



THE ESSEX CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

OFF-SHORE

IDEAL 18 FLEET NEWS

ECYC Frostbiters took it to the wire this spring!

Spring conditions in February helped us to get the club boats ready early.

Much thanks to Jeff Going, Glenn Jacobsen, Richard Marsh, Terry Stewart, Chuck Grusse, Sue Watts, and Cindy and Jon Gibbs, all of whom joined Fleet Captain Tom Atkinson at his well organized work parties.

Spring conditions failed for three consecutive Sundays, but the fleet finally got underway. Tom Atkinson won the first two days and held his lead going into the last weekend with the help of primary crew Dan Atkinson and alternates Glenn Jacobsen, Terry Stewart, Chuck Grusse, and (pending member) Peggy Thompson. The reigning and frequent champ Carter Gowrie of EYC eventually broke through, but Tom has more than made a series of it this year.

Jeff Going joined Ed Birch as co skipper this year, and the team of Ex-Commodores, which has had such great success for ECYC on the ECSA circuit, has again proven formidable in one design racing, placing in the money this year at third.



Image by Brenda Miller-Black

Congratulations to Sue Watts, who joined Cindy Gibbs in co-skippering Nautilus, and also to our other new to frostbiting skippers

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **May 4th:** Lecture "Before the Wind"
- **May 5-7th:** Essex In-Water Boat Show
- **May 14th:** Mother's Day Brunch
- **May 20th:** Annual Spring Benefit Party
- **May 29th:** Memorial Day
- **June 4th:** 1st Round the Buoy Regatta
- **June 11th:** Spring Hamburg Cove Raft-Up



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

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE



Fellow Corinthians!

Now that Spring is here, the covers are coming off the boats, flowers and trees are blooming and our club is getting ready as well. Our awning is back up, and our deck is open for dining again. Soon we will be spending our Friday nights under the stars.

Communication Update:

I am pleased to report that members **Dick Hoxsey** and **Harry Bird** have indicated that they are willing to assist with communications at the Corinthian. We hope to formalize our cooperation in the next few weeks, but there are a number of ways to contribute so please contact me if you are interested. Bell Eight and the Membership Roster are the largest projects, all accomplished on a volunteer basis, and there are also our weekly menus, event and informational e-blasts, as well as website updates. Currently all this is accomplished by our **Vice Commodore Ruth Emblin** and she will have other responsibilities as we move forward. Please consider helping out, and remember this is a great way to make new friends!

Membership Update:

John Abbot and Richard Marsh, sailing in this seasons "open boat" Dragonfly with yours truly Jon Gibbs. Leaving the most room for improvement this season myself, I look forward to seeing the fruits of this year's growth in our program.

Skippers and crews that would like to become involved in our club Ideal 18 fleet racing are encouraged to participate in Tuesday and Thursday summer racing, hosted by EYC, in June, July and August. Please contact Fleet Captain Tom Atkinson, or Ladies' Sailing Program Instructor Cindy Gibbs, to qualify to race or sail the club boats.

Congratulations also to Toby Doyle for winning the well sailed Etchells 22 class frostbiting season series!

Jon Gibbs

The final weekend of frostbiting ended with racing both Saturday and Sunday to partially make up for the first three weekends being cancelled due to too much wind (and cold). But every day thereafter was reasonably warm with solid wind. I think EYC had a record turnout in terms of participation, with six people steering including three newcomers to the helm - Sue Watts, Dick Marsh, and John Abbot. Also, Jeff Going came out of small boat retirement to share the helm with Ed Birch. New club member Peggy Thompson crewed and has her sights set on steering as well. Meanwhile Terry Stewart, Glenn Jacobsen, Chuck Grusse and Danny Atkinson were able and enthusiastic crew. Sadly, our strength was not matched by EYC as they had only two boats sailing instead of the usual four. Perhaps we should charter their unused boats? The author had a one point lead going into the final weekend but EYC's steady Carter Gowrie prevailed by three points in the forty-two race series. Ed Birch/Jeff Going finished third, followed by Cindy Gibbs/Sue Watts. Jon Gibbs had the "open" boat this season and did a great job of juggling people to sail it. Toby Doyle won the Etchells class by a four point margin. By contrast, the winner of the JY-15 class won by ninety one points.

Tom Atkinson

Fleet Captain

Email: fleetcaptain@essexcorinthian.org

Race Committee Update

Upcoming Regattas:

Round-the Buoys Friendly Series Dates:
Sunday, June 4th - Sunday, July 9th - Sunday, August 6th
Spring Off Soundings: June 9th - 10th
Essex Rum Challenge: Saturday, July 22nd
North Cove Outer Light Classic: Saturday, July 22nd
Essex YC Sam Wetherill Overnight Race: Friday, August 18th
Tri-Club Leukemia Cup Regatta: August 26th
Fall Off Soundings: September 15th - 16th
ECYC Cross Sound Challenge: September 23rd
ECYC Thomas Clark Memorial (Tri-Club River Series): October 21st

Thanks in advance to all our Race Committee and Protest Committee volunteers. Without the help of these club members we would not be able to sustain our PHRF racing program! If you'd like to be involved in planning one of the friendly Round the Buoy Races, the Cross Sound Challenge or the Thomas Clark Memorial, please contact me at racechair@essexcorinthian.org.

See you on the water,

Tim Brewer

2017 Race Committee Chair

Email: racechair@essexcorinthian.org



ON-SHORE

Entertainment Committee Update:

Each year we talk about membership and again this year I reach out to you. Most clubs need to regain about 10% of their membership for various reasons and this year is no different. **We are currently down 22 members** and what I ask is for you to think about folks you know who would enjoy joining EYC. **It is important to remember you do not have to be a boater to join.** I would be pleased to assist you with our membership process. Applications are available on our website. **Do not forget this year we are offering \$100 off your next year's dues when you bring in a new member.**

Event Update:

We have a **very special event coming up on May 20th. It is our club's annual charitable contribution to a good cause.** Please join us at our party to benefit the **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**. It will be a great night, complete with music by the **Arrowhead String Band**, a great group of local musicians, who donated their evening to help us make this event successful! Please see below on how you can purchase tickets. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Please don't forget to check our event calendar regularly. We have a lot to offer, and the calendar is updated periodically with events, regattas, lectures, meetings and other interesting activities! All activities are also listed on our website under the "Events" tab.

Please note that the list of BOG meeting dates is posted on the board outside our office. Members are welcome. Please let us know if you wish to attend.

Have a great month!

Steve Rodstrom Commodore



Vice Commodore's Update:

Spring has traditionally been a time of frantic activity at EYC, and despite the mixed weather conditions, it is no different this year. We have worked hard to follow through on the promises made at the Annual Meeting, and we have consulted with members on how to create a strategy to continue the success of our organization. On- and off-shore events are being planned, the 2017 Membership Roster will go to print soon, and the House Committee installed the awning over the deck in anticipation of balmy spring and summer evenings. **We are ready for the season!**

Our traditional **early spring party (a.k.a. Caribbean Night)** took on a **Hawaiian theme** this year. It was a fabulous event and we had a full house! Thank you to our hard-working Entertainment Committee for making it a very special night!

We also had a great **Trivia Night** during a past Friday night dinner, cleverly planned and executed by Fleet Captain Tom Atkinson, and expertly mc'd by Rear Commodore Chris Morano.

Here is just an excerpt of what else you can expect in the next few days and weeks:

On Thursday night, May 4th, we offer a **book presentation by award-winning author Jim Lynch**. His book **"Before the Wind"** is a great read, and if you are looking for an entertaining and poignant read about our favorite pastime and all it entails, don't miss it. The lecture is free of charge and open to the public.

Please join us at our **annual benefit party on May 20th**. The event's proceeds will be donated to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The **Arrowhead String Band**, a local band spearheaded by well-known artist Leif Nilsson, is donating its performance for the evening! Please support our efforts by purchasing your ticket

at <https://tinyurl.com/LLSBenefit2017atECYC>

Our party is open to all, please invite your friends and colleagues to an evening of music, cocktails, food, raffles and more!

Furthermore, our *Special Activities Chairman Mark Bovolack* will organize **wine and beer tastings** this year, and he will be working on a new **fishing tournament** and our **traditional Hamburg Cove Raft-Ups**.

Our volunteers are working hard to create a great lineup of events for everyone. Please support their efforts by attending as many of them as possible. **More on upcoming events in our Entertainment Update on the left!**

Please contact me at vicecommodore@essexcorinthian.org if you would like to help out at any of our events, or even better, all our events! Our success hinges on the involvement of our volunteers. Please get involved!

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



Hawaiian Night 2017 in full swing!

Ahoy, All Members of Essex Corinthian Yacht Club!

As Co-Chairs of the Entertainment Committee, Nancy and I would like to apprise you of upcoming events at the club.

The first event we are very excited about is the upcoming **Spring Party to Benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society on May 20th**. The party will include appetizers, prizes and music by The Arrowhead String Band, with award winning artist Leif Nilsson. All proceeds from this event go directly to LLS. Please support ECYC's special charitable benefit!

During the month of June events will include the first **Round the Buoys Regatta** with our neighbors from EYC on June 4th. There will be an after race party. Food will be provided at no charge.

On Tuesday July 4th we will host our annual **4th of July Cook-Out after the Boat Parade**. Burgers, hotdogs condiments and dessert will be provided. Further information will be forthcoming. We look forward to seeing you there.

The **Summer Music Series** begins on Wednesday evenings in early June. We will set off the season with the Essex Corinthian Jazz Band, who will perform every other Wednesday evening. Nancy and I will be contacting musicians from prior years for alternate Wednesdays. Should you know of any musicians who would like to perform, please contact us with their information. Finding new performers will help us to keep the gallery open on these beautiful summer evenings ahead.

We look forward to seeing you at these and future events!

Pat Atkinson & Nancy Simms
Co-Chairs Entertainment
Email: nancy-events@essexcorinthian.org
or pat-events@essexcorinthian.org

Special Functions Update:

Please join us for our upcoming events!

Save the Date **May 20th 6:00 - 8:00 PM**

We are planning a Wine Tasting during the Benefit Party featuring a variety of wines for summer!

Tasting sponsored by That's The Spirit, Essex Ct. All wines are for purchase at the store and order details will be provided at the tasting.



Next up:

Spring Raft Up on June 11th

All are welcome, even if you do not have a boat. We will be happy to accommodate you if you want to join us but don't have a boat. Location: Hamburg Cove

Stay tuned for further details!

Ruth Emblin
Vice Commodore
Email: vicecommandore@essexcorinthian.org



Rear Commodore's Update:

Welcome to another Spring! A busy time of year, as we all bring our boats back from dormancy while trying to keep up with the never ending list of spring chores at home.

During the winter, while our vessels slept, the work at the Club never stopped. Our various committee members continued to perform the functions that keep our Club rolling along. The House Committee continued to address the many projects that maintain our beautiful location. If you ever owned a wooden boat, you know how the work never ends. Maintaining our building is like owning 10 wooden boats. Our other Committees, including Race, Membership, Entertainment and Strategic Planning, to mention a few, have also been working hard to address important issues that keep the Club afloat while addressing its future needs. As a result, the Club is ready to go for the 2017 Season.

As always, there is a need for help. As you read of various projects and events in this Newsletter, don't hesitate to contact any Committee Chair if you see where you can provide assistance. Remember, as membership levels fluctuate over time, there is always a need to increase our ranks, as dues income is the life's blood of our organization. Don't forget, anyone who is the primary sponsor of a new member receives a \$100 reduction on the amount of their own annual dues!

In addition to the beautiful Club facilities and great food, there are many activities planned for the Summer. Keep an eye on the Club Calendar and this newsletter for details!

Once again, welcome to the 2017 Season. Don't blink, as it always seems to go by too quickly.

Chris Morano
Rear Commodore
Email: rearcommandore@essexcorinthian.org



Annual Benefit Party Featuring the ARROWHEAD STRING BAND!

ECYC Cares: Benefit for LLS
May 20th, 6:30 pm
Party Open To All!
Music by Arrowhead String Band

All proceeds to benefit the
LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY

PLEASE JOIN US TO SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL BENEFIT!

Saturday, May 20th, starting at 6.30 pm

Music, appetizers, wine tasting, raffles and more!
Cost: **\$30 per person** (open to members, neighboring clubs and friends!)

The event fee is a donation to LLS.

Music donated by the band, appetizers and drinks donated by our generous members. All proceeds will go directly to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

WHAT IS BETTER THAN ENJOYING A GREAT ECYC PARTY AND DOING GOOD AT THE SAME TIME!?

I am working on many more offerings in 2017 and hope that you will participate and enjoy them. Suggestions always welcome, enjoy spring and stay tuned !

Cheers,

Mark Bovolack

Special Functions Coordinator
Email: specialfunctions@essexcorinthian.org

House Committee Update:

Hello spring, where ya been? Hope spring fever is kicking in with all my fellow ECYC members. It is such a great time of year and truly offers the proverbial "new beginning" for the upcoming season of the looming "endless summer". Of course as I/many of us prepare for our 60th+ Connecticut summer, they're not so endless anymore, but ever so more greatly appreciated. Let's make the most of the summer of 2017.

A truly marvelous and generous act by a fellow member occurred since our last Bell 8. The sudden failure of a galley appliance known as the "salad/sandwich prep" refrigeration unit placed added stress on an already very tight 2017 budget for the club. Coastal Catering did their best during its absence from service as efforts were underway for how to obtain and fund a replacement. A club member became aware of the need, stepped in to unselfishly fund the entire purchase. CC prep person Agnes was so happy with the new unit I swear I saw a tear. The sponsoring angel insisted to remain anonymous, which of course I will respect. Another great example of the Corinthian spirit and what it can accomplish. THANK YOU anonymous donor from all of ECYC.

Consider this, I estimate \$300 per member would fund the deck replacement and building front renovation. These improvements would enhance the building for immediate appeal and enjoyment, plus years of enhanced image and prestige for future Corinthians. Who's in?

Chuck Grusse

House Chair
Email: house@essexcorinthian.org

Membership Committee Update:

April's showers brought May flowers - and a new application for membership in ECYC. At its regular April meeting, your Board of Governors approved a corporate membership for **International Barging Tours, a local business operated by Frank and Joan Behrendt of Essex**. Frank and Joan are long-time sailors and, with more leisure time, are eager to join others sharing a passion of recreational life on the water.

Proposed by Matt Winkler, Frank and Joan have been active in community volunteer and leadership circles, including the Essex Garden Club and Child & Family Services of Southeastern CT (Joan) and the Spencer's Corner Association (Frank). Frank has raced and taught sailing on the Charles River, Boston, sailed Hobiecats, and owned a 21' Tanzer. In addition to their love of sailing, the couple enjoys gardening, bicycling and Nordic walking. They look forward to serving on ECYC's Waterfront and Special Activities committees.

Also in April, **Sarah Waterhouse and Judy Taylor** joined our Membership committee, which will consider new strategies to build and retain ECYC membership. Among the ideas we're considering are new membership categories (especially to incent young families), informal partnerships with other clubs and associations, and recruitment incentives. Stay tuned for developments!

As the Club shifts into full swing this month, this is an ideal time to remind you of a **\$100 credit toward any member household's 2018 annual dues for every new member unit proposed by the existing member and approved by the Board of Governors this year**. The incentive applies only to initiators, not seconders, and the credit shall be applied after the new member has paid his/her initiation fee and dues in full.

Scott Konrad
Membership Chair

To register, go to
<http://www.essexcorinthian.org/ecyc-lls-benefit.html>

Purchase your ticket by Monday, May 15th to save!
Tickets are \$35 per person after the 15th!

GALLEY NEWS

Even though the weather hasn't always cooperated we have had a great start to the season. Ed and Monique outdid themselves with the Easter brunch. If you missed that, **Mother's Day** is coming and they have another wonderful event planned so celebrate at ECYC. There are seatings at 10:30 and 12:30, please contact Monique to make a reservation!



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

On Friday nights you can preorder your appetizers so they are ready for you when you arrive.

Now that your friends can pay for their own meal, it's very easy to introduce them to this special club.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.
Bon appetite! I look forward to seeing you around the club!

Catherine Gazikas

Galley Liaison

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!

DID YOU KNOW?

The Galley serves a great lunch with soups, salads and all kinds of comfort food while you enjoy the views across the Connecticut River! Why not come and give it a try? Daily Wednesdays through Saturdays, and brunch on Sundays.

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



FEEDBACK

We want to know what you think about our galley!

Update on "House Rule 12":

Pursuant to a vote at the 2016 Annual Meeting, the Board of Governors established a sub-committee to address the issue of members bringing food to the dining area of the club during Galley operating hours. After submitting a poll to the membership and discussing the matter, the results were used to make a recommendation, which was adopted by the Board at its March meeting, following the club's rules in regards to adopting temporary bylaw changes. Accordingly, House Rule 12 of the Bylaws is amended, effective May 1, 2017, as follows:

The Galley is maintained for the membership's convenience. The club contracts with a caterer to operate the galley on an exclusive basis to provide food service. At normal times of operation, members may bring nuts, bar mix, snacks like "Goldfish", and chips and dip. These are items which are non-competitive with the food normally offered by the galley. The galley is off-limits to members.

Email: membership@essexcorinthian.org

Ship's Store:

Good news! The Ship's Store will be back in commission soon, with new and exciting offers for the upcoming season.



The Ship's Store Committee for 2017 includes the following members:

Kyle Hinding
Sandra Eubank
Justine Lyons
and **Jean Brewer** as consultant

Please stay tuned for updates!



This change in House Rule 12 will be effective May 1, 2017 through the 2017 Annual Meeting. At that time the rule, as temporarily amended, will be put before the club members for a vote.

Thank you to the members who participated in the poll, and to the sub-committee who pulled it all together. The results allowed us to recommend a course of action which will benefit both our loyal members and our hard-working galley.

Did You Know?

SPRING HOURS IN EFFECT AT THE CLUBHOUSE:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	9 am to 5 pm
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.

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



GREEN TIP OF THE MONTH

While we are getting ready to launch boats and start the season in earnest, here is a quick look at some of the local environmental programs you may enjoy!

A Connecticut River Mystery Revealed

May 9th, 4PM

CRM and Connecticut Audubon's Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center combine to offer this program on Sturgeon in the Connecticut River- a river designated a critical habitat for these amazing primeval fish. The evening's speaker will be Kimberly Damon Randall of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service- Protected Resources Division. This program is free to the public but seating is limited, please reserve a seat by e-mailing Amelia Graham (agraham@ctaudubon.org) or by calling 203-259-0416 x 404. This program will be held at Essex Meadows.

Environmental Forum #2: Riparian and Backyard Plantings to Help Pollinators

May 11th, 5:30PM

The Connecticut River Museum and the Rockfall Foundation will offer "Riparian and Backyard Plantings to Help Pollinators", our second Environmental Forum of 2017, at 5:30pm. Speakers include Judy Preston of the Connecticut Sea Grant and Gail Reynolds of UCONN Extension School. The forum will be followed by a "Meet your Greens" reception on the Museum's north deck. This program is free to the public, advance registration is encouraged. Call 860-767-8269 for more information or to register. Presented by the Rockfall Foundation

We can protect our beautiful area for years to come by becoming educated about our environment and finding out what each one of us can do to help!

Thank you for being an environmentally responsible ECYC Member!

Ruth Emblin
Vice Commodore

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

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