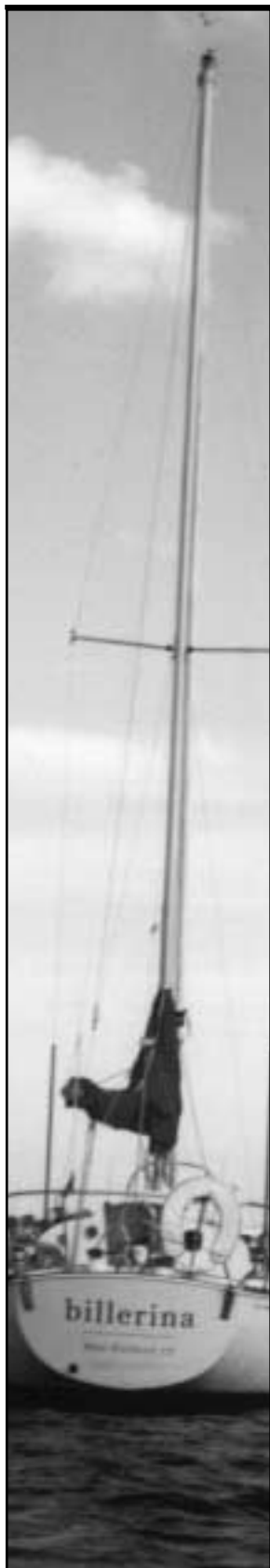


# MAINSHEET

The Newsletter of Thames Yacht Club



## From the Editor

Although the boating/sailing season seems to be a long way off as we suffer through these single digit temperatures, one must keep in mind that the daylight is getting longer.

You may notice the introduction of photographs as part the content to this edition of the Mainsheet. I would very much like to continue this ongoing. It would be great to have anyone with photos of club events submit them to me for possible use in this publication. Also, if you would like your boat to be featured on the cover, please submit your photo. One will be selected from those submitted. Just keep in mind that the photo or a cropping of it has to work within the vertically proportioned space allotted.

Greg Reese

## Commodore's Corner

Leap year is here and planning is underway to help us have a great boating season. I feel we have an exceptional group of members dedicated to making this year a fun filled success.

Russ Carr has taken over as the House Committee Chairman, assisted by Bevan Crighton. The Executive Committee voted Stu Craig in as Membership Committee Chairman with Jim Reyburn, Bevan Crighton, and Bruce Costick as the remainder of the committee members.

We need volunteers for Communications Chairman, Publicity Chairman, an assistant to the Publicity Chairman and an assistant for the Launch Committee Chairman.

The clubhouse is locked up during January and February, as water has been drained from the building and antifreeze poured in the water closets. However, the gas furnace is back on line, keeping the facility above freezing.

I'm looking forward to a great boating and social year at TYC.

Eric Jones, Commodore

## Vice Commodore's Report

Well have we had enough cold weather and white stuff falling from the skies, or what? And like you, I can't wait for Spring to be in the very near future! In fact the snow certainly didn't help the Holiday Party on Dec. 5th, 2003. Many of you could not make it, but those of us that were lucky enough to get to the Thames Yacht Club had a super time. There were about 25 of us who enjoyed an evening of great food, drink and Holiday spirit. Once again I have to thank Jean Ann and Jack Scaduto, Lorena Jones and Lynn Londregan for helping me put such a wonderful evening together.

(Continued on the next page)

## Membership Committee

As some of you maybe aware of, Jim Avery has stepped down form the position of Membership Chairman. For years Jim has volunteered countless hour to the club as the first point of contact for new members. I am certain that the majority of today's members can recall their first introduction to the club and Jim. **We greatly appreciate his hard work** and I look forward to working with him as he continues on the Executive Committee.

As we enter 2004, we have some request for new member applications. We also have some members retiring form the club. In order to help grow the club, we need your help. Please contact me with the names of any boaters that are interested in receiving a membership information package. As it turns out, one of our best sources for new members is word of mouth from our present members. I am looking forward to a great 2004 season.

Stu Craig -Chairman, Membership Committee



Participants of the 2003 Commodore's Trophy Race enjoy the after race festivities hosted by The Thames Yacht Club.

Remember the Commodore's Trophy Race in September, well thanks to everyone again who helped, we were named the ECSA OUTSTANDING PARTY/THE RICHARD H. ROBERTS TROPHY for year 2003. And I quote "The Thames Yacht Club pulled off an outstanding party. They always welcome racers to their beautiful club and make them feel at home. They greet and wish us well. The food that was served was delicious. When the oysters were going to be late, they announced it to us. Wow what a refreshing way to handle things, just telling the truth." What a wonderful compliment coming from the ECSA sailors who voted. Thank you again and again!

Ok...what's going on for the coming year? I have enclosed the calendar of social events for the season, always subject to change. Don't forget, none of the events are a success unless you are part of them. You can volunteer to help or simply come to enjoy to evening. Getting to know ALL the members is one reason we have these gatherings, so we look forward to seeing you this year!

Our first evening of togetherness will be on March 13, 2004. It is our annual St. Patrick's Day Social starting at 18:30 (6:30 p.m.). The cost will be \$6.00 if you call ahead and \$8.00 at the door. There will be an open bar and heavy appetizers (instead of a sit down dinner). If you wish to bring an appetizer or dessert we would certainly appreciate it. Don't forget to RSVP by Tuesday, March 9, 2004 to Jackie Fisher at (860) 443-5968 or jacfisher36@msn.com.

I look forward to seeing you all and having a great 2004 season at the Thames Yacht Club.

**Jackie Fisher, Vice Commodore**

## TYC Youth Sailing Program

Looks like it's going to be a great summer for youth sailing. I've already received many inquiries and a few registrations. Everyone should have received the new brochures and registration form for the upcoming season. Thank you to Stu Craig for the great brochures and registration forms. This is a huge savings to the club.

Our instructors have all been hired. They are: Samantha Repp, Christopher Repp (both returning from last year), Sage Farrar (from Fisher's Island Yacht Club), and Sam Greenfield (from Ram Island Yacht Club). We're very fortunate to have such great instructors. They keep our program successful.

Many of you may have noticed the new "progressive class" on the brochure. This is something new we are trying this year. If you're interested in these classes, they will be a little different than the usual Level 2 and Level 3. The Level 2 classes will be geared towards ages 8 to 12. These students will continue to develop their sailing techniques and racing skills for the Optimist. The Level 3 classes will be geared more for young adults ages 12 and up. This level will begin focusing on 420s, to prepare our older sailors for team racing. Both progressive Level 2 and Level 3 classes will be held separate from the other classes.

I attended the first ECSA Jr. meeting in January. Our Optimist regatta has been confirmed for Friday, August 6th. We had a very successful regatta last year, which couldn't have been accomplished without all of the fantastic volunteers we had. I'm hoping this gives all of you enough time to mark your calendars once again!

**Lisa Huff, Youth Sailing Program Chair**



Optimists line the beach at Thames Yacht Club as the young sailors gather prior to launching.

## 2004 MEMBER'S WEEKEND

Mark your calendars! This year's Member's Weekend will be August 13th, 14th and 15th. The Oscar Kerman Series will be Saturday, the 14th and the W. W. Meek Series will be Sunday, the 15th. WJR the DJ has been booked for Saturday evening.

The event will be much the same as in previous years. The weekend kicks off with a pot luck dinner and BYO cocktails Friday evening. In addition to the Kerman on Saturday there is the continental breakfast, noon time cookout between races and the family dinner. Sunday's wrap-up is the brunch preceding the Meek series.

Assistance will be needed for each of the functions. Please think about which one you'd like to help with. There will be sign up sheets posted at the appropriate time.

The weekend is of, by and for the members. Let's all participate.

**Cal Brouwer**



Membership Weekend '03 participants gather for a group photo at the clubhouse.

## Rear Commodore's Corner

As I sit here writing this it's 4 degrees outside and there are still four months and one day until our first TYC racing event - which happens to be the Chili Bowl and it will be sailed this year, as it is every year, on Memorial Day. Immediately following the Chili we will begin our normal Wednesday night racing series that will continue until the last Wednesday in August. We'll take a short break and then begin our fall classic -The Chowder Series - which we will run through the end of October. Imagine that -it's only February and I'm already talking about fall racing.

In between these racing series we will have lots of other great events, such as: Junior Racing, TYC sponsored races like the Governor's and Commodore's Regattas, and also special One Design events. And don't forget the parties.

So start thinking summer sailing thoughts - it'll warm you up....!!!!

**Lou Leverone, Rear Commodore**

## From the Measurer

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 2004 certificate will be required for TYC race participation. TYC accepts all ECSA PHRF certificates. If you do not have one then a TYC issued 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 are 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. If you require a measurement of need help, please let me know.

**Bob Geary**

## Special Notice to Members

TYC is now using e-mail as a means to notify members concerning last minute changes in club activities and advisories prior to severe storm conditions. It is a fast and efficient way to reach the membership. Several e-mails are being returned as non-deliverable. Also, many members have no e-mail address listed with the club and in most cases the member has an address. Please inform: [tycscaduto@aol.com](mailto:tycscaduto@aol.com) of current e-mail address.

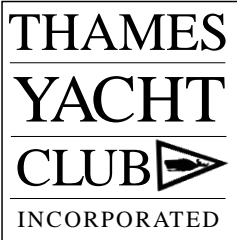
You will not be notified of important notices unless we have your current e-mail address.

**Jean Ann Scaduto, Executive Board**

## Special Notice: February TYC Executive Committee Meeting

The February TYC Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24 at 1930 at the clubhouse. Please send me your agenda items by Friday, February 20.

**J L Scaduto, Secretary**



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## TYC SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDAR 2004

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Saturday	March 13th	St.Patrick's Day Social
Wednesday	April 7th	Membership Meeting and Social
Friday	April 30th	Porch Party - BYOB, Etc.
Friday	May 28th	Commissioning Day and Social
Sunday	June 27th	Membership Meeting and Porch Party - BYOB & Munchies
Friday	July 16th	Cocktails and Appetizers
Saturday	July 17th	Governor's Regatta - After Race Party
Friday - Sunday	August 13-15th	Member's Weekend Starting with a Porch Party on Friday
Saturday	September 11th	Cocktails and Appetizers
Sunday	September 12th	Commodore's Trophy - After Race Party
Sundays	September 26th- October 31st	Chowder Series - After Race Soup or Chowder
Friday	October 15th	Octoberfest Social
Wednesday	November 3rd	Membership Meeting and Social
Friday	December 3rd	Holiday Get-Together