

Robert J Miller

From: Robert Miller <bobmillerwa@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 4:56 PM
To: Robert Miller
Subject: ICOYC: eNEWS - Electronic Newsletter - August 2015



August 2015

A Note from the Editor

Somehow being out on the water makes my mind run smoother and I can be very productive. I started putting together this issue of eNEWS while part of the fleet of boats participating in Seattle Yacht Club's Commodore's Cruise followed by the Sunshine Coast Cruise for the second week. The Commodore's Cruise is mostly sailboats racing from outstation to outstation and we power boaters are intrigued with some of their traditions. Yes, everyone is competitive during these friendly point to point races, but the intensity of trying to avoid 'winning' the famed Rubber Chicken Award is really fun. Yesterday's winner gets to fly a two foot long naked rubber chicken from his mast because he flew the Canadian courtesy flag below his SYC burgee after we cleared customs into Canada. I can't wait to see who makes a fatal mistake in boating courtesy today.

Cruising with your fellow club members is a great amount of fun and Joachim Isler is asking below for volunteers to help with the Cruise Planning Subcommittee as well as for people to work on the fabulous Youth Committee. Join up with him and help promote our loved sport.

President's Message - YOU are the Council !

In every one of our meetings, we talk about membership, and always focus on the importance of 'participating members' to any organization. That issue is no less important to the ICOYC. Without the active participation of our members, we are nothing more than a few documents in a file somewhere. It is my opinion that every Member Club should have a couple of members actively participating in the activities of the Council.

Therefore, I will put to you the same challenge I present to the Board regularly: 'It is not enough that we sit in Directors positions, or serve as Representatives or Alternates of our Club. Each of us should be active on some Council Committee or Project, where the real benefits to the Member Clubs are developed and executed.' That is the most important way that we can assure the value and awareness of Council Membership to all who enjoy.

As you read on, you will note below a few calls for support by those leading current actions. Select something of interest, and join those efforts to the extent that is comfortable for you. Your involvement is meant as a way of being a 'participating member' in the Council, but is expected to be limited to what you might comfortably enjoy. That involvement should NOT be a 'job'.

Further, it is entirely appropriate to invite Club Members who might find certain activities attractive to join in. Pass this on if you like, and see who responds.

I'll look forward to seeing many of you in Annapolis for the Cruise and Conference, and a full complement of excellent seafood.

Last of all, yes, the California wildfires are in the neighboring County, but thankfully downwind, due to the prevailing westerlies. We are safe and well.

Best Regards,
John

Volunteers Needed - *Interclub Activities - Cruise Planning and Youth Activities*

Joachim Isler, Chair of Interclub Activities, is looking for help to split the Interclub Activities Committee into two sharply focused subcommittees - Cruise Subcommittee and the Youth Subcommittee. Both are intended to broaden the visibility of ICOYC to members within your club and to promote some of the goals of ICOYC, namely having fun on boats and activating young members. Please contact Joachim at hj.isler@isler.com.hk to see how you can help out.

The aim of the **Youth Committee** is to help exchanges, training programmes, and tours among Member Clubs to improve and broaden the skills of our young sailors, and to increase their motivation and interest in the sport. Additional benefits to the youths will be cultural exchange and worldwide relationships. Benefits to ICOYC: there will be more visible benefits to ICOYC member club and their members, not to mention an increased standing within the world of Sailing.

The **Cruise Committee** continues to promote the very popular "ICOYC Cruises" in conjunction with a sponsoring club as well as to assist communications between Member Clubs which would allow other ICOYC members to join their internal cruises. We should be able to promote one or two 'big cruises' annually, some related to Commodores' Forums and others to Regional Meetings, as well as just when it feels good.

See more details in Joachim's message [HERE](#).

Volunteers Needed - *Benchmarking Project*

Chris Carlile, ICOYC Director, volunteered to lead the Member Data Exchange or Benchmarking project. The function of the project is to design a secure and confidential means of gathering club operating data and sharing the results among participating clubs. This also involves some creative thinking on what data to gather, how to measure certain things, and discovering the reasons for result differences.

Here is his first report to the Board and Regions outlining progress, future plans, and a call for **HELP** to commence the next stage of the rollout, internationally:

"On the 3rd of June, the [data sheet](#) and a [request letter](#) was send to the Australian Member Clubs asking them to participate. Responses have been received and are currently being analysed. It is timely therefore to start the process of extending the work beyond Australia.

This is where I/We need assistance.

Specifically, could I ask for at least ONE representative from each Region to step up and volunteer. The following is envisaged:

1. Initial briefing on the project, the process proposed, any lessons learned from the Australian pilot study, and confirmation that the data sheet is adequate for this first iteration of the study. Hopefully it will become a regular exercise and can be modified/upgraded over future years.
2. Act as a central point in each region to distribute the data sheets and assist Member Clubs with any queries/difficulties they may encounter in completing the sheets.
3. Review the completed sheets to check the data is reasonable and forward the sheets to me for the analysis.
4. Review the results of the analysis work and the story line that emerges - I imagine there will be some serious discussions about what the data is telling us and what conclusions can be drawn from the data.
5. Participate in producing the final report(s)
6. Distributing and "selling" the final product in each Region.

I have seen such benchmarking work used to great effect in businesses when seeking opportunities for improvement - I imagine similar benefits may accrue to Member Clubs - but, it will only be as good as the effort put in to make it a success.

So please step up and get involved!!

With Kind Regards, Chris"

Volunteers Needed - *Club Correspondent Network*

If you're interested in exchanging news or invitations to events with other clubs in your region or worldwide, this might be fun. We need to create our own network of 'correspondents' who establish relationships with the others to facilitate the broadcast of such items and local articles of interest. This might be a club member who is already involved in communications or international affairs. This is an opportunity to spread some of your club's successes and adventures among other ICOYC Member Clubs. Correspondent Wolfgang Weber of NRV has been a good example of showing how this role can succeed.

Volunteers Needed - *Assistant Webmaster*

Our webmaster needs some backup and is looking for an assistant. Those adept at computer usage, but not codewriters, would fit here very well. In addition to keeping the website fresh, we are looking at establishing a blog for member chats, create regular E-News (like this one) and need someone to work with the Club Correspondents above. This is a small crew working together from anywhere, and can help out by spending by an hour or two each week. We will train you to use the special tools of the website maintenance package. Send a message to webeditor@icoyc.org and volunteer.

Plans for the 2015 ICOYC Cruise in Chesapeake Bay are now complete ...

The ICOYC Cruises are hosted by member clubs and take place each year, usually in the spring or autumn, out of the main sailing season. They are wonderful events open to ALL the members of ICOYC clubs - not just the

Commodores!

This October the Cruise will be in Chesapeake Bay, hosted by [Annapolis Yacht Club](#). At the last count 25 yachts will be taking part with between 80 and 90 participants. The members of AYC will show all the visitors the best places to go in the Bay, and on a couple of occasions will host them in their own waterfront homes. Seven ICOYC clubs will be taking part in the 2015 Cruise, mostly with chartered yachts. All these clubs have members who have been on earlier Cruises and they know how enjoyable they can be. Cruise details and an agenda are posted in the [On the Water/Member Cruises/2015 Annapolis Chesapeake Bay](#) web page.

The Cruises were started by John Stork, Past President of the ICOYC, who will be at Annapolis. He says "We get to sail in many of the most attractive cruising grounds around the world, guided by local friends. I hope that in future many more club members will appreciate the fantastic sailing opportunity they have available through the ICOYC Cruises. They appeal to racing sailors and their families as much as to the dedicated cruisers."

No doubt all those taking part in the Chesapeake Cruise will spread the word on their return and more clubs will take part in the 2016 Cruise. Details of this will be announced shortly.

Chesapeake Bay Cruise - 02-10 October 2015 - Photo Album

For those of you who cannot take part in the 2015 ICOYC Cruise through the peaceful and historic waters of the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland, USA, 02-10 October 2015, a photo album for the cruise has been setup in [Photo Gallery](#). Cruise participants can upload their photos directly to the album by following the instructions on the Photo Gallery page or by sending them to webeditor@icoyc.org for posting. Non-cruisers can view the album by mid-October.

Americas Regional Conference: Annapolis, MD, 11-12 October 2015

Jim Burns, Americas Vice President, has called for a regional meeting to be held in Annapolis, MD, immediately following the Chesapeake Bay Cruise. Full details can be found on [Forums/Regional Conferences/Americas](#). All members of ICOYC clubs are invited to attend. Hotel reservations are now open and are discussed on the conference page. Take advantage of the conference and attend the [United States Sailboat Show](#) running at the same time in Annapolis. This is the biggest sailboat show in the USA.

Good Eats in Annapolis

The [Boatyard Bar and Grill](#), just across the creek from Annapolis Yacht Club, is THE sailors haunt for these waters. Read this [article](#) to understand some of the history, and add the Boatyard to your must visit list, while in Annapolis for the ICOYC Cruise, hosted by AYC, and the following ICOYC Americas Conference at Annapolis Yacht Club.

Next Commodores' Forum: Copenhagen - October 2016

The 2016 Commodores' Forum will be hosted by the Royal Danish Yacht Club in October 2016. Take a look at the [initial announcement](#) and mark your calendars.

The audience of eNEWS is all members of ICOYC as well as selected members of the yachting community and guests of past Forums. While most of the links to the www.icoyc.org website are to the public side, some of the hyperlinks in the text require the members-only login for security. These links can only be used by **signed-in** ICOYC members and will be noted as "**members only**". If you are a member of ICOYC and are having trouble logging into the private side of the website, send an email to webeditor@icoyc.org for help.

Site login privilege is available to any member of a Council Club upon the recommendation of the club's Delegate and Council approval.

This message was sent to Robert Miller <bobmillerwa@hotmail.com> by International Council of Yacht Clubs
Click [here](#) to unsubscribe from further communications