

## RJYC 2003 Marine Science Summer Camp *by* Fiona Black

We are all relaxed today, its Saturday and the 2 weeks of summer camps are over. We, the camp leaders had fun and all want to repeat it next summer but it is really good not to be organizing 15 other people's children from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. Now that 2 one-week camps are completed we feel we now know how to do it...and its over!

It was a slow start, especially since the registrations for the two July camps was too low for them to run, but - the two August camps had 18 and 15 registered respectively. **The camp leaders in the first week - Jan'l Hastings-Robinson, Sarah Hart, Shamfa Peart and David Lazarus** had a tough time as we worked out the kinks in the arrangements. There were so many things to coordinate; the JUTA bus from Sovereign to the Club, the Wetlands biology and environmental activities, visiting the ocean side of Palisadoes, the boating in dinghies with oars and outboard propulsion. The greatest challenges were to keep interested the wide age range of children (7 to 16 years), get the borrowed dinghies inflated and find the right weather conditions for rowing! **The camp leaders in the second week were - Sarah Hart, Shamfa Peart, Sean Phillips and myself.** We were able to get more boats on the water as well as **Roger Drinkall's Laser.** Most campers were comfortable rowing and outboarding by the end of the camp, while a few were getting the hang of helming the sailing dinghy. Of course the beautiful pool was enjoyed to cool off, play and work out.

**The club membership should appreciate the amount of support that was given by several people from outside of the Club.** The Caribbean Maritime Institute had 2 of their lecturers, **Mr. Newman and Mr. Heron,** give 1-hr presentations on **Navigation and Marine Safety.** **Mrs. Brigitte McDonald-Levy,** a geologist, came to the Club and gave 2 presentations (*the campers were spilt into groups by age*) on the formation of the Palisadoes and the origin of the rocks they would find on the beaches here. **Dr. Mona Webber** of the Port Royal Marine Lab, UWI, took the campers on a guided tour of the mangrove forest and Goodbody's Channel in a UWI vessel. **Ms. Vimin Gayle** of NEPA gave us posters, videos and hand-outs about our protected species, garbage disposal and environmental protection. This was all done for the camp at no cost and we thank these contributors tremendously. We hope they will do the same for us again next year!

**Within the Club there are others who helped to make the camp possible.** Club members **Laurie Stewart, Tom Connor, Bruce McDaniel, Leslie Pickard and Paul Black** lent their dinghies, life jackets, oars, pumps and an outboard. **Miguel DeLeon and Roger** took 2 cruises around the harbour in "**Dr. Feelgood**" to give all campers a chance to experience the power of wind and water. **The Club staff** assisted with the extra administrative work and helped get the dinghies floating safely.

**The most important aspect of the camp was for the campers to have fun - and they say they did!** Several asked for assurance that the camps will run again next year. Parents spread the word. It was educational, challenging and fun. Here is another kind of camp available.

**I THANK YOU ALL WHO ASSISTED** and hope that the benefits of having a youth camp at the RJYC every

### Fishing News contd.

**PORT ANTONIO** opened with a great party on the Sunday that was a great innovation that a younger generation of anglers incepted this year. The location was a small but picture perfect beach at the new marina which is itself one of the most attractive marina facilities I know, and one day will have many more boats. The music and bar were spot on and there was an oyster bar on the beach which resuscitated those anglers who needed a certain boost.

The weather was rough the first day with 4 - 6 and an occasional 8 footer but it improved steadily during the week until a gentle 2 - 3 foot swell was the norm. As a truthful reporter I must reveal that we had not one marlin strike. I had been given a marlin shaped swizzle stick with a drink at the Sunday party and that was I fear the only bill-fish on my boat. The tournament was won by **TASSY WASSY** and it was good to see the captain, **Skippy** taking the honours.

**SO ON TO BOWDEN** which can be a demanding tournament and mountainous seas not unheard of. I have chickened out before and stayed nearer shore at Dingle or Norseman banks rather than taking the battering at Morant Cays but this time a bath-tub with a small outboard could have made it there. The flattest weather we've ever seen and the fishing wasn't bad. Our tally was 11 wahoo and 1 yellowfin for the two days and as we found that the fish *lok dem mout* after around 11 a.m. we had a leisurely swim and lunch at Southeast Cay on both days. The Morant Cays are our equivalent of the Bahamas Out Islands, the water is crystal clear and our time there was as good as it gets anywhere. We had a triple header of wahoo landed with 3 men on board. In fact our 4 lines ran but we could fight only 3 and as my fish seemed the smallest I kept the rod in my right hand and gaffed the first fish with my left hand. We landed the other two and then it was high fives, blood in the cockpit and turning the boat around to seek the spot again .....but no further luck there. Bowden was won resoundingly by our Edgewater neighbours as **NO PROBLEM, SUGAR TIME and RUNNING OVER** brought home the top weights.

Incidentally we have a new use for rum, splash some in the gills and even the most berserk fish calms right down and goes into the fishbox placidly. Clearly we are reluctant to use such a fine product as Appleton on a mere barracuda, let alone one that has cut your bait in deep water where he has no business being. So, one more use for our national wine.

On behalf our our fishing captain **Jerry Mahfood** let me advise you that the **Globe Insurance sponsored RJYC tournament will be Feb 7-8 2004.** This is the week before the Miami Boat Show and Jerry and I are hopeful that we can follow the great weather experienced at the two recent tournaments. We look forward to your involvement and meantime tight lines ...

summer will be seen and enjoyed.

**P.S. An offshoot result while planning this Marine Science Summer Camp was assisting others. Mrs. Althea Young of Mona Zoo offered a Wetlands summer camp and they visited the Club as part of their field trip to the mangroves.**

## AUGUST REGATTA 2003 pics



Above: Inspecting the Fleet; R: RJYC Patron, our Governor General, Sir Howard & Rear Admiral Hardley Lewin; L: Paul Noble and Chris Needham inspecting the rig after grounding by the Palisadoes! Below: *Mystique* chased by *Getaway*!



Below: Start of Appleton All Comers Race  
Bottom L: *Geronimo* crew with skipper Steve.



## FUTURE HAPPENINGS

### On Quarter Deck & Water

## NOVEMBER

(FULL MOON • Sun 9)

DINGHY EVENTS • TBA

CAYS RACES  
Cays & Couch Cups &  
#2 & #3 Boswell Trophy Series

Sat 8 1500 RJYC - Lime Cay  
Sun 9 1000 Lime Cay - RJYC

Saturday 29 November

### ANNUAL RJYC AWARDS DINNER & DANCE

Champion - Harbour Races -  
DUDLEY LEVY MEMORIAL CUP;  
Champion - Offshore Races -  
OWEN PLANT MEMORIAL CUP;  
Overall Champion 2002 - QUEEN'S  
BIRTHDAY CUP; YACHTSMAN OF  
THE YEAR CLAIRE SCOTT &  
CATHCART - Junior Trophies &  
FISHING TROPHIES

HURRICANE SEASON ENDS

## DECEMBER

(FULL MOON • Mon 8)

DINGHY EVENTS • TBA

Fri 5 21.00 MOONLIGHT EVENT  
&  
Moonlight Series Race #4

### Sunday 21 December CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Above: Roger Morecraft collects the Henriques. Left: Jazz Skipper, Stephen Facey shares bubbly with Gordon Hall.

## JYA NOTES

\*\* Blue Water Medals  
& Bars \*\*

Eligible JYA members can now send in their applications. Remember bars are only issued for another race (not the one that qualified you for your blue water medal!)

Send requests to ...

**Mrs Paula Jackson**  
5 Sandhurst Crescent,  
Kingston 6

or e-mail ...

[thornbird@cwjamaica.com](mailto:thornbird@cwjamaica.com)

The Commodore and Flag Officers of the Royal Jamaica Yacht Club invite all members to this 114th Anniversary

## RJYC Awards Dinner-Dance

Saturday, November 29, 2003

Cocktails at 19.00 hrs for Dinner at 20.00 hrs

There will be music and dancing after the Presentation of Awards

Our Special Guest will be Mr Harvey "Busta" Jameson.

We hope members will invite their friends  
and family to this happy event.

Contribution - \$2000 per person • Dress - Blazer