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The Blinker

of the North Shore Yacht Club

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From the Editor

Greetings and best wishes for 2011. It is with some trepidation and great humility that I add my name to the long list of esteemed editors of our beloved Blinker. Nobody could hope to equal Elyse's effectiveness, Harold's captivating columns, or most recently Bob's bold brilliance. However, as the 'Nautical Mom', I will apply my nurturing nature to this new baby, and with your help we'll continue their tradition.

B*L*I*N*K*S

- As of this writing, our former Commodore, Carol Roberts is in the hospital. We all wish her a speedy recovery, keeping her and Yehuda in our thoughts and prayers.
- Law Enforcement Traffic Cameras were installed at the intersection of Northern Boulevard and Shelter Rock Road. Remember, it's not "red-right-return" until you're on the boat. In the car, "if it's yellow then go slow, so at red you stop dead!"
- Mainsail Insignia Guide is easy to download and fun to reference when trying to identify other sailboats. Check it out at <http://www.msogphotosite.com/MSOG/pdfpage/mslogo.pdf>

Dates To Be Remembered

- **Safety on Board - Handling medical emergencies - at the Club 1930 hrs January 27, 2011**
- **Officers Cocktail - Mid-February TBD**
- **St. Patrick's Day Fete - Mid-March TBD**

★ ★ ★ ★ From the Commodore

It's hard to believe that another year has ended and a new one has begun. At this time of year it is good to look back and remember the great times we've shared as a Club and the adventures we encountered on the water. Our annual Dinner Dance was a huge success with great food and great company. The usual cast of characters was out on the dance floor and having a ball. It was a great event to end the Season. Even more fantastic for the end-of-season: Our club is in the best financial shape it has ever been in and our Club House continues to improve! Together we can look forward to another great year at NSYC, but not without your help.

In keeping with the Club By-Laws, standing committees disband at the end of each fiscal year and subsequently must reform. We are looking for members to volunteer for the Membership, House, and Entertainment Committees for the coming year. New faces and old friends are equally encouraged to join. We are also in dire need for volunteers for Race Committee. NSYC has a long racing tradition, and we always need volunteers for this important club activity. A list of Committees and their chairs will be published soon so stay tuned. Another opportunity to contribute is by writing interesting articles for the "Blinker", please contact Shayna Blum-Hodes with your ideas and photos. Remember ours is a volunteer club and our continued success and enjoyment of it depends on all of us working together.

Finally, although the winter winds are howling around our boats, hopefully safely tucked away, this does not mean the Club goes into "hibernation" as well. We have a full slate of activities planned for the "off" season which I hope you will join in. After the enjoyable New Years Day Party (special kudos to Bob and Nancy Kovatch for not only putting on a great event, but fighting snow drifts and transportation challenges to get to the Club to sponsor it!), we have the Officers Cocktail Party and St. Patrick's Day Party to look forward to, as well as continuing educational seminars. We are also talking about a possible land cruise to Mystic Seaport, or a possible NSYC Ski Trip (both TBD). Please check your e-mail for dates and times. So swap your boat shoes for snow shoes and come to the Club this winter.

Rosemary and I wish you all a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year,

.....Commodore Mario (Butch) Rufino





NSYC clubhouse in the snow



*pictures by
...Ken Magida*





Cruising Roundtable - December 16, 2010

The evening started out inauspiciously as our effort to use the spiffy new Club flat screen TV went the way of many technical innovations – we had the wrong cable and not enough time to get the right one in place! However, our presenters – Ken Magida, Shayna Blum-Hodes and Ron Gold did a super job of telling us about their cruises without audio visual aids.

Ken described a trip he and Arlene Kase took for 28 days to Cape Cod and back. He focused on issues of provisioning, how they decided on their preference for dockage and moorings and their criteria for selecting their itinerary. In the end, next year they have agreed to spend more time on their trip and with longer stretches in each spot. When asked what his favorite place was, Ken quickly responded that it was when he was on the boat. Not bad! How many of us can boast of 28 days in their favorite spot?

Shayna focused on an oft-overlooked cruising destination, New Bedford. She noted the ease of entry into the hurricane-barrier protected harbor, the availability of inexpensive moorings, and the easy access to the National Park and other historic sites. She stressed that those who regularly cruise Buzzard's Bay consider a visit there for some excitement, as an alternative to the more tranquil sites.

The 25 members and guests in attendance shared their knowledge of additional cruising destinations in and around the locations discussed. Several in the audience mentioned that the northern part of the Narragansett Bay is a particularly appealing place for cruising with good moorings and services. Other great spots were Martha's Vineyard, Cuttyhunk and Stonington. As usual, the contributions from the audience made the evening particularly enriching.

Ron Gold then began a discussion about navigation and the use of radar in fog, and how he and others deal with difficult weather conditions. Ron advised all present to use their radar when it was not necessary to learn the system and how objects appear on the screen under fair conditions. Practice makes perfect! Where have we heard that one before? Also, make sure you are ready to use audible signals like bells and air horns in fog. Waterproof charts are also a good idea, so they can be handy at the wheel without getting ruined.

There are several plans for events in the coming months. In January we will begin the first of a series of discussions about safety on board when there is a medical emergency. We are working on the curriculum and hope to put the program in place for the evening of January 27th.

Alan Bernstein, Education Committee Chair





New Year's Party

Our Club places a high value on tradition. With 140 years of it, that's no surprise. The annual Club New Year's party made a delightful entry into that thick record of traditions.

Hosted by Bob and Nancy Kovacs, the affair combined cuisine, conversation and camaraderie. Nancy oversaw the menu, which provided a tasteful spread to appeal to all. The food, following the tradition of member-prepared dishes that was begun in 1884, would have gained the approval of Madame Parloa, the renowned nineteenth century chef who oversaw our first such dinner.

With Commodore Rufino serving as Official Greeter, many members took the opportunity to wish him well in his new post. The party was certainly a promising start to his tenure.

The attendees included the usual suspects and many not so usual. For the diversity-minded the crowd ranged from two-year-old Cecile Kulla, who charmed everyone, to the oldest grandparent whose name for the moment escapes me. Hmmm.

The New Year is well begun!

...Reported By Charles Murphy





NSYC Dinner Dance

The fabulous event was held at the elegant Swan Club on a busy Saturday night, for a change. Featuring an open and well stocked bar accompanied by tasty hors d'oeuvres, we all had ample time to enjoy mingling. After a delicious meal, there was the presentation of sailing and service awards. Highlights this year included a moving acceptance by Carol and Yehuda for their awards. Throughout the night there was much spirited dancing, which some say continued at other Swan Club events hosted that night!

Thank you Carol Roberts and all of our members who made this a fun evening to remember.





Dinner Dance pictures continued...

see the entire Picture Gallery of our Dinner Dance at:
<http://www.NSYC.net/Gallery/DinnerDance10>



*pictures by
... Marvin Covitz*

AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE NSYC 2010 DINNER DANCE

Outstanding Service Former Commodore – Yehuda Rosenstock

Matthews Trophy for Outstanding Service – Carol Roberts

2010 Club Races

Borden Cup

1. Sundance – Joel Ziev
2. Vision – Marc Epstein
3. Sunshine – Richard Raskin

Midsummer Club Race

Vision – Marc Epstein

NSYC Day Race Division I

1. Whirlwind – William Purdy (not NSYC)
2. Courageous – Gary & Karen Panariello
3. Eagle – Ernie Bivona (not NSYC)

NSYC Day Race Division II

Alviento – Anthony Sklarew (not NSYC)

NSYC Day Race Division III

Speedway Boogie – Chris Brady (not NSYC)

Smith Cup

1. Vision – Marc Epstein
2. Engarde – Charles Cannam
3. Liquid Courage – Daniel Herron

Snyder Cup

Vision – Marc Epstein

Spring Tune-up Race

Vision – Marc Epstein

Moonlight Regatta Division I

1. Letting Go – Not NSYC
2. Engarde – Charles Cannam

Moonlight Regatta Division II

1. Vision – Marc Epstein
2. Meander – Toby & Marion Gropen
3. Alviento – Not NSYC

DLBF for Indecision – Ron Gold

MacCartney Trophy – Best overall performance in club series racing 2010

Vision – Marc Epstein

Best performance in club 2-handed races 2010

Vision – Marc Epstein

Reiman Trophy – Best performance in the NSYC Open Regatta

Courageous – Karen & Gary Panariello





NSYC SKI TRIP—'Snow Cruise'

January 8, 2011

Twelve hearty members of our club ventured to Manchester Vermont the weekend of January 7 to 9, 2011 for the Second Annual North Shore Yacht Club Ski Trip and Palafox Honeymoon. We were blessed with continuous snow, generally good weather (after the snowy trip suffered by those who came up on Friday) good skiing, hot tubbing, good times and great friends. Participants included Bill and MaryLu Palafox, Butch Rufino and Rosie Furno, Paul Meilink, Frank Gallo and his son Christian, Alan Bernstein, Joe and Susan Stigliano and Arlene Kase and Ken Magida.

The early arrivals skied Friday and then retired to the hot tub. We started the evening festivities with a cocktail hour in the room followed by dinner at Sirloin Saloon. Saturday we skied and again worked off the aches and pains in the hot tub. Then we had dinner at Lainey's. This year we either took too long to eat or have aged, but none of us made it to after dinner music. Sunday we again headed out to ski but this time it was much colder. Fortunately, we all made it home safely and a good time was had by all.

The plan is to do it again next year so keep the weekend following New Year's open. We have a free entre and 4 desserts waiting for us at Laney's Restaurant so we will certainly return there.

... by Ken Magida

