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Tell Tales

Greater Richmond Sailing Association

March 2008

Compiled and Edited by
Dan Bradley

Dear Daniel,

Welcome to the latest Tell Tales newsletter. This is the primary member communication of what's new for the GRSA. For additional details on these and any other topics of interest, please visit the website at <http://grsa.org>.

Happy Sailing!
Kurt Steinbock and Joe Racette
Publicity@grsa.org

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GRSA Dues to increase in 2009

Earlier this year, the Board of Directors appointed a small workgroup to address several key membership issues. The Board wants to continue to support the purpose of our club, which is to promote the sport of sailing, sailing education, and provide facilities and convenience for the social activity and enjoyment of its members. We believe that the annual dues and membership application fees have been a real bargain. Our belief is that the new fees continue that tradition but also position the Club to deal with the challenges that lie ahead for a non-profit organization.

It is the position of the Board to encourage stock ownership as one approach for developing long-term relationships and loyalties between members and the Association. In connection with this position, we are trying to make stock ownership more attractive.

The Board of Directors has voted to increase dues for all non-stockholding members of GRSA beginning in January, 2009. Additionally, the Board has agreed to increase the membership application and initiation fees and charge additional fees for more than one boat stored on the premises. The cost for additional boats varies depending on whether a member is a stockholder or not and when the additional boats were originally brought to the GRSA site.

Perhaps the most challenging issue for the Club is the demand for boat

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Commodore's Corner



Get ready for the best sailing of the year. The lake is full. The winds are picking up. The temperature is dropping, and yielding to those brisk fall days. You have limited time to sneak in an afternoon, evening or weekend of sailing before the cold of winter grinds into your

storage space on our grounds. It is the primary limiting factor in bringing new members into the Club each year. To make sure we make the best use of our limited space, we are implementing additional fees for multiple boats maintained on the site under certain specific situations. To meet this challenge, we have established limits on the number of trailerable (vehicle launched) boats all members can store on the site as part of their basic membership. We have set a structure of fees for boats stored in excess of that limit, to be paid annually in conjunction with your annual dues.

Additionally, we have set a more specific size limit for any boat brought on to and stored on the site at an overall length of 20 feet.

The Board also created a new committee to manage the placement of boats on club property. This will take some of the load off of the Facilities Chairman and allow this key position to focus on the overall maintenance and upkeep of the grounds, docks, decks and other facilities. All boat placement and storage is on a space available basis and no boat should ever be brought onto the grounds and parked without prior approval of the Boatyard Committee. In the interim, please contact Commodore Jim Hudson for approval and site assignment until a chairman for the new committee is named by the Board.

Here is a breakout look at all of the changes being implemented beginning January 1, 2009:

Issue	Stockholders	Non - Stockholders
Annual Dues	\$250	\$300 if under 35 years old as of January 1 of membership year. \$400 if over 36 years of age as of January 1 of membership year
Requesting of placement of any boat, trailerable or otherwise	Space available, placement approved by Boatyard Chair	Space available, placement approved by Boatyard Chair
Limit on Trailerable boats placed on site	Limit of two trailerable (vehicle launched) boats on site (grandfathered storage of more than 2 trailerable boats if onsite as of November 30, 2007)	Limit of one trailerable (vehicle launched) boat on site
Fees for Trailerable boat stored on site in excess of limit	\$200 per boat per year, payable with dues or upon placement. No pro-rata fees.	\$200 per boat per year, payable with dues or upon placement. No pro-rata fees.
Limits on hand dolly boats, canoes, kayaks	Contingent on space available- no additional fee.	Contingent on space available- no additional fee.
Application and Initiation Fees		Combined \$250 fee with \$100 paid upon application and the \$150 balance payable upon acceptance for membership.
Limit on Over All Length of Boats Stored on GRSA Property	No longer than 20 feet overall	No longer than 20 feet overall

Pitch in for our Fall Work Day Oct. 4

An important part of your membership is helping to keep the property clean, repaired and safe for all, so grab your work gloves, a couple of Red Bulls and join us at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 4. The more hands we have, the faster it will go.

Facilities Chairman John Swenson has a list of chores waiting for volunteers. Erosion at the Genito dock needs to be dealt with, the equipment shed needs a coat of stain, there's log-splitting to be done, and plenty of general clean up and mowing. If you have portable power tools, leaf and garden rakes, shovels or what have you, bring 'em along.

bones.

Take advantage of it. The Boathouse Regatta is this weekend. I hope to sail (first race all year for me)

As well as the great fall series. My understanding is that Bob and Leslie Damon are planning a great event for the Columbus Day Regatta. Stay tuned.

We will need your help the first Saturday in October at our fall workday. We have some erosion under the Genito dock to address and some other core projects. Remember, GRSA depends on the hard work and full participation of all members to keep our grounds and facilities in tip top shape so make sure you show up put your sweat equity into our little patch of paradise.

The Holiday party/Annual Meeting is still planned for the first Saturday of December.

It is my firm belief we are lucky to be members of this organization.

Let's enjoy it and each other!

Join Our Mailing List!

Benefits of Stock Ownership

By Commodore Jim Hudson

It is time to take advantage of becoming a stock member of our fine organization. Please see the New Annual Dues article in this newsletter for changes to the fees that will impact all members starting in 2009. In the long run, you can save some real money by purchasing a share of stock now. The cost of a share of stock is still just \$750.

In addition to the pride of sharing in the ownership of the club, there are financial incentives as well.

Historically there has been a 15 year payback to the cost of a share of stock (\$50 dues difference per year). As noted in the article on the dues increase, the annual dues for non stockholder members age 35 and up as

The Race Committee needs your help

A full and exciting schedule of regattas is a big part of the GRSA yearly calendar. Lately, though, the tasks of organizing the events and manning the Committee Boat have been handled by a very short list of volunteers.

Race Committee Chairman Bill McClintock has even called on his neighbors to pitch in while our members are out on the water enjoying the competition.

Help keep this function of our club alive and thriving by raising your hand to help. You don't need to be a racer yourself ... the committee will show you what to do. And if you ARE a racer, you really owe it to club and our racing program to give up a regatta now and volunteer for the sake of a healthy race program. Contact [Bill and his committee](#) to pitch in.

Recycling continues at GRSA

By Jan Edwards
Social Committee

By now you have seen the large green box in our Pavilion holding our recycling containers for glass, plastic and aluminum. As you enjoy the use of the club, don't forget to place your empty plastic, glass and aluminum containers in the bins. We thank Midlothian High School students for picking up our glass and plastic bottles and depositing them at recycling centers nearby. Midlothian High School Robotics Team raised \$4000 by collecting aluminum cans last year, so they are happy to pick up our aluminum cans and we are too!!

of January 1 will be \$400 rather than the current \$300. The payback will now be only 5 years (\$150 dues difference per year). The payback if you have more than one trailerable boat is even greater (generally within 3 years).

If you are interested in becoming a stockholder please write the Commodore or Membership Chairman a brief letter of request as soon as possible. Your petition will be brought to the Board, and upon acceptance you will need to pay for your share of stock.

By the way, you may request redemption for your stock and receive \$750 back, subject to Board approval, when you leave the club.

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