

Birds and Worms

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Newport Yacht Club - April 2013

Upcoming Events	
4/26	NYC General Membership Meeting – dinner hosted by the Snipe Fleet
4/27	NYC Spring work party
4/28	Training day for race committee
5/5	Racing starts!
6/1	Lightning Regatta
6/15	Laser Regatta

Commodore – Paul Riordan

By the time you read this, our April 7th Pancake Breakfast, organized by Vice Commodore Lori Foster, will have occurred and I'm sure it was a big success. Thanks to Lori for her energy in getting this first time event underway.

As you can see from other reports and articles in this issue, our race boats are in great shape and ready to go for what we all hope will be another great year out on the water. Thanks to Harbor Master Phil Morse for his efforts in making sure we had all the necessary maintenance and repairs completed well in advance of the coming season.

You might also see in this issue that our Race Committee Chair, Steve Leach, is having a training session on Sunday April 28th at 2pm for the hired staff who work the races for us. This year Steve (and the Board) is hoping that club members interested in volunteering to help with our race program will also attend. We are hoping to expand the use of volunteers to ensure the continued operation of our racing program. Utilizing some volunteers is one way we can contribute to the vitality of the club and keep our membership dues

affordable. In addition, we are encouraging any and all Members to attend to also learn about the operation of our boats and motors. It is extremely important that as many of us as possible become aware of the unique operations of our motors so that the health of the motors can be ensured for future use.

As you know our Spring Work Party is scheduled for Saturday April 27th at 9 am. Please plan on attending for the entire day. Tasks are assigned by Vice Commodore Lori Foster and Rear Commodore Don Taylor. No matter your age or skill level, they will find appropriate jobs for you. These work parties are a great way for you to meet and mingle with fellow members. There's nothing like a joint project to break the ice. They'll be food and drink available. Bring rakes, shovels, tarps, chain saws, cleaning supplies and other tools. It is imperative that we get the laser docks in place, mount the motor on the hoist and launch our three boats on this day so that our first race can occur on May 5th. Look forward to seeing you there.

The night before the Work Party, Friday April 26th is a members meeting. Dinner will be at 6:00pm and is hosted by the Snipe Fleet. They always put on a great dinner so

try and attend. The meeting will begin at 7:30pm, for those of you who are unable to make the dinner. Vice Commodore Lori Foster will chair the meeting in my absence. Dorothy and I will be celebrating her 60th birthday in Prague, her ancestral home, so we will miss you there.

In signing off, let me remind you that I think we all agree that we have a unique asset in NYC. I encourage you to use the club to its fullest.

Come up for racing, if only to cheer on the sailors, enjoy a swim, have dinner in the deck after preparing your meal in our grilling hut and kitchen, show us off to your friends (and invite them to join) and sail, sail, sail!! You'll never be younger than you are today!

Vice Commodore – Lori Foster

It seems we just buttoned up the club....now it's time to wake it up for another great sailing season!

Spring work party is Saturday, April 27. On this date we will also change the combinations on all locks. Be there to receive the new code.

As you are doing spring cleaning around your house, please think of the club if you have some of the following items in good condition:

- dish towels
- a fry pan
- a few small kettles

Club Rentals

There is no better place than Newport Yacht Club on a summer's day, or evening. Consider NYC for your next family reunion, company picnic, or retreat. Have your pick of 2013 dates for your event. The rental calendar is wide open (of course, excluding holidays, regatta and other sailing dates.)

Procedure: 1) Visit NewportYC.org and select Calendar. 2) Check the date or dates

you would like for your event. 3) Send VC Lori Foster your date request in an email LF348@yahoo.com 4) Once she has ok'd the date/time, download the application and submit to her with your check deposit and rental fee, if applicable. 5) Once the reservation form has been received, your event will be posted to the club calendar.

A few pointers:

- Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- You are welcomed to use the club at any time and do not need to reserve it if you and a few family members or friends want to have a picnic or just meet.
- Is your group 12-19 people and you are hosting a meeting or party? A club reservation should be made for this type of event.
- Although you have reserved the club for your event, know that members are still allowed to go in and out of the club house to use the restrooms and access upstairs.
- Club members, if it is obvious that there is an event going on that is not sailing related, I ask you to be respectful to the guests. Do not park them in. Try to avoid entering the club if you are dripping wet. Let the person who has reserved the club have first dibs on picnic tables, grill use, kitchen facilities, etc.

A huge benefit of being a member of Newport Yacht Club is the very reasonable rental rate. If your party is between 20 and 49 guest the rate is a flat \$30. If there are 50 or more guests then that rate is a flat \$60. There is a \$20 deposit clean-up fee that is returned if the clubhouse is left in great shape. I can safely say it always looks wonderful after an event.

Please contact VC Lori Foster with any questions. 244.8386 or LF348@yahoo.com

Random reminder

Please be sure the alarm is activated and that all doors and gates are locked before you leave the property. Security is everyone's responsibility.

Race Committee Chair – Steve Leach

On Sunday, April 28th at 2pm, there will be a race committee training for RC employees and NYC members who may be interested in volunteering for race committee duties. The focus will be on proper operation of our Newport owned boats. We will be out on the water for some on the water training so bring your PFD. Think Spring!!

Fleet Reports

Snipe Fleet – Ted Horvath

The Snipes held their customary pot luck get-togethers over the off-season. December's was hosted by the Morse's, Virginia Cumine hosted February, the Dahl's did March and the Horvath's will do April.

In addition to continuing as our Regatta Chairman, Norm Dahl, our busy Associate Fleet Captain, will coordinate the Thursday Night Sailing this year and again will do the scoring for the Handicap Series.

Laser Fleet - Kenny Fourspring

Lasers, hold on to your hat spring will be here before you know it, and I'm sure this year will be as awesome as last year was, with a pleasant northerly breeze filling in just as the race committee is setting the course. This year we should great racing; we have two freshly reconditioned mark set boats, and a few new members.

The laser fleet will be having a fleet meeting on April 13th at 2PM. This spring there are plans for the fleet to repair and replace the very weathered spar boxes. Steve Leach, our club champion, and super awesome laser sailor will be in charge of race committee this year. Speaking of Steve, I

heard he got out in his laser already this year, which makes him the first one to get his boat wet this season. For those of you who are new members, Steve is notorious for being the first boat in the water. Our regatta will be held on June 15th this year. Bill Topping has volunteered to head up race committee again this year, and we are excited to have him aboard again. I'm looking forward to getting out on the water again soon.

Lightning Fleet – Jim Leunk

The Celebration of Spring regatta on June 1 at NYC will open the season for Lightning racing in our region of New York. This year the regatta is a one-day event--Saturday only--instead of stretching over two days.

Landy Atkinson has agreed to be regatta chairman, and planning is getting under way as our thoughts turn from winter to water. You'll be hearing more about the regatta as we get closer to June.

When we bring our fleet's Lightning out of storage this month, we'll keep it on the trailer in the club parking lot to make bailer repairs before putting it in the water. Once it's launched, the boat will be available for use by all club members, not just members of the Lightning fleet. If you'd like to sail it, just send me an email or give me a call. Use of the fleet Lightning will probably be first come, first served, but that's something we'll discuss at a fleet meeting in April.

It's early in the year, so there's little news to report right now. I have just two other items:

-- The Lightning fleet has been assigned to lawn-mowing duty at the club during the month of August. Members, expect to hear from me later about that job.

--The race committee is planning a training session for members of the race crew at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 28. That will be a good opportunity for more of us to learn about operating the club's powerboats and

other aspects of conducting races. Please consider attending this training.

Newport Yacht Club History –

Leo Balandis - Past Historian
Rochester Canoe Club

The Birds & Worms Club

Around 1868, a number of ambitious, rising, sports and social minded young men of Rochester were in the habit of arising early in the summer to play the new game of baseball before their more serious activities. One day, one of them remarked that "the early bird catches the worm". This was taken up by the others in a match that the winning team be called the Birds, and the losing side the Unfortunate Worms, giving birth to the Birds and Worms Club that would be incorporated in 1872 "For the protection of fish and game and to enforce game laws of the state", with the motto, "As we journey through life, let us live by the way". Officers were:

President - C.H.Stillwell Vice Pres. - John W. McElhinney Treasurer - Walter Weldon Recording Secretary - D.K. Carter Financial Secretary - J.G Maurer Trustees - Thomas Pritchard, Eli Weed, J.Q.A. Hempstead, John H. Wilson, Adolph Roda

They were not wealthy, but part of the rising middle class, in jobs like post office clerk, paper hanger, jeweler, railroad employee, carver, special deputy collector, and all lived in the city. Their games, social events, and picnics were attended by hundreds and raised money for various charities in a growing industrial economy with no income tax. The games were not played seriously but as entertainment with the players dressed outrageously and accompanied by suitable outbursts from a band. The first annual Calico Ball, with the women dressed in calico (a cotton fabric with a small, all-over floral print) , was held in the Corinthian Hall in Rochester in February 1870.

Expanding outdoor activities led them to

purchase about four acres on Irondequoit Bay from Mary and George Weber in 1873 for \$850, who had purchased the property a year earlier from William Cook for \$845. It was on a steep downhill road to a wooded point surrounded on three sides by water, meeting the Club's site requirements for "easy access, plenty of shade, good fishing and bathing waters, and that is not too much frequented." As shown on recent property maps, the original purchase was about 384 Ft. wide with 1139 Ft. of waterfront, accessed by an interior private road starting at the end of Cook (now Seneca) Rd. The new owners on Aug. 18, 1873 were William J. Rogers (detective); B. Frank Enos (police commission clerk); Albert J. Wheeler (house exchange); Henry S. Hebard (marble dealer); Adolph Roda (carver). All of them worked and lived in Rochester.

The Club incorporated and built a cottage in 1872, holding a grand opening dedication on July 16, 1872. Many came from out of town, with over 300 registered. The railroad from the city would not arrive until 1879, and automobiles not available until 1902, so horse and carriage or wagon was how you got there. Space was limited for horses, so visitors proceeded to Newport House and were ferried to the Club by sail and rowboats, through the courtesy of Newport House owner Henry Walzer, his nephew William Sours, and members of nearby boating clubs Dodge, Old Star, and Point Lookout, including Seth Green. It was reported that there were now 125 stockholders, and the cost of the grounds and cottage about \$3000. It was two stories with a main part 18X28 Ft., a wing 18X24 Ft. and kitchen 14X16 Ft. When finished, there will be sleeping apartments upstairs, and there is a balcony 75X8 Ft.

One can find at least 23 news items about the Birds & Worms Club in old Rochester newspapers between 1870 and 1882, but the last one states that "Many of our citizens will remember the successful entertainments that have been given under

Other news –

***CHECK THIS OUT** - members might like to know about this web site which provides animated demonstrations of the new racing rules.

[Click here: The official site of UK Sailmakers Lofts Worldwide - Rules Quiz](#)

***SAVE THE DATE:**

Sunday, September 8, 2013

The Fourth Annual Adult-Junior Pirate Sailboat Races are scheduled for 1 pm along with the regular NYC fall races. All junior participants receive a certificate and ribbon. Begin gathering your youth crew members, dress like a pirate for the occasion, and practice your pirate jargon. After the "races", there is a pot luck lunch and awards ceremony. Anyone who would like to help plan this event, please contact Virginia Cumine at

vcumine@rochester.rr.com or 544-3206.



Some of last year's participants

NOTICE OF RACE
Club Races for 2013
Newport Yacht Club
Rochester, NY

RULES: See the *Sailing Instructions* for 2013, posted on the Newport YC web site.

ELEGIBILITY: These races are open to boats owned by members of Newport YC. Visiting boats may race for two weeks of the season.

SCHEDULE:

- Sunday races are scheduled for May 5 through October 13, except for August 18. The first warning signals for Sunday races are scheduled for 1 pm.
- Thursday races are scheduled for June 6 through August 22. The first warning signals for Thursday races are scheduled for 5:45 pm.

COURSES:

The Race Committee can choose among the following courses: 1) modified Windward / Leeward with one lap or two, 2) modified triangular, or 3) an Olympic course. It may also set a short-course mark for use by keelboats.

RACE SCORING:

Each race will be scored in two ways: one-design and handicap.

- For one-design scoring, only the order of finish counts.
- For handicap scoring, the elapsed times will be recorded and corrected according to the rating of each boat. Centerboard boats will use Portsmouth ratings and keelboats will use PHRF.

SERIES SCORING:

- CHIPS High Point scoring will be used for each handicap series.
- Handicap racing will have four series: 1) Sundays in May & June, 2) Sundays in July & August, 3) Sundays in September & October, and 4) Thursdays from June 6 to August 22.
- Each one-design fleet will use its own series scoring system. The start and end dates for one-design scoring may differ from those for handicap scoring.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:

The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the races.

PRIZES:

Boats may win both handicap and one-design trophies.

- Trophies will be awarded to the winner of each handicap series.
- Trophies will be awarded for Laser, Snipe, and Lightning one-design racing according to the practices of each fleet.
- The Club Championship Trophy will be awarded the skipper with the most CHIPS points for their best two series.