

The Helm!



Issue 1, Number 1

Executive Committee's Bi-Annual Newsletter for Members of the Commander Club

May 2006

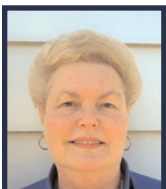
New Executive Committee Sets A Bold, New Course!



Chris Orphal
Chief Commander



Rob Cutchins
Public Relations



Char Pike
Archivist



Lawrence Neisler
Membership



Alarik VonHofsten
Webmaster



Lyn Orphal
Treasurer

In November of 2005, bylaws ratified by the club's members put into place the procedures and protocols to elect a new "Executive Committee". The former "Board of Governors" elected Chris Orphal, long time club member, to the position of **Chief Commander**. Mr. Orphal wasted no time in assembling his new committee to aid him in setting a course for the future of the group which reaches out internationally. Once assembled, the committee began to methodically work on an agenda that has produced some of the most sweeping changes for the group since its inception in November of 1999.

Incorporation. The Chris Craft Commander Club is now officially and legally known as "The Chris Craft Commander Club, Inc.". Assistance in this endeavour was provided by club member Eppa Hunton, Richmond, Virginia attorney and Commander owner. Mr. Hunton remains onboard as counselor to Executive Committee, and *Registered Agent*. Incorporation will offer the group many advantages to both the membership and the Executive Committee.

Publications. The Executive Committee, realizing the need for both internet and printed materials for its members, has decided to offer two different publications to meet the needs and desires of the group. "Styled in Fiberglass", a publication widely respected by and for club members and others in the industry will be published twice a year, and "The Helm", a much smaller publication exclusively produced by the Executive Committee, will also come out twice a year.

Website. One of the most noticeable changes for the group is the total renovation of its website. Newly-appointed webmaster, Alarik VonHofsten, has been working tirelessly to produce something new, fresh and exciting for current and future members of the organization. A total restructuring, along with new content, and a more navigable approach has made the Commander Club's new website something to behold. If you haven't taken a look recently, stop by at www.commanderclub.com. Keep up with the daily activities through our YahooGroups email forum at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cccommander/>

Logo. With all the new changes, it seemed the perfect opportunity to don a new branding symbol for the organization. A design from the talented and much-respected designer of the Commander itself, Dick Avery, submitted a logo design to the Executive Committee. In cooperation with long-time club member and artist, Whitney Pillsbury, the new logo was universally approved by the Committee and is sure to represent us well in all future marketing endeavours.

We're delighted to present these completed agenda items to you, and hope you will continue to enthusiastically support your club. We're proud to be the premiere source of information, education and entertainment for the classic Commander owner. If you know of someone in your local area with a Commander, be sure to pass along a copy of "The Helm". We are working on a referral bonus program that could potentially award you a nice Commander Club gift for passing along information about our fine organization.

The Helm

A BI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE CHRIS CRAFT COMMANDER CLUB.

What's Next?

Items currently under discussion/work include a total renovation of our **DOCK SHOP**. We are looking into offering new items, a new ordering system including additional payment methods. This would also include ordering of the coveted **Archive Disk**.

Look to your next edition of "The Helm" for information about these and other enhancements to your Commander Club.

We are looking for contributors for the next "**Styled in Fiberglass**". Got a great Commander story, or photos? Send them to:
robert@commanderclub.com

or mail to:

Rob Cutchins,

Public Relations

215 Idlewood Avenue

Portsmouth, VA 23704

Time to get together

2006 Summer Rendezvous Announced

The 2006 Rendezvous Committee is pleased to present the following information to you as you make plans to attend this year's formal club event, "**The Big River Rendezvous**". Here are the details:

Date: August 18-20, 2006

Place: American Marine at the Dubuque Yacht Basin (Dubuque, IA)

Agenda: *Friday* → Registration
→ "Meet and Greet"

Saturday → Registration
→ Boat rides (*at boat owner's discretion)
→ 6:00pm Dinner/Presentation/Awards at the National River Museum & Aquarium (private opening for members and guests only)

Sunday → Group breakfast at Hilton Garden Inn (time TBA)

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn \$84 per night* (thru 7/21/06)
563-585-5200
(* must mention Chris Craft Rendezvous to get rate)

Contact: Chris Orphal, Chief Commander and Event Coordinator
(847) 878-7282 or chris.orphal@gmail.com

Registration:
and more info: Available online at www.commanderclub.com

Slips: Available for those coming by boat. Please register early to ensure a slip.
* We are expecting a record turnout for this event. Please be sure to register early.

The Chris Craft Commander Club
215 Idlewood Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23704-1525

