



Late Fall 2019

The Latest News from ECYC!



View from the Bridge

Dear Fellow Corinthians!

It is hard to believe that in a few weeks we will hold our **Decommissioning Ceremony**. Where has the time gone? It will be a bittersweet day for me, as my term as Commodore of this wonderful little club comes to an end and I will be handing the baton over to my very helpful and accomplished Vice Commodore, Chris Morano. It has been a great privilege to work with an extremely motivated and supportive Board of Governors, which has made a rather demanding job a lot easier. I've also enjoyed support and helpful feedback from a lot of

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IMPORTANT DATES:

- **November 26th:** Holiday Decorating Party
- **November 28th:** *Thanksgiving - Club & Galley Closed*
- **November 29th:** *NO LUNCH, galley open for Dinner*
- **December 1st:** Trees in the Rigging Viewing Party & Holiday Bazaar

members, showing clearly who truly cares for our club and where it is heading in the future. As is customary, I will remain on the Board for another two years as Immediate Past Commodore to be at Chris' side should he need help. When Chris takes over in 2020 I hope that all of you will continue to support him as you supported me. While becoming a part of the governing board does entail a certain amount of personal sacrifice, it has been a very rewarding experience for me, and I wish Chris and his 2020 slate of Officers and Board Members the same with all my heart!

Before the Decommissioning we can still look forward to another traditional ECYC event, the "Trees in the Rigging Viewing Party" on December 1st. It is a pot-luck, BYOB event, which will also feature our annual **Holiday Bazaar**. Get a head start on some holiday shopping and support your Club at the same time! **The items for sale were donated and proceeds will benefit the club.** Sign up information will follow shortly. **Please also bring a non-perishable food item which we will collect for a holiday donation to the Food Pantry.** For more details on what is going on at ECYC for the rest of the year, please refer to the Entertainment Committee's column, our monthly calendar and our website!

Of course, there are a few more "housekeeping issues" we have to attend to before the end of the year. I hate to put a damper on this newsletter by mentioning it yet again, but I unfortunately I have no choice thanks to a number members among you who are still in arrears with their payments. **As mentioned in the past, in order for the club to survive we depend on timely payments.** If members do not respect the payment timelines for dues or monthly charges, the club has to borrow funds to cover expenses. In turn, this shortfall and the resulting interest have to be covered somehow, as our budget is based on each member's annual dues and expected dining and other purchases. We have tried to keep dues increases within a reasonable amount each year, but if the trend of non-payment continues we will have to crack down even harder on delinquent accounts to avoid excessive costs resulting from this issue. If you have overdue account charges please pay them within the next couple of days to avoid posting and suspension of your club privileges, which we will

- **December 7th:** Decommissioning & Annual Meeting; Holiday Reception
- **December 8th:** Children's Holiday Party
- **December TBD:** Holiday Brunch
- **December 20th:** *Last Friday Dinner for the Season*
- **December 22nd:** *Galley closed until February 2020*
- **December 25th:** Club Closed
- **December 31st:** TBD
- **January 1st, 2020:** Club closed for Annual Maintenance through February

Refer to our event calendar on our website at

www.essexcorinthian.org for event details!

VICE COMMODORE'S UPDATE

As much as I hate to accept it, Summer is really over.

Looking back, the club had a great Season. Due to the efforts of our Membership Committee, our club roster continues to grow. The Entertainment Committee provided us with great events. Our Race Committee, Fleet Captain and all those who work with them, put on competitive regattas and boating activities that brought the club's sailing program to new heights. In addition, the silent small army of worker bees took on the many projects that keep our clubhouse in repair. And last but not least, we ate well, increasing our caloric intake as a result of the efforts of Gourmet Galley.

But now it is time to look to the future. The club's Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 7th. I urge you to attend, as it is the best opportunity to discuss issues concerning the health of ECYC and its future. All looks promising, but it is important that the Board continues to obtain input from the members it serves. In addition, the meeting is a good time to show an interest in assisting the various committees that will be undertaking tasks in the next year. If you are interested in volunteering, you can find out more at the meeting and sign up for the committee of your choice.

While the Club may appear dormant in the Winter months, there are many tasks that will need to be

enforce if needed. We have sent out reminders and you can clearly see your current and overdue balances in each monthly statement. ECYC is not a bank or credit card company; we have to pay our expenses just like any individual or company - we do not get any slack from our vendors. **To show that you care about this club, please pay your overdue charges so we can all move on to next year** , and spare our Treasurer the unpleasant task of calling or emailing you repeatedly. Thank you for your cooperation! And, a **heartfelt THANK YOU** to those among you who have been paying their bills on time!

On a lighter and much more positive note, I want to mention the achievements of a few members who have recently been honored at a couple of different events. First of all, **ECYC was well represented at the annual ECSA Dinner** last weekend. Past Commodore Terry Stewart represented the Bridge Officers at the dinner. ECSA, the Eastern Connecticut Sailing Association is the "league" our club sails in and consists of all yacht clubs from Milford to Watch Hill. Member **Sharon Tracy took third for the season in the NonSuch Class in "Blue Heron"** . **Jeff Going won first place in Class 8 in "Celebration"**. Congratulations to both Sharon and Jeff! In the overall club results ECYC came in fourth for the season in the non-spinnaker division. Not too shabby! ECSA also recognized the other club boats involved in the Eastern Connecticut regatta circuit throughout the year, including

- Blue Jacket (Bill Robinson)
- Dorian (Chris Morano)
- Flo (Toby Doyle)
- Irish Lady (Bill St. John)
- Petrel (Jon & Cindy Gibbs)
- Tartuca (Ruth & Peter Emblin)
- Tesoro (Tim Brewer)

While we may not have a huge fleet of racing boats it is great to see that the competitive ECYC sailing tradition continues rather successfully!

Another member who was recently honored for her long-time involvement in "all things Essex" is **Jacque Wolff** . Jacque is a founding member of ECYC, and has been an institution around Essex for over 50 years. The Town of Essex honored Jacque by dedicating the annual town report to her. I attended the town meeting and enjoyed listening

addressed before Spring arrives. One project is the renovation of the River Room. As you may recall, funds were raised for that purpose. They have been held in a separate account to ensure their availability when needed. In January, a committee will be formed to manage the design and execution of the renovations.

As we all need to eat in the off-season, don't forget Gourmet Galley will be serving up great meals. Nothing beats a warm meal after you have frozen your hands putting your boat away for the Winter.

See you around the fireplace,

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Morano

Vice Commodore

Email: vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org



REAR COMMODORE'S UPDATE:

After mutually bemoaning how Essex Yacht Club has more Ideal 18s than people who want to frostbite and we have more people who want to frostbite than boats, EYC generously offered to charter individual ECYC members two of their boats for the fall season. This allows a total of six boats to be sailed by our members. EYC normally has four boats sailing, so we should have ten boats on the starting line each week and may occasionally have eleven. This is the latest example of the two clubs working together to benefit the Essex sailing community. EYC was a partner club for this year's Leukemia Cup, hosting the Sunday awards party. And they partner with us in running the Junior Invitational Regatta for Pettipaug and North Cove junior sailors each year which are sailed in their Ideal 18s. We loan them our boats for their Special Olympics regatta. They allow the Frostbite fleet to be stored and launched from their property, and they host the post-race gathering for food, drink, and daily awards in their

to Jacquie as she shared her memories of Essex in the early days. Norm Needleman, Essex' First Selectman, recounted how she got the nickname "The Mayor of Main Street" and other panelists chimed in to create a heartfelt atmosphere of celebration of Jacquie's life and achievements. Congratulations, Jacquie!

Now we just have to face the "winter sailing drought" as boats are coming out of the water and are getting winterized one by one. I, for one, always get a bit melancholic when this happens and start binge-watching sailing videos! Fortunately, spring is not too far away (positive thinking may help overcome the winter blues and there are always club dinners where we can talk boating no matter what the weather!)



Jeff Going and Sharon Tracy accepting their awards at the 2019 ECSA Dinner



Jacquie Wolff at the Annual Meeting Town of Essex

bar. And they put on a great Rum Challenge regatta party in July which is open to all - this is the only event they charge for but it is worth every penny! Frostbiting is now almost over, and we will keep you informed on how our multi-club cooperation progresses.

Tom Atkinson

Rear Commodore

Email: rearcommodore@essexcorinthian.org



TREASURER'S UPDATE:

Greetings and happy Fall, I always look forward to the cool temps but not daylight savings.

I hate being a broken record but as our Commodore already mentioned...

We are a club that relies on our members to pay their monthly charges within a 30 day period. We need this income not only to pay the Galley Staff, but we need the cash flow to operate the club.

Thank you for your continued support,

Corinne Kilty

Treasurer

Email: treasurer@essexcorinthian.org

SAVE THE DATE:

DECOMMISSIONING

And finally, I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Please feel free to contact me or any member of Bridge and Board if you have any comments, questions or concerns. And, of course, I will continue to be a presence at the club if anyone wants to chat!

Ruth Emblin

ECYC Commodore #21

Email: commodore@essexcorinthian.org



ENTERTAINMENT UPDATE:

The Trees in the Rigging boat parade and holiday bazaar will be held on Sunday, December 1st. Please join us for the evening. Please watch for e-blasts to sign up as space is limited.

Decommissioning will be held on Saturday, December 7th at 4:00 pm. Join us for our final event for the season and enjoy appetizers and camaraderie with your fellow Corinthians.

On December 8th at 3:30 pm we will hold our annual Children's Holiday Party with entertainment by Sunny Train and, of course, a visit from Santa. There will be an RSVP for this event to allow for planning. We are looking for help to help decorate and help during the event. If you have time, please contact Pat Atkinson or Nancy Simms. Please look for the e-blast to sign up for this event.

Enjoy the Holiday Season!

Nancy Simms & Pat Atkinson

Co-Chairs Entertainment

Email: nancy-events@essexcorinthian.org or

pat-events@essexcorinthian.org



& ANNUAL MEETING December 7th at 4 pm

Join us at our Decommissioning, Annual Meeting, Awards Presentation & Holiday Member Reception!

Ceremony starts at 4 pm. Snacks will be served. BYOB.

Please note, this is a Members-Only Event

WATERFRONT UPDATE:



High marks for sportsmanship are due to the Essex Yacht Club for making two of their Ideal 18 boats available for charter to our team members for Fall Frostbiting. Our Bridge of Ruth Emblin, Chris Morano and Tom Atkinson were each instrumental in working this out as well as bringing our fourth boat to the line. Tom Atkinson and Cindy Gibbs have enjoyed the benefit of these charters to sail unfettered campaigns, in recognition of their support of our program and the spirit of friendly competition over the years. Moreover, in this year of great expansion to our program, the rest of our racers have also been able to sail as more regular teams. While Carter Gowrie remains in control of the standings, fellow EYC skippers, both instrumental in the boat sharing, Peter Harding and Bill Sandberg have enjoyed the good Karma as well, each winning a day, while our own Rear Commodore Tom Atkinson, sailing again with his son Dan, threw down the gauntlet on Frostbiting day one with a solid victory. Meanwhile, in our building year, veteran skippers new to our fleet John Kihm, Keith Kraner, and Judy Saunders have shown great promise and success, as they learn the idiosyncrasies of these boats and our venue. All in

RACE COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Cross Sound Challenge

The 2019 Cross Sound Challenge was held on Saturday September 21st in a light southwest wind that certainly put the "Challenge" in Cross Sound Challenge. With 22 boats on the starting line (well above average for most ECSA races this time of year), the fleet was eager to get clear air off the start and make it to the first turning mark at the eastern end of Long Sand Shoal. From there, relief came in the form of a fast reach over to Truman Beach, with most reporting their top speeds of the day on this leg. The return back to the Shoal was, for most in the non spinnaker fleet, another story altogether. Despite sunny skies and warm temperatures, the typically reliable afternoon sea breeze never materialized. In Class A, only 1 competitor managed to cross the finish line, and Joel Mangini's *Prism* (Duck Island YC) took first place (single handed, no less!). In the faster Class B non-spinnaker group, Mark Salerno's *Fusion* (Duck Island YC) took a bold initial route to the north that found favorable tide and resulted in a sizable lead that he wouldn't relinquish. *Sir Prize* (Constantine Manthous, Niantic Bay YC) and Gemini (Jeremy Sholovitz, Pettipaug YC) took home 2nd and 3rd, respectively. Top ECYCers in Class B were Chris Morano on *Dorian* (5th) and Sam Berman on *Atara* (6th). In the Class C Spinnaker fleet, Mark Kondracky's *Mentor* (Duck Island YC) and Toby Doyle's *Flo* (ECYC) battled it out all afternoon and finished within 2 minutes of each other on corrected time, with *Mentor* taking 1st and *Flo* 2nd. Larry Hennessey's *Direwolf* (Duck Island YC) took the gun but corrected out to 3rd place in Class C.

The regatta committee wishes to recognize the entire fleet of hearty competitors that make this event so much fun. We'd also like to give a very special thank you to our support boat volunteers Ned Manuel and Peter Lindner who lent both their boats and time. If you see them around the club, be sure to thank them because without them, we would not have been able to host this regatta!

Thomas Clark Memorial Race

all, the Ideal fleet has seen some of the toughest competition in years.

ECYC standings look better in the Etchells 22 fleet so far, with Toby Doyle and his team dominating, Vice Commodore Chris Morano and team winning a day, and Race Chair Bill Robinson visiting the podium in a role other than M.C.

In September, between the weekday storms, good, if fickle, weather blessed the PHRF River Race Series. On the final Birch regatta, Toby Doyle was well on the way to breaking through over series leader team Rumor, when they both rounded the wrong mark! As a result, honors went to Jeff Going's consistently well sailed Celebration team. That month also saw our Ideal 18 vets took turns having bad races to scuttle an otherwise very competitive EYC/ECYC team race. Thanks to Nancy Simms and the Atkinson family for making the Team Race and Clarke race after-parties the best part of the day.

We are proud to have Jane Reilly and Dan Rennie aboard. This year they once again did a great job as Race Committee for the Leukemia Cup and Clarke Races, and Jane was also on the spot to run Tuesday night racing, when our neighbors were without their quorum for racing. We look forward to reciprocating as a club with more river racing opportunities as we progress. We owe special thanks to EYC Waterfront Marcus Garafolo for his timely assistance again this year. Recognition is also due to our team members who have done so much to keep our fleet in good repair.

Finally, let me express my personal thanks to Ruth Emblin, who has done so much to support the growth of our racing stature over the last two years and more.

Jon Gibbs

Fleet Captain

Email: fleetcaptain@essexcorinthian.org



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

The annual Clark Race was held on Saturday October 12th and was the 2nd installment in this years Tri-Club River Series. This year's race was a tale of two distinct parts, as the first leg saw skippers opting for #3 jibs and reefed mainsails, while the final leg from Calves Island to the finish in Essex Harbor was an exercise in patience (or perhaps stubbornness!) navigating the increasing ebb tide and dying breeze. Correcting out by a whopping 5 seconds, Matt Rennie's *Rumor* (Duck Island YC) managed to squeak by Toby Doyle's *Flo* (ECYC) for the win. After his victory by 1 second in the Willets Race, Matt now has 2 first place finishes over *Flo* with a grand total of 6 seconds separating the 2. Jeff Going and Ed Birch on *Celebration* (ECYC) were in close pursuit for much of the race, but finished 3rd after the breeze shut down on the final leg.

The Birch Memorial Regatta (PYC) was the last of the series, raced on October 19th. Jeff Going on *Celebration* (ECYC) dominated his class. Toby Doyle on *Flo* (ECYC) was poised to take away the overall honors from Matt Rennie on *Rumor* (DIYC), but thanks to a slight mishap in mark rounding by both boats, the honor of winning the overall series went to Jeff Going on *Celebration*. In any case, we are happy to see the Tri-Club River Series trophy back at ECYC!

The regatta committee would like to give a big thanks to Jane Reilly and Dan Rennie who once again served as our PRO and race committee, and to Michael Saxe, who volunteered with his boat to serve as committee boat for this year's race. Last but not least, thank you to our wonderful entertainment committee who went above and beyond to make the post-race party the best of the series!

Bill Robinson

Race Committee Chair

Email: racechair@essexcorinthian.org



Welcome all new members - what a strong, successful year we've had so far! I am happy to say we're still welcoming new member this Fall. In September we welcomed the **Parkerson Family** who moved to Essex from NYC and discovered our club through the Linder family, who sponsored them. We also welcomed back the returning members **Annalisa Santoro** and **Patti Davidson** ! Further, we welcomed **Jim and Debbie Hammel** from Simsbury! Jim successfully raced a few times with Matt Melius and said he liked what he saw at the club!

We have had people comment on our cool boats, beautiful clubhouse, enthusiastic sailors and the great river view. Please let your friends know that right now they can enjoy the club until the end of the year without any dues payable for 2019; to join, all they have to do is put in their application and pay the initiation fee at the 2019 rate. This represents considerable savings, as the initiation fee will go up in 2020!

Reminder to everyone, we will host our end-of-the-year New Member Reception on December 9th following the Decommissioning and Annual Meeting! Please attend to see what the future holds, and to find out which committees need help (sign-up sheets will be provided at the meeting).

Cheers,

Cindy Gibbs

Membership Chair

Email: membership@essexcorinthian.org



DID YOU KNOW?

LATE FALL HOURS ARE IN EFFECT AT THE CLUBHOUSE:

- Tuesday, Thursday 9 am to 5 pm (Office closes at 4 pm)
- Friday 9 am to 9 pm (Office closes at 4 pm)
- Saturday 11 am - 5 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.

SHIP'S STORE

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

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 or check your email! This month there will be "comfort food" offerings to keep you warm and happy!

- 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.
- 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

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 information is available at www.essexcorinthian.org

*Galley Liaison
Email: galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org*

NOTE:
*Galley will be closed on Thanksgiving, closed for lunch on Friday, November 29th, but reopen for dinner that night.
Last Friday Dinner for the season will be on December 20th. Galley will close for the season on Sunday, December 22nd.*

Late Fall Galley 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!

Check your email for weekly specials; regular menus are online at www.essexcorinthian.org/dining.html

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

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

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