



THE ESSEX CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

OFF-SHORE

IDEAL 18 FLEET UPDATE



To set the stage for Ed Birch's festive Frostbiting 80th birthday party, Ed and Robert calmly took the day two Sundays ago, winning two races on the day. Despite missing a day, their team is well set up to complete the series in a great position. Tom was well placed to take the series overall, and did so last Sunday, with Jon and Cindy's teams in hot pursuit.

The result was an ECYC sweep of the Spring Series, with Tom Atkinson & crew leading, Jon Gibbs & crew second, and Cindy Gibbs & crew third.

This season we were very pleased to welcome Sue Watts, John Abbot, and Chris Morano to our club's Ideal 18 Frostbiting program.

The ECYC/EYC North U. Rules and Tactics Seminar last Thursday was very well presented by Bill Gladstone, who managed to clarify some tricky nuances, while keeping the big picture clear. Our thanks go to Cindy and Peter Harding for their initiative in particular, and also to Priscilla Robinson, Sue Watts, and Bill Robinson who helped bring Pettipaegers and Frostbiters into this well attended program.

May, and June bring the Racing and Ladies clinics. Sign up now as opening have a way of disappearing all at once! The club boats will also be available for the Willets, Clark, and Birch memorial river races this fall.

EYC and ECYC will be promoting Tuesday night

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **May 6th:** Wine Tasting
- **May 8th:** Mother's Day Brunch
- **May 13th - 15th:** Essex Boat Show
- **May 19th:** Leukemia Cup Kick-Off Cocktails & Music
- **May 29th:** Spring Raft-Up in Hamburg Cove
- **June 1st:** Wednesday Night Dinners start



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

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Fellow Corinthians!

Now that my favorite season is here and the covers are coming off the boats, flowers are blooming, and our club is getting ready for the season as well. The final painting of the deck is planned and the awning is about to go up! Soon we will hopefully be able to once again enjoy our great view and sit under the stars!

One of our next events is the **Leukemia Cup Kick-Off** held **May 19th at ECYC**. This event helps promote a fun sailing race for an important cause. Please come and show your support. Our Vice Commodore, Ruth Emblin, co-chairs the event, so if you have any questions, she will be happy to help. Tickets for the event are sold directly at the following website: www.leukemicup.org/ctwhv/.

racing starting in June for intermediate teams who looking to sharpen their racing skills. This will provide an excellent opportunity for our members and particularly our Racing Clinic graduates.

EYC Thursday night racing this summer will remain a spinnaker class. EYCYC teams and boats are also invited to participate in the Ideal 18 Rum Challenge. EYCYC will host the EYCYC team race in September. Teams for these events will be assigned by the Fleet Captain, contact Tom Atkinson or Jon Gibbs if interested.

For Fall Frostbiting, we expect to continue to be able to accommodate all qualified skippers and crews. Teams of a skipper, crew, and alternate crew, signed up two weeks before the season begins, get first shot at regular scheduling. We keep some opportunities open for newcomers as long as possible. The updated Ideal 18 usage guidelines will be posted soon and will become part of our club's policies.

The boats are fully rigged and available everyday for use by member skippers and their guests, providing that they have been pre-qualified to do so by Ed Birch or Cindy Gibbs. As now set up, you can be underway in minutes.

All crews and guests must sign the waiver and contact information forms, and sign out on the bulletin board in the River Room as well!



Spring skippers, Tom Atkinson, Cindy and Jon Gibbs, wearing their Spring Frostbite Series Trophies

Jon Gibbs

Ideal 18 Fleet Coordinator
Email: fleetcoordinator@essexcorinthian.org

Sign Up for Our New Racing Clinic!

We are offering a new and exciting **Co-Ed Adult Racing Clinic** to our members in the Ideal 18s!

Instructor: Cindy Gibbs

Classes will be held on 3 consecutive Wednesday nights:
May 25, June 1, June 8
Time: 5:00-7:30pm
Cost: \$150.00

Sign-up required.
Class size will be 6 to 10 students, first come-first serve.

The clinic will be informative, the perfect way to review the rules of sailing and racing, learn about starting and general racing concepts!

To sign up, contact Cindy Gibbs at cindysailing@essexcorinthian.org

Cindy Gibbs

Sailing Instructor

I am very happy to report that **Jean Little is celebrating her first year anniversary as Club Manager at EYCYC**. Jean has done a great job getting know our members and has quickly learned the workings of our club. We are looking forward to many more years of great cooperation! Please stop in and say hello when you can.

Membership Update:

As you all know we are looking for new members who share our values and will enjoy our wonderful waterfront here in Essex. The most important factor is that they are the correct fit for our organization and stay on as members. It is a job for all of us, not just a committee's, so please share this responsibility. Invite your friends and let them see what EYCYC is all about!

Eastern Connecticut 12-Meter Challenge Update:

The annual event is planned for June 25th in Newport, RI. Within a very short time of publicizing the date we have almost filled two boats, so please sign up soon if you plan on going. Space is limited! Please contact David Evangelisti for details.

There is plenty going on at the club in the next few weeks, please refer to our event calendar for details! Please remember we will have our **Spring Hamburg Cove Raft Up on Sunday, May 29th**. If you are attending and have extra room please let us know as there are always folk without a boat who would enjoy going.

Hope you have a great month!

Steve Rodstrom

Commodore



WINE TASTING & ITALIAN NIGHT AT EYCYC ON MAY 6TH



Wine Tasting at EYCYC Friday, May 6th

Please join in for a **Wine Tasting/Educational Opportunity** on May 6th from 6 to 8 pm.

The **Corinthian Cafe** will be serving a menu inspired by Italian flavors. **For menu details, click HERE!**

Presenters: Jim Morrison, Tony Lombardo

This event is sponsored by Artisan Wine Inc., a distributor based in Norwalk, CT that focuses on bringing to market unique (limited production bottlings) from family managed

wineries and vineyards.

The tasting will be from Italy and select areas of the US West Coast.

All wines are for purchase, with NO minimums, and orders will be filled by Amity Wine Inc of New Haven, CT.

And just to give you advance notice of the next special event we are working on:
SAVE THE DATE for our planned EYCYC KAYAK ADVENTURE on August 13th! Details to follow.

For more information, please contact
Off-Shore & Special Event Coordinator

Mark Bavalack

specialoffshore@essexcorinthian.org

BURGEES, BURGEES, BURGEES!

You may have noticed a few new burgees hanging in a prime spot in our clubhouse. Our "burgee collectors" have been busy for several months, and here are some of the latest. We are missing some information on who supplied these burgees to our collection, if you are the donor or know who is, please let our club manager, Jean Little, know!

ON-SHORE & HOUSE

The boating season is just around the corner, and there is a lot going on in the boatyards in our area. With the start of the season also come more boaters' get-togethers, like our **Spring Raft-Up**, planned for **May 29th**. Please contact Steve Rodstrom for more information.

Our next few social events include a **Wine Tasting on May 6th** (for more information see article on the right) and the **Mother's Day Brunch on May 10th**. We are also hosting the **2016 Leukemia Cup Kick-Off, a charity event, on May 19th**.

Please participate in our events and activities, our club and its volunteers put a lot of effort in organizing these events for you, so let's not disappoint them!

As always, you can find more information on our program on our website, www.essexcorinthian.org, click on "Events".

If you have suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact me or any of our board members to share. ECYC lives and breathes with the help of our membership.

Wishing you all a Happy Spring!

Ruth Emblin

Vice Commodore

Email: vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org



House Committee Update:

The main deck panting/staining is continuing to make progress. The efforts of Deb Wallis, Jon Gibbs, and Harry Bird on Saturday the 16th all but completed the railing paint step. A huge thank to each for their help, nothing gets done without folks pitching in. Remain hopeful the sanding and staining of the deck boards will be completed during May. Look for announcements of opportunity to help in completing this odyssey of a task. Weather needs to cooperate to schedule these sessions.

The improvement program continues to be a work in progress with Terry Stewart pursuing alarm/security system replacement; Gary Sharpe the river room entrance enhancement; me the building front improvement; rear deck replacement remains open for a volunteer to pursue evaluation/design/proposal.

As spring continues to make its appearance to signal the start of the 2016 boating and ECYC's 31st season, the committee will continue to make the club building the best it can be to welcome all members and offer the enjoyment of river side dining and lounging. It really is a great place to hang during these wonderful Connecticut summers.

As always, any help to pitch in and assist in making ECYC facility as best as it can be is always welcome and crucial.

Chuck Grusse

House Chair

Email: house@essexcorinthian.org

Entertainment Committee Update:

Burgee displays are a common feature at yacht clubs around the world, symbolizing a welcoming fellowship among yacht club members and visitors.

Each year, ECYC posts new burgees members have collected from their visits to other yacht clubs at the front of the dining room. Our collection also includes burgees presented by visitors to ECYC from other clubs.



Eventually, the burgees are moved to the supporting chains across the dining room, resulting in an impressive collection from clubs as close as next door to those in exotic and distant places ranging from Australia, Asia, Europe, Hawaii, and throughout the Caribbean. We need another chain!

Conversely, you will find our burgee displayed at many of the world's greatest sailing destinations resulting from visits by our members.

Our newest burgees are from (left to right):

- Newport Harbor Yacht Club; Newport Beach, California (tbd)
- Royal Marsh Harbour Yacht Club; Marsh Harbour, Bahamas (Ruth Emblin)
- Dataw Island Yacht Club; St. Helena, South Carolina (Jim Pfeffer)
- Santa Barbara Yacht Club; Santa Barbara, California (Susan Malan)
- Royal Victoria Yacht Club; Victoria, British Columbia (tbd)
- One 15 Marina Club; Sentosa Cove, Singapore (Peter Emblin)
- Palm Beach Sailing Club; North Palm Beach, Florida (Terry Stewart)
- Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club; Bellevue, Washington (tbd)
- New Buffalo Yacht Club; New Buffalo, Michigan (Dana and Gale Crown, visitors)

Visiting reciprocal yacht clubs during your travels is a fun privilege of our membership. Many clubs are located in spectacular locations without the crowds but with the promise of meeting friendly and interesting club members and staff.

If you plan a visit to a club near your destination, always check with them beforehand for hours and visitor rules. Some clubs accept credit cards. Others require a letter of introduction (see Jean Little) to establish billing through your ECYC account.

Always be on the lookout for visitors to ECYC and return the welcoming Corinthian spirit our members have enjoyed.

Terry Stewart

Past Commodore

GALLEY NEWS

Our **Friday night dinners** have become very popular, and we are happy to see so many of you enjoying dinner at the Corinthian Cafe! A couple of Fridays ago we had a full house, with hardly a seat to be had, which, at time, put a lot of pressure on the galley to deliver meals.

It can be hard to predict how many diners to expect on a particular Friday night. Therefore we are working on an option for members to let the galley know ahead of time whether they will be dining at the club on a Friday night. This will not be a reservation option, we will continue to keep our open seating policy, but a means to make meal planning easier for the galley.

Until we find the best option, **could you please consider sending a quick email to Monique, just to let her know that you are planning on dining at ECYC on a Friday night, complete with the number of your party?**

A short email to monique@coastalcookingcompany.com is all it takes...

Remember, if everyone on your table wants to eat at the same time, please turn your orders in together. However, please be aware that orders by groups larger than six may need to be slightly staggered to allow the kitchen to coordinate serving.



This coming Friday night, Ed and Monique have put together a **Italian-themed dinner menu** to complement the **wine tasting** we have planned. Enjoy a great dinner and learn more about wines from Italy and the Northwest of the United States!

While it was not our event, several of our members participated in the annual "Burning of the Socks" event on April 30th, hosted by EYC. A big bonfire was lit in our neighbors' yard, and people brought their socks to burn in a ceremony to say goodbye to winter and usher in the warmer season. Several people brought their expired flares, and safely set them off in an "almost fireworks display". Unfortunately it was quite chilly that evening, but cocktails sipped by the bonfire and spirited conversations about the boating season to come helped dispel some of the chill.

There are a lot of upcoming events on OUR event calendar, and we hope that you will enjoy them. We ask you to consider volunteering for one of them. As we are a membership-driven organization the philosophy is "all hands on deck" to make the 32nd year of our club successful and enjoyable for all! Check out the online calendar and select a club event you would like to become involved in!

Remember, our events are listed online at our website, just go to www.essexcorinthian.org ... and click on "Events"!

Ruth Emblin

Vice Commodore & 2016 On-Shore Events
Email: vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org
or events@essexcorinthian.org

Membership Update:

The onset of warmer weather, thoughts of maritime recreation, and member hospitality has drawn a recent flurry of applications. I'm delighted to extend a big Corinthian welcome to the following new members, whose applications the Board of Governors approved at its April meeting:

- **Phil and Diane Reid**, who recently moved to Essex from Florida and are eager to meet folks with similar interests. Proposed by Laura Walker, the Reids bring over 35 years of sailing experience on 22' to 51' monohulls and catamarans in the waters of Long Island Sound, Chesapeake Bay, the British Virgin Islands, and the Gulf of Mexico. They were associated with the Mt. Sinai (Long Island) Yacht Club from 1985-1991. Phil is active in the extrusion manufacturing business.
- **Phillip and Deborah Walters**, who recently moved to Essex from Darien and knew on their first luncheon visit to ECYC with their hosts, Kathy and Don Shannehan, that they'd enjoy our club because it was "intimate, smaller, and less formal" than what they'd been accustomed to in Fairfield County. Phillip and Deborah are veteran boaters, having previously owned a Sabre 362 and Chris Craft 23 and crewed in races from Maine to the Caribbean. Proposed by the Shannehans - who also sold them their new home here - the Reids look forward to socializing with those who "appreciate the nautical lifestyle."
- **Sue and Rob Watts** of Deep River, proposed by Cindy Gibbs as active sailors since their youth. A landscape architect by profession, Sue has partnered with Rob - a sometime yacht captain - to deliver boats up and down the East coast and the Bahamas. Now owners of High Cotton, a 30' Nonsuch, Sue and Rob are members of Pettipaug Yacht Club and the International Nonsuch Association and especially interested in frostbiting and racing.



On **Sunday, May 10th**, the galley will serve a special **Mother's Day Brunch**. Why not treat Mom to brunch at ECYC?

There are two seatings, and reservations are strongly encouraged to ensure you get your preferred seating! For details and reservations, please go to www.essexcorinthian.org/more-events-at-ecyc.html or download the brunch menu by clicking on the button below:

DOWNLOAD BRUNCH MENU

Looking forward to seeing you at the club,

Catherine Gazikas

Galley Liaison

Did You Know?

The Galley serves a great lunch with soups, salads and all kinds of comfort food to be enjoyed while the roaring fireplace takes the chill out of rainy April weather or enjoy the spring views across the Connecticut River! Why not come and give it a try? Daily Wednesdays through Saturdays, and brunch on Sundays!

FEEDBACK

We want to know what you think about our galley!

Menus are available at

www.essexcorinthian.org/dining.html

We want your feedback about our galley activities.

Please let us know what you think!

Email galleyliaison@essexcorinthian.org

LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST:

Essex Spring Boat Show



Connecticut Spring Boat Show

Friday - Sunday, May 13 - 15, 2016 / Friday 12 - 6 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10 am - 5 pm
Brewer Essex Island Marina,
11 Ferry Street, Essex

A boutique in-water show featuring sail and power boats with sea trial opportunities.

Free admission.

[More information available HERE.](#)

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Check out the spring program at the **Connecticut River Museum** by clicking **[HERE!](#)**

May is stacking up to be a busy Board meeting, too, with another handful of new and reinstatement membership applications in-hand for action.

A quick public service announcement: To make things flow as smoothly as possible for anyone you're proposing, please assume the role of concierge for the candidate, taking the lead in assembling and delivering a complete membership package including (1) application with proposing and seconding signatures; (2) proposing letter(s); and (3) payment. Jean Little, our friendly club manager, will gladly accept your submission at the office, or you can call me (860-581-3501) to get it into my hands for action. You'll do your friends a tremendous favor by helping them through this process.

See you on the water!

Scott Konrad

Membership Chair

Email: membership@essexcorinthian.org

Green Tip of the Month:



OUR RIVER...

How much do you really know about the Connecticut River? The river is a dominant force in our club life, and we are constantly enjoying its many charms. But we need to be the ones to protect it, so future generations can enjoy it as well.

Here are some quick facts:

Length The Connecticut River is the largest river in New England. It flows 410 miles from its source at Fourth Connecticut Lake, a tiny beaver pond 300 yards from the Canadian border, to Long Island Sound.

Depth The river's depth varies from a few inches to 130' deep just below the French King Bridge in Gill, Massachusetts. The depth of the river in most places is constantly changing as the river transports and rearranges its load of sediment.

Wildlife The Connecticut River is home to countless species of birds, amphibians, fish and mammals. Nesting areas abound along the shores and in the estuaries. It is the winter home for Bald Eagles, and the lower river hosts spectacular murmurations of swallows each year. It is a veritable paradise for wildlife lovers.

If you want to find out more about the Connecticut River, you will have a chance this May. The Connecticut Audubon Society's Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center will host three lectures in Old Lyme and Essex this spring.



The talks will focus on the importance of preserving the biodiversity of watershed forests and wetlands, and their relationship to one another, and to humans.

The lectures are as follows:
* **May 12, 4:30 p.m. at Old Lyme Town Hall.** Dr. Robert Askins, biology professor at Connecticut College, will give a talk titled "The Connecticut River Watershed: The

Burning of the Ships Day is on May 14th!

Come and commemorate the worst day in Essex's history with the famous **Loser's Day Parade!** The festivities kick off with the annual Burning of the Ships Commemoration Parade presented by Essex's own Sailing Masters of 1812 Fife & Drums corps.

Find out more at

www.ctrivermuseum.org/calendarevent/burning-of-the-ships-day-2/



ECYC TO HOST 2016 KICK-OFF EVENT ON MAY 19TH BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

As part of our cooperation with Duck Island and North Cove Yacht Clubs in support of the Leukemia Cup Regatta, our club is proud to once again host the **LEUKEMIA CUP KICK-OFF - COCKTAILS FOR A CURE!**

The **Leukemia Cup Kick-Off** is a very social and informative event for anyone interested in supporting the lifesaving work of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The Leukemia Cup Regatta is a race held in almost every (sailing) state across our nation. What is better than doing something for the good of others AND enjoying time out on the water? And if you are not a sailor, you can still help with the regatta by supporting one of our teams racing or by creating your own virtual team for fundraising.

More will be explained on **Thursday, May 19th, beginning at 7.00 pm.** We are pleased



to have been able to win support from the fellows of "Long Splice" as our musical entertainment for the night! You may know them if you frequent the Gris, and if you were at the "Burning of the Socks" last weekend, you got a taste of their performance....they have agreed to provide us with a special musical performance in support of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society!

You can look forward to cocktails and snacks, raffles, seafaring music and inspiring moments!

PLEASE SUPPORT ECYC'S COMMITMENT TO THE LEUKEMIA CUP REGATTA even if you are not a sailor! Come to the Leukemia Cup 2016 Kick-Off Party at ECYC on May 19th!

This is a ticketed event open to the public - tickets are available for sale at www.leukemiacup.org/ctwhv

If you are a registered Leukemia Cup skipper, you will receive a discount code via email!

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to help with the event on May 19th or the Leukemia Cup Regatta on August 27th.

Ruth Emblin

Connecticut Leukemia Cup Regatta
Co-Chair



Did You Know?

**SPRING CLUB HOURS IN EFFECT,
COMMISSIONING TO MEMORIAL DAY:**

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday:

9 am to 5 pm

Cocktails for a Cure

Please join The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, ECYC, NCYC, DIYC, and BBPM to kickoff our 2016 Leukemia Cup Regatta!

Thursday, May 19 | 7-9 PM
Essex Corinthian Yacht Club
Live music by Long Splice

Ticket prices: \$35 for unregistered participants
Registered participants will receive discount code via email
Purchase tickets at: www.leukemiacup.org/ctwhv

Contact Luisa.Cardona@lls.org for more information!

Role of Our Forests."

* **May 19, 4:30 p.m. at Essex Meadows.** Michael DiGiorgio, nature artist, illustrator and painter, will give a talk titled "John J. Audubon and Roger Tory Peterson and the Next Generation in Scientific Illustration." The Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts is co-sponsor of the talk.

* **June 2, 4:30 p.m. 2 at Essex Meadows.** Chris Elphick, associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Connecticut, will give a talk titled, "Canaries in the Estuary?"

Admission is free but seating is limited, so reservations are required by contacting mleslie@ctaudubon.org or calling (203) 259-0416, ext. 404.

Thank you for being an environmentally aware ECYC member!

Ruth Emblin

ECYC Fleet Communicator

Friday: 9 am to 9 pm
Saturday and Sunday: 11 am to 5 pm

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

2016 MEMBERSHIP & FLEET ROSTERS ARE HERE!

Don't forget to pick up your copy at the club office!

Our thanks to Joe Montana for supplying the photograph that was subsequently digitally enhanced, and went on to win the cover art contest for 2016!

The image on the back cover was submitted by Jon Gibbs.



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.

WEBSITE:

All of our events and announcements, as well as archive copies of the Bell 8 Newsletter are available online at our website, www.essexcorinthian.org!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- A quick reminder that if you are using a **liquor locker** and find a blue sticky note on it, please contact Club Manager Jean Little to indicate whether you wish to continue to rent the locker for \$25 per year or relinquish it. Unclaimed/unpaid lockers will be opened and repurposed. Please also remember to **always lock up** to keep the contents secure.
- If you registered for **paperless statement delivery**, please check your email for the latest account statement from ECYC. If not, why not consider going paperless? One less piece of paper to worry about! Please email Club Manager Jean Little to let her know your preferences.

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

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.

