



THE ESSEX CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

OFF-SHORE

IDEAL 18 FLEET UPDATE

Sunday March 6 brought sunshine, great eagle watching, and a fortunate sea breeze as Frostbiting commenced for 2016. The ECYC Ideal 18 fleet laid down the gauntlet with a sweep of the top four places with Fleet Captain Tom Atkinson leading the way. Our thanks are due to Tom for getting the boats to shipshape in Bristol fashion, with particular help from Jeff Going, Steve Rodstrom, Cindy and Jon Gibbs, and all the volunteers helping with the launching.



The boats will soon be available every day (except on any racing days) for use by member skippers and their guests, providing that they have been pre-qualified to do so by Ed Birch or Cindy Gibbs. You will also have to sign a waiver before being able to step onto one of our boats. Please see Fleet Coordinator

Jon Gibbs or our Office Manager Jean Little for details. We will make an announcement when you can come down to take advantage of our great little fleet!

Note that for the early season our racing jibs are removed daily to extend the longevity of their competitiveness. Please contact Jon Gibbs at fleetcoordinator@essexcorinthian.org for assistance in rigging the boats at this time.

By May 1 we will make sure that there is always a boat fully rigged to get underway in minutes. Remember all crews and guests must sign the waiver and contact info forms, and sign out on the bulletin board in the River Room as well!

If you want to sail now, there are opportunities to participate in Spring Frostbiting. We are still holding a few open Frostbiting dates for qualified member racing skippers and crews interested in competing on a less than full time basis. If you are not on the schedule yet and are interested, contact Jon Gibbs. Those with previous club Frostbiting experience are pre-qualified; others should contact Jon for qualification or referral to our racing clinic and summer racing opportunities. Watch future announcements for these.

Jon Gibbs

Ideal 18 Fleet Coordinator

Email: fleetcoordinator@essexcorinthian.org

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **March 18th:** St. Patrick's Day Dinner
- **March 27th:** Easter Brunch
- **April 1st:** Caribbean Night "Margaritaville"
- **April 2nd:** 32nd Club Commissioning
- **May 8th:** Mother's Day Brunch
- **May 13th - 15th:** Essex Boat Show
- **May 19th:** Leukemia Cup Kick-Off Cocktails & Music



Refer to our event calendar on our website at www.essexcorinthian.org for event details!

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Fellow Corinthians!

As the first few months of the new year sail by I have been watching our new Bridge and Board members blend with the established members, communicating and working together. This has all the signs of a successful and exciting new year. We will be working hard to continue our traditions and commitment to our brand and look forward to new opportunities as well.

We are planning a few new events and know they will be enjoyed. Stay tuned for announcements!

As we move into the Spring season it is again time to work on finding a few new members.

OFF-SHORE REPORT FOR MARCH 2016:

The ECSA calendar is set and PHRF racing will get under way soon. A small group from ECYC is planning to attend the Cruising Club of America sponsored, US Sailing Sanctioned Safety at Sea Seminar this month in Newport, RI. The two-day event is designed to satisfy training requirements for 2016 Bermuda Race, and/or general off shore racing. Our group is planning to attend day one of the seminar only (the March 19th), which will satisfy training requirements for near shore and/or coastal regattas, as is the standard for Off Soundings and all ECSA regattas. The second day of the seminar can be completed any time within the next few years for BR certification. For further information or to register, go to bermudarace.com/race-timeline.

Completion of a One Day Race Management 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 Members have. Niantic Bay Yacht Club will host a seminar on March 12th (fee of \$35) and Milford Yacht Club will host a seminar on April 9th (fee of \$45). See ussailing.org/race-officials for further details or to register.

If you are interested in attending any of the above noted seminars with some of your fellow Corinthians, contact Tim Brewer at racechair@essexcorinthian.org.

Regatta Dates to Remember:

"Friendly" Round The Buoy Regattas:
June 12th, July 10th and August 21st

ECYC Cross Sound Challenge 2016:
Saturday, September 24th

2016 Tri-Club River Races:
October 1st, 8th and 15th

Please contact Tim Brewer with any questions or suggestion, or to volunteer with the organization of our regattas.

Tim Brewer

Race Committee Chair

Email: racechair@essexcorinthian.org



BURGEE OF THE MONTH:

ECYC members recently sailed in the Abacos (Bahamas) and visited the **Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club**. Terry and Laurel Stewart, and Peter and Ruth Emblin (ECYC Vice Commodore) were welcomed by RMHYC Commodore "Woody" during Happy Hour at the Abaco Beach Resort during one of the yacht club's many get-togethers.

The Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club is a very friendly, social yacht club based in Marsh Harbour, Abaco, an island group in the northern Bahamas. Boaters, both power and sail, as well as land-based members, enjoy the gin-clear waters surrounding the Sea of Abaco, and participate in many social activities. Year after year, members from all over the United States and Canada spend the winter at several local marinas and the pristine anchorages of the Sea of Abaco.



Burgee Exchange with RMHYC

For more information, go to www.rmhyc.com

Each year we find that members do not renew their membership for various reasons, and for that we ask all members to think about new qualified prospects. Bring these folks to dinner or our excellent Sunday brunch out on the deck and we will all benefit. The camaraderie and setting we have is outstanding and is hard to top. Maintaining and growing our membership is a responsibility we all share to ensure our club's future. If you have a prospect please reach out to me or Scott Konrad, our Membership Chair, for assistance.

Our galley managed by Monique and Chef Ed has been busy on Friday nights as well as for their amazing Sunday brunches. They look forward to serving outside on our deck as the weather gets warmer. This is also a great place to watch Frostbiting on the river, as the competition is heating up each Sunday through early May.

Remember to make you reservations for Caribbean Night coming up on April 1st! It will be a great time - we all know that our club's get-togethers are always worth attending! Our event coordinators Val Votto and Terry Stewart have been working hard on perfecting our spring social event.

Please also note that our Spring Commissioning is on the following Saturday, April 2nd, starting at 4 pm. I am looking forward to officially opening the 32nd year of ECYC!

On the waterfront I am happy to report that our fleet of Ideal 18s is back in commission right on schedule thanks to our Fleet Captain Tom Atkinson and Coordinator Jon Gibbs. We have had two great weekend of racing so far and want to encourage all those interested in racing to get in touch with us.

Please note we do have dinghy space available for this season on our brand-new ECYC dinghy dock. Please contact Jean our club manager to reserve.

Thanks to all our board, bridge, committee and club members for making the past few months a success. We are always looking for volunteers for various committees, please let us know if you want to participate any time during the year. Committee participation is always open and not at all restricted to a sign-up early in the year. We always welcome suggestions and ideas!

Please note the list of this year's board meetings dates is posted outside our office, members are always welcome to attend. The minutes from last month's meeting are also posted there.

Hope you have a great month!

Steve Rodstrom

Commodore



NEW GUEST WIFI NETWORK AT ECYC'S CLUBHOUSE

Our office improvements continue! After dealing with a few networking issues we now have a brand-new, secure WiFi network available, accessible to members and guests.

You can connect your wireless-enabled devices to the "GUEST-EssexCorinthianYachtClub" network. **Please contact Jean Little, our office manager for the password!**

To connect, open your devices WiFi connection manager and click on "GUEST-EssexCorinthianYachtClub" (please ensure you select the above, not any other network shown). You will be asked for the WPA password. Enter the password and click on OK or CONNECT.

Happy surfing!



**GUEST-
EssexCorinthianYachtClub**

GALLEY NEWS

If you are suffering from cabin fever, come down to ECYC. The wonderful food, water views, and friendships will brighten your mood. Ed and Monique have been outdoing

New Racing Clinic Planned

What's new and exciting this SPRING at ECYC?

We are offering a new and exciting **Co-Ed Adult Racing Clinic** to our members in the Ideal 18s!

Instructor: Cindy Gibbs

Classes will be held on 3 consecutive Wednesday nights:

May 25, June 1, June 8

Time: 5:00-7:30pm

Cost: \$150.00

Sign-up required.

Class size will be 6 to 10 students, first come-first serve.

The clinic will be informative, the perfect way to review the rules of sailing and racing, learn about starting and general racing concepts!

To sign up, contact Cindy Gibbs at cindysailing@essexcorinthian.org



Cindy Gibbs

Sailing Instructor

ON-SHORE & HOUSE

The clubhouse is looking great and dining is in full swing! We have already enjoyed several lunches, dinners and brunches at the club, and there is much more to come! If you haven't come down to the club yet this month it is high time!

We have quite a busy social calendar in store - there will be a special **Easter Brunch at the Corinthian Cafe on Sunday, March 27th**, and judging from the menu it will be a great way to enjoy the holiday and leave the cooking and cleaning to someone else! Contact Monique at monique@coastalcookingcompany.com to make reservations!

On **Friday, April 1st**, the club will be transformed into a tropical paradise for **Caribbean Night 2016!** This year's theme is

"Margaritaville" and Chef Ed and his team are pulling out all the stops to provide the appropriate meal to suit the theme. Come and celebrate the beginning of the warm(er) season with us at our first big social event of the year! Party starts at 6.30 pm, **reservations are required.** Please check our [Event](#) page for details or call our Club Manager Jean Little to make reservations!

R.S.V.P.

On the heels of Caribbean Night is our club's official **Spring Commissioning ceremony, on Saturday, April 2nd, at 4 pm.** We are hoping for blue skies to officially open ECYC season number 32!

If you have suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact me or any of our board members to share. ECYC lives and breathes with the help of our membership.

Wishing you all a Happy Spring!

Ruth Emblin

themselves. . .



Continue the celebration of **St. Patrick's Day** during the week with Chef Ed's themed **Friday night dinner and at brunch on Sunday.** Bring the family to the club on **Easter Sunday** and enjoy a **festive special brunch** (reservations suggested). Summer comes early to ECYC with **Caribbean Night on April 1st.** The food and music will transport you to **"Margaritaville"**. Reservations for this event are required to help our caterer prepare the delicious buffet dinner with plenty of flavors to choose

from.

Looking forward to seeing you at the club,

Catherine Gazikas

Galley Liaison



Did You Know?

The Galley serves a great lunch with soups, salads and all kinds of comfort food to be enjoyed while the roaring fireplace takes the chill out of this wintry weather! 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

We want your feedback about our galley activities.

Please let us know what you think!

Email galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org

FEEDBACK

We want to know what you think about our galley!

NEW COLUMN PLANNED FOR OUR BELL 8 NEWSLETTER:



Tell us about your last cruise, share your favorite destinations, an interesting or inspiring experience you had on the water, recommendations for a day out on the boat, or spin a yarn.... it is up to you!

We are looking for boating stories to share with your fellow Corinthians!

We are planning to publish your stories beginning with the April issue of Bell 8.

Please email your submissions to bell8newsletter@essexcorinthian.org by the last day of the month to make it into the next month's issue. We are looking forward to hearing from you!

LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST:

Vice Commodore

Email: vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org



House Committee Update:

Get ready, it's coming. Beginning to feel it, spring! The perennial fever is starting to ramp up. Of course, that just means time to get busy again in enhancing and maintenance our dear ECYC. The first order of business will be the continuing odyssey to get the main deck completed. When we last left this ongoing pain in the b... activity the railings were sanded, scraped, primed, and partially top coated. Time and nature were not on our side and the outdoor project season ended before we could complete everything. So back at it again. Hopefully we have a cooperative and early spring to get this one in the done column (of course I'm fooling myself as nothing is ever "done", especially this deck). Nonetheless, this task needs a crew equal to Caesar's legions, watch for notice of planned day(s).

The 2016 house committee was named last month, and for this year I will be very active toward reaching out and requesting direct assistance for the members as tasks and needs crop up. Already Myron Stacks has proven to be a wonderful addition in obtaining replacement dining table tops and review of the ice machine power cord, which caused it to shut down. Harry Bird is pursuing a flooring and safety evaluation of the attic space. Nina Thurston did a wonderful job with the holiday greens in our front boxes, she's getting ready for the colorful spring replacements.

For months, no make that years, I have been referencing the major enhancement projects I have hoped to complete a design and estimate. I've not given up, and will be directly contacting committee and members at large to elicit individuals to accept the role to complete these deliverables. Any members with knowledge and/or experience in construction, architecture, and/or building material can contact me for more information.

Chuck Grusse

House Chair

Email: house@essexcorinthian.org

Entertainment Committee Update:



[Click on image for event details!](#)

As mentioned, we have our first big event of the year, **Caribbean Night, scheduled for Friday, April 1st**. It will be a wonderful opportunity to start the new season at ECYC!

There are plenty of events on our club calendar, which will be officially unveiled soon! If you volunteer as an event coordinator you are guaranteed the support of many of our experienced committee members, as well as of our new Galley Liaison, Catherine Gazikas, who will help facilitate event menu creation in cooperation with Monique and Chef Ed at the Coastal Cooking Company.

We also have a number of post-race parties on the summer calendar, and are always looking for volunteers to help out.

It is our hope that by sharing the responsibility for events across a



Our friends at the Essex Yacht Club are offering a lecture on "**Preserving Plum Island for Future Generations**" on Tuesday, March 15th, starting at 6.30 pm.

Chris Cryder, Preserve Plum Island Coalition/Save the Sound will discuss the future of Plum Island and its impact on Long Island Sound.

Pre-Talk Dinner Service 5.30 to 6.30

Dinner reservations must be made at least 24 hours in advance.

All are welcome to come just for cocktails and the talk at 6.30!

[Download a flyer by clicking HERE.](#)

Check out the spring program at the Connecticut River Museum by clicking [HERE!](#)

Here is a photo from the **Privateers' Bash 2016 at the Connecticut River Museum on February 27th!**

A crew of swashbuckling ECYCers took over the museum and claimed some prizes!

This is an annual event held by our friends from the Connecticut River Museum. We hope you will join us next year! Arrrrgh!



SAVE THE DATE: ECYC TO HOST 2016 KICK-OFF EVENT ON MAY 19TH

As part of our cooperation with Duck Island and North Cove Yacht Clubs in support of the Leukemia Cup Regatta, our club is proud to once again host the **LEUKEMIA CUP KICK-OFF!**

The **Leukemia Cup Kick-Off** is a very social and informative event for anyone interested in supporting the lifesaving work of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The Leukemia Cup Regatta is a race held in almost every (sailing) state across our nation. What is better than doing something for the good of others AND enjoying time out on the water? And if you are not a sailor, you can still help with the regatta by supporting one of our teams racing or by creating your own virtual team for fundraising.

More will be explained on **Thursday, May 19th, beginning at 6.30 pm**. We are pleased to



have been able to win support from the fellows of "**Long Splice**" as our musical entertainment for the night! You may know them if you frequent the Gris....they have agreed to provide us with a special musical performance in support of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society!

You can look forward to cocktails and snacks, raffles, seafaring music and inspiring moments!

PLEASE SUPPORT ECYC'S COMMITMENT TO THE LEUKEMIA CUP REGATTA even if you are not a sailor! Come to the Leukemia Cup 2016 Kick-Off Party at ECYC on May 19th!

This is a ticketed event - tickets will be available for sale shortly! Stay tuned for more information.

larger number of volunteers "entertainment" will become more fun and less of a burden for just a few individuals. Please consider stepping forward to take up the organization of one of our 2016 events!

The official event calendar will be published soon, but you can already get an idea of our plans for 2016 by going to the Events page on our website. Check out the online calendar and select a club event you would like to become involved in!

As we are a membership-driven organization the philosophy is "all hands on deck" to make the 32nd year of our club successful and enjoyable for all!

Remember, our events are listed online at our website, just go to www.essexcorinthian.org ... and click on "Events"!

Ruth Emblin

Vice Commodore & 2016 On-Shore Events
Email: vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org
or events@essexcorinthian.org

Membership Update:

After some natural attrition at dues time, membership has now stabilized for the coming year and we're eagerly awaiting the onset of warmer weather and spring activities to bring our ranks out of hibernation.

We're delighted to welcome back charter member **Marvin Wisch, MD and his wife, Jo Ann, of Fairlawn, NJ**, after a seven-year hiatus. And while we'll miss her late husband, Doug, we're very pleased to have Essex resident Nina Thurston carry on his membership this year.

Your committee is following up on a handful of new expressions of interest - all from active boaters -- and we're working to gently convert them to formal membership applications for Board action. Otherwise, though, it's been unnervingly quiet...which reminds us of your role in membership recruitment.

Please think of opportunities throughout your work, social, and civic circles to introduce anyone whom you believe would enjoy the Corinthian experience. If you're planning to bring a membership prospect for dinner or another Club event, just give me and any of our Board members a heads-up so we can be there to properly welcome your guest and, when the time's right, explain our simple application process. We'll do our best to make it as easy as possible for all involved - with action at the next monthly Board meeting following receipt of the application and payment. We all have choices in how we spend our leisure time and money, but ECYC continues to represent unequalled value in recreation, dining, and fellowship. Spread the word!

Thanks, in advance, and see you on the water!

Scott Konrad

Membership Chair
Email: membership@essexcorinthian.org

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to help with the event on May 19th or the Leukemia Cup Regatta on August 27th.

Ruth Emblin

Connecticut Leukemia Cup Regatta Co-Chair



Did You Know?

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 and announcements, as well as archive copies of the Bell 8 Newsletter are available online at our website, www.essexcorinthian.org

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- **The update period for the 2016 Membership Roster has ended.** At this time we can no longer accept any changes to your contact information for the printed roster. **However**, if you move or change your contact information during the year, please contact **Office Manager Jean Little** with the details so you do not miss any communication from the club!
- A quick reminder that the **2016 membership dues payment as well as any outstanding galley and other bills** should be remitted as soon as possible to avoid finance charges and/or affecting your club use privileges.
- Please remember that with the change of domain to www.essexcorinthian.org two years ago, the general office email address was changed to ecyc@essexcorinthian.org.



Green Tip of the Month:

GOOD MATE PROGRAM FOR BOATERS by the Ocean Conservancy

Springtime is just around the corner, and if you are a boat owner, you are likely itching to get your hands on your boat again. Covers will soon come off, and we'll be scrubbing, sanding, painting, refueling, doing oil changes and all the work required to get our boats ready for the season.

The Good Mate Program by the Ocean Conservancy contains a plethora of useful information to help boaters do all that while reducing the negative impact of these activities on the environment. Ocean Conservancy's Good Mate program outlines best boating practices - practical steps you can use every day.

You can go to the online version of the GOOD MATE PROGRAM by clicking below:

MORE INFORMATION

There is also a PDF version of the brochure you may download and print. To access it please [CLICK HERE!](#)

Thank you for being an environmentally aware ECYC member!

Ruth Emblin

ECYC Fleet Communicator

***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,
email us at 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

Find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/EssexCorinthianYachtClub

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