



NEW YORK SAILING CLUB NEWSLETTER

APR
2006

Commodore: *Mary Donohue (516)593-2498*
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Treasurer: *Susan Wheeler (212)879-4991*
Secretary: *Peter J. Brennan (212)734-9474*
Asst. Sec.: *Vacant*

Advisors: *Dean Fuller (860)526-1212 and Sally Small (212)688-5976*

Non-members welcome at all New York Sailing Club functions, on- or off-the-water.
Membership meetings, September to May: Raymond's Café, 88 Seventh Ave., New York City.
Meetings usually begin at 7:30 PM and are preceded by a social hour (cash bar).
Full dinner is available.

Check our web site: <http://www.newyorksailingclub.com>

Webmasters: **Kris Ohlén** (krisohlen@hotmail.com) and **Richard R. Zilli** (rzilli@nyc.rr.com)

Commentary: Springtime is a time of rebirth and renewal. It is a time when every organization should take stock of where it is and where it wants to go and sets in motion the necessary steps to get there. The New York Sailing Club is no exception. And indeed, our path to rebirth and renewal has been in train for some months now.

Our January *Newsletter* had an insert: "Planning and Marketing Conference." The plan was to bring together many points of view from among the membership and other interested parties to produce a workable plan concerning how the Club can better realize its several functions. The Conference took place on Sunday, April 2, which fittingly turned out to be the one true Spring day we have so far had. The results are promising indeed.

Some ten people — officers, members and non-members — gathered in New Rochelle for the half-day Conference. Commodore Mary Donohue prepared a tight agenda with topics assigned to two-person team leaders. Discussions ranged from a frank appraisal of the Club's weaknesses through various components of its structure and purposes and how those could be addressed to reduce the deficits and buttress its strengths.

A key product of the Conference was the establishment of several subcommittees corresponding to the discussion teams. These committees, membership in which is open to all, will establish their own agendas based on the Conference results. They will meet on their own prior to Board meetings and general meetings and will regularly present their findings and recommendations to the Board and the membership. These are not to be one-time presentations but continuing development groups.

The subcommittees — Events, Membership, Marketing, Owner/Crew Relations — are inter-related. All work toward the common goal of serving member's needs, increasing membership, initiating and strengthening the Club's links to other organizations. It is an ongoing program, and it needs your participation.

If you would like to serve on one of these subcommittees, or if you simply have comments or suggestions, just call Mary Donohue at (516)593-2498.

Coming Events:

Thursday, April 20, 2006: Most fitting for the final land-based general meeting and the opening of the on-the-water season. Coast Guard Lt. Robert Mutto will speak to us about Coast Guard certification and licensing. Learn how to get your six-pack and make some money with your boat. Also, Ralph Irisarry of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, will speak on sailing safety in Long Island Sound, no small concern most summer weekends. Should be very informative and interesting as well as timely. Be there!

On-the-Water:

May: May 20 — Hidden Harbor Cruise. A bit more complicated this year. You will need to pre-purchase tickets online. Price is \$12. Please contact Scott Stevenson (631-864-9584) if you are interested and we will try to get a group rate discount.

May 21 — Hart Island Race for a Cause and Going into Commission Dinner at Harlem Yacht Club. See attached flyer for details. This kicks off the season, folks.

May 27-29 — Memorial Day Weekend rendezvous Huntington Yacht Club. Corinthian pickup for Sunday day sail and evening dinner at yacht club.

June: June 10 — On-the-water raftup and mixer, Oyster Bay. Pickup at Town Dock.

June 15 — 6:00 PM. Dinner at 79th St. Boat Basic Café on the Hudson River.

June 24 — Summer Solstice daysail, departing from skippers' ports.

July: July 1-4 — Independence Day, Cold Spring Harbor and Oyster Bay

July 15 — Day sail – Corinthian Skippers' Day

Aug.: August 5-20 — Club Cruise, details to come

August 24 — Lower Manhattan evening sail, commercial vessel.

Sept.: Sept. 2-4 — Labor Day Weekend rendezvous, Cedar Point YC and Saugatuck

Sep. 16 or 17 — Club picnic, Hempstead Harbor Club.

Oct.: Oct. 7-8 — Columbus Day Weekend rendezvous, Manhasset Bay

Oct. 7-9 — Optional Hudson River cruise

Oct. 28 — Hallowe'en sail, raftup, Manhasset Bay.

Recap: Some things are doomed never to be. The twice-postponed presentation by Pat Pagano of Metro Weather Service, first scheduled for November, then for March, faded altogether when Mr. Pagano had a last minute family crisis and had to cancel.

Sailing Schools: It's not essential but it helps to have at least the rudiments of sailing when one is a member of a sailing club. And while Corinthians may learn a thing or two from sailing on Club-owned boats, most owners are not really attuned to the needs of teaching the art. Sort of like never having your spouse be your driving teacher. Fortunately, many sailing schools exist in our region. Indeed, the Club is seeking to establish somewhat more formal relations with these schools that could lead to advantages for our members. Mary Donohue has compiled a list of some eight such schools which she will post on the Club's website.

Member Notes: One-time member and former Commodore **Betsy Haggerty**, who left New York and the Club to seek her fortune in foreign climes, has returned to New York and rejoined.

Neil Strauss, a New Yorker who has recently attended several meetings and owns an O'Day based on City Island, has applied for membership.

New member **Lloyd Sarkin** of New Jersey has a Catalina 30 *Ekko* at City Island. Lloyd has been sailing since he was nine and is also a certified diver. Prop-cleaning anyone?

Long-time members **Jack Brown** and **Fred Freder** have acquired Life Member status.

Going into Commission Dinner and Around Hart Island Race for a Case

**Race: Sunday, May 21, 2006, 12:50 PM Warning
Dinner, Sunday, May 21, 2006
Harlem Yacht Club, City Island
Cash Bar: 5:00 PM; Dinner: 6:00 PM
\$45.00 per member and per partner; \$50.00 non-member**

The annual Race for a Case around Hart Island has few rules. The only one that matters is no vessel may cut The Blauzes. Start time is 1:00 PM, one may sail clockwise or counter-clockwise and the time limit is four hours. Rules of the road do apply, of course, and actual time is usually under two hours. All competitors will receive a Notice of Race and a mini-chart. The prize is a case of beer and bragging rights. If you need crew or want to crew, call Scott Stevenson at (631)864-9584 and he will try to make match-ups.

The Going-into-Commission Dinner will be a buffet at the Harlem Yacht Club on City Island. The menu will be appetizers during cocktail hour, salmon, chicken, roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables and bowtie primavera. Desserts will be provided. The price is \$45 (members) or \$50 (non-members) for food only. A cash bar will provide beer, wine and spirits throughout. The case will be awarded to the winning boat and our season will officially be open.

Name: _____ Reservations: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Street: _____ E-Mail: _____

City, ST, ZIP: _____

Please make checks payable to New York Sailing Club and send to Susan Wheeler, Treasurer, 421 East 78th St., Apt. 1-C, New York, NY 10021 (212)879-4991. Please let Susan have your reservation and check before May 12.