

ROCKLAND YACHT CLUB

ANNUAL MEETING and 25th ANNUAL LOBSTER PICNIC September 25, 2010

“Fantastic Lobster Bake --- Fabulous Weather --- Passing Commodoreship”

That’s how the headline would read for the Rockland Yacht Club’s 2010 Annual End-of-Season Lobster Bake.

The Lobsters were great. The weather was beautiful. And my Commodoreship was, well, passable.

Actually, this Past Commodore was delighted with all aspects of the Lobster Bake, and with all of your help and all the fun that I have had being the Commodore of RYC for the past two years.



This year’s RYC Lobster Bake was the second lobster bake of my term with fantastic weather and ‘a lobster in every pot’ --- now even FDR can’t say that!

But, hey, I don’t have to campaign anymore, because Mj Shiverick is now the fantastic new RYC Commodore --- who, along with Jon Kuhl, Doug & Beth Pope, will helm RYC forward to continued success, exciting racing, expanded adventures, and friendly seas.

Our RYC 2010 Lobster Bake was heartily enjoyed by a wonderful crowd of members --- all of whom helped and contributed to making it memorable and capping the season of sailing fun on Penobscot Bay.

I want to take a moment to thank Paul and Mary White in particular for picking up the responsibility for this great event from Social Chairman Mike Sodano (and Aleta).

Also thanks go to all those who contributed fabulous appetizers, salads, deserts, and those who helped with set-up, cooking, and clean-up.

Like all the social functions, racing events, and cruises that RYC holds, the RYC members are the heart and soul of ‘our’ club --- and willingly contribute their experience, work, efforts, and TIME to make RYC the most interesting and fun yacht club around.

Over the last two seasons, I have been fortunate indeed to have the guidance, advice, support, and much HELP from an extremely dedicated group of RYC officers; Jim Cuthbertson, Maryjane Shiverick, Ed Neisingh, and Gary Cran --- and from Ex-Comm board members; Dick Bentzel, Heidi Burden, Roy and Janice Davis, Charles Faulkingham, Jesse Henry, Al Hodsdon, Jon and Helen Kuhl, Rick and Julie Palm, Bruce Stedman, Mike Sodano, Toni Vander Veer, and Cruise Chair Steve Pierce --- along with all of you, my friends, the members of RYC.

And of course, a special thanks to my dear supportive and always helping RYC
Cheerleader... Judy!

Next season will be better than ever!

Sincerely,
Alan MacDonald
Past Commodore, RYC

A bit of history about our Annual RYC Lobster Picnic – from Mike Sodano, Picnic Chair
Emeritus:

As best as I can determine, the modern era of RYC lobster picnics began in 1986, hosted by Geoff and Ginnie Torney at their place in Owls Head. After a few years, perhaps the early 90's, the crowd got too large so we so we moved the event to the Beaver Lodge on Lake Alford. The event was held there until David Jones, a dual member of the RYC and Rockport Boat Club, got us access to the RBC Clubhouse until our move here a few years ago. Thus, we have just celebrated the 25th annual RYC Lobster picnic. It was a treat for me to see Paul do such a competent job running the show this year. All I had to do, with help from others, was to embarrass (think about it) a bunch of Lobsters.

And a word or two from this year's new Picnic Chair – Paul White:

RYC's annual Lobster Picnic and finale to the sailing season is now in the history books, attracting 87 members and guests on what turned out to be an extremely warm and very sunny late September day.

A big thanks has to go to our outgoing Commodore, Alan McDonald, Judy Turner and Jennie and Steve Pierce for taking charge of all of the behind-the-scenes duties and making sure we had enough, plates, utensils, etc., and setting up the tables and chairs on Friday. Judy coordinated everything at the club, made a table and seating layout and made everything else flow very smoothly. Also, thanks to everyone else who pitched in to get the food served, dishes washed, tables & chairs stacked, and those other tasks that often go unnoticed or unmentioned. I also want to thank Mike Sodano for his invaluable assistance to me in all of the bits and pieces that make this event run smoothly.

Master lobster cooker Mike Sodano expertly steamed this year's tranche of 70 lobsters—found by Gary Cran in the



waters off Spruce Head and picked up by Gary and me around noon on the day of the event. Al Hodsdon and many other helping hands, including Larry Lapson and Judi Ingerowski, assisted the lobster cooking. Yours truly picked up 25 sirloin steaks from a very reputable butcher in Salem, NH, and grilled them under Steve Pierce's watchful eye. We hope they were all done as our steak eaters liked—we did get rave reviews from 3 happy customers!



During dessert, young Annabelle Parker, daughter of Captain Neil Parker, entertained the Club members with her fine, clear and wonderful singing voice, as we were finishing our meal. This was a fine segue into our general meeting and election of officers. Our incoming Commodore, Maryjane Shiverick, and Heidi Burden snapped commemorative pictures.

Thanks to everyone for making this a wonderful event. It may not take a village, but it does take a Club!



Waiting for the water to boil!



Over 80 members and guests enjoyed the unusually warm day with a social hour followed by a lobster or steak dinner. Members brought some wonderful dishes to accompany the main courses. Most members had no problem dismembering the local crustacean!



We were entertained by Annabel Parker, third grade daughter of Captain Neal Parker who sang beautifully!

Mike Sodano then presented Alan MacDonald with a framed certificate which read: "Rockland Yacht Club, Service & Recognition Award, Presented to Alan MacDonald for outstanding Leadership, Commodore 2008 – 2010".



Mike, Nominating Committee Chairman, explained the revised policy of Officer Progression from Rear Commodore, to Vice, to Commodore. He then presented the new slate of: Commodore, Maryjane Shiverick; Vice Commodore, Jon Kuhl; Rear Commodore, Doug Pope; Secretary, Beth Pope; and Treasurer: Gary Cran. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Maryjane then briefly outlined plans for the coming year, asking for active member participation in committees.

And so ended the 25th Annual Lobster Picnic, and for many, the end of the 2010 sailing season!