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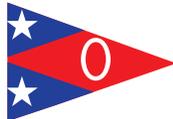
THE ONONDAGA YACHT CLUB



Vol. 27/No. 8

From the Helm – The Commodore’s Corner

by Tess Freedman



Thanksgiving under palm trees, viewing manatees, Florida birds and sea turtles along the Intracoastal Waterway, swimming in an outdoor pool, watching the Atlantic surf, and, best of all, extended time with our delightful 10-year-old granddaughter Zoë...Jeff and I prolonged our summer and boating season in November with 10 days in Hobe Sound, Florida with our son and his family. Mother Nature didn't quite cooperate, thwarting some planned activities with 8 days of 18-30 mph winds.

In contrast, Mother Nature and our dedicated OYC members both cooperated to bring about very successful **late season activities at OYC**. Forty-two members and guests enjoyed chowders, seafood and steaks at our annual Shore Dinner on October 3rd. Nine boats participated in our Long Distance Race on October 4th, with enough wind to complete the entire 14-mile course. We enjoyed a catered pasta night and OYCtoberfest, and we were treated to scary decorations and Halloween treats at our Halloween potluck hosted by our Sea Scouts and their families. Our members and scouts turned out in force to remove our club boats and dock from the water and complete the many tasks of closing up the club for the winter.

Highlights of the year. 2015 brought an expansion, organization and refurbishing of our small boat fleet, tasks that will continue through the next season. Our membership is at an all-time high for recent years. Our Sea Scout Ship 876 has also seen considerable membership growth and expansion of year-round activities, a second successful regional regatta, and success by our youth sailors in regional sailing competition and in our club races. Our sailing school continues to train youth and adults, and our social and meal programs continue with enjoyable events and delicious meals.

New Members. We welcomed two new memberships at OYC in October. Angelo Chambrone and Sue Noonan and their children Erin (15) and Conor (11) are Liverpool residents interested in our club boats, sailing school and Sea Scouts. John and Karen Hartnett of Syracuse look forward to using our club boats, including the Hunter 22, racing and participating in our dinners and social events. The Hartnetts also boat on Blue Mountain Lake. We now have 14 new or

rejoining memberships for 2015, with a total of 71 memberships, a banner year for OYC.

OYC 2016 Election Ballot. I was so fortunate to work with a dedicated and capable Bridge and Board in 2015. Three members are completing their years of service to OYC. I am particularly grateful to Diane Knowlton for her many years of service to OYC. Diane joined OYC in 2003, and has served on the OYC Bridge or Board from 2004 to 2015, as Trustee, Rear Commodore, Secretary, Vice Commodore, Commodore, and Past Commodore! She has always been willing to serve the club wherever needed. I also personally thank Paul Johnson for his three years as our fine treasurer, and Mark Rupprecht, who served this past year in dual capacities as Trustee and Past Commodore, following his years as Vice Commodore and Commodore.

For our 2016 election, Brian Colvin will continue as Secretary, and Pete Kitt is on the ballot for a second term as Trustee. Two trustees are moving to bridge positions, Deb Flaherty to Rear Commodore, and Ed Bambrick to Vice Commodore. Tom Ogden is assuming the position of Commodore, and Jerry Illowsky is joining the Bridge as Treasurer. Three members are joining our Board of Trustees. Scott Kallstrom and Lou Levine are running for the open two-year Trustee terms, and Gail Riina is running for a one-year term to complete Deb Flaherty's term. They join Dave Urban and Ron Higgins, who will complete the second year of their terms as Trustees. We have an excellent slate of Bridge Officers and Trustees for 2016.

Our Annual Dinner and elections will be held on January 23, 2016 at Pascal's at Drumlins in Syracuse (see details inside). The club is subsidizing part of the dinner charge. We need a minimum of 50 attendees for the buffet dinner, so mark your calendars now. Please send your reservations and ballots back as soon as possible.

This is my last "From the Helm" article as your OYC Commodore. I am so grateful to all our OYC members for the rewarding experience I had leading our yacht club the past two years, made possible by the wonderful cooperation and hard work by all of you. May we continue to grow and provide a venue for shared enjoyment of all our boating and social activities.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!



Brown Pelican



White Ibis

DECEMBER 2015/
JANUARY 2016

OYC Annual Dinner

~ JANUARY 23, 2016 ~

Pascale's at Drumlins

600 Nottingham Road, Syracuse, NY

The Onondaga Yacht Club's Annual Dinner will be held at Drumlin's in Syracuse this year!



Sailing Stats

by Jeff Freedman

Reviewing data from the past twelve years, in 2015 OYC's sailing program set participation records for the highest number of handicap racing dates (12), the highest total number of handicap races held (27), and the highest total number of handicap skippers (19), and tied the high for the number of boats (6) with greater than 50% participation. Also in 2015, OYC averaged 5 boats per handicap race, one less than the high of six. During the same twelve year period, each of the club special races, and the first three places of the Season Handicap Series, have been won by an average of six different skippers. Congratulations to OYC skippers and sailors for a safe and successful sailing season. The 2015 trophy winners were as follows:

Memorial Day "Silk Scarf" Race:

Greg Chapin, O'Day Mariner

July 4th "1776" Race:

Bill Pease, Hunter 22

Devore-Mahoney Labor Day Series:

Aiden Meyer, Snipe

Long Distance Race:

Jeff Freedman, O'Day Mariner

SEASON HANDICAP SERIES

1st Place: Greg Chapin, O'Day Mariner

2nd Place: Bill Pease, Hunter 22

3rd Place: Lucas Meyer, Various boats (Sunfish, Laser, Blue Jay, etc.)

Thanks to Greg Chapin for again chairing Race Committee, to all who served on race committees and who otherwise helped with the sailing school, the Sea Scout Regatta, and other sailing activities this year!

ANNUAL DINNER MENU

Appetizers and Cash Bar at 6:00 pm

- Mini Chicken Cordon Bleu with Honey Mustard Dipping Sauce
- Mushrooms stuffed with Spinach
- Swedish Meatballs
- Spanakopita (Spinach and Feta Wrapped in Phyllo Pastry)

Dinner at 6:30 pm

Buffet Menu

- Mixed Green Salad
- Chicken Marsala
- Filet of Sole
- Pasta Primavera
- Green Beans Almandine
- Rice Pilaf
- Coffee and Tea
- Chocolate Cake for dessert

Cost: \$40 per person

Total enclosed \$ _____

Mail this form, and your check made payable to Onondaga Yacht Club, to:

Paul Johnson
3474 VanWie Drive E., Baldwinsville, NY 13027
to arrive by January 19, 2016

Taking advantage of the beautiful facilities at Drumlin's Golf and Tennis Club, we'll be enjoying appetizers and a cash bar, then making choices from a buffet dinner. We'll finish off with a cake made in Pascale's own bakery! Our annual meeting and elections will follow the dinner. **Cost is \$40 per person, including tax and gratuity. Reservations due Tuesday, January 19th.**

Directions to Drumlins: From the New York State Thruway East, exit at 34A and continue along 481 South to Exit 2. Right onto Jamesville Road; first left onto 274/Nottingham Rd. Follow Nottingham Rd.

From the New York State Thruway West, take exit 36 to 81 South. From 81 South (North of Syracuse), take exit 17 for Brighton Avenue and turn right onto S. State Street. From State, turn right onto East Colvin Street, then right onto Nottingham Rd.



DINING OUT

by Rear Commodore Diane Knowlton

Thanks for the memories of 2015 dining at OYC. We had dish to pass, catering, special themes all with great food and friendship. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make it a great year of dining pleasure. Deb Flaherty will be taking my place as rear commodore and Linda Sauter will again be the caterer and I hope to see you all at the January dinner/meeting.

Thank you!

Diane Knowlton



September

Two crews from ship 876 entered the Northeast regional qualifier for the Koch Cup with Lucas and Aiden walking away with a wonderful victory.



January

Ship 876 once again attended the Venturing Biathlon and enjoyed a weekend of Skiing and shooting with venture scouts and sea scouts from across the state

Also in April we helped clean up the over growth at Carpenters Brook



And helped with opening the club



October

A thrilling month with Whitewater Rafting on the Black River



February

Our first Bridge of Honor for 2015, we welcomed many new scouts and saw plenty of our scouts advance to the next rank.



May

Ship 876 had the honor of displaying at the Boy Power Dinner. Sam Stone presented part of the invocation.

We also marched in the memorial day parade

June and July

We are now sailing every week. Doing what we all love to do most. Sailing Hobbie Cats with Fleet 204 was particularly fun



August

Time for the second annual Erie Canal Flotilla, Sea Scout Regatta. A great success

In August Ship876 also helped with the Creek Rats clean-up at Onondaga Creek.



November

This month takes us sailing in the Chesapeake with Ship 37, going to a Navy Football game in Annapolis and a visit to SUNY Maritime and NYC.





Mummy rumored to be Past Commodore Hobart Whitney (1941-1942) and Herman and Lily Munster attended our Halloween potluck October 25th

EVENT CALENDAR

January 23 Saturday

Annual Dinner Meeting – 6:00 pm
Officers to be elected for 2016-2017 term

February 18-21 (Thursday to Sunday)

CNY Boat Show, NYS Fairgrounds –
Syracuse, NY

Boat Show Hours:

Thursday 1pm - 9pm
Friday 1pm - 9pm
Saturday 10am - 9pm
Sunday 10am - 5pm

Sailing Quotes

"Accidents happen.
Wear a lifejacket on your boat and require everyone else to do the same"

"Life jackets should be required safety equipment by every skipper."

"Have fun and be safe".

~ 2015 OYC Officers ~

Commodore: Tess Freedman

Vice Commodore: Tom Ogden

Rear Commodore: Diane Knowlton

Secretary: Brian Colvin

Treasurer: Paul Johnson

Trustees: Debra Flaherty, Ron Higgins, Mark Rupprecht,
Dave Urban, Ed Bambrick, Pete Kitt

Editor/Publisher: Ed Bambrick/Linda Ogden