how-to articles and other news
- committee reports
- racing news and reports
- photos in jpeg format
- event announcements and calendars

Please send all material to the Epitaph's editors at bscepitaph@yahoo.com.



2025 Board of Directors

Commodore LuAnn Parins
commodore@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Vice Commodore Cliff Lennox
vicecommodore@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Rear Commodore Blake Sohn
rearcommodore@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Secretary Karen Chandler
secretary@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Treasurer Stephanie Davies
treasurer@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Director Bruce Woods
director@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Director Jeff Tsai
director@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Director Mike Foster
director@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Director Vern Buckl
director@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Director Peter Budzynkiewicz
director@blackbeardsailingclub.org

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

A Gentle Reminder!

