

# THE ONONDAGA YACHT CLUB SPLICE



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September/October 2016

## From the Helm – The Commodore's Corner

by Tom Ogden



**W**ell, The Season is quickly coming to a close. Roughly 4 weeks of sailing left as you read this.

While Sundays have not been the best racing weather, the summer in whole was mostly dry with lots of sun, and many days of good winds for sailing. OYC continues to be a great place to enjoy the pleasures of small boating and the camaraderie of friends both new and old. The lake continues to improve in water quality and the improvements including the Amphitheater expanded bike path, and developments in the inner harbor point at exciting things to come. I expect that OYC will see a growth spurt over the next few years, as a result of the continued Lake resurgence. We must continue to think about the best ways we can prepare for this growth and how to serve you, our members and future members. I challenge all of you to give some careful thought about what you would like to get out of the club in both activities and structure. Please communicate any ideas you may have to the board, no matter how big or small. Long- and short-range planning is an ongoing task for the board and we need your input.

Lastly as we approach the end of the season I would like to thank all the members that have volunteered to help with the many events and activities and upkeep of the facility. OYC is a volunteer organization with no paid staff and is only as good as the participation of our membership. If you did not participate in both helping with any of these events or activities, we miss you and need you. Please don't hesitate to help with the remaining events and we certainly hope to see you on the water before the cold sets in and look forward to your greater participation next year.

Safe sailing and many good times ahead...



**DINING OUT**

**by Rear Commodore Deb Flaherty**

The weather might be turning (slightly) cooler, but we still have plenty of events to look forward to here at the Onondaga Yacht Club! **Our annual Shore Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, October 1st at 1 p.m.** As usual, we will be serving chowder, steamed clams, steak and lobster – but this year we will be giving members more choices in the size of the lobster. Please see the sign-up sheet at the Club. We need volunteers to help! Chowder preparation begins on Friday, September 30th at 3 P.M., and cooking the lobsters and grilling the steaks also needs helpers.

Other events scheduled:

- Sunday, September 25th – 5 p.m. – Covered Dish
- Sunday, October 2nd – 5 p.m. – Covered Dish
- Sunday, October 9th – 5 p.m. – Covered Dish
- Friday, October 14th – 6:30 p.m. – OYctoberfest
- Sunday, October 23rd - 5 p.m. – Pasta Night\*
- Sunday, October 30th – 5 p.m. – Covered Dish and Family Halloween Party

\*We're trying something new this year: having our Pasta night catered by Francesca! More details to follow.

And, save the date – the **Onondaga Yacht Club's Annual Dinner Meeting will be held at Drumlin's on Saturday, January 28th, 2017!**

**ANNUAL SHORE DINNER**

**Saturday, October 1, 1 pm to dusk**

**Don't miss this highlight of our OYC season!**

Our OYC Shore Dinner is an all-day affair, but you can also come just for dinner. From 1-5 p.m., the chowders (New England, Manhattan and Vegetable soup) are served. The first of the shrimp and steamed clams are served at 1. About 3:30 more shrimp and steamed clams are served along with salt potatoes. Then at 5, salad, salt potatoes, corn-on-the-cob, lobster or steaks are served, with cookies for dessert. Between courses, members visit on the porch, go sailing, paddling, bike riding or walking. This year we are offering two sizes of lobsters: large (1 ½ to 2 lb) or small (1 ¼ to 1 ½ lb).

Dinner prices (subject to change based on market price):

Steak (total package)*	\$25
Steak only	\$15
Lobster, large (total package)*	\$38
Lobster, small (total package)*	\$30
Lobster only, large	\$28
Lobster only, small	\$20
Everything but steak or lobster	\$20
Vegetarian (no meat or seafood)	\$ 7
Children 6-12: hotdogs & tastes	\$ 3
Children under 6	Free

**IMPORTANT: YOU MUST SIGN UP BY MONDAY NOON, SEPTEMBER 26th, so we can order the food. No exceptions!**

\*Total Package = Chowder, steak or lobster, shrimp, clams, salad, corn, salt potatoes, dessert. "Steak or Lobster only" includes soup, salad, corn, salt potatoes, dessert.

**PLEASE: NO GUESTS EXCEPT FAMILY MEMBERS**

*Sailing on the Lewis R. French*

**by Rear Commodore Deb Flaherty**

If you've been to any events at the club, you might have noticed the hats worn by the Flahertys or Urbans that feature a sailing schooner and the name Lewis R. French. We brought those home from our four-day sailing adventure in Maine in July.

Launched in April 1871, the French is the oldest schooner still sailed in the nation; originally designed to carry lumber, granite and even Christmas trees along the New England coast, the ship was converted in the 1970s to a passenger vessel. It features 5 single cabins, 6 double-bed cabins, and 2 bunk-bed cabins, as well as a full galley with a wood-burning stove (you have to see it to believe it), a library and a wonderful crew.

We sailed out of Camden, Maine on a Friday morning and headed down to Rockland, Maine to join several other windjammers for the annual Rockland Lighthouse Parade. Then we headed east across beautiful Penobscot Bay before mooring out (for the first of three nights) near one of the many islands off the coast of Maine. The next evening, we moored near Pond Island, in sight of Acadia National Park, for a lobster dinner. Along the way we observed porpoises, seals, and a variety of birds including a bald eagle. In the evening, passengers could swim or row ashore for short hikes. By the time the sun set, we were exhausted!

With only the captain and a crew of three, we and the 17 other passengers happily pitched in to help raise and lower the sails as well as pull up the anchor every morning. Naively, we thought we might even lose some weight on the trip, but the food was too good!!!

Returning to Camden on Monday morning, we reluctantly said our goodbyes and headed home to Central New York – but can't wait to go again next year, and hope other OYC members can join us for another fabulous sailing adventure!

*OYctober Fest*

**Friday October 14, 6:30 p.m.**

OYC will provide samples of local microbrewed beer and a sampling of German meats and pasta. Although not required, attendees are welcome to bring their favorite non-mass-produced beer and German inspired snacks.

Adults only: \$10.00

Please plan responsibly for the ride home!

**Sign up with Pete Kitt:  
 pkitt@buyersgroup.com**



# Summer Highlights



Past Commodores were honored on August 7. Attending were [back] Lou Levine (2010-11), John Lomber (1979), Jeff Freedman (2001-2,2006-7), [middle] Dave Urban ((1980), Garry Klink (1992), Diane Knowlton (2008-9), [front] Jan Beall (1998), Tess Freedman (2014-15). We honored the memories of Bud Booth (1957) and Ronnie Gilligan (1985, 1988), who passed away during the last year.



We had a full house for "Jimmy Buffet Night" hosted by Tim and Jane Witz. We enjoyed cheeseburgers in our lakeside porch paradise, margaritas, karaoke and dancing.



OYC welcomed our new members at our New Member Steak Dinner on July 24. Back row: John Hartnett, Arpad Kolozsvary, Jim Hartnett; Center: Mary Pat Hartnett, Brian Donnelly, Sandy Parker Karen Hartnett, Jason Myers, Front: Piper Myers, Chelsea Myers and Paula McKenney. Also joining this season are Chad and Ann-Marie Harper, Debra Warner and Herb Schrayshuen, and student members Robert Gustke and Andrew York.

## OYC History Bit

OYC Historian Garry Klink

If it is September it is Ya gotta Regatta time. The OYC held an Invitational Regatta on the first weekend after Labor Day for many years. From the late 1930s to the early 2000s that weekend was the last regatta for many who came. Yacht Clubs from the Central New York region were invited to the races. Any One Design Class with 3 boats or more could have their own start; although later, Handicap racing was used.

From the late 1930s to the 1980s classes included: Snipes, Lightings, Lasers, Thistles and Rhodes Bantams. Some of the trophies are in the display case. Some of the flags hanging in the main lounge are from those races. A good time was had by all!

## OYC Sailing School 2016

Our 2016 Sailing School, held June 27, 28, 29 and July 6, 7, 8 and followed by three practice sessions, was a great success. Twelve youth ages 7 – 12, seven adults and one Sea Scout participated. Students included OYC adult members, children and grandchildren. Over half of the participants were non-members. Instructors included Heather McQuade, assisted by Robert Gustke, for the youth, and Jeff Freedman, Bill Pease, and Ron Higgins for the adults, with over a dozen other members and Sea Scouts assisting on shore and on the water. Tess Freedman was in charge of recruitment, registration and food. We used nearly every boat in our small boat fleet, and four members provided instruction on their boats or on the OYC Hunter. Our profits from our Sailing School go toward upkeep of our small boat fleet. Two members of the adult class have joined OYC.



## *Sea Scout, Ship 876: Summer Sailing*



**by Robert Stone**

It has been an excellent summer sailing season for Ship 876 with an increase in membership and two major summer sailing events.

Ship 876 is now up to 22 Scouts with a few new young ladies to add some balance to our group. In August, Aiden and Lucas Meyer attended the

Koch Cup in Long Beach California. There they raced against 82 Sea scouts from 10 nations around the world, representing Ship 876, the Erie Canal Flotilla and the Northeast Region. They took 2nd place in the Kiwi Cup!

Also in August we held the third annual Erie Canal Flotilla Regatta. Sea Scouts from seven units from around NY and



northern PA gathered for an informal sailboat race at Onondaga Yacht Club and plenty of fun and socializing. This year we had plenty of wind, adding some extra thrills and excitement. We also had a group from Ship 876 sail with Ship 25 from Ithaca on their boat, the Sensai.

Service time was also in the plan for the scouts from Ship 876. A small group attended the Creek Rats annual clean up of Onondaga Creek by canoeing along the creek pulling out trash and junk.



## Onondaga Yacht Club

P.O. Box 186

Liverpool, NY, 13088

### *Sailing Stats*

by Jeff Freedman

#### Handicap Racing: Final Standings

Total 2016 handicap races sailed on nine Sundays...19

Total number of OYC handicap skippers...13

Average number of boats per handicap race...5

Number of handicap skippers with at least 50% participation...5

Standings for qualified skippers (score, % participation, Race

Committee Days 0, 1, 2)...

**1st Jeff Freedman, O'Day Mariner (1.67, 95%, 3)**

**2nd Robert Gustky, Laser (2.69, 68%, 1)**

**3rd Bill Pease, Hunter 22 (2.80, 63%, 3)**

**4th Tom Ogden, Flying Scot (3.27, 89%, 2)**

**5th Lou Levine, O'Day 222 (5.00, 53%, 1)**

**Other skippers:** Craig Thayer (Force Five, 1.00, 21%, 0); Greg Chapin (O'Day Mariner, 2.33, 21%, 1); Pete Kitt (Merit 25, 2.80, 32%, 1); Tom Flaherty (3.00, 5%, 0); Jerry Illowsky, Precision 18 (3.80, 31%, 2); Pete Osborne (Catalina 25, 4.00, 11%, 0); Aiden Meyer (Laser, 4.00, 16%, 0); Ron Barry (O'Day 192, 4.33, 16%, 0).

*Eligibility for the season handicap trophies requires participation in at least 50% of races AND AT LEAST TWO DAYS OF SERVICE ON RACE COMMITTEE (i.e. setting marks and timing the races).*

#### Holiday regattas

Average number of boats per holiday regatta...9

Total number of OYC holiday regatta skippers thus far...14

Results thus far...

**Memorial Day Silk Scarf Race** (to the outlet channel and back):

1st Place – Jeff Freedman, O'Day Mariner

**July 4th Fun Sail Race** ("1776" course): 1st Place – Bill Pease, Hunter 22

**Devore-Mahoney Labor Day Series:** Sept 6 – 7 cancelled due to lack of wind



Remaining Special Race...

**Long Distance Race** (14 miles around the lake): Sunday, Oct 2

The complete 2016 Season Handicap and holiday racing results to date are posted on the racing bulletin board in the clubhouse. Join in the fun and adventure on the high seas of Onondaga Lake during the remainder of the season.

Thanks to Greg Chapin for serving as Race Committee Chair and to all who have raced and served on race committees and have helped set and retrieve the race buoys this season.

## EVENT CALENDAR

#### September 30 Friday

Annual Chowder Preparation Party 3:00 p.m.

#### October 1 Saturday

Annual Shore Dinner 1 pm until dusk

#### October 2 Sunday

Annual Long Distance Race 1 pm

Covered Dish 5 pm

#### October 9 Sunday

Covered Dish 5 pm

#### October 14 Friday

OYctoberFest 6:30 pm

#### October 15 Saturday

Remove dock from water 9 am

Club boats out of water

#### October 16 Sunday

Covered Dish 5 pm

#### October 23 Sunday

Pasta Night 5 pm

#### October 30 Sunday

Covered Dish and Family Halloween Party 5 pm

#### November 5 Saturday

Closing Work Party 9 am

### *Closing Work Party*

Come one, come all to the Club on **Saturday, November 5th**, for our Closing Work Party. Starting at **9:00 a.m.**, we will winterize various systems, clear out the kitchen pantry, lower the hoist and yardarm, stow boats and equipment for the winter. The building will be padlocked the last weekend in November, when the electric power will be turned off. OYC insurance does not cover personal property, so please remove your personal items from the lockers and building and all personal boats and trailers from the yard.

#### ~ 2016 OYC Officers ~

**Commodore:** Tom Ogden

**Vice Commodore:** Ed Bambrick

**Rear Commodore:** Debra Flaherty

**Secretary:** Brian Colvin

**Treasurer:** Jerry Illowsky

**Trustees:** Ron Higgins, Dave Urban, Pete Kitt, Gail Riina, Scott Kallstrom, Lou Levine

**Editors:** Amy Lago, Tess Freedman, Linda Ogden