



## Owner's Association

**NEWS LETTER**

**AUGUST 2021**

### **Notice of Race 2021 Western Shore Roundup (Randy Bruns)**

I am delighted to announce we are holding the Western shore Roundup once again after a year of no racing. It will be held at the West River Sailing Club September 24 and 25. Sailors can meet at the West River Cookout on Friday evening where you can purchase food and drink and have a nice evening with all of us together. Racing on Saturday is open to all Dickersons as well as other vintage single hull cruising boats whose first hull was laid down prior to 1990. The race starts at High Noon at WR G1 and features a rabbit start type of race. Rabbit starts make it easy for all competitors to get a good windward start. The winner of the race is declared the Sheriff of the Western Shore with a perpetual trophy. We will have a dinner at Pirates Cove that evening. Some sailors continue on Sunday to cruise together.

There is plenty of water for anchoring off the Club for short dinghying to the Club docks. I am checking on the viability of the Club moorings so stay tuned. If the docks are free of members two boats could tie up.

If you plan to attend let me know by 20 September and I will email you Race Instructions and suggestions on starting. Also let me know if you and your crew plan to attend the cookout; helps the kitchen staff plan.

Of course all this is subject to virus restrictions. The Club has been very conservative on this issue.

Randy Bruns [rbbruns@verizon.net](mailto:rbbruns@verizon.net); 443-994-8844

### **Dickerson Business Lunch January 15, 2022 at Annapolis (Joe Slavin)**

The Dickerson Lunch will be held from 11AM to 3PM on Saturday January 15, 2022 at the Red Lobster Restaurant, 183 Jennifer Road, Annapolis MD. The program will include a discussion by Commodore Jim Hontz of "Dickerson State of the Union" and plans for the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Rendezvous at Oxford on Father's Day Weekend, June 17-19, 2022 with dinner at the Tred Avon Yacht Club. Sailing Master Kerry O'Malley, Fleet Captains and other members and guests will discuss matters important to our Dickerson Association, including tips on the maintenance of Dickerson yachts.

Contact Joe Slavin re your attendance at [jws2827@aol.com](mailto:jws2827@aol.com) or 571-287-7600

## Oxford, MD: Much the Same Yet Times Are a Changin' (Bill Toth)

Many of us have been visiting Oxford, Maryland by sail for many a year. Our Dickerson annual Rendezvous has been anchored there more times than not. Yet, if you've not been to Oxford recently much is the same, but times are a changin'.

*Starry Night's* home base on the Chesapeake has been in Oxford for almost 20 years. She has seen the Oxford Boatyard and Mears Marina combined and transformed to Brewer's ownership and now to Safe Harbor, Oxford.

Many will remember Tom and the on-site house at the Marina, replaced with the Clubhouse and Bathhouse which is rumored to be the best facility on the Bay!

For me, this quiet town, and the Staff at Safe Harbor, keep me coming back year after year! See you there for the 2022 Dickerson Annual Rendezvous!

Safe Harbor, Oxford is hosting two events per month, so visit regularly for fun in the sun on the water.



**“Best on the Bay” facilities**

**Floating Docks---Completed!**

### Safe Harbor, Oxford @ A Glance:

- 60 new floating slips at the Marina and a new stationary dock with 8 larger slips
- Dockwa on-line reservation for transient slips. (dockwa.com or via Dockwa App)
- Many renovations /improvements across the Marina and Boatyard
  - 4 new Cal Flame gas grills (These grills are amazing!)
  - New Dock Carts
- Same awesome Clubhouse, Bathhouse, Laundry Facility, Pool, and bike rentals
- Friendliest Marina Staff on the Eastern Shore
  - Graham is the General Manager
  - Jeff is the Marina Manager
  - Laird Larimore is the on-site Yacht Broker
- Safe Harbor, Oxford details available at <https://shmarinas.com/locations/safe-harbor-oxford/>



**Red Sky by Night**

**Rainbows during the Day**

## **Oxford @ a Glance**

- Home of the Tred Avon Yacht Club (TAYC)
  - See you there at the Rendezvous on Saturday Night, Thanks to Jim & Paula Karr
- The Robert Morris Inn, the oldest full-service Inn in America, continues to delight guests
- Victor's Highland Creamery should not be missed
  - Crushed Strawberry the best flavor...full stop!
- The Oxford-Belleview Ferry remains in operation
  - The longest running commercial ferry in the United States
- "Oxford Social" Coffee House is new across the street from the Oxford Market
  - Great coffee and treats available for you early risers
  - Pints of Victor's ice cream available too!
- Hinckley Yard is now a DiMillo's Facility
  - Back Cove and Sabre Yachts "drawing us to the dark side"
- Speed Limit of 25 MPH very strictly enforced

## **A Maine Jaunt (Dave Fahrmeier)**

It has been said that the eight week short sailing season in Maine is one to die for and we wholeheartedly agree. In past years, we have sailed much farther "east" (as the locals call NE and upwards) in Maine to the magical spots of Penobscot Bay, Mt. Desert Island, and beyond. Certainly, the quaintness, beauty, and serenity of these areas should not be missed. Unfortunately, these areas are heavily trafficked and space is limited, with some but few anchorage areas. One is usually forced to rent a mooring in most of the populated areas. Too many boats and too few protected areas, simply the supply and demand principle applies. Don't let that scare you for it is all minor when you consider the trip as a whole. You will find an appeal to the classic boat; woodies, schooners, and older boats being in the same family for generations are the norm. Beneteaus, Hunters, and multi-hulls just don't fit the motif of the area that well, but certainly are there. To get to these areas in past years, we have bypassed Casco Bay but decided this year to check out what we have been missing. OMG, we found we have been missing a lot. Casco Bay, just east of Portland, is made up of over 100 islands and supports many anchorages and coves, with little of the traffic seen in the more high profile areas. We spent several weeks exploring places off the beaten track. Many (but not all) moorings were free, however most areas supported protected anchorage areas and free dinghy docks. We just loved the non touristy feel of Casco Bay. Most of the islands supported

homes that have been in families for generations, inhabited only 8 weeks of the year, although many are undergoing serious upgrades as the economics of owning one has increased substantially, in recent years. Temperatures in this area during the summer are cool but not



cold. Most days see highs in the 70's, lows near 50's. Shorts and tee shirts during the day, sweatshirts at night. We call that a 2 blanket sleep arrangement. Winds are rather light and the sun shines most days, except when fog or the rare Nor'easter arrives.



There is plenty of rock to contend with and the 8' (Casco Bay) to 20' (far east to the Canadian border in the Bay of Fundy) tides require attention, but channels and low water areas are well marked. It is usual to see rock islands disappear at high tide. Lobster is king in the area and you won't have any problem being reminded. Lobster pots are everywhere and in much greater quantities than crab pots on the Chesapeake. In some areas you need to wind your way through carefully. The advantage is that lobster is cheaper than it has been traditionally.



We usually buy lobster off the boat or at a seaside shack every 4 or 5 days and cook onboard. All of these areas are just off the ocean, but with little of the drama we see off the east coast. Traveling in the ocean most days is like sailing on the Chesapeake, flat water, little wind.



The scenic beauty is to behold, the break from mid-Atlantic summer temperatures a relief, and the traditional experience is grand. From the 4th of July till Labor Day, for sailors, this is why Maine calls itself America's Vacation-land.

Dave and Siobhan Fahrmeier Aboard D41 *Down Home*

## **May Dickersons Live Forever (Barry Creighton)**

As is the case with any set of masterpieces — over time their numbers decrease. Some are lost, some are neglected, and some just can no longer be maintained. So it is with classic yachts and so it is with our Dickerson fleets. One of the main tenants of the Dickerson Owners' Association (DOA) is to fend off that trend as long as possible. We do that by supporting each other with technical advice and mutual support. We look for new enthusiastic owners who are willing to make the necessary sacrifices to preserve and restore boats in need. But sometimes the clock wins and a Dickerson must be retired. Notice I use the term “retire”, because we shall NOT let them die.

Each of the classic boats has associated stories of colorful skippers (let's face it — we have our share of “characters”), harrowing passages, and majestic cruises. We all have a responsibility to capture those stories that they will live on.

And physical portions of the boats can also live on. Let's use the example of our Sampson Post's storied and recently retired Dickerson 35, “*Irish Mist*”.



As she reached her final berthing in preparation for decommissioning, CAPT Doug Sergeant, owner of *Different Drummer* salvaged a piece of teak. Thoughtfully, Doug drilled numerous bungs and presented them to other skippers to use in capping a screw hole aboard their respective Dickerson. So a piece of *Irish Mist* will live on, on all those boats.







We will do more. CAPT Kerry O'Malley is leading an effort to enhance our Dickerson Owners' Association display at the Richardson Maritime Museum in Cambridge, MD. Already displaying a video history, hull models, and pictures and technical information about varying Dickerson built yachts, we will be adding more artifacts. One of those new artifacts will be the wheel from "*Irish Mist*" rescued by CAPT Randy Bruns. This is the same wheel that CAPT Joe Slavin caressed as he guided "Number 79" to more "first over the lines" than any other of our boats. The same wheel that he held firmly and unflinchingly as "*Force Majeure*" T-boned her and took out a main winch and cockpit coaming. Just like her long time skipper, CAPT Joe Slavin, the wheel cleaned up pretty well after a lot of stripping and sanding and 13 (for good luck) coats of oil.

Barry Creighton, SV *Crew Rest*

## **Welcome to all New Members (John Freal)**

We are thrilled that you have joined our maritime family.

As a reminder, membership dues are payable on a calendar year basis. Dues are paid at the end of each year for the following year; notices for 2022 will be sent out in the November time frame. Menus and prices for the annual June Rendezvous will be finalized in the Spring and notices sent out then.

Based on requests from several members, we are exploring an electronic payment option. Dues would still be payable with checks at the member's option. More to come as we work to get the system in place.

John Freal  
Secretary/ Treasurer

**Plan Now to Attend Dickerson Owners Association Classic Sailboat  
Rendezvous June 17-19, 2022 Oxford, Maryland  
(Commodore Jim Hontz)**

Events include a Parade on Friday afternoon on June 17 followed by a Commodores' Cookout at 6 pm at the Safe Harbor Marina grounds.

Highlights of the Rendezvous include the Dickerson Classic Boat Race on Saturday Morning followed by Dinner at 6 pm at the Tred Avon Yacht Club.

Dockage is available at Oxford's Safe Harbor Marina and the Tred Avon Yacht Club.

A traditional post Rendezvous Cruise is also included in the program

A sign up form will be sent out after January 1, 2022 but please feel free to let us know of your interest in advance.

Jim Hontz, Commodore, SV *Troubadour* [hontz@dickinson.edu](mailto:hontz@dickinson.edu)