



# NEW YORK SAILING CLUB NEWSLETTER

July  
2005

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**Asst. Fleet Capt.:** *Lorraine Knapp (516)759-2226*

**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*

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**Non-members welcome at all New York Sailing Club functions, on or off water.  
Membership meetings, September to May: Raymond's Café, 88 Seventh Ave., New York City.  
Meetings usually begin at 8:00 PM and are preceded by a social hour (cash bar) and  
Skippers' Meeting beginning at 7:00 PM. Full dinner available.**

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

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

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**Commentary:** Our on-the-water activities lean heavily to rafting up. Our fleet of individual vessels from various ports meet at some place, toss out an anchor, lash the boats together into a raft and party on. We have all been doing this for a lot of years but that doesn't mean that each new raft is not a mish-mash of yelling and screaming, tangled lines, badly placed fenders and, worse, poorly set anchors and a dragging raft. And our rafts are small — sixteen boats is the record; five to six the norm.

Browsing the Internet, we ran across a Chesapeake-based group that really knows how to raft — eighty to 100 boats! Marshalling such an armada requires practice and precision and written instructions. With their permission, we have excerpted their instructions, modified to our more modest needs.

**FIRST RULE!** Never throw a wake at rafted boats! This includes all arriving watercraft, from megayachts to personal watercraft (PWCs). Of course, we don't get megayachts or PWCs, but we do have the occasional powerboat and the size range of the Club fleet is large.

Once within sight of the raft-up, ready three lines, each at least 25 ft. long, preferably longer. These lines should be adequate in size for your boat. We don't want to see clothesline. Please also have at least three fenders ready for deployment.

On initial approach, power down to a no wake within 300 feet (under 5 knots) of the raft up and hail the raft-up. Most likely the boats already rafted will see you coming but it doesn't hurt to give a shout. While waiting for the reply, power down to an idle no closer than 100 ft.

The people already on the raft will tell you to which side you should secure your fenders and lines. These are to be in place **BEFORE** you reach the boat to which you will raft.

When within docking distance of another boat go to neutral but do not shut down your engine! If you get loose and the engine is down, even a breeze can cause you to swing into other boats or anchor lines.

Once you have arrived, toss your bow line to a crew member on the other boat. Fenders should be adjusted at this point. The other boat crew will take your bow line to his bow cleat and position your boat so that the mast spreaders are clear. Ideally, the sterns of the two boats should line up. The stern line should now be secured on the other boat and spring lines run from a forward point on the other boat to amidships or further aft on your boat. The bow and stern lines will position the boats parallel to one another while the spring line will maintain fore and aft position. Securing the spring on a primary winch can make for easy fore and aft adjustment. Generally, you will need only one spring to keep the boat from surging.

Generally, we have five or six boats with the largest boat present being the anchor boat. The entire raft can swing with the wind. But more boats or more wind will require that more boats set an anchor. Few things are more spectacular than a large raft of boats dragging rapidly downwind, a juggernaut threatening innocently moored boats to leeward. The best way to set extra anchors is to dinghy the anchors and set them precisely in a splayed pattern that will avoid entanglements and distribute the load. It's a good idea to buoy the anchors both for location and as a trip line when it comes time to retrieve them.

**Leaving the raft-up.** If you are an outside boat, no problem. Retrieve your bow line, ease the spring, peel off being careful not to swing your stern into the neighboring boat, then retrieve your spring and stern lines and away you go.

If you are an inside boat with an anchor out, it's a bit more tricky if you don't want to break up the raft. You will have to recover the anchor from a dinghy with the trip line. Then your neighbor on one side unties from you and passes that line around your bow to the other neighbor. You back out dead slow, eased by hand, and the other boats pull together.

### **Coming Events:**

**Saturday, July 2 — Monday, July 4:** Independence Day weekend. Cold Spring Harbor/Oyster Bay raftup. Corinthian pickup at Oyster Bay. Race on Sunday, fireworks on Monday.

**Saturday, July 16:** Sadie Hawkins Sail. The ladies skipper. **Thursday, July 21:** Tubby Hook Marina at Dykman Street. Dinner and socializing. Full moon. **Saturday, July 30 — Sunday, August 14:** Club cruise. See schedule on Page 4. **Thursday, August 18:** *Adirondack* Evening Sail. See Page 3. **Saturday Sept. 3 — Monday, Sept. 5:** Labor Day Weekend. Cedar Point Yacht Club (Saturday) and Huntington (Sunday). Race on Sunday. **Saturday Sept. 17 or Sunday Sept. 18:** Hempstead Harbor Yacht Club picnic. And it's another full moon. **Saturday, October 8:** Mini-rendezvous at Plandome. **Thursday, October 20:** General meeting at Raymond's Café. Details later. **Saturday, October 29:** Hallowe'en sail and party, Manhasset Bay. **Thursday, November 17:** General Meeting at Raymond's Café. Details later. **Saturday, December 3:** Change of Watch Dinner. Details much later.

**Recap:** A rainstorm forced us under the arches at the 79th St. Boat Basin Café on June 16 but in no way dampened the evening for the twenty or so attendees. And the First Annual NYSC General Raftup and Bash in Oyster Bay on June 11, which brought together six boats and a trainload of guests, was deemed by all to be a great success. More or less the same time next year.

## The Pilot Schooner *Adirondack*



**Built in 1994 in the Scarano Boat Yard of Albany, New York, the Schooner Adirondack is an 80-foot wooden replica of a classic turn of the century pilot schooner. Designed and built for speed and easy handling, pilot schooners were the coastal guide and rescue boats of the time, pilot schooners patrolled the harbors and often rescued vessels arriving late at night from the dangers of an unfamiliar coastline in dark and threatening waters.**

**We have arranged for the Club to have a sunset sail on the *Adirondack*, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Thursday, August 18, sailing from Pier 62 at 23rd St. and the Hudson River (Chelsea Piers). Beer, wine, champagne and soft drinks are included but bring your own sandwiches or whatever. Your reservation must be made no later than Monday, August 10. The tariff is \$45.00.**

**Please make your check payable to New York Sailing Club and mail to Susan Wheeler, Treasurer, 421 East 78th St. Apt. 1-C. Tel: (212)879-4991**

# New York Sailing Club

## 2005 CRUISE SCHEDULE

(TWO WEEKS)

DATE	LOCATION	DISTANCE	CURRENT: Race	
			<u>Flood</u>	<u>Ebb</u>
Sat. July 30	PORT JEFFERSON	34 Miles (City Island)	2:01pm	7:59am
Sun. July 31	BRANFORD	22 Miles	2:59pm	9:00am
Mon. August 1	CLINTON, CONN. (CEDAR ISLAND MARINA – Pool, laundry)	14 Miles	3:52pm	9:54am
Tues. August 2	MYSTIC RIVER	24 MILES	4:41am	10:43am
Wed. August 3	BLOCK ISLAND	20 Miles	5:23am	11:26am
Thurs. August 4	BLOCK ISLAND (layday)	0 Miles	6:02am	12:06pm
Fri. August 5	NEWPORT	23 Miles	6:39am	12:42pm
Sat. August 6	NEWPORT (layday)	0 Miles	7:11am	1:17pm
Sun. August 7	MYSTIC RIVER / NOANK	32 Miles	7:44am	1:50pm
Mon. August 8	MYSTIC RIVER (layday)	0 Miles	8:16am	2:23pm
Tues. August 9	CONNECTICUT RIVER/ ESSEX	20 Miles	8:50am	2:58pm
Wed. August 10	CONNECTICUT RIVER (layday)	0 Miles	9:26am	3:36pm
Thurs. August 11	BRANFORD / THIMBLES	23 miles	10:07am	4:20pm
Fri. August 12	MILFORD	12 Miles	10:55am	4:45am
Sat. August 13	HUNTINGTON BAY / NORTHPORTt	25 Miles	11:51am	5:45am
Sun. August 14	HOME	- Miles	12:54pm	6:52am

NEW YORK SAILING CLUB MONITORS CHANNEL 16 & 72