



HALLOWEEN YACHT CLUB

e - NEWSLETTER

1926 – 2008 – Celebrating over 82 years of service to the Stamford community!

March

www.hyc.net

(203) 348-5510

2008

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMODORE

Kenneth M. Makowski

Dear Fellow HYC Member:

Spring is almost here, boat owners have received their registration renewals, Past Commodore Mike Aide is looking for new tables for the new deck and day light saving time has begun! Can there be any more signs that the boating season is fast approaching?

At the last Board of Governor’s meeting the proposed new rules regarding dinghies at the Club was passed by a unanimous vote. They basically provide for 8 in-the-water spaces for berth holders and west bank storage for all others. Included are appropriate fees for such storage. Please see page 2 in this Newsletter for the new rules in their entirety. In-the-water space is based upon seniority and wait list cards (no fee necessary) for the upcoming season will be accepted until April 15th (tax day).

The 30 day comment period on our application for dredging of the lagoon has expired with no known adverse comments. The permit should now be in the final stages of being issued. Also at the last Board meeting, comments were made regarding the extent to which the area around the pump house outfall has continued to build up due to the amount of silt and debris being discharged. Photographs have been taken at low tide showing an “island” forming between C and D docks. They are posted at the Club. Renewed interest in this continuing problem has been shown by the Harbor Commission. A presentation to the Harbor Commission has been scheduled for March 18th with the goal of getting the City to acknowledge the problem and then work toward a solution. While we know that the outfall is not the sole source of the problem, it is a major contributor, so before we dredge, we must insure that our dredging efforts will not be wasted in the event this problem continues.

St. Patrick’s Day is Monday, March 17th and following tradition, the Club will be serving its annual St. Patrick’s Day dinner. The reservations are filling

up fast so please don’t delay signing up for this event. We always have a full house.

Continuing discussion also took place at the last meeting regarding pets at the Club and how best to make our Club most welcome and hospitable to all members and guests. It was decided that before issuing new rules and regulations, a concerted effort would be made to politely enforce the existing rule (“Pets must be kept on leashes while on Club premises”). Members and guests who do not comply will be asked to please leash their pets. Please make every effort to comply with this rule so as not to force the Board into the position of having to remind you of the rules. It will be appreciated by all.

A little over two months till Opening Day!

Ken

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2008 BRIDGE

Commodore.....	Ken Makowski
Vice Commodore.....	Tony Loglisci
Rear Commodore	Rich Kondub
Treasurer	Bruce Aiello
Secretary	John Reffner



FEBRUARY FISHING REPORT

February and March are the absolute pits for saltwater fishermen. Cabin fever is rampant, only slightly relieved by fishing expos, tv fishing shows, fishing magazines and fishing tackle catalogs that are chock full of exotic creations that are highly effective at catching fishermen's dollars but not much else. April always brings some relief with boat work and Halloween's work parties.

Since it has been a relatively snow free and mild winter our Westcott Cove natural seed oyster bed restoration project has gone quite well on most decent days. We've had at least two oyster seed boats working the area harvesting over age seed oysters. All the old shell is returned to the bottom where it will become the perfect surface for oyster spat to settle on when oysters spawn next summer. As they work the area the bottom sediment are churned up and aerated, mixing sand and silt into a perfect habitat for hard clams.

When this operation is finished at the end of March, we'll probably have removed 1500 bags of over age seed oysters. Seed oystermen sold this product to Norm Bloom and Son of Norwalk for \$10.00 - \$12.00/bag. This was an exchange of services deal. In the spring of 2006 Norm Bloom deposited 900 bushels of hard clams on these beds worth \$30.00 - \$50.00/bushel. We were with him at that time and have photographs of the operation.

However, even with all this remedial work do not expect our clam beds to be open much this summer. The Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which sets national shellfish standards, now insists that along with water testing, clam meats themselves must be analyzed for pathogenic bacteria. This is the result of recent failures in government agency oversight of consumer products, i.e. drugs: Vioxx; food: spinach, peanut butter and the recent recall of 143 million pounds of ground beef as well as the scandal of lead paint toys.

But there is only one lab in CT that is certified to do this work; The Bureau of Aquaculture's lab in Milford. The Shellfish Commission will still do water sampling and have them analyzed at our Health Department lab, but State Aquaculture will also have to obtain 15 clams to sample. This is a three day procedure and they can only do it on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday since they have a five day work week. So the chances of normal rainfall and their work schedule all lining up are pretty slim. This dual water testing and clam meat analysis will have to be continued for a year so that it can be shown that water testing is a valid method for proving that raw

clam and oyster meats are safe to eat. This same testing regime is required throughout CT and the United States.

Since this is all related to rain affected "conditional beds" my advice is to buy a Darien shellfish permit and scratch clams in Scott's Cove which is open 90% of the time.

*Art Glowka, - Chair
Fishing Committee: Larry Halleck, Mike Pirri, Fred Stunkel*

THE DINGHY SOLUTION

Commencing with the upcoming summer berthing season new rules regarding dinghy docking have been adopted by the BOG. Section 3 "Rules Related to Berthing, Paragraph 10 "Dinghies" has been replaced with:

10. Dinghies are to be left in the areas of the west bank of the lagoon (berth or non-berth holders) or at the main dock (berth holders only) or as otherwise designated by the Berthing Committee. All dinghies stored at the Club will be assessed a fee, as determined by the Board of Governors. Dinghies at the Club are subject to the following conditions and procedures:

- Dinghies are defined as not to exceed 12 feet in length and may be outboard powered (not to exceed 15 HP) or manually propelled. Included are wood, fiberglass, metal and inflatable boats, both hard and soft bottom.
- All dinghies in the lagoon and on Club property shall be identified with member's seniority number.
- All powered dinghies must have current registration and insurance on file at the Club.
- Berth holders are specifically prohibited from permanently or other long-time mooring or otherwise tying-off their dinghy at their berth, or nearby berth or to their primary boat.
- The Berthing Committee has designated a total of 8 dinghy tie-up spaces along the main dock. These spaces are to be allocated to berth holders based upon seniority. Applications for these spaces will be accepted up until the January 31st deadline for the upcoming summer season. Applications received after that date will be accepted and assigned, subject to availability, at the discretion of the Berthing Committee. All applications will be posted.
- Fees for dinghy space will be reviewed annually and will be as recommended by the Berthing Committee to the Finance Committee and approved by the Board of Governors. As of the 2008 boating season, the fees are \$150.00 for the main dock and \$50.00 for the west bank.

NOTICES:

E-Newsletter: Beginning with this issue the HYC newsletter will now be sent electronically to all members whose e-mail address is on file. If you have a specific e-mail address you would prefer contact: editor.halloween@sbcglobal.net

Winter Workshop: The next HYC Hosted Winter Workshops will take place on Saturday, March 15.

Work Hours: Get your work hours in now – early in the year – before the boating season. The 2008 charge for non-worked hours is \$80.00/hour + tax. Contact Jules Magyari, House Chairman, at the Club: (203) 348-5510 or jmagyari1@hotmail.com

Ship's Store: Vicki Druehl has taken over the operation of the Ship's Store. Vicki has experience with selecting and selling merchandise in the Stamford school system and she would like to stock new items. If you have any suggestions contact her at (203) 323-2897 or druehl@optonline.net

Change of Date: The Fans will be removed from the lagoon on Saturday, April 5th. Mark your calendar. See note from DeIcing Chairman in next column.

Pet Behavior: The Commodore has reminded us we must observe and obey our rules regarding pets at the Club – all pets on a leash and no dogs in the kitchen or the corral at any time.

Classified Ads

*The newsletter can accept **marine related** ads placed by HYC members (6 line limit). E-mail copy to editor.halloween@sbcglobal.net*

For Sale: Trimaran – Corsair 24 MK II, \$39,500. Fast is fun! This trimaran has a strong class association with many regional racing and cruising events. Small cuddy cabin allows overnighting. Wide side nets allow a gang to be aboard. Regularly sails between 7-12 knots, has 20 knot potential. Contact Jamie McCreary at (203) 978-0785

For Sale: 1992 SeaRay 290, single IO engine with just 600 hours. In slip on B Dock at HYC. Great family boat; sleeps 4 minimum, 6 if friendly. Fully equipped, Coast Guard approved. Available now for finalizing sale in spring at \$12,000. Call (203) 358-0275 or (203) 219-3455. Peter Weissman

For Sale: Lippincott 19' Fiberglass Lightning Class Sailboat #10776. LOA 19'; Beam 8', Draft 4'4" with center board down. Sitka Spruce spar and boom. Mahogany rudder. 3 main sheets, 4 jibs, 1 spinnaker; cockpit cover– galvanized 2-wheel trailer w/swivel jack. \$2,500 or best offer. Contact Capt. Al @ (203) 322-5851.

For Sale: GPS. Raymarine Pathfinder RL70. Black/White w/Raystar 120 antenna. Includes 2 Cmap chart chips; Narragansett Bay to Cape Cod (4/22/02) and Hudson River (6/11/04). Asking \$250.00. Contact John Pugliesi: (203) 667-5904 or jpugliesi@frattaroli.com.

Boat Washing & Spring Prep: Contact Andrew Glassman for boat washing, waxing, teak and chrome cleaning and bottom sanding and painting. (203) 554-0322 or (203) 322-3996.

Wanted: HYC member with 20' sailboat looking for a sailing mentor for the coming season. If interested contact Nieves Rutkowski: (203) 918-7324.

Wanted: Junior Day Sailer. If you have a Sunfish, Hobie, Opti or Laser for sale contact Charlotte Addison: (203) 968-9742 or ccaddison@optonline.net

RAFFLE TICKETS & THANKS

Remember to send your raffle tickets to the club by opening day, which is Saturday May 17th. Tickets received after this date are worthless – don't throw your money away! If you need more tickets call the club and we will get them out to you.

I would like to extend special thanks to all the Life members with boats and also those who are out of boating and are far removed from HYC and Stamford for purchasing raffle tickets or making a donation in lieu of tickets. Your ongoing support of Halloween Yacht Club is very much appreciated. The proceeds of this effort will be used for necessary club capital improvements.

*Tony Loglisci
Vice Commodore*

SAILING NEWS

RACE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS PLANNED

Two race management workshops will be held on April 3rd and April 17th at 7 PM. The workshops will be run by HYC member Jamie McCreary who is the HYC representative to the YRA. All skippers, crew and Committee Boat crew who plan to race this season are encouraged to attend.

CAT BOATERS

On Sunday April 6th at 7 PM Tim Fallon owner of *Kathleen*, a 28' C.C. Hanley will be at the Club to talk about racing strategies. For more information regarding HYC sailing activities for the upcoming season contact John Reffner at (203) 348-8098 or jareffner@cs.com

WHAT'S YOUR SENIORITY NUMBER?

Almost everything related to berthing at Halloween Yacht Club has to do with seniority. The number on your blue key card is **not** your seniority number! Your seniority number is a six digit number – the first four digits are the year you joined, i.e., 2007, 1986, etc. The last two digits represent the order in which you were voted in by the Board of Governors. 199408 is the 8th person to be voted in in 1994. Your seniority number determines where you will be placed on waiting lists...the lower the number the greater your seniority!

FANS ARE COMING OUT!

Removal of fans from the lagoon is a real sign of spring! Boat owners are advised **not** to remove the fan brackets without prior permission from John Svagr, Chairman of the DeIcing Committee. Protection of the Docks is our primary concern.

UPCOMING EVENTS – LOTS HAPPENING!

- Raffle tickets – Get them in now; too late after Opening Day!
- Saturday March 15th – Boating Workshop
- Saturday June 28th – Dock & Dine on the new Trex Deck
- July 18th – 20th – Cruise to Milford Yacht Club *Power + Sail*
- Saturday August 2nd – Oyster Bay lunch raft-up party on HYC mooring

WEB SITE: HYC needs a Web Master. If you or any family member has experience with designing and maintaining web sites please contact editor.halloween@sbcglobal.net. It's important that the site be upgraded and maintained. Hours will easily fulfill annual work hour obligations.