

MAINSHEET

The Newsletter of Thames Yacht Club

From The Editor

As I write this, we are just a few days shy of the beginning of Spring. Soon the tarps will be coming off our vessels and we will begin to prepare for launching into the new season.

Greg Reese

From the Commodore

March Madness arrived in full force and it's not just the basketball that has been unbelievable. A blizzard in Ohio delayed the departure of the Cincinnati basketball team for over and 24 hours forcing a delayed rendezvous with the UCONN men's team. The same storm left us with nearly 3.5 inches of rain flooding rivers and basements. Ensuing gale force winds uprooted trees and scattered loose debris everywhere. It's hard to believe that in a little more than a month the boat covers will be coming off and preparations for the upcoming season will be in full force. Meanwhile work continues on the clubhouse. The lower front porch is nearly done; the deck planking on the south walkway has been removed and will be replaced as soon as we get some fair weather. Inside the clubhouse the Senior Lounge walls have another finish coat on them and they look spectacular. Furniture is being refinished and everything is really looking shipshape thanks to Bevan Crighton and his volunteer help. Our volunteers who give so freely of their time are what keep us going. Lorena and Eric Jones have agreed to handle our clothing sales. Jean Ann Scaduto will handle our directory advertisements in addition to maintaining the database which is vital to our membership. It would be nice to have somebody help Jean Ann getting directory advertisements. Ted Paulsen will handle the publishing of the directory. In a little more than a month our 75th Anniversary Celebration will take place thanks to Cal Brouwer, Judy Gibbs, Carolyn Leuze, David Sombric, Tom Welsh and others who have

been working on this for over a year. This should be considered an "All Hands" function and I hope to see you there. I'm still looking for someone to serve as Chair or organize a group to run the Members' Day activities the weekend of August 16.

The Steward Search Committee is refining the position description, duties and work schedule. We expect to be ready to interview candidate early in April and will advertise this employment opportunity in the local papers as well as emailing a flyer to the membership. If you are interested please contact me. Budget constraints limit the number of hours we can have a Steward on duty therefore I am soliciting volunteers to serve as "Officer of the Day" who will act as my direct representative. They will oversee the daily routine of the club; enforce bylaws and house rules as well as assisting the staff to ensure smooth operations. Contact me if you are willing to participate.

Walt Pratt, TYC Commodore

Membership Committee

With spring just around the corner, no more snow and daylight savings time, we can begin to look forward to another summer of boating and lounging on the beach. Just as a reminder, if you know of anyone who would like to become a member, have them contact me at 860-443-5968 or email me at jacfisher36@sbc-global.net. This is the perfect time of year to tell your friends about our club. As you know, we are limited to the amount of Beach Members, I have already started a waiting list.

To date we have five new members. Senior members are Brian and Christina Courchesne and Byron Hicks. The Courchesne's have two children, Cassandra and Victoria. The name of their boat is "Rocinante" which they plan to



General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, April 2nd. More information on the next page.

cruise around the area.

Byron has a Nonsuch 30 named "Bob Cat" and a Force 5. He will be very active with the racing program.

David and Kathy Hemenway have also rejoined the club with their trawler "Tenacity" and Force 5.

Beach members are Eleanor & Patrick Day, with their three children Madeleine, Alexandra and Charlotte.

We currently have several applications pending membership, thanks to you and the Website.

Unfortunately the following members have resigned: Hope Brayton, Remo & Ginny Pizzichemi, David Reilly, Steve and Briana Rosen and Frank Rosetta. We shall miss them and wish them well.

We're looking forward to a wonderful summer at the Thames Yacht Club...remember it's your club to enjoy!

Jackie Fisher, TYC Membership Committee Chair

From the Measurer

As the weather warms and thoughts of spring emerge, now is the time to give some thought to getting your PHRF handicap straightened away for the 2008 sailing season. All headsails, if not previously measured, 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, have him mark them, and send me the data on the sail maker'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 in most cases after launch. Remember that all boats intending to race in any race in 2008 need a new 2008 PHRF handicap certificate prior to race entry even if nothing has changed from last year.

If you only plan to participate in TYC sponsored events, then a valid TYC PHRF handicap is all that is needed. Use the enclosed form or go to the TYC website. TYC handicap forms will also be available in the Club House early this spring. If you want to participate in the race events sponsored by other clubs, you will need a PHRF handicap assigned by ECSA. Go to the ECSA website at www.ECSA.NET, and follow the instructions.

Bob Geary, TYC Measurer

Rear Commodores Corner

As I write this in mid March, signs of spring are in the air and sailing catalogs are rolling in. I, for one, am ready for the new sailing season to begin. The racing registration, the notice of scheduled race and race instructions should be posted very soon on our web site.

This will be my sixth season racing with the club and I am hooked. I would like to encourage all to participate in the good times and camaraderie of the pleasant evening races of summer, and the excitement of the spring and fall race series. The races are informal and a great way to sharpen your sailing skills. The participation of these series increased in 2007 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. Contact your racing friends or me at ted@tedpaulsen.com if you are interested.

Each skipper needs to get his or her sails measured by our measurer, Bob Geary, and have the measurements when you register at each race. The form is available on our website, thamesyachtclub.org. Racing skippers are 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.

Ted Paulsen, TYC Rear Commodore

Force 5 Midwinter Championship

Bob Cullen, Tom and Bob Welsh travelled to Key Largo, Florida to participate in the Force 5 Midwinter Championship. Heavy winds cancelled one day of the sailing. Results are on the Force 5 web site at:

http://ww2.force5.us:8080/PDF/2008_Midwinter_Results.pdf.

Congratulations to Bob Cullen for winning another Championship
Walter Pratt

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.



A once-in-a-lifetime blue ribbon event
 Saturday, April 26th commencing at 1800
 Ocean Beach's Port 'N Starboard Room
 \$60.00 per person

75th ANNIVERSARY GALA

Saturday, April 26th, is the date of the Club's 75th Anniversary Dinner/Dance Celebration. This once-in-a-lifetime blue ribbon event will be staged at Ocean Beach's Port 'N Starboard Room commencing at 1800. The organizing committee chose the location because it's well renowned for the quality and quantity of the caterer's food. They are also known for their reasonably priced beverages. Additionally, Bill Rinoski, the DJ "WJR", will provide music of all varieties for almost the entire evening. The per person price of \$60.00 includes dinner, dancing and a favor. As part of the program, recognitions will be made of members who have been on board for 30 years or more. This historic event is for everyone, whether you're an avid racer, dedicated cruiser, Wednesday or Thursday night porch-sitter or beach member. And there will be a display of historic artifacts, some dating back nearly to the founding of the Club. Look for your invitation to arrive around the middle of the month and mark your calendar accordingly. Consider inviting your crew and feel free to mention it to any of our former members whom you might know. The following is the menu:

Bill of Fare

Hors d'oeuvres
 Roast Prime Rib of Beef, or
 Stuffed Filet of Sole, or
 Chicken Parmesan
 Fresh Garden Salad
 Warm Italian Loaf
 Baked Potato
 Vegetable Medley
 Anniversary Dessert
 Coffee and Tea



General Membership Meeting

There will be a General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, April 2. We will open with cocktails at 1800, have a pot luck dinner at 1830 and the meeting will take place at 1930. More information will follow in the mailing notice. Join us and find out what's going on in your club.

Did you know?

Our bylaws specify that "Membership is intended to be a family type membership wherein the sons or daughters (less than 21 years of age), husband or wife of the member have the privilege to participate in Club activities including the use of Club facilities within the regulations delineated under the House Rules and/or applicable sections of the Bylaws." A member's offspring 21 years of age or older that is not a member in their own right has no privileges and visits the club as a guest only when accompanied by a sponsoring member and in accordance with House Rule 4.

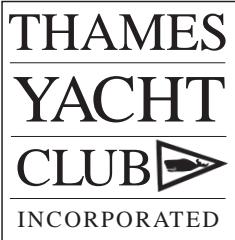
It should also be clear that joint owners, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and other extended family are not entitled to membership privileges including launch service.

CLASSIFIED ADS



For Sale

Classic WeeNip, #55, fiberglass, former TYC junior training boat. This is a great boat that an adult can sail with children. We have great family memories teaching our children to sail in this terrific boat. We wish we could keep it for our grandchildren, but storage is an issue. Mooring included.
 \$600.00 or best reasonable offer.
 Call Michael Passero, 860-625-7516.



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

Mooring Notice

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 ChairmanJim