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Essex Corinthian Yacht Club

March /  
April 2017



## OFF-SHORE

### IDEAL 18 FLEET NEWS

Frostbiting has been postponed twice already, due to the cold and overly windy conditions on the last two Sundays.



And while we are waiting for better weather, here is a bit of trivia for you:

Frank Shumway of Shumway Marine, in Rochester, commissioned Laser designer Bruce Kirby to draw the lines of the Ideal 18 in the late 1980s. The Shumways sailed Bullees each winter in Florida and sought to create a boat that was safe, simple to sail, but performed well on the water. Ontario Yachts of Burlington, Ontario, built the first Ideal 18 in 1990 and has produced 285 since then. Dozens of yacht clubs in the Northeast (mostly western Long Island Sound) and Florida maintain fleets. Essex Yacht Club has nine boats, we have three, and Ed Birch owns his own boat.

Please remember that in order to sail our Ideal 18's you must be qualified and checked out by one of our sailing instructors. Please check the bulletin board in the River Room for details.

**Tom Atkinson**

Fleet Captain

Email: [fleetcaptain@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:fleetcaptain@essexcorinthian.org)

## IMPORTANT DATES:

- March 25th: Hawaiian Luau (RSVP now!)
- March 31st: Beer Tasting & Theme Dinner
- April 1st: US Sailing One Day Race Management Seminar @ Milford Yacht Club
- April 8th: Spring Commissioning
- April 9th: North U presents Dave Perry's Rules & Tactics Seminar @ Pine Orchard YC
- April 16th: Easter Brunch
- May 4th: Lecture "Before the Wind"
- May 5th - 7th: Essex In-Water Boat Show
- May 20th: Cocktails for the Cure Benefit



Refer to our event calendar on our website at [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org) for event details!

## VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



## Fellow Corinthians!

Spring is almost here and with that comes the second half of Frostbiting. The season was supposed to start a few weeks ago but Mother Nature did not cooperate. The good news is that

## Race Committee Update

**The ECSA's and ECYC's calendars are set and PHRF racing will get under way soon.**

Here are a few dates to save:

### Seminars:

- US Sailing One Day Race Management Seminar at Essex Yacht Club, March 18th or Milford Yacht Club, April 1st
- North U presents Dave Perry's Rules & Tactics Seminar at Pine Orchard Yacht Club, April 9th

### Regattas:

Round-the Buoys Friendly Series Dates:

Sunday, June 4th - Sunday, July 9th - Sunday, August 6th

Spring Off Soundings: June 9th - 10th

Essex Rum Challenge: Saturday, July 22nd

North Cove Outer Light Classic: Saturday, July 22nd

Essex YC Sam Wetherill Overnight Race: Friday, August 18th

Tri-Club Leukemia Cup Regatta: August 26th

Fall Off Soundings: September 15th - 16th

ECYC Cross Sound Challenge: September 23rd

ECYC Thomas Clark Memorial (Tri-Club River Series): October 21st

Completion of a One Day Race Seminar is a great way to learn the basics of race committee participation or to improve your knowledge and become a Club Race Official (CRO), as many of our ECYC member have. Essex Yacht Club hosted a seminar on March 18th (Editor's note: we regret the publishing delay due to scheduling issues), you will have another chance to participate in this seminar on April 1st at Milford Yacht Club. See [www.ussailing.org/race-officials](http://www.ussailing.org/race-officials) for further details or to register.

The US Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing (RSS) have been updated for 2017 - 2020. Renew your membership in US Sailing to receive your free copy of the rules and/or download it from [www.ussailing.org](http://www.ussailing.org). Updating your USS membership allows you a discount on your annual ECSA membership, so no reason not to renew your memberships now.

Thanks in advance to all our Race Committee and Protest Committee volunteers. Without the help of these club members we would not be able to sustain our PHRF racing program! If you'd like to be involved in planning one of the friendly Round the Buoy Races, the Cross Sound Challenge or the Thomas Clark Memorial, please contact me at [racechair@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:racechair@essexcorinthian.org).

See you on the water,

**Tim Brewer**

2017 Race Committee Chair

Email: [racechair@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:racechair@essexcorinthian.org)



### Vice Commodore's Update:

As the weather has been teasing us with warm days just to dump snow and ice on us a few days later, we are truly looking forward to spring to arrive around here. We had to close the club twice during snow storms, and hope that this was the last of the bad weather.

I, for one, would really like to fast-forward out of winter hibernation right about now.... After all, the **ECYC season officially opens on April 8th at our annual Spring Commissioning Ceremony!** This will be the 33rd commissioning, and it promises to be a very good year!

We have a lot planned for 2017. Our two new **Entertainment Co-Chairs, Nancy Simms and Pat Atkinson** (see their

our fleet of Ideal 18s were ready to go, and I want to give special thanks to our Fleet Captain Tom Atkinson, Cindy and Jon Gibbs along with Jeff Going and others for making that happen. We had a wonderful Blessing of our Fleet given by Fleet Chaplain Dan Taylor-Stypa. The weather was against us for the ceremony but the message was clear, we are ready.

Please remember everyone that our Spring Commissioning Day is coming up soon on April 8th. This is a special event that really gets our season underway. It's the time of year when boats start to get uncovered and the fun begins all over again!

I would like to take this opportunity to reach out to you to see who might have the time to assist with communications at the Corinthian. There are a number of ways to contribute so please contact me if interested. Bell Eight and the Roster are the largest projects all accomplished by our members. Currently they are both published by our Vice Commodore Ruth Emblin and she will have other responsibilities as we move forward. Please consider this challenge and remember this is a great way to make new friends!

Each year we talk about membership and again this year I reach out to you. Most clubs need to regain about 10% of their membership for various reasons and this year is no different. What I ask is for you to think about folks you know who would enjoy becoming a member of ECYC. I would be pleased to assist you with our membership process. Applications are available on our website.

I also want to report that our House Rule 12 Survey is complete and we will make a recommendation shortly. We have had great input from membership and for that I thank you. We have gained important views and ideas from many of you.

Please note that the list of the BOG meeting dates is posted on the board outside our office. Members are welcome. Please let us know if you wish to attend.

Have a great month!

**Steve Rodstrom**  
Commodore



## GALLEY NEWS

It's great to see everyone back at ECYC enjoying the wonderful views and special friendships that this club offers. Ed and Monique have been serving up delicious, creative meals.

**On Friday, March 17th, the galley presented an Irish-themed dinner menu to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. It will be followed by an Irish-themed brunch on Sunday, March 19th! Check our website for the special menu!**

A sure sign of spring is always our tropical Spring party. Join us March 25th for a Hawaiian Luau. Along with the buffet dinner there will be music, dancing and fun activities. Don't miss out, get your reservation in soon.

The survey concerning the House Rule 12 has closed. The responses are being tabulated and reviewed. The results will be shared with the BOG at their next meeting.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. Bon appetite! I look forward to seeing you around the club!

**Catherine Gazikas**  
Galley Liaison

### Late Winter Galley Hours:

#### Lunch:

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (self-service) :**  
**11.30 am to 2.00 pm**

#### Dinner:

**Friday (table service):**  
**6.00 pm to 8.30 pm**

#### Brunch:

**Sunday (self-service):**  
**11.00 am to 2.30 pm - special brunch hours on selected holidays!**



### DID YOU KNOW?

column below) have been busy planning events for the year, ably assisted by members like Jean Brewer, who is working with them to create the perfect environment for our **Hawaiian Luau on Saturday, March 25th**. This is our annual celebration to welcome Spring. It was moved to a **Saturday night** to accommodate those members who have a hard time attending a big event on a Friday night due to their work schedules. Please sign up now if you haven't already done so, there are only a few spots left! Go to [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org), click on the "Event" tab and locate the link to the event page on the "chalkboard" in the upper right corner!

There will also be a few **lectures** offered at the club between now and the summer season. Please stay tuned for details. Lectures will include book readings, video presentations, information events and more. We will also once again hold the **Leukemia Cup Kick-Off** at ECYC this May. You can look forward to a special event with a few surprises! Furthermore, our *Special Activities Chairman Mark Bovolack* will organize **wine and beer tastings** this year, and he will be working on a new **fishing tournament** and our **traditional Hamburg Cove Raft-Ups**.

Our volunteers are working hard to create a great lineup of events for everyone. Please support their efforts by attending as many of them as possible.

Please contact me at [vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org) if you would like to help out at any of our events, or even better, all our events! Our success hinges on the involvement of our volunteers. Please get involved!

Remember, our events are listed online at our website, just go to [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org) ... and click on "Events"!

### Ruth Emblin

Vice Commodore & On-Shore Events  
Email: [vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org)  
or [events@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:events@essexcorinthian.org)



*A nice crowd at our first Chili, Soup & Stew Cook-Off!*

**Pat and I want to introduce ourselves as the new Co-Chairs for the Entertainment Committee.** I have been a member since last summer and Pat has been a member for over a year. We both have enjoyed working on the entertainment committee thus far, and continue to look forward to our upcoming events.

We just had our first event of the season, which was our Chili Soup and Stew cook-off or potluck dinner. The turnout was wonderful, we had many members pull out those recipes and bring some wonderful creations. It was such a success we think it will become an annual event.

We are very excited about the upcoming **Hawaiian Luau party on March 25**. We will be turning the club into a tropical place, where we can all relax and enjoy the evening. With our DJ Peter Emblin, there is sure to be plenty of dancing! A grass skirt competition and of course limbo will take place as the night goes on. We look forward to seeing many of you

The Galley serves a great lunch with soups, salads and all kinds of comfort food while you enjoy the early fall views across the Connecticut River! Why not come and give it a try? Daily Wednesdays through Saturdays, and brunch on Sundays.

Menus are available at  
[www.essexcorinthian.org/dining.html](http://www.essexcorinthian.org/dining.html)

**We want your feedback about our galley activities.**

Please let us know what you think!  
Email [galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org)

## FEEDBACK

**We want to know what you think about our galley!**

### STILL LOOKING FOR COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT FOR 2017!

Despite casting our nets far and wide, we have not yet found any volunteer to help with communications as well as the club roster.

This unfortunately means that the publishing of the roster may be delayed until several weeks after the club commissioning.



As the "Fleet Communicator", I have been in charge of the club's website, newsletter and e-blasts for the last four years, as well as the club roster after Richard Kyle, who had been responsible for the publication in the past, unfortunately passed away, leaving us to scramble for someone to quickly fill his shoes.

As a member of the ECYC Bridge my responsibilities are increasing steadily, and thus I can no longer be the sole go-to person for the club's communications. Tasks

include keeping the website up to date, uploading weekly menus and sharing event information, collecting and editing the articles for our monthly Bell 8 newsletter, and setting up and sending out e-blasts to our members about everything from dining, events, special announcements to local information. We are looking for a motivated person with an eye for catchy designs, a love of words and full of energy, who is willing to give an hour or so of their time to the club each week. I will be glad to train you in working with Constant Contact and GoDaddy Website Builder, both applications that are easy to learn. And don't worry, I will not just dump everything in your lap, we will be working together as long as possible!

Please consider helping out and learning more about our club's communication. Contact me at [vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org) to lend a hand!

### Ruth Emblin

Vice Commodore & Fleet Communicator  
Email: [vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org)

### Don't Miss Your Chance to Attend Our First Big Event of the Year!



**Sign up now to avoid being left out in the cold! Only a few spots left!**

**Saturday, March 25th, starting at 6.30 pm**

Dinner & Dancing included, BYOB  
Cost: \$40 per person (club members and their guests)  
Includes "Hawaiian Style" Buffet, Dessert, Mixers, Tropical Music and Dancing!

Come appropriately dressed - flip flops are a must! There will be a prize for the best Hawaiian costume and most creative Grass Skirt!



there. Please do take the time to sign up soon as possible. Space is limited to 70 and we only have a few spots left!

We look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events. If you would like to work with us on the Hawaiian party or any of the upcoming events, please contact Pat or myself via email or let Jean Little in the office know.

We look forward to a fun year ahead!

**Nancy Simms  
& Pat Atkinson**  
Co-Chairs Entertainment  
Email: [nancy-events@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:nancy-events@essexcorinthian.org)  
or [pat-events@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:pat-events@essexcorinthian.org)

### Special Functions Update:

We are planning a **beer tasting dinner on Friday, March 31st**. Details will be announced shortly. The tasting will include a variety of beers and our galley will offer an appropriately themed menu. There will be musical entertainment, and we are asking everyone to donate \$5 cash towards the cost of the program, which is presented in cooperation with the Connecticut River Museum.



I am working on many more offerings in 2017 and hope that you will participate and enjoy them. Suggestions always welcome, keep warm and stay tuned !

Cheers,

**Mark Bavalack**  
Special Functions Coordinator  
Email: [specialfunctions@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:specialfunctions@essexcorinthian.org)

### House Committee Update:

First order of business is to correct an oversight. For the January work session on the 7th I failed to mention Andy Roussel and Tom Atkinson's contributions, thanks to both! The follow-up session to put everything back in order after the floor refinishing was accomplished with Terry Stewart, Steve Rodstrom, Andy Roussel providing the muscle moving the display case, hutch, sofas, tables; only outdone by the herculean effort of Pam Peters' 40 trips up and down the stairs to retrieve 80+ dining chairs (I suspect Pam visits the gym regularly). Again thanks to all for their help during the shutdown period.

The 2017 House Committee is complete with volunteers Alex Bell, Terry Stewart, Gary Sharpe, Steve Rodstrom, Tim Brewer, Myron Stacks, Harry Bird, Susan Malan, and Jeff Croyle. Whereas the committee is the first line individuals for the many tasks and activity to maintain and improve our ECYC facility, the membership at large is always an expanded resource for volunteers.

I've been a member of the ECYC board for 5+ years and 3 commodores. There has been lots of change, and also much the same. The most notable and significant change was the major renovation to the first floor space (office, heads, stairway). I'm sure everyone who remembers the way it was, remains marveled at the impact and immeasurable improvement that effort yielded. Since the time being directly involved in that improvement effort I've had the same vision

BRING YOUR FAVORITE STARTER TO ENTER OUR APPETIZER CONTEST!

To register, go to <http://www.essexcorinthian.org/hawaiian-night-2017.html>

Registration deadline is tomorrow, Monday, March 20th!

### Did You Know?

#### WINTER CLUB HOURS IN EFFECT:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	9 am to 5 pm
Friday	9 am to 9 pm
Saturday and Sunday	9 am to 5 pm

*Note: Private meetings may be scheduled after-hours, except Mondays. Please contact Jean Little for details.*

#### NO SMOKING AT ECYC:



The clubhouse, the decks and the surrounding dock areas are non-smoking areas. Please remind your guests of this restriction, it is part of a facility-wide prohibition of open flames.

#### WEBSITE:

All of our events, weekly menus and announcements, as well as archive copies of the Bell 8 Newsletter are available online at our website, [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org)!



#### GREEN TIP OF THE MONTH

*The time of year is approaching, when activity starts up around the docks and marinas. Those of us who have boats are counting the days until we can get back on the water and enjoy. But most of us know that there still is a lot to take care of until we can throw off those docking lines and set sail. Spring is the time for commissioning engines, painting, cleaning, restoring, replenishing, and whatever else needs to be done.*

There is a plethora of information available to help you ensure that all these activities do not have a negative impact on our environment. In searching for useful guidelines I came across the Clean & Green Boating Program by the American Boating Association. The organization's website has an easy to navigate list of every possible tip on how to be environmentally responsible.

There are links to information on the impact of trash and marine debris, clean boating tips, how to stop the spread of aquatic nuisance species, surveys, the relationship boating and our economy, causes of pollution, health and safety...you name it, it is listed. A good source for information, and you do not even have to be a member of ABA to access it.

One article, in particular, should strike a chord with all of us who use the Connecticut River for boating. The extent of oil in North American waterways is staggering. A 2002 report found that approximately 29 million gallons of petroleum enter North American waterways each year as a result of human activities. Nearly 85 percent comes from land-based runoff, polluted rivers, airplanes, and small boats and jet skis, while less than 8 percent comes from tanker or pipeline spills. Oil exploration and extraction contribute 3 percent to that total. If you have ever seen a drip of fuel or oil fall into the water (maybe while refueling) you know that even that tiny drip creates a wide slick. In order to keep our beautiful river healthy it is critical that boaters take extra care while handling fuels and oils.

Here is the link:

<https://americanboating.org/clean.asp>

**Thank you for being an environmentally responsible ECYC Member!**

**Ruth Emblin**  
Vice Commodore

#### Editors Note:

of a renovation for the exterior deck and building entrances, knowing such an effort would have the same marveling effect. Just to kick the program off, think new, smooth, and maintenance free stairs and decking with an enhancing railing. A natural wood front door, with mahogany side panels, a bead board front porch ceiling with recessed lights and a natural mahogany wainscot section directly over the main entrance. Such improvements have proven to be cost prohibitive, or are they? What would they be worth to you?

**Chuck Grusse**

House Chair

Email: [house@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:house@essexcorinthian.org)

We regret that this issue was published later than usual. As our committee chairs and board members are all volunteers, most of them also hold daytime jobs in addition to their involvement in ECYC. Spring is typically the time when everyone tries to get their committees and the calendar of events organized, and it can become a challenge to provide updates right away. We strive to provide a newsletter with the most up to date information as possible, so we ask you to be patient with us.

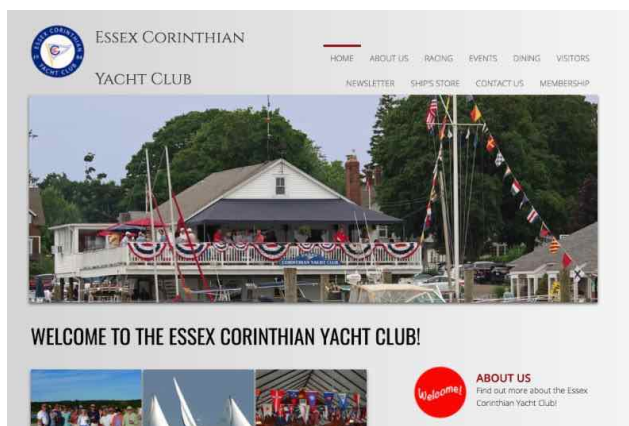
Please consider becoming a member of one of our committees to help us with the everyday running of our great little club! Contact any bridge or board member for details!

For your convenience, our website at [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org) provides an event calendar and frequent updates on our programs, as well as contact information. Please feel free to explore the site if you want information on what our club offers its members!

Have a great Spring!

**Ruth Emblin**

Email: [bell8newsletter@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:bell8newsletter@essexcorinthian.org)



Screen shot of ECYC's home page at [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org)

***The Essex Corinthian Yacht Club's Bell 8 Newsletter is a monthly publication issued by the Essex Corinthian Yacht Club of Essex, CT.***

For general questions on ECYC please refer to our website at [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org), email us at [ecyc@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:ecyc@essexcorinthian.org), or snail-mail to

Essex Corinthian Yacht Club  
PO Box 759 - Essex, CT 06426  
Telephone: (860) 767-3239

Contact Information for individual BoG Members is posted at [www.essexcorinthian.org/club-officers.html](http://www.essexcorinthian.org/club-officers.html)

Find us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/EssexCorinthianYachtClub](https://www.facebook.com/EssexCorinthianYachtClub)

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