



HALLOWEEN YACHT CLUB

e - NEWSLETTER

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

May

www.hyc.net

(203) 348-5510

2008

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMODORE

Kenneth M. Makowski

05/11/2008

Dear Fellow HYC Member:

WE HAVE OUR PERMIT! On April 21st, the Connecticut Department of Environment Protection issued permit number 200401845-KB to the Halloween Yacht Club for dredging of the lagoon. The initial period for completion is 3 years with a possibility for extension if warranted. Now the process of securing a dredger and the coordination efforts with other dredging projects on the Sound to secure the required capping material begins. As part of their contract, Roberge Associates will handle this effort. Our efforts will be devoted to making sure we have adequate funding in place to complete the project. Special thanks go to Past Commodore, Peter Palmisano, for spearheading this project.

Several weeks ago we were again confronted with a drainage problem that affects the upstairs apartment and the clubhouse kitchen. This has been an ongoing problem and one that finally needed a major effort to correct. It also uncovered some interesting developments regarding what lies beneath our grounds. Through the efforts of Mark Cavaliere, Steve Blazey, Bobby Katchko and Dennis Moriarty, the paved area outside of the electrical closet was excavated to reveal the sewer lines that needed to be lowered and replaced to affect proper drainage. During the excavation, an underground concrete cover over an ancient cesspool or “beehive” collapsed revealing a cavity 8 feet deep and 6 feet wide that had drained into our lagoon. It was not operational so it was filled in, but you can imagine the surprise on everyone’s face as this occurred. There were numerous suggestions as to who we could use as “fill.” There are pictures at the Club for those interested.

Now a reminder: as we begin to occupy our berths for the boating season, please be aware of the winter de-icing fan brackets that may be located near your berth. Please do not remove these brackets. It may be necessary for you to tie up your boat slightly different, but the docks are suffering with the constant removal and re-installation of these brackets. If removal is absolutely necessary, notify the Steward and a review will be conducted. Thank you for your cooperation. We need to preserve our Club’s most valuable asset – our docks.

Sunday, June 8th is the 23rd Annual Mayor’s Cup Race sponsored by HYC, The City of Stamford and Landfall. This year promises to be the biggest race yet as Fleet Captain of Sail and Club Secretary John Reffner, as well as Mayor’s Cup Committee Chairman John McGuinness have expended extraordinary efforts in promoting and organizing the race. This year, for the first time, the Breakwater Irregulars are collaborating with HYC in running the race and they are experts in this field. We welcome the Breakwater Irregulars as the Mayor’s Cup Race Committee.

As the season gets underway, keep an eye out for all the boating related activities and events that we have scheduled. Of course, the biggest event is Opening Day which is this coming Saturday. Normally we can expect 300+ members and guests for this event and it’s a great way to renew friendships and begin new ones. Then there is the Mayor’s Cup Race, Dock & Dine, the 4th of July Fireworks party, the Clambake, Power Squadron Day Race, Cruises, the raft-up on the Club’s mooring in Oyster Bay, and other events that I’ve forgotten to list. Look for them in the Newsletter, on the web site and in Club postings. Also ongoing is the HYC fishing derby, the Twilight Racing Series, and a host of ad-hoc activities that just seem to spring up at a moments notice. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend or join any and all of these activities.

Get your pails and shovels ready for dredging! See you all on Opening Day.

Ken

Contents, May 2008	
•	Page 1
○	Commodore’s Comments
•	Page 2
○	Fishing Report
○	News Items
•	Page 3
○	Notices & Classified Ads
○	Sailing News & More
○	Dock and Dine
•	Page 4
○	Up Coming Events



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MAY FISHING REPORT

Fishermen by nature are optimists. They have to be, searching for a quarry they can't see, not even knowing if it's close. Example, one fisherman pulls up to another, "How you doing?" "Great," the other answers, "if I get the one I'm after, plus two more, I'll have three!"

But it's been hard to be optimistic so far this year; cold, wet, nasty, windy weather plus \$4.00 a gallon gas piled on top of a shortage of sport fish isn't making anyone too happy.

A few winter flounder here and there, a blackfish or two before the season closed the end of April. Adult bunker are scattered, guys picking up a few for bait. River herring, alewives and bluebacks up the Mianus River, drifting in and out responding to water temperature. Sound is now 51°-52° F, needs to get up into the high 50's. A few bass were caught in the Mianus, when it was warmer, mostly males, nothing recently.

I was on the Hudson River last Sunday for a Shad Fest. Shad over there as well as in the Connecticut River are scarce. All recreational shad fishing is closed, commercial gill netters are picking up 4-5 fish per drift. But their nets are chock full of stripers and river herring. Lack of shad, no one has a clue. There has been a ban on taking river herring for the past few years – yet here they are.

Talked to some lobster men during the past week, the Darien Frates, once the lobster factory trawlers of the western Sound, have been reduced to clam dredging. They came in with perhaps 20-30 lbs. of lobster the other day. At one time that would have been 800-1,000 pounds. Joe Buzzeo had just finished pulling 30-40 pots and brought them in. Most of the pots were chock full of blackfish, but only 4 good lobsters. There are still thousands of pots soaking in the Sound, all potential fish traps. There is a very fine line between actively fishing lobster pots and using the Sound as a wet storage area. Most guys haven't any place to store pots on land. The Connecticut DEP Marine is just starting to address this issue.

Hope in the heart of any fisherman is eternal. Warmer weather is coming and hopefully some fish. I think we'll be seeing a lot more passive bait fishing than jack-rabbiting around from bay to bay searching for fish.

Sign up for the HYC Fishing Derby – you can't win unless you're in!

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

BOATING NEWS

HALLOWEEN YACHT CLUB BOAT PARADE

There will be a "Parade of the Fleet" on opening day, Saturday May 17th. All boats, sail and power, are welcome. We will gather at Red "4" in Westcott Cove at 10:30 A.M. and parade back to the docks.

RACING

The Twilight Racing Series began on Thursday, May 8th with a tune-up race and the first race of the Spring Series will be on Thursday May 15th.

POWER BOATERS & THURSDAY NIGHT RACING

Charmaine Rawsthorne and John Reffner are coordinating efforts to recruit more power boaters to serve as Race Committee boats for the Club's Thursday night races. Power boaters need only to volunteer their boat and serve as captain. Race Committee members will be on board to run the race. If gas is an issue, the Race Committee will reimburse that expense as well as provide refreshments. Racers leave the dock close to 6 P.M. and the first gun is at 7 P.M. These dates are unfilled, May 15th, July 24th, July 31st, August 7th and August 14th. If you are interested, contact Charmaine at (203) 831-8280 or (203) 451-8281. For information relating to Club Sailing activities contact John Reffner at (203) 348-8098 or jareffner@cs.com.

Halloween To Host Outing of Stamford Senior Men's Association

On Friday May 30th Halloween Yacht Club will again host the annual Ned Lynch Memorial Regatta for the Stamford Senior Men's Association (SMAS).

SMAS is a community-based not-for-profit organization. By hosting its annual outing on Long Island Sound, Halloween skippers are helping to fulfill the Club's obligation of service to the local boating community. Among the HYC skippers who will participate are Bruce Patterson, Peter Vanderwaart, John Reffner, John Iscaro, Herb Bessen, and Bernie Weiss.

In the past this event was organized by Leon Hecht. Following Leon's original plan, the SMAS guests will board our boats at HYC and get under way around 10:00 A.M., sail for a few of hours and then raft-up at a convenient anchorage for lunch. The SMAS members bring their own lunches and beverages. Following lunch, another sail and then return to HYC between 3:30 P.M. and 4:00 P.M.

More skippers and boats (sail or power) are invited to participate this year. If you wish to join and your vessel is capable of hosting 3-4 guests, please contact Bernie Weiss at (203) 329-2503 or bw@pro-pub.com.

Dock and Dine..... See Page 3!

NOTICES:

Raffle Tickets: Remember to send in, or drop off your tickets at the club by opening day – May 17.

E-Newsletter: Continuing 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

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

Steward Diane Brantner's Hours: Sunday; 9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. Off on Wednesday.

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

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: 1974 17' Aquasport fiberglass planing runabout. 1986 Nissan 70 hp 2-stroke ob w power trim/tilt. Both in v.g. condition. All systems fully operational. Fully loaded + Uniden VHF radio, Humminbird depthsounder/fishfinder. Vessel runs well, handles easily at 20 mph. **\$3,500** or best offer. Jay Louden: 637-1328.

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.

Fiberglass Repair Work: Larry DeLuca has completed certification work in the following areas of boat repairs and install: General Fiberglass Repair, Poly Flake Repair, Gel Coat Repair & Color Tinting, Non-skid Install & Repair Contact Larry at 203-968-9897

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


Classified Ads (cont'd)

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


Sockol Memorial Service

An on-water memorial service for long time club member Margie Sockol will be held on the afternoon of June 6th followed by a reception at the Clubhouse. Margie and her husband Dick were Stamford residents and active club members. If you would like to participate in the ceremony and host a few members of the Sockol family contact Bernie Weiss at (203) 329-2503 or bw@pro-pub.com



Dock and Dine


Saturday
June 28, 2008
7:00 P.M.



“For Cruisers who don't like to wander too far”

Open Bar, Music and Dancing

Smorgasbord, Appetizers and Dinner
Under the stars on the Club House Deck



Sleep Over, Or Not


(Cruise Out)

Wherever, Whoever, Whatever

“Your Choice”

Oyster Bay, Sand Hole, Greenwich Cove, etc. etc.
etc.....

Must Sign up and ...
Call Tony Loglisci to discuss what you will bring
Evenings 329 8875



2008 BRIDGE

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

GOVERNORS

Mike Aide Charmaine Rawsthorne
Christopher Blazey Willie Rich
Stephen Blazey, Jr. Michael Stroz
Nellie Guernsey John Svagr
Julius Magyari Dennis Vagnone
Mike Pirri Peter Vanderwaart

UPCOMING EVENTS – LOTS HAPPENING!

- Raffle tickets – Get them in now; too late *after* Opening Day!
 - Saturday May 17th – Opening Day
 - Sunday June 8th – Mayor’s Cup Race
- 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