

AZIMUTH



“Quantico Yacht Club recognized as the preeminent boating organization on the Upper Potomac developing an enthusiastic, capable membership through cruising, competition, competence, and community.”



Change of Watch Edition

From the Commodore (Marty Spitek, Skipper –*Rhumb Runner*)

2013 was a great year for the Quantico Yacht Club and I thank all of you for the opportunity to be a part of it and to serve as your commodore. It has been an honor and a privilege.

The last two years have gone by quickly and I have thoroughly enjoyed being a QYC officer. When we took over, we set our sights on taking a good club and tweaking her course and speed to continue moving forward. We started out with an overall vision based upon the pillars of cruising, competition, competence, and community. We developed an overall strategic plan and put that plan to work through specific actions. Did we do everything we set out to do? No. a strategic plan cannot be achieved in two years, but we did give the club a set of way points to lead us forward. As with any planned course, the skipper at the helm needs to assess the conditions and his vessel and adjust accordingly and that will be one of the challenges for commodores of the future.

As I look back, highlights that stand out start with our executive board. Dave, Ken and Charlie have been a great asset and together, we made a

Welcome the 2014 Quantico Yacht Club Executive Board

Commodore – Charlie Hazard

Vice Commodore – Art Corbett

Treasurer – Dave Sanchez

Secretary – Nevin Rudloff

Upcoming Events

- 14 Dec** **QYC Change of Watch & Holiday Party**
- 1 Jan** **New Year’s Day sail**
- 10 Jan** **QYC Monthly Meeting**
- 18 Jan** **PRYCA Change of Watch**

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solid team with a good mix of perspectives which kept us even keel through checks and balances while working toward common goals. Next is our vision statement, ***“Quantico Yacht Club is recognized as the preeminent boating organization on the Upper Potomac developing an enthusiastic, capable membership through cruising, competence, competition, community and camaraderie.”*** Our vision statement gave us the compass heading we needed to develop the strategic plan that I’ve already mentioned as well as developing the actions necessary to reach it. The re-write of the club’s by-laws setup a supporting structure and helped organizationally align us with our vision.

Our club is at our best when we are on the water and cruising is in our bones! All of our cruises have given me fond memories. I have stories related to each of them, whether it’s down to St Mary’s or to Cobb Island with beads dangling, or Cole’s Point where we looked out to watch 4th of July fireworks, wondering who was the boat sailing next to the barge. We had a sled ride down to Colonial Beach in 25kt winds and a pleasant short cruise to Sweden Point with a great dockside cookout. These along with all of our cruises each have stories and memories and I look forward to the 2014 season.

Did I say we were at our best on the water? Just look for the QYC boat crossing the finish line! We continue to be a strong, competitive sail racing club. As participants in races from the GEICO CUP to the Governor’s Cup to the Leukemia Cup, the QYC burgee has flown with pride with both our overall performance and our sportsmanship. We’ve continued our tradition of hosting three races a year that are respected events enjoyed by QYC members and other clubs along the river.

We’ve improved our competence as boaters through a fledgling education program that is sure to grow in the future. We’ve expanded and improved both our newsletter AZIMUTH, and our website. Through each of these media we share information about the club and boating lessons learned. In particular, the QYC website “Mariner’s Info” tab is an efficient and effective way to get the information that boater’s need before leaving the dock. Our AZIMUTH FACEBOOK group provides a persistent media to information available.

I am VERY proud of our sense of community, both internally and externally. Internally, our members are always there to help each other, either with a helping hand or joy of laughter (or both)! When we moved a number of sailboats up to Sweden

Quantico Yacht Club 2013 Bridge	
	Commodore Marty Spitek
	Vice – Commodore Dave Robinson
	Secretary Ken Beutel
	Treasurer Charlie Hazard
	Fleet Captain Matt Hernandez
	RC - Sail Ray Williams
	RC - Power Nevin Rudloff
	RC - Cruising Art Corbett
	RC – Education Judy Diamond
	RC – Communications Sean McNulty
	RC – Hospitality Deb Beutel

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Point before an impending storm, our power boat guys were right there to help shuttle us back and forth. When one of our sailboats lost a starter at Cole’s Point, a QYC member was right there to help with his dingy as a “sidecar” to get them home. When I needed help at the QYC Open House, hands came from everywhere to setup, execute and breakdown. One of my best memories is our February club meeting when we blew the fuses and had no lights. Did we pack it in and go home – NEVER! Everyone pulled together, candles were out, food was there, and we started the meeting right on time and had fun! You can count on QYCers to be there when you need them. Externally, we’ve established a good relationship with the Town of Quantico and I look forward to seeing that grow. We continue to reach out to the MCB Quantico and enjoy a good relationship with the marina. We conducted our third Open House with the Town and marina and it is evolving into a noteworthy event on the river. While each Open House has incorporated a blessing of the fleet, SPRING TUNE UP and events on land, this year was special in that we had a “rebirth” of the QYC Flag Raising Ceremony which was conducted by the Sea Scouts of Ship 100. Our continuing relationship with the Sea Scouts of Ships 100, 212, and 7916 have provided us with rewarding opportunities. A keystone event for the QYC was having Matt Rutherford visit and speak to our membership and guests—the clubhouse was standing room only! We have an on-going relationship with Matt which I expect to grow in the future. When all is said and done, our greatest sense of community comes from our support for the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society and the Leukemia Cup. We are small club with a very large impact on the National Capital Region’s program. Each of these is a testimony to quality of the QYC membership.

In my ramble back through the past two years, I made a point to not mention names. The reason is that I would have to put the full roster of QYC down – each of you have made a contribution to the club and to me and I thank you. We have a great club because of you and it has been a joy to be at the helm. I’m excited about our new commodore, Charlie Hazard and the incoming executive board. I challenge each of you to help QYC reach its fullest potential – You make a difference! The new board has a commitment and excitement that will take the club far beyond where it is now, with the knowledge and wisdom to give course adjustments as needed to achieve the vision:

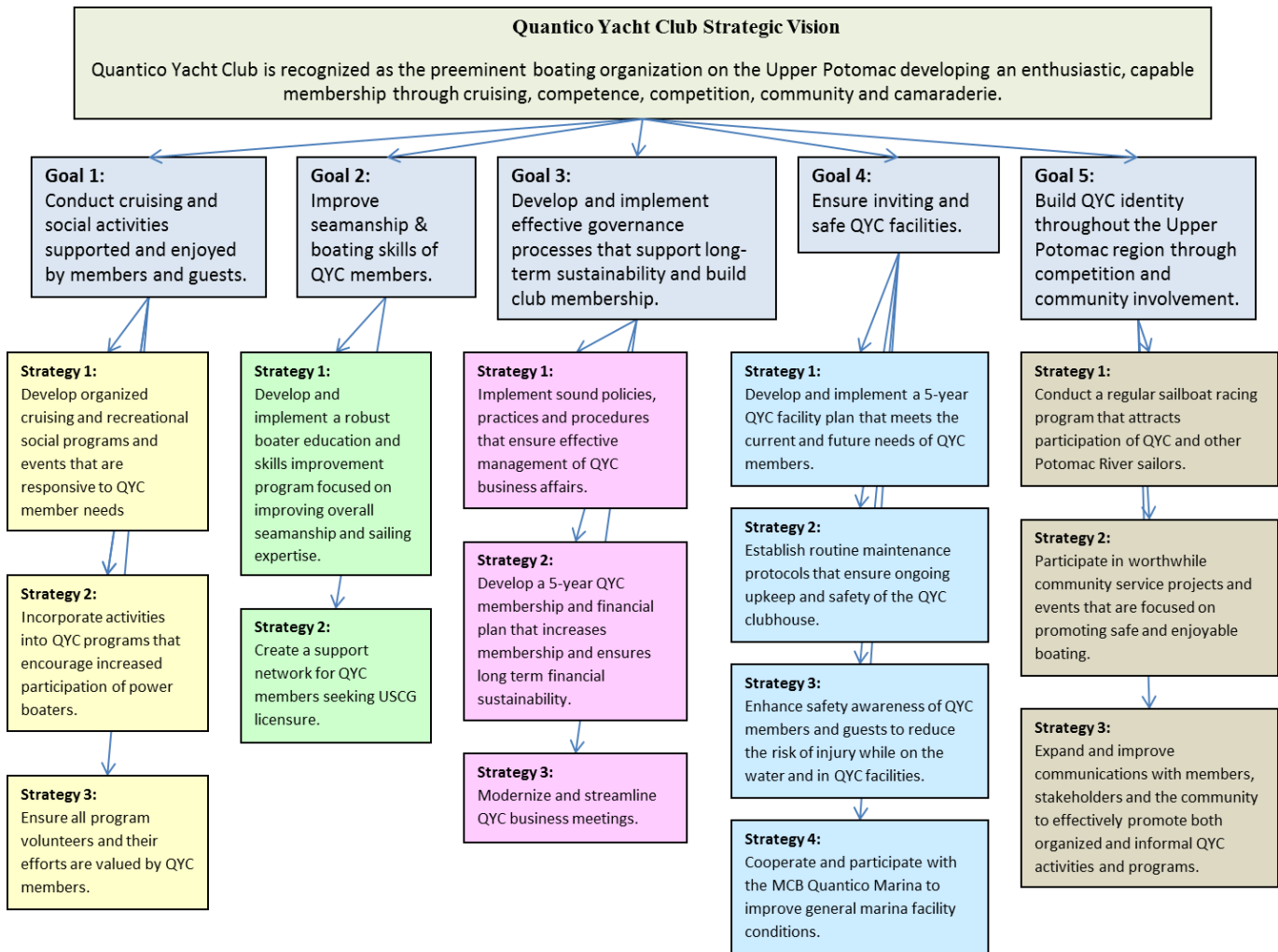
Quantico Yacht Club is recognized as the preeminent boating organization on the Upper Potomac developing an enthusiastic, capable membership through cruising, competence, competition, community and camaraderie.”



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From the Vice Commodore (Dave Robinson, skipper – Paradiso)

It is December, the change of watch for the QYC is upon us in a few days, and this will be my last Vice Commodore’s submission to The Azimuth. I want to start by saying thank you to everyone who has made my time as your VC memorable and worthwhile. We have done great things together as a club in the last 21 months toward achieving our vision of being the preeminent boating organization on the Upper Potomac...starting with adopting a new strategic plan.



When you take a look at this strategy map, you will see that we made great strides...thanks to everyone’s hard work...in accomplishing these goals and strategies. We had great cruises, we increased power boater participation, we recognized the volunteer efforts of members, we had terrific classes to increase our knowledge, we changed the by-laws to make QYC business more transparent and efficient, we streamlined the business meetings and added more fun to the

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membership gatherings, we had safety classes and encouraged boat inspections, we worked to promote and improve the marina and the club at our open house, we had great races that are recognized up and down the river, we volunteered our time and energies for worthwhile causes, and we both expanded and improved communications with members and with the stakeholder community such as the Town of Quantico.

Whew...that was one long sentence...but it was worth it...because it illustrates that we have a viable and vibrant membership club that cares about its members, cares about the community, and cares about making boating safe and enjoyable. We have embraced the tenants of Cruising, Competence, Competition, Community and Camaraderie in ways that the club has not seen in a while and it just goes to prove that when you set your mind to something...it can and will be done. So there is still work to be done and I trust that the next board will be able to hit the ground running...and based on the makeup of the incoming board...that will definitely be the case.

Please indulge me when I say that I have been very proud to be your VC for the past 21 months and delighted to work side by side with a terrific board of officers and every one of the members of the club. Together we ensured that the QYC was meeting the needs of its members. Together we worked to build relationships that were missing and strengthened those that were weak. Together we watched out for each other and each other's boats. Together we ensured that the proud traditions that were started in 1935 live on through us. And even though the times and people changed...and we created some of our own traditions...the QYC is strong...capable...and is, in fact, recognized as the preeminent boating organization on the Upper Potomac. Together we made a difference in the future of the Quantico Yacht Club. And I for one am proud to have been a part of that and thank each of you for the opportunity to contribute in my own small way. You are the QYC...and you are terrific! Happy Sails!

AZIMUTH FACEBOOK GROUP

We communicate our activities in a number of ways to reach the widest possible audience. If you are a FACEBOOK user, please join us at the FACEBOOK group *AZIMUTH*. To join, click on <http://www.facebook.com/groups/quanticoazimuth/>. If you have a FACEBOOK account, send a "friend request" to the Azimuth group. The Azimuth is a "closed" FACEBOOK group for our club and each request will be evaluated and accepted by a group administrator. The group is not restricted to QYC members but we do want to keep the membership limited to boaters related to QYC.



From the Treasurer & Commodore Elect (Charlie Hazard, Skipper –*Music Maker*)

Dear friends, I'd like to say that I'm sorry to be standing down as your treasurer but I simply can't (smile). I have enjoyed serving on the board and want to thank my fellow officers, Marty, Dave and Ken for all they have done for the Club. There is no doubt in my mind that the best part of our organization is the people. To that end I want to share a few stories about Marty, Dave, and Ken.

It was Saturday morning of the 2012 Memorial Day weekend and I had been up late into the night trying to figure out why I couldn't bleed the air out of my fuel lines after changing the secondary fuel filter. This was critical if the Hazard family was going to join the rest of the Club in the cruise down to Colonial Beach. If you have ever changed the secondary fuel filter on a diesel, you probably know about the small lever you're supposed to use to purge the air out of the fuel lines. I had pumped that lever over a thousand times it seems but for some reason I was unable to get the fuel flowing out of the bleed valve on top of the filter. So I took off the filter and checked the gasket and reinstalled it. About this time I heard Marty arriving to begin loading Rhumb Runner for the cruise and I imposed on him to help me solve the problem. After a quick look at the situation he recommended we start the engine and see if the engine wouldn't prime itself. Sure enough we cranked and the engine and it started and ran for about a minute then shut down. This was puzzling, so we looked at the fuel filter, why weren't we getting fuel to the engine? Then I thought, I should check the valve alignment on the fuel tank and sure enough I had secured the fuel lines when I checked the gasket on the filter and neglected to open them back up. Well we had a good laugh at my bone-headed mistake, in fact it made the next newsletter. But what I appreciated at the time was Marty's willingness to help me fix the problem which enabled my family to make the cruise! Thanks Marty for all you have done for our club, you made a big difference.

When I think of Dave Robinson, I think about the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) and what a great job he has done leading our efforts as a club to help fight blood cancers. I remember after months of collecting pennies and spare change as part of the "QYC penny regatta", going with Dave, Holly, and Helen to the Navy Federal Credit Union off of Route 1 and bringing in 6-7 large pretzel containers full of pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters. Dave had really pushed this as a way to have fun with fundraising and because of it we raised over \$800 hundred dollars. The competitive nature of our membership certainly helped the effort and Dave had even arranged great prizes for the boats raising the most money. The Navy Federal Credit Union had to stop and repair the penny counting machine several times that afternoon due to the volume of pennies. There have been several occasions where Dave has been available to offer help and advice for various fundraising efforts and I have really appreciated it. This year he gave me great counsel for having a fundraising event at Mick's. Dave thanks for your friendship and service to the club!

Ken Beutel has been a great friend to me and my family for many years. Ken provided his boat to my brothers and sisters when we needed river transport, for a special memorial service, to a place my parents took us sailing. This was very generous and meant a great deal to me and my family. He offered advice and encouragement to me to start sailing again and when Holly and I decided to get a boat Ken was there to help. He took time off work to go with us down to Deltaville to take a test sail on a Catalina 309. He even helped us bring Music Maker home, initially to the Aquia Bay Marina but eventually to Quantico Marina. He and Deb opened their home for a special baptism service for my daughters. Ken thanks for your friendship and service to the club.

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If you've noticed there is a theme here, even though I've spoken only of my fellow board members the same kind of stories could be told about all our members. I look forward to serving the club as your Commodore and seeing what great things we can accomplish working together. I have already met with the new executive board and can tell you they are quality people who share my enthusiasm for the QYC and look forward to making the QYC the best Yacht Club on the Potomac River. We face a challenging future but I'm confident we will continue to excel. Our goals include:

- Strengthen our relationship with MCB Quantico (Our club is an asset)
- Fulfill our vision statement
- Continue strengthening our relationship with the town of Quantico
- Use our Open House and Spring Tune up Regatta to support the non-profit organization "Ocean Research"
- Plan and execute a long range club cruise
- Continue supporting LLS through participation in the Leukemia Cup Regatta
- Grow our club with great people that share our love of boating

