



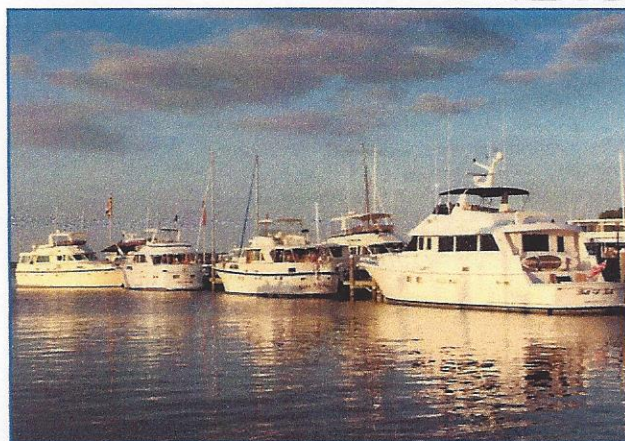
2014 HCC National Rendezvous at St. Michaels

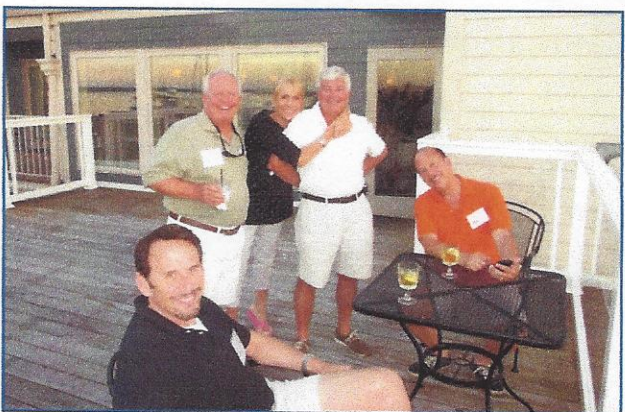
The Hatteras Classic Club held its 14th annual National Rendezvous September 3 - 7, 2014 at the Harbour Inn and Marina in Historic St. Michaels, MD. Over 40 members attended, including 2 new members, families and guests, along with fifteen yachts of various designs.

While not perfect, the weather was good especially considering some past years where the rendezvous was held on the heels of a hurricane. The days were warm, in the nineties, but rain confined itself to the nights.

Tuesday's early arrivals enjoyed cocktails on board "Ariel", followed by dinner at the Harbour Inn. Wednesday afternoon saw new arrivals, and a cocktail and hors d'oeuvres party on the deck, overlooking St. Michaels harbor and the world-class Maritime Museum, was held.

Planned activities began on Thursday with some taking a history tour of St. Michaels, having afternoon tea at the Inn at Perry Cabin, shopping, or lounging around the marina and pool. Other members attended a full day of presentations, "Boaters University," centering on topics of interest to boaters. Frank Daringer, of Mid-Shore Electronics, started the day with an in-depth discussion of electronics, including wireless and AIS systems. He was followed by Martin Hardy of Composite Yacht, who presented a series of photos of water damage to boats and then walked the group through the accompanying





repair process. Darron Zimmer, of Pettit Paint, educated everyone on the latest paints and epoxies.

After lunch, boat owners participated in a round robin discussion regarding recent boating experiences and lessons learned. At the end of the round robin, Cliff Wasser, from Custom Marine Refrigeration and A/C, reviewed the latest marine HVAC technology and provided tips on how to inspect, maintain, and protect current systems. Chuck Meyers, of Bluewater Yacht Sales, brought everyone up to date on the latest market information including boat pricing, financing, and worthwhile upgrades. The day was capped off with Chris Willits, of Yacht Controller LLC, presenting new digital docking controls, including a simulator in a van.

Thursday evening, members enjoyed a beer tasting party around the pool deck, followed by dinner at the famous Crab Claw restaurant. The Harbour Inn provided complimentary shuttle service in their van.

Friday morning, Captain Ed Farley, captain of a local skipjack, provided an entertaining account of the life of a waterman on the Chesapeake. He included the many changes watermen have dealt with through the years, ranging from weather, to changing technologies, to government regulations. Friday afternoon, our annual "Open Boat" event began with half of the attending yachts open for viewing. Friday evening, the wine lovers participated in a wine tasting party held in the Harbour Inn's main dining room.

Saturday's events included the Club's annual meeting in the morning, where Jeanne Dixon presented options for a 2015 winter rendezvous in Florida or Bimini, and Bob and Jackie Brandon agreed to serve as Fleet Captains for the 2015 Annual Rendezvous to be held for the first time in Annapolis. Saturday afternoon, the other half of the yachts were open for viewing. The annual end of season dinner was held Saturday evening in the inn's main dining room.

Most members enjoyed Sunday morning breakfast and final good-byes in the dining room before departing. The weather was breezy with winds around 15 knots, but members discovered the bay was a far more comfortable ride than anticipated.

With the guidance of National Rendezvous Fleet Captains, Jackie and Bob Brandon, planning is under way for the September, 2015 Hatteras Classic Club Rendezvous. It will be held at Port Annapolis Marina on the traditional week-end after Labor Day.

Don Butte, 2014 Fleet Captain