

# MAINSHEET

The Newsletter of Thames Yacht Club



## Special Message from the Editor

It is very evident that the daylight is getting longer with each passing day. This is a good indication that Spring is right around the corner. A time when visitations to our boats become more frequent, the tarps are pulled off and true the work begins to ready our vessels for the upcoming season.

As we can see from Stu's membership submission to the right, there are many new members who will need to be welcomed on board. The best way to go about that is to attend this year's first social which will be the St. Patrick's Day Party on March 12, 2005 at 1830 (6:30), please see the enclosed flyer. See you all there.....in green!

**Greg Reese, Mainsheet Editor**

## Commodore's Corner

Hope this finds everyone staying warm and safe during this cold spell. I am completely recovered from my bout with babeosis and would like to thank everyone for their kind get well wishes, help and cards. Now however, Jeanne Pratt is the one laid up, with a shattered heel.

The weather has taken a toll on the dock with the ice lifting a number of planks and most lights out of service. This spring we will have to get a dock party together for repairs.

Lisa Huff has resigned from youth sailing and will serve the club in other capacities. Lisa has done an outstanding job and we thank her for all of her time that she dedicated to the program. Youth sailing is one of our club's strong points and we need someone to keep the program on track. For now, Cliff Fisher with help from Cal Brouwer will be filling the void until someone else steps forward to assume program responsibilities.

We are also searching for someone to coordinate Member's Weekend. Cal has been putting it together for the last eight years or so.

Although he has provided a lot of great, memorable family weekends to which we owe him an enormous debt of gratitude, he has asked to have someone else step in and organize the event.

Please call me at (860) 447-1501 if you feel either of these areas interest you.

**Eric Jones, TYC Commodore**

## Membership Committee

2005 is starting out to be a very exciting year and it is only February. There has been a lot of interest in the club and many parties that I spoke to last year have been keeping me busy. Please contact me with the names of any boaters that are interested in receiving a membership information package. One of our best sources for new members is word of mouth from our present members.

**Please help welcome our new members.**

**Gerald Murphy**, Westerly, RI

**Thomas Evanko**, New Britain, CT

**Jim & Pam LaWare**, Waterford, CT

**Stephen & Karen Bradley**, Chester, CT

**Richard & Janet Kilburn**, Stowe, VT

**Stephen & Kate Potter**, New London, CT

## Returning Members:

**Jim & Ginny Verdier**, Deerfield, MA

We also have some members leaving the club. I would like to thank them and hope to see them back on our roles in the future.

**John & Laurie McGrath**

**Marcelle Madrange**

I am looking forward to a great 2005 season and hopefully it does not go by as fast as 2004.

**Stu Craig -Chairman, Membership Committee**

## Vice Commodore's Report

Didn't the Holidays just wizz by this year, or was it just me? Here we are in the New Year thinking about the coming Spring and Summer. Let's hope the following months don't go as fast!

Before I started to write this column, I was looking at the November/December Mainsheet and realized I didn't mention anything about the Membership Meeting held on November 3rd. We had almost 60 members attend the meeting and the buffet; we were extremely pleased to know so many of you are interested in the goings-on at the Club. And thanks to my wonderful helpers Lorena Jones, Lynn Londregan and Jack & Jean Ann Scaduto for helping me prepare the buffet and the club for the event.

On December 3rd we held our Annual Holiday Party which was also very well attended (approximately 60 members and guests). Many of the members were new and it was fun introducing them to everyone. Along with the many appetizers we made, everyone brought either an appetizer or a dessert to share; so many different delicacies made it wonderful and pleasurable. We must thank Jack Scaduto and Lynn Londregan for the major part of the decorating. They did a superb job making the Club look festive and joyful for the Holidays. More thanks goes to Jim & Lynn Londregan, Jean Ann Scaduto, Tom & Pat Welsh, and many others who helped make you party a success. If I left anyone out, I apologize (please let me know), it seems so long ago and my memory



Billierina experiences her final moments in the mooring field prior to being taken up river for Winter hauling in late October, 2004.

leaves me at times.

Two flyers will be enclosed...one for the upcoming St. Patrick's Day Party on March 12, 2005 at 1830 (6:30 p.m.). The cost will be \$6.00 if you RSVP by Tuesday 3/8/04 to me. There will be an Open Bar and Heavy Hors D'oeuvres (no main meal). If you wish, please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Also, bring a friend to meet your friends at the Club. Don't forget, we always need help decorating, cleaning-up, preparing food, etc.

The second flyer is the Social Calendar for 2005! which is subject to change. Stick it on your refrigerator to remind you, but be assured, we will give you advance notice in the Mainsheet.

I'm looking forward to another year as Vice Commodore and working with all of you. If you have any ideas, or wish to suggest a change, please let me know. We are open to most anything (within reason) to help you enjoy your Club. There are some things we cannot change, but you can ask and we can try. Remember...This is your Club.

I wish everyone a Wonderful and Happy New Year and hope we see you on March 12th. How about trying to make this year the year to attend all the socials.

**Jackie Fisher - Vice Commodore.**

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## Dick Roberts Youth Fleet Fund

For 2005, there will be two fundraising events for the DRYFF. The first will be a silent auction during the Opening Day Commissioning Party on Friday, May 27th. The second will be a raffle during the after race Awards Party for the Commodore's Trophy Race on Sunday, September 11th.

The Fund is soliciting suitable items for each of these events. Please contact Judy Gibbs or Cal Brouwer if you have something worthy of the cause.

**Cal Brouwer**

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## Note from TYC mooring Committee:

Due to member interest we will be instituting a "Mooring Relocation List." Our intention is to improve field conditions and satisfy member requests (primarily movement from South field to the more protected North field); keep in mind that relocation is possible only on a "space available" basis. The usual limiting factors, such as boat size, will understandably be in effect. Interested parties need only to contact The mooring committee to be placed on the "first come, first served" mooring relocation list.

**Contact Guy Hannum: 860-447-1047**

**guy@sherwoodlumber.com**

## Youth Sailing Program

Since you received the 2005 Youth Sailing Program Brochure with your membership Dues statement, a number of changes have occurred in the Program. Lisa Huff, who has Chaired and run the Program since 2002, has resigned from the Committee. Her efforts and energy spent during the past 3 years have resulted in an increase in the Youth Sailing class enrollment and enabled many nonmember children in our community to get a taste of sailing. The Clubs fleet of Optis and 420s has also grown due to her efforts. Many thanks Lisa!!!

As member child involvement and interest in sailing skill development has increased, the need to shift from random enrollment weekly sailing lessons to longer term (3 week) sailing sessions has evolved, similar to Youth Sailing programs offered by most area Yacht Clubs. Each three week session will provide both member and nonmember junior sailors with measurable sailing goals. These sessions will be for all levels of sailors (beginner thru advanced). Session #1 will be (6/27-30, 7/11-14, 7/18-21) and Session #2 (7/25-28, 8/1-4, 8/8-11)

For those member and nonmember children who may just want to try sailing, the week of July 5,6,7&8 will be set aside solely for beginner introductory classes.

Also, recognizing that more members are using their own boats for lessons, those members and nonmembers using Club Optis for sailing classes will be charged a nominal rental fee (TBD). This will help defray the costs of continual boat repair.

As with any Club activity the success of the program is directly proportional to the time and effort provided by member involvement. Your Youth Sailing Program provides

the opportunity and experience that can lead to a lifelong enjoyment of the sport of sailing, and as we are seeing with returning 2nd and 3rd generation family members, the future of Thames Yacht Club.

Your Youth Sailing Committee is looking for additional members to join the Committee to help offer a lifelong sailing experience for our children and grandchildren.

The Committee is also investigating the possibility of providing the Advanced sailors with a one day Racing Clinic conducted by an Olympic Level Sailor/Instructor.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you are planning to sign up your children for one or both three week sessions or the beginner Introductory week this summer, please review the enclosed questionnaire and provide the requested information to:

**Cliff Fisher**

**10 1/2 Marguy St**

**Quaker Hill, Ct 06375**

**or by email: [fisher@webtv.net](mailto:fisher@webtv.net)**

This information will help in determining among other things, the number of instructors required, the number of nonmember sailor openings, and storage rack requirements for Optis'.

A new brochure is being prepared providing more specific details for the Program and will be forwarded in the near future.

### Youth Sailing Committee

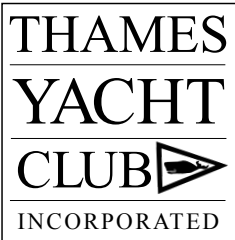
**Cliff Fisher - 860-443-5968, [fisher@webtv.net](mailto:fisher@webtv.net)**

**Cal Brouwer - 860-444-7419, [CalPCTC@aol.com](mailto:CalPCTC@aol.com)**

**Stu Craig - 860-657-8095, [goombaysma@aol.com](mailto:goombaysma@aol.com)**



Stu Craig and his crew prepare to tack his J-30, Goombay Smash prior to the start of one of the last few Chowder Series races of the 2004 season. The latter end of this series brought heavy air and large seas that challenged even the most seasoned sailors.



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

## **TYC'S FIRST 2005 SOCIAL EVENT**

# St. Patrick's Day Party

Saturday, March 12th at 18:30 (6:30)

\$6.00 if you RSVP by Tuesday 3/8/04 to Jackie Fisher

Open Bar and Heavy Hors D'oeuvres (no main meal).

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If you wish, please bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

Also, bring a friend to meet your friends at the Club.