



NEW YORK SAILING CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Apr.
2008

Commodore: *Chris Hulbert (917) 498-0793*

Vice Commodore: *Lloyd Sarakin (201) 891-3466*

Rear Commodore: *Carol Halterbeck (212) 595-9868*

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Editor & Sec.: *Geraldine Gaal (212) 734-5275*

Asst. Sec.: *Walter Friedrichs (914) 633-5411*

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.org>

Contacts Webmaster: Notify Commodore

COMING EVENTS

CLUB

Thursday, April 17: NY Sailing Club's 3rd Thursday. Tom Cunningham from the New York Fire Department Fire Boat, *John Jay Harvey*. The vessel and its crew were in service pumping sea water for 80 continuous hours fighting the fires of 911. Jack Demsey's, 36 West 33rd Street. Dinner is from 6-7 and the talk begins at 7. See <http://www.fireboat.org/aboutus.asp> for more information.

Tuesday, April 22: Earth Day Spring Sailabration. The New York Sailing Club will be holding it's first *Earth Day Spring Sailabration* at The Underscore, a nightclub at 1720 2nd Avenue (between 89th and 90th Streets). The event will be held in the downstairs room called Bar East. "Bar East" is clearly marked with signage, but The Underscore is not. It is just a red door to the left of Bar East below street level. Doors open at 6 and the event goes 'til 10 p.m. This is an open bar social event. There will be no speaker. It is a great opportunity to come and meet captains and crew, to mix and mingle. Any money raised will be used by the Club to support future programming and events and keep them at a reasonable cost to members. The *Earth Day Spring Sailabration* is \$25 for NY Sailing Club Members, who are up-to-date on their dues. The fee for Meetup Members is \$35. We will have live entertainment that night and there will be light food served. For Reservations, please contact ????????

AHOY, ALL HAND

From the Commodore: Repairs at Sea was a success! We had 45 people during the course of the evening and lots had the chance to learn how to do the Flemish Splice and some other splices. Dan Lehman was great and really took his time and was patient with everyone. Maria's Mount Blanc served good food and everyone enjoyed this unique venue. We will be back there again.

Spring Fitting Out: Spring is sorta in the air and we are, most of us, thinking about spring fitting out. If we own a boat. It would seem prudent to organize some kind of service day or days to give captains and crew a chance to come together and help one another to get ready for the season. Let's pick 2 weekends and invite anyone who wants to go to their choice of several marinas around NYC on those days and work on the boats. We'll be notifying you by e-mail when that takes shape. I for one have to rebuild my centerboard controls, redo my stanchions and lifelines, replace my cabin floor, plus numerous engine repairs and the brightwork as well as bottom painting. Should be a good one! -- *Chris Hulbert*

From the Vice Commodore: AHOY ALL SKIPPERS AND CORINTHIANS! It's time for spring outfitting, so:

SKIPPERS: Let me know dates (weather permitting) when you are planning to work on your boats.

CORINTHIANS: Let me know if you are willing to volunteer and help skippers with spring outfitting. Remember, this is the way to get out sailing this summer.

Please email me at chalt@fkgrealestate.com — *Carol Halterbeck*

From the Editor: This issues features a new column, currently called "Swinging the Lamp", a nautical term for 'telling sea stories'. Obviously, the column will be dedicated to observations, experiences, commentaries, tall tales and other seaworthy articles of interest from members and guests. All copy should be emailed to the Editor, gbg@nyc.rr.com, with 'Newsletter' in the subject line, and to the Commodore, PrmogulNY@aol.com, who has final say newsletter content. Copy should not exceed one page, or 550 words, which is about the length of this month's story and be sent in Microsoft Word format. If you have any questions, please contact me. — *Geraldine Gaal*

Prospective New Member:

Deborah Sherman is a Manhattanite who has been introduced to the Club by former Commodore Mary Donahue. Deborah is not exactly new to sailing. She weekendend with her uncle on his 'sleeps six' sailboat and frequently takes her vacations on a catamaran. Deborah wants to "expand her crewing experience and sail with others". She is a nurse practitioner with emergency room experience. (Um, do I see a 'Handling Medial Emergencies at Sea' lecture over the horizon?)



Dan Lehman showing a Meetup Member the Flemish Splice.

Does anyone this ladies' correct name, I think it is something like Alya?



Barbara & Rodney Myvaagnes enjoying the dinner at Mount Blanc

Safe Tour to Mike Penny

The Board

As many of you know, our former Fleet Captain, Mike Penny, proudly serves as a _____ in the U.S. Navy Reserves. Mike has been called up to active duty and will be shipping out to Iraq.

Mike, we wish you a safe, successful tour and a speedy return home to Charleen and the Club. **[Does Mike have any children?]**

God Bless.



Left, Carol

*and Mike at the
March Dinner
Series held at
Maria's Mount
Blanc Restaurant*



*Advisor Sally Small and
Captain(?) Mike*



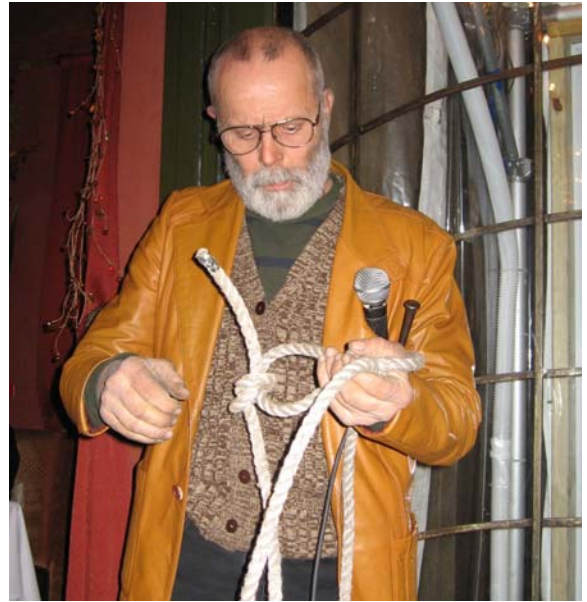
Swinging the Lamp

Keeping Time on North Brother Island, NY by Dan Lehman

The tide was high and falling when I tied the skiff to a timber of the decrepit dock. There was a room that I had found during a recent excursion to the island, it had been the library. The book shelves were gone. The afternoon light, tinted by autumn foliage streamed in through jagged, broken windows. The floor was littered with piles of dust covered books, scattered in random disarray. Paint and plaster peeled from the walls, but the room had remained dry over the years and the books were not water damaged. It was a stunning reminder of the humanity of those who sixty years ago had been confined in this asylum.

The photographs I had shot on a previous exploration had been unsatisfactory so I had come back to try again. Not being sure which of the many buildings I had been in when I found the library, I searched through two buildings before finally finding it in the third. This time I was determined to get at least one picture that captured the spirits that permeated the place, the essence. I shot through a wide range of F-stops and shutter speeds, with flash and without, and from numerous angles. Finally, when I was sure I had gotten what I could, I packed my gear and headed back to the skiff.

Two men were fishing from a boat in the river when I got there. Not wanting to be observed, as I was trespassing, I moved off through the woods to a point where I could see my skiff. She was hanging from her painter, with her bow three feet above the rapidly falling tide. I ran to cut her loose and catch up with the ebb. I cussed, pleaded, and fought to drag her



*Nautical Photographer and
intrepid explorer, Dan Lehman*

through the knee deep mud, but the tide fell faster than I could move her. I had gotten her about ten feet from the dock when I stopped and looked around. Alas, the tide had fallen off of fifty yards of mud flats. It was hopeless; I would have to wait on the boat for five or six hours, through the turn of the tide, for enough water to leave the Island.

I tried to nap in the boat, but with the temperature already in the low thirties and feet and legs soaking wet and caked with mud, I was soon feeling the chill. I had no desire to go ashore, so I paced around and around in the skiff to keep circulation in my feet and toes.

A full moon rose over the island and the spirits were laughing at me. They weren't angry, I had left everything as I had found it, but they were glad, and amused, at being joined by another captive after all those years of being forgotten.

Then once again, like an hour glass, the tide turned, the flats filled, the motor started and I was under way... without, I soon realized, having had enough presence of mind to have shot the rise of the full moon — over North Brother Island.



GOING INTO COMMISSION DINNER and AROUND HART ISLAND RACE

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2008

RACE: NOON START; 11:50 a.m. WARNING
DINNER: AT STUYVESANT YACHT CLUB
10 CENTRE STREET, CITY ISLAND, NY
CASH BAR & APPETIZERS AT 5:00 p.m. - DINNER AT 6:00 p.m.
\$40 PER PERSON

The annual *Around Hart Island Race* has few rules. The most important one is that no vessel may cut across the Blauzes. Start time is at 12:00 Noon in the vicinity of Big Tom on City Island. Boats may sail clockwise or counter-clockwise around Hart Island. (Here's where a tactician comes in handy.) Time limit for the race is four hours but it usually finishes in about two hours. Rules of the road apply. All competitors will receive a Notice of Race and a chartlet. The award for the best finish time will be either a case of beer or a bottle of wine and bragging rights. If you need crew or want to crew, call Vice Commodore Carol Halterbeck at (212) 595-9868 and she will try to make match-ups.

The *Going Into Commission Dinner* will be at Stuyvesant Yacht Club on City Island. There will be appetizers during cocktail hour (5-6 p.m.) and a buffet dinner from 6-7 p.m. The menu is:

- Appetizers:** Dumplings; Spinach & cheese phyllo triangles; chicken satay; crap dip & humus with pita chips
- Dinner:** Caesar Salad; Chicken Picatta; Salmon with dill sauce; Pernil (pork shoulder with spices) and Baked Ziti; roasted garlic potatoes & string beans with garlic & almonds.
- Dessert:** Assorted mini Italian pastries & fresh fruit platter.

The \$40 price includes food only. A cash bar will be open for beer, wine and spirits.

Name: _____ Reservations: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please make checks payable to New York Sailing Club and send to: Susan Wheeler, 421 East 78th St., #1C, New York, NY 10021. Please send your reservation and check before May 10th.

Page 6 and 7 will be the Race Rules and the Charlet.