

SHYC Owners and Renters,

It is almost summer! For this New England transplant, it sure feels like mid-summer. It is great to see all the activity around the club. The work day was a great success, there has been much progress on projects to be ready for the boating season, and boats are visibly preparing for use (either at the dock or under way)! Personally, Pat and I have been to New Bern for a couple of days, Ocracoke for a long weekend over Memorial Day, to River Dunes for the Hope Regala, and shortly will be on a 2-week cruise with the Neuse Sailing Association to the Albemarle Sound. Very busy season already! I hope you have great plans ahead and a wonderful summer around the club and Eastern NC.

I want to thank everyone that participated in the SHYC priorities survey. It was very helpful and also confirmed the direction the board has set forth for 2018 and future years. The top three items that members identified were the pedestals, the Kenworthy furniture, and the electrical system. There isn't always a correlation between priority and urgency and as a result the Board is focusing on the most urgent items first. The pedestals are a critical infrastructure item, and thankfully still have some life left in them. We plan to grow our capital fund so we can responsibly replace them as needed in the coming years as requirements dictate. On the other hand, items with a lower priority were already in our budget and relatively low cost. For example, new pool chairs and new material for the pool lounges. These and many other projects are keeping the Management Team very busy!

Another way to view the results that the board discussed was the top likes and dislikes. One of the top dislikes that came out in the comments was the docks. Particularly the appearance and slipperiness when wet. If you've been around the club, you will notice the management team is power washing all of the docks; something that has historically been done on a rotating 2-year basis. This type of visible (and safety) improvement is something the board will continue to focus on as we address club priorities. Comments were also made about changing to other materials (like concrete or synthetic boards). Such a project would need to be looked at for viability in terms of dock space/layout as well as cost.

The internet access was another dislike, and we have made progress towards improving that infrastructure. We now have 3 directional antennas and have improved connection speeds by 5 times. We did experience a possible overload condition over the Memorial Day weekend and are monitoring the network to address such issues. Marinas seem to be just like boats, you are always maintaining them!

A budgetary topic I would like to address is the cost of the items outlined in the last quarterly message. We received feedback that some seemed high, and a suggestion that we might be able to find an item via donation, etc. That feedback was very helpful – we are always striving to spend the club's money wisely and where we have expertise we want to take advantage of that! Happily, a few things have come in at lower costs than estimated, and we were able to get an AED donated – thanks to fellow board member Ken Shull and the Guil-Rand Fire Department! Some of the other items identified are not in the 2018 budget and we continue to refine timing and costs to inform future boards.

As the use of the club and boats has increased, we are seeing increased use of one of our primary assets – Pierce Creek channel. There have been a few reports of shallow water, and at least one grounding (all is well thankfully!) My observation after a half dozen or so transits is the dredged channel is at 8-9 feet at normal water depth. I have also noted the channel depth drops to about 6.5 feet between the 2 outer red marks, which is beyond where we dredge. We will be investigating where this occurs and use

our floating marks to assist staying mid-channel in this area. The best advice I can give is to find and stay mid-channel, which is about 40' off each of the marks as you pass.

Finally, I wanted to mention one of the likes in the survey comments. Many of you said you like the location, the board, our management team and fellow members. What a great thing to hear! I agree that SHYC has a very welcoming and family feel to it that we love. Maintaining that experience takes work and is something I encourage all of us to think about. Being in a shared space requires being aware of others around you that have different needs and desires. I hope we all can help a fellow member struggling with their boat, carrying something that is heavy, to say good morning, and to respect one another and how they use the club. Whether that is to jump on your boat and get out on the river, spend an afternoon reading a book, or taking a dip in the pool. It is your space to enjoy how you want, and everyone's place to be able to enjoy themselves!

Regards,

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