

Celebrating 67 years
1943 – 2010

the BoatHouse

May 2010
www.ogyc.org

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OLD GREENWICH YACHT CLUB

OGYC UPCOMING EVENTS 2010

MAY

- May 19 Ideal 18 Twilight Sailing
- May 19 Wednesday Vespers
- May 22 Race Management Seminar
- May 22 Low Tide Tour and Sail fleet checkout class
- May 22 Mandatory Ideal 18/Mercury Sailors Meeting
- May 23 Low Tide Tour and Sail fleet checkout class
- May 26 Ideal 18 Twilight Sailing
- May 26 Wednesday Vespers
- May 27 Women's Sailing Program
- May 29 Experience the Sound by the Greenwich Shellfish Commission
- May 29 Low Tide Tour and Sail fleet checkout class
- May 30 Sunday Sailing Seminar
- May 30 YRA-LIS CT Area One-Design Championship Series June

JUNE

- June 02 Ideal 18 Twilight Sailing
- June 02 Wednesday Vespers
- June 03 Women's Sailing Program
- June 04 "Landlusers" Party Time!!!
- June 05 Children's Boat Safety and Ice Cream Social
- June 06 Sunday Sailing Seminar
- June 06 YRA-LIS CT Area One-Design Championship Series
- June 09 Ideal 18 Twilight Sailing
- June 09 Wednesday Vespers
- June 10 Women's Sailing Program

(continued on page 4)



Commodore's Report

Will Morrison

April was season readiness month. If you are on the Board, that translates into one crazy month. By the end of it all, the clubhouse, the sail and power fleets, the race teams and the planners were tuned up and yes, ready to go.

Here is a summary of those activities – you probably know and participated in some of them. Let's hope so, because they cover a broad cross section of interests.

Tom Hagan got those interested in racing together on the third of April. With a turn out of about twenty-five, he walked us through the season's plans. He announced the race management teams and asked that if you can't make your assigned date, get in touch with the event's Primary Race Officer.

The Sail Fleet – the five Ideal 18's and the five Cape Cod Mercuries were uncovered and brushed off. You should see them now, three weeks later – shiny, smoothed bottomed – the object and result of great attention.

The Spring Members Meeting saw updates from the Board members. The sense of the meeting was that the new Board is headed in the right direction. Two By-Law change proposals were accepted. One concerns a new Life Member category and the other concerns a method of managing capital expenditures that is both practical and accountable. They will be voted up or down at the September Members Meeting. You can read the minutes on the website within the members only section under "Meeting Minutes".

Thanks to the hard work of Jonathan Asch, *Joy* and *Pride* passed their Coast Guard inspections and were launched in time for their first day of service – April 24. We have a new launch Captain this year – Russ Kennedy. Many of you know of his careful and knowledgeable style from last year.

The month ended with our new Water Programs Director, Dan Dobryn, holding the

(continued on next page)



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Commodore's Report *(continued)*

Water Programs Jamboree. A group of about fifteen gathered to plan kayaking, cruising and fishing events. Read more about it in Dan's article in this issue.

Are you ready for the season? We have a great season ready for you.

Race Corner

Tom Hagan, Race Chair

Our Racing Kick-off Meeting was held on April 3 where we discussed the race events planned for the season. We are repeating all the great events from previous years – Wednesday Twilight Series, Capt Harbor Friday Night Series, YRA One-Design on Sundays, plus two invitational regattas: The Solstice Regatta and the USS America Regatta. The Club Championship has been moved to Labor Day weekend to accommodate greater participation.



A big change from previous years is our communication medium. Instead of email weekly blasts, I will be posting noteworthy items on the Race Forum. Members can also post replies (or questions) to items that have been posted. This digital bulletin board is available under the Race menu on this website: <http://ogyc.org/race>. You can either view the postings or have them emailed to you as they are added (recommended).

As we did last year, the Twilight Series and the Capt Harbor Friday Night Series will both be scored using YachtScoring.com. The software greatly simplifies scoring and improves speed and accuracy of scoring, but everyone must use it for it to work. It is mandatory that you register your boat for both these regattas before the start of the first race. A link to the registration site is available on the Regattas page of www.indianharboryc.com.

The last item we discussed at our meeting was the Wednesday night dinners. The floor was opened to any and all suggestions, and the consensus was to go back to basics. This year we will not be hiring a chef or caterer; it will be primarily a BYO affair. We will continue assigning a boat per week for clean-up duty and the assignments will be posted on our website soon. This will be treated like RC assignments: if you and your crew cannot attend an assigned evening, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Our Rear Commodore, Aileen Hutchins, has graciously volunteered to organize providing burgers and dogs for a nominal fee for those of us that don't have the time to put together a picnic. Thanks Aileen!

To see this article on the website, go to <http://ogyc.org/race>.

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Visit our website at: www.ogyc.org



Ideal 18/Mercury Corner

Lou Casolo, Education Director



Sail Fleet Readiness Parties

Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped to prepare the sail fleet in April. As of this writing there have been 4 work parties.

Additionally, there has been some more specialized upkeep that was undertaken by several members during off-hours.

Sail Fleet Policy

As circulated at the spring meeting, a copy of the sail fleet policy is posted on this site for your reference. Please look it over.

Mandatory May Meetings for Fleet Sailors

There are two mandatory meetings scheduled for May 8 from 2-3:30 pm, and May 22 from 3-4:30 pm. As indicated in the sail fleet policy, if you intend to use the sail fleet, you are required to attend one of these meetings. We will review the details of the sail fleet use agreement, and there are some new changes this year. All club members are encouraged to attend and family members as well. Each meeting covers the same topics so you only need to attend one of them.

Low Tide and Check Out Rides

The schedule for low tide and checkout rides, if you have not already completed, is as follows:

- 5/16 8am-11am
- 5/22 11:30am-2:30pm
- 5/23 12:30-3:30pm
- 5/29 5pm-8pm

Volunteers who have given these tours and checkout rides in the past are needed to support this effort. Please notify me with date(s) you can help out.

The Club House and Social Events

Aileen Hutchins, Rear Commodore

Our season began with Commissioning on May 1 followed by a Family Shellfishing demonstration on Sunday, May 2. The Shellfish Commission is holding their annual "Experience the Sound" on May 29, and there will be lots of "marine" activities for the entire family.

Upcoming Events

The "Landlusers" (Andrea Lotti, Mimi Rogers, Varina Wakeman, and Lisa Wallace) are hosting a series of theme parties this summer. Be sure and reserve your seats early, as these are sure to be sell-out functions.

June 4 – The first Landluser event. Watch the calendar to see what theme they select for their inaugural event.

Races

The first Ideal 18 twilight race is Wednesday night May 19th, meet at the dock at 6pm.

On May 23rd at 11am there will be a one-design open house at the dock. There will be 2 Etchells and an Ideal 18 demonstration. Feel free to join in and bring a friend or family member with you to try these boats out.

The first woman's sailing day is May 27th; meet at the clubhouse for lunch at noon.

We are scheduled to have our first Sunday Seminar on May 30th prior to the first YRA race for the season.

To see this article on the website, go to http://ogyc.org/learn_to_sail



June 5 – Children's boat safety and ice cream social.

OGYC needs volunteers to help organize "family" events. Please contact your Rear Commodore if you are able to help for this or any other family event.

July 17 – Another Landlusers event will be a LUAU!

July's family affair is the "Hair of the Dog" party. Parents and children are sure to love this one!

July 31 – The Lobsterfest. Always fun, always yummy!

To see the full article go to the website, <http://ogyc.org/socialize>



On the Waterfront

Dan Dobyryn, Director of Water Programs

We held the first Waterfront Programs Jamboree on Saturday April 24th. All interest groups were represented and we discussed several different ideas for future events.

Chris Tella is the Fleet Captain for Power Boating and Fishing, and he will coordinate a family fishing day early in the season. The date and details should be published in the next few weeks.

Kim Crocco is the Fleet Captain for Kayaking. She has prepared an informational survey that we will be emailing to those of you who indicated an interest in kayaking. The responses will be used to tailor the kayaking events to what will interest members the most. More details on kayaking events will be published after the survey results are compiled.

In the cruising realm, there were two volunteers that stepped up to lead a cruising event. One event will be an overnight at Oyster Bay. Details and dates for both should be determined in the next few weeks. We are still seeking an individual with a passion for cruising to organize this group and coordinate activities. If you are interested, please contact Dan.

To see this article on the website, go to http://ogyc.org/boat_and_fish

2010 First Quarter Fiscal Report

Al Shehadi, Treasurer

OGYC's fiscal condition as of March 31, 2010, is like a lot of summer days on Long Island Sound. It could be described as partly sunny. Or, maybe partly cloudy. Not endless azure blue skies, but not heavy weather either.

Quarterly expenses are the partly sunny part of the forecast. We spent about \$20,000 less in the first quarter of 2010 than last year. The biggest savings were in the area of fleet maintenance. Total expenses appear as \$33,000 less than last year, but the additional \$13,000 in "savings" are a bookkeeping fluke related to member charges and not true savings. Member charges are booked as an expense when the club pays for them (i.e. when we send a check to pay another yacht club or the ice vendor), and that expense is "offset" when members reimburse the club. Member charges were billed very late last year and the reimbursements from most members weren't received until January. So the expense hits in 2009, but the offset didn't hit until this quarter. Like I said, a bookkeeping fluke that does not reflect true savings by the club.

Revenue is the partly cloudy part of the forecast. As of March 31, we were down about 45 members, which had a direct impact on revenue. Revenue in the quarter was essentially flat with the first quarter of 2009. That's good news in a way. Two years into the most serious economic downturn in most people's memory, we are holding even, if slightly outperforming last year. The bad news is that the budget adopted last fall assumes a return to a full mem-

bership roster and revenues of \$250,000. What can you do to help? Please, everyone help Marc Lotti recruit new members over the coming months so we get that revenue number near where it belongs. Talk up the club and invite your friends who love the water but aren't yet members to join.

As a final note, we are actually in a slightly better cash position than this time last year. The club had \$248,000 in the bank as of April 15, 2010, which is \$27,000 better than the \$221,000 we had in the bank at the start of April last year. We have a comfortable cash cushion to weather tough times, but we'd rather not have to use it. So, recruit your friends and neighbors to join! Oh, did I already say that?

Click on the link below to see the club's full quarterly results. The first column shows the full year budget for 2010. The next two columns show the first quarter results from this year and last year. The final column to the right shows the variance of 2010 compared with 2009. A positive revenue variance means we collected more revenue in the first quarter of 2010 than in 2009. A negative expense variance means we spent less in the past quarter than in 2009.

I will report again after the end of the next quarter.

To see this article on the website, go to http://ogyc.org/quarterly_financial_reports

Upcoming Events (continued)

June 11	Capt Harbor Fri. Night Series
June 12	Round the Island/Payea Chase Race
June 13	Sunday Sailing Seminar
June 13	YRA-LIS CT Area One-Design Championship Series
June 16	Ideal 18 Twilight Sailing
June 16	Wednesday Vespers
June 17	Women's Sailing Program
June 18	Capt Harbor Fri. Night Series
June 19	Payea Distance Race
June 19	Solstice Regatta
June 19	Solstice Party!
June 23	Ideal 18 Twilight Sailing
June 23	Wednesday Vespers
June 24	Women's Sailing Program
June 27	Sunday Sailing Seminar
June 27	YRA-LIS CT Area One-Design Championship Series
June 29	Dave Perry on-the-water race clinic
June 30	Ideal 18 Twilight Sailing
June 30	Wednesday Vespers

