

MAINSHEET

The Newsletter of Thames Yacht Club

Commodore's Corner

It is great our club has members who step up and volunteer for work activities and open committee positions. Bevan Crighton is the new House Committee Chair and Keith Gagne as House Committee Assistant Chair. Roy Adamson took over the Mooring Committee Chair position and Greg Reese volunteered as Planning & Development Committee Chair as well as doing his Mainsheet Editor duties. In addition, Jackie Fisher (chair), Tom Welsh and Bevan offered to serve another year on the Membership Committee and were elected at the January Executive Committee Meeting. A big thanks to these members who offered to volunteer their time to the club.

The club received DEP approval in December to proceed with dock construction. A contract was signed with Assoc. Dock Builders to perform the work. Club members will perform dock utilities and beach walkway work. Our new launch float arrived at Ft. Trumbull last month. Cliff Fisher, Bevan, Bob Geary and Paul Egan did a wonderful job unloading and launching the float. The DEP informed our northern neighbors, the Fishers, that our dock construction would not adversely affect their effort to obtain a permit for an in-water structures permit. The Fishers previously opposed our application, claiming additional encroachment would prohibit them from obtaining a dock permit.

Ledge Light Health District performed a courtesy inspection of our galley. Upgrading the Galley is currently in the planning stages by the House Committee.

The clubhouse is available on a limited bases for club meetings until mid March. Except for the downstairs ladies head, the clubhouse water is secured and blown down. Thanks to Past Commodore Eric Jones, our perpetual House Committee Chair, for taking on this task.

Michael Passero recently designed a ver-

The Passing Of A Past Commodore

Long time member and Past Commodore Marilyn O'Brien passed away in November 2006. Besides being the first women Commodore in the club, she served on the Executive Committee for many years as treasurer. This past season we were very happy to see Marilyn on Wednesday nights sitting on the porch watching the races, enjoying all the activity and being Marilyn.

Many of us will recall the many interesting stories she would tell about the early history of the club. She will be sadly missed.

tical dinghy storage system that is currently on display at the club. This new design is more user friendly and will facilitate the removal/storage of dinghies.

Last but not least, congratulations to Walter Pratt for qualifying as US Sailing Regional Race Officer. This permits him to go anywhere in the area to serve as Principal Race Officer. Well done Walt!

Jack Scaduto, TYC Commodore

Membership Committee

With a new year site, it is the goal of this committee to bring to our club new members interested in yachting, good sportsmanship and social activities. We can only do this with your help. We look forward to hearing from you.

We welcome **Walter and Isabela Kaminski** and their four year old daughter back to TYC and look forward to seeing them once again at the club.

Jackie Fisher, Membership Chairperson



Vice Commodore's Report

We had a lovely Christmas season with the adult party followed by the children's Sundaes with Santa. Both were a great success, and Chuck Wargo was again the favorite person at the children's party. Many thanks to all the devoted members who work so hard to make our parties so much fun.

Our next social event will be the St. Patrick's Day Party on Saturday, March 17. It will be a potluck dinner, so get out your favorite recipe book and plan to attend. Consider signing up for helping before, during or after the party. Remember, it is the volunteers who make our club the great place it is. And we do have a lot of fun. Call me at 443.2517 or e-mail me at magsgram@aol.com and let me know what you'd like to do.

We had the galley inspected by Kimberly from Ledge Light Health District and there are a few improvements we need to make, which should not come as a surprise to many of you who have labored in the galley. It is all manageable and probably will not result in a major assessment (a little levity here.) It can be done for very little money and a lot of volunteer help. There is a galley committee, so if you want to be in on the decision making process and the bringing-up-to-code work, let Commodore Jack know.

Watch for the new Thames Yacht Club Social Calendar for 2007 soon to be on our website. I am in San Diego visiting my sister and I was able to show her all our great Christmas party pictures on our web site thanks to Jackie Fisher and Al Schober.

Carolyn Leuze, TYC Vice Commodore

Youth Sailing Program

Preparation for the coming summer sailing program is well underway with the hiring of 2 new instructors along with Julie Spear returning as Head Instructor. The registration material for the 2007 summers program will be mailed to all members by the beginning of March and will be available through the club website www.thamesyachtclub.org before the mailing. Of note, the schedule of classes has been revised to provide a better learning experience for all sailors. Perhaps the most significant change will occur in the Beginning Sailors class which will now become two separate Classes, Beginners Ages 5-9 years old and Beginners 10-16 years old.

Instruction will begin on June 25th with the First 3 week session starting on July 2nd and Second 3 week session starting on July 23rd and ending on August 10th.

Wednesday night racing in Optis and 420s will now become part of the club regular Weds night racing series requiring registration. Also BIG BOAT sailing will be included on the schedule. THINK WARM SUNNY THOUGHTS

Cliff Fisher - TYC Youth Sailing Chairman

Rear Commodores Corner

As I write this in mid January, the first real winter weather is here and the warm sailing season seems far away. First I would like to thank Llyod McDonald for all his hard work in the last two years. I'm about to find out about the work part. This will be my fifth season racing with the club and I really have enjoyed it. I haven't missed a Wednesday race in years. This was my first racing experience and I am hooked. I would like to encourage you to participate in the good times and camaraderie of the pleasant evening races of summer, and the excitement of spring and fall series. The races are informal and a great way to sharpen sailing skills. In 2006 the participation of these series has increased and I would like to see the program continue to grow. If you would like to experience racing before committing to a season, consider crewing for some one else.

I do have two requests of the racing skippers. One; Every skipper is required to work the race committee boat with his or her crew at least once during the season. There will be a sign up sheet posted at the club. I am also looking to build a schedule with experienced head race committee members to make sure the program runs smoothly. Please contact me so we can plan for the upcoming season. Also there will be a race management training session in early March that will take the mystery out of working on race committee and help understand the race rules. Two; The Queen Merry needs some care and I am in the process of scheduling the hauling at Fort Trumbull Marina. I will be looking for volunteers for assistance. Please contact me if you can help.

Best of all Monday, May 28 will be the first race of the year, the Chili Series. It consists of four short and one long race, and is a great way to kick off the season. I look forward to seeing you all this spring out on the water. Please feel free to contact me with any question or comments (860-521-4350).

Ted Paulsen, TYC Rear Commodore,

From The Fleet Captain

With the New Year and the holidays over, we look forward to a new season of sailing adventures. This year promises to build on the success of last year with more trips and greater involvement. While this year's cruising schedule is still being developed, it will include Pirates Cookout at Flat Hammock, Watch Hill Rendezvous, a trip to Montauk Point and a late season trip to Hamburg cove.

We will continue to award the Golden Whale burgee to members at our cruising events. This perpetual award is awarded to members on a temporary basis at various contests run at our cruising events. We are still looking for cruise

leaders. Any member who is an experienced cruiser and would like to run a cruise should contact me and we will set up another TYC event. Any member who becomes a cruise leader is automatically awarded the golden whale.

glennfreiman@sbcglobal.net (203) 318-8544

Glenn Freiman, TYC Fleet Captain

From the House Committee

Let me start this article by introducing myself, Bevan Crighton, as your new House Committee Chair.

For those of you who don't know me, I joined the TYC in 1995, and I have worked on various projects for the Club. I am on the Membership Committee, and I have also been Assistant House Committee for the past couple of years. So I have some understanding of what I am getting myself into (I think). My Wife and I sail a Nonsuch 30 "Montrose".

The principal work that needs to be done at the Club at this time, as you all know, is a replacement Main Dock, and the good news is that this will take place this year. The bad news is that because we are getting a new dock there is not much money left for the Club House. We have also discovered that we need new Dinghy Racks.

But, all is not lost, fortunately, a lot of the projects that need to be done to the Club House don't require a lot of money, but do require manpower/girlpower, which we have an abundance of, right!

In this issue of the Mainsheet I have included a list of work that we would like to accomplish. I want you to take this list and tack it to your refrigerator door where you wont lose it, and where it will be a constant reminder. Then, I want you to pick out a work project that you would like to participate in, and call or E-mail me with your offer of help (My phone and E-mail are on the list, so you can't say you lost them either). I will be looking for both Team Leaders and helpers, and people of all skill levels. Believe me, you will feel a lot better about our Club if you participate in improving it.

I would really like everybody to respond to me on this, even if you are already involved in one of the projects. In this way I can establish a list of people who are willing to help out our Club, and their skills, if any.

If you are aware of any items that are not on my work list, but you think we should be looking into, please let me know.

A final item, the Club is very quiet right now and we have heat in service, so this is an ideal time to get some of these projects done, besides what else are you going to do on a cold winters day.

Thanks, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Bevan Crighton, TYC House Committee Chairman.

Mooring Committee News:

1) Mooring Gear: Please remove your winter mooring gear from the club beach.

2) Club Mooring Application Update: All members at the Thames Yacht Club (TYC) who maintain a mooring are required to submit annually an "Application for Individual, Non -Commercial Mooring Space Permit" to the TYC Mooring committee. Completed permits should be submitted to the TYC by March 1, 2007, Attention: Mooring Committee.

Note: Individual moorings require inspection bi-annually (every two years); please identify the inspection status for your mooring with the mooring space application submittal.

Web Address for Connecticut Application for Individual, Non -Commercial Mooring Space

www.ct.gov/dot/lib/dot/Documents/dpermits/ap_imspace.pdf

Roy Adamson, TYC Mooring Chairman

75th Anniversary Contests Coming Up

Have ideas for a club 75th anniversary (2008) slogan, logo, or pennant? Now's the time to explore those ideas because the Club's 75th Anniversary Committee will soon kick off contests for finished products. Competition will be open to club members 18 and over.

Also coming up soon: a contest for juniors (under 18) for the best 75th Anniversary poster.

There'll be some great prizes in all categories, so put on your thinking cap now and you'll be all set for action when the contests start.

Check the next Mainsheet for start dates and details.

Jim Reyburn

Planning and Development Committee

As your new TYC Planning and Development Chairman, I am seeking members who would like to serve on this committee. The primary purpose of the committee is to identify, propose and incorporate small and large long term modifications to sustain and better the club as we go into the future. If you are interested in participating, please contact me for more information.

860-561-9746 gbreese69@comcast.net

Greg Reese, TYC Planning and Development Committee Chairman

For Sale

300lb Mooring Mushroom Anchor, Summer and Winter floats, located in North field. (N41 20 001 W072 05 571)

John Huff 860-437-1466



Thames Yacht Club
396 Pequot Avenue
P.O. Box 1808
New London, CT 06320