
Birds & Worms News

Volume 6 Issue 4

October 2002



Briody Memorial Snipe Regatta – Newport YC – August 24-25, 2002

What's Up?

Sunday, Oct. 20th - last day of Club racing

Friday, Oct. 25th - General Membership Meeting (7:30) preceded by dinner to support McReynolds' entry in Ecuador competition.

Saturday, Oct. 26th - Fall Work Party (8:30)

Saturday, Nov. 9th - Cups and Flags Celebration (6:00 at NYC)

Since the last newsletter . . .

The second Open House on August 11th had moderate attendance. There were a number of guests expressing interest in the Club but at present we have no new applications. We lost a lot of members early in the year and have had no new ones take their place.

On the same subject, we will be losing Bob and Sterling Bush next year. Bob has been job hunting for a year or so and finally located employment in Eastern Massachusetts. We wish them well

and will sorely miss them and their energy. Last year Sterling received the Whittenburg trophy for her sailing classes and promotion of the Club in the community. This year Bob co-chaired the LYWC and was race chairman for the event while Sterling handled all the off-the-water activities along with a repeat of everything she did the previous year. Their departure will leave a big hole in the Club.

You can read about the second of the Moonlight Cruises sponsored by the Cruising Fleet elsewhere in this newsletter. Likewise, Norm Dahl has written up the Briody regatta hosted by the Snipe Fleet. The Club showed that it is pretty good at throwing a party (we certainly have had enough practice this season) by hosting the 50th Brown Jug regatta on Labor Day. See the article herein.

Against this background the Nominating Committee has been diligently working to assemble a list of candidates to lead the Club in the coming year. Their results appear in this newsletter.

We are now in the midst of the Fall season with the welcomed departure of a lot of powerboats from the Bay. Local regattas are mostly over and the number of boats on the line for Club

racing has increased. Even the Laser fleet has raised a quorum for the last few weekends. Still about a month of sailing to go. Make sure you don't let it slip by.

Make sure you note the General Membership meeting at the end of October. It's where we will elect new officers. There will be a dinner before the meeting to support Logan McReynolds and company traveling to Ecuador to sail in the Pacific Cup (see J. Atkins article below).

Grams Win Briody Memorial Snipe Regatta - N. Dahl



Horvath's Crossing Behind Leonard and McCue



Briody 2002 Competitors

We knew it would be a great regatta even before it started, just from the excitement of the sailors as they arrived at Newport Yacht Club on Friday evening. This year the Briody Memorial Regatta was held later than usual, on the weekend of August 24-25. Perhaps that contributed to the good turnout -- sixteen Snipes instead of the usual twelve. The wind on Irondequoit Bay was great.

Fritz and Jane Gram won the regatta again this year, but it wasn't easy. Their closest competitors each had one major mishap. John Korkosz and crew Adrienne were within reach as the last race began, but they took a ninth behind the Grams' fourth and finished second overall. Dirk and Peter Kneulman won two of the races and took a second in another, but they had unknowingly been OCS in the first race, so they ended up third overall. Chris and Don Hains started the regatta with a first and a second, but were victims of a collision at the start of the third race and could not finish it. They borrowed a boat for the last two races and finished sixth overall. Matt Heywood and Mark Hefner took fourth and Harri and Kirsten Palm, fifth. Norm Dahl and Kevin Haller were the top finishing locals at tenth place.

It rained intermittently Saturday morning and the meager wind threatened to die completely. The wind and our spirits picked up considerably after lunch and the race committee managed to get in three races in a 10-12 mph northwesterly. The Sunday wind was even better, a 12-14 mph

northerly for both races. Congratulations to PRO Bob Bush and the race committee (John Atkins, Dave Walsh, Pat Zacharias and Ray Wartinger) for a fine job.

Food and Drink Coordinator Rosemary Dahl and her helpers (Barb and Ted Horvath, Phil and Carol Morse, Eva Smith, Virginia Cumine, Joanne Vaughn and Pat Zacharias) also did a great job, with the help of Saturday supper catering by the Dinosaur Barbeque. Others who made significant contributions include: Fritz and Jane Gram, George Hock, Bill Vaughn, Todd Calvin, Lori Harmon, Dick Doherty, Ernie Schmidt, Charlie Courtsal and Kevin Haller. I am always amazed at how much work it takes to run a successful regatta and how willing people are to pitch in. A hearty thank-you to everyone who did.

The improvements to clubhouse and grounds -- especially Doherty Light -- made us proud to welcome our visitors. We even made use of the small flagpoles by the Snipe haulouts by raising the code flags for S-N-I-P-E. Of course, from the water they read E-P-I-N-S, but you can't have everything.

See end of newsletter for a table of the complete results.

Work Party Items

There are a host of regular jobs associated with the Fall work party that will involve effort of a small group for an hour or so. Below are some of the special things the Vice and Rear Commodore would like to get done.

Vice Commodore, Phil Morse has a couple work party items for someone who likes a challenge. (1) There needs to be a new downspout added to the gutter on the West side of the club. Will require some materials purchased, at least a 24' ladder and some knowledge of working with aluminum gutters & pop rivets. (2) The traps & drains immediately under the two kitchen sinks need repair & upgrade. Will need purchased material & some passing knowledge of PVC drain piping.

These jobs might be really good for someone (or two?) who can't make the work party and wants to take on one of these jobs ahead of time. Phil will

meet with anyone at the club to discuss jobs.

Rear Commodore Alan McReynolds is intending to take the deck off the porch to see what is involved in repairing the sagging floor. This will involve a small group of skilled people.

Cruising Fleet Update

- R. Wartinger (Fleet Captain)

We had another wonderful night of sailing at the second moonlight cruise on August 17th. A small band of intrepid sailors enjoyed a pleasant evening cruising under a clear sky and waxing moon. After a shaky start -- the skipper, yours truly, showed up sans battery, flashlight, and gas -- we finally got underway shortly before sunset. Once on the lake, we were treated to a steady off-shore breeze that kept the sails full for close to 2 hours. Thanks to all who participated and helped make this another cruise to remember. I only wish circumstances would have allowed more boats to join us. There's always next year!

Lightning Report

- J. Atkins (Fleet Captain)

It's that time again, as I am reminded that I need to write another article for the Birds and Worms. If I only had the score sheet in front of me to see who has been sailing. We are now into the Fall Series and if last weekend was any indication it should prove to be a good one. There were 8 Lightnings on the race course and, except for Marc, who was single handing it, all flew spinnakers and one had a reasonably new set of sails (I won't mention our Commodore's name, though). I have had a couple from Geneva sailing with me, who are very interested in buying a Lightning and finding a Club to join. So if you see some new faces, they might just be Carol and Marty. Stop by and introduce yourself. The Brown Jug saw 11 Lightnings participate, which just shows that the Fleet is still reasonably strong. District Regattas take their toll on our fleet racing. This is something that we need to address in the coming year and there are ideas under discussion. I will be turning the reins of the Fleet over this year as I

have taken on VP of Youth Worlds for the Lightning Class. My job is to find a site for the next Youth World Championship, which will be held somewhere in South America. Right now two countries have shown interest, so I'll be traveling this December.

Since our last Newsletter, the WJM's and NA's have been sailed. Dick Hallagan, with Al and Erin McReynolds as crew, finished 4th in the Masters. I crewed for Jim Carson (who was here for the Youth Worlds) and we finished 5th, 2 points behind Dick. Logan McReynolds sailed the Juniors with Elisa and Joe. Dick also sailed the NA's and finished 33rd in the Championship Fleet.

Some exciting news is that Logan and his Junior NA crew of Elisa Pope-Collin (Sodus) and Joe Raite (Onondaga) will be traveling to Salinas, Ecuador in December to participate in the Pacific Cup. This is an international regatta sailed in Lightnings, of course. The Ecuador team invited Logan when they were here for the Youth Worlds. Right now they are the only team representing the USA. Along with the team, Al and Cindy, Joe's parents and I will be traveling to Salinas. Plane reservations have been made and we are all looking forward to the trip. The Salinas Yacht Club (check the book at the Club) will be covering all costs associated with this regatta for the team (the adults pay their own way), except for the travel expenses. We have the board's permission to use the dinner before the general membership meeting as a fundraiser to help Logan and his crew with their travel costs. So put the meeting night on your calendar and plan to join us. We hope all three will be present for the Club members to meet.

Fall sailing is always the best, no powerboats, warm water and hopefully kind winds. See you on the race course.

Laser Fleet News

- Jim Cuddihee

The Laser guys and girls finally figured out it was summer sometime in August. Dean Clayton, Bob Shanebrook, Craig Flynn and niece, Bob and Sterling Bush, Rick Gammons, John Boettcher and Jim Cuddihee have actually sailed their boats. A few prospects have stopped by to check us out, and several members have sailed our loaners. Andy Smith and Dave Walsh kept the faith by taking their boats to their cottages (lucky them).

The big news is that we have been missing the boat by ignoring Thursday nights. Starting with June, there have only been three nights where there was no wind. Last week Bob Shanebrook and I were out until after sunset. The great fun is that most nights we can choose between going to the lake and staying on the bay.

Dean Clayton, Bob Bush, Jim Cuddihee and honorary fleet member Ray Wartinger (Sunfish) made it out for the Brown Jug. We all relearned the Yogi maxim, "It ain't over till it's over!" We were all happy to have sailed in the 50th Brown Jug, but mostly, we enjoyed the food. Thanks everybody!!!

So far this Fall we have managed a quorum every Sunday. Part of the deal is that we don't keep any records, another part is that we throw in some off-the-wall rules to keep things even and fun. Having the lead boat do a 720 at the windward mark keeps us closer together and adds excitement at the leeward mark. Also, having to get up on the line and hold position for a "sooner or later" start really tests our boat handling skills. Thank you Race Committee for putting up with us!

50th Brown Jug Race

- J. Boettcher

Forty-seven boats participated in the 50th anniversary of this Labor Day classic with the entries coming from Newport and the Rochester Canoe Club. NYC had the privilege of hosting the event. The start-finish line was just offshore of the Club providing the "picnic bench fleet" good views of the twice around race on a North-South, windward-leeward course.

Following the racing, refreshments and an award ceremony took place at the Club with an estimated 80 people attending.

Separate starts were held for the six classes of boats represented. The windward and most of the downwind leg of the first circuit was held in a light southerly wind. The wind changed by 180 degrees when the thermal appeared. The moderate north wind got very light around the south mark resulting in a big pile up of boats which seemed to take an eternity to straighten out. The wind freshened for the next (last) leg.



Crowd scene from 50th Brown Jug

Following racing, the participants gathered at the Club whose exterior had been decorated by Eva Smith and Marcia Mephram. Beer & soda was provided and NYC members brought plenty of hors d'oeuvres to munch on. A special sheet cake had been ordered by Eva Smith. Leo Balandis, RCC historian, shared some of the history of the Brown Jug race on this 50th anniversary. Rear Commodore Alan McReynolds was master of ceremonies and presented most of the awards which went deeper into the fleets than the usual first through third. Special awards for the Lightning Fleet had been made by Dick Doherty with the help of Donna Sereno. These were presented by former Lightning sailor and NYC honorary member Dr. John McIntosh who had recently celebrated his 100th birthday. Also attending was honorary member Richard Claver. Special awards had also been fabricated by Jim Cuddihee for the Lasers. Overall winner of the event was the Thompkins' Thistle with a Lightning skippered by Pope taking second.



Donna Sereno presents special award to Dr. McIntosh



Second place overall Dan Pope

Fleet, number of fleet boats, fleet winner and overall finish details follow:

Thistle (14) Thompkins (1), Lightning (11) Pope (2), JY15 (3) Sesselberg (16), Snipe (4) Dahl (17), Laser (3) Cuddihee (22), Sunfish (12) Fortner (27).

Candidates for the Board of Directors for Next Year

Below is the slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee (Eva Smith, Landy Atkinson, Ed Bell, Ted Horvath and Dave Walsh). Voting will take place at the next general membership meeting October 25th. Thanks to the Committee for their hard work and the



Overall winners Jim and Pat Tompkins (RCC)

candidates for volunteering to stand for election and serve the Club.

Commodore: James Cuddihee
 Vice Commodore: Virginia Cumine
 Rear Commodore: Chris Schwenker
 Secretary: Cindy McReynolds
 Treasurer: Jillian Stokes
 Assistant Treasurer: Paul Riordan
 Harbormaster: Don Taylor
 Race Committee Chairman: Bill Vaughn

Director at Large: Howard Stickney
 Director at Large: Ed Bell

Finance Committee: Eva Smith, Ed Bell, Landy Atkinson.

Newsletter Contributions

This is the last newsletter planned for this year. Next issue will be in spring of 2003. This could be changed if there is content and interest. Since the newsletter is distributed electronically, mailing expense is no longer an issue. Send articles and comments to J. Boettcher (platt@eznet.net).

Thanks to Landy Atkinson for the tasteful final layout of the newsletters, converting them to Acrobat format and electronic distribution.

Results of Briody Memorial Snipe Regatta

Place	Skipper	Crew	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Total
1	Gram	Gram	4	1	3	1	4	12.5
2	Korkosz	Hefner	3	3	2	3	9	20
3	Kneulman	Kneulman	OCS	4	1	2	1	25.5
4	Heywood	Hefner	2	7	5	4	8	26
5	Palm	Palm	5	8	7	5	3	28
6	Hains	Hains	1	2	DNF	7	5	29.75
7	Monteiro	McAuley	OCS	5	6	6	2	37
8	Findlater	Folgarolas	8	11	8	8	10	45
9	Disch	Disch	7	9	10	14	7	47
10	Dahl	Haller	OCS	12	4	9	6	49
11	Horvath	Horvath	12	6	12	10	14	54
12	Disch	Eischen	11	10	13	12	12	58
13	Vaughn	Kurvink	10	13	9	13	13	58
14	Morse	Morse	6	14	14	11	DNF	60
15	Leonard	McCue	9	15	11	15	11	61
16	Calvin	Cumine	13	16	DNS	DNS	DNS	77