

MAINSHEET

The Newsletter of Thames Yacht Club

2008 marks the 75th Anniversary of Thames Yacht Club. This is a milestone worth celebrating, one built with fond memories and significant accomplishments.

From the Commodore

As we begin a new year, I hope that all of you had an enjoyable holiday season finding some time to relax with your family and friends. Our family enjoyed a special holiday blessing. Our son Jeffrey completed his final tour in Iraq, a fifteen-month deployment, returning safely home to his family in Fort Hood, Texas on December 23. With over twenty-two years of service, he will retire in May. He and his wife Nancy are presently enjoying a well-deserved vacation in Hawaii.

Two thousand eight marks the 75th anniversary of Thames Yacht Club and we plan to celebrate the occasion in style. Past Commodores Cal Brouwer and Judith Gibbs along with other members of the planning committee have been hard at work and prepared for over a year. You will find more information here in the MAINSHEET.

It takes a lot of dedication and effort to keep our yacht club operating. Your officers, the Executive Committee, the various Chairs and other volunteers provide services to us that are immeasurable. Their dedication is commendable. As your new Commodore, I shall strive to fulfill my duties to the best of my abilities. I am always available for your comments and ideas - this is our yacht club and with full participation, the workload is easier on all of us. Feel free to contact me at any time via email to wpratt@snet.net, my home phone (860)859-3964 or my cell phone (860)884-1679. Here are some specific ways you can assist your yacht club:

1. Volunteer to sell our yearbook advertisements.
2. Volunteer to handle selling our clothing

articles at events such as commissioning, parties, and regattas.

3. Volunteer to serve as Chair or organize a group to run the Members' Day activities.

4. Just volunteer - contact me and I will find something you can help with.

Speaking of volunteers - Bevan Crighton, the Chair of the House Committee and other volunteers, have already been hard at work replacing the lower front porch. They took full advantage of last week's good weather. There is still a lot of work to do so let Bevan know if you have time to assist.

The membership approved the hiring of a Steward at the last General Meeting and we have started reviewing the requirements and position description as drafted by a previous committee. We are assembling a search committee and are now in the process of soliciting candidates. We plan to advertise for this employment opportunity in the near future. In the meantime, if you are interested or know of candidate please contact me. Realizing that we cannot afford to have a Steward on duty for all of our operating hours I am going to solicit volunteers to fill in. I will provide more information on that subject in the next issue of the MAINSHEET.

With this issue of the MAINSHEET, we are returning to a published calendar. With each issue, we will print two months of the calendar. The calendar for the entire year is available on our web site at <http://www.thamesyachtclub.org/> To facilitate printing and viewing I find it easier to right click on the Calendar box and select Open in New Window. Our compliments go out to Executive Committee member Lou Leverone who graciously accepted the lead on this project and to our Webmaster and Past Commodore Al Schober for his assistance.

Walt Pratt, TYC Commodore



Do you know ...That Thames Yacht Club is celebrating our 75th anniversary in 2008? Watch the calendar!

From The Vice Commodore

Happy New Year to all, As your new Vice Commodore I thank you All for your support of my nomination through election. I am excited to be an involved member in this strategic position. I believe this is one of the most dynamic and lively eras of Thames Yacht Club and with the excellent people in our membership these years should prove to be some of our best.

I have been turned over a great legacy to uphold from Carolyn Leuze and with her help and many others who are anxious to participate we have some great ideas coming your way this year. In this 75th Anniversary year my aspirations are to entice many new and old members to be familiar faces at our planned events. I have received enthusiastic requests

for involvement and I am determined to get every one involved with the planning and execution of the social proceedings. I am building an email list of those who would like to keep abreast of the planning and if you would like to be put on distribution please drop me a note with your particular interests, if you have them, and I will get you involved. The More the Merrier!

Thank you all again and I look forward to making this year a memorable one.

Hats off to Carolyn for an excellent venue over the last two years and bragging rights to the Richard H. Roberts ECSA Best Party Trophy 2007.

Tom Welsh, TYC Vice Commodore

From the Measurer

It is not too early to give some thought to getting your handicap straightened away for the 2008 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 2008 need a new 2008 Handicap Certificate prior to race entry.

If you need help or a measurement, please give me a call. 2008 Handicap forms will be available on the TYC website soon and in the club house early this spring.

Bob Geary, TYC Measurer

From the Fleet Captain

With holidays over we can now look forward to a new season of sailing adventures. With the success last years season behind us we hope to continue building the TYC cruising program with even greater participation this year. For the program to grow we need more cruise leaders. The only thing required to lead a cruise is a scheduled destination and a planned activity. Any member who leaders a cruise is automatically awarded the golden whale.

For those of you who are not familiar with the Golden Whale, it is a perpetual award is awarded to members on a temporary basis at various contests run at our cruising events. 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.

Glenn Freiman, TYC Fleet Captain

75TH ANNIVERSARY

By the time this reaches you, the 75th Anniversary Kick-Off Cocktail Party will have been held and the anniversary pennant and slogan will have been unveiled.

Next on the anniversary agenda is the dinner/dance gala on Saturday, April 26th. The event will be staged at Ocean Beach's Port "N" Starboard Room with festivities commencing at 1800. Our old friend Bill Rinoski, the DJ, WJR, will provide the music for the evening.

A special part of the dinner will be the recognition of

The Ensign Class Association 2008 National Championship will take place at Niantic August 11 - 14. As one of the hosts, Ensign Fleet 57 (Thames Yacht Club) is soliciting housing for crewmembers and their families who are coming from out of the area for the regatta. Any accommodations you are able to provide are helpful. Contact Walt Pratt for additional information.

members who have 30 years or more of continuous membership. It is the committee's hope that most will attend to duly receive their special congratulations.

This is a once in a lifetime event; please plan to attend. You may expect your formal invitation to arrive shortly after the middle of March.

Cal Brouwer

House Committee News

Hope you all are recovered from the holidays and ready for a new year.

I started the New Year by going down to the club and making up a list of everything I could see that I think we would like to get replaced, repaired or repainted. I was kind of surprised to find that my list came out to be two pages long, but some of the items are pretty minor.

I am including the list in this report for your perusal, and in the hope that you will spot a job that you would like to work on. Can you spare a few hours?

A bunch of us (people who don't have to go to work) took advantage of some nice weather last week and started work on replacing the deck of the 1st Floor Porch. My thoughts were that we would just remove the old decking and replace it with the new, after all we had looked under the deck weeks ago and the old joists looked pretty good. Well, I shouldn't have been surprised to find that when we started stripping off the old decking many of the joists were found to be wet and spongy. Even worse, we found that the bases for the main supporting posts, the posts that hold up both the 1st Floor Porch and the 2nd Floor Porch, were also wet and spongy. So, we ended up with a much bigger project than we had hoped for, but thanks to all the people who came down to help (names below) we hope to have the new deck finished fairly soon (depending on the weather).

The Durable Deck Gang. Bob Geary, Cliff Fisher, Al Shober, Jeff Lamothe, David Gyure, Justin Codner, Lou Leverone, Jack Scaduto, Russ Carr, Walt Pratt, Steven Smith, and Paul Shwartz.

Please take a look at the work projects and let me know if you can help with any of them. We are maintaining the club with heat on and water available so these winter months are an ideal time to get a lot of these jobs done. I am also thinking of getting work parties together on weekends to tackle some of these jobs, probably starting on the weekend of 2nd - 3rd Feb. Can you spare a day, or a weekend?

On another note, I am trying to get together a picture gallery of all the past Commodores of our Club. If you have any old photos of past Commodores please let me know.

Bevan Crighton, TYC House Chair

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, Attention: Mooring Committee, in accordance with the following phased submission schedule:

May 1- 30, 2008 Submittal: Member Moorings with current inspections resubmit 2007 mooring application with updated date block (line out 2007 date, initial and write in current date 2008)

June 1- 30, 2008 Submittal: Member Moorings requiring inspections submit 2008 mooring application with updated Mooring Inspection data.

General information that should be documented on mooring application for TYC records include identification of assigned mooring field number and the mooring location (latitude and longitude).

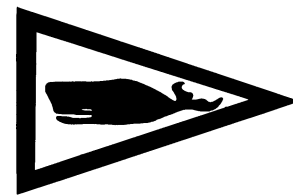
Note: Individual moorings require inspection bi-annually (every two years); please identify the inspection status for your mooring with the mooring space application submittal.

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

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

In advance thank you for your prompt response - Mooring Committee

Roy Adamson, TYC Mooring Committee Chairman



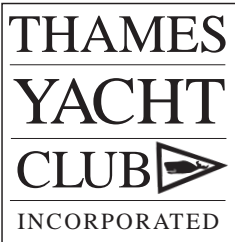
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For Sale

Cal 25' Great Boat! Year 1969, 9.9 HP Johnson Long Shaft (2 years old), CD Player/Speakers

\$3500.00 or Best Offer

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

Thames Yacht Club in the News

New London - Walter Pratt of Norwich was elected the 45th commodore of the club during the November membership meeting.

Pratt, who served as treasurer in 2004 and was recently on the executive committee, has been a club member since 1991 and is an outstanding sailor in the Ensign Teamwork, which he co-owns with past commodore Eric Jones. He succeeds Jack Scaduto of Salem, who served in the post for the past two years.

Other officers elected were: Vice Commodore - Thomas Welsh; Rear Commodore - Ted Paulsen; Secretary - Carlos Mojica; Treasurer - Calvin Brouwer, and Measurer - Robert Geary.

Elected for two-year terms on the executive committee were James Avery, Keith Gagne, and Louis Leverone. Bruce

Costick was elected to fill Pratt's unexpired term on the committee.

The elections were preceded by a social hour and dinner.

Pratt's first official act was to appoint chairmen for several standing committees. They are: House - Bevan Crighton; Fleet Captain - Glen Frieman; Mooring - Roy Adamson; Publicity - Jim Reyburn; Youth Sailing - Stephen Potter, and Dock - Wayne Gammo.

Approved by the executive committee for nomination to the Membership Committee were Jackie Fisher, Chair; Crighton, and Vincent Moriarty. The executive committee also approved the renewal of honorary memberships for Paul Egan, Henry Pianka, and Mary Ellen Roberts.

Jim Reyburn, TYC Publicity Chairman