

MAINSHEET

The Newsletter of Thames Yacht Club



From the Editor

As the Summer season comes to a close, please keep in mind that two fine sailing months are still before us. Some of the most comfortable temperatures and best wind have yet to come. Please note the enclosed insert with the new launch schedule.

Greg Reese, Mainsheet Editor

Commodore's Corner

Member's Weekend drew a nice cross section of club members. Bob and Mary Jane VanderWiede outdid themselves organizing and running a fun filled weekend, centered round the family. Hotdogs, hamburgers and movies on the beach all were big hits with the kids. The Race Committee set up two very doable courses that were enjoyed by many non-racing family participants, with lots of reaching and short windward legs. The Saturday night party went well with roast pig as the center fare. Many thanks to Bob and Mary Jane for a fun filled weekend.

Special Olympics is having their regatta again this year the same weekend as the Commodore's Trophy Race. Although they will again be operating off the Queen Merry both Saturday and Sunday, they won't affect our regatta. Parking will be constrained, but they plan on maximizing the use of Mitchell College's parking lot. Any carpooling you can arrange for our regatta would be appreciated. Please remind your crewmembers to respect driveway accesses.

On another note, we need to always try to put forth a friendly and welcoming face to the community and guests. Please greet and treat people, as you would like to and expect to be treated when you are a guest somewhere. In order for our club to grow, it has to be a place where people want to be.

Walter Pratt has been accepted as a Master Mariner starting next year.

The Executive Committee has been busy holding extra meetings this summer, reviewing recommendations for updating the Bylaws. The plan is to come to an agreement on them in time to have the draft out to everyone before the November General Membership meeting.

Skipper's Night is a family event where we celebrate the end of summer, pass out trophies for the summer races honoring the participants and swap stories of our sailing experiences. I hope you can make it to join in Friday night, September 9th.

Commodore's Regatta pre-race party (Saturday night) and post-race party (Sunday afternoon) are good opportunities to interact with club members. We could use your help and would enjoy your participation.

After Labor Day, the launch is secured Monday through Thursday, except in support of Off Soundings. Note: If you intend to tie up to the pier Thursday night before Off Sounding, make a reservation with Cal.

As a reminder, if anything needs to be passed to the club officers or committee chairmen, please enter it in the logbook in the radio room.

Eric Jones, TYC Commodore

Membership Committee

With the season coming to a close, we have one new member to add to our club.

Please welcome the following new member and make them feel at home when you see them at the club.

Ben Rosenthal of Glastonbury, CT

Stu Craig -Chairman, Membership Committee

Vice Commodore's Report

It's hard to believe the summer is almost over...the children are returning to school soon and the yacht club will be so quiet during the day. The summer went much too fast, but there is plenty of sailing left before we put the boats away for another year. Actually, it is the best time of year to sail; better winds, less crowds at distant moorings, often not as hot, and plenty of racing left.

Our next event is the Commodore's Trophy Regatta sponsored by Mount Gay. This race will take place on September 11, 2005. An important part of this race is the party afterwards, which TYC is responsible for. We need lots of volunteers to help set-up, serve and clean-up. We also need those wonderful desserts which you always bring. The participants always comment on how great they are. So, please call me at (860)443-5968 or email me at jacfisher36@msn.com to volunteer.

It's a great way to support your club and get to know other members.

Jackie Fisher - Vice Commodore.

Youth Sailing Program

If you have been down to the Club during the week since the middle of August you have seen a quiet beach and the Fleet of Club Optis and 420s all neatly lined up on the beach and stored in their racks and wondered what happened to the Youth Sailing Program. Well starting the 27th of June through the 11th of August the club was the center of all the things that make a summer of small boat sailing a joy to behold, not only for the 80 or so kids in the program but for their parents/grand-parents and the members who remember when they were learning to sail at TYC. There was the usual apprehension of the little guys taking the swim test and then the fear of actually getting in an Opti that might tip over followed by the excitement of realizing that they could actually sail out to the Queen and back to shore. Yup there was SAND on the deck and in the club and maybe some wet feet inside, that's what you get when you mix sailing, kids and a clubhouse in the middle of a beach. But there was also a constant level of excitement about sailing that was reflected in the turnout for Wednesday night Opti and 420 racing, the increased number of awards won at Regattas and overall higher competitive skills of the sailors from the Beginners through Advanced. This summer, by joining forces with Shennecossett Yacht Club many of the bigger sailors, who were not advanced enough to sail 420s, were given the opportunity to develop their skills in the (3) Flying Juniors provided by Shenne. This proved to be an asset to the overall program.

Next for the young sailors is Skipper's Night, Sept 9th, where they can come to cheer the accomplishments of their fellow sailors and talk about next summer. Be There!

This year's Youth Sailing Program resulted from the rewarding efforts of the many parents serving on the Youth Sailing Committee, Gene Fiese the Shennecossett Chairman, the Sailing instructors and Junior Sailing instructors and many members who realize this is the backbone and future of a successful Yacht Club. Now is the time to learn from this year and start planning for Summer 2006.

Opps! Almost forgot about possibly one of the most appreciated assets this summer. THE GALLEY The Little and Big kids were spoiled. Good goin' Aileen! Thanks!!!

Cliff Fisher - Chairman Youth Sailing Committee



COSTANZO PRINTS TO BE AUTCTIONED

Two of member Dave Costanzo's Clubhouse Prints, matted and framed, will be auctioned at Skippers' Night, Friday, September 9th. The auction will be silent so there will be no pressure during the bidding process, which will last most of the evening. Early viewing is available as the prints are located in the trophy case over the fireplace. And the proceeds go to a great cause - the Dick Roberts Youth Fleet Fund. Join the fun and participate.

From the Galley

Galley Hours

Thanks to my loyal customers for making this season as galley operator a success. With the end of sailing lessons and kids returning to school, galley hours will decrease dramatically in September. I plan to be open Labor Day weekend and then weekends only throughout September. At this point in time I expect to be open for the Chowder series and hope to see many of you on those days. Menu items will include cooler day foods such as soups and chowders as well as the usual burgers and dogs and homemade treats.

Aileen Greene, TYC Galley Operator

Rear Commodore's Corner

The Oscar Kerman Series was sailed on Saturday, 13 August. Although it was very hot and humid, we had exceptionally good wind, 10 - 15 knots out of the West. There were 15 boats registered, 12 completed both races. Most boats elected to start as close to the starting signal as possible, while 3 or 4, intentionally or not, started closer to the end of the ten minute starting window. The final results were determined by the combined corrected times from both races. 1st place - De ja Vu, Cal Brouwer, 2nd place - De ja Vu2 - Tom Welsh, 3rd place - Teamwork, Lorena Jones (with our Commodore as Navigator). The remaining order was: Sam, Billerina, Goombay Smash, Acadia, Blueberry Pie, Fast Lane, Seahorse, Escape and Wastin Time. Thanks to the Member's Weekend chairmen, the VanderWiede's, prizes were awarded to all boats completing the series.

Skipper's Night is Friday, 9 September at 1900 hours (that's 7:00 pm for former Coast Guard members). We will be

awarding prizes for all the races/series completed at that time. This event is open to all club members, guests and crews. This year the Youth Sailing Program will be presenting awards and certificates to their participants. There will be a cookout at the club with hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. The cost is \$5.00/adult and \$3.00/under 18. I need volunteers to sell tickets, cook and clean up. Please bring either an appetizer or a desert. Sign up at the club so we can plan accordingly. The Chowder Series starts Sunday, September 25 and runs for six weeks. The Notice of Race is on the TYC web site. We usually have more reliable wind than on Wednesday nights and no worries about sunset limiting the course we set. As in the past we need people to make some type of chowder for each of the Sunday races. The club will reimburse you for all expenses. Sign up for chowder making on the Race Committee board at TYC. Rear Commodore, Lloyd McDonald, is looking for help on the Race Committee during this series. 464-2401
Lloyd McDonald, TYC Rear Commodore

Photos From The 2005 Oscar Kerman Series



De ja Vu, with Cal Brouwer took first place (and like de ja vu) second place finisher was Tom Welsh on De ja Vu2. Here they both round "Junk."



TYC Commodore Eric Jones and his wife Lorena, show some very effective "Teamwork" as they head for their overall third place finish.



Heading for the mark, (left to right) John and Lisa Huff's Escape "in a Huff" due to a delightful puff, followed closely by Billerina, Acadia, Blueberry Pie, Teamwork and Sam. The day featured some close and exciting side by side racing.



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August 16 TYC Executive Committee Meeting Summary

- The Executive Committee is currently updating the TYC Bylaws that will be presented for membership approval.
- Members Weekend went very well. The highlight was the Oscar Kerman Race on Saturday followed by the Pig Roast. Both events were well attended and everyone had a great time.
- The House Committee is making plans to replace two sets of center glass doors on the 1st floor of the clubhouse. A glass front display case is needed for TYC articles for sale such as clothing and hats.
- Jim Avery, Michael Passero and Lloyd McDonald have been elected to the Nominating Committee. The committee will present a list of candidates of Officers and Executive Committee to be filled by election at the annual November General Membership Meeting.
- Any TYC member who desires to use the club dock on the Thursday night before Off Soundings, September 15th, should contact Cal Brouwer at CalPCTC@aol.com. The next TYC Executive Committee Meeting will be held on September 13th at the clubhouse.