**From the President’s Helm**

**The astronomical definition of winter begins with the winter solstice on December 21, 2018 and ends with the March equinox on March 20, 2019. I am happy to report that all members have fared reasonably well with a few exceptions. Although some of the stories may be within this newsletter, the best way to learn of them is personal discussion at a**

**Hatteras Classic Club Rendezvous.**

**Although some members may visit with one another throughout the winter, most of us only have that opportunity twice a year. One of my goals as president is to increase attendance at our rendezvous events by having dates and locations identified far in advance and timely efforts of our volunteer fleet captains. Both aspects have come to fruition and are definitely making increased attendance a reality.**

**RENDEZVOUS is derived from the French to mean a particular group of people to meet at an agreed upon location by arrangement or habit, sometimes, secretly. The HCC Rendezvous events are definitely not secret. I encourage our HCC members to proudly display our burgee and have conversations about our club with interested parties.**

**There are 39 members on our current roster. The St. Petersburg rendezvous held February 7-10, 2019, fleet captains Andy and Jeanne Dixon, was a tremendous success having 18 members originally register. Your *mystery* rendezvous was superb! You are appreciated.**

**The annual fall rendezvous to be held** **September 4-8, 2019 at Harbor East is well underway thanks to the efforts of Tom and Phyllis Earnest. *Save the date!* Look for more**

**information to arrive via email.**

**Our winter rendezvous cruise aboard the Celebrity Equinox, February 1-7, 2020 currently has 18 members who have secured and placed a deposit on a cabin by the November 30, 2018 deadline. Thanks to the unending energy, foresight, and abundant knowledge of Stuart Esack and assistance of Rosemary Gray. If you have not signed up yet, *you can still participate*. Simply call Celebrity independently and then advise Stu. Stu has also identified that the pre and post cruise lodging in Fort Lauderdale may be an issue since the 2020 Superbowl will be held in Miami at the time of our cruise. Thank you, Stu for the “Heads Up.”**

**The annual fall rendezvous scheduled to be held in New Bern, NC, September 9-13, 2020, featuring the Hatteras Yacht facility tour will be on the agenda for a vote at the business meeting in Baltimore in September 2019. Thanks to the pre-planning efforts of John Gray, have revealed that the town of New Bern has suffered $100 million in damages from hurricane Florence. Other situations to consider are the small regional airport, lack of things to do, lodging, and the potential member interest of touring the *Modern Hatteras Facility.* Recommendations are requested for a new location should the members decide that another location is more desirable. Philadelphia and National Harbor in Washington, DC have been suggested but also require a fleet captain, preferably familiar with the area.**

**The rendezvous guideline document and the revisions to the HCC By Laws are ongoing. Completion is scheduled for the annual meeting in September 2019.**

**Wishing everyone a safe, fun, and problem free boating season. I hope to see all of you at the Annual Rendezvous in Baltimore. *Save the date September 4-8, 2019 at Harbor East.***

**Bernie Ervin**

**President**