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THE ESSEX CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

March 2018

The Latest News from ECYC!



View from the Bridge

Dear Fellow Corinthians!

The club is back in operation, thanks to the hard work of our volunteers. The January maintenance went very well, and my thanks go out to our dedicated House Committee who made sure the clubhouse was in ship shape for reopening on February 1st. Thanks to past chair Chuck Grusse we now even have a functioning tap on our bar sink! Our galley started serving up great meals and we have already enjoyed several Friday night dinners including a fabulous Valentine's Day Dinner with tastv creations

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IMPORTANT DATES:

- **March 3rd:** Blessing of the Fleet / Chili Cook-Off
- **March 4th:** Spring Frostbiting starts (weather permitting)
- **March 10th:** Essex Go Bragh Parade
- **March 17th:** St. Patrick's Day Party
- **March 11th:** Daylight Savings Time
- **April 1st:** Easter Brunch
- **April 7th:** Spring Commissioning & New Member Reception
- **May 4th - 6th:** Essex Boat Show

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

by Chef Ed and his team. If you haven't been back to the Corinthian Cafe, we hope you'll join us soon for lunch, dinner or brunch!

Our committees have been hard at work to get the 2018 schedule in order. We have plenty of events on the calendar, and will be sharing more details soon. You can always refer to our website at www.essexcorinthian.org for details on dining, social, educational and on-water events.

There is no doubt, you, our members, are the lifeblood of our club, and we thank you for your support. As with any other organization like ours, our membership numbers fluctuate with the seasons. At the beginning of each calendar year - dues time - people tend to consider their membership status, and we typically have to deal with an ebbing tide a.k.a. resignations. In order to maintain our budget and continue being able to offer everything you have come to expect from our club we need your support to turn this ebb into a flood of new members. Please help our new Membership Chair and her team identify potential new members. I apologize if I am beginning to sound like a broken record, however, it is to everyone's benefit when we have a large pool of active members. We are a boating AND social club, and welcome anyone interested in what our great little club has to offer. Boat ownership is a plus, but not a prerequisite for membership.

The Entertainment Committee is working on a number of events, including the 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off in early March, organizing a club float in this year's "Essex Go Bragh" Parade, and a great St. Patrick's Day Party. If you haven't signed up yet for the party on March 17th, do so rather sooner than later as seats are limited. Our club's official Spring Commissioning is on Saturday, April 7th, and will feature a performance by the Sailing Masters of 1812. We will also welcome our new members in a special reception following the commissioning ceremony, so please attend to show them our Corinthian Spirit!

VICE COMMODORE'S UPDATE

It is hard to believe that it is already March. The first two months of the year went by too quickly. But the good news is that we are on track with planning our year at ECYC. Please look for periodical updates in the e-blasts we send out for your convenience. Just a reminder that we need your help running this club. We are all volunteers and you can help by joining any of our many committees!

Of course if you have questions or concern, don't hesitate to contact the Bridge or any member of the Board.

Spring is coming!

Chris Morano

Vice Commodore

Email: vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org



REAR COMMODORE'S UPDATE:

I see the docks are back in place for the upcoming frostbite season. Hopefully it will be another mild one like the last two years. I wasn't sailing three years ago after that nasty winter when most homeowners learned first-hand about ice dams, and the first three weeks of the frostbite season were cancelled due to solid ice in the basin and many of the pilings had been displaced. Eminently qualified big boat sailor, Etchells frostbiter, and past Frostbite Yacht Club commodore Bill Robinson has agreed to be Race Committee chairman for our premier sailing event - the Cross Sound Challenge held in September. Bill sailed the Cross Sound Challenge last year and won his division in a bizarre fashion. As the fleet approached the north shore of Long Island the local wind faded and most boats came to a standstill after rounding the turning mark. It was Hotel California for most, while a lucky few tacked back out towards the sound and managed to claw their way back into a decent breeze. The majority of the fleet eventually radioed the race committee they were dropping

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



ENTERTAINMENT UPDATE:

Ahoy fellow Corinthians!

The Entertainment Committee has been busy planning for the upcoming season and we have a number of events planned including old favorites as well as new.

Our first event will be our second annual Chili, Soup and Stew Cook-Off. We look forward to sampling a number of culinary creations for everyone's enjoyment. We will be awarding prizes for each category. This event is a wonderful way to start off the season during the chilly weather. The date is Saturday March 3 at 5 pm. Those who prefer not to spend time in the kitchen and would like to come sample the creations please leave a donation of \$10.00 to the River Room Fund.

Also in March, we will open our spring season with a St Patrick's dinner. There will be live entertainment Irish and Scottish music performed by John Birt, from 6:30 to 8:00. Hors d'oeuvres will be available from 6:30 to 7:15 followed by dinner. Additional music will be provided by our own DJ Peter Emblin throughout the remainder of the evening for your enjoyment.

The Spring Commissioning will be on April 7th at 4:00 pm, followed by a reception including hors d'oeuvres after the meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!

Once again, we look forward to a fun and entertaining 2018!!

Nancy Simms & Pat Atkinson

Co-Chairs Entertainment

Email: nancy-events@essexcorinthian.org or

pat-events@essexcorinthian.org

out, turned on their motors and headed back home. But Bill, either because they were having such a good time onboard or ever the optimist, did not drop out and only turned on his motor once the time limit expired. So imagine everyone's surprise when he was awarded first place in his division where no one finished, but per the rules everyone had dropped out of the race except Bill.

See you at the club!

Tom Atkinson

Rear Commodore

Email: rearcommodore@essexcorinthian.org



UPCOMING EVENTS:



**SECOND
ANNUAL
CHILI,
SOUP &
STEW
COOK-OFF
SATURDAY**

MARCH 3RD

Following the traditional "Blessing of the Fleet" by our Fleet Chaplain Dan Taylor-Stypa (at 4 pm), we invite everyone to participate in our annual cook-off on March 3rd starting at 5 pm.

Find a special recipe and cook a pot of chili, soup

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS:

**ST. PATRICK'S
DAY PARTY AT
ECYC**
SATURDAY MARCH
17TH



**LIVE MUSIC
BUFFET DINNER
FUN & PRIZES**

This year we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day at a special party at the club on Saturday, March 17th.

Party Fee \$42 per person

DON'T MISS THIS GREAT SPRING EVENT - SIGN UP NOW! Space is limited!

Note: This is our annual spring party, this year with a different twist!

Click here for more details and to register:

REGISTER NOW!

Find a special recipe and cook a pot of chili, soup or stew to share! We will provide bread and salad to complement the meal.

If you want to taste any of the offerings and will not be able to share a dish, please bring \$10 as a cash donation to the River Room Fund.

To let the committee know what you are bringing, please email cookoff@essexcorinthian.org!

2018 SPRING COMMISSIONING & NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

The Bridge and Board of
Governors of the Essex
Corinthian Yacht Club

cordially invite all
members to the
**2018 Spring
Commissioning**
Saturday, April 7th at 1600
hrs.



Ceremony to be followed by a catered
New Member Reception

**The Sailing Masters of 1812 will be performing
during the commissioning ceremony.**

Note:

Board members are asked to assemble at 1530 hours for a group photo. Club attire consisting of Navy blazer with club badge and Nantucket red pants requested.

WATERFRONT UPDATE:

Frostbiters found a spot of dry conditions to clean, rig, and to get some paint on at last Saturdays work party. With a little more good weather this week for paint and repairs and a rigging party next Saturday, we will be ready to go for the first race day of Sunday March 4. Racers that have not been available for our pre season maintenance parties need not despair; there will be tasks to be completed and other contributions that can be made all season long.

On Sunday February 25, we held our kick off meeting. With the introduction of new skippers and teams, we drew lots to re-set our seasonal boat rotation. Rear Commodore Tom Atkinson will sail Nautilus and, it being his turn to manage the open boat, will be sailing with a variety of crew from our team, which includes new

GALLEY UPDATE:



Since the galley reopened in February, Ed and Monique Armstrong and their team have been hard at work are ready to serve up many of our favorite meals. Please refer to our weekly menu emails for details on "What's Cooking at the Corinthian Cafe"!

Look for e-blasts with details on themed dinners

team members Mike Saxe and Sharon Tracy, as well as Glenn Jacobsen, Peter Emblin and John Abbot, and Terry Stewart as available. As Tom deferred a number of races to others last season for, we would like to have him drive a full season if possible.

New skipper Sam Berman drew Dragonfly and will team up with Matt Melius as primary crew/co-skipper, after they both sail week one with Tom and Cindy Gibbs respectively, for orientation. Cindy has offered to sit this season out as regular skipper, but will serve as first back up helmsman. Sue Watts drew Dauntless as a skipper, with Jon Gibbs as primary co-skipper, and others as scheduling warrants. Sam and Matt have also offered to defer on occasion if necessary to help us to get everyone on the water. With Sue Watts away week one, Jon Gibbs will sail Dauntless with Sharon Tracy week one.

We will keep a couple of dates open for others, such as new members, that we haven't heard from yet, but should have our provisional season schedule published in a day or two.

Read the complete report from our Fleet Captain by clicking [HERE](#).

Jon Gibbs
Fleet Captain
Email: fleetcaptain@essexcorinthian.org



HOUSE UPDATE:

There are a number of House projects on the schedule in 2018. The board is currently discussing roof repairs with our landlord. There will be further communication soon about projects we need to tackle this spring. If you want to help, whether physically or financially, please email David or contact any of the current Bridge officers. Thank you for your support!

David Kirsch
House Committee Chair
Email: house@essexcorinthian.org

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

As spring approaches and temperatures continue to rise, we can all look forward to spending some more time at our club on the picturesque Connecticut River. As your new Membership Chair, I

this season. Our galley team wants to treat us to a variety of local and international flavors.

March has always been dedicated to the "Irish Side of Life", so the club has asked Ed to come up with a special menu for our **St. Patrick's Day Party on Saturday, March 17th**. There will be LIVE music and entertainment to make this a special evening. Don't forget to sign up! Reservations can be made by emailing events@essexcorinthian.org. **See side bar for more party information!**

Here are some tips for making Friday night dinners smoother for everyone:

- Order your appetizers upon arrival on a separate slip so those can come out while you are enjoying your cocktails. These can even be preordered earlier in the day.
- If your table wants to eat at together, turn all the slips in at the same time.
- Make sure your table number is on the slip.

If you are entertaining at home, remember CCC can cater your party so you can spend time with your guests instead of being in the kitchen.

As always if you have questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me. I'm looking forward to seeing you all around the club.

Catherine Gazikas
Galley Liaison
Email: galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org



Late Winter/Early Spring Galley Hours:

Lunch:
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday
(self-service) : 11.30 am to 2.00 pm

Dinner:
Friday (table service): 5.30 pm to 8.30 pm

Brunch:
Sunday (self-service): 11.00 am to 2.30 pm
- special brunch hours on selected holidays!

Menus are available at
www.essexcorinthian.org/dining.html

am pleased to introduce you to our new members and their families.

Peter and Maria Decker from Centerbrook, sponsored by Catherine and Tony Gazikas. The Deckers are looking forward to getting back into boating, having owned a 26' power boat, and are currently on the waiting list for a town mooring. They are looking forward to meeting new friends and enjoying the club's fine dining.

Dana and Joan Hill from Ivoryton were sponsored by the Halls. The Hills have several friends who are currently members. In addition, Dana is the Director of the Board of Directors of DISH and a Steward at the Essex Land Trust.

Finally, we welcome **Ed and Joan Hamway** of Essex, sponsored by Christine Repasy and Bob Rekas. The Hamways are active in the Ancient Order of Weeders. Joan is on the board of the Essex Garden Club, and both are involved with the Essex Land Trust and the Friends of the Essex Library. We look forward to seeing all of them this season enjoying the deck, food, views and entertainment from ECYC.

Just like previous years, one of your Board's main goals is bolstering club membership. Aside from the intangible benefit of gaining new friendships and making great memories, and increase in membership directly supports ECYC's financial health and our ability to deliver a high value recreational and fellowship experience as a private club while holding a line on cost. Although we have a great new membership committee with some ideas for recruitment, new membership is everyone's responsibility. A new event to excite current members and invite prospective members to is an intro ride aboard the Ideal 18's to be offered free of charge on Memorial Day. Sign up in advance to reserve your spot. Look for more fun new membership committee activities to attend in the future. if you have any constructive suggestions on how we can build our membership in 2018 and beyond, please get in touch with me so we can discuss them. Thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing you around the club!

Cindy Gibbs

Membership Chair

Email: membership@essexcorinthian.org

DID YOU KNOW?

WINTER HOURS ARE STILL IN EFFECT AT THE CLUBHOUSE:

- Tuesday, Wednesday & 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 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.

REVISED HOUSE RULE 12:

Please be aware that the rule regarding snacks allowed during dining hours at ECYC has been changed. **Only snacks like chips & dip, nuts and "Goldfish" are permitted.**

GALLEY MINIMUM:

The Galley Minimum is charged if a member's consumption is less than \$30 per calendar month (except in January). As our caterer is an independent contractor, this amount directly benefits the club in lieu of the commission it would receive were the member to dine at the club instead.

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!

SHIP'S STORE





The **Ship's Store** is currently undergoing reorganization. Watch for an announcement for our new online store with TeamOne Newport at the end of this month. If you would like to purchase an item from our inventory, please contact the office.



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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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.

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