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THE ESSEX CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

Early Summer 2019

The Latest News from ECYC!



View from the Bridge

Dear Fellow Corinthians!

It is so great to see all of you enjoying our new galley services! There hasn't been a Friday night that wasn't busy, and a few times we even ran out of room while the deck wasn't open yet. Thanks to Gourmet Galley and their amazing staff we have been enjoying great food and service. Our new permanent chef, Mel Green, has brought her own style to our menu and we look forward to great dining at the club. Please treat Chef Mel to a typical Corinthian welcome!

Now that the deck is open we also have more capacity for diners! Wednesday night music dinners have started as well; Gourmet Galley is offering a pub-style menu to accompany the music. You may also have seen Chef Ed pop up in the galley, he has taken on a supporting position with Gourmet Galley. It is great to catch up with him and see him cooperate with the galley staff!

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IMPORTANT DATES:

- **June 22-23: Summer Sailstice Weekend**
- **June 23-28: Block Island Race Week**
- **June 28: New Member Reception**
- **June 29: Thames YC Cal Brouwer Memorial**
- **July 4: Boat Parade and Viewing Party**
- **July 7: ECYC/EYC Round the Buoys Regatta**
- **July 13: EYC Ideal 18 Rum Challenge**
- **July 13-14: Three Mile Harbor Fireworks Raft Up**
- **July 13 – 19: ECYC Summer Cruise**
- **July 27: Essex Rum Challenge (PHRF)**
- **July 30: ECYC-EYC Junior Invitational Regatta**

[Refer to our event calendar on our website](#)

at www.essexcorinthian.org for event details!

As boats appear in the harbor and moorings get populated, we have also been planning our **on-water summer activities**. Since we now have four Ideal 18s in our fleet, we can offer sailing lessons and hands-on workshops to more people than ever before. **Cindy Gibbs is running the Women's Sailing Program**, please contact her if you are interested. **Jon Gibbs and his crew are running several hands-on workshops and seminars** this year; please see him for details.

As the summer progresses we will need volunteers to help us with our various events. When you joined the club, you were asked to indicate an interest in certain committees. **Our club is 99% volunteer-run and we need your help.** Please contact the committee chairs to let them know you are ready to step up. Even though we are only half-way through the year, we are also beginning to look for people to help with the day-to-day operation of the club **as Committee Chairs and/or on the Board of Governors for 2020/2021**. When I will hand over the baton to our current Vice Commodore, Chris Morano at the end of this year I hope to have a full board ready for him. Our club only functions thanks to the people who generously volunteer their time as chairpersons or board members. I have been blessed with an incredibly good team, and hope that we can move forward with as much momentum as we have had the last one-and-a-half years. Please contact Chris or me if you have any suggestions or nominations in mind. Thank you in advance for your help!

Our membership drive lasted from March through the end of May, and went very well. We welcomed **thirty new members** to the club during those months. Please join me in ensuring that these new members have a great club experience! You will have a chance to meet them at our next **New Member Reception on Friday, June 28th**. I would like to ask sponsors to help guide the new members during their first few months at the club by introducing them to everyone and encouraging them to participate in our events. There is nothing more discouraging than not knowing your way around an organization new to you. If you provide some assistance their experience will be so much better! **Thanks go to everyone who sponsored new members, and to Cindy Gibbs, our Membership Chair, and her motivated team.**

VICE COMMODORE'S UPDATE

With the start of Summer, the club has come off the starting line at full speed. The Leukemia Cup Regatta was a rousing success, both as a sailing event, as well as a source of money raised for a very worthy cause. In addition, our membership drive went very well.

Our galley is very busy, with well-attended Friday nights, pub fare dinners on Wednesdays and lunches on Wednesdays through Sundays. As with any new operation, there are growing pains, but they are addressed as soon as they surface. In an effort to respond to the wishes of our members, a comment box will be placed in the bar area for your feedback, both good and bad.

As any boat owner knows, you can't set sail for the season with out preparing your vessel. **The clubhouse is no different.** We are very fortunate to have volunteers who have jumped in to assist in a variety of ways, often without being asked. When our flower boxes in the front of the club needed repair, **Brian King** showed up and rebuilt them. Once repaired, **Stacia Libby, Elizabeth Bartlett and Annie Edwards** planted and potted the flowers around the clubhouse. Many thanks to **Libby Property Management and Glenn Jacobsen** for donating all of the flowers you see.

But that's not all. **Peter Decker, Rich Gilliland and Myron Stacks** have been working very hard on painting the deck stairs. Their next goal is the deck itself. **Please reach out to Peter if you can give them a hand.**

With all of this going on, the club has still been the scene of fun activities. **On Memorial Day, there was an Open House** for club members and guests to try out a sail on our Ideal 18s. At the same time the grill and River Room were busy cooking up food for all to enjoy. Upstairs on the deck, another group of people were celebrating with food and libations. They even had live accordion music playing! As I looked on, I had to smile. This is truly our club at its best.

On a final note, **please contribute what you can towards the purchase of our newest**

Please feel free to contact me or any member of Bridge and Board if you have any comments, questions or concerns. I plan to be available for a quick chat at the club on most Friday nights!

Ruth Emblin

ECYC Commodore #21

Email: commodore@essexcorinthian.org



IDEAL 18 FUND DRIVE:

As you know, the club added a fourth Ideal 18 to our fleet this year. **"Harmony"**, formerly owned by Ed Birch, was purchased with an interest-free loan provided by Commodore Emblin. The club is collecting voluntary donations to cover this expense rather than making it a mandatory assessment added to the dues. Please be as generous as possible to allow us to pay back our debts in a timely manner.

You can send a check to ECYC noting **"Harmony Fund"** in the memo line, or ask Jean Little to charge your donation to your account. Thank you in advance for your support!

The Ideal 18 fleet is an important part of our club's legacy, and these agile keelboats are perfect for sailing on the river. Membership in ECYC includes the use of these boats (after being checked out by one of our instructors).

ENTERTAINMENT UPDATE:

The Summer season is upon us! We hope you all are enjoying the sunshine! The entertainment crew is working to create some wonderful events for you this season.

We are planning our annual **4th of July Harbor Parade & Viewing Party**. Gourmet Galley will be joining us on this event to provide some tasty chowder, hamburgers, hot dogs and desserts. We

Ideal 18, "Harmony". Also, don't hesitate to become qualified to use these boats. See Jon or Cindy Gibbs for the details.

Now go have fun! See you on the water!

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Morano

Vice Commodore

Email: vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org



REAR COMMODORE'S UPDATE:

The second annual **Connecticut River Leukemia Cup Regatta** was a fundraising success thanks mainly to our Commodore, and the party on board the Becky Thatcher was great, but the sailing not so much. A two day regatta, same weekend as the boat show – we had visions of visitors viewing a great fleet of sailboats just offshore, some wondering how they could get out there, and maybe wandering over to our club booth to discuss membership. Great concept, but Mother Nature failed us with no wind on Saturday (visitors, but no boats to see) and a steady rain Sunday (boats, but no visitors to watch). We'll try again next year. **A big thanks to the four club planning committee, and principal race officer (and new member) Jane Reilly and the crew she organized!**

Due to the growing number of members who want to sail the Ideals this summer, we will be racing both Tuesday and Thursday nights with EYC. Thursdays are for spinnakers, which we will teach to interested members (it's not that hard) - more on that in the Fleet Captain's column. There is an Ideal 18 regatta every late September in western Long Island Sound (the North American and Inter-Club Championships alternate years), but they race with spinnakers, so we need trained crews. Perhaps we can enter a crew this year.

The four digit combination for the side door lock has been changed. If you have a

will have our annual appetizer competition so think of your best contender.

We are also looking ahead to our **Woodstock Summer Party**, it will be held on **August 17th**, the 50th Anniversary weekend of Woodstock. More details will follow.

Look for signups for all events in your e-blast notifications or go to our website for details. We look forward to seeing you at the club!

Nancy Simms & Pat Atkinson

Co-Chairs Entertainment

Email: nancy-events@essexcorinthian.org or pat-events@essexcorinthian.org



SAVE THE DATE!



NEXT LADIES ON DECK July 16th - Host Wanted!

Last night's Ladies on Deck ended up being "Ladies in the Clubhouse" thanks to the rainy weather, but we hope that July will be better.

Join us at our next ladies' get together on Tuesday, July 16th, starting at 6:00pm.

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.

need to access the club when it is closed, please see Jean Little in the club office and plead your case.

Tom Atkinson

Rear Commodore

Email: rearcommodore@essexcorinthian.org



TREASURER'S UPDATE:

Greetings from your new Treasurer! I am so happy that you have entrusted me with the very important financial part that keeps our club running smoothly every month. We have lost a few members due to relocation but have gained so much more from our new members. The galley has brought in more income so far this year compared to past years. We are very lucky to have Chef Mel (occasionally supported by Chef Ed) running the food service.

I am available to answer your questions or concerns regarding your account along with Jean Little, our Club Manager. Also timely payments on your account is so much appreciated. We depend on them to keep the club running smoothly.

Cheers to you, and I hope you are able to come to lunch or dinner at the club. There is no place like the deck for a beautiful view and a wonderful meal. Don't forget that your continued support of this club really counts, we could not do it without you.

See you for my first firing of the cannon! Maybe someone can help me

Corinne Kilty

Treasurer

Email: treasurer@essexcorinthian.org

2019 CONNECTICUT RIVER ONE- DESIGN LEUKEMIA CUP REGATTA UPDATE:

We are looking for a host for the July 16th evening. It's easy - just be there at 6 pm to welcome everyone!

RACE COMMITTEE UPDATE

While the harbor continues to fill up and warmer temperatures are finally here, it's never too early to start thinking about your 2019 racing



schedule. Mark your calendars for September 21st and the return of the Cross Sound Challenge! This classic late season ECSA regatta has quickly established itself with an emphasis on challenging courses and one of the best parties on the circuit. If you are interested in supporting our Regatta Committee onshore or off, please reach out and we'll get you involved.

Our Regatta Calendar for 2019 is as follows:

July 7th: EYC - EYC RTB Race (to be confirmed)

Aug 4th: EYC - EYC RTB Race (tbc)

September 21: Cross Sound Challenge

October 5th: EYC Willets Race

October 12th: EYC Clark Race

October 19th: PYC Birch Race

If you'd like to help our team in hosting these events, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We have a proud racing heritage with a deep roster of accomplished sailors and enthusiastic volunteers, and we'd like to welcome you to be part of the action in 2019!

Bill Robinson

Race Committee Chair

Email: race@essexcorinthian.org



WATERFRONT UPDATE:

The Connecticut River One-Design Leukemia Cup, an annual charity regatta held on the Connecticut River to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, was a success. The Essex Corinthian, Essex, Frostbite and Pettipaug Yacht Clubs cooperated on this important charity event in May 2019. While the weather gods did not get the memo we were able to run a few races on Sunday, while Saturday was a no-wind day. But Saturday's party on the Becky Thatcher Riverboat, sponsored by Windcheck and the Essex Steam Train, was a rousing affair. We welcomed about 160 guests and VIPs included Steve Benjamin, Etchells World Champion and Bear Hovey, our Honored Skipper. Thanks to our sponsors and all your personal support we raised over \$41,000 for LLS!

The Essex Corinthian Yacht Club won the team fundraising competition, and Team Dragonfly won the individual competition, as well as the regatta itself in the Ideal 18 class (skipper Cindy Gibbs, crew Peter Emblin). The Etchells class was won by Chuck Poindexter; Laser by Richard Peale; JY-15 by Casey Gowrie.

Plans are underway to run this regatta again in 2020. We need volunteers! Please consider helping with this important and fun regatta event! Please go to www.essexcorinthian.org/2019ctriverleukemicup.html for details on the event and its charity.



THANK YOU!

Our heartfelt thanks to Libby Property Management and Glenn Jacobsen, who donated flowers for the hanging baskets, and front and side planters. Stacia Libby, Elisabeth Bartlett and Annie Poindexter helped with the planting. We appreciate our members' generosity in making the club look so welcoming!



Our summer season started in full swing with our Open Sail Picnic on Memorial Day, that saw all four boats underway, with many members getting underway, as well as a healthy shore gallery of spectators and picnickers.

Earlier in the month was the now legendary LLS Regatta, that saw Cindy Gibbs and Peter Emblin keep Team Dragonfly's trophy at home in the Ideal fleet, and Toby Doyle get the first ever Etchells 22 class prize in this event. Congratulations for winning spring Frostbiting are due to Toby as well, and to co-skippers Sam Berman and Cindy Gibbs for a close second in the Ideal fleet, with the team of Jon Gibbs Ed Birch, and Mike Saxe in the money in third as well.

It's been busy out on the water: June 3rd (Monday) was the first night for ladies sailing classes. June 4th was the first night of Tuesday night Ideal 18 summer series racing, sponsored by Essex Yacht Club. EYC Thursday night Ideal 18 summer spinnaker racing started June 6th. Further dates for our Spinnaker Clinic nights were proposed for June 27th, and July 11th.

Tuesday non-spinnaker racing is the best venue for new-to-fleet skippers and crews. June 18th, July 2nd, and July 9th are reserved for our on-the-water Introduction-to-Racing Clinic. On those nights and others T.B.D., we will encourage our veterans to sail with newcomers that are learning the ropes, and follow up with informal discussions or presentations. These are to be hosted in turn by skippers that request to be scheduled as qualifiers for the season. Qualifiers scores will be tallied for the season.

All sailors will be encouraged to donate to the "Harmony Fund" which includes the repayment of the interest-free loan the Emblins provided us with to purchase the vessel as well as an amount for maintenance and insurance. Thank you.

Jon Gibbs

Fleet Captain

Email: fleetcaptain@essexcorinthian.org



SUMMER MUSIC SCHEDULE:



Musical Wednesday Night Dinners are in full swing!

We have already enjoyed performances by the Corinthian Jazz Band and Russ Becker, accompanied by a great pub-style menu by the team of Gourmet Galley. **Thank you to Deb Martin** for putting the program together.

The schedule includes:

- June 19 Corinthian Jazz Band
- June 26 Matt McCauley
- July 3 Corinthian Jazz Band
- July 10 Russ Becker
- July 17 Corinthian Jazz Band
- July 24 Russ Becker
- July 31 Corinthian Jazz Band
- Aug 7 Matt McCauley
- Aug 14 Corinthian Jazz Band
- Aug 21 Scott Konrad
- Aug 28 Corinthian Jazz Band

Come enjoy evenings of music and dining on Wednesday nights! Please include your Wednesday night plans in the weekly "heads-up email", so Chef Mel and her team can plan accordingly!

Open to members and their guests.



SPECIAL OFF-SHORE REPORTS:



ECYC Skippers and Crews Shine at Spring Off Soundings - by Terry Stewart

Off Soundings Spring Series saw ECYC well represented in three classes and on the podium.

For those unfamiliar with Off Soundings, The Off Soundings Club, founded in 1933, is a yacht racing organization with a membership of approximately 500 experienced racing sailors, several of whom are from

ECYC. Members must be nominated based on their sailing and racing experience.

Most of the membership is based in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Long Island, Massachusetts, New York State, and elsewhere in New England. The club does not operate a shore facility, but concentrates on managing two high-quality weekend race series per year, spring and fall, for its members and their invited guests. Spring racing, held in mid-June, occurs in Block Island Sound. Fall racing, held in mid-September, occurs in eastern Long Island Sound and Gardiners Bay.

This year's spring series was held the weekend of June 7-9. The weekend begins with a race (called Race 1) from mouth of the Thames River to Block Island. Race 2 is held on Saturday and involves sailing around Block Island. Results from both races are combined to determine overall series winners. Both days conclude with a results party along side The Oar Restaurant in New Harbor.

The Off Soundings fleet includes many of the top racing boats and crews in Southern New England. This year 106 yachts competed in 13 classes. Off Soundings is a BIG regatta!

This year's regatta was characterized by light wind on Friday and great wind on Saturday. Given the conditions, Saturday's race was unique in that the race committee set up a down wind start.

In the Nonsuch Class, Sharon Tracy raced Blue Heron in memory of her husband John who was a long time Off Soundings member. Joined by Jon Gibbs, Sharon sailed to 2nd in class overall with a 3rd place finish on Friday and 2nd on Saturday with 11 boats in the Nonsuch class.

Sailing in Non Spinnaker Class 1, Sam Berman in his Beneteau Oceanis 46 Atara, had an outstanding day on Saturday with a first place finish. Fellow Corinthians Cindy Gibbs, Matt Melius, and Sue Watts crewed with Sam. A lack of wind on Friday prevented Sam from finishing Race 1, resulting in fifth place overall in a class with 10 boats.

In Non Spinnaker Class 2, Past Commodore Tim Brewer in Tesoro, a Bristol 40, was joined by Past Commodores and Off Soundings veterans Jim Francis and Jeff Going. They faced the same wind deficit on Friday, barely finishing, but came back strong on Saturday with a 4th place finish and 6th overall for the weekend in a class with 8 boats.

All boats and crews look forward to the Fall Off Soundings Series to be held September 13-14.

Women on the River (WoR) - by Sue Watts

The first event for the WoR was held on Wednesday, June 12. It was hosted by EYC. This is a new venture including the women of ECYC, Pettipaug YC, North Cove YC and Essex YC. We had a turnout of 23 women, two safety boats driven by Steve Pearl (EYC) and Frank Borkowski (NCYC) one photographer, Dud Bickford (EYC) and one mother-to-be (Leah Meius), as spectator.



Nine boats went out in perfect conditions. A game of tossing a ball from boat to boat was played – honing sailing skills including MOB (balls that landed in the water had to be retrieved). All sailors came in and commented on the fun that they had had. Afterwards everyone enjoyed cocktails and dinner at EYC. A drawing was held and the winners enjoyed a free cocktail! What a fun group!

Our next events will be on Wednesday, July 17 and Wednesday, August 7. Each event will have a game associated with it. There is a small fee for dinner and a drawing for a surprise.

If you are not on our list of interested women or if you have any questions, please contact Sue Watts at watts4@comcast.net. This is a fun event and a great way to meet/make new friends from other clubs so please join us.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

Hello, my fellow ECYC Members:

I'm delighted to say we have had an extraordinary successful membership drive this Spring!

In March, we welcomed 25 new members to our club; then in April and May we added another 5 families to the roster.

I guess you can say, it's been a very successful membership drive!

If you sponsored someone, we thank you and suggest you invite them to join you for dinner on a Friday night and introduce them to others! If you see a new face please introduce yourself, so new members get the feeling they are part of our family of members!

We will have a New Member Reception on Friday, June 28th, please come and introduce yourself!

Thanks to everyone who worked so hard - including manning our booth at the Boat show May 3-5th weekend! I could not have done this drive without a lot of help from my team and sponsoring members!

Cheers,

Cindy Gibbs

GALLEY UPDATE:



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

the galley window for weekly 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!
- Please make sure to fill out your ticket with all details including your membership and table number.
- Your server will collect the tickets to stagger meal deliveries. If you want to eat at the same time as others on your table, please ensure that all tickets are handed over together.

DID YOU KNOW?

SUMMER HOURS ARE IN EFFECT AT THE CLUBHOUSE:

- Tuesday, Thursday 9 am to 10 pm
- Wednesday, Friday 9 am to 10 pm (Office closes at 5 pm)
- Saturday 11 am - 10 pm (Galley open for lunch/Office closed all day)
- Sunday 11 am - 9 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!

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.

PLEASE NOTE:

Pursuant to the motion approved at the 2018 Annual Meeting the "Galley Minimum" has been renamed "Monthly Minimum" to clearly reflect the fact that this fee directly benefits the club, not the galley. It is a "keep the lights on" fee that indemnifies the club against losses if members do not use the dining services and charge their club account a minimum of \$30 per month during the months of February through December.

- 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.

Chris Morano

Galley Liaison

Email: galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org

Summer Galley Hours:

Lunch:

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

Dinner:

Wednesday: 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Friday: 6:00 pm to 8.30 pm

Sunday Dinners will start in late July.

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

SHIP'S STORE

Have you checked out our new 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



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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, email us at ecyc@essexcorinthian.org, or snail-mail to

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