



Blackbeard's Epitaph

Save These Dates:

November 7

BoD Meeting @ 9:30AM
Fall One Design Series
Annual Meeting Pot Luck

November 14

NYRA Winter Series #2

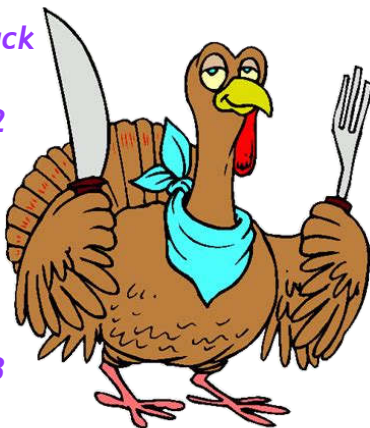
November 21

Turkey Trot
November 26

Thanksgiving at BSC
December 5

NYRA Winter Series #3
December 19

NYRA Winter Series #4



Blackbeard Sailing Club

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From the Commodore

Ahoy Mates !

HAPPY 250th LET'S CELEBRATE !

We continue to celebrate our country's 250th birthday with historical readings musicals and theater all around us.

Our biannual Club House Clean & Workday's events were such a success with over 135 members participating and 50 plus projects completed. "We an't gonna let a little rain get in the way of a good party" !

Racing events Weekly Fun Sails, Ensign & SJ21 One Design Series, Turkey Trot and Winter Series Regatta's are on deck this month.

On our social side the Annual Membership Meeting & Dinner November 7th.

Come out and join the fun... *Cliff*

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Fall Clubhouse Clean-Up Photos

by Susan McCrocklin



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Annual All Member Meeting...



... Will we have a Quorum?

Don't forget to come to the Pot Luck, bring a side to share entree provided by BSC!.

Meet the new 2027 Board of Directors

See how your club is doing and what we have for the future!

Saturday November 7th

Fall Series One Design Awards @ 4:30

Cocktails & Dinner @ 05:30 - BYOB

New Board and Club Update after dinner.

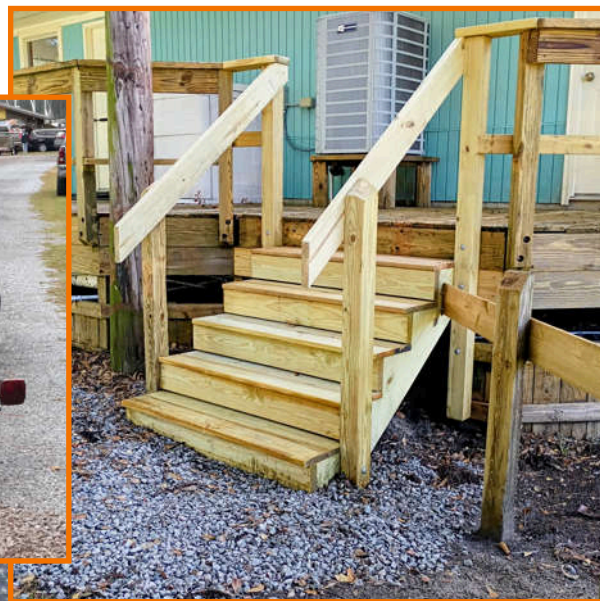
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Fall Workday 2026

by Charlie Batchelor

In spite of mother nature and several hours of light rain, the volunteer turnout was incredible. Over 125 members signed in. Your effort was truly amazing. Over 90% of the projects were completed. All projects involving paint and some electrical were postponed. Our members delivered dock repair, club boats cleaning, Wi-Fi and camera improvements, yellow tagging dry slips and dingy storage racks, new stairs at back of bathhouse, grounds and storage areas cleanup, freezer defrosting, emergency dock ladder and pedestal cleaning. A special thank you to the pig and chicken cooking team as well as the weed eaters and annex debris teams. We must not forget the members who could not be here on Saturday and completed projects before and or after that day. Most important, a big thank you to the serving and kitchen team with new members (names added here), and welcome to Blackbeard Sailing Club. kitchen team with new members (John Bryant, Ann & John Crehore, Peter Frey, Corine & Hal Medlin, Chris & Rod Nettleton, Ken Pitser and Meagan Voegtlin) and welcome to Blackbeard Sailing Club.

Photos by Susan McCrocklin



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Fall Workday Photos

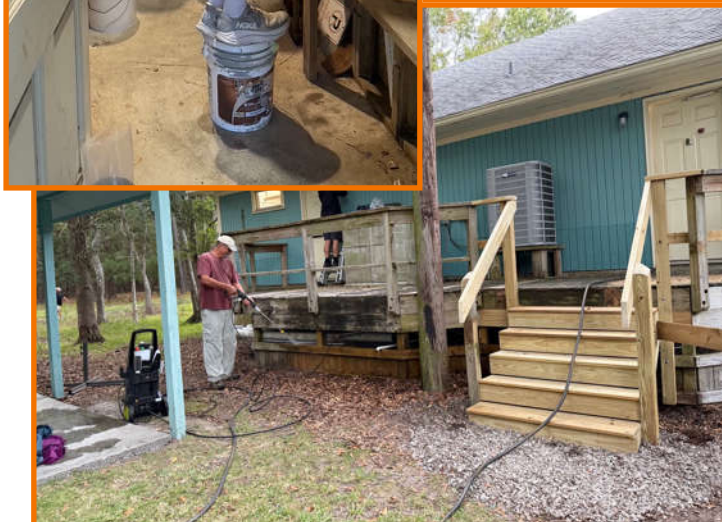
by Susan McCrocklin



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Fall Workday Photos

by Susan McCrocklin



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Fall Workday Photos

by Susan McCrocklin



BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Troop 148 Girl Scouts visit Blackbeard

by Michelle Moorman

If you were around Blackbeard the weekend of October 23-25, you might have noticed that the average age of visitors at the club was a little younger than usual! Girl Scouts from Troop 148 and their parents were back for their second annual camping trip at Blackbeard.

Last year, the troop made a last-minute change of plans when their original camping trip to the mountains was canceled. They came to Blackbeard instead, although they spent less time at the club because they also visited the Aurora Fossil Museum and took a day trip to Cape Lookout. A couple of the girls even stayed behind to sail on Sunday! We also discovered that the troop was excited about fishing, which presented a bit of a challenge since we had only one fishing pole and one cast net to share among everyone.

Fall 2025 marked the troop's first tent-camping experience, and we learned that Blackbeard Sailing Club is a great place to *glamp*—or camp with a troop of Girl Scouts who don't have much prior camping experience!

This year, the troop was excited to return. We decided to stay closer to camp and focus on earning two badges: Eco Camper and Simple Meals. To earn them, the girls had to cook and clean up after all their meals, practice Leave No Trace camping, take a nature hike, cook over a fire, learn a new camping skill, and participate in campfire activities or stargazing.

Thanks to Scott and Tyler, we got to look at the moon and Saturn's rings through a telescope on Friday night. Saturday morning, we headed to Latham-Whitehurst Park for a nature hike, where we identified lots of trees. We also found mushrooms, including a lion's mane mushroom, and several Carolina anoles. One unfortunate anole was found dead and received a proper burial at sea, complete with a funeral conducted by the troop!

Saturday afternoon, eight of the nine girls headed out on our sailboat, *Moondance*, along with two of their parents. It was a full boat, and the breeze was stiff—20 to 30 knots! The girls loved hiking out on the rail and taking turns at the helm. Sailing was definitely one of their favorite activities. The other moms who went out on Jason Heald's boat also enjoyed the opportunity to sail without the kids for a change.

Saturday night, the girls put their fire-building skills to work and cooked hobo packs over the fire. Some even cooked two! Thanks to Chris for getting our 9.9-horsepower outboard running on the jon boat, the girls also took turns enjoying sunset motorboat cruises while dinner cooked over the fire.



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Troop 148 Girl Scouts visit Blackbeard

by Michelle Moorman

There were plenty of other activities to keep everyone busy. The girls enjoyed the “swing” over the woods trailer storage area, learning to fish and throw the cast net, and hunting for little goose figurines hidden all over Blackbeard. Don't worry—all the geese were found! That night, they watched *The Addams Family* and then went straight to sleep. I guess it had been a full day!

Sunday morning brought more pancake-making, fishing, jon boat rides, and the work of breaking down camp and cleaning up. The girls also took advantage of B Dock, where a couple of them were lucky enough to catch a flounder!

Lily wasn't lucky enough to catch a flounder that morning, but after all her friends had left, she may have needed a little alone time. She kept fishing for another two hours and finally landed a flounder—her first one yet!



The parents and girls all agreed that they had a fantastic weekend. Most of the girls named sailing, fishing, and riding in the jon boat as their three favorite activities. Cooking over the fire and looking through the telescope were also big hits.

Everyone commented on how friendly and welcoming the entire club was to the troop. Thank you to everyone at Blackbeard for helping make Troop 148's return visit such a memorable weekend. The entire troop and their parents agreed that was an awesome time!



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BLACKBEARD
— SAILING CLUB —

Thanksgiving Day Dinner

THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 26, 2026



The Club will provide the turkey.

Members are encouraged to bring a side
or a dessert to share.

DINNER AT
2:00 PM

BYOB

No RSVP Necessary!

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2026 RACE SCHEDULE

Provided by Inter-Club Racing Committee (ICRC)

1/16/26

Date	Day	Club	Event	PHRF	One-Design		Location
More races, events and contact information are listed on next page!							
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



November 21st

Sigh up on BSC's Regatta Network

<https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/31922>

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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.	

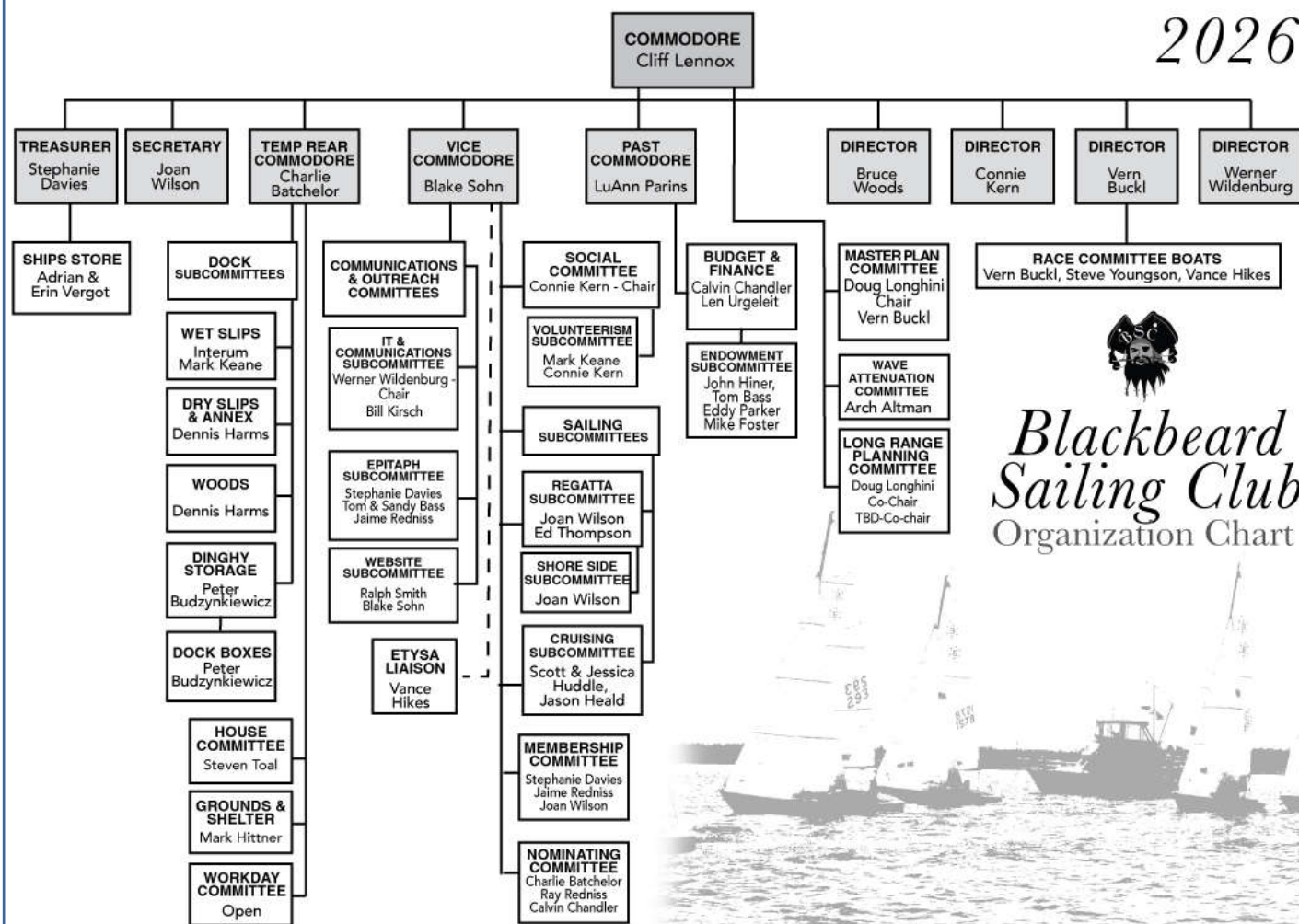
Miscellaneous

2025 Date	Day	Club	Event	Location
Apr 10-12	Thurs-Sun		Oriental Boat Show	Oriental NC
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	ETYS Youth Sailing Camps	New Bern NC
Jul 6-31	Mon-Fri	BSC	ETYS 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
ETYS	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	donmunng@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



Volunteers are not paid, not because
they are worthless but because
they are priceless.

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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

bscepitaph@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 bscepitaph@yahoo.com.



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BLACKBEARD'S EPITAPH

Richard Sherman Gaskill

FEBRUARY 9, 1941 - OCTOBER 12, 2026



Richard (Dick) Sherman Gaskill, 85, of New Bern, passed away peacefully at home on October 12, 2026. He was born on February 9, 1941, in Kokomo, Indiana.

Dick graduated from Buchtel High School in Akron, Ohio, in 1959, attended the University of Akron, and served his country in the United States Air Force. He went on to a long career with Grange Mutual Casualty Company, serving as Vice President until his retirement in 1994.

Retirement didn't keep him on the ground for long. In 1996, he began a second career as General Manager of the Union County Airport in Marysville, Ohio, a role he held until 2012. A private pilot himself, Dick loved anything that took him into the sky or out on the water. He was an avid fisherman and boater and a member of the Fairfield Harbor Yacht Club, the Blackbeard Sailing Club, the FH Fishing Club, and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association. He was also a Past Exalted Ruler of the Elks Club and served as President of the Tradewinds Condo Association.

Above all, Dick was devoted to his family. He and Pam recently celebrated 60 years of marriage. He was Pops to his children and a beloved Pop-Pop to his grandchildren, who will cherish his memory always.

Dick is survived by his wife of 60 years, Pam Gaskill; his children, Melissa Garland (David) of Dunedin, Florida, Scott Gaskill (Wendy) of Atlanta, Georgia, and Molly McKinley (Jen) of Apex, North Carolina; his grandchildren, Olivia and Claire Garland, Jordan and Eliza Gaskill, Connor, Cate, and William McKinley, and Jameson and Ellis Strombotne; his sister, Kathy Miller (Jim) of Gulf Breeze, Florida; and his brother, David Gaskill of Christiansburg, Virginia.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John Sherman Gaskill and Anita Bassett Gaskill Canary.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Instead of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or the American Heart Association.

Cotten Funeral Home and Crematory is honored to serve the family and friends of Richard Sherman Gaskill