



THE ESSEX CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

## VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

*Dear Friends,*

April is here, the ice is out of the anchorage, the varnish and bottom paint are finally beginning to flow and so are the activities at ECYC. With the help of our Club Chaplain, Dan Taylor-Stypa, our Bugler, Ed Birch and the Board of Governors, our 30th year of good fellowship will begin officially with commissioning of the Club on Saturday, April 5th at 1600. Please join us in celebrating this milestone with hors d'oeuvres from the Corinthian Café and plan to attend a reception for new members immediately following the commissioning ceremony.

Congratulations to our new Entertainment Committee Chair, Cheryl Arndt and endless thanks to Jean Brewer and the members who worked so hard to plan and execute a truly fantastic **Caribbean Night**, complete with a temporary makeover of the River Room as a "Pirates Pub", where rum punch flowed, eye patches were in vogue and if you misbehaved, swords were unsheathed! Monique, Chef Ed and the CCC team prepared a variety of dishes that were festive and delicious, while The Sun Kings (with Jon Gibbs sitting in on the conga) played all of the island favorites. There was an appetizer contest, a spirit award, trivia questions and of course a limbo contest, orchestrated by Dr. Lee Ellison and Dr. Marybeth Ellison. I'm certain that ECYC is the only yacht club in the hemisphere where we can boast that our 2014 Limbo Champion is also our Club

Chaplain.



Off shore, **Spring Frostbiting** is finally under way and our members have



## UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS:

- **April 5th:** Spring Club Commissioning & New Member Reception
- **April 20th:** Easter Brunch
- **April 25th - 27th:** Essex Boat Show
- **May 11th:** Mother's Day Brunch
- **May 14th:** Leukemia Cup Kick-Off with Gary Jobson



gotten on to a tremendous start! On the first Sunday of racing, ECYC put up an uninterrupted picket fence with a total of 14 first place finishes. In the Etchells and Ideal 18 Classes, Toby Doyle

and Jon Gibbs each took seven bullets in seven races - a remarkable clean sweep of the competition. On the second Sunday of racing, Toby Doyle once again had a perfect picket fence in the Etchells, while Jon Gibbs was second overall in ECYC's "B" Ideal.

These are truly amazing accomplishments and our hats are off to our competitive sailors who are representing ECYC so well on the water!



Looking ahead at the calendar, we have a number of great happenings that you don't want to miss: The Corinthian Café is putting on a special **Easter Brunch** on April 20th, there is the **Essex Boat Show** on the weekend of the 25th and a **Mother's Day Brunch** on May 11th. **Gary Jobson** (yes, *the* Gary Jobson - kudos to Ruth Emblin, Rear Commodore!) will join us on Wednesday evening, May 14th to give an interesting presentation on last years Americas Cup and unbelievable come back victory. The evening includes a cocktail reception and book signing with Gary. We have approximately 100 tickets for this event, and it is open to the public. So get your tickets now to be a part of it - this is an historical moment for our amazing yacht club!

Please join the BOG in a huge **thank-you to Duncan Syme**! Duncan rebuilt our mantel clock this winter in a manner that, well - only Duncan could properly describe! Duncan has applied his Corinthian Ingenuity in so many ways over the years, resulting in many special contributions to our clubhouse and the atmosphere of fellowship that we enjoy. We are very lucky to have members like Duncan Syme at ECYC.

Please take note of the new **Essex Art Association** show now hanging in the club. Massive thanks to Susan Malan for coordinating this fantastic program!

#### 2013 Cross Sound Challenge Racers:

In the event that you have not been contacted directly by Boatpix.com, check their website for wonderful arial shots of your boat and crew on that beautiful afternoon last September. If you would like them to forward large format prints (that you can accept or return), log on, type in the date (September 22, 2013) and the name of your boat. And remember to put the next Cross Sound Challenge in your calendar: September 20th,

2014!

Please support our exciting calendar of upcoming events!! Look forward to seeing you at the Club soon!

Cheers,

**Tim Brewer**  
Commodore

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

## SPECIAL EVENT! SPECIAL EVENT!

**Gary Jobson to present at ECYC on May 14th**  
**Don't miss this Leukemia Cup Kick-Off event hosted by ECYC!**

**TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!**

Go to [www.essexcorinthian.org/leukemia-cup-regatta-2014.html](http://www.essexcorinthian.org/leukemia-cup-regatta-2014.html) to order your tickets (sorry, tickets are not available directly from ECYC as this is a LLS-sponsored event, albeit hosted at ECYC).

Or you can call LLS at (203) 665-1400 or email [leukemiacupregatta\\_ctm@LLS.org](mailto:leukemiacupregatta_ctm@LLS.org) for more information!

**PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**  
**TICKETS ARE LIMITED!**



## Galley News:

### UPCOMING SPECIAL OCCASIONS AT THE CORINTHIAN CAFE:

**Easter Brunch April 20th**

**Mother's Day Brunch May 11th**



Coastal Cooking Company (aka "The Corinthian Café") is offering a great selection of brunch dishes for your enjoyment. More information on both events will be shared soon in a separate e-blast!

If you have questions, please contact Monique at [monique@coastalcookingcompany.com](mailto:monique@coastalcookingcompany.com).

### Special UCONN FINAL FOUR Pub-Style Menu on Saturday, April 5th:

To appropriately accompany the exciting Final Four game, streamed live in the River Room, Monique, Chef Ed and the CCC Team have come up with a great pub-style menu. You can access the menu by clicking here: [UCONN Pub-Style Menu](#)

**NOTE: In order to accommodate everyone orders MUST BE PLACED BY 6:45 PM (sorry, no exceptions!)**





## OFFSHORE UPDATE

*Yay! Spring has seriously sprung. Finally. Just a few days ago a surprise snow storm made us all think otherwise, but Old Man Winter had to leave the arena and let the sunshine in. Crocus are popping up everywhere and hyacinths, tulips and daffodils are pushing through the ground. Soon... soon.... soon the river will regain its hustle and bustle when boats are launched after a long winter's rest and our season will begin in earnest! Our club commissioning ceremony this weekend is one of the milestones in our club life to look forward to, even more so, as this year marks the 30th anniversary of our establishment!*

### Spring Frostbite Series

As Tim Brewer mentioned above, Frostbiting finally started after being delayed for too long due to ice on the river and general inclement conditions. Nevertheless, Corinthian sailors have been very successful, and our fFleet Captain **Jon Gibbs** has set the bar very high this year by blowing just about everyone out of the water! Frostbiting continues, and we will keep you up to date on the next races.



If you are interested in Frostbiting, please

contact Jon to let him know. Please remember that in order to use ECYC's Ideal 18s, you must be approved by the Fleet Captain or one of the authorized club members (Ed Birch, Cindy Gibbs). See Jon's report below for details.

We are looking forward to yet another successful ECYC Frostbite season!

### ***Sailors, Get Ready For The Next Round of Our "Friendlies"!***

**June 7th** is the date for our first "friendly" **Round-The-Buoy Race** in cooperation with EYC!

Get your crews ready (if you have a sailboat) or contact Adam McEwen (Race Committee Chair) or myself if you are looking to crew on any boat affiliated with ECYC. Adam will also be looking for volunteers to help with the logistics of the regatta, as well as Cheryl Arndt, our Entertainment Chair, for assistance with the After-Race-Party, which this year coincides with the Pre-Race-Party for the

### Early Spring Galley Hours:

Wednesday through Saturday Lunch - 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday Brunch - 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Friday Night Dinner Service - 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm

### ***Did You Know?***

- There is a new art exhibition at the club, courtesy of the **Essex Art Association**. Take a minute and look at the fantastic artwork all over the club! And remember, every piece is for sale...you will gain a beautiful work of art and make an artist very happy if you'd like to purchase one of them! Inquire with Elaine for details.
- The **Galley Minimum** is common charge practiced by most private clubs that operate a galley. The Galley minimum goes to the club to fund overhead operations and not to the galley operator.
- A note on **outside food consumption at the club**: other than snack foods and small appetizers, please do not bring entire meals to the club on days when the galley is open and serving. This is a requirement dictated by the terms & conditions of our contract with Coasta Cooking Company, and in light of maintaining our great relationship with Monique and her team, we hope that you will cooperate. Thank you for your consideration and compliance!
- **Credit Card Convenience Fee:**  
The Essex Corinthian Yacht Club offers the following payment methods for paying member bills: Check, Credit Car, Cash (in person payment only, do not mail cash). New this year (as approved by the membership at the 2013 Annual Meeting) members and guests using credit cards as a payment method will incur a \$5.00 convenience fee per transaction, effective March 3, 2014, to partially offset the cost of processing credit card transactions. Payments made via check or cash will not incur a convenience fee. The ECYC Board of Governors appreciates your support.

### ***Annual 12-Meter Challenge in Newport RI on Sunday June 8th***

*Update From Terry Stewart (Immediate Past Commodore):*

ECYC crews will race the 12 Meters Columbia and American Eagle in this years 12 Meter Challenge in Newport on Sunday, June 8th. Six 12 Meters will be on the line with the Essex Yacht Club aboard Nefertiti, Pettipaug on Weatherly, Baldwin on Heritage, and a combined crew from North Cove and the Frostbite YC on Intrepid.

We are still taking names for our crews for a wait list or to fill any openings on the other boats. Please let Terry Stewart know at [tgstewart14@comcast.net](mailto:tgstewart14@comcast.net).

Being on a Sunday, this year's race will be preceded by a "Pre Race" party at ECYC on Saturday, June 7th at 4:30pm. The party will involve all the 12 Meter Crews along with sailors from that day's first "fun Buoy Race" with the Essex Yacht Club. The party will



Annual 12-Meter Challenge (see Terry Stewart's update to the right). The next "Friendly" will be on Sunday, July 13th, followed by the last of the series on Sunday, August 24th.

As mentioned last month, we would also encourage anyone with a sailboat to enter the **Leukemia Cup Regatta** on August 23rd, 2014. Last year my husband Peter and I participated in the regatta with a dedicated crew and formed *Team Tartuca*. It is not just a fun event with pre- and after-parties, lots of awards and prizes, it helps the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society increase awareness and funding for cancer research. Many of us have been impacted directly or indirectly by cancer, and this event is the perfect vehicle to help. Crews act as fundraising teams, and a friendly on- and off-shore competition culminates in the great camaraderie sailors are known for! Please join *Team Tartuca* and me on May 14th at the Gary Jobson lecture as well as on August 23rd at the Leukemia Cup Regatta!

We are all looking forward to warmer weather and the return of sailing season at ECYC!

**Ruth Emblin**  
Rear Commodore



## COMMITTEE UPDATES

### ***Race Committee Update:***

The Spring Commissioning will mark the official start of our season. Thank you to the members who have agreed to join the Race Committee. We will be ramping up our offshore activities in the months to come and hope that you will join us!

Watch for updates in upcoming newsletters, on our new website at [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org) and in email communication.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Cheers,  
**Adam McEwen**  
**Race Committee Chair**

Email: [amcewen@gdeb.com](mailto:amcewen@gdeb.com)

### ***Waterfront Update:***

include beer, wine, and soft drinks (in addition to BYOB) plus hamburgers and hotdogs from our outdoor grill.

We will also be inaugurating a new Essex 12 Meter Challenge Perpetual Trophy to be presented and displayed at the winning club.

The cost per person is \$175 for the day in Newport on June 8th (1 pm to 5 pm), including awards ceremony at the dock.

In addition to racing on Sunday, June 8th, we will host a pre-race party at ECYC with the crews from EYC, Baldwin, Pettipaug and North Cove YC. Cost for pre-race party on June 7th is \$15 per person.



More information:

Terry Stewart [tgstewart14@comcast.net](mailto:tgstewart14@comcast.net)

Ruth Emblin [ruthemblin@gmail.com](mailto:ruthemblin@gmail.com)

### ***Burgee of the Month:***

As you may have read in last month's Bell 8, a crew of Corinthian sailors cruised from St. Lucia to Grenada. And what would such a cruise be without a visit to a local yacht club. Terry Stewart passed the "burgee exchange baton" to Ruth Emblin, and her first order of business was an exchange with the Grenada Yacht Club. The Grenada Yacht Club's view might give ours a bit of competition, but then again, one has the Caribbean Sea, the other the Connecticut River at its doorstep (though our steps may just a tiny bit sturdier than theirs...) - you just can't compare apples with oranges!



The Corinthian waterfront is now open and operating. We had a great turnout to launch and rig the Ideal 18s from all the Waterfront Committee of Ed Birch, Jeff Going, Steve Rodstrom, Nick Incerti, and Cindy and Jon Gibbs, as well as other volunteers. The river thawed sufficiently for Frostbiting to get underway on March 23. We continue to have six skipper / crew teams participating, while accommodating participants changing availability. Much thanks to Toby Doyle who's tuning of the boats, along with the bottom finishing by yours truly has helped to prove they are more than competitive. The Fleet Captain's learning curve on shore continues to be bumpy with scheduling mishaps and rigging re-do's (thanks Tim and Steve), but he managed to get it together on the water for the first two weeks of racing.

We have benefited greatly from our new onshore waterfront storage shed, which will help to keep sails and other gear out of the River Room.

All members are invited to become qualified to sign up to skipper or crew the boats, available for casual as well as racing use from March through November. Interested teams are encouraged to participate in the Essex Yacht Club summer Tuesday and Thursday racing series, and other events on the river to establish proficiency for placement on the Frostbiting schedule this fall.

See you out there,

**Jon Gibbs**

Fleet Captain

### **House Committee Update:**

The House Committee is hard at work beautifying the upper decks at the club, installing the canopy, adding new fans and lights, replacing umbrellas, refreshing tables, replacing chairs as needed, and many more chores to get the club ready for the season. As with any building there are always more projects that need to be tackled, and we could not accomplish this without our dedicated House Committee!

Thank you for everyone's help.

**Chuck Grusse**

House Chair

PS: We are still looking for a bookcase for the River Room. If you would like to help, please contact Chuck.

### **Entertainment Committee Update:**



Caribbean Night kicked off the new season with a BANG! 71 members turned out for fun and dancing. A great big "Thank You" to Jean Brewer, who was the Event Coordinator. She did a fabulous job of organizing and running the event. Thanks go to Liz Fowler, Carol Watts and



Next month: Back to the Pacific!

**NEW!**

### **MEMBER OF THE MONTH**

Every month we will highlight a particular member or members who has/have fully embraced the Corinthian Spirit! If you would like to nominate someone for this honor, please send an email with the name and a short description of why your nominee should be listed as the Member of the Month to Ruth Emblin at [ruthemblin@gmail.com](mailto:ruthemblin@gmail.com)

The Member of the Month for April 2014 is

### **Chuck Grusse**

*Steady and diligent work in getting the clubhouse in shape and keeping it that way! This year, Chuck has already researched, designed and provided cost estimates for adding lights and ceiling fans to the rear upper deck. This proposal was approved by the BOG last month and installation will be starting soon. Chuck has also formed a sub committee to study improvements to the club front door, front façade and entry porch. We extend a tremendous THANK YOU to Chuck for his tireless, and all-too-often thankless efforts in keeping our house in order!*



### **Green Tip of the Month:**

#### **Celebrate Earth Day 2014**

Earth Day 2014 is on April 22nd. The perfect "excuse" to remind everyone yet again to be kind to our planet.



Yes, you might say that I am "on the environmental warpath" again, but honestly, I prefer to use gentle persuasion! Being environmentally conscious matters more than many of us realize. I am happy to report that I have been approached by several members who welcome

Thank you to Dick Arndt for the help decorating and setting up the dining room. I thank you to Dianne Martin, our appetizer contest judge and to the Sun Kings, who provided the event with the right musical flavor. And finally to our Very Own Corinthian Cafe, in the capable hands of Monique and Ed. What a terrific meal!!!! Our River Room was splendidly decked out as a Pirates' Pub complete with treasures, and, of course, Grog.

Now on a side note: we did find out that the term RSVP is apparently not universally understood.

It is derived from the French "répondez s'il vous plaît". This basically translates as a response is required, whether or not you plan to attend the party. It does not mean to respond only if you are coming, and it does not mean respond only if you are not coming (the expression "regrets only" is reserved for that instance).

Here is why we need to be so formal when it comes to our events: our Event Coordinator needs a definite head count for the planned event, usually by a date specified on the invitation or e-blast. This helps with the planning and the meal count, which is important for us when planning seating arrangements, and for figuring out food quantities (which need to be purchased ahead of time). We do also have to be attentive to our maximum capacity for people in the dining area due to Fire Code restrictions. So you see, we are not just doing this to annoy people! Please respond promptly to an event announcement/invitation. The response is not considered written in stone. If you should find yourself with a sudden conflict of schedule then a quick call or email to the coordinator at least 48 hrs before the event will cancel your commitment without you being charged for the event price. This rule, however, is written in stone: if you do not cancel, you will be charged... Should we encounter last minute walk-ins, seating will be subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed with the use of the River Room for additional seating. This also depends on the type of event, type of food served, etc., so we often have to say "no walk-ins" even though we hate to turn anyone away... So please respect the fact that we need you to RSVP promptly when there is an event! This way everyone, including the caterer and organizers, can enjoy the party without undue stress!

We are moving forward planning several events for the year, so if this is something you would like to be involved in, please get in touch with me. I would love the input of ideas, suggestions and help. I want this to be YOUR club and for you to enjoy it and everything it has to offer. Please call me at 860 227-1363 or email me at bdtbs@sbcglobal.net.

**Cheryl Arndt**  
Entertainment Chair

### **Membership Update:**

Please welcome the following new members, who have joined our club since September 2013:

Richard and Linda Levine  
Edmund and Melanie Remillard



tips on how to live a greener life. This long winter has brought up a few issues that several members commented on, and I am more than happy to share them with you.

So let's start with a couple of pet peeves as described by two of our members:

One pet peeve concerns the idling of cars during the cold and hot months, even if there is nobody sitting in it. Not only does it waste gas, it pollutes the air around the car, which is usually a parking space near a business or home frequented by more people than just the car's driver. Breaking this habit is a small price to pay for saving energy and spreading less pollution. So please think of the people around you sharing the same area and shut off the car when you are not in it.

Another pet peeve reported to me was using more paper towels to dry your hands after using the washroom than really necessary. The quality of the paper towels we use is good enough to reduce your usage to one sheet, maximum two. There is a reason for the automatic dispensers installed in our restrooms: save paper! So why wave your hands three or four times to get more towels than you really need?

Our motto should be "be kind to the world we enjoy so much". This starts with very small actions that will not cost a lot of effort. Start in your own home, be smart about product ingredients and origin, packaging, waste, recycling, join a beach or riverbank clean-up event, learn about new resources and new ideas to diminish the impact of single use plastics on our environment, become a more eco-conscious boater, and adhere to the principle of "reduce, reuse, recycle, refuse". Every small action has a positive impact!

The history of Earth Day can be found at <http://www.earthday.org/greencities/earth-day-2014/history-of-earth-day/>

Let's celebrate Earth Day at ECYC with a promise to try to be "greener" in the future!

**Ruth Emblin**

Rear Commodore & Fleet Communicator

## **Check Out The New Gear Available At ECYC!**

The Ship's Store did some spring cleaning and ordered new merchandise! Look for special new club ties in the near future! Come see the great plush vests for men and women, perfect for those early spring days by the River!

The Ship's Store not only sells burgees, there are vests, scarves, ties, polos, tees, sweaters, windshirts, etc., etc., etc., all waiting for you to show your Corinthian Spirit!



And if you want to add some Corinthian Spirit to your evenings at the club, check out the etched

William Albro  
George and Kirsten Wendell  
Doug and Amanda Culver  
Karen Kari  
Arnold and Margaret Chester  
George and Dorothy Rider  
Michele and Reade Quetes

And here are some familiar faces returning to the club:

Patty Davidson  
Ann and Steve Suskauer

We are looking forward to recognizing these members at our reception immediately following the Spring Commissioning on Saturday, April 5th, beginning at 4:00 pm!

Please join us in giving them all a proper Corinthian welcome!

If you have any friends interested in joining ECYC, please encourage them to visit the club. Membership opportunities are available, and Val will be glad to answer any questions you or they may have!

*For questions, please contact*

**Val Votto**

**Membership Chair**

valerie@vottolaw.com

wine and drinks glasses. Roast your friends in style!

See Jean Brewer at the Ship's Store for all the new items she has added to the store's selection and check back frequently for any **special offers!**



**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@essexcyc.org](mailto:ecyc@essexcyc.org), or snail-mail to  
Essex Corinthian Yacht Club  
PO Box 759 - Essex, CT 06426  
Telephone: (860) 767-3239

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*Please note that schedules may change at any time without prior notice. ECYC and the editor are not responsible for any errors or inaccuracies derived from information provided by third parties.*



**SHOP  
AT  
ECYC!**

**A new season means the need for new ECYC togs!  
Come stop by and see what's new at the Ship's Store!**

**New plush men's and women's vests have arrived!  
Drinkware, scarves, belts, burgees, sportswear, ties and more...**



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Essex Corinthian Yacht Club | Novelty Lane | PO Box 759 | Essex, | CT | 06426