



THE ESSEX CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB



UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

- **December 6th:** Decommissioning, Annual Meeting & Awards
- **December 7th:** Children's Holiday Party
- **December 14th:** Holiday Brunch
- **December 31st:** New Year's Eve Party & Dance

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

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Dear Friends,

OFFSHORE UPDATE

Is it really over? I am afraid so...boats are hauled, gear and sails removed and stowed for next year. It is a very bittersweet time of the year, but there is always spring 2015 to look forward to.

It has been an extremely rewarding experience for me to be involved behind the scenes of ECYC waterfront and off-shore this year. It certainly was a learning curve, however, I had great support from people like Terry Stewart who took over the position of Race Chair in mid-summer, and kept me sane during the organization of the 12-Meter Challenge; Fleet Captain Jon Gibbs who rallied the Ideal 18 troops and kept a very complex crew calendar organized; Cindy Gibbs who with her Ladies' Sailing evenings further emphasized the camaraderie among like-minded individuals and what our club is all about; Cheryl Arndt, our Entertainment Chair extraordinaire, who was always at my side with her team to ensure that our post-sailing events were fabulous; Vice Commodore Steve Rodstrom who often received texts from me just spelling out "HELP!" and whom I could always depend on; our Commodore Tim Brewer with a wealth of advice; and of course the many volunteers (yes, I am talking about you...!) without whom our waterfront and off-shore activities would not have been possible.

Ideal 18s - Fall Frostbiting ending on December 7th

A few brave souls are still out on the river, among them our Frostbiters.



Please remember that we are still continuing our pledge drive towards our Ideal 18 Maintenance fund. Once Frostbiting is over, the Ideals will be hauled and undergo maintenance. If you have not already done so, please consider making a small donation towards this pledge drive.

Keeping these boats in good shape is an important part of our club tradition, to ensure that they will be available for the enjoyment of our members. Thank you!

I hope that all of you had restful and rejuvenating Thanksgiving holiday with your families. Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday of the year. The weather is cooler, but not yet terribly cold and the 4 day weekend is something I really look forward to. Most years, I'm putting the finishing touches on the boat winterization routine and trying to wrap up outdoor projects around the house and this year was no exception. I've come to think that the main reason why many of us enjoy Thanksgiving so much is because there are no great expectations to be met. No gifts, no crowds, no commercialism - just spending time to reconnect with family and friends, to share a meal and take the time to be thankful.

Our Clubhouse is looking spectacular inside and out, thanks to some very thoughtful members who have made it their tradition to do something special for the club at this time of year. Joe and Judith Walier, once again, have provided the beautiful wreath that welcomes all members and visitors to the club at this time of year. Katherine Berry leads a number of helpers who give their time and energy to trim the tree, decorate the mantle and otherwise deck the halls, filling the dining room with the sights and a sense of Christmas. Most sincere thanks to Joe, Judith, Katherine and all who have helped to give the club the special holiday feel.

Gratuity Fund:

You have all received through the mail an appeal for this year's gratuity fund. This is the time of year when we have an opportunity to thank the individuals and organizations that do so much to make our club enjoyable. A voluntary gratuity is very much appreciated by these folks. To make your gift, you can either send a check or let Elaine know an amount to be charged to your club account. If you choose to use a check, please make it payable to the ECYC Gratuity Fund. Thank you all for your generous participation in this fund.

December 6th Annual Meeting:

Please make plans to attend our annual meeting this coming Saturday afternoon. As a Corinthian club, it is especially important for our members to actively participate in its governance and oversight. The afternoon will celebrate a successful 30th anniversary year for ECYC and will recognize those who have done so much during the year to provide an environment of fellowship. Of course, there will also be a business component to the agenda, where we will vote on a slate of new members of the Board of Governors and we'll vote on a budget for 2015. You may recall that the 20 year lease that we signed with Brewer Dauntless Shipyard last year includes a modest rent escalation (slightly less than 1% per year). That annual increase (which can be considered structural), together with a slight increase in our insurance premium, has prompted the BOG to recommend a \$15 increase in regular membership dues. The board is also recommending a \$5 increase in the galley minimum for regular members. These two modest adjustments in club revenue for 2015, along with sustained efforts to continually

I am looking forward to reminiscing about our club's accomplishments (and there have been many - see Terry Stewart's report for details) in the coming months, while we all dream of the next season!

Thank you again to everyone who has stepped up to the plate to help us turn our events, whether on- and off-shore, into the best along the River!

Wishing you all the best for the holiday season and a happy New Year!

Ruth Emblin

Rear Commodore

Email: rearcommodore@essexcorinthian.org



ECYC Racing Update

2014 has been a tremendous year for ECYC sailors locally and regionally.

Based on cumulative race results across the Eastern Connecticut Sailing Association circuit, ECYC placed 6th out of 40 clubs spanning from Milford to Watch Hill. Kudos to Past Commodore Jim Francis (FREE SPIRIT) for being our top ECSA point earner. Twelve ECYC boats raced in ECSA regattas this year, a new record! Other skippers contributing to our ECSA total included: Jeff Going (CELEBRATION), Bill St. John (IRISH LADY), Peter and Ruth Emblin (TARTUCA), Jon and Cindy Gibbs (PETREL), Tim Brewer (TESORO), Bob Robinson (VIENNA), Bill Robinson (BLUE JACKET), Dan Watts (COUNTERPOINT), Chris Morano (DORIAN), Toby Doyle (FLO), Skip Haskins (INSPIRIT), Rod Hartung (GENESIS), and Laurel and Terry Stewart (ARRAN).

Other off-shore highlights:

Team Tartuca (Ruth and Peter Emblin) was the top boat based on combined sailing and fund raising results, bringing the Leukemia Cup to ECYC to be proudly displayed in our trophy cabinet. Additionally, TARTUCA earned a 1st and 2nd during two days of Spring Off Soundings racing.

Another incredible year by **Jeff Going in CELEBRATION**:
North Cove Outer Light Classic - 2nd place in Class
Ram Island Invitational - 1st Place in Class
Thames - Commodore's Trophy Race - 2nd Place in Class

review expenses, reducing them where possible, and to identify and attract new members to our special club, will ensure our success in 2015 and our viability long into the future.

Nominating Committee:

Our Nominating Committee, comprised of Terry Stewart (Chair), Jane Pfeffer and Valerie Votto has proposed two new members of the BOG for 2015-2016. We will welcome at-large members, Priscilla Robinson and Richard Pierce onto the board. Priscilla will bring her energy and organizational skills to our burgeoning racing programs as Race Committee Chair. Richard's business background will be of great assistance to the club in formalizing our strategic planning process. Leaving the board will be Adam McEwen. Following many, many years of outstanding service to the club, Tom Pinkowish will step off of the board as well. Over the years, Tom has served the club as member at-large and as an officer in the capacity of Treasurer. We sincerely thank Tom and wish him a fair wind, and look forward to seeing him enjoy the club and its members with Mary and Alex in the years "after the board".

Further along in the long list of very sincere thank-yous is Jon Gibbs. Jon fulfilled his appointment as Fleet Captain to the benefit of all of our members who enjoy the use of our Ideal 18s. Jon came to the role with a very keen vision for improving our club's competitive sailing profile in the Ideal 18 in major competitions throughout the year. Jon's blueprint for team work / crew work development via the summer series and regattas has already paid dividends for our competitive crews, and will continue to do so. Please join me and all of the board in thanking Jon Gibbs for a job very well done in 2014.

In seeking another set of broad and capable shoulders, Bob Robinson was identified as a committed and enthusiastic next Fleet Captain, and he has graciously accepted the appointment. ECYC is lucky to have members such as Bob (and Jon and others who have previously volunteered) to take on the position of Fleet Captain. It is a job that requires leadership and organizational skills, time, willingness and know-how. Please join me and the board in welcoming Bob and giving our thanks in advance for his commitment and Corinthian Spirit as our next Fleet Captain.

I look forward to seeing many of you at Decommissioning starting promptly at 1615 and the Annual Meeting at 1630 on Saturday! Cheers.

Happy Holidays,

Tim Brewer

Commodore

Essex Corinthian Yacht Club

Cross Sound Challenge - 1st Place in Class

We also recognize **Bill St. John in IRISH LADY** for representing ECYC in the most ECSA races this year:

Mystic River Sails Up 4 Cancer
Mystic River Mudheads Benefit Cup for Hospice.
Shennecossett Lighthouse Regatta
Masons Island Regatta
Ram Island Invitational
Fishers Island YC 'Round the Island
Thames - Commodore's Trophy Race

Jon and Cindy Gibbs in Petrel took 3rd in Class during fall Off Soundings.

ECYC was represented in the Round Island Race by **Brian Lachapelle** who completed the circumnavigation of Shelter Island in a Laser, a real feat of seamanship....not bad for a power boater!

Round The Buoy Race Series. All three "Friendlies" with EYC provided fun opportunities to sail, practice racing skills, and socialize with fellow sailors.

ECYC again filled two crews for the **2014 12 Meter Challenge** where we competed with an ever expanding fleet involving Essex, Pettipaug, Baldwin and North Cove. This year we welcomed the Thames Yacht Club to the event. ECYC member Duncan Syme designed and built a new perpetual trophy now called the Eastern Connecticut 12 Meter Trophy. Sadly, the first award of the Trophy was to North Cove sailing in INTREPID who edged out ECYC in COLUMBIA by one point.

Clearly the **Cross Sound Challenge** was the sailing highlight of the season with extremely positive feedback from all crews supported by great participation by ECYC crews on the course and a terrific "ground crew" here at the club. Corinthians **Toby Doyle** (FLO) took first in the Spinnaker Class, **Dan Watts** (COUNTERPOINT) took second in Class A, **Jeff Going** (CELEBRATION) took 1st in Class B, and **Bob Robinson** (VIENNA) took 3rd in the Nonsuch Class. We also want to commend the **Ferrandinos** in KON-KIKI, **Stan Kolber** in CALYPSO, and the **Voegelis** in BELLA VITA for getting out there as racing novices. We also recognize the terrific work of our members who helped with the Race Committee: Steve Rodstrom, Cate Beckstein, Mary Voegeli, Adam McEwen, Peter Kamford, Andy Roussel, Eric and Donna Altomare, Don Shannehan, and Mark Bavalak.

Other ECYC highlights included a tremendous showing in the Tri Club River RaceSeries with wins in all three races shared between Toby Doyle (FLO) and Jeff Going (CELEBRATION). Toby and his crew in FLO were the overall winners, returning the Tri Club River Race Trophy to ECYC.



Galley News

We hope you have been enjoying the special menus created by Chef Ed at The Corinthian Cafe! We will continue posting menu updates at our website over the course of the year. Check back often to see what is new: www.essexcorinthian.org/Dining.html

Don't miss the special **Holiday Brunch on Sunday, December 14th**, with musical accompaniment! For reservations, please contact Monique at monique@coastalcookingcompny.com.



And just a reminder, it's not too late to book your holiday party at the ECYC. And be sure to consider using Coastal Cooking to augment your holiday dinners.

They'd be delighted to provide your hors d'oeuvres, sides dishes, desserts etc. to allow you to spend more time relaxing with your family.

Looking forward to seeing you at the club soon!

Hollis Barry
Galley Liaison

Did You Know?

We want your feedback about our galley activities.
Please let us know what you think!
Email Hollis at galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org

FEEDBACK

We want to know what you



Corinthians continued a tradition of strong results in the 81st rendition of spring and fall **Frostbiting**. In the Etechells Class, **Toby Doyle** took 1st in the Spring Series with **Bill Robinson** taking 3rd. In the Ideal 18 Class, **Cindy Gibbs** took 2nd in the Spring Series with **Ed Birch** taking 4th. Stay tuned for fall results!

Terry Stewart

Race Committee Chair &

Immediate Past Commodore

Email: racechair@essexcorinthian.org

Waterfront Update:

Corinthians Chuck Poindexter (1st as usual) ,Toby Doyle, and Bill Robinson have seen fierce new competition in the Etechells 22 Fleet (recruiters - get out there!) but all look forward to placing well again.

The competitiveness of Essex Corinthian's Ideal 18 two boat campaigns in frostbiting continues to improve. With only a short day left to be sailed, Corinthian Ed Birch and Rob Reichard are second to Carter Gowrie of EYC, while Corinthian #38 has closed the gap and is making a run at them. More notably Nautilus # 192, with its cast of stars (eight skippers took its helm!), may by now have moved into the upper half of the fleet as well!

Winter Galley Hours:

think about our galley!

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

Sunday Brunch - 11:00 am - 2:00 pm (may be extended on special occasions)

Friday Night Dinner Service - 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

A NOTE FROM YOUR VICE COMMODORE:

We have had a terrific 2014 at ECYC and I think we all look forward to next year's Events and Friday nights on the Deck.

We will be reaching out for several new Committee persons and our House Committee needs help on a number of specific projects to keep our club running smoothly. We look forward to hearing from you.

Now that we have folded our sails and covered our boats please remember to remove you Inflatables and Kayaks from our Dinghy Rack.



Thanks and Happy Holidays!

Steve Rodstrom

Vice Commodore



New Art Show:

We have seen many beautiful days and a lot of good racing, and with growing the club's Ideal fleet we see more team growth, and we look forward to racing two very competitive campaigns while continuing to provide plenty of opportunities for newcomers in a third campaign. New teams are encouraged to get started with summer racing, but we welcome skippers with racing experience and crews of all experience to frostbite as well! [Other than Jon or Cindy Gibbs] this fall's participants Bill Albro, Liz Baird, Peter Emblin, Jeff Going, Jim Pfeffer, Terry Stewart, Bill St John, Priscilla Robinson and Bob Robinson (no relation) have all shown great improvement this year, in performance and standings!

Our new shed storage has been of tremendous benefit and plans for Dauntless to help improve our docking conditions will support our continued growth. Our thanks to this year's racers, and Waterfront Committee members, who will be helping to decommission #38 and Nautilus, after racing this Sunday, December 7th. Special thanks to Jeff Going, Steve Rodstrom, and Terry Stewart for their ongoing hard work year after year, and to new member Bob Robinson whose efforts this year promise more improvements in the coming year!

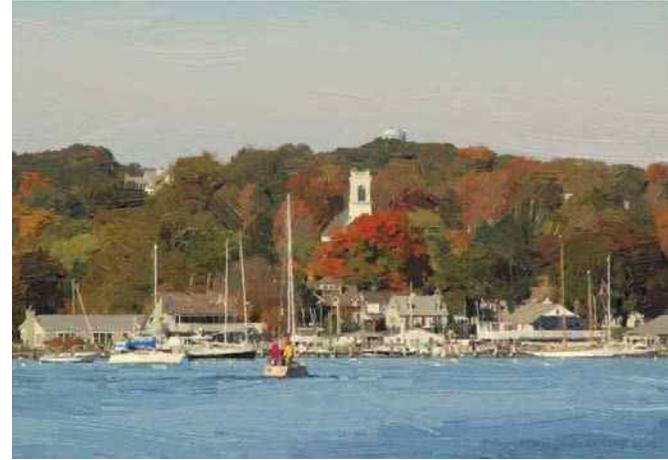
Jon Gibbs
Fleet Captain

House Committee Update:

Once again what a fantastic job Katherine Berry has done as the primary designer & implementer of the holiday season dressing of the ECYC club building. I was not around to assist, Katherine & crew did it all the Friday after Thanksgiving. Once again all members owe a huge thank you to Katherine for her outstanding effort!

Details for January closing activities remain to be fully defined, and work dates determined. As probably most of you can relate to, time to do everything is so very elusive. Months are like days it seems. December is crazy, but will find a way to fit

Through the efforts of ECYC member Susan Malan, our club's walls are again graced with a new collection of local art by members of the Essex Art Association. ECYC members may purchase art by turning into Elaine a galley ticket with your club number accompanied by a picture's tag.



In addition to original art, Brooke Martin, a member of the Baldwin Yacht Club, has given the club four canvas prints of the Essex waterfront (see photo). The print was from a digital photo Brooke took this fall that she had electronically rendered into a painting.

They are \$50 and can be ordered through Brooke at brookelise@comcast.net

WHAT'S NEW AT THE SHIP'S STORE:

The Ship's Store has all types of fleece sweaters, vests and wind vests, as well as long-sleeved shirts available.

Come see the Sailor Bag models we carry, from small wristlets to weekender duffles. Sailorbags are great quality bags you will enjoy for a long time. Contact Jean Brewer for details and pricing!

in the planning. Look for e-blast(s) later in month.

Please be ready to help!

As mentioned last month, the 2015 House Committee enlistment is starting, please contact me at house@essexcorinthian.org to become a committee member.

To repeat from last month's Bell 8, I hope to have a specific committee member become a maintenance category primary point of contact and SME. The categories I'm contemplating to form include:

- Heating & Air Conditioning
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Gardening
- Cleaning & Appearance (interior)
- Exterior

I implore every member, especially those who may have experience and knowledge within any of these categories, please afford yourself to the service and benefit of ECYC by becoming a member of the House committee and an ECYC SME of any respective category.

I wish all a joyous and safe holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

Chuck Grusse
House Chair

Entertainment Committee Update:



Cheryl Arndt, Katherine Berry and Ruth Emblin decorating the club

Looking for a personalized holiday gift for your favorite boater(s)?

There is still time to customize your purchase.

Contact Cate Beckstein at Cate@adancingthread.com

Still available, a limited stock of our Cross Sound Challenge event t-shirts. Long-sleeved, white t-shirt with XSC logo on the back and ECYC burgee on the front, sizes S through XL. Please check with Jane Brewer for special sale pricing! Limited quantities, so get yours while they last!



Come see what's new at the Ship's Store! 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 new **special offers!** Limited quantities, so get yours while they last!

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MEMBER OF THE MONTH , BURGEE OF THE MONTH AND GREEN TIP OF THE MONTH WILL RETURN IN 2015!



Our club looks fantastic in its Christmas Splendor, thanks to the help of Earl and Liz Fowler, Dick Arndt and Ruth Emblin, under the wonderful leadership of Katherine Berry. Well done ! We hope you all enjoy it.

Decommissioning is on our radar and we are looking for members to sign up for Entertainment Committee so if you have an artistic streak, a desire to move furniture or even run an event - we need you! Please sign up on the sheet that will be posted on the board on Saturday. Or email me and I will gladly add you to the list.

The Children's Christmas Party is this coming Sunday. Get your child or Grandchild signed up now for some fun with Austin and Red Supreme, along a visit from Santa (you supply your child's gift, we do the rest). Light refreshments for the adults will be provided.



Next we have Jos & Friends for Sunday Brunch on December 14th. Great Music in the Christmas Spirit with fabulous food from Coastal Cooking. How can you pass it up? Contact Monique for reservations.

We close out the old year and ring in the new with our New Year's Eve party. It will feature an appetizer contest with prizes, a great buffet dinner and a chocolate fountain for dessert! Dance to the wee hours...what can be better than spending this special time of the year with friends?

If you have any questions or suggestions, please call me at 860 227-1363 or email me at events@essexcorinthian.org.

Cheryl Arndt
Entertainment Chair

Membership Update:

Members, please don't forget that this is the perfect time of year to have anyone who expressed interest in ECYC to become a member. Joining now affords them the opportunity to be an ECYC Member by only paying the



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@essexcyc.org, or snail-mail to

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PO Box 759 - Essex, CT 06426
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Contact Information for individual BoG Members is posted at www.essexcorinthian.org/club-officers.html

Find us on Facebook at: 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.



SHOP AT ECYC!

HOLIDAY GIFTS GALORE!

Come stop by and see what's new at the Ship's Store!

initiation fee. There is no dues payment until 2015. In addition, new members may take advantage of all of the upcoming events such as the Holiday Brunch, the Children's Holiday Party and New Year's Eve. at the club. Encourage and welcome your friends, acquaintances and business partners to join us in our environment of good fellowship.

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

For questions, please contact

Val Votto

Membership Chair

valerie@vottolaw.com

**Personalization available on
all embroiderable items. Ask
for details!**



See the Ship's Store for more information!