

Click here to [View as Webpage](#). Use your browser's zoom function to enlarge text.



THE ESSEX CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

Early Spring 2020

## The Latest News from ECYC!



### View from the Bridge

Dear Fellow Corinthians!

As Spring lurks just around the corner, I wanted to take a moment to discuss current topics, as well as issues I hope to address over the year.

I am honored to have been selected as the 22nd Commodore of the Essex Corinthian Yacht Club. I take this responsibility very seriously and know I have big shoes to fill to live up to the achievements of my predecessors. As the saying goes, when undertaking a task such as this, you are only as good as the people you surround yourself with. I am very fortunate to have a great team consisting of the following;

#### Vice Commodore: Tom Atkinson

Tom has been very involved over the years in expanding our Ideal sailing program. In his new role, he will continue those efforts, in addition to overseeing issues related to the clubhouse.

### Contents:

View from the Bridge  
Vice Commodore's Update  
Rear Commodore's Update  
Treasurer's Update  
Entertainment Update  
Waterfront Update  
Past Commodore's Update  
Galley Update  
Membership Update  
Did You Know?  
Ship's Store

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- **March 21st: Caribbean Night CANCELLED**
- **April 4th: 36th Spring Commissioning**
- **May 2nd: CT River Leukemia Cup**
- **May 10th: Mother's Day Brunch**
- **May 16th: Members' Pot Luck Party**

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

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**As everyone is getting concerned about the current health crisis, we have taken steps to**

**Rear Commodore: Bill Robinson**

Bill is a very active sailor and has served the club well as Co-chair of the Race Committee. He will continue with those duties as well as overseeing waterfront activities.

**Treasurer: Corinne Kilty**

Corinne is our extremely efficient Treasurer. She will continue to streamline our bookkeeping procedures and look for ways to cut Club expenses.

**Secretary: Susan Abbot**

Susan has the difficult task of keeping track of the issues discussed at our Board meetings. She is the one who keeps the historical records of the Board's actions.

***The Board of Governors***

The following Board members have each taken on the responsibility of chairing Club Committees;

**Toby Doyle** (Co-Chair Race Committee)

Toby will assist Rear Commodore Robinson in performing the duties of the Race Committee.

**Scott Beckwith** (Chair House Committee)

Scott is serving his first term on the Board. He has assumed the role of Chair of the House Committee. This is a huge job and I am sure he will need the assistance of many fellow Club members.

**Cindy Gibbs** (Chair Membership Committee)

Cindy will continue to chair the Membership Committee. She has a lot of energy and last year's increase in membership numbers was, in large part, due to her efforts.

**Joe Pelletier** (Fleet Captain)

Joe brings new blood to the Board and will serve as Fleet Captain. He has extensive sailing experience and currently works as a rigger for Sound Rigging Services.

**Nancy Simms** (Galley Liaison)

Nancy is moving over from her Entertainment Chair job to become the Galley Liaison. She will coordinate galley issues that develop

**Ruth Emblin** (Past Commodore)

For the past 8 years, Ruth has served ECYC in many roles. Her experience, dedication and generosity in sharing advice is a true asset to the Club and is of great assistance to me, as I sail these uncharted waters.

**protect our members. Please wait for an e-blast with details from Commodore Chris Morano, to be sent shortly.**

**Please refer to the individual committee announcements for details on upcoming events and activities.**

---

## VICE COMMODORE'S UPDATE

---

Greetings, Members!

We have a professional fleet captain this year! Joe Pelletier works for Sound Rigging in Essex and has big plans for renovating our fleet of Ideals and making them uniform in appearance. In preparation for spring frostbiting, he taught our sailors the proper way to clean, buff, and polish the hulls. After Chaplain Dan Taylor's blessing of the fleet at the chili/soup/stew cook off, the crews were raring to go in their shiny boats the next day. Alas, the first day of racing was cancelled due to wind and low temperatures.

Essex Yacht Club is once again allowing two of our crews to charter their Ideals so that six Corinthian crews are racing this season, including new members Jim and Debbie Hammel, and John Kihm and Keith Kramer who joined the club last spring and skippered last fall.



We have room for more crew – only a little experience is required! If you are interested, let me know and I will add you to our group e-mail address which we use to solicit crew when scheduled crew are not available. If you are interested in sailing but not ready for frostbiting, you can sail in the more relaxed summer series every Tuesday night.

Respectfully submitted,

**Tom Atkinson**  
*Vice Commodore*

My goal during my term is to continue to growth of our Club in a variety of ways. Since January, efforts have been made on multiple fronts. Our Galley Staff have made great improvements as they continue in their second year serving our members. When issues of concern come up, they have been addressed. As a result, meal satisfaction and attendance has increased. The dining process has been streamlined with a more efficient ordering and serving procedures on our busiest nights. Remember, larger meal attendance is a financial plus for ECYC, as this year's contract provides the Club with a percentage of the meal revenue.

Over the years our clubhouse has served us well, providing a beautiful venue for a multitude of events. As a result, it is in need of a lot of attention to spruce it up. Prior to the club's re-opening, a group of volunteers worked together, so that on our opening day we were welcomed to a thoroughly cleaned club, including newly carpeted stairs and refinished floors in the dining area. Currently efforts are underway to address the appearance of the front of the clubhouse. In addition, planning for renovation of the River Room will start shortly. All of these efforts will require the assistance of fellow club members. Please keep an eye out for a call to arms from the House committee.

Our Entertainment Committee, chaired by **Pat Atkinson** and **Melanie Carr**, has scheduled many social events that will take place throughout the upcoming year. If the recent Chili Cook Off was a sign of things to come, then we are in for an exciting Summer.

Our Ideal Fleet is looking great! With the help of Club members, all four boats underwent extensive maintenance and are already competing on the river.

There is so much more I could say, but let me stop and allow others to speak in more detail.

In closing, I look forward to serving as your Commodore.

Here's to the great year ahead!

Respectfully submitted,

**Chris Morano**

ECYC Commodore #22

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



---

## REAR COMMODORE'S UPDATE

---

### View from the Rear...

Welcome to the 2020 season, fellow Corinthians! It is an honor and a privilege to serve the membership as Rear Commodore alongside Chris & Tom and the rest of the Board. I can still remember playing and watching cartoons in the River Room as a kid in the 80's (probably on the same couches, haha!) while my Dad worked on his Marshall 18 catboat, *Sounder*. How cool is it that my wife Stephanie is now part of the committee to breathe new life into that underutilized part of our waterfront home?

For those I haven't met, I've lived in the area for about 10 years, but have been sailing on the river ever since I was a little kid. Since moving back to town in 2010, I've sailed just about everything that floats, and some things that didn't..but that's a story for a Friday night dinner at the Club. From Frostbite racing in Etchells, Club racing in Ideal 18s, and weekend PHRF racing, to Newport-Bermuda races, river cruising, and trips to our favorite New England harbors, I've been fortunate to take advantage of all the opportunities that ECYC and this region has to offer. If you're new to the Club, or just interested in learning more about all the boating activities one can enjoy around here, let's grab lunch or a drink sometime and chat.

For now, may your spring commissioning work be short, and your days on the water be long and plentiful!

**Bill Robinson**

Rear Commodore & Race Committee Chair

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





## TREASURER'S UPDATE

---

### Greetings from the Treasurer!

As you may have heard or observed, we are in the process of making improvements to the beauty and quality of the club. This all takes time, volunteers and money. The Board has set aside a small portion of Capital Account Funds to support the work of the various committees committed to these efforts.

In order to meet our daily expenses, timely account payments are the key to running a smooth operation. Please accept my appreciation for those who do so.

So far, budget comparisons seem to be on track. Commodore Morano and I are reviewing the Club's current expenses to see where we can cut club expenses.

As always, your input is appreciated and welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

*Corinne Kilty*

Treasurer

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

---

## WATERFRONT UPDATE

---

### Introduction of our new Fleet Captain: Joe Pelletier

I was very pleased to become an ECYC member in 2018 with my wife Tijae and daughter Isla. Tijae and I have both been sailors since childhood, Tijae learning at Pettipaug while I learned at Mystic Seaport. I have made a career in the marine and yachting industry and look forward to putting those skills to use in my new posting as Fleet Capt. Tijae and I live in Deep River and regularly sail the River during Frostbite and summer sailing events. You can occasionally find us out on our bright yellow Bristol Skiff "Baloo".

*Joe Pelletoer*

Fleet Captain

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

---

## FLEET UPDATE

---



Our Ideals are in good hands and have been readied for the Spring Frostbite season!

Thanks to our Fleet Captain and his team who spent hours on relocating and repairing/prepping

our boats. The fleet was blessed during our Annual Chili, Soup & Stew Cook-Off on February 29th. Even so, the first Frostbite Sunday was canceled due to excessive conditions. As we go on, our dedicated skippers and crews will defend their 2019 results against our neighbors. Feel free to come down to the club on a Sunday and watch the races unfold. There is nothing better than enjoying brunch at ECYC and cheering on our Ideal 18 sailors!

## ENTERTAINMENT UPDATE

---

Ahoy, Fellow Corinthians:

First, I would like to thank Melanie Carr for becoming a Co-Chair for the entertainment committee. Melanie is very enthusiastic to be acting as Co-Chair and has a number of great ideas.

The Blessing of the Fleet and Chili, Soup, and Stew Cook-Off was a successful event. It was great to see so many club members participating. Peter and Nancy Simms won first place honors with their Lobster and Shrimp bisque.

We decided to cancel Caribbean Night as a precaution during the current health crisis. Going forward, our other events will remain on the calendar until we know more about the progress.



April will bring Commissioning on April 4th and the start of Ladies on Deck. More info to come. Lastly, we will be hosting a Pot Luck on Saturday May 16th and are looking forward to many tasty creations by our members.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

**Pat Atkinson and Melanie Carr**

Entertainment Co-Chairs

Email: [pat-events@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:pat-events@essexcorinthian.org)

or [melanie-events@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:melanie-events@essexcorinthian.org)

---

## PAST COMMODORE'S UPDATE

---

It is almost spring! Not long until we will see the first spring flowers come up. And, of course, only a few weeks until boats will appear on docks and moorings in the local harbors. I can't wait until we can splash our boat and start enjoying our favorite "playground" again.

Spring also means that we are planning for the next chapter in the Connecticut River Leukemia Cup! Our one-design charity regatta is now in its third year and we are pleased to report that we now have five (5!) local yacht clubs on board. Duck Island Yacht Club is the latest to join in our efforts.

**NOTE: At this time we are continuing with our event planning. Please continue to support the event. If we need to reschedule, we will notify you in advance.**



Thanks to the generosity of the Gowrie Group, acting as our title sponsor this year, the event has been renamed "The Gowrie Group Connecticut River One-Design Leukemia Cup"!

The main event is scheduled for Saturday, May 2nd



***SORRY, THE 2020 CARIBBEAN NIGHT HAS BEEN CANCELLED!***

If you signed up already, your account will not be charged. We are sorry for the inconvenience.

---

## 2020 MEMBER & FLEET ROSTER

---

If you haven't already done so, please send any changes to your contact and/or boat information to Jean Little, Club Manager, at [ecyc@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:ecyc@essexcorinthian.org) as soon as possible so it can be included in our 2020 roster. Please note that changes received after March 20th may not make it into the 2020 edition. Thank you.

---

## SAVE THE DATE!

---



(with a rain date for racing only on Sunday, May 3rd). This year, the post-race party will be hosted by EYC. The multi-club committee is planning a great event with live music by Cherry Pie, food and drinks, silent and live auction, and more.

Party tickets are already on sale at

**<https://tinyurl.com/CTLCR2020Party>**

Don't miss this great multi-club event, benefiting the lifesaving work of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society!

This is a very worthy charity event, and thus we would ask you to consider a donation to one of the participants. Each participant has a fundraising page and will happily accept donations, no matter the amount.

Meet the participants at:

**<https://www.leukemicup.org/meet-participants/166191>**

We are also still looking for sponsors for the event! All donations and sponsorships benefit LLS and are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Sponsorship forms are available here:

**<https://tinyurl.com/CTLCR2020-Sponsors>**

To find out more details on the event and how you can help, and to see our sponsors to date, please go to our event webpage at

**<https://www.essexcorinthian.org/2020octriverleukemicup.html>**

Thank you in advance for your support!

***Ruth Emblin***

Imm. Past Commodore

Email: [commodore21@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:commodore21@essexcorinthian.org)

---

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

The Membership Committee has been brainstorming about methods to gain new members. More details will follow in a separate e-blast. Please continue to bring friends and family to show them the club and all it has to offer!

We are pleased to report that ECYC will once again have a booth at the Essex Boat Show on May 2nd and 3rd. We are looking for several volunteers to man the booth. We will be sharing information on our club as well as promote the Leukemia Cup and

## FIRST 2020 LADIES ON DECK Tuesday, April 7th

Join us at our first ladies' get together for the year on Tuesday, April 7th, starting at 6:00 pm.

These casual get-togethers are the perfect opportunity to meet your fellow ECYC Ladies, and make new friends.

**Bring friends, bring an appetizer to share! BYOB.**

Jessi Kneier has volunteered to be the host! Please watch for an e-blast with details!

---

## DID YOU KNOW?



## EARLY SPRING HOURS ARE IN EFFECT AT THE CLUBHOUSE:

- Tuesday - Thursday 9 am to 5 pm
- Friday 9 am to 9 pm (Office closes at 5 pm)
- Saturday 11 am - 5 pm (Galley open for lunch/Office closed all day)
- Sunday 11 am - 5 pm (Galley open for brunch/Office closed all day)
- Monday CLOSED

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

## NO SMOKING AT ECYC:

The clubhouse, the decks, stairs 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 at [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org)!

post-race party. Please contact Cindy or Frank for more details!

### *Cindy Gibbs & Frank Strafaci*

Membership Co-Chairs

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

### BOG MEETINGS:

Members in good standing are always welcome to attend board meetings. Please contact a board member or Jean Little to advise us that you are planning to attend as a guest.

---

## GALLEY UPDATE:



Enjoy the culinary creations by Chef Mel Green of Gourmet Galley! Please refer to

the weekly emails

- and the menu board for specials!
- Please remember to send your weekly "heads-up email" to Chef Mel to indicate whether you are coming for dinner! It helps tremendously with meal planning.
  - Please be advised that **the coffee and beverages on the counter near the galley window are NOT free!** If you wish to have a drink other than tap water, please make sure you fill out a chit!
  - **New Meal Ordering System:** You may have noticed that we have launched a new meal ordering system. We are no longer using chits, Please provide your server with your order. You will receive a receipt at the end of your meal.
  - **New Gratuity Policy:** As announced we are now collecting gratuity on meals with waitstaff serving. At the end of your meal you will receive a cheque with a choice of 15 or 18% gratuity. If you do not make a selection we will add 10% to the cost of your meal.
  - Please do not speak to the chef directly if there is a problem, but speak to your server. He/she will be happy to help.
  - Enjoy the camaraderie among friends at the club!

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions please contact our Galley Liaison at the email address shown below.

---

## GALLEY HOURS:

### Early Spring Hours:

#### Lunch:

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday:  
11.30 am to 2.00 pm

#### Dinner:

Friday: 6:00 pm to 8.30 pm

#### Brunch:

Sunday: 11.00 am to 2.30 pm - special brunch hours on selected holidays!

In the future, menus will be available at [www.essexcorinthian.org/dining.html](http://www.essexcorinthian.org/dining.html)

---

## SHIP'S STORE

### ***Have you checked out our Online Ship's Store yet?***

While we will still have some inventory in our in-house store, this is your new direct link to purchasing custom-embroidered sportswear and other items featuring the ECYC burgee! Order your spring gear now to ensure timely delivery! **Every time you purchase something, ECYC will get a commission, which, in turn will benefit the club and its members!**

Ship's Store  
Online

***More club information on the ECYC Website: [www.essexcorinthian.org](http://www.essexcorinthian.org)***

*Nancy Simms*

*Galley Liaison*

*Email: [galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org](mailto:galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org)*



ESSEX CORINTHIAN

YACHT CLUB

HOME ABOUT US RACING EVENTS DINING VISITORS  
NEWSLETTER SHIP'S STORE CONTACT US MEMBERSHIP



WELCOME TO THE ESSEX CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB!

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**

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

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.