

MAINSHEET

THE NEWSLETTER OF THAMES YACHT CLUB

From the Commodore



Well every time I go down to the club these days the mooring field is looking more and more empty as people are putting their boats away for another Winter, yuk! I feel like I haven't done half as much sailing as I should have done. Maybe next year.

Talking about the mooring field getting empty, please remember to remove your Mooring Balls from the club grounds when they are replaced by your Winter markers. They make an ugly mess next to the club house, and can cause quite a stink for people in the club, and our neighbors.

We have a few events coming up that you need to put on your planning list, these include:

For October

Children's Halloween party – Friday, October 28

For November

**General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, November 2nd**

Skippers Night – Saturday, November 5th

Club Clean Up day – Saturday, November 19th

For December

Christmas Party – Saturday, December 10th

Hope to see you at one, or all of these events..

Bevan Crighton, Commodore.

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From the Vice Commodore



The season is coming to a close and this is always a sad time for us who sail. Except for those that get to head south and sail all year. I just read a blog from a member of the CCNE that is taking two years to sail around the world how fun would that be.

There are two last events, the first being the **GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING NOVEMBER 2, 2011**. Come and be involved in the decisions made for your club. There is a **POTLUCK SOCIAL** at 1800 hours and the meeting at 1900 hours. The club will provide beer, wine, and soda. Sees you there.

The second event is our annual **CHRISTMAS PARTY** on December 10. The cocktail hour will be from 1730 hours and included in that hour will be an **APPITIZER Contest** with a prize to the one voted to be the best. So bring your finest. Dinner will be served at 19:00 hours. A flyer will be sent soon. I am looking for donations for door prizes so if you have a talent and would like to share it with us just give me a call.

Once Again Thanks to Everyone Who Helped

Lynn Webber - Vice Commodore



Chowder Series Race with big wind. Photo by Jeff Lamothe

From The Rear Commodore



The Commodore

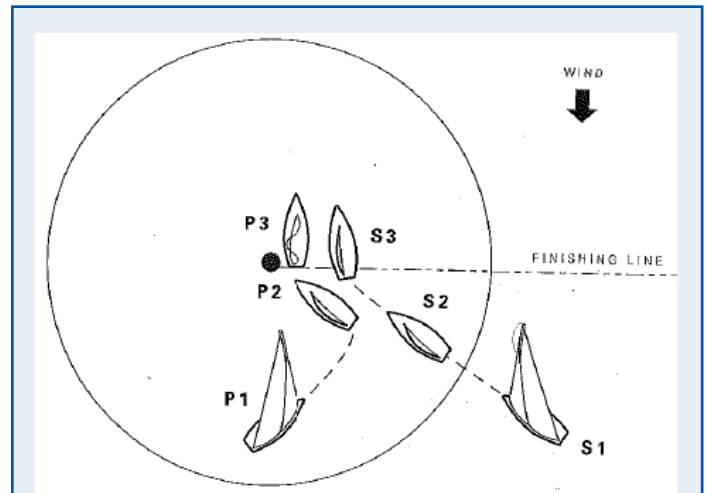
By the time you read this, the 2011 TYC racing season will be over. The Chowder Series ended on October 30th, and **Skipper's Night** is scheduled for Saturday, November 5th. This also marks the end of my tenure as Rear Commodore. I've learned a lot over the past two years and have enjoyed the experience. I want to thank Cal and Judy for their support and dedication to TYC's racing program. Judy's consistent presence aboard the Queen Merry on Wednesday nights has certainly taken a load off of my shoulders.

Racing makes you pay attention to, and learn about, all of the things that go into sailing your boat to its maximum potential, and committing to be there every Wednesday or Thursday night ensures that you're getting time on the water. The racing at TYC offers the perfect blend of competition and camaraderie, so I want to use my last Mainsheet article to once again urge everyone to come and join the fun next year. It's a great way to either start or continue your racing career!

The final results will be posted on the website.

Fair winds, see you in the Spring.

Jeff LaMothe, Rear Commodore
LaMothe@slamcoll.com



RULES QUIZ

At an upwind finish, two close-hauled boats on opposite tacks (S and P) are converging at the left end mark of the finishing line. When about a length and a half from the mark, P completes a tack to leeward of S without fouling her. However, in order to pass the mark on the correct side, P luffs up to almost head to wind, thereby causing S to sail above close-hauled to avoid her. P beats S across the line. S protests P. You are on the protest committee; how would you decide this?

Answer on page 3

Answers are based on The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009 – 2012. Dave Perry's 100 Best Racing Rules Quizzes is published by the United States Sailing Association (US Sailing). For a comprehensive explanation of the rules, read Dave Perry's Understanding the Racing Rules of Sailing Through 2012 which is also available from US Sailing -1 (800)877-2451 or ussailing.org

House Committee



Hello again,

Well, you know it's time to think about winterizing the club when I suddenly find myself going to work and returning in the dark. I must have been thinking optimistically towards spring when I sent the reminder for the 19th as a cleanup day. Oh well, it doesn't hurt to think about next season. We will get started early at 8 AM and expect to be done early. Lunch will be provided by our galley operator John and I know you'll want to be there

for that. As always, please remove beach stuff before then or they will likely end up in the trash and we also need to have mooring balls and pennants removed as soon as possible.

Tasks will include securing water to the dock, installing the snow fence, moving the walkway to higher ground, closing vents and clearing the galley. The water system will be blown down sometime later.

I look forward to seeing you all at the General Membership Meeting and Skipper's Night.

Be seeing you,

Ron Reinhart, House Committee, ronreinhart@snet.net

Columbus Day At Hamburg Cove; 6 – 10 October 2011

By Bob Geary

Columbus Day weekend is the traditional end of season cruise for TYC. In the past many TYC members have joined the cruise and rafted in Hamburg Cove to enjoy the foliage, the dinghy excursions etc. Rafts of 10 and 15 boats were common occurrences which precipitated great cocktail parties and overall good times.



Another Raft Party. Photos by Bob Geary

This year North Star cruised to Hamburg Cove on Thursday the 6th experiencing smooth seas and delightfully warm weather. Thursday evening was warm and clear with a bright moon and not many boats. Friday dawned sunny and clear again with the predicted arrival of several boats and the beginnings of a few rafts. Duck Island staked out four moorings early with more of their members arriving by the hour. By Saturday, Duck Island members sported two large rafts of 15 and 13 boats and commensurate commotion. The fishing fleet also arrived to their traditional spot topping out at 14 boats rafted.

Saturday was another delightful day with a dinghy excursion to Main Street Essex for a newspaper and window shopping. Saturday was the annual Scare Crow contest on Main Street with many creative and delightful creatures posted on the light poles. After dark Saturday, ABISHAG with Father Rick and TahKeelAhh with Thalia and Fred managed to wend their way into the Cove for a



Beginnings of Fishing Boat Party

restful evening. Don't know how they navigated the Cove entrance as it was DARK! They departed mid-Sunday morning to continue their transit to Portland for winter storage.

Sunday another warm and clear day offered entertainment by the Hamburg Cove YC fleet of Dyer Dhows racing amongst the moorings and various rafts. It was interesting to note that by mid-day Sunday, not many boats had left, but we counted over 12 open moorings in the Cove. So there was plenty of room for everyone. It was somewhat disappointing that TYC was not well represented as this turned out to be one of the best Columbus Day weekends in recent history.

Monday, another spectacular day saw the mass exodus south. We were among 10 boats under the railroad bridge for the 1000 opening. All in all it was one of the best weekends all summer.

Answer to Rules Quiz

Boat P is penalized for breaking rule 18.3(a), Mark room: Tacking When Approaching a Mark. As P and S are approaching the finishing mark on opposite tacks, rule 18, Mark-Room, does not apply because the boats are on opposite tacks on a beat to windward; but once P tacks, the boats are no longer on opposite tacks and rule 18 begins to apply (see rule 18.1, When Rule 18 Applies). When a boat has approached another boat on opposite tack and has then completed a tack within the zone at a mark, rule 18.3(a) requires the boat that tacked to not cause the other boat to have to sail above close-hauled to avoid her. P causes S to sail above close-hauled to avoid her; therefore she breaks rule 18.3(a).

From New London Day – 09/25/2011 – By Tim Cook

New London - Where, oh where, is the Mayor's secret office?

Apparently, in a downtown Port-O-Potty.



Mary Madaus, 8, right, records her brothers Patrick, 13, left, Colin, 10, right, and teammate Samson Dorfman, 10, center, as they film their musical Saturday in New London.

Or so it is in the short movie made by “Team Colin,” the youngest group to ever participate in the third-annual Whaling City Film Project.

“All mayors have a secret office,” said Patrick Madaus, a member of Team Colin. “Where else can the mayors do all their secret stuff?”

On Saturday, at least, the team decided the mayor would conduct secret business in a public toilet near the Parade. Group members were making it up as they went and said a lot could change between then and Tuesday at 7 p.m., when the final product is due.

Put on by Neff Productions, SECT Film and the New London Film Commission, the film project gives teams four days to produce, film and edit a four- to seven-minute movie. Each team is given a genre, a prop, a character's name and a line of dialogue to use in the movie. This year, the theme, which always revolves around a hot-button New London issue, is the city's mayoral race, organizer Barbara Neff said.

On Friday evening, the seven teams - including three that had participated in years past - were told they needed to include the names Ruby and Morris Turner (in honor of New London's first female mayor, Ruby Turner Morris, who died in June at 103 years old); the phrase, “Where is the mayor's secret office?”; and use a political lawn sign, real or created, in their film. The teams also must film at some New London location, Neff said.

The contestants picked from 12 genres, from “mockumentary” to Western or period-piece.

Team Colin, which picked the musical genre, may be the surprise team of the event. The group is composed of three siblings, the oldest of whom is in ninth grade, and a friend.

Neff said it's the youngest group to participate in the three-year history of the event. The youngest three, Colin, 10, and Mary Madaus, 8, and Samson Dorfman, 10, all attend the Regional Multicultural Magnet School in New London, while the oldest, Patrick Madaus, 13, attends New London's Williams School.

They were out Saturday morning using downtown New London as their own personal studio. From the Shaw Mansion to the train station, the pier and the Parade, the group was having a blast singing, acting and filming footage on a Go Pro video camera and the family's digital camera.

Melissa Madaus, mother of three of the four Team Colin members, said the kids had pooled their money - with a little parental help - to get the camera. They'd spent most of the summer filming and editing little movies, so when she told them about the Whaling City contest, they jumped at the opportunity.

“It's a sweet chance for them to try this out,” Melissa Madaus said. “They said they'd give me a (film) credit for being the chauffeur.”

Patrick, Colin and Samson, donning white shirts, jeans and sunglasses, were the actors, while Mary choreographed and filmed the production.

Colin said the group had filmed spy movies earlier this summer and that their shtick throughout was to wear suits and sunglasses, a theme they tried to continue with this project.

Their filming schedule Saturday was rudely interrupted by previously scheduled soccer games, but the group was to race sailboats on Sunday and planned to get footage while on the water.

They said they'll be ready to submit Tuesday evening. On Wednesday, a panel of five judges will view all the movies and pick a winner, who will receive a \$500 cash prize.

Neff said a public screening of the films of all the contestants will be Friday at 7 p.m. at the Garde Arts Center. It's a \$5 donation to get in, Neff said, and attendees will have a chance to cast their votes for the “people's choice” award. The winner of that will receive \$100, Neff said.

“We're in it to win it, but also, if we don't, it's just fun,” Dorfman said.

Some of you have witnessed, and even starred in, the films made by the Madaus children this summer. This Fall, Colin, Patrick, and Mary Madaus, along with Sam Dorfman, took their love of filming movies and entered the Whaling City Film Contest. They were the only contest entrants who were children, the rest being seasoned professionals. Their short film premiered before a very full house at the Garde Arts Center, which included many delightfully supportive friends from TYC, and was extremely well received by the enthusiastic audience. To their tremendous joy, they were the winners of the Audience Choice award of \$100!

If you're interested in viewing their 7-minute film, it can be found at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ktLshRdPQ0>

Or email Melissa at mjmadaus@juno.com for the direct link.