



NEW YORK SAILING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Sep
2006

Commodore: *Mary Donohue (516)593-2498*
Vice Commodore: *Chris Hulbert (917)498-0793*
Rear Commodore: *Scott Stevenson (631)864-9584*
Fleet Captain: *Mike Penney (917)673-0443*

Asst. Fleet Capt: *Walter Friedrichs (914)633-5411*
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 (718)884-1786*

Non-members welcome at all New York Sailing Club functions, on- or off-the-water.

Membership meetings, September to April: See below for present venue.

Summer-season meetings June to September at various boating venues.

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

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Commentary: It is just not fair!

Was it not only yesterday that it was May and we celebrated Memorial Day? And now it is September? Though we will continue into late October when it's dark before we can get back to our moorings and it's three weeks yet until the sun stands on the equator for the Autumn Equinox, summer is officially over. Somehow, it does not seem to have been an awfully full summer. The Club is as strong as it has ever been and there was plenty of communication among members. Our shore-side events were well attended. But on the water from Memorial Day to the Club Cruise, there seemed to be a lot more independent activity. Sixteen-boat raftups and eight-boat cruises that hold together for the entire itinerary seem to be a thing of the past.

There is still time. Ernesto has turned our planned three-day Labor Day weekend into two days with a different venue (see below) But a good turnout is still probable. The Hempstead Harbor picnic has always been a well-attended event, being easy to get to by land or sea. And we may yet send a flotilla down the East River and up the Hudson, as we urged in this space a year ago. So let us make merry and set sail for tomorrow winter comes.

Coming events:

Sept.: Sept. 3-4 — Cedar Point Yacht Club (Saturday) and Saugatuck Yacht Club (Sunday) cancelled thanks to Ernesto's promised deluge on Saturday. Fall-back venue is Oyster Bay where moorings may be had from Oyster Bay Marine (516)624-2400 or Sagamore Yacht Club ((516)624-8843. Corinthians and guests can take the Long Island RR to Oyster Bay. It will be very much *ad hoc*. So what else is new this summer?

Sept. 3, Sunday. If you can't make the weekend afloat, then attend the tug boat races on the Hudson River, noon to 3:00 PM. There will be a parade of tugs, pushing contest, race from 44th St. to 23rd St, and an awards ceremony. For \$35 you can watch from the Working Harbors spectator boat or for \$20 from the upper deck at Pier 63 (23rd St.) Check the web

site at <http://www.WorkingHarbor.org> and <http://www.Pier63Maritime.com>.

Sept. 16, Saturday, 4:00 PM. — 7:00 PM Club picnic, Hempstead Harbor Club. Reachable by boat or by car. This has always been a delightful outing and we urge as many as can to attend. Easy to reach by land or sea. Big barbecue grills available. Everybody bring something. Call Scott Stevenson (631)864-9584 and tell him how many and how getting there. Bring as many guests as you like. Call Fleet Captain Mike Penney (917)673-0443 if you need a mooring.

Sept. 21, Thursday. First on-land meeting of the waning season. Jack Dempsey's, 36 West 33rd St. Dinner at 6:00 PM on main floor, social and meeting at 7:00 at upstairs bar. Speaker will be Andy Bicking of Scenic Hudson whose descriptions of this legendary estuary will get us all hyped to make the Hudson Excursion in October. Restaurant is two blocks from Penn Station, near many subways, street parking after 7:00 PM.

Oct.: **Oct. 7-9** — Columbus Day Weekend rendezvous, Manhasset Bay. Call Mike Penney or Walter Friedrichs. Day sailing and raftups, partying on board. Or,

Oct. 7-9 — Hudson River cruise. Down the East River, around the Battery and up the Hudson as far as time, wind and current allows to view the Fall foliage. Check with Chris Hulbert (917)498-0793 and so much else.

Oct. 19, Thursday. Writer and Past Commodore Betsy Haggerty will discuss her New York State Canal trip. At Jack Dempsey's as above.

Oct. 28, Saturday. Hallowe'en sail, raftup, Manhasset Bay.. With costumes, cider, chili and all that. Once upon a time, this event attracted more boats than any other on our calendar. But in recent years, it has been a fleet when as many as two showed up. Let us reverse that dismal record.

Nov.: **Nov. 16, Thursday**. 6:00 – 9:00 PM. Thad Koza, Tall Ships International photographer and author. Book signing. Seaman's Church Institute, 241 Water St., near South St.

Dec.: **Dec. 2, Saturday**. Change of Watch Dinner — Stuyvesant Yacht Club, City Island.

Recap: August was a quiet month. The only items on the calendar were the Club Cruise from August 5 to 20 and the sunset sail on the schooner *Adirondack* on the 24th. The Cruise actually became a group of independent sorties by several boats, which crossed one another's paths here and there. While cruising in company has its many pleasures, it is also very nice to come into a new port and find another Club boat already there or soon arriving. What is a single experience in a flotilla becomes various and shared experiences when many courses are taken.

The well-attended *Adirondack* sail went off as scheduled on the 24th. There had been some fear that a group might charter the vessel from under us and force us to another date. Fear unfounded. Even the weather cooperated. A downpour at boarding time cleared to bright sunshine at sailing time and the ship received a special escort from an outbound Carnival cruise ship.

Other Groups: New York has yet another sailing-oriented group that is not part of an organized yacht club.: the New York City Sailing Meetup Group (<http://sailing.meetup.com/4/>). This appears to be intended mainly for people seeking to meet other people with similar interests. (Well, isn't every group, one way or another?) Their email to Mary Donohue states: "Planning an actual sailing event. Sail away Friday 9/8 or Saturday 9/9, have all the boats converge at Sandy Hook, NJ for Saturday night, and then sail home on Sunday 9/10." For more information, including a planning meeting on Tuesday Sept. 10, go to the Web site.