



NEW YORK SAILING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Jun
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: New venue in New York City to be announced .
Meetings usually begin at 7:30 PM and are preceded by a social hour (cash bar).
Summer-season meetings June to September at various boating venues.
Check our web site: <http://www.newyorksailingclub.com>

Commentary: Memorial Day is past and our season has officially begun, after a good sendoff from the Going into Commission dinner and the race for a case around Hart Island. But was it our imagination or was there really a relative dearth of boats on the Sound over the weekend? Our recollections of Memorial Days past is of shore-to-shore boats, an unbroken cloud of sails with many, many power boats of all sizes dashing haphazardly among the sails. Of anchorages so jammed with individual boats and raftups there was hardly swinging room and many an inadvertent raftup as one or another poorly anchored boat or even a whole raft broke loose and descended on those downwind. Where were they this year? Memorial Day a bit early? Not really. People laggard about getting their boats in the water? Well, there did seem to be an awful lot boats on the hard at the Harlem Yacht Club just a week earlier. Fuel prices? Maybe, for motor boats, but that shouldn't bother sailors too much. Indeed, we have been told that sail boats will have Block Island all to themselves this summer because the power boats can't afford the fuel to get there. It certainly wasn't the weather. A nicer three days is hard to imagine. Some wind, some calm, moderate temperatures and no rain until the very end. Hard to beat that. Not a bad way to start the season. And if there are fewer boats, well, more room for the rest of us.

Coming events:

Saturday June 10: On-the-water mixer, starting at **NOON!**. There will be a raftup of members' boats in Oyster Bay's West Harbor. All partying will be on the boats. Last year's mixer was a great success, especially since it got everyone on to a boat. Once again the Mixer is free to all with food and liquid refreshments. Come by boat, by LIRR to Oyster Bay Station, or by car. Guests will be picked up by boat at the Town Dock on the float by the dinghy racks. The Town Dock is NOT at the lightship *Nantucket*. For more information contact Scott Stevenson at (631)864-9584 or dulcenea9@hotmail.com.

Thursday, June 15: 6:00 PM. 79th Street Boat Basin Café, dinner and social to watch the sun set across the Hudson, ogle the denizens of the 79th St. Boat Basin and the twenty-somethings that swarm here and admire the wonderful Guastavino-tiled architecture. Just grab the west-bound 79th Street Cross-town bus and ride it to the end of the line.

Tuesday, June Saturday, June 24: Summer Solstice day sail. Board the boats at the owners' marinas. Details up to owners. Scott Stevenson can help make matches. Call him at (631)864-9584 (H) or (212)422-4287 (B) eMail: dulcenea9@hotmail.com or use the Bulletin Board on the Club's website <http://newyorksailingclub.com>.

Saturday, July 1 — Tuesday, July 4: Independence Day weekend with a work-day (Monday) in the middle. Cold Spring Harbor/Oyster Bay raftup. Corinthian pickup at Oyster Bay. Fireworks at Oyster Bay on Tuesday evening.

Saturday, July 15: Corinthian Day Sail. Last year it was a Sadie Hawkins Sail. Same thing this year but no sexist tinge. Chance for Corinthians to run the boat.

Thursday, July 20: Frying Pan Lightship. <http://www.fryingpan.com> Old lightship now an attraction and eating and drinking establishment. 6:30 PM. Rain or shine. Tour, dinner and libations. Pier 63 near West 23rd Street on the North River (AKA Hudson River.)

Aug.: August 5-20 — Club Cruise, schedule in May *Newsletter*, more details to come.

August 24 — West side Manhattan evening sunset sail, probably on *Adirondak*. Plan ahead. At \$45, unlimited libations, a hedonistic bargain. Check with Treasurer Wheeler.

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

Sept. 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: If past events are harbingers, it is going to be a great summer for the club. Five boats, a near record, participated in a blustery Around Hart Island Race, won by Don Devaney in *Silent Reach*. Then nearly forty people turned out for the Going into Commission dinner at the Harlem Yacht Club. A bare week later, five boats again met in Huntington Harbor for a glorious day sail and a most convivial dinner at the Huntington Yacht Club. It was heartening to note that many of the participants were Corinthians, for whom the Corinthian pickup worked flawlessly.

Crew matters: While it seems we are having some success in matching boats to crew, there is much more to do. If our non-owner members do not get opportunities to go sailing, then the club has little purpose. To that end, Rear Commodore Scott Stevenson has prepared a questionnaire (enclosed) seeking information from both Corinthians and owners, members and non-members, that may help bring skippers and crew together. We ask that you complete this questionnaire and return it to Scott Stevenson at 37 Ramsey Rd., Commack, NY 11725-1101.

Member notes: Former member **Betty Fitzpatrick**, who has been absent for some years while tending to family and personal matters, rejoined the Club at the Going into Commission Dinner. Betty is the former owner of the delightful little Vancouver sloop, *Irish Mist*. Betty will be listed in the erratum and addendum sheet for the 2006 Roster. If anyone finds errors in the Roster, please let the Secretary know so that they may be corrected in that sheet.

Venue needed: If you read the masthead closely, you will have noted that our meeting place of the past several years, Raymond's Café, has disappeared. The restaurant has indeed closed. Any suggestions for a new venue gladly considered. It should allow us to dine and drink, or not. Should not charge a fee for the meeting space. Should be accessible by public transit to people from any part of the city. Our own feeling is it should be between 60th and 90th streets East or West since cross-town travel is much faster through the Central Park transverses.