



Blackbeard's Epitaph

Save These Dates:

June 6

BoD @ 9:30

June 13 & 14

Bill Jarvis Spring One Design Regatta

June 25

Cruise to Ocracoke or Lookout

July 4

Holiday Hotdog Lunch

Cruise to New Bern

Croaker Festival - Oriental

July 11

BoD meeting @ 7:00PM

July 24

Cruise to River Dunes



Blackbeard Sailing Club

In This Issue:

From the Commodore	1 - 2
Cinco de Mayo Regatta	2 - 3
Ensign Spring Series Final	4 - 5
Sea Scouts	6
Scoop your Poop	7
Wave Attenuation Report #3	8
Register for 250th July 4th	9
Cruising Forward	10 - 12
Volunteer Sailors	13
2026 ICRC Calendar	14 - 15
BSC 2026 BOD	16 - 17
42nd Oar and Lexus Cup Winners	18 - 19

From the Commodore

Ahoy mates!

We are coming up to the halfway point this year.

Many activities are in place, racing is in full swing, our distant cruisers have returned with tales to tell, several local cruising events completed, Wednesdays on the deck reinitiated.

June will see the start of ETYSA program with its youth sailors learning new skills and making new friends.

The first phase of the Wave Attenuation/Dock Improvements is nearing completion and appears to be working well calming the wave action on B-dock and the marina in general.

We look forward to expanded docking accommodations, additional viewing areas to enjoy our creek and river vistas and possible launch area for small vessels and kayak's.

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

From the Commodore (Continued)

With your support the dock improvements will continue into the next phase.

What is on your bucket list, let me know?

See ya out there!

Cliff

Cinco de Mayo Regatta

by Eddy Parker

Skip Bynum said that the internet is the worst thing to ever happen to sailboat racing, and I think he may be on to something. 10 days out the forecast for the Cinco de Mayo regatta was the weather is going to suck, 5 days out it got worse and by race day it was raining and temperatures were in the low fifties. Or as Steve Toal said, "a nice summer day in England." With the forecast, turnout was lighter than in prior years but we still had some fine racing. Leading the charge was the fleet of junior sailors in 420s with eight boats racing both days. The sunfish class had 8 boats registered, but only three boats raced on the first day and seven on the second. The fleet was rounded out with 4 Wayfarers, 3 San Juan 21-Spinnaker and 3 Portsmouth Rating Class.



Racing was followed by a Mexican meal from Dank Burrito, and if you haven't tried their pork bellies, you really should.

Sunday was a clear but cool day with temperatures at race time in the low 50's with winds 10-19 knots with some big gusts and shifts. We sailed two more races on Sunday, with really tight racing in the fleets. The 420s were fun to watch in their starts, with all 8 boats on the line holding position and starting in one long line of boats. It was great seeing so many young sailors racing hard and having fun. One of the 420s capsized, and with some coaching was able to right their boat and get back

I already mentioned it was cold, and wet, but it was also a bit breezy with winds 8-16 knots on Saturday. The race committee was able to coerce the fleet to run three races on Saturday (except the Wayfarers who decided they had suffered enough after two) before we all went in and tried to get warm. Everything was so wet that when we hoisted our spinnaker for the final run, it went to the top of the mast in a wet ball until we pulled on the sheet and guy. I don't think our sails could have been wetter if we threw them into the river.



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Cinco de Mayo Regatta

to sailing, all the while smiling.

I have to say, the racers were paying to go out and race on the river, but the real heroes are the volunteers on small mark boats and the race committee. We were working hard, they had to sit in the rain and freeze. One humorous moment was when Jude Brown was going by Skip in the pin boat, gesturing at Skip and saying something. Skip was having trouble understanding what he was saying until he realized Cooper had jumped in and decided to go for a swim when he got bored, Labs . . .

Winners in the respective fleets were:

San Juan 21 Spinnaker - Eddy Parker and Bill Talbert on *Stripper* (BSC/NYRA)

Wayfarer - John Driver on *Sirocco* (West River Sailing Club)

Sunfish – Jude Brown (BSC/ODC)

420 – Andrew Connolly and Scarlet Hansen (BSC/ETYSA)

Portsmouth – Blake Sohn on *Longshot* (BSC)

Full results can be seen at [2026 NYRA Cinco de Mayo One De-](#)



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Light Turnout for Spring Series Final

by Mark Brennesholtz

On a fine sailing day, two SJ21s and two Ensigns duked it out for three races that were also part of the NYRA Cinco de Mayo regatta. It was entertaining watching the Sunfish, 420s and the Wayfarers start ahead of us. Usually, we are the smallest boats on the racecourse, but now we felt like four-masters.

Long Shot and *Blue Note* did not sail faultlessly. Blake was over early once and then had to do a penalty turn in a later race. We on *Blue Note* shrimped the spinnaker on a takedown at the leeward mark, but fortunately the chute didn't foul on the keel or rudder, so we were not completely stalled. We couldn't use the spinnaker the rest of the day. As always, it is fun racing against the San Juans since we are so closely matched overall. We did miss not having *Red Stripe* out with us.

For the Spring Series, *Blue Note* was comfortably in first, followed by *Long Shot* and *Stipe*. The Fall Series begins late September and runs into early November. Hopefully we will have four (come on *Raptor!*) Ensigns on the line and a few more San Juans.



Ensign *Long Shot* leads two San Juans around the leeward mark in the Saturday Cinco de Mayo races May 9 & 10.



Sunfish running before the wind at the Cinco (C. Davies photo)

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Light Turnout

by Mark Brennesholtz
photos by Chris Davies



Tight start for 420 class on Saturday of Cinco de Mayo.

Blue Note port crosses SJ21 Road Runner on Sunday



Mark Weinheimer in *Deuces Wild* rounds the windward mark ahead of *Blue Note* and *Road Runner*.



Our PRO set offset windward marks to keep the many classes separated when going from a beat to a run. But *Long Shot* forgot and set the shoot at the windward mark before rounding the offset. They had to take in the spinnaker, tack, round the offset and then reset the kite.



Blackbeard Sends a Lifeline to Sea Scouts

by Tate Gasch

With only six days left before Sea Scouts Ship 4561 planned to disembark from Blackbeard Sailing Club for the Cherry Point airshow, one of their leaders realized his boat was leaking.

Ship 4561 Skipper Ken Gasch had less than a week to find a solution for 18 scouts.

BSC members Chris Weed and Regina Ali stepped up to the helm.

Ship 4561, based in Durham, is a coed organization for youth ages 14-21. Though Gasch serves as the Skipper, Sea Scouts is designed to encourage young sailors to be self-sufficient and relies heavily on youth leadership.

“Crews are assigned so that scouts with the most sailing experience are divided amongst available vessels,” Gasch said. “Our most experienced scouts teach the less experienced scouts how to head up, fall off, tack, gybe, all the essential skills of sailing,” he explained.

Weed and Ali, both experienced sailors, captain a Sabre 38 and a Pearson 10M, respectively.

“When a fellow sailor asks you for help with something, there’s this motto that you just kind of say yes,” Weed said.

Though he’d never captained a scouting trip before, Weed was pleasantly surprised by the organizational structure of the Ship.

“A senior scout stepped up as the [Sabre] master and kept track of inventory and all the scouts’ well-being,” Weed said. “All the scouts understood the chain of command. It’s the most I’ve ever felt like a ship’s captain,” he said.

The scouts cook, clean, navigate and helm their ships.

“The first mate made us coffee,” Wood said. “That’s a very important job.”

The scouts’ eagerness to learn and dedication to leadership are what Weed attributes to their ability to go on “fun and safe adventures,” and to participate in high-adventure trips.

“I learned a lot on the trip,” Weed said. “It was a true privilege to be a part of it.”

Sea Scout Ship 4561 is a member of Scouting America, formerly Boy Scouts of America. If you are interested in sailing with the Sea Scouts, reach out to Ken Gasch at (919)-475-8866.



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Scoop the Poop

by Chris Sellers

Clean up your dog's poop? It's not fun on the bottom of your shoes!



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Wave Attenuation Progress Report #3!

Membership,

Some additional progress photos of the project for your viewing pleasure.

Remember, the construction can be viewed on the BSC WEBSITE Camera.

Thanks Cliff



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

RSVP NOW FOR THE 4TH of JULY BSC LUNCH

This year, July 4th takes on special meaning as we all gather to celebrate America's 250th birthday. This year's lunch celebration will feature a special extended menu featuring a selection of hotdogs, hamburgers, pulled pork and ribs along with fun fitting for this milestone day.

Following the celebration, Jason Heald, Scott and Jessica Huddle will lead the group by sailboat to New Bern for the fireworks.

All members and families are welcome to join. Cost is \$5 per person or \$8 at the door. Volunteer help needed. Call Sheldon at 252-670-6790.

Please RSVP by June 27th by [Click Here](#) or scan the QR code .

PLAN TO SPEND
AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY
AT BSC!
JULY 4 • 10 AM



**SCAN ME
TO RSVP**

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Cruising Forward

2026 Cruise Committee Schedule

- **June 25-28 Ocracoke or Cape Lookout (weather will dictate the destination)**
 - Our "BIG" cruise for the season, this is the chance to get out for some blue water fun! Swimming, snorkeling, beach fires, etc.!!
- **July 4th New Bern**
 - A fun, short cruise under the bridge to New Bern AFTER the hotdog lunch at BSC to watch some fireworks!
- **July 24-26 River Dunes NC**
 - Since it was such a big hit last year, it was decided before we left that it would become an annual sail! Top notch docking service, pool, hot tub and other amenities are among the many enticements provided for a mini vacation a short distance from our home port!
- **September 5-7 Beaufort NC**
 - Let's go have some fun in Beaufort for Labor Day weekend! Anchor with us at Taylor's Creek or book yourself a slip in one of the marinas. Either way we'll all meet and party it up properly for the unofficial end of summer!
- **October 17-18 Minnesott Beach NC**
 - A fun Autumn raft up party at one of the nicest white sand beaches on the Neuse River!
- **December TBD New Bern XMAS Flotilla**
 - Throw on your big boy/girl pants and come out to brave this cold, but fun, night watching the boats all lit up for Christmas!

Fun Cruise to the Oriental Boat Show

by Scott Huddle

The fun cruise to the Oriental Boat Show occurred April 11th and 12th. A small but spirited group consisting of the S/Vs *Sweet Jane*, *Kairos* and *Vertical Wing* were this years participants.

Light winds on Saturday didn't dampen the mood as we fired up the diesels and steamed full speed ahead to our anchorage by the bridge next to the entrance to Oriental Harbor. After dropping the hooks, Kairos offered to host the rest of the group onboard for snacks and a spirits where we chatted and enjoyed the beautiful weather!

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Fun Cruise to the Oriental Boat Show (continued)

We then hopped in the dinghies and went ashore to explore all the boat show has to offer.. the tent sales and flea market, power and sail boats, and a beer garden with live music! Later in the evening we all met up at M&M's for a delicious dinner and some adult beverages. Lively banter and many laughs were a perfect way to end the evening!

Sunday brought a lazy morning of lounging before the group picked up anchor and headed out of the channel for our sail back to BSC. We were greeted on the Neuse by a steady wind at our backs as we put up sails and cut off the engines. A leisurely sail home was a great wrap up to a great weekend. Good times were had by all!

The May 9th cruise to the Blue Angels airshow had an excellent turnout with about 15 boats attending. Everyone rendezvous near the Slocum Creek Anchorage, including three boats from the sea Scouts that was hosted by Ken Gasch, Regina Ali, and Chris Weed. The grand finale of the six Blue Angels flying in formation was the highlight of the show. The jets rocketed above the clouds and dove down while emitting smoke cloud trails. Approximately 30 folks from the cruise grilled out and enjoyed good times around the campfire at BSC.



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Fun Cruise to the Oriental Boat Show (continued)



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Volunteer Sailors

by Bruce Woods

I want to encourage BSC members to sail their own boats, and to help others in doing so, much like the Fun Sails encourage us to join them, but with a focus on matching up "reluctant" captains and helpful crews.

Need crew? Help launching? Schedule a daysail with someone! Maybe even create a group of boats to go out sailing, raft up, etc!

If you want to help, post your interests: Be a crew, help someone launch, help change a tire, or any other sailboat interests you have.

We will try to come up with a way to match capabilities, availabilities, and get you out on the river!

One of the new ways to get started is to use the GROUPS page on the updated BSC website. Within groups there is a Need Crew/Want to crew section and even a "For Sale".

It has been suggested that we might form a daysailing group; I am all for that!

"If anything is going to happen, it's gonna happen out there."

Bruce L. Woods



Social ▾ Events/Groups ▾ News/Blog ▾ Photos/Cameras



Groups Feed

View groups and posts below.

This post is from a suggested group Join

Bruce Woods
3 days ago · joined Need Crew/Want to Crew

0

1 Comment 26 Views

Write a comment...

Sort by: Newest ▾

Bruce Woods
4 hours ago

Crew wanted for daysailing my Corsair F-24 on Friday March 27. I hope to be at BSC by 11:00 a.m.

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

2026 RACE SCHEDULE

Provided by Inter-Club Racing Committee (ICRC)

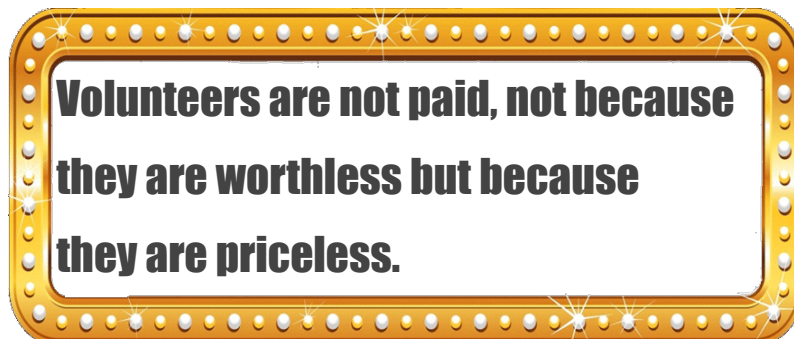
1/16/26

Date	Day	Club	Event	PHRF	One-De-sign		Location
More races, events and contact information are listed on next page!							
Jun 13-14	Sat-Sun	BSC	Spring One-Design Regatta #		X		New Bern
Jun 20	Sat	PSC	Indian Island to Ocracoke P	X			Pamlico
Jun 21	Sun		FATHER'S DAY				
Jul 4	Sat		INDEPENDENCE DAY				
Jul 4	Sat	BTS	Croaker Festival Regatta		X	FJ/420/SF	Oriental
Jul 18	Sat	NYRA	Parrothead (to Oriental)	X			New Bern to Oriental
Jul 18	Sat	HISC	Harkers Island Regatta		X	Sunfish only	Harkers Isl
Aug 22-23	Sat-Sun	BSC	Gurganus One-Design Regatta #		X		New Bern
Sep 7	Mon		LABOR DAY				
Sep 11-13	Fri-Sun	ETYSA	Queen Anne's Revenge Junior Regatta			Dinghy Regatta, under 18 yrs old	New Bern
Sep 19	Sat	BTS	Greens Creek Regatta		X	Under 20 ft	Oriental
Sep 26-27	Sat-Sun	NYRA	Full Moon Overnight Regatta	X			New Bern
Oct 3-4	Sat-Sun	BSC	Blackbeard Regatta (ETYSA Benefit) *	X			New Bern
Oct 9-11	Fri-Sun	NCO	Oriental Cup P	X			Oriental
Oct 31	Sat		HALLOWEEN				
Oct 31	Sat	NYRA	Halloween / Winter Race 1 *	X			New Bern
Nov 14	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 2 *	X			New Bern
Nov 21	Sat	BSC	Turkey Trot Regatta		X		New Bern
Nov 26	Thu		THANKSGIVING				
Dec 5	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 3 *	X			New Bern
Dec 19	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 4 *	X			New Bern
Dec 25	Fri		CHRISTMAS				
Jan 9, 2027	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 5 *	X			New Bern
Jan 23, 2027	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 6 *	X			New Bern
Feb 6, 2027	Sat	NYRA	Winter Race 7 *	X			New Bern
Feb 20, 2027	Sat	NYRA	Commodore's Ball Regatta *	X			New Bern

* NYRA Boat of the Year Race

Clark Cup Series

P Date Protected



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Additional Events of Interest

Blackbeard One Design Series - located on the Neuse River near Upper Broad Creek, New Bern, NC.

Spring Series: 6 Saturday races on Mar 28; Apr 4, 18 & 25; May 2 & 9.
Fall Series: 6 Saturday races on Sep 19 & 26; Oct 3, 10, & 24; Nov 7 (awards & social TBD.)
Three races per day, first signal at 1255. Contact: Blake Sohn at blakesohn@gmail.com or (612) 481-9696.

Blackbeard Sailing Club (BSC) Weekly PHRF Fun Sails

Pursuit starts based on NC PHRF ratings - open to everyone at no cost, no club affiliation required.
Day of the week and time based on weather and daylight hours. Notifications via email distribution list.
Contact Joan Wilson sail_kitty@hotmail.com or Ed Thompson edthompson2@comcast.net

Oriental Dinghy Club (ODC) Keel Boat Races

Spinnaker on Saturdays: Mar 28; Apr 18; May 16; Jun 27; Jul 11; Aug 8; Sep 5 & 26; Oct 24; Nov 7 & 14.
JAM PHRF Buoy on Saturdays: Mar 28; Apr 18; May 16; Sep 5 & 26; Oct 24; Nov 7 & 14.
JAM PHRF Distance/Pursuit on Saturdays at 1PM: Jun 27, Jul 11, Aug 8
Contact Bob Slook for info at bslook@gmail.com or (732) 740-5591.

Sunfish Racing

>FHYC Sunfish Races - near the boat ramp on Fairfield Harbour Inner Harbour; 3 to 6 races per day, first signal at 2PM
Spring Series: 7 Sunday race days on Apr 12, 19 & 26; May 3, 17 & 24; Jun 7.
Fall Series: 7 Sunday race days on Sep 13, 20 & 27; Oct 4, 11, 18 & 25. (Awards & social following Oct 25 races.)
Contact Jerry Rezab for info at geraldrezab@yahoo.com or (252) 288-4124.
>Oriental Dinghy Club (ODC), Oriental NC
Dinghy Races on Sundays: Mar 29; Apr 19; May 17; Jun 28; Jul 12; Aug 9; Sep 6 & 27; Oct 25; Nov 8 & 15.
Lasers, 420s & FJs may be chartered at regatta site. Contact info@bowtosternboating.com
>Hot Toddy Winter Series at Blackbeard Sailing Club, New Bern NC
2025 Schedule on Saturdays: Dec 6, 20.
2026 Schedule on Saturdays: Jan 3, 18(Sunday), 31; Feb 14, 28; Mar 7(make-up if needed), 21; Apr 4.
Contact Jude Brown for info at heyjfb@earthlink.net or (240) 671-5771.

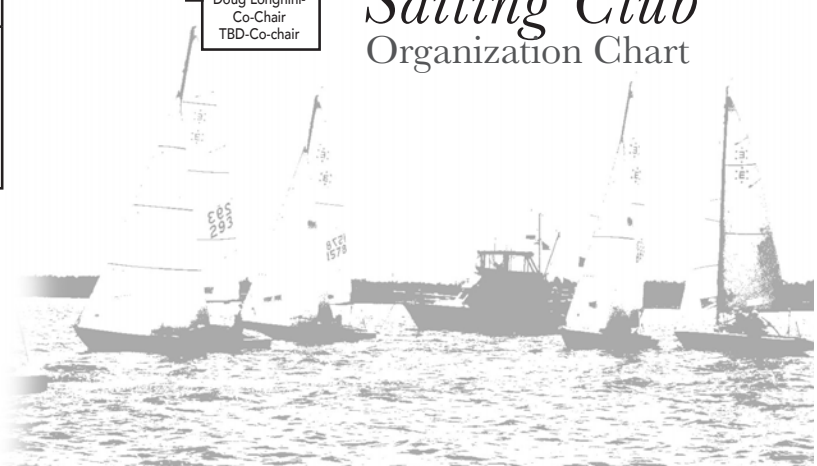
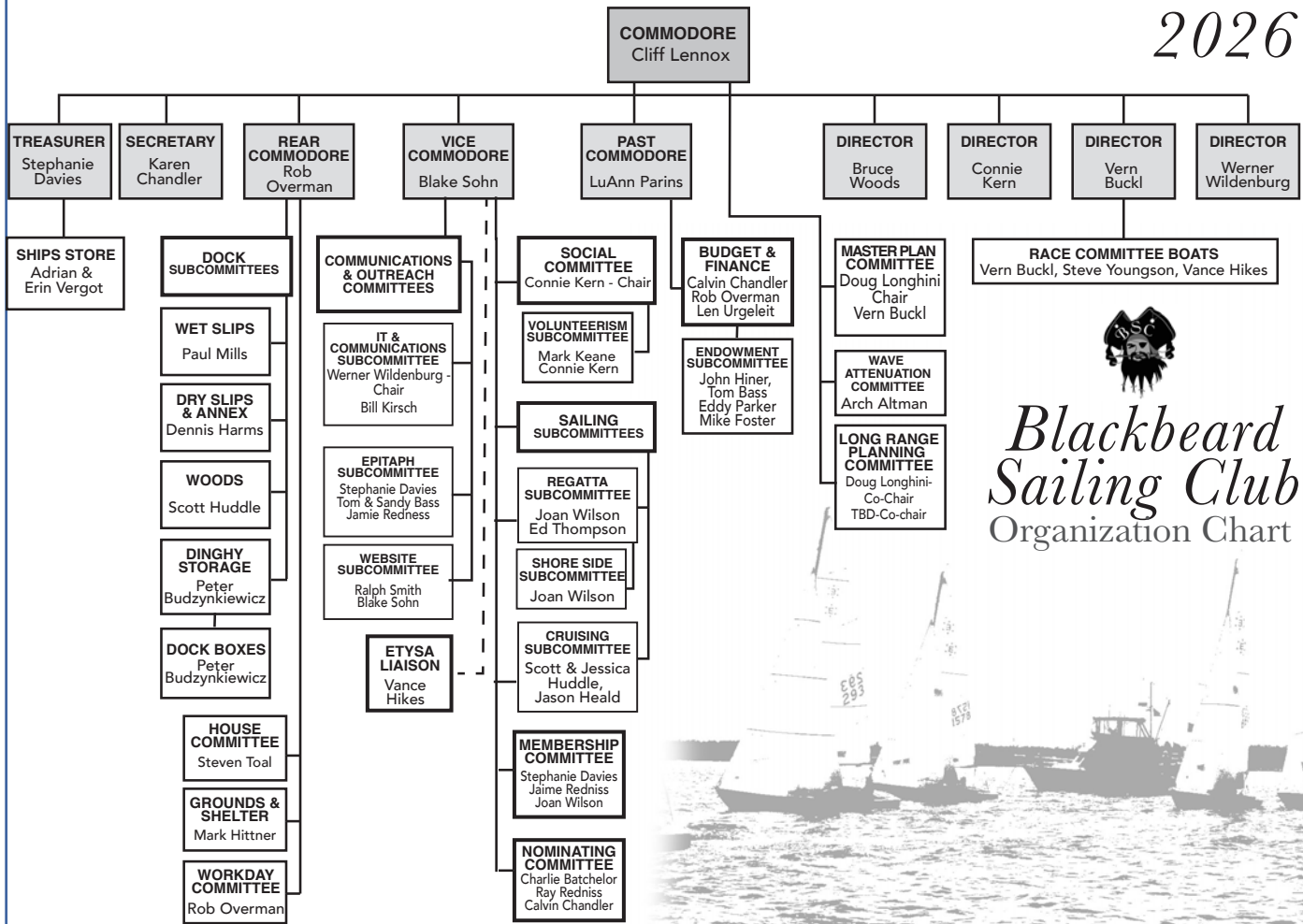
Miscellaneous

2026 Date	Day	Club	Event	Location
Apr 15-19	Wed-Sun		Charleston Race Week	Charleston SC
April 17-19	Fri-Sun		CAT Small Boat Racing Event	New Bern NC
Jun 1-26	Mon-Fri	BSC	ETYSA Youth Sailing Camps	New Bern NC
Jul 6-31	Mon-Fri	BSC	ETYSA Youth Sailing Camps	New Bern NC
Oct 10-11	Sat-Sun		Mumfest	New Bern NC

Club	Club	Representative	eMail	Telephone
BSC	Blackbeard Sailing Club	Joan Wilson	sail_kitty@hotmail.com	(610) 357-7476
BTS	Bow To Stern	Jim Edwards	info@bowtosternboating.com	(252) 249-2424
ETYSA	Edward Teach Youth Sailing Assn	Clare Brock	clbrock@embarqmail.com	(252) 671-7462
FHYC	Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club	Leigh Hart	dol123@me.com	(919) 801-7123
FLT 8	San Juan Fleet 8	Jeff Thomas	jennjeff@suddenlink.net	(252) 638-1493
FOM	Friends of the Museum (Beaufort)	Brent Creelman	brent@maritimefriends.org	(252) 728-1638
HISC	Halkers Island Sailing Club	Sonya Dean	sonyafm@hotmail.com	(919) 271-9899
ICRC	InterClub Race Committee	Joan Wilson	sail_kitty@hotmail.com	(610) 357-7476
NCO	Nautical Co-op of Oriental	Todd Cox	toddcoxvt@gmail.com	(802) 999-7572
NYRA	Neuse Yacht Racing Assn	Stephanie Davies	stephaniejaedavies@gmail.com	(949) 533-5543
ODC	Oriental Dinghy Club	Don Munn	donmunn@gmail.com	(919) 274-7625
ODC	Oriental Dinghy Club	Todd Cox	ODC.race@gmail.com	(802) 999-7572
PSC	Pamlico Sailing Club	Elizabeth Betts	velella6@hotmail.com	(252) 524-1213
SCOO	Sailing Club of Oriental	Rick Fears	rickfears42@yahoo.com	(916) 759-9546

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

2026 Board of Directors & Departments




*Blackbeard
Sailing Club*
 Organization Chart

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Blackbeard Sailing Club

Club Location

Upper Broad Creek on the Neuse River
1215 Barkentine Drive
New Bern, NC 28560
N35° 03.75 W76° 56.85

Mailing Address

PO Box 24
Bridgeton, NC 28519

Website

blackbeardsailingclub.org

Be sure to visit the BSC website which is loaded with official information, current news, membership directory, slip information and much more.

Email to Epitaph Editors

bsceptaph@yahoo.com

Tom & Sandy Bass, Jaime Redniss
and Stephanie Davies

Epitaph Submission Guideline

Submissions to the Epitaph are due by the 23rd of each month for the following month's publication. We welcome the membership's input including:

- stories and cruising articles
- how-to articles and other news
- committee reports
- racing news and reports
- photos in jpeg format
- event announcements and calendars

Please send all material to the Epitaph's editors at bsceptaph@yahoo.com.



2026 Board of Directors

Commodore Cliff Lennox
commodore@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Vice Commodore Blake Sohn
vicecommodore@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Rear Commodore Rob Overman
rearcommodore@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Secretary Joan Wilson
secretary@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Treasurer Stephanie Davies
treasurer@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Past Commodore LuAnn Parins
pastcommodore@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Director Connie Kern
director2@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Director Werner Wildenberg
director1@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Director Vern Buckl
director@blackbeardsailingclub.org

Director Bruce Woods
director@blackbeardsailingclub.org

BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Blackbeard Sailing Club

Dutch Wind

First Place Navigator

Oar and Lexus Cup



Blackbeard Sailing Club

Patriot

First Place Spinnaker
Oar and Lexus Cup

