



Thames Yacht Club

Editor's Corner Briana Rosen

I am delighted to have the opportunity to take over as the editor of the Mainsheet. I am very sorry about the circumstances that have created an opening for this position and I only hope that I can live up to Dick Robert's high standards and remarkable talent and ability to get things done.

I welcome *any* suggestions or ideas. All members of Thames Yacht Club should feel free to contact me at my email address if there is anything you would like to contribute to the Mainsheet or if you would like to bring my attention to something you feel has been omitted or is incorrect. My email address is: focus_communications@msn.com.

Membership Jim Avery

Welcome to our newest members:

Greg Reese (*first in 2003*)
Steve Berry

It is the time of the year for members to think about sponsoring their friends and crews for membership in our club. Invite your friends and relatives to share the good fellowship, sailing and other benefits of belonging to Thames Yacht Club. Give Jim Avery a call at 860-447-9889 or email him at: luffsong@mindspring.com with any suggestions for new members. Give the name, address and phone number, and/or email address and Jim will follow up with an application for membership or a beach pass application.

From the Commodore Judy Gibbs

From the temperatures outside you would never expect that so many TYC members are working hard to get the 2003 season underway. I want to thank the board members that are working behind the scenes to get this season off to a great start.

As the season progresses the board will be calling for volunteers for all our events. This is a great way for new members to meet other members while they are helping TYC.

At our January Executive meeting, special guest Bob Getman from *New London's Boats, Books and Brushes* presented TYC with a very generous gift to the **Dick Roberts Youth Fleet Fund**. Dick was a very integral part of their group.

Also, John Lanza President of the local HOSPICE committee presented this year's format for the *Hospice Regatta*. The regatta will be incorporated with the Wednesday night race on August 6, at each local yacht club that races on Wednesday nights. More details will follow.

I look forward to another great season at TYC.

Thank You

The family of Bob Cullen, Sr. would like to thank all TYC officers and members for the support shown to us at the time of his passing. Your kindness and thoughts were very much appreciated.

Bob Cullen, Jr.

Mooring Applications

This year you received a mooring application with your annual dues notice. Please fill out the application completely using your old copy as a guide. Send the completed (yellow and white) mooring application to:

Bruce Costick
33 Allyn Avenue
Norwich, CT 06360

Mooring Applications need to be filled out and sent in every year, but your mooring only has to be inspected every two years. If your mooring does not need to be inspected this year, and your diver is Jim Fonk, just fill out the application and leave the diver's signature space blank. I will take them all to him, at one time, on June 30, 2003. All other diver signatures are the mooring owner's responsibility. Please get all mooring applications to me by June 30, 2003. Mooring applications will not be accepted after that date and will be the responsibility of the boat owner to get them to the harbor-master.

Once I have received all the mooring applications, I will take them to the New London Harbor Master for his signature and I will make copies that will be available on the TYC west side bulletin board. Their arrival will be announced in the *Mainsheet*.

Please do not send me a mooring application if your boat is not properly recorded with the DMV. Under state regulations you are not entitled to a mooring in Connecticut if you do not record your vessel with the DMV.

I have developed a good working relationship with Dave Crocker, the New London Harbor Master, and I have told him that I would not knowingly send an "erroneous" mooring application. The area we regard as our designated mooring area is still technically an "open area," meaning that space permitting, anyone can file on a spot and put in a mooring. But, if you do not have a mooring application on file for your location, someone can technically file on your coordinates and you may be forced to move your gear. While this may seem to be a remote circumstance, it can and may begin to happen as the harbor begins to become even more congested. The solution, as I see it, is to control the mooring area we not use by properly registering our spots.

If you have any questions and/or cannot find your old mooring application, please give me a call at 860-887-9475.

Thank you,
Bruce Costick, Mooring Committee Chairman

Force 5 Thursday Night Series

There is a growing interest in having a Thursday Night series this summer in Force 5's. Bob Cullen, Jr. has four ready boats, is working on a fifth, and Cliff Fisher picked one up last fall. Bob Cullen is willing to loan TYC his extra boats. It is expected there would be a small fee for maintenance and usage, in addition to the traditional entrance fee. Racing would probably start May 29th and run until August 28th. If you are interested, contact Bob at 860-537-1085 or e-mail at rjcullen@snet.net.

From the Measurer Bob Geary

As we begin planning for the upcoming sailing season, please remember that TYC requires that all boats that intend to race have a current-year measurement certificate. Even if nothing has changed, a 2003 certificate is required. TYC accepts all ECSA PHRF certificates. If you do not have one then a TYC certificate must be on file.

It is not too early to give some thoughts to getting your measurement data in order prior to rigging your boat this spring. If there are rig dimensions that needed or rig questions, now is the time to address them. Roller furling sails need to be measured off the boat, now is the time to measure them as well. If you are having a new headsail built this winter, ask your sailmaker to measure it for you and provide a sail measurement certificate. This will make the job of updating your handicap certificate easier for both of us this spring.

Marion-Bermuda Yacht Race

The 14th Biennial Marion-Bermuda cruising Yacht Race is scheduled to start in the waters off Sippican harbor in Marion, Massachusetts on Friday, June 20, 2003. This race is renowned for its friendliness, participation by families and friends, and is the only race that continues to actively encourage the use of celestial navigation. Further details can be seen on the website www.marionbermuda.com.

Vice Commodore Jackie Fisher

I am very excited about being your Vice Commodore! I really look forward to this coming year and have put together a calendar of events for the 2003 season which you will find on the back of this newsletter. As you know, we try to keep the

events as close we can to those of the previous years, but things can always be added, such as porch gatherings and beach parties. These spontaneous and impromptu gatherings have occurred quite a lot during the past few years, making club life even more exciting.

Therefore, if any of you have an idea for a social gathering you'd like to try, just give me a call and we'll discuss it.

For the benefit of new members, our social events include drinks, appetizer, dinner and dessert. There will always be a sign-up sheet at the club because we are always looking for members to bring their favorite appetizer and desserts.

Another important aspect of successful parties includes member involvement and helping out with decorating, set-ups, cooking, bartending, and clean-up. And it is an especially good time for the new members to get involved and a great way to meet other members. So don't be shy. I will personally be calling some of the new members in the next month or so. so please review the calendar and let me know what you would like to do. So far, I have cooks only for St. Pat's Day and the Commissioning, so please make an effort to help out at one or two gatherings at least.

I will be sending out a notice during February and until then, I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the first social of 2003 on March 15th. SEE YOU THERE!!

Youth Sailing
Lisa Huff

It's been a long, cold winter and I've been hard at work on Youth Sailing. Things are starting to fall into place! Our instructors have been hired. Samantha Repp will be returning this year as our Head Instructor. I am very excited because this will be Sam's fifth year with us. We also have two new instructors from two local yacht clubs who have been sailing and racing optis for many years.

Stu Craig has once again generously printed up our Youth Sailing brochures. These new brochures will be going out within the next two weeks with registration forms included. I would ask that members sign up as soon as possible, as the classes do fill up quickly. I will give members first choice on classes until April 30th.

Many thanks to Cliff Fisher, Jack Scaduto and Bevin Creighton, who have generously agreed to repair seven of our optimists!

Lisa Huff

House Committee Chairman
Eric Jones

With the holiday season behind us and the new year starting to scream by, we need to get going on improvements and repairs to our club. We have some winter damage to take care of, including the north upper deck flagpole that the wind brought down, the handrail it landed on and the launch float ramp that went ashore. In late March or early April, we should take down the snow fences. Included with this Mainsheet is a list of projects or items we need to attack outside the annual May clean-up day, either as too big a task or shouldn't be left until then to do. I'm looking for volunteers to take on responsibility for an item or to help out with a particular item. Please call me at (860)447-1501, or email me at lorericjones@juno.com.

Eric Jones

Classifieds

VData entry volunteers needed

We have collected a lot of old records from filing cabinets that have not been used for years. Some of those records are of historical value. Handwritten Secretary's records of Executive Committee and General Membership meetings need to be transcribed into word processing documents that we can be archived permanently in a more efficient manner. There are also membership records that need to be recorded into a master database, which will provide a historical record of membership. The word processing can be done in any word processing program. The membership database will be kept in a *Microsoft Access* database file. If you would like to assist please call Walt Pratt at 860-859-3964 or contact him via e-mail tyctreasurer@snet.net.

Filing Cabinets for sale

We have 2 gray 4-drawer letter size filing cabinets for sale. Make an offer to the Treasurer, Walt Pratt 860-859-3964 or contact him via e-mail at: tyctreasurer@snet.net



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

First Class Mail

2003 Vice Commodore's Calendar of Events

Saturday	March 15	St. Patrick's Day Social
Wednesday	April 2	Membership Meeting and Social
Friday	May 23	Commissioning Day Social
Friday	June 20	Porch Party-BYOB w/ Munchies
Friday	July 18	Cocktails & Appetizers
Saturday	July 19	Governor's Regatta After-Race Party
Saturday	September 6	Cocktails & Appetizers
Sunday	September 7	Commodore's Trophy After-Race Party
Sundays	September 21 to October 26	Chowder Series Races Chowder after race
Friday	October 17	Oktoberfest Social
Wednesday	November 5	Membership Meeting & Social
Friday	December 5	Christmas Party