
Birds & Worms News

Volume 5 Issue 4

September 2001

NEWPORT YACHT CLUB

ROCHESTER, NY

CROSS BAY SWIM



Andy Smith (organiser) gets a photo of the swimmers in the 2001 Cross Bay Swim.

What's Up?

The Club calendar gives you a full listing of the year. Check out the web version at NewportYC.org. This column features events of the next few months and gives you some additional info.

October 14th – Last day of racing.

October 19th – General Membership Meeting
Election of next year's officers. Meeting to be preceded by dinner hosted by the Lightning Fleet.

October 20th – Fall work party.
Put the Club to bed for the winter. Get a jump on jobs for next year.

November 10th – Cups and Flags Banquet
Celebration of the sailing season. Once again at the Newport House. Starting time 6:00 PM. Cost and dinner details will be available shortly.

New Member
Welcome to our newest member **Virginia Cumine** who was inducted into the Club at our July

General Membership meeting. Her picture will be on the bulletin board shortly.

Virginia lives in Rochester and works for the National Kidney Foundation. She owned a powerboat at one time, but wanted something a little quieter. She connected up with the Snipe Fleet's Wednesday sailing activities and is one of the more active skippers and crew. She is currently taking Sterling's sailing class which at this point she probably doesn't need.

Since the Last Newsletter

This will be a short one since you can find separate articles dealing with the happenings elsewhere in this issue.

The Snipes seemed to be racing all the time. The Lightnings raced a fair amount of time when the regatta schedule would allow. The Laser fleet, due to the small size, did not race this season.

See the article regarding the Moonlight Cruise sponsored by the Cruising Fleet. Think about putting this on your schedule next year.

The Open House #2 had worse weather than #1 but still was enjoyable for those attending. See article.

Sterling started the third session of her sailing classes.

Newport was well represented in the Brown Jug Race which was hosted this year by the Canoe Club. See article.

Hold on to your wallets, the Club is about to get taxed by someone else. This time it's the state of New York. It seems as though we need to take out a lease for use of the land under the docks. No, I am not kidding! Maybe this is for all the services they provide (Not!). Anyway, the application required numerous certified copies of titles, neighbor notification, and affidavits be filed.

Trying to find a silver lining in this cloud, we offer the following. Both of our waterfront neighbors had to be personally notified. No problem with the Allen's to our north, Mike and Beth are well known around the Club and were no problem finding. But what about our neighbor around the corner to the southwest?

After some tromping around her property in failing light, your commodore managed to find her residence and spent over an hour with this positively charming seventy-plus-year-old woman. Turns out Ms. Jean Turnow was BORN in our clubhouse during its former existence as a hotel. She knows a lot about the

area. An invitation was extended for her to come to the Open House which she declined, but maybe we can get her to come to another Club function.

The other pleasant thing that came about during the preparation of the application was the finding of an old, black and white, aerial photo of the Club. You have probably noticed the color aerial photo opposite the bar which is estimated to have been taken in the mid 70s. A copy of this photo was going to be submitted (with annotation of changes) with the application.

Imagine the delight, when, under the color photo was found a B&W photo from a much earlier era. It would be interesting to determine the date. The clubhouse is different, no seawall, and it's not clear what boats were being sailed. Check both photos out. They are framed and hanging opposite the bar.

That's about all for this year. Don't forget about the Cups and Flags on Saturday, November 10. Contact your Fleet Captain about tickets.

Security at the Club

How about "Nothing to report."? What a relief! We made it through the entire summer without a serious incident of vandalism. A great deal of credit goes to our neighbors Mike and Beth Allen who have not been reluctant to call the cops on suspicious late night activity. The new signs that our Rear Commodore Al McReynolds had made and placed around the Club made it clear that only members and guests were allowed.

Several members expressed gratitude to the Irondequoit Police for their increased patrolling of the Club and this did much to improve an already good relationship between the Club and authorities. Finally, membership involvement in the challenging and evicting of trespassers played a role in the increased security we enjoy. Let's keep it up.

Stephans Donates Laser Parts

Hats off to Larry Stephans who generously donated a Laser mast, boom, centerboard and rudder to the Club. This completes the second of the two loaner boats which were used for the sailing classes conducted by Sterling Bush. The hull had been sitting on the racks for several years before it was recognized as not having an owner. In the past, Fleet members had pooled extra parts in order to make it complete for use as a loaner by visiting racers. In exchange for this gift, the Board has excused Larry from this year's work parties.

CROSS BAY SWIM

by Norma Platt/Andy Smith

Eleven swimmers from the Newport Yacht Club completed a swim across Irondequoit Bay on Sunday Morning August 19th. The X-Bay swim is a tradition dating back to the 1950's. It has enjoyed a recent revival, running for three years, thanks to efforts of organizer Andy Smith. The swimmers were escorted by a number of craft and supporting volunteers/crew (see accompanying article ARMADA). The intrepid swimmers started off the beach at the bluff directly across from NYC and swam to the Laser ramps to complete the 0.4 mile bay crossing. 9AM conditions provided low wind and light motor boat traffic and calm waters for the traverse.

A number of family groups participated in the swim. Howard Stickney, aged 75, and granddaughter Kelly Peters, aged 11, provided a remarkable pair. Howard's son Peter and Kelly's mom provided support from one of the NYC safety boats. Bill and JoAnne Vaughn swam and were accompanied by son Nick in a kayak. Julie Clayton also received a kayak escort from husband Dean. Sisters Katie and Meg Henderson swam while father Tom paddled his canoe. And John Boettcher was escorted by wife Norma and sister Marion in a row boat. Other swimmers included Christine Card, Virginia Cumine and Garrett Traver.

The crossing took about 30 minutes. Strokes favored by the swimmers were breaststroke, backstroke and the crawl.

Memorable quotes were noted during the event.....

Howard Stickney on completing the swim: 'I've wanted to do that for 35 years!'

John Boettcher just before he and Howard collided: 'Starboard!'

Dave Walsh to Virginia Cumine: 'Turn around, you're swimming east!'

CROSS BAY ARMADA

by Norma Platt/Andy Smith

Participants in the Newport Yacht Club Cross Bay Swim received support from an assemblage of craft crewed by friends and family. During the August 19th morning crossing, certified lifeguards, an EMT and several club volunteers accompanied the swimmers during their bay crossing. This year, organizer Andy Smith, paired individual swimmers with boats to provide maximum security from passing motor boats and to provide assistance as needed. This important function also allowed the 'dry' contingent to experience some of the challenge and accomplishment of the swimmers.

The boats included rowboats, canoes, kayaks and the two club safety powerboats. The 'pit' crew included Tom Henderson, Dean Clayton, Andy Smith, Nick Vaughn, Anne Peters, Peter Stickney, Dave Walsh, Norma Platt, Marion Novota and others. Apologies to anyone we missed!

Open House II – August 19

The weather for the second open house was even worse than for the first. The cross bay swim came off OK (see other article), but the forecast probably kept a lot of people away. There was supposed to have been a picture taking event of boats under sail sponsored by the Cruising Fleet in

the late morning, but this was about the time the sky opened up.

The suds and food were broken out at noon or so with membership chairperson Pat Wartinger and husband Ray doing their usual great job with the food. About 20 people or so were present. Only one prospective member showed up. The north end of the porch featured musical entertainment by Ray W. on sax with Tom Henderson providing voice and guitar accompaniment. On the whole, a very pleasant way to spend the day.

Brown Jug Regatta – Labor Day, September 3rd

The Rochester Canoe Club hosted this year's race. The weather was beautiful with a south wind building just enough to keep things interesting. Newport fielded 9 Lightnings, 2 Snipes and 2 Lasers. The Canoe Club had 8 Sunfish, 4 JY's and 10 Thistles. First Lightning and fifth overall went to Mark and Cory Sertl assisted by their crew Katja and Nick. First Snipe and second overall was Norm Dahl with crew Jason LaPierre. Jim Cuddihee took first Laser and fourth overall. Several Thistles were single-handed including first place finisher Commodore Eric Gesner. Sunfish sailor Mike Ingham of RCC took first in fleet and first overall. The Canoe Club did a great job with the after race refreshments. Mike Fortner served as emcee for the award presentations.

Next year will be NYC's turn to host the "Jug" and it was learned that this will be the 50th anniversary of the event. We should make this a pretty big deal.

Grams Win Briody Regatta

by Norm Dahl

The weather gods smiled on Irondequoit Bay Saturday with blue skies and a lovely thermal. Fritz and Jane Gram mastered the powerboat chop well enough to win all four races and the regatta. No wind and no races Sunday, so we were glad PRO

Peter Allen had squeezed that fourth race into the Saturday schedule.

On-the-water entertainment included the near sinking of a small motorboat, swamped by the wake of one of its big cousins. Nobody was injured, but the event attracted the sheriff's boat and even a coastguard cutter into our racecourse.

Three of our stalwart sailors managed to miss their hiking straps and fell out of their boats, thereby entertaining those on the boats immediately behind them. Channels 8 and 10 videoed the races for the evening news – our fifteen seconds of fame. Shore-side entertainment included live music from What's with 31? a jazz combo consisting of Dan and Frank Wartinger with father Ray sitting in on a few tunes.

Chris Hains and Jason LaPierre showed great boat speed in taking second place in all the races. Charlie Courtsal and Audrey Schmidt led the locals, taking fifth place overall. Newport includes our regatta finishes in the competition for the fleet championship. His great showing in the Briody puts Charlie into the lead.

As for the Retzhaupt Trophy, Fritz placed first and John Korkosz, second. Co-skipper Greg Hock placed third in the Retzhaupt standings – his first sailing trophy. These trophies go to the skippers with the best finishes in the three District V regattas.

This was the 65th sailing of the Briody Memorial Regatta, hosted by Newport Yacht Club on August 11-12. Maybe we should apply for Social Security.

Thanks again to everyone who worked to make the regatta such a success, especially food coordinator Rosemary Dahl.

Report on Lightning Sailing:

J. Atkins, Fleet Captain

The first fleet racing since the first week of July took place over the Labor Day Holiday. It was great to have 7 boats on the line although the winds could have been better. For the Labor Day Brown Jug race there were 9 Lightning. Congratulations go

to Mark Sertl for being the 1st Lightning across the finish line and, I believe, the 4th boat overall. It was a close finish for the next 4 spots for Atkins, Bush, Atkinson and Hallagan, as the winds filled in from the West shore allowing those of us who were behind to catch and pass the leaders. Fall is a great time to sail as the power boat traffic usually drops off after Labor Day, so get your crew together and come on down to the club for Sunday afternoon racing.

Newport was well represented at the Lightning World Championships in Italy in July. Dick Hallagan with crew Lori Foster (who just happened to plan their stop in Italy during their around the world trip to coincide with the world championship) finished 1st in the Master Championship which preceded the Worlds. In the World Championship, sailing with Tammi Jamison (a past member), Dick finished 17th, Bob and Sterling Bush with Peter Denton of Riverton, NJ finished 23rd, and Chad Atkins crewing for Dave Gorman of Malone, NY finished 14th.

Newport's Fleet 77 was also represented at the North American Championships in Burlington, Vt. this August. In the Junior Championship, Logan McReynolds with crew Erin and Roberto Rodriguez finished 12th.



In the Women's, Sterling Bush with Jillian Stokes and Ginny Miller of Ithaca finished 6th. In the Masters, Dick Hallagan, with Al McReynolds and Alister Thomson finished 5th and John Atkins with son Chad and John Treadwell of Henderson Harbor finished 9th. Dick Hallagan (crew Lori & Alister), Logan (crew Al and Erin) and Chad (crew from his College Sailing Team) sailed the NAs

with Dick and Chad finishing 19 and 20th (in a tie breaker) in the Championship Fleet and Logan finishing 23 in the Presidents Cup fleet.

2002 Lightning Youth Worlds Update

by John Atkins

With the summer sailing and vacations behind us the planning for the 2002 Youth Worlds is beginning to pick up steam again. For the North American Championship we made some T-shirts to advertise the event. As we had a few extras we presented them to the US skippers that qualified. The four US skippers that qualified were Andrew Brennen (NJ), Ryan Ruhlman (OH), Erik Johnson (VT) and Travis Maier (FL). Our request to the Seabreeze Water District to have the logo placed on the water tower at the top of the hill was turned down. We continue seek competitive Lightnings, so if you have a competitive Lightning that you would be willing to loan for the event and have not been asked as yet let us know. At last count we were at 13 with 20 needed.

We are still in process of getting commitments for an International Jury. We need one more foreign Judge. At present we have commitments from four Judges, George Hock, a club member with a Judge rating and three International Judges, one from Milwaukee, one from Toronto and one from Guayquil, Ecuador. Hopefully by the time this is published we will have all five. We need to provide housing (Home or Hotel) for each of these Judges, along with meals and transportation. So, if anyone feels uncomfortable with housing a youth team and would like to offer housing to a Judge, let us know. Also, we will need a powerboat that is reasonably comfortable on the lake and has cover to get out of the weather, to be used for a Judges Boat during the event. Let us know if you know of one.

One committee head that needs to be filled in the near future is that of Housing. This will require locating

housing for the teams (up to 20 teams of 3), getting blocks of rooms at local hotels and arranging housing for the Judges. If you would like to get involved at the committee level let us know, it's not too soon to start on this.

Committee: John Atkins, Bob & Sterling Bush, Landy Atkinson, Lori Foster, Ed Bell, "add your name here".

Snipe Fleet News

by C. Courtsal, Fleet Captain

2001 continues to be a beautiful year for sailing. The Snipe Fleet has enjoyed it with sailing on Sundays and Wednesdays. The Summer Series ended on Labor Day with six boats competing throughout the summer. While I will save the final results for the Cups and Flags, I can tell you that the Fleet Champion changed this year.

The Wednesday Series had eight different skippers participating. Four of the skippers were new to Snipes and numerous novice crew were initiated in this series this year. While the "official" Wednesday Series racing ended on August 29, there is still plenty of time for recreational sailing and skills improvement. This will continue on an impromptu basis.

The Fall Series began September 9 with Norm Dahl earning three Aces. He will be tough to beat. We expect to sail through October 14.

While the Junior Series is still wide open, the Master's Series is still hotly contested. Currently, Ted Horvath's lead is narrowing as Norm Dahl and Phil Morse keep accumulating competitive finishes.

Norm Dahl's Briody Regatta report sums up this event quite well. He was kind enough to not mention that three different sailors fell overboard during the races (including yours truly) due to unexpected wind shifts that made the racing exciting. I should also mention that the Vaughns have fallen into the Bay twice this season while standing on their haulout when their winch malfunctioned.

Do you have any materials about the Snipe Fleet (including photos) from

previous years? Currently, the fleet has very little information from 1945 - 1978 and would like to expand its archives. Any materials given to Charlie Courtsal would be greatly appreciated.

The Fleet is very interested in enlarging its membership. Please tell us how we can get you interested in sailing a Snipe!

See you on the water!

- Charlie Courtsal

Moonlight Cruise – August 4th

Two boats and guests went out to enjoy the moonrise on this mild, clear, but windless evening. Tom and Beth Henderson hosted Marc Schieber and Sandra and Bob Weatherup. The Wartinger boat had Ray and Pat with sons Frank and Dan and guests John Boettcher and Norma Platt. The two boats motored out into the lake and bobbed around until sunset. We then waited for moonrise which happened exactly when and where Ray said it would. A beautiful evening to enjoy with friends.



Getting to Know You

by Lori Foster

This column will feature our "veteran" members since the Membership committee will cover 'getting to know you' information on new members.

This month we talk with trail blazers Ernie & Audrey Schmidt. They were the first members of the Cruising Fleet, before it was named such. This fleet was established in 1999 after the Club decided to open up membership to more than the 3 one-design fleets, thus providing options to those who owned other sailing boats.

In her own words, Audrey tells the tale: "We joined the club early September 1998. We had purchased our Catalina 25 and wanted to find a place near by that we could keep her. We were not thrilled with the impersonal feel of the marinas around town and were definitely not "up to" the Rochester Yacht Club.

We looked NYC up in the phone book and stopped by the club on a whim. Todd Schumacher let us know that there would be an open house in a week and to stop by then for the low down. We did and felt right at home. We knew we'd found our spot. We made every effort to crew on every type of racing boat we could and made friends in every fleet. It was about then we started hankering for a fleet of "our own". After a year of debate, the "Cruising Fleet" was voted in and the rest is history."

She and husband, Ernie (who is also this year's Harbormaster) are "practically attached at the hip" she says, and share a lot of the same interests. Some of their hobbies, besides sailing are running, reading

(mostly about sailing and places they'd like to go some day), cooking, competitive pistol shooting and sporting clays. They even work at the same place: CQC Dental Lab as Ceramic technicians. Ernie is in a more managerial than technical position now. He has been there 15 years and Audrey, 13 years.

They have two daughters. Danielle, 19 is in the Army and is stationed at the Pentagon, BUT was NOT there on 9/11 and all is well. Their other daughter, Michelle, 17, is in her senior year in high school and her second year of culinary school in Reno, NV with hopes of specializing in pastry.

NYC is grateful to all of the members of the Cruising Fleet (13 families!) for the enthusiasm and energy they bring to the Club. Thanks to Ernie and Audrey for blazing the trail.

NewportYC.org Web Site

If someone asks where we are located on the web, it is now much easier to respond. Our domain name is an obvious variant on the Club name - **NewportYC.org** is all you need, but **www.NewportYC.org** will work just as well.

Info for Next Newsletter

The next newsletter should be hitting the presses in the middle of ???????. If you are interested in helping put together a newsletter over the winter or helping out next year contact John Boettcher.

Thanks to all who contributed to this newsletter.

Briody Regatta Results

Retzhaupt Results

<i>Skipper</i>	District V	NY State	Briody	Total
Gram	5 1/2	5 1/4	3	8 1/4
Korkosz	16	10	14	40
Hock	40	19	48	107

Place	Skipper	Crew	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Total Points
1	Gram	Gram	1	1	1	1	3
2	Hains	LaPierre	2	2	2	2	8
3	Korkosz	Korkosz	3	3	5	3	14
4	Heywood	Hafner	5	4	3	5	17
5	Courtsal	Schmidt	8	5	6	4	23
6	Horvath	Horvath	4	6	8	6	24
7	Dahl	Horvath	6	9	7	9	31
8	Monteiro	McAuley	7	8	9	8	32
9	Morse	Morse	9	10	4	10	33
10	Perez	Lofts	11	7	10	7	35
11	Vaughn	Vaughn	10	11	11	11	43
12	Hock	Hock	12	12	12	12	48