

MAINSHEET

The Newsletter of Thames Yacht Club



From the Editor

A new year is upon us and with that comes many changes in regards to the TYC Officers and Executive Committee members roster. I wish Jack Scaduto and all the other newly elected leadership all the best.

Greg Reese, Mainsheet Editor

Commodore's Corner

I hope this relatively warm January is finding everyone well and thinking about the 2006 boating season. However, the storms of last December have taken a toll on the old portion of the dock. A number of planks are missing and some support beams are rotted and broken. GWENMOR has been contracted to perform the heavy repairs. We plan to get a work party together this spring to accomplish any minor repairs that may be necessary.

The Club plans to employ a Steward for the 2006 Season. Executive Committee members are presently working on a job description. More information will be forthcoming.

During the January 17, 2006 Executive Committee Meeting, Jackie Fisher (chair), Bevan Crighton and Tom Welsh were voted in as members of the 2006 Membership Committee. I thank Stu Craig and Robert Gibbs for their past service on this committee.

I am actively looking for a Fleet Captain and for volunteers who would like to serve on a TYC Committee. Please call me at 860.859.3408 or email at tycscaduto@aol.com if you have any interest to help out the Club.

Last but not least, I thank the following dedicated Club members who donated their time over the past two months in keeping the club-house and grounds ship shape: Henry Pianka, Cal Brouwer, Jim Avery, Eric Jones, Russ Carr, Chuck Wargo, Cliff Fisher and Scott Scaduto. A job well done!

J. Scaduto, TYC Commodore

Vice Commodore's Report

The Holiday Party was held on Friday, Dec. 2nd. Many thanks to all those generous folks who donated time and effort to ensure the success of the event. Don catered the roast beef dinner which was a fitting event to close the tenure of our outgoing (in more ways than one) Vice Commodore, Jackie Fisher. Festive attire on many of our guests added to the pleasure of the evening.

Sundaes with Santa was held on Dec. 11, 2005. About twelve children and their parents and /or grandparents came to TYC to make picture frames for their photograph with Santa, make origami sailboat Christmas cards and to make ice cream sundaes. But best of all was the visit from SANTA CLAUS! Santa was wonderful and even the shyest among them was reassured by his charm. Kate Potter did a great job running the event with help from many members, including Chuck Wargo, who helped make it a very special day for the children.

Save the Dates!

St. Patricks Day Party: Friday, March 17
Kentucky Derby Party: Saturday, May 6

We will be having Weekend Warmups on Thursdays during the sailing season. For all you folks who thought that the weekend begins on Friday, now you can bring the kids, cookout and

New Members

Let's all welcome the following new members to the Club:

Curtis & Gianna Johnston, East Lyme, CT
Jeff & Laurianne Lamothe, New Britain, CT
Paul & Kathy Schwartz, Niantic, CT
Roy & Linda Adamson, Waterford, CT
Joseph & Melissa Madaus, New London, CT

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visit with friends as a prep for Fridays. I encourage all comments, suggestions, and offers of help for the 2006 sailing season. Volunteers are always welcome, in general and for specific events. It is great fun and you get to know members whom you might not get to chat with otherwise.

Many thanks to Jackie Fisher for her generous help in the transition. I admire the way Jackie has managed the Vice Commodore's position for the past few years. It looks as if many of the helpers she has had in the past are willing to stay on, and for that I am grateful.

Carolyn Leuze, TYC Vice Commodore

Fall Cleanup Day was a Success

Fall cleanup day was very successful and a lot was accomplished by the approximately 40 people who participated. Unfortunately the working party discovered a bit more damage and rot while cleaning and resetting the tipped ice machine and outside shower. To make things worse, the storm in early December wreaked havoc on the dock. As a result we have contracted Gwenmor Marine to do the dock repairs necessary to get us through the 2006 season. We are also in the process of obtaining a quote for a new swim platform made from interlocking sections of a plastic material similar to the floating docks at the Mitchell College pier next door. A new storage shed and outdoor shower will also be built or purchased ready-made in time for the start of the season.

On behalf of the membership I thank those listed and not listed who helped with the effort: Commodore Jack and Jean Ann Scaduto, Pete Costas, Walt Pratt, Ken Edwards, Cal Brouwer, Scott Scaduto, Bruce Beggs, Chuck Wargo, Al Newman, Past Commodore Eric Jones, Keith Gagne, Jim Reyburn, Robert Amrein, Tom Welsh, Ed and Sabrina Lyall, John McGuire, Chris Cooper, Joan Sullivan-Cooper, Lloyd, Josie and Alex McDonald, Bevan Crighton, John Ahearn, Carlos Mojica, Jim Avery, Melissa Madaus, Gary Bohn, Al Schober and Judy Palmisano. There are a few others whose name I can't read on the sign-up sheet or who failed to sign in. Thank you all.

Russ Carr, TYC House Committee Chairman

75th Club Anniversary

The Club will observe its 75th year of incorporation on May 23, 2008. To commemorate the occasion a committee has been formed consisting of, so far, Cal Brouwer, John Ahearn, Greg Reese, Judy Gibbs and Jack Scaduto. More members are needed for this blue ribbon committee. Please contact Jack or Cal if you wish to participate. Over the course

of 2008 there are expected to be several events. Many hands make for light work!

Cal Brouwer

Ensign Regionals

Regional Commander Russ Carr has received the permission of the Executive Committee to host the Ensign Class Region II & III Championships the weekend of July 22 and 23. As with any high profile event, many volunteers will be needed to make it a success. Personnel are required for race committee, social functions, preparation and close out. The event will need a committee boat, utility boat and mark boats. The Club last hosted the Regionals in 2004. The racing was great and everyone that raced or served on the various committees had a fine time. Please contact Russ Carr to volunteer.

Cal Brouwer

Youth Sailing Program

The planning for this summer's program is well underway, with all our instructors hired and tweaks being made to the curriculum based on what we learned last summer. The program will again provide curriculum tailored for both the advancing sailor and the advancing racer, with the potential for the racer to become involved in team racing.

Shennecossett Yacht Club will again participate in the program and planning is underway for complementary programs with Mitchell College. This may result in adult sailing lessons in conjunction with Mitchell College and the opportunity for TYC to share Mitchell's 420 sailboats and dock in support of TYC Team Racing.

Contact the Committee Chairs listed below if you are interested in serving on their committee.

Social	Carolyn Leuze
Regatta	Lloyd McDonald
House	Russ Carr
Membership	Jackie Fisher
Mainsheet Editor	Greg Reese
Publicity	Kirsten Ahearn
Mooring	Walter Brady
Launch	Chuck Wargo
Planning & Development	John Huff
Youth Sailing	Cliff Fisher
Race Secretary	Cal Brouwer
TYC Webmaster	Al Schober
Dock Committee	Wayne Gammo
TYC 75th Anniversary	Cal Brouwer

The 2006 lesson schedules and tuition structure should be available by the end of February for your summer planning.

Please contact me with any questions.

Cliff Fisher - Youth Sailing Chairman
860-443-5968, or cliffisher@sbcglobal.net

From the Measurer

It is not too early to give some thought to getting your handicap straightened away for the 2006 sailing season. All headsails require a measurement, and this means that they must be off the boat. This applies to your largest jib/Genoa and all spinnakers. If you are getting a new sail or having your sailmaker make some adjustments to your current inventory, have your sailmaker measure your sails, mark them, and send me the data on the sailmaker's stationary. Otherwise we can arrange to measure your sails at the club. Other measurements concerning the boat and rig can be made either in the boat yard or after launch. Remember that all boats intending to race in 2006 need a new 2006 handicap certificate prior to race entry.

If you need help or a measurement, please give me a call. 2006 Handicap forms will be available on the TYC website soon and in the club house early this spring.

Bob Geary, TYC Measurer, 860.446.9222

Shall We Dance?

Starting 6:30 p.m., Thursday, February 2nd, the answer is yes. As a result of requests from some TYC members I've arranged for dance instructor Marj Winslow to give four one-hour beginners ballroom dancing group lessons at TYC. Marj is an excellent instructor who regularly teaches ballroom dancing through the parks and recreation departments in Montville, Groton and East Lyme. Marj plans on teaching the Foxtrot and she introduces each step as part of a routine. So, after four weeks you will be dancing the Foxtrot, guaranteed. TYC is providing the space but is otherwise not involved. We will pay Marj directly. She has agreed to teach for a fixed price per hour so the cost per person is dependent on how many sign-up, and counting those already committed it will be less than \$30 per person for all four lessons. Please let me know if you are interested and what level you dance at. If there are enough experienced dancers Marj will run an advanced class too.

Dance shoes aren't necessary but laced shoes with leather soles are much better than docksiders. It is better if women should wear high heels, about 2 inches, but even that is not necessary. Finally, don't over dress. The gas heater can

make the downstairs quite warm and even the Foxtrot is more exercise than you suspect. If you are interested please call me at 444-1785 or e-mail me at r.carr@snet.net.

Russ Carr

General Membership Meeting, (Nov. 2, 2005)

Fifty plus people attended the affair and all enjoyed the food, drink and fellowship. Walt Pratt led a discussion on the proposed 2006 Budget that was unanimously approved by the membership.

- Commodore Eric Jones reported that a recent storm washed out the beach and damaged the bathhouse, ramp and ice machine foundation. These will be resolved on November 5 Clean Up Day. The club is negotiating with Latimer Light Oyster Co. and the Mohegan Tribe to get batter pilings and two floating docks for the new dock.

- Planning & Development Chair, John Huff, reported that plans are in progress to replace the upper porch decking, replace the door locks with key cards and replace the pay phone with cable hookup consisting of internet, TV and phone setup. New aluminum ladders have been installed on the new dock.

- Youth Sailing Chair, Cliff Fisher, reported 80 youths attending instruction last summer. The program was successful and the Club plans to join up again with SYC next year.

- The following Officers and Executive Committee for 2006 were elected:

Commodore:	Jack Scaduto
Vice Commodore:	Carolyn Leuze
Rear Commodore:	Lloyd McDonald
Secretary:	John Ahearn
Treasurer:	Steve Potter
Measurer:	Robert Geary
Executive Committee:	Jean Ann Scaduto Chuck Wargo Jim Avery Mike Passero Claire Gammo (continued) John Huff (continued)

- The newly revised TYC Bylaws were presented to the membership. The Bylaw changes were well received and unanimously approved by the membership.

Jack Scaduto, TYC Secretary



Mooring Wanted

TYC member interested in buying mooring for 3,000 lbs displacement boat.

Contact Carlos Mojica at 860-441-8362 or carlos.mojica@pfizer.com.



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January 17th TYC Executive Committee Meeting Summary

- Commodore Jack Scaduto reported on the Oyster Garden project. A new lease has been signed with Latimer Light Oyster Co. to continue harvesting oysters under the TYC docks. We are currently in negotiations with the Mohegan Tribal Council regarding their commitment to adding floating docks and batter pilings to our docks.
- Treasurer Steve Potter reported that the invoices for the 2006 dues have gone out to all members. Please contact Steve if you have not received your bill.
- Vice Commodore Carolyn Leuze reported that 70 people attended the Christmas Party and a great time was had by all. 12 families attended the Sundaes with Santa party.
- The 2006 Membership Committee was voted in. Jackie Fisher is the chair and Tom Welsh and Bevan Crighton will

also serve on the committee.

- House Committee Chair Russ Carr reported on the damage to the old section of the docks during the Full Moon Nor'easter. He is currently negotiating repairs.
- Youth Sailing: Cliff Fisher reported that we have hired three instructors for the upcoming year.
- New Business: Honorary membership was extended to Mary Ellen Roberts, Paul Egan and Henry & Pat Pianka.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, February 21st at the Clubhouse.

Respectfully submitted,
John Ahearn,
TYC Secretary