



January 2014

The Blinker

of the North Shore Yacht Club

Web site: www.nsyc.net

Tel: (516) 883-9823

73 Orchard Beach Blvd. Port Washington N.Y. 11050

Editors: Bill Palafox wpalafox@aol.com
Marian Weissman sneesmail@gmail.com

Publisher: Bob Ebenau rge.com@att.net

From the Publisher and Editors

At the beginning of the New Year it's appropriate to think of Evolution, of progressive change—a way of getting from there-to here, and then into the planned but never fully determined future. At NSYC we can see these changes in our membership as we welcome new Active Members and Social Associates, a recent addition to the roster of our membership body, reflecting their varied interests and backgrounds, but united in our love of sailing and the sailing community.

The Blinker also has evolved, from a monthly, mailed two-sided newsletter with limited space, into a fuller pictorial presentation of our club's events, meetings, plans, and personal and community accomplishments. Think of the on-line Blinker as part of a network of NSYC communications that also includes frequent e-mail notices of forthcoming events. And welcome the addition of our new Facebook page for NSYC members that increases the opportunity to interactively communicate with our club and each other.

This issue of the Blinker summarizes the 'state of the NSYC union' as described by our officers and committee chairs at our annual fall membership meeting (*which, by the way is good.*) Our cruising committee has a new member with plans for enlivening our cruising experiences, and whose short biography is the first of a series of articles about our members sailing experiences. We picture our work parties and their accomplishments, celebrate our annual Dinner Dance, present recommendations from our club steward, highlight forthcoming events, provide pointers for getting 'around' NSYC, and, of course, look back over 100 years ago at the early days and experiences of our storied club.

This New Year of 2014 promises a host of rewarding sailing and social occasions, and the Blinker will report on them all, but with one proviso: it's up to you, our NSYC members, to keep the Blinker editors and publisher informed. After all, reporting is only as good as good as the reporter, and interactivity depends on you, our members, to interact.

Let's be sure that 'Looking Back' 100 years from now has something to honor and look back to.

*Bob Ebenau, Publisher
Bill Palafox, Editor in Chief
Marian Weissman, Editor*

★ ★ ★ ★ From the Commodore

"A Home for your boat." Just think...It can cost more to winterize your boat than to spend a delightful summer at NSYC! In addition, your winter storage yard does not provide non-stop launch service, access to a spacious and comfortable clubhouse, a hot shower and many friendly sailors.

Reminder... take a break from a ski vacation and come to our midwinter Officers' Cocktail Party, Sunday, February 9th, 1500 hours as guests of the NSYC Trustees and Officers

Our Club is in great shape, nicely bedded-down for the winter, ready for 2014 with our officers, trustees and most of our committee chairs in place. We're staying on top of facility needs and extremely proud of our new, completed, good-looking and functional lower deck and thank many members for their contributions there. After 18 years of loyal service, we unexpectedly retired our hot water heater and a new one is in its place. Thanks to Captain Vic, our flagpole has been stabilized and for helping with the new hot water heater. While we ready for next spring, Captain Vic is getting our moorings prepared for the 2014 season...social and sailing all in one. Many thanks to Bob and Nancy Kovach and their eager volunteers for sponsoring a very enjoyable New Years' Day Party...we're off on the right foot!

Ultimately, it's people make NSYC a success. Please join me in congratulating Bill Fish and Richard Raskin for receiving the 2013 Commodore's Award for their exemplary service to NSYC in so many ways in the form of planning, execution, leadership and the promotion of camaraderie.

We're proud of our growing reputation as having a friendlier atmosphere; some transient guests to Manhasset Bay prefer the NSYC transient moorings, superb launch service, hot showers and our friendly reception instead of just picking up a "free" town mooring and a dinghy to the town dock. We're just right for sailing to and from Long Island Sound and elsewhere. To our "out of club" readers, remember we have room for a few more sailboats. Please contact our membership chair, Mary Lu Dempsey (mludempsey@msn.com)

Please note the Facebook article in this issue's Blinker and thank fellow NSYC member and true member of the boating community, Berni Koch, for taking this on.

Again, please don't forget the Officers' Cocktail Party on Sunday, February 9th, 3:00PM. This event is, "on-the-house" and the right fit for this time of the year. If you have a fellow sailor, or budding sailor colleague or friend, please extend an invitation too. For this, please RSVP htwoo@optonline.net

*Thank you,
Paul Robert Meilink
Commodore, NSYC*





Dates to Remember

- *Officers' Cocktail party:* Sun. Feb. 9, 1500 hrs
- *Sailing Safety seminar:* Sun. Feb. 23, 1430 hrs
- *St. Pat's party:* Sat. Mar. 15, 1800 hrs
- *Work Parties:* Sat. & Sun Mar, 29, 30, 0900 hrs
Sat & Sun Apr. 5, 6, 0900 hrs
- *Spring Membership meeting:* Apr, 12, 0900 hrs
- *Launch service begins:* Sat. Apr.19

B*L*I*N*K*S

NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS for 2014

- **Ed & Mary Causin, *White Hawk***
causin@earthlink.net
Great Neck, NY 11021
- **Ilhami (Bill) & Arzu Kovanlikaya, *MEDITERRANEA***
Ilk2002@med.cornell.edu
NY, NY
- **David & Elizabeth (Liz) Posner, *Rosi Peach***
dlungdoc@gmail.com
New Hyde Park, NY
- **Richard & Mary Ann Ronzoni, *WHIM***
Catboat3@yahoo.com
Port Washington, NY
- **Peder (Peter) & Eva Olofsson , *CHAT***
Peder.olofson@ki.se
Port Washington, NY

NEW SOCIAL ASSOCIATE

- **Andrea Watson**
agwatson@sailingpress.com
Port Washington, New York

Welcome Aboard!

NSYC Bridge Club

The second season of the “Wednesday Weekly Bridge Group” commenced on Wednesday Dec. 11, 2013 with the “plank owners”, Andy Weissman, Madeline Alkon, Frank LoPresti, Helene and David Goldsmith welcoming Guli and Maya Rafani, friends of and crew for Frank LoPresti. A memorable occasion occurred the following Wednesday, Dec. 18 when TWO tables were needed to accommodate the “newbies”-Marc and Barbara Epstein. The Sobels who had planned on joining, unfortunately did not make it that evening but anticipate joining this renowned group the next time they meet in January.

If this rate of exponential growth is continued, the bridge (card playing type people) may have to request from The Bridge (uniformed type people) that they provide an additional card table and possibly consider constructing an additional wing to the clubhouse to accommodate the crowds.

In the interim, if anybody wants to play/learn the game of bridge, email Frank LoPresti - FL2@nyu.edu, or Dave Goldsmith – capndave@optonline.net. The group meets at NSYC on Wednesday evenings at 1930 hours. Come join the fun.

--Dave Goldsmith



NSYC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 19, 2013
(continued on next page)



Members happily helping themselves to bagels and muffins before the membership meeting starts. As always this is a time for socializing and preparing for the long winter without sailing.



Members settle down for the meeting, reading reports while waiting for the meeting to begin.



Bridge prepares to open meeting. Commodore Paul Meilink calls meeting to order asks and receives acceptance of last meeting minutes.



The Commodore thanks Bob Dun and Bill Fish for their service to the club as they stand down from their current positions. He also mentioned the loss of Ron Fink and thanks Linda Kulla and Mary Lu Dempsey for the gathering they arranged to honor Ron.



Vice Commodore Lloyd Herman reports he will be working this winter on a log or "Time and Action" calendar to assist the Bridge with duties, something that will be very helpful to future Bridges.



Secretary Linda Kulla had no report.

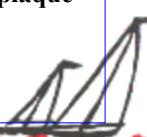


Treasurer Ken Magida explains we have a reduced cash balance due to capital expenses and reduced membership this year. However, he also points out that the physical plant is in very good shape and doesn't see any major expenses for next year. He thanks Marian Girardin, our bookkeeper, for all her help with finances and Marian reminds the membership to fill in their work hours in the notebook kept in the kitchen.



The Commodore recognizes the extraordinary service of Captain Vic to the NSYC this past season, presenting him with a plaque and certificate. It had been a difficult year, recovering from Hurricane Sandy and the construction of the new deck.

With his thanks, Captain Vic then goes off fishing!





NSYC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

MEETING

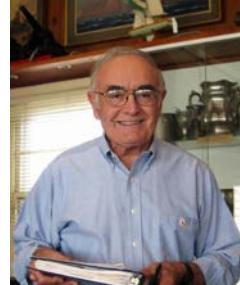
October 19, 2013

(continued on next page)

Page 4



Neil Dorman, Audit Committee Chair, reports there are no funds missing, investments are up and there will be a \$20,000 deficit this year. He also thanks Marian for all her hard work and resigns as Committee Chair. Someone needs to take his place.



Bill Palafox, Marketing Committee Chair, thanks the members of his committee and requests help in recruiting new members. We have 3 Social Associates this year and are working to spread the word, quoting a tag line by Richard Ronzoni "Catch the Fever, Share Passion". He also reminds the members to make sure their email addresses are current with the membership committee and the office.



James Thompson, Nominating Committee Chair, presents the slate of officers:

Commodore: - Paul Meilink
Vice Commodore - Lloyd Herman
Rear Commodore - Ken Magida
Fleet Captain - Linda Kulla
Secretary - Mary Causin
Treasurer -Jeffrey Koch
Trustee through 2016:
Ken Bordieri,
Ed McAndrews



Leo Kamp, Finance Committee Chair, reports the club investments have done very well, but the Money Market Account is a drag on the overall success and suggests moving \$20,00 to a higher yielding account.

The slate of officers is adopted by the members present.



Charles Murphy, Club Historian, states that "Looking Back" essays are on the website and would be incorporated in future Blinkers.



Helene Goldsmith, By-Laws Committee Chair explains that the committee is looking into updating the Rules and Regulations.



Mary Lu Dempsey Palafox, Membership Committee Chair, reports that all Affiliates were offered Active Memberships and all Social Associates were offered to continue.





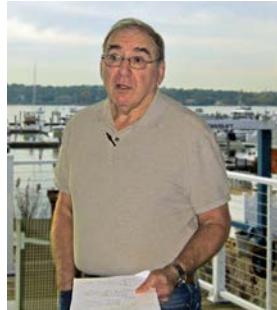
NSYC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 19, 2013

Page 5



Arlene Kase, Mentor Committee Chair, reports that each of the 5 new Affiliates had mentors and thanks all mentoring families for their participation. She also asks folk to volunteer to be mentors



Alan Bernstein, Education Committee Chair, thanks everyone for their efforts to help with the Education Committee and to think about possible future seminars. The committee will continue to concentrate on safety, cruising, racing and maintenance. He also thanks Ken Bordieri for his help on the committee.



Ron Gold, Cruising Committee Chair reports there have been a number of cruises throughout the season. He asks that next season, members keep him abreast of their cruising plans and share their experiences regarding facilities, interesting places to visit, good restaurants etc. Ron also suggests you fly our burgee when you go to another club.



Gallet yachting
watch given to
Bob

Stanley Rosenberg thanks Bob Ebenau for his service to the club as Race Committee Chair, appreciating the way Bob has run the races with rolling starts to accommodate cruisers and presents him with a Gallet yachting watch.



Bob Ebenau thanks Stanley for his kind words and thanks the 16 members who served on the Race Committee for well-run races. He invites everyone to join him on the Race Committee.

The Flag is lowered, bringing for another memorable sailing season to an end. Sailors spend the winter dreaming of fair skies and brisk breezes until they can get their boats back in the water.





We Point with Pride!

NSYC's 2013 Commodore's Award

Please congratulate Bill Fish and Richard Raskin as recipients of the

NSYC 2013 Commodore's Award

This award, often referred to as the **Annual Service Award**, recognizes those members who have contributed most to the North Shore Yacht Club in the form of leadership, planning, execution and the promotion of camaraderie and results.

Congratulations Bill and Richard!!!



Share the Spirit!

NSYC's 2014 Ambassador Program

History tells us that NSYC members are the most common source at recruiting new members as four (4) of our own members can testify for 2013. For this, each received an appreciation gift card from NSYC when the candidate they referred committed to Club membership. **Good news...the program continues in 2014!**

Being an effective "Ambassador" is easy. Just enthusiastically, "share the NSYC spirit" whenever you encounter individuals with potential interest in Club membership, or are in a position to recommend our Club to others (other boaters, boat yards, brokers, sail makers, etc.).

Even if you just forward a candidate's contact information to Mary Lu Dempsey, our Membership Chair, (516-767-1760, mludempsey@msn.com), be assured that she will contact them with enthusiasm. If needed, brochures and club contact cards are included with your billing and always available in the holder at the Club's front door. Please consider the Ambassador Program.

It's easy to "Share the Spirit."

NSYC—Let's face it!....Facebook is here!

Fellow NSYC members, ever consider joining us on Facebook?

Did you know that NSYC has its own Facebook page? It's easy to find social media and fun to use.

Just enter facebook.com/NorthShoreYachtClub

in your web browser, launch it and then make it a browser favorite if you like.

You can browse the facebook page as you wish. In order to post material though, look for the large graphic at the top of the page to either "login," if you already have a facebook account, or "sign-up" with facebook to establish an account of your own.

Once signed in you can look for and communicate with friends of your choice, make new friends and/or make entries of your own. You can post pictures of you and your boat, or comment on other members' photos or posts, invite others for a sail, vice versa and more.

It's fun! It's that easy!

(You can still browse the site if you don't wish to join facebook.,)

If you encounter routine start-up questions...not to worry. Our own NSYC member, Berni Koch (berni@intersessions.com), has graciously offered to help.

Stay tuned to NSYC email blasts and future Blinker issues for the latest/greatest facebook tips for sailors.

Rear Commodore's Report – January 2014

All is well with the Clubhouse and it is ready for the New Year's Day Party. A lot of cleaning projects were completed during the work parties. One of the projects undertaken was to remove all of the contents from the upper cabinets in the kitchen, clean the contents and the interior of the cabinets. One thing which was observed is that dishes, serving pieces, etc., were put away with crusted food. It would be appreciated if anyone using anything in the kitchen would thoroughly wash and dry those items before replacing them in the cabinets. Thank you. Anyone who wants to earn work hours during the winter should contact me for suggestions on projects which can be done at your leisure. Get the obligation out of the way before sailing season.

KEN MAGIDA, NSYC Rear Commodore

**Golden Legacy Leadership Award
to
Arlene Kase**



Did You Know? Member Quick Reference

What?	How?
NSYC website	www.nsycc.net
Emergency Numbers	“Bosun’s” link, website homepage
Member Bulletins, Communications, email blasts	Lower hallway in Club. Club email blasts.
Updates: Email updates. Adds. Deletes.	Bob Ebenau rebenau@gmail.com
Not receiving email communications from NSYC	Bob Ebenau rebenau@gmail.com
Updates: US mail address. Telephone no.	Immediate: Marian Girardin (NSYC Bookkeeper) 516-883-7185 – Club message machine, if needed. And/or: Respond to update requests sent to membership for 2014 NSYC Directory.
Ship's Store	“Ship's Store” link, website homepage
Embroidered clothing with NSYC logo & more	“Ship's Store” link, website homepage
NSYC Burgees, caps, lapel pins, NSYC magnets, club key, parking stickers	Club Steward, Captain Vic
Photos of member boats for NSYC wall gallery	Bill Palafox wpalafox@aol.com
Membership inquiries	Mary Lu Dempsey mludempsey@msn.com 516-767-1760
NSYC Literature	Clubhouse front door dispenser
Enter Work Hours - Location	See notebook for this. Near kitchen coffee pot top drawer.





NSYC Education Seminar Review of Man Overboard Exercise

November 7, 2013

On Thursday, November 7, the Education Committee sponsored a review of the live person, man overboard drill that was done in June of this year. As you may know, our Commodore, Paul Meilink volunteered himself as the victim. Kan Magida and Arlene Kase volunteered their beautiful new boat, "Forever Young" and there were about 11 other participant/observers to the exercise. Our review was a chance to talk through the experience and get feedback, ideas, comments and criticism from the 30 members and friends in attendance. Practically everyone had something to say, so the evening was full of some really great stories, feedback and ideas for improvement of gear and safety planning. This was not hard to believe with the total amount of sailing years experience in the room well over four figures.

Our goal was not to come up with a definitive formula for rescue but to review the event, specify our agenda for moving forward and refine our thinking about future events on the subject of boating safety. Among the most salient things that came out of this discussion was that there are no set rules for successfully retrieving someone from a MOB situation. Conditions will always vary and boaters must be prepared to deal with a wide range of conditions and varying circumstances. Being prepared and practiced will make a difference in a real emergency.

Our exercise was done in very light air and under sail. However, many present felt that getting sails down and starting the engine was the best way to go. Sails may get in the way and create situations that may complicate the retrieval process. Of course, maneuvering around a body in the water when one is under power must also be done with the utmost of caution but at least the boat will be at its most maneuverable. Also, if there is only one other person on board and they have to lower sails, keep an eye on the MOB and maneuver the boat, a great deal of skill is necessary even in the best of circumstances. Several comments were made about how difficult it is to get a life sling close to the MOB. So, training and practice are critical to successfully managing in these situations.

On that point there was some really good discussion about helping spouses to be ready for such possibilities by practicing retrievals on a regular basis. However, all the training in the world will not help if there is a person in the water who requires more strength to get on board even with the proper equipment. So, one point that was made was critical – call for help. Let the sails out, stop your forward motion and call for help first. Even if the crew thinks they might be able to manage, don't take the risk and call for help. Also, help may be necessary when the MOB is on board and might need medical attention so having help on the way is prudent and also serves as a mental support for the rescuer.

Another really good point that was raised was to guard against panic. The first thirty seconds are the most important in this situation so train crew to focus on the priorities – Stop the boat by dropping sails, throwing out plenty of floating objects, maintain visual contact, call for help, start the engine try to get as close as possible to the victim on the lee side of the boat but don't panic. Try to be methodical and use your "bold type list" as one of our attendees pithily put it.

Much was discussed about equipment. Of course, one point of common agreement was that people should wear PFDs and that they should be the automatic opening type that will self inflate when exposed to water pressure. Last Year PC Marc Epstein helped members get Mustang PFDs that have pressure activated mechanisms that work when they are actually under water and not just wet. Also important if

for the PFDs to have harness rings for retrieval. Having a MB pole was thought to be an excellent idea since it can serve as a floatation device as well as a marker for finding the MOB. All boats should have a release mechanism for the swim ladder or a ladder that can be deployed by someone in the water. These can be simple devices but getting caught in the water with no way out, can lead to disaster. Floatation devices of all kinds can be thrown in the water to help the MOB stay above water but all the devices in the world will not help if the MOB is disabled from an injury so the bottom line in this situation is to call for help.

PC Warren Greenhouse told a story of encountering the remains of a collision between motor boat and a barge. There were people in the water but there was someone missing. He approached cautiously and the situation was managed by emergency craft that appeared on the scene but he did hear one of the victims ask for his wife and she was nowhere to be seen. This story highlighted the serious nature of our great and wonderful sport and should be sobering for us to reflect on all the time we do what we all love to do. It was a poignant moment for all the people who heard the tale from Warren firsthand.

The Education Committee thanks the panelists Ken Magida, Arlene Kase, Ken Bordieri and Ed Causin and a special thanks to Paul Meilink for volunteering himself for this exercise. A lot was learned and the most important lesson was that we had a chance to see how much more there is to do and know for all of us. The Committee also thanks Bill Palafax and Mary Lu Dempsey for their help in setting up a great snack table for those present.

The next event will focus on safety equipment and is scheduled to take place in January. Happy Holidays to all!!

Alan Bernstein





NSYC Work Party

November 2014

Saturday, Nov. 16, was a beautiful day and we had about 10 volunteers for the work party plus Cecile. I created a large poster showing what work needed to be done:

- Install bubbler system
- Prep launches for winter storage
- Clean exterior surfaces...docks, ramp, deck
- Clean interior spaces...meeting room, head, kitchen
- Prep railings at ramp and teahouse for painting
- Stow lower level patio furniture
- Remove and top deck stow canvas cover
- Polish trophies
- Apply Loctite to all threaded connections under new deck
- Apply Loctite to lower deck perimeter bolts-Re-tension lower railing system cables-Add runner strips to lower dinghy rack
- Sort out library books donated by Rosemary Fink
- Run lines on docks to keep birds off.

We were able to complete the first 6 items on the poster. We prepared the launch for winter by removing all necessary gear and winterized the engine. We stowed all the deck furniture below and laid out the bubbler system, attaching new fittings to the dock. We cleaned the rafters, ceiling fans and tops of all framed artwork and plaques. We cleaned the kitchen and I took home the kitchen linens to be washed. The right railing on the ramp to the tea house had the paint chipped off but not sanded. Sunday, the 17, was rainy, so only Charlie Cannam showed up and he finished installing the bubbler system.

The following weekend, Nov 23 and 24, the volunteers completed items on the poster. As you can see in the photos, the folks under the deck are tensioning the railing and applying the Loctite.

The Spring work parties are scheduled for March 29th and 30th and April 5th and 6th. I am looking forward to a big turnout of volunteers to ready the Club for the 2014 season.

...Linda Kulla



From the Steward

First & foremost I would like on behalf of myself and your launch operators to wish all of you a Happy New Year, and to thank you for your generosity this season.

The 2014 season is upon us and we must turn our attention to preparing the club and your boats for an easy transition from winter to spring. I know it must seem early to be considering removing the moth balls in January, but this is the time to start thinking and planning our re-opening.

I've made a list of a few areas that would help greatly now and in season:

Mooring Lines— Please inspect your mooring lines that are stored in the basement. If you need assistance make an appointment with me so we can locate it and view it together. Call the club if you would like to do so.

Work Parties — P L E A S E sign up early as the dates should appear in this issue and would help the Rear Commodore and Fleet Captain in planning work assignments.

Parking — Club policy requests only one car per family be in the lot during daily operations and club functions. We are limited in that area.

Clubhouse — Kitchen - when using this area for your enjoyment please don't forget to clean-up after yourself and guests. Please wash & dry & put away all items you soil so the member who follows you will find a clean facility to use. We work with a limited staff in season and your help is greatly appreciated.

Main Room — Please pick-up and clean up all spilled food and drink at the time it happens.

Last One Out — When you're the last one to exit the clubhouse for the day, please turn off all lights and lock the doors. (You may leave the front door light on).

Restrooms — Please notify the Steward or launch person of any needs such as: no hand soap, hand towels, toilet tissue, etc. We try to police the areas of use on a regular basis throughout the day but as you know things happen.

These are a few things that come to mind that would make everyone's time spent enjoying the club a little more enjoyable.

See all of you very soon!Capt Vic

Why should you Pay-in-lieu of Work?

It is true that our NSYC Treasurer was happy to add \$4550 to our Club's checking account this past year. May I suggest a win-win solution? If spring or fall work parties are not your thing, you might wish to consider helping on Race Committee one afternoon, or assisting with one of our Club parties. These are two areas where an extra hand is greatly appreciated. You can just record your participation hours in the Book and avoid the annual assessment of \$450 "paying in lieu of work"!!

'Mary Lu'



The Cruising Corner

Page 11

NSYC Cruising and Committee in 2014

Highs in the low teens or maybe lower. Heat spells that are referred to by the prediction to reach the freezing point. Ah winter, and what better time to turn our attention to the sailing season and plans.

As we figure out how to keep warm, it is a good time to follow up on those lists of things to do to the boat this Spring and where we want to take her during the season. Or at least that is what keeps me busy and looking forward toward the season. How much time can I get off this season? Can I extend my comfort zone a little and my cruising range and plans? How can I work it out that I spend more time on the boat and either stay at the club on weekends or go to some of the great harbors close by as a mini-cruise or even an extended three day weekend? I hear that hanging out at the club or those short trips to Oyster Bay or Northport or Greenwich or Norwalk are really fun and make you feel as if you were away for a much longer time. These are questions that need to be properly thought through and discussed and this is best done with our fellow club members at the club on a nice Sunday afternoon or weeknight evening. So we will be putting together with the Education Committee such an evening where we can discuss how to make these weekends easy to do and enjoyable for experienced and novice cruisers alike. We will advise date and time.

Another topic to be discussed is planning and taking longer cruises to some of the great places that are a little further down the Sound and the neighboring cruising areas. At the upcoming meeting, we will also talk about what is important to think about when making a plan for a week or more cruise. One of the tools for planning is reaching out to other boat buddies or researching in the guidebooks for "local knowledge." Besides our proposed cruising night, we are looking at organizing a way for members to share their knowledge and also their plans

Here's hoping that the New Year finds all healthy and "relatively" happy.

Ron Gold, P/C

Cruising Chair rgold@kll-law.com

New Cruising Committee Member

Ed Causin

(*cruises past, and plans for the future*)

Ron has been the Cruising Chair for a fair while and he now feels he is entitled to some help. According, for very little compensation, (actually none, that I'm aware of) he has hired me as the new Probationary Junior Assistant Cruising Chair. (Ron wanted to be clear he was in charge, but still, a title is a title, so I took it).

My name is Ed Causin. Most of you don't know me or my wife, Mary, as we are relatively new members, this past season being our first. Ron felt we might be a good fit for his cruising committee as I have been at it for about 55 years and my wife about 40. Basically this makes us, well, not young. If I'm going to be writing about cruising I thought it would be good to provide you some of my cruising bona fides.

I started cruising at age 15. I had a fifteen foot run about, with a 25 HP Johnson engine and parents that had zero interest in boats. How I got to that is a story for another time. In the 1950's, 25 HP was the largest engine made; It was a different time. After spending most of my summer unsuccessfully trying to get a job as a cabin boy on a cruise ship I decided to take a cruise of my own.

I and a friend, whose parents were equally as hysterical as mine at the idea, packed sleeping bags a few cans of Tuna fish and some water. We got on my boat in Great Neck and headed out. Hell Gate, Manhattan, up the Hudson, Tarrytown, West Point, Albany and keep going. Eventually we got to a series of locks, taking us into Lake Champlain.

We stormed Fort Ticonderoga, (think of the scenes in The Last of the Mohicans movie) but were disappointed to find; The fighting was over, the French and British were long gone; Indians had given up the fight and were more worried about casino gambling; The militia (as in, "in order to have a strong militia"... guns Ok) had been disbanded and basically all there was to do was look at some old cannons. We looked and then headed back down the Hudson. To save gas money we would go to the center of the river and then drift south. Inevitably a larger power boat would come by and ask if we need help. We said no, we were just sav-



The Cruising Corner

Page 12

ing gas money by drifting. They would laugh and then tow us for a while anyway. Long story, but the end is we made it back. About the only long term effect was I don't go camping anymore. I had slept on enough beaches, docks and ground to cure me of thinking that was fun. Being rained on, at night, without a tent, only looks good in cowboy movies. Cruising with an enclosed cabin, a mattress, water, a stove and an enclosed head is about as rough as I get.

A few more years and I switched from power to sail. College, work, relatively normal activities and approaching age 30 I was getting restless. Was I going to do the same thing for another 30-35 years? I and a (different) friend bought a 35 foot wooden ketch and headed south. Florida, winter in the Bahamas and three months heading back north, to the real world. A little under a year of cruising. Along the way my friend got swapped for a girl from Canada whom I had met skiing in Austria the prior winter. We kept in touch and I suggested she might want to come down and try sailing. She joined me in Miami and I now realize we hadn't discussed for how long. Forty years later, wife, kid, house, station wagon, dog and I'm still wondering if her parents are going to call and ask when she is coming home. Since returning to NY, Mary and I have been back and forth between here and Cape Cod a good number of times and have pretty good ideas on what harbors we like and why.

I'll leave stories of last 40 years for another time, except to say since age 13 I haven't had a summer without owning a boat. I tell you all this not to claim with all these years I am the best, oldest, or most experienced sailor, fastest racer (I did put in 10 years racing), or have the most miles under my keel. Rather it is more likely proof that I have made almost all the errors sailing that there are to make. And, it is just possible my experiences can save one or more of you some looming disasters that you haven't yet made. Because if you haven't yet you will; Hit a rock(s), Wrap a line around your prop. Follow the seat of your pants into harbor A and find out it's harbor B. Mistakenly, yelled at your wife-spouse. With (possibly) good reason, yelled at your spouse, and then paid the price for it, etc.

Which brings me to the point. As the new Probationary Junior Assistant Cruising Chair I will be joining Ron in trying to set up a blog/cruising guide for current and future members to use when they want to head out and don't exactly know where to or why. As neither Ron nor I are anywhere near computer wiz staff, we could use some help with this. While Ron & I can tell you what there is in many harbors, there is always another harbor or cove you may have found that we missed or a difference of opinion on one. This is a community effort, we need your input. Our goal is not to repeat or restate what information in your cruising guide. It is to tell you what they don't. ie: If you were cruising into Manhasset Bay and took a mooring at NSYC or a slip at Brewers' you are a fair ways from the town. A snack bar and a waterfront restaurant is about it. Go in further, to a town or club mooring, there are a lot more dining options. There is a dingy dock just down the creek from the town dock with access to a full size supermarket. These are the sort of things I think we can add to the published cruising guide info.

Ron's e-mail address is beneath his article, mine below. Send us a story (humor ok), hopefully, with a lesson about what to or not to do. Or, I information about a harbor you like or not and why. Anything you think will be interesting to another club member looking for a spot for the night or a few days.

Ed Causin
Causin.ed@pmlmail.com



NSYC Dinner Dance & Awards

November 16, 2013

This year's Dinner Dance, organized by Debbie Cohen, Joe Stigliano, Paul and Lili Meilink, was held in the upstairs room at the La Parma restaurant in Williston Park with about 50 members joining the festivities. After tasty appetizers and drinks, the dinner was served family style with partygoers sitting along long tables, people serving themselves from a verity of dishes offered at the tables. Our Race Committee Chair Bob Ebenau, ably assisted by Bill Palafox, gave out the racing awards for the year:

NSYC Day Race:

- 1st place — ***Whirlwind*** - William Purdy
- 2nd place — ***En-Passant*** - James Ebenau
- 3rd place — ***Vision*** - Marc Epstein

Moonlight Regatta:

- Division I: 1st place — ***Leverage*** - Arthur Buhr
- 2nd place — ***EnGarde*** - Charlie Cannam
- Division II: 1st place — ***Vision*** - Marc Epstein

Borden Cup Race:

- 1st place — ***En-Passant*** - James Ebenau (*Bob Ebenau owner*)
- 2nd place — ***Sounion*** - Paul Meilink
- 3rd place — ***Dybbuk*** - Roy Isreal

Smith Cup Race:

- 1st place — ***Engarde*** - Charlie Cannam
- 2nd place — ***Sounion*** - Paul Meilink
- 3rd place — ***Dybbuk*** - Roy Isreal

Epstein Trophy Race:

- 1st place — ***Dybbuk*** - Roy Isreal
- 2nd place — ***Vision*** - Marc Epstein
- 3rd place — ***Engarde*** - Charlie Cannam

Snyder Cup Race:

- 1st place — ***Sundance*** - Joel Ziev
- 2nd place — ***Sounion*** - Paul Meilink

Commodore's Cup Race:

- 1st place — ***Osprey*** - Richard Raskin
- 2nd place — ***Sojourn*** - Robert Coles

2013 NSYC Club Race Series:

- First Overall*** — ***Dybbuk*** - Roy Isreal
- 1st place Epstein Trophy
- 2nd place Borden Cup
- 3rd place Smith Cup

Second Overall — ***Engarde*** - Charlie Cannam

- 1st place Smith Cup
- 3rd place Borden Cup
- 3rd place Epstein Trophy

Third Overall — ***Vision*** - Marc Epstein

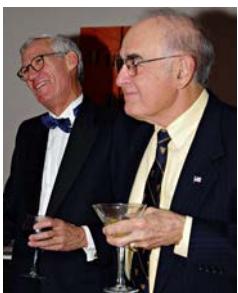
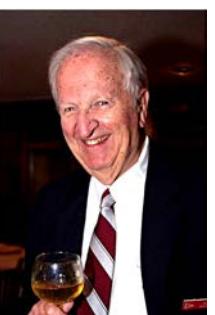
- 2nd place Smith Cup
- 2nd place Epstein Trophy

Music for the evening was provided by DJ Steve Espey.



Dinner Dance Photographs

Continued





New Year's Day at NSYC

(Do you really have to ask when?)

Once again it was our great pleasure to host the Club's annual New Year's Day party, and yet again our members made the time a great success. Outstanding food--from delicious hors d'oeuvres, marvelous salads, and exceptional desserts--combined with a cozy log burning in the fireplace (Yes, Dura-flame), cheery music in the background (thanks to Lloyd's playlist), friendly conversation ("Only 90 days until launching," according to Mark Epstein), and liberal libations from the bar, all combined to create the warm, festive, convivial event we have enjoyed together over the years.

All of this would not have been possible without the generous efforts of all who brought their carefully prepared food and who pitched in to help with various tasks. Our thanks to all who contributed, with special appreciation to Lloyd Herman for his playlist and his last-minute dash for munchies; to Jim Thompson for assistance with the fire and help at the bar; to Yehuda Rosenstock for his kind assistance at the bar; to Paul Meilink who organized the group that served champagne and for his timely toast; to Julie Lim and Joan Zoref for their tireless efforts in the kitchen; to Bill Palafox for assisting to restore the room to its pre-party state; and not least to Capt. Vic whose efforts beforehand set the stage for the joyous event we all enjoyed. To these and to those we may have missed, as well as to all whose presence "made" the day, we say Thank You.

*Bob and Nancy Kovach
"Challenge"*



Looking Back

From the Files ...

In trawling through our files, I occasionally find curiosities that I think other members might enjoy. One of the more unusual discoveries was a postcard from a cruising canoe sailor which provided the following news:

"Caribe" has got away from the Russian police and is now bobbing on the Baltic billows in the neighborhood of Stettin. Please send my paper to Heringsdorf, Germany, until end (sic) of September. My canoe has had about the longest wild goose chase on record from New York to Petersburg and back to Stettin without once touching the water. But I am making up for it now.

The card is dated August 10 1892.

The message raises several intriguing questions...Who was this enthusiastic canoe sailor for whom New York Harbor and the Long Island Sound were not sufficient to quench his thirst for cruising? What motivated the trans-Atlantic shipment of the canoe first to Petersburg and then to Stettin? Why were the Tsar's police after him?

I have not found answers to these questions, nor have I been able to identify the sender beyond his initials, P.D. However, I believe we can safely say that P.D. exhibited the adventurousness and love of sailing that marked the early members of our Club—and their successors.

...by Charles P. Murphy

Questions or comments: cplmurphy@optonline.net

—|—