

# RANGE MARKS

Volume 16 Issue 2 <http://www.dahlgrenyachtclub.org> March 2008

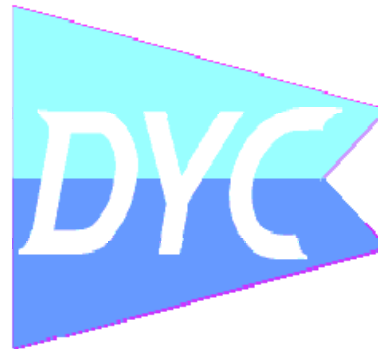
## The Official Newsletter of the Dahlgren Yacht Club

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### From the Commodore:

The Chesapeake Bay, Potomac and numerous other rivers are home to an array of boats and boaters, which means everyone needs to be aware of their actions out on the water. With this in mind, the board of Governors, would like to remind all members the importance of...being safe on the water!

**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR WAKE** please exercise courtesy and common sense. Take your time; don't be in a hurry. Be alert, and be generous to others, knowing that your kindness will be returned another day on the water when you least expect it.

- Vessels in a marina may be susceptible to damage caused by excessive wakes. Sailboats in adjacent slips may be rocked by a wake causing their masts to collide or become entangled in the shrouds.
- People on board their vessels may be knocked down or possibly knocked overboard as a result of an unexpected wake.
- Operate slowly at all times when in the vicinity of marinas and launch ramps



- You are responsible for the safety of your passengers, your boat and any damage to other boats and personal property caused by your wake.

The recent volume of the BoatU.S. magazine highlights the responsibilities a “captain” has to their guests. The issues of safety and hazards rank highly on the list to make sure that you warn your guests about hazards and possible injuries.

It is in your best interest to make your guest aware that they can be injured by even the most obvious clearly visible hazard (i.e. an open hatch). Explain even the obvious...

Quoting the BoatUS Magazine “Be Bold With Your Caution.”

Discharge Water : Also the issues of discharge legislation permits for recreational boaters is still alive and kicking. Give your congressman a call and let them know how you feel...and ask them to support resolutions H.R. 2550 and S. 2067

Darrel, Commodore DYC

## [BOG MEETINGS:](#)

### Executive Summary:

The 2008 DYC BOG held its 2<sup>nd</sup> monthly meeting on 11 March 2008. The club currently has 93 members and current assets of \$12,571.16. The Racing Committee has met and is making plans for the coming season; the schedule will be posted on the DYC website. A DYC work party is scheduled for 12 April, with a Spring Thaw party to follow in the afternoon at 1300. Another Boating Safety Course (BSC) will be planned for this year along with a Vessel Safety Check (VSC).

DYC BOG meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month @ 1700 at the DYC DockHouse. Meeting dates have been added to the DYC home page also. All members are invited to attend and participate. The next three DYC BOG Meetings are planned to be held on 8 April, 13 May, 10 June. If you plan to attend, please check the website at <http://www.dahlgrenyachtclub.org/> or contact the BOG a few days ahead at [BOG@DahlgrenYachtClub.org](mailto:BOG@DahlgrenYachtClub.org) to confirm that there have been no changes to the schedule.

## [Racing:](#)

A meeting of the Race Committee was held on February 5 to initiate planning for the 2008 race season.

The race committee was formed with the following positions.

Chief Scorer – Dave Shuttleworth

Monday Night Series Race Coordinator - Dave Shuttleworth

Thursday Night Series Race Coordinator - Rex Butler

Equipment Manager - John Bubb

Trophies - Bruce Gosse

A review of the draft Race Instructions for the Monday and Thursday Race Series was conducted.

The Committee is combining the instructions for both series. It was decided to continue to allow the

Portsmouth handicap in the Monday Night series. This led to changes of the Names of both series to reflect the Thursday as one design laser and Portsmouth Handicap and removing PHRF from the title of the Monday series.

Also led to changing the title for the PHRF Coordinator and Portsmouth Coordinator to Monday Night Race Series Coordinator and Thursday Night Race Series Coordinator to better reflect their roles for each series.

Also a second start for boats rated below 120 for PHRF if there is not a separate class for those boats.

Schedule of races was reviewed. This new schedule was placed on the DYC Internet site. No scoring changes were proposed and no handicap changes were proposed. The next meeting of the race committee will be on March 25.... Dennis

## Social:

SPRING is not just warm weather.....it's time to clean out the boating supplies you want to swap, sell or trade at the 9th(?) ANNUAL DYC SPRING THAW! Come join us at the Dockhouse on Saturday, April 12 from 1-3 (right after the Spring Work day)! Bring the whole family for food, music, sock burning, a Blessing of the Fleet (for the boats in the water as well as those which will go in) and swap meet. A great time to check out the 2008 Social Schedule, renew last year's boating friendships and welcome our new members to DYC.

We'll be serving lunch (BBQ, sliced meats for sandwiches, sides and sodas) and you can bring additional sides, desserts, other libations (alcohol allowed, but not served by DYC) - don't forget your socks for the fire.

Enjoy the sock burning at 2 PM to acknowledge the passing of winter and honor the beginning of the boating season, Blessing of the Fleet at 2:30 PM for safety on the water and swap/sell/trading/gabbing the entire time.

Please RSVP (so we know how many to plan for) to [social@dahlgrenyachtclub.org](mailto:social@dahlgrenyachtclub.org). Also check out this website: <http://www.spinsheet.com/Images/PDF/Socks.pdf> to see why we burn our socks.....Ann.



# Spring Checklist for Boaters

## In the water:

Inspect and lubricate seacocks. Hoses and hose clamps should be inspected and replaced as necessary.

\_\_\_ Replace deteriorated zincs.

\_\_\_ Inspect prop(s) for dings, pitting and distortion. Make sure cotter pins are secure. Grip the prop and try moving the shaft – if it's loose, the cutlass bearing may need to be replaced.

\_\_\_ Check to make sure the rudderstock hasn't been bent.

\_\_\_ Inspect the hull for blisters, distortions and stress cracks.

\_\_\_ Make sure your engine intake sea strainer is free of corrosion and properly secured.

\_\_\_ Check the engine shaft and rudder stuffing boxes for looseness. After the boat is launched, be sure to check these as well as through-hulls for leaks.

\_\_\_ Use a hose to check for deck leaks at ports and hatches. Renew caulk or gaskets as necessary.

\_\_\_ If equipped, ensure that stern drain plug is installed .

### **Outdrives and outboards:**

\_\_\_ Inspect rubber outdrive bellows for cracked, dried and/or deteriorated spots (look especially in the folds), and replace if suspect.

\_\_\_ Check power steering and power trim oil levels. Replace worn-out zincs.

\_\_\_ Inspect outer jacket of control cables. Cracks or swelling indicate corrosion and mean that the cable has to be replaced.

\_\_\_ Inspect fuel lines, including fill and vent hoses, for softness, brittleness or cracking. Check all joints for leaks and make sure all lines are well supported with non-combustible clips or straps with smooth edges.

### **Engines and fuel systems:**

\_\_\_ Inspect fuel tanks, fuel pumps and filters for leaks. Clamps should be snug and free of rust. Clean fuel filters.

\_\_\_ Inspect cooling hoses and fittings for stiffness, rot, leaks and/or cracking. Make sure they fit snugly and are double-clamped.

\_\_\_ Every few years, remove and inspect exhaust manifold for corrosion.

\_\_\_ Clean and tighten electrical connections, especially both ends of battery cables. Wire-brush battery terminals and fill cells with distilled water.

\_\_\_ Inspect bilge blower hose for leaks.

### **Sailboat rigging:**

\_\_\_ Inspect fittings for cracks and rust. Inspect wire halyards and running backstays for "fishhooks" and rust.

\_\_\_ Remove tape on turnbuckles and lubricate threads, preferably with Teflon. Replace old tape with fresh tape.

\_\_\_ Recaulk through-deck chainplates as necessary (generally, once a decade).

## Out of the water:

\_\_\_ Check the engine shaft and rudder stuffing boxes for steady leaks and looseness.

\_\_\_ Use a hose to check for deck leaks at ports and hatches. Renew caulks or gaskets as necessary.

\_\_\_ If equipped, ensure that stern drain plug is installed.

### **Trailers:**

\_\_\_ Inspect tire treads and sidewalls for cracks or lack of tread and replace as necessary. Check air pressure. Don't forget the spare!

\_\_\_ Inspect bearings and repack as necessary.

\_\_\_ Test tail and back-up lights. Test winch to make sure it's working properly.

\_\_\_ Inspect trailer frame for rust. Sand and paint to prevent further deterioration.

### **Miscellaneous:**

\_\_\_ Check expiration dates on flares and fire extinguishers.

\_\_\_ Check stove and remote tanks for loose fittings and leaking hoses.

\_\_\_ Inspect bilge pump and float switch to make sure it's working properly.

\_\_\_ Inspect dock and anchor lines for chafing.

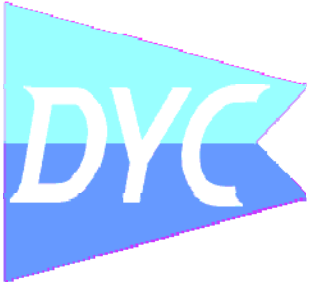
\_\_\_ Update or replace old charts, waterway guides.

\_\_\_ Check shore power cable connections for burns, which indicates the cable needs to be replaced.

\_\_\_ Make sure your boating license and/or registration is up to date. Don't forget your trailer tags.

\_\_\_ Review your boat insurance policy and update coverage if needed. Be sure you have fuel spill insurance coverage.

Get your boats ready for a fun and safe boating season.....Ron



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