RBSA Commodore Report for Annual Meeting

RBSA is a gem of a club and is so recognized by its members. It has existed since 1963 so the history is long. RBSA is the only small boat sailing club located on any bay nearby in the Rehoboth area. It is the only club anywhere in the area with summer boat slips available on the beach or storage for member owned boats year-round. RBSA has a wonderful, friendly, sailing vibe and all want that to continue for posterity.

However, our club has many needs – the marina needs to be replaced, the Clubhouse has many physical and operational issues, our equipment is failing and needs replacement, and our club rental fleet needs parts and maintenance. Thank you to all the members that have stepped up to help with these needs = we need your help. And we continue to with a new website, reaching out to the larger Rehoboth Community to let them know we exist, growing membership, identifying boats not tied down and/or non functional trailers, maintaining our fleet and our property, etc. We have 2 workdays scheduled for the fall – Sunday October 4 and Saturday October 17. I hope you will all come out to help move boats, maintain them, maintain our property and get the club ready to close for the season.

The Board has been looking at all sorts of ways to raise funds, as you know, including but not limited to raising donations, increasing membership, increasing both the membership fee and/or the storage fees, taking out a loan, developing new programming for RBSA, adding vending machines, selling RBSA merchandise, etc.

We will have the South pier and seawall of the marina replaced in the mid-October time period. The new pier will have floating docks and boat slips available for member rental. After this is completed, we will have replace basically 2/3 of the marina (the bulkhead was completed several years ago) and we will need quickly to replace the north pier and seawall to protect our investment.

The marina renewal will start sometime in mid October. The exact date hasn't yet been set. The project will take 6 weeks. During that time, the club will still be open and usable but big equipment will be around and workers present M-Th from 9-5. The staging area will be the circle outside the garage and all boats will need to be moved temporarily during that time. Douglas will be in charge of this and has a plan – but if you have a boat there, you may want to move your boat in advance to ensure it is tied down and secure. Please let us know what you intend. Boats will be moved back after the work is completed but you may want to ensure yours is appropriately tied down.

Speaking of which, this summer, we have had a number of significant storms and weather events in our area. Thus, after each boat usage, you should ensure your boat is tied to

your trailer/dolly, etc and both are tied to the ground. Some member boat damage has occurred when boats are not tied down. The club has always required this but due to the weather events we are insisting that these rules be followed as boat damage has occurred and boats have been strewn around the yard. We need to ensure that all boats are secured at all times because these weather events have seemingly come out of nowhere.

We will also be enforcing the club policy that all boats be movable at all times. It is essential that management be able to move boats. This need has been highlighted this summer due to the weather events and the marina project. Please ensure that your boat is movable and the trailer absolutely functional for moving the boat. Again, this is a club requirement that has not regularly been enforced but we are now finding it important to do so. If you need help getting your trailer operational, there is a welding person whom you can hire to help and the club will provide his contact info.

Please ensure your mast is dropped by November 1 – otherwise a $100 fee is imposed per club policy.

During the winter, please ensure your boat is tied to your trailer/dolly which is tied to the ground. That is essential to ensure that all boats are secured.

We have had a couple of instances of someone attempting to break into the tool room in the garage and most recently the barn. If any member needs to get into an area that is locked please contact Douglas who will assist in giving access. Vandalism hurts the property, of course, and causes additional expenses.

Winter storage bills will go out early November so keep an eye out. We send them via QuickBooks on email. Payment is due net 30. Membership and summer storage bills will be sent the beginning of the year and again payment is due net 30.

We hope to be able to retain our manager, Douglas O'Rourke, for another year. Douglas has been an amazing asset for RBSA and has a gift of uniting members and engaging great staff. Douglas has an in-depth working knowledge of RBSA, knows what it needs and can do a lot of the work himself. He has worked hard to increase and unify our membership, provide services to members and encourage and grow our sail school and boat rental programs. Douglas has worked very hard to encourage member involvement through very organized and productive work days. When we last looked for a manager several years ago, we found the candidates had limited marine experience and knowledge of RBSA. Douglas was a great candidate and has performed admirably for us.

Douglas got together a fantastic team of workers this year so I must thank Joe Maramante, Scarlet, Jem, Caitlyn, Elise, Graham, Jay, Ben, Braylen, Connor, Neil, and Nolan.

They were always willing to assist and help, did a great job with very large sail school programs, did lots of work around the club, and were just a great bunch of kids. Thank you to all.

I know the members are now engaged in RBSA and we can use all the help offered. Workdays this fall will be on October 4th and 17th from 9 - 2. Please come out and help. Sailboat maintenance crews are being formed for the Sunfish, Scots and Hobies. Please join and help maintain our fleet so we can have boats available for members, rentals and sail school.

Filed Certificate of Correction to the Certificate of Incorporation correcting the elected Trustee term to 3 years.

A huge thank you to all involved in RBSA this year

Douglas and team continue to exceed expectations

- Continued to clean up the club
- Service members better
- Work to repair a lot that needs to be done
- Great staff – and growing them for the future!
- We count on Douglas and team to do a lot

Many more – everyone who stepped up because we need help. Too much work for a few. Many hands make light work. This is a member volunteer club. Recently haven't enough volunteers

What have we done this year

- Cleaned up the club further –
    - cleaned out the barn and garage of a lot of our excess material, continued to get rid of old boats, -- and more is to come on our workdays.
    - Took down the bleachers on the tennis courts, fixed the barn,
    - cleaned up the front appearance of RBSA by removing overgrown plants, taking out the dilapidated fencing, getting a new stop sign
    - painted signs and fencing outside and around the club that really needed it
    - painted the porch on the back of the barn
    - fixed the toilets and urinal so they actually work and do not spew water
    - put in a new light fixture in the women's room so you can actually see
    - repaired another 2 walls in the clubhouse
    - and the list continues
- Provided greater and more service to members – in getting boats ready, hoisting them in and out, catching any boaters around who need help, and providing a safety net by responding when something occurs on the water
- Sailing school was another success and our rentals increased

- Cleaned up the sailhouse – continued the work to replace leaking windows in the sailhouse. We have done the east, north and south walls. Still more to come
- Got the permit for the south marina pier and seawall and contracted for the work with Precision Marine. That work will begin in September

Again, while the marina is being constructed, the club will still be available to members. The work will be done from 9-5 M-Th. The hoist and beach mat will still be available to members during the work but please exercise caution around the materials, equipment and workers. Boats in and near the circle will need to be moved temporarily as that area will be a staging ground for materials and equipment.

Boats – must be tied down at all times. Have had very high winds and much boat damage. Marti Cochran's boat was damaged in 1 storm. Boats were flipped. MUST tie down boats at all times. Part of our policy and Boat Storage Agreement