



# THE CURRENT

RIVERTON YACHT CLUB

APRIL 2017

Phone at the Pier (856) 829-9894

RivertonYachtClub.org



**Quick Work Afloat:** Teamwork and mild weather on April 1 made the Work Party a success. The docks, ramps, and mooring balls were set in place in record time. So much was done that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Work Party on April 8 was cancelled. Opening Day and the Spring General Meeting will be held on April 15.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 12:	Racing Rules Seminar
April 15:	Opening Day, Spring Gen. Meeting
April 19:	Tactics Seminar
April 23:	Sunday Racing Begins
April 26:	Wednesday Night Racing Begins
May 6	Kentucky Derby Pot Luck Dinner & Fundraiser
May 13	RSLF 1st Annual Festival

**Don't Miss RYC's Opening Day on April 15 at 4 pm. Learn Duster history, eat burgers, drink beer and burn your socks.**

## Commodore's Corner

### Thanks to Many Hands, We're Almost Ready to Sail

By Bruce Nicholson

When John Mangan spoke to me about becoming Commodore, he told me a secret. He said being Commodore was the easiest job at Riverton Yacht Club. I am beginning to believe him. Thank all of you who showed up Saturday April 1 for the work party. The amount accomplished in a few short hours is beyond belief. In fact, we didn't have to schedule the second work party on the 8th. And thank you to those who, prior to the work party, got everything ready. Our docks and moorings take a beating every season, and a few dedicated members inspect and repair them each spring. This year we had to reduce the width of the upriver, in-shore dock by 2 feet to comply with our most recent permit from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Replacing that dock was a big budget item for 2017. But Greg Maute and his team found a way to re-utilize the existing docks for less than \$300, and now the reconfigured, permit-compliant dock is installed. The savings will allow us to redo the exterior lights this spring. Thanks to all of you who helped.

Then Saturday April 15 is flag raising for 2017 at 4 pm. Learn more about the history of the club from Roger Prichard, burn those old socks, and join us for burgers and beer. And by the way, aren't Roger and Glenn Smyth, Jr. doing a great job with our Facebook page and that of the Foundation? I don't know where Roger finds all those wonderful old pictures.

When you see Suzanne Vollmer thank her for all she does maintaining the RYC and RSLF websites. I know many organizations with professionally maintained websites that aren't half the quality of ours, let alone kept current as ours are.

Finally, to get you back in the habit of being on the pier on Wednesday nights, we are having our Rules clinic April 12 and a Strategy/Tactics session April 19. No matter how much experience you have, there's always more to learn. Please plan on attending.

## Sailing Rules, Strategy and Tactics Seminars With Coach Craig Priniski Kick off This Week at RYC

By Kent Steinriede

On Wednesday, April 12, Craig Priniski, head coach of the Drexel University sailing team, will present the first of RYC's Sailing Rules, Strategy and Tactics Seminars. Besides his experience at Drexel, Priniski is the former coach of the Villanova sailing team. A well-rounded sailor, Priniski is also the lead foreman for the Philadelphia Ship Preservation Guild, where he manages maintenance and preservation of the tall ship 1901 Gazela and the 1902 tug Jupiter, and has overseen the running of the 80-ft racing yacht, Donnybrook.



*Sail in the Right and Fast:* Drexel University sailing coach Craig Priniski will present a pair of racing seminars at RYC on April 12 and 19. Both events are free.

The first seminar, Wednesday at 7 pm, is devoted to the Racing Rules of Sailing, which are updated every four years, most recently in January. This time around, it's recommended to become familiar with the new rules before you reach the first windward mark. The major rule changes address situations when two boats meet and tacking within the zone, says Priniski.

The second seminar, on April 19 at 7 pm, will cover racing strategy and tactics. Topics will include making a plan, getting a clear start, and tactics to use once the race has started. Priniski, who has been sailing on the Delaware River all his life, will give special attention to tides and current. "At Riverton, [the question is,] do I want to go out in the current or not?" Priniski says. Later in the season, Priniski will give a third seminar on basic sailboat racing and rules.

Please bring your 2017-2020 rule book, a pencil and notebook. If you're a member of US Sailing you can get a free copy of the rules by downloading the US Sailing iPhone app and logging into the app with your membership number. Also, you can download a red-line version of the new rules with the changes and the reasoning behind them on the World Sailing website at <http://www.sailing.org/documents/racingrules/rrs2017-2020-study-version.php>.

*Both sessions are free. Hoagies and beverages will be provided. Please RSVP to Glenn Smyth, Jr at [gsmyth201@gmail.com](mailto:gsmyth201@gmail.com).*

**Wednesday Night Racing Begins April 26!**

## Opening Day on April 15 (4 pm) to Celebrate the History of Riverton-Designed Dusters

Did you know that Odin P. Merrill, who designed the Duster sailboat at his home on Main Street in Riverton went on to become a yacht designer for the prestigious firm of Sparkman & Stephens in New York? Roger Prichard will share decades of Duster lore at the Opening Day Ceremony on April 15 at 4 pm. A Riverton-built Duster will be on display, too.

After Roger's presentation, hot dogs, burgers and beer will be served. And once the fire is truly hot, attendees will have a chance to burn their winter socks.

*Regatta Ready:* Dusters will be fêted on April 15 at RYC.





## Center City Sailing at the Racquet Club of Philadelphia

On April 5, the Racquet Club of Philadelphia's sailing club invited a few area clubs to their annual "Dark and Stormy Regatta." Riverton's Ryan Lippincott, creator and master builder of the Pool Penguin, brought seven of his radio-controlled boats to the event. Sailing on a 30 ft by 30 ft pool with nine large fans creating the wind, dozens participated in the racing, many who had little sailing experience. Thanks to Nick Mortgu who, in between imbibing a dark n' stormy or two, helped teach a boat load of those new to radio-controlled sailing. As a thank you RYC will host Racquet Club on a Wednesday night in June.



**Travelling Companions:** Lightning skipper Hugh Hutchison always travels with his trusty bag of lines because, well, you never know. This spring he took all these lines to Florida for the Southern Circuit series of regattas. And they came in handy for improvisational rigging on his new boat as mainsheet and twing line extensions. So remember, don't throw out that old line.

## Call for Volunteers for Riverton Steamboat Landing Festival, May 13

The Riverton Steamboat Landing Foundation's Fundraising committee is looking forward to celebrate the warm weather with the first annual Riverton Steamboat Landing Festival at the Pier! The festival will take place on Saturday, May 13, 10 am to 2 pm. The goal of the festival is to raise awareness and funds to preserve this precious pier we all hold so dear. There will be food, live music, various vendors, educational exhibits and guided tours of the pier. Will you please help?

We need "Gate Keepers," storytellers and vendors. Please feel free to reach out to Mary Keppel or Catherine Sommers if you would like to assist us in this endeavor. Thanks in advance!

*The Current* is edited by Kent Steinriede.

R. Headley is the staff reporter.

Like to write? *The Current* is looking for reporters, editors, photographers for upcoming issues. All ages, levels of experience and areas of interest are welcome. Contact Kent Steinriede if you're interested.

## 2017 RYC Calendar of Events

*All events and dates are subject to change.*

**WEDNESDAY EVENING:** April 26 thru August 30, All fleets racing.

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON:** April 30 thru October 22, Mariner fleet racing.

### APRIL

- 12 Rules Seminar (taught by Craig Priniski)
- 15 Opening Day, 4:00 pm
- 19 Tactics & Strategy Seminar (taught by Craig Priniski)
- 26 Wednesday Night Racing begins

### MAY

- 6 Kentucky Derby Pot Luck Dinner & Fundraiser
- 13 Rex Showell Pursuit Race and Dinner (hosted by J-22s)
- 13 RSLF Festival, 10:00am – 2:00pm
- 28 Covered dish get together

### JUNE

- 17/18 NJ Governor's Cup Regatta (all fleets host) and Party, June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- 20 **Adult** Sail Camp begins (June 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, & 29)
- 23 **Junior** Sail Camp Session 1 begins (ends 7/7)
- 26 Monday Night Laser & Opti Races Begin

### JULY

- 1 Fourth of July Cocktail Party, (Riverton Fourth of July Committee event)
- 2 Club 420 Round Robin Racing
- 2 Covered dish get together
- 4 Fourth of July Raft Race
- 10 **Junior** Sail Camp Session 2 begins (ends 7/21)
- 18 **Adult** Sail Camp begins (July 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, & 27)
- 24 **Junior** Sail Camp Session 3 begins (ends 8/4)
- 29 Pursuit Race and BBQ – Autism fundraiser for Yard Work & More, (Mariners host)

### AUGUST

- 7 **Junior** Sail Camp Session 4 begins (ends 8/18)
- 12 Single-handed Race
- 13 Club 420 Round Robin Racing
- 21 Final Monday night of racing
- 26 Lightning NJ State Championship, RYC hosting
- 30 Final Wednesday night of racing and General Meeting.

### SEPTEMBER

- 3 Covered dish get together
- 10 Fall Series Laser, Sunfish, Opti (4 Sundays thru Oct 8th). Skip Sept 17th
- 16/17 Mariner Nationals, RYC hosting
- 16 LUAU
- 22 Overnight Pursuit Race
- 23 Philadelphia Cup Regatta, Philadelphia Seaport Museum
- 30 RC Pool Penguin National Regatta

### OCTOBER

- 7 Pursuit Race and Oktoberfest (Flying Scots host)
- 15 Mariners' David Reily Memorial Regatta
- 22 Sunday Mariner races end
- 28 Fall Work Party, followed by general meeting (election of officers)

### NOVEMBER

- 18 Commodore's Banquet

# April-May Tides at the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge, New Jersey

Source: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov>

Date	Day	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
7-Apr	Fri	6:19 AM	0.24 L	11:59 AM	7.28 H	6:58 PM	0.13 L		
8-Apr	Sat	12:28 AM	7.28 H	7:14 AM	0.11 L	12:51 PM	7.36 H	7:47 PM	0.12 L
9-Apr	Sun	1:17 AM	7.49 H	8:05 AM	0.05 L	1:40 PM	7.38 H	8:33 PM	0.18 L
10-Apr	Mon	2:03 AM	7.63 H	8:53 AM	0.08 L	2:26 PM	7.33 H	9:16 PM	0.31 L
11-Apr	Tue	2:46 AM	7.68 H	9:38 AM	0.2 L	3:09 PM	7.22 H	9:56 PM	0.48 L
12-Apr	Wed	3:27 AM	7.65 H	10:21 AM	0.37 L	3:51 PM	7.07 H	10:35 PM	0.65 L
13-Apr	Thu	4:07 AM	7.56 H	11:03 AM	0.53 L	4:32 PM	6.9 H	11:13 PM	0.77 L
14-Apr	Fri	4:47 AM	7.44 H	11:44 AM	0.64 L	5:15 PM	6.73 H	11:50 PM	0.83 L
15-Apr	Sat	5:27 AM	7.32 H	12:25 PM	0.68 L	5:59 PM	6.57 H		
16-Apr	Sun	12:28 AM	0.83 L	6:09 AM	7.2 H	1:07 PM	0.67 L	6:44 PM	6.42 H
17-Apr	Mon	1:08 AM	0.8 L	6:53 AM	7.07 H	1:52 PM	0.64 L	7:32 PM	6.3 H
18-Apr	Tue	1:52 AM	0.79 L	7:40 AM	6.95 H	2:40 PM	0.63 L	8:23 PM	6.21 H
19-Apr	Wed	2:44 AM	0.81 L	8:33 AM	6.84 H	3:34 PM	0.64 L	9:17 PM	6.21 H
20-Apr	Thu	3:44 AM	0.83 L	9:30 AM	6.78 H	4:30 PM	0.65 L	10:13 PM	6.34 H
21-Apr	Fri	4:47 AM	0.82 L	10:28 AM	6.82 H	5:28 PM	0.64 L	11:07 PM	6.58 H
22-Apr	Sat	5:49 AM	0.76 L	11:25 AM	6.94 H	6:24 PM	0.61 L	11:59 PM	6.9 H
23-Apr	Sun	6:49 AM	0.64 L	12:19 PM	7.09 H	7:18 PM	0.57 L		
24-Apr	Mon	12:49 AM	7.25 H	7:46 AM	0.51 L	1:12 PM	7.24 H	8:10 PM	0.54 L
25-Apr	Tue	1:38 AM	7.58 H	8:41 AM	0.41 L	2:03 PM	7.34 H	9:00 PM	0.55 L
26-Apr	Wed	2:27 AM	7.84 H	9:34 AM	0.36 L	2:54 PM	7.39 H	9:48 PM	0.58 L
27-Apr	Thu	3:15 AM	8.02 H	10:26 AM	0.36 L	3:45 PM	7.37 H	10:38 PM	0.65 L
28-Apr	Fri	4:04 AM	8.1 H	11:18 AM	0.38 L	4:37 PM	7.29 H	11:28 PM	0.71 L
29-Apr	Sat	4:55 AM	8.08 H	12:12 PM	0.39 L	5:30 PM	7.19 H		
30-Apr	Sun	12:20 AM	0.75 L	5:48 AM	7.98 H	1:05 PM	0.38 L	6:25 PM	7.08 H
1-May	Mon	1:13 AM	0.75 L	6:43 AM	7.83 H	1:58 PM	0.36 L	7:21 PM	7.0 H
2-May	Tue	2:07 AM	0.74 L	7:40 AM	7.65 H	2:52 PM	0.35 L	8:19 PM	6.97 H
3-May	Wed	3:03 AM	0.71 L	8:39 AM	7.48 H	3:47 PM	0.34 L	9:18 PM	7.02 H
4-May	Thu	4:00 AM	0.64 L	9:39 AM	7.37 H	4:42 PM	0.32 L	10:16 PM	7.16 H
5-May	Fri	4:58 AM	0.55 L	10:39 AM	7.32 H	5:35 PM	0.3 L	11:11 PM	7.37 H
6-May	Sat	5:54 AM	0.45 L	11:34 AM	7.32 H	6:26 PM	0.29 L		
7-May	Sun	12:03 AM	7.58 H	6:49 AM	0.36 L	12:26 PM	7.32 H	7:15 PM	0.31 L
8-May	Mon	12:51 AM	7.75 H	7:40 AM	0.32 L	1:14 PM	7.28 H	8:00 PM	0.39 L
9-May	Tue	1:36 AM	7.85 H	8:28 AM	0.35 L	1:59 PM	7.2 H	8:43 PM	0.51 L
10-May	Wed	2:18 AM	7.86 H	9:13 AM	0.44 L	2:42 PM	7.08 H	9:24 PM	0.66 L
11-May	Thu	2:59 AM	7.81 H	9:56 AM	0.57 L	3:24 PM	6.92 H	10:02 PM	0.81 L
12-May	Fri	3:38 AM	7.7 H	10:37 AM	0.69 L	4:05 PM	6.76 H	10:40 PM	0.93 L
13-May	Sat	4:17 AM	7.59 H	11:18 AM	0.75 L	4:47 PM	6.61 H	11:18 PM	0.98 L
14-May	Sun	4:56 AM	7.48 H	11:59 AM	0.75 L	5:30 PM	6.48 H	11:56 PM	0.97 L
15-May	Mon	5:36 AM	7.38 H	12:41 PM	0.7 L	6:14 PM	6.4 H		
16-May	Tue	12:37 AM	0.93 L	6:19 AM	7.28 H	1:24 PM	0.64 L	7:00 PM	6.35 H
17-May	Wed	1:23 AM	0.89 L	7:06 AM	7.17 H	2:10 PM	0.61 L	7:49 PM	6.35 H



The Riverton Steamboat Landing Foundation presents

COME, SEE  
and LEARN!

# A TIME OF DISCOVERY FESTIVAL

Admission  
is free!

Donations accepted



## FUN INCLUDES

- Live music including our local talent Donovan Moore & Helen Mack
- The Philadelphia Seaport Museum's Whaleboat
- Tours of the Pier and Clubhouse, a Historic Treasure
- Learn of Riverton's Origins & Steamships
- RYC's Sail Camp and Ships Store
- Riverton Historical Society
- Hands On Fun for the Young and Young at Heart
- Art • Crafts • Food!

AND  
MORE!



Visit us at

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