

Birds & Worms News

the newsletter of the Newport Yacht Club, Rochester NY



What's Up?

- 7/27 – Start of 70th Anniversary Celebration – TNS Handicap racing
- 7/28 – July General Membership Mtg. (7:30) preceded by the Cruising Fleet dinner (6:00)
- 7/29 – 70th Anniversary Racing continues followed by Pot Luck Dinner.
- 8/5,6 – Briody Snipe Regatta
- 8/24 – TNS racing ends
- 9/4 – Brown Jug Regatta

Anniversary Weekend (Thursday, July 27th– Saturday, July 29th) – Don Curran

This year marks the 70th anniversary of Newport Yacht Club. In 1936 Oscar Kuolt and several others organized the club with a clearly stated purpose: "To promote the sport of small boat sailing and small boat racing." Seventy years later NYC is still living up to its original mission. With that mission in mind, the last weekend of July has been chosen to celebrate 70 years of sailing on Irondequoit Bay. The weekend begins on Thursday night, July 27th, with Thursday Night Sailing, continues Friday evening with our summer General Membership Meeting, and ends Saturday with our normal day of

racing, followed by a potluck picnic and the crowning of our 70th Anniversary Handicap Regatta Champion. All boats are invited to compete in races spanning Thursday evening and Saturday afternoon with at least four handicap races and hopefully more, weather permitting. Classes of three or more will get their own start with the champion determined by the Portsmouth Handicap Yardstick. Who will earn the distinction of winning the 70th Anniversary Regatta? Set aside the dates of July 27-29 and join us for fun, food, and festivity. Bring a dish to pass; hamburgers and hots, \$1 each; Vince's special hot sauce, free.

NYC Commemorative Notecards – Norma Platt

The initial orders of notecards that feature the image of "Birds & Worms" hotel in 1890 have been delivered to discerning shoppers. Check out the example posted at the Club! The cards are intended to celebrate our long and illustrious history. Contact me by phone (671-9639) or email (normap@bluefrog.com) if you want cards.

Officer and Member History – John Boettcher

Here is something for the history buffs in the Club. Seems appropriate with the upcoming 70th anniversary. Norma and I completed a spreadsheet listing the officers of NYC through the years. We got the info off the plaques on the walls of the clubhouse. In addition, from assistant treasurer's records, I have a spreadsheet listing members of NYC going back to 1954 with both join and resign dates. I have sorted these data in several ways. Eventually, these will be put in the member section of the website but for now you can get copies by getting in touch with me.

Since The Last Newsletter

Certainly had enough work parties this Spring. First there was a special one for the porch to enclose the underside of the roof. The beadboard looks great. Still some work to do with the trim and then paint, maybe. This was followed by the Spring Work Party (see Steve Leach's summary) and then two special dock work parties (see Howard Stickney's summary). On the bright side, it saved me the trouble of making plans for Saturdays for a month. I would just go to the Club with as many tools as my car could hold. I and a few others

were wondering whether we should rename the Club to something like the Newport Construction and Sailing Club.

Installing Beadboard Under Porch Roof (JB)



Along the way we had a General Membership Meeting (4/28) preceded by a wonderful Lasagna dinner put on by the Snipe Fleet. The Launch Breakfast on 5/7 had moderate attendance. While all this was going on Cindy McReynolds was getting the troops organized for a season of Thursday Night Sailing (TNS) which kicked off on 6/1 and has been going strong since. Both Lasers and Lightnings had regattas with summaries by Jim Cuddihee and Lori Foster in this newsletter.

On the horizon is our Club's 70th anniversary at the end of July. Read about the festivities planned in the article by Don Curran. Sounds like lots of fun. Don also came up with the attractive logo for the event that appears on this newsletter's front page. Related to our anniversary celebration, see the articles about commemorative notecards and officer/member data. Looking ahead a little further is the Briody Snipe regatta and the Brown Jug.

Spring Work Party – Steve Leach, Rear Commodore

The Spring work party was a great success. Most all of the required annual Spring tasks got done for the start of the season. There was a good turnout and the weather was beautiful. The NYC building got a bit of a face lift with the new gray stain on the exterior. The grounds were cleaned up and lots of raking was done since at the time of the Fall work party very few leaves had fallen. The Laser docks were recarpeted and launched. The flower beds and planters got cleaned out and new flowers were planted. The flowers look great this year! Thanks to all who participated.

Getting Laser Ramps Ready to Launch (AS)



Lightning Dock (West Basin Dock) Improvements – Howard Stickney

There was a near-disastrous accident at the Spring Work Party. I stepped through a deck board of a finger pier on the Lightning docks. I was OK except for bumps and bruises, but I could have been seriously injured. Close inspection revealed it was impossible to tell a good deck board from a bad one. We decided to redeck all finger piers. Funding for the project came from the Lightning Dock Fund - over \$2000! This fund comes from the \$70 one-time dock fee that dock users pay. The club budget will not be affected. This is your \$70 one-time dock fee at work

Speed was of the essence! Work needed to be completed before members launched their boats. The project would require a lot of people with hammers and knee pads. Over 1000 16 inch deck boards needed to be cut, drilled, routed and fastened in place on 38 docks. Old finger piers needed to be removed as well as all decking. All waste needed to be cut and smashed to fit in the dumpster. It all came together – lumber, nails, screws, chop saws, drills, router, power nailers, chain, sledges, wheelbarrows, row boat, work boat and **people** at two work parties. A great big **thank you** to all who attended and provided the special tools necessary to keep the project proceeding smoothly and efficiently.

Dock Work Party I (Saturday 5/13) Over 30 attended and the bulk of the work was done on this day. Most stayed all day and worked hard until it all ended with lightning, thunder, wind, rain and hail. We were treated to a super lunch by Sue Leach and Denise Bluett and coffee and donuts by Lynn Bluett.

Dock Work Party II (Saturday 5/20) About 15 attended, some for the 2nd Saturday in a row. Two more finger piers were installed and the decking completed on these and several left from the previous week. Steve Leach took care of coffee and donuts for this one and Eva Smith treated us to a great lunch (even Oreo cookies!).

Replacing Decking on Finger Piers (AS)



Here are a couple of items of related to the above.
2006 Lightning Dock/Slip Assignment Chart: This chart shows the member's name, boat type or hull number. It is updated as needed and posted on two bulletin boards in the Club. The chart is useful in notifying a member of a problem with mooring lines, haulout etc. that they might not be aware of.

Lightning Dock Rules Reminder: Rule H. states "outboard finger piers are to be maintained in good condition by each boatowner". This means periodically checking the pole, hooks, chain, and hardware that connects the finger pier to the main dock.

Lightning Dock Gates: When unlocking the Lightning dock gates remember to immediately spin the tumbler so that the combination will remain secret.

2006 Laser Regatta – J. Cuddihee, Fleet Captain

This year's Laser Regatta featured wind, waves, seventeen sailors, a dedicated Race Committee, impressive sailing, and good food. Twenty to 30 knot NW winds on the lake with 4 to 6 foot waves provided a challenge to both the sailors and the RC. Having given the lake a real "old college try," the regatta was moved to the south end of the Bay, where we escaped the waves, and may have escaped some of the shiftiness we experienced north of the bridge. 4 races, featuring a mix of awesome boat handling, advanced swimming, and

just plain stubbornness rounded out an impressive day of sailing. A great lunch finished out the day. The first and only eight sailors to finish all four races were: 1. Stuart Grulke (Fairhaven), 2. Charley Williamson (Ithaca), 3. Mark Sertl (Newport), 4. Kevin Doyle (Youngstown), 5. Marc Fischer (RYC), 6. Liam Faudree (Fairhaven), 7 Rich Wait (ISO), 8. Bobby Bryant (RYC).

Rounding Weather Mark in Laser Regatta (AS)



The Race Committee was: Al McReynolds (PRO), Steve Leach (Scorer), Andy Smith (Safety Boat), Dean Clayton (Safety Boat) and three John's from the regular committee. The Shore Committee included Carol Cuddihee, Sue Leach, Norma Platt, Eva Smith and Ed Bell (Parking).

Snipe Fleet News – Ted Horvath, Fleet Captain

The Snipe Fleet coordinated our traditional Lasagna dinner before the April General Membership meeting. We enjoyed the good turnout.

We had 9 races in our Spring Series, and Charlie Courtsal won it in tight competition. Norm Dahl took second and Ted Horvath third.

Our Summer/Official Series started on June 17 in a gusty west wind, and we had plenty of excitement with 2 collisions and a tipover. The Snipe Fleet began our Summer (official) Series yesterday with eventful racing in our classic gusty, shifty west winds. NOAA reported winds at 20 mph with gusts up to 24 mph. Norm Dahl won the first race and then decided he was playing Rugby by hitting me at the start and then Phil Morse at the windward mark. Norm then retired with a nice round hole in his bow. Gutsy Tom Lee sailed single handed and was hanging in there until the gusts in the second race finally got him and he flipped. Getting it back up

was an adventure. Thanks to Eric's son who dove in to help. Isn't this fun!

Guelph Snipe Regatta – Norm Dahl

Virginia and I sailed at Guelph with our ground crew Rosemary. We got one last place, one DNF, and DNS for the rest of the regatta -- finished second to last overall. The last place boat had capsized before the starts of the two races she attempted. Nine boats came, but only four were still sailing by day-end Saturday, because the gusts were well into the twenties. Matt would have loved it. Sunday it was even windier, so the RC called it a regatta. Good food. Fun music by Harri and Molly and Jim Carroll! Good stories. Two hours to get through U.S. Customs.

Our DNF story: The skipper has to make the pole and the boom parallel before the crew retracts the pole for a gybe. If you don't do this, the pole can end up on the same side as the boom when the gybe is "complete". Nothing good happens after that. Considering the conditions, we just dropped out and straightened out the rigging on shore. Virginia was game to go out again and claimed the Morse's would have sailed, but I kept us ashore. Felt my judgment vindicated when Dirk (former world champion in the Etchells class) did a death roll and capsized.

Lightning Fleet Report – Lori Foster, Fleet Captain

OK. What's white, white, blue, green, and yellow? If you guessed new Lightnings on the line at NYC then you are correct! Dan Pope's white Lightning was the last one out of the old Allen Boat shop last fall. Phil Lange's white Lightning was the first one out of the new Allen Boat shop this spring. Jim MacIntosh's blue "Blue Jacket" Lightning made it out of the mold in time for the Sodus 'freeze-your-fingers-off-standing-at-the-dock' regatta at the end of May. And green? The green streak a.k.a. "Irish" Lightning belongs to Dick Doherty. Since it has had its 29 year tune-up, it is in front of the fleet every time. Yellow, well that is the Club-owned Lightning that John Atkins did a bunch of repairs on. If you would like to take it for a spin, see John before June 29th as he is gone for much of the summer.

OK. What's 16, 20, 24...56? No, it's not a secret DaVinci code. It's the ages of some of our new lightning crew. If you see a new face, please introduce yourself and welcome them to our Club. Remember they are potential future members. If you don't own a boat you can still be a social member with voting privileges and a key to the Clubhouse!

Special salutes: to those who braved the radical spring conditions. We have had an average of 8 boats on the line; to Al and Cindy McReynolds for heading up TNS, which, by-the-way, is off to a great start. PRO has been excellent and the RC is geared up; to Howard Stickney who headed up the dock work party on a nice Sat. in May; to the June lawnmowers: John Atkins, Phil Lange, Don Curran and Andy Smith; to all those who helped with our regatta.

Lightning Regatta Report – Lori Foster, Fleet Captain

The Lightning Fleet had planned a 2 day regatta on June 24 and 25 with standard racing on Saturday and team racing on Sunday but the limited boats available forced last minute cancellation of Sunday. Saturday Lake racing was in the words of Dick Hallagan "some of the finest I have ever had on Lake Ontario". PRO Jim Cuddihee assisted by Andy Smith, Phil Lange and Brian Dart managed to get in 6 races providing a throwout for the competitors. Winds were 10-12 from the NE, waves 1-2 foot, bright sun, and upper 70's for temperature. Races were one lap, windward-leeward with a downwind finish and averaged less than 30 minutes each. Following socializing and dinner, regatta chair Phil Lange presented trophies. Dick Hallagan won the regatta 5 bullets. The next four places were C. Murphy (16), J. Jones (16), L. Atkinson (17) and L. McReynolds (20).

Li Regatta Winner Hallagan and Crew (SA+LA)



Cruising Fleet Activities – Ed Bell, Fleet Captain

The Cruising Fleet held a successful sail clinic, conducted by Peter Allen, on Sunday, April 23rd. After a brief introduction, members unfolded their sails on the front porch. Peter, using them as examples, reviewed cut, condition, shape, where to look for wear, stretching, optional features and adjustments under sail

