

Birds and Worms

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Newport Yacht Club - July 2013

Upcoming Events	
7/27	NYC General Membership Meeting – dinner hosted by the Laser Fleet
7/28	Summer Work party
8/17 – 18	Briody Memorial Regatta - Snipe
9/8	4 th Annual Adult/Junior Pirate Sailboat Races

Fleet Reports

Snipe Fleet – Ted Horvath

With John Dentinger moving back from Florida and new members Maureen McDonald/Steve Mickle, the Snipe Fleet now has 9 boats. We got in 7 races for the Spring Series and as of July 3, 5 races have been sailed in our Summer Series. To date, 7 of the 9 boats have raced - a good turnout. Ricky Trauscht had won the Spring Series and John Dentinger and Charlie Courtsal are tied for the lead in the Summer Series. We're having another good year.

Snipe Regatta August 17-18

Each year our Snipe fleet hosts the Briody Memorial Regatta. It's a lot of fun, but the visitors win all the trophies. How can we solve this problem? Maybe we can learn to sail faster, but I have a better plan: invite slower visitors. So, if you know some slow Snipe sailors at a nearby club, please push them hard to come to our regatta.

Laser Fleet - Kenny Fourspring

The laser fleet has had a busy spring. Many hours of a select few individuals spent numerous hours revamping the laser spar boxes. This ended up being a much more intricate project than I had anticipated, but

the finished product looks great. Many thanks to Landy Atkinson for bringing loads of tools to the work party and everyone else who dedicated their time to this product.

The laser regatta turned out great this year, even given the limited number of boats. This is likely due to the regatta being a few weeks later than normally scheduled. The wind was a strong Northeast enhanced thermal breeze. We had 6 races that averaged 20 minutes apiece. During one of the races\6+ we ran the old Olympic course (a triangle and a windward leeward), and it was a change up for sure. Fours sailors from Newport participated myself, John Boettcher, Steve Leach and Charlie Maior. The remaining four sailors were from Ithaca yacht club. I'd like to thank Bill Topping and the rest of the race committee for doing a great job with the courses this year. A photograph of one of the races is shown below (photo taken by Bob Shanebrook).



Lightning Fleet – Jim Leunk

The Lightning fleet's Celebration of Spring Regatta on June 1 was a success, with 11 competitors sailing five races in strong winds and bright sun. Mark Sertl and family won the regatta with first-place finishes in all five races. Clay Murphy from Willowbank was second, and the Newport-based team of co-skippers Andy Smith and Logan McReynolds was third. The four boats that competed from our fleet: Smith, Atkinson, Rabovsky and the fleet Lightning, skippered by Kenny Fourspring.

Racing has been going well this year with the exception of the many cancellations. Let's hope the thunderstorms give us a pardon on Thursday evening and Sunday afternoons for the remainder of the sailing season. Attendance outside the laser and snipe fleets has been light at most of the racing so far this year. It would be great to have more cruising boats racing together. Steve Leach (race committee manager) is having the race committee set a separate keep boat mark (shorter than the laser and snipe mark. This does two things keeps the courses a bit shorter for the keel boats and also keeps the keel boats out of the piles that can occur at the windward mark. Great Idea Steve! Also I'd like to comment that this year the race committee is doing a much better job at making the starting like square! This makes the racing much fairer. Although sometimes I do like the excitement of port tack favored starts sometimes. If you know of anyone interested in sailing lasers, we have a fleet laser that anyone can try out. Please contact me to reserve it if you are interested in trying out a laser. The bay's predictable thermal makes it a great place to sail and summer is short in Rochester, so try to get out sailing while the weather is still nice!

Special thanks are due to Landy Atkinson, Kenny Fourspring and John Atkins for getting our fleet's Lightning out of storage and making repairs to bailers before it was launched for the season. The fleet Lightning remains available for use by any Newport member, not just members of the Lightning fleet. Call me at 261-7835 if you'd like to use it.



Dick Hallagan, Rick TenEyck and John Steiner at the Lightning Worlds held in June on Lake Transмено in Umbria between Rome and Florence. The first week of racing was for the Masters and European Championship. The team sailed incredibly well: being 4th in the Masters and 6th in the Europeans (39 boats). They were the second American team in both Regattas. In the Masters, they were just two points out of second. The second week was the Worlds.

Five minutes before the first race they were T-Bone, with considerable damage. The team was 20th out of 47 boats. Both week ends the team was able to sight-see in Tuscany and Umbria, so the trip was a huge success. This was Hallagan's 20th World Competition and he hasn't ruled out Buffalo in 2014 at the age of 81.

Thursday Night Sailing – Norm Dahl

Thursday sailing is under way whenever the rain lets up. For PHRF Handicap Racing, Jack Finear has an early lead. Congratulations to Jack for winning the Sunday PHRF May/June Series.

Club Photos - John Boettcher



Joanne Vaughn, Lori Foster and Virginia Cumine admiring the new cover that Joanne made for the NYC couch.



Photo from Vice Commodore Lori Foster of the new lattice work under the deck which was installed by Rear Commodore Don Taylor and John Boettcher.

Free Sailing Instruction to be Offered to Public at Newport Y.C.

Peter Allen, now a cruiser but formerly a member of Newport's Laser and Snipe fleets will offer free sailing instruction to the public this season. The idea is to provide a free introduction to sailing to anyone who is interested. Both theory and practical instruction will be given. He will do this in groups of one or two people at a time. Participation will be by invitation only.

Peter isn't doing this for any reason other than to introduce locals to the joys of sailing the joys of our Bay and the joys of our club. Singles and family groups are encouraged to apply. No prior knowledge or experience is needed.

People interested in the program won't have to bring any equipment with them, other than soft-soled shoes and a windbreaker. A baseball cap or other brimmed hat is also a good idea.

If you have a friend or know of a family that might have an interest in this program,

please suggest that they contact Peter. His e-mail address is pquorum@aol.com. He'll take it from there and with a little luck will have them out on their own on the water soon.

Catch Chafe to Save a Fortune

Attribution - This is part of a longer article published by Capt. John Jamison. He publishes a weekly newsletter for sailors. Readers may subscribe to this free newsletter by clicking on www.skippertips.com

How can you keep your costly sailing rope—or line — strong, supple, and protected? No other sailing equipment comes under strain, stress, or attack from the elements as much as the lines aboard—whether they be docking lines, anchor lines, halyards, sheets, preventers, and controls. Here are the vital components on your sailboat you need to check each time before you set sail. Catch chafe early on and you'll save a fortune—later on!

Chafe Checks and Action Steps: Chafe wins the award hands down as the #1 rope-killing enemy of each line aboard your boat. Any line that passes over, through, or under a block, ring, pad-eye, cleat, eye-strap, shackle, piling, bollard, or Samson post can chafe.

Lines rub and grind against fittings as your small sailboat pumps, vibrates, pitches, yaws, or rolls at anchor, in a slip, alongside a dock, or under sail.

Make each inspection a hunt for enemy #1 and you will be able to put preventative rope-life saving measures into play—right away. Start at the bow and work aft. Check these major points:

Docking lines: Look for chafe where each docking line exits the hull. Inspect lines at pier or seawall corners. When the tide rises or falls, these points can cause lots of harmful docking line wear 'n tear! Sand down sharp corners on your bow

chocks with super fine-grit sandpaper. Add chafing gear to lines inside the chocks, where the line wraps around a piling, or contact points at pier or seawall corners. What makes great chafing gear? Use 12" to 18" pieces of old split garden hose, fire hose, PVC tubing, canvas strips lashed into place, or—in a pinch—duct tape. Center the chafing gear on the contact point (chock, pier corner, seawall corner).

Anchor lines: As described in Chapter 1, your anchor rode must pass the strictest inspection. That's because it serves as your lifeline if any other onboard system fails, or you are adrift without sail or auxiliary power. For day sailing, pull the first fifty feet of rode from your anchor locker. Check it foot-by-foot for wear. Inspect the thimble for rust weeping. Cut off corroded or cracked thimbles. Splice a new eye and insert a fresh thimble.

For cruising or voyaging, pull out all of the line from the locker and conduct the same foot-by-foot inspection. Do not use any anchor line that shows more than an occasional spot of light surface wear. Replace the old anchor line with new line. Carry the old, worn anchor line to make extra docking lines, towing line, or tie-down your dinghy or Life raft.

Roller furling line: Follow the line back to the cockpit. Look on each side of the lead blocks for chafe. Replace the entire spool (not just a piece of worn line) if you see any serious chafe spots. Genoa sheet lines: Look for chafe where each sheet rubs against stays or shrouds. Once a season, reverse the bitter ends—or "end-for-end" the line. Tie the old bitter ends from the cockpit onto the Genoa clews. Lead the old Genoa clew bitter ends aft. This secret--used for centuries aboard square-rigged ships-- can add several extra sailing seasons to your costly Genoa sheet lines. Halyard, Reefing, and Control Lines:

* External halyards: Check for chafe all along the line. Pay particular attention to

wear near or at the shackle and at the mast cleat.

*** Internal halyards:** Check for chafe at the exit block near the base of the mast. Cut off or untie halyards that show wear near the shackle. Tie a bowline or buntline hitch 3" to 6" up the line in a fresh unworn spot. This simple action can save you a trip to the masthead from a parted halyard!

Sheet Blocks and Tackles: Check these controls for chafe where they pass over any block used for sheets, boom vang, mainsheets, traveler controls, or running backstays. Inspect the line at those points where they exit the block: cam-action cleats, clam-cleats, or jam-cleats. Inspect exit blocks near the base of a mast for chafe near the block where the line leads aft to the cockpit.

Cut off or untie sheets or lines where they attach to block beackets (straps) when the line just begins to show signs of wear. Thread the line through the block beacket to a point 3" to 6" up from the worn point. Tie a bowline knot at the new point.

Track Slides and Stops: Run mainsheet cars out to the far end of the traveler track on each side. Perform the same test with Genoa lead blocks. Pull the plunger or screw-pin track stops. They should lift or unscrew without hesitation.

Apply a light coat of Lanolin lubricant or soft bee's wax to make tracks slippery. Spray a waterproof lubricant onto track stops to loosen corrosion.

Captain John's Pre-Sail Tip: Double check luff and clew reefing lines for chafe after hoisting the mainsail. Against a lighter sky, chafe becomes much more apparent (photo above). Note the severe chafe on this 2nd clew reefing line. It was hidden when the mainsail was flaked onto the boom. Against a light background, it becomes visible.

Now you know the best ways to deal with

sailing public enemy #1—chafe-- fast and easy to save money and extend the life of your costly sailing rope. Turn the page for Chapter 6, where you will discover the most overlooked "hidden" sailing gear. Fail to check this equipment at your peril! Learn four easy 1-minute inspections to keep your sailboat safe and secure.

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. Cost is \$5 per child to cover expenses of ribbons, trophy engraving and some food not donated. Please reach out to Virginia Cumine or Maureen McDonald if you wish to help with the event.



Some of last year's participants

The following is the article from last year's newsletter.

Third Annual NYC Adult-Junior Pirate Day Sailboat Races - 2012

Overcast skies & white caps on the bay greeted the Pirates and their Skippers on Sunday, September 30, 2012. But with bravado and fortitude, 12 juniors and their skippers set sail armed with water pistols and cannons. Fortunately, the winds settled into gentle breezes and the downpour held off until after the dinner & awards ceremony which took place inside the warm & cozy clubhouse.

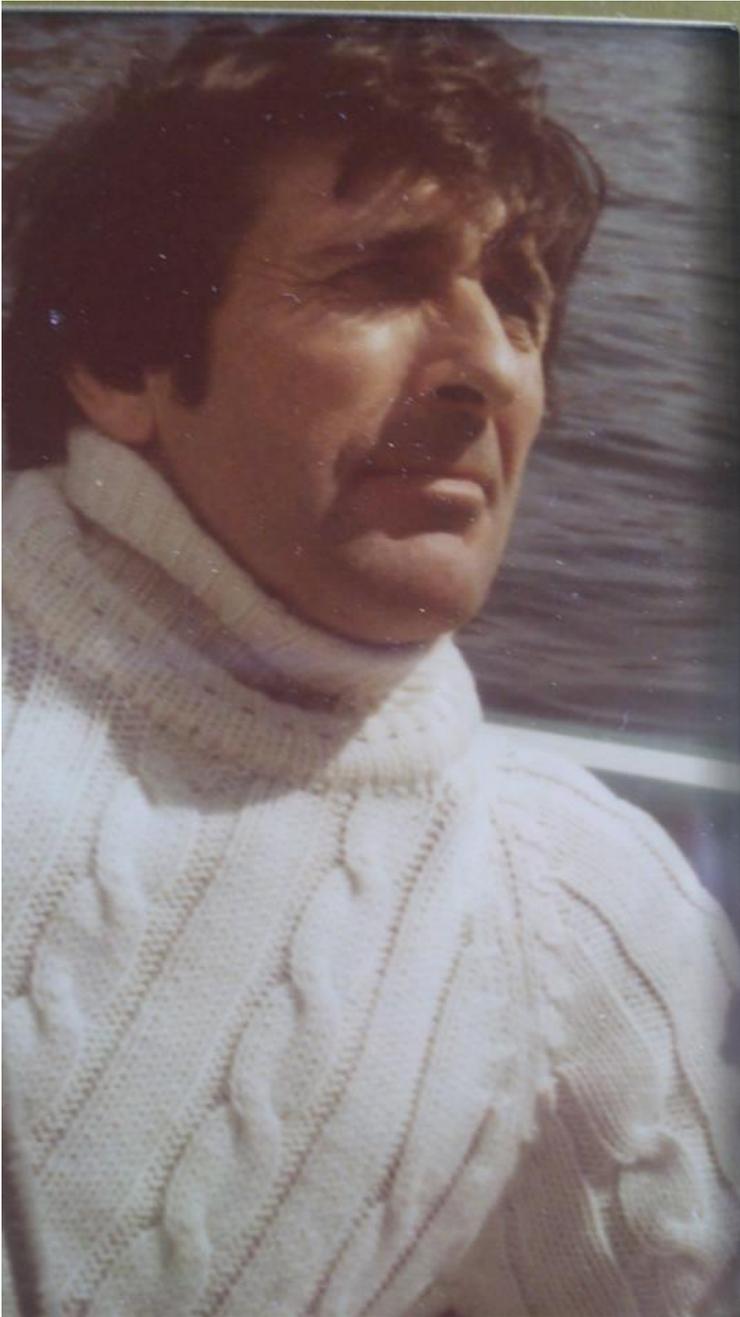
The twelve juniors ranged from ages 4 to 16. Cruisers, Snipes & a Laser participated this year. In addition, the pirates were joined by Adult Pirates in regular Sunday fall racing. Top place finisher of the four races was Jacob Cooney and skipper Norm Dahl. Second place was Ishan & Sonali Dixit with Skipper Bill Vaughn assisted by Samir Dixit. Felicia MacLaren won solo on a Laser.

Benjamin & Isabelle sailed a cruiser with Dad Scott Sorrels. Lynn and Denise Bluett sailed with grandchildren Tyler & Emma

Goerlich, Ian and Joe Spencer. Dorothy Drahzal and Paul Riordan skippered their cruiser with neighbors Razia & Adrian Sayed.

Many thanks to all who assisted with this event. Race Committee Pro - Taylor Dutton & Ashley Pierce and scorekeepers - Phil & Carol Morse & Novice scorekeepers - Jen Perena & Rachel MacLaren. Dan Groth & Landy Atkinson – certificates. Kenny Fourspring & John Boettcher – Laser helpers. Many thanks to all those who brought good food and helped with clean-up. Appreciation is also given to those regular racers who dressed for the occasion and modified their races to accommodate the junior sailors.

Remembering Dick Doherty
June 8, 1931 - February 12, 2013







Sunday Portsmouth Handicap Racing

Congratulations to Charlie Courtsal and crew Jay Perena for winning the May/June Series.

Here are the final standings.

Rank	Points	Races	Counted	Skipper	Crew	Class
1	745	12	8	Courtsal	Perena	Snipe
2	733	18	8	Trauscht	Groth	Snipe
3	720	8	8	Dentinger	Perena	Snipe
4	621	12	8	Dahl	Cumine	Snipe
5	610	16	8	Leach		Laser
6	601	12	8	Fourspring		Laser + Lightning
7	583	14	8	Boettcher		Laser
8	514	12	8	Horvath	Hill	Snipe
9	466	10	8	Atkinson		Laser
10	418	8	8	Morse	Morse	Snipe
11	157	4	4	Rabovsky	Rabovsky	Lightning
12	117	3	3	McLaren		Laser
13	115	4	4	Schieber		Lightning
14	106	3	3	McDaniel		Laser
15	66	1	1	Vaughn	Dixit	Snipe