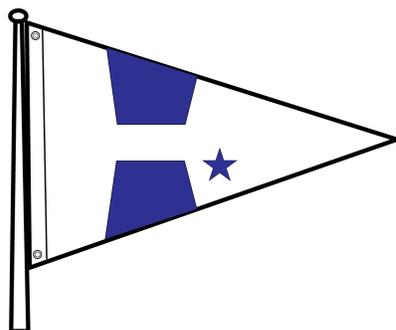
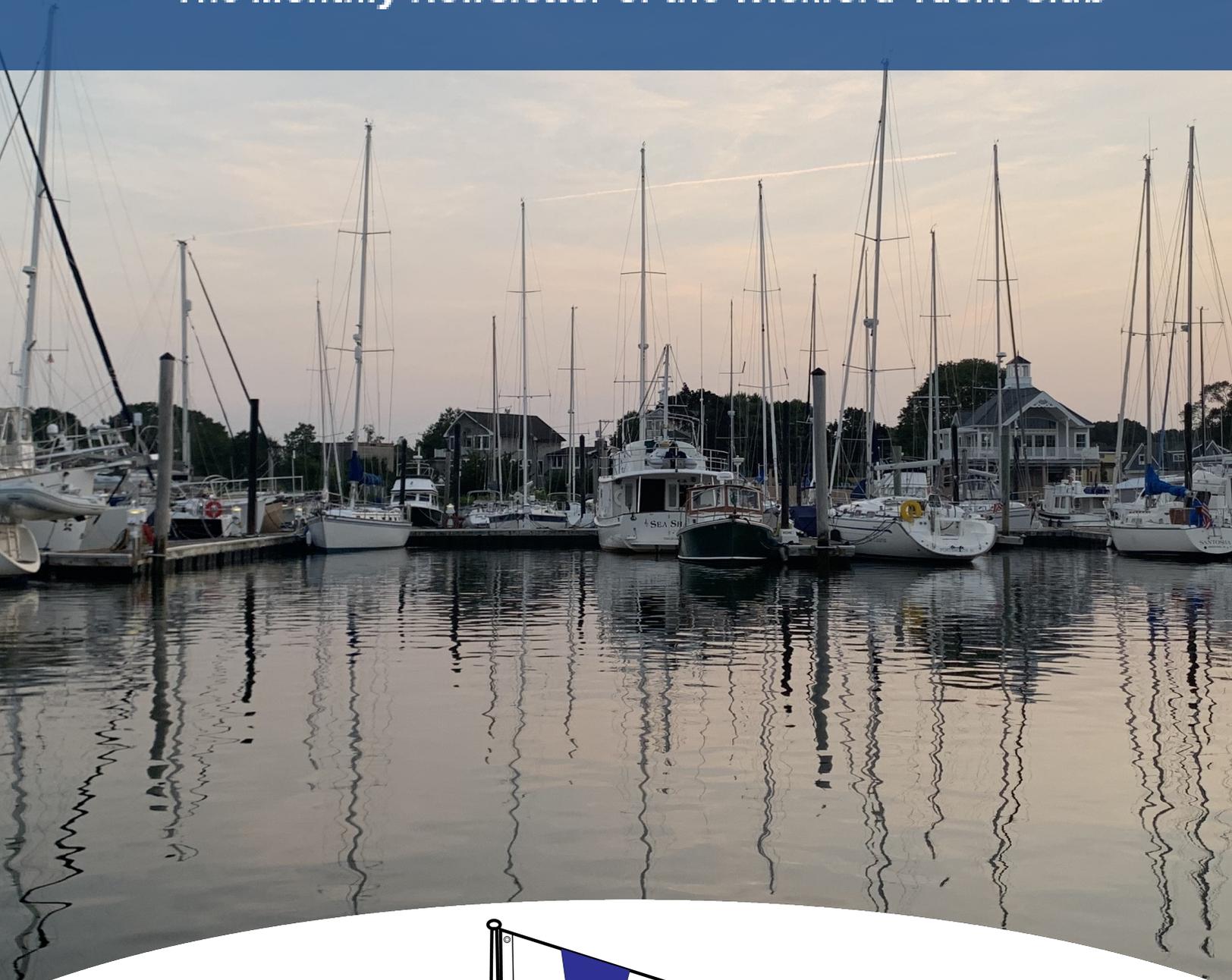


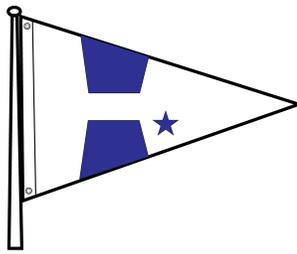
May, 2022

OVER *the* WAVES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Wickford Yacht Club



Wickford Yacht Club



Commodore's Corner

Dinghy Dock Storage

I think everyone is aware of the growing concerns regarding storage of dinghies on the docks. It's rare that the Commodore points to another Flag Officer's piece in Over the Waves. However, in this month's edition I call your attention to our Fleet Captain's discussion about our efforts to correct the overcrowding of dinghies on our club's docks. In a sense, it is a case study about the challenges the club faces in maximizing its limited resources to the benefit of the membership. It also serves to reinforce the importance of our policies in meeting the club's objective to provide suitable facilities and activities for our members.

The problem has been long in the making. Inflatables with large beams have gradually replaced narrower fiberglass dinghies. The resulting competition for space has created concerns about the ability to safely launch and retrieve a dinghy. In retrospect, the existing policy which covers the storage of dinghies on the docks, fell short of expectations. It became increasingly evident that the Board of Governors needed to take action to correct this situation. In the Board's judgement, expanding the width of the storage spots is the only practical solution. To allow for the expansion, two storage spots, recently vacated, will be eliminated. By eliminating these two spots those remaining can be sufficiently widened to alleviate the overcrowding and safety concerns.

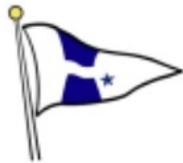
Impact will be minimal. No one with a dinghy currently stored on the dock, nor the WSA, will lose their dock privileges. Roughly 550 square feet of dock space and 60 linear feet of harbor access remain for the exclusive use of the WSA. Club members on the Dinghy Dock Wait List will unfortunately experience additional delay before being awarded a spot. The Board appreciates their patience as we work to resolve the overcrowding issue.

There are lessons learned that the Board will address in a revision to the dinghy storage policy. Rest assured that the Board will do this thoughtfully. It must be done however, to ensure we never find ourselves in this situation again where there is a need to eliminate additional spots on the docks. Our mission is to make available to as many members as is possible the privilege of storing a dinghy on the docks, not to regulate that privilege to only a few.

I want to recognize Dave Lindquist for his leadership in tackling this matter. And to Ezra Smith and Rex Brewer for their assistance and perspective. And thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Neil Bergh - Commodore



Save The Date!

2022 Commodore's Event

Saturday, June 18

Join the celebration to honor Commodore Neil Bergh
and his Norwegian heritage.

Rear Commodore's Report



A belated Happy Easter and I hope you are all enjoying our warmer weather.

The Wednesday night racing schedule is set, and the list of volunteers is filling in nicely. If you are one of the many that has helped or wants to join our Wednesday night race team please don't hesitate to email me so that I may add you to the schedule. The Solstice Series dates are Wednesdays June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and July 6th, The Dog Days Series is July 13, 20, 27 and August 10, 17, 24 (no racing August 3rd due to summer cruise). The needs are boats, race committee and mark boats, PROs, and races committee. Past volunteers will retain their positions, their knowledge and experience are vital to the smooth operation. Others will be added where desired. Please email me at brewer_rex@hotmail.com to confirm your desires and intentions. Thanks to the many that have already volunteered, all of your preferences will be honored. If you are looking to crew on a boat that is racing, you must speak to the Skipper of that boat. If unsure please come down on a Wednesday to be introduced to anyone that is looking for crew.

The Wickford Frostbite Association has added another completed season to our long history and tradition of winter Seadog racing. To help "break the ice" (ha ha) to try it out and see if sailing a Seadog is really enough fun to get bundled up for winter sailing, we plan some warm weather introductory events. You'll be able to see and sail a Seadog, and possibly try a short race while getting tips from the more experienced. Stay tuned for dates and times.

Also, just in from RIYC. RIYC hosts two regattas annually, which we invite our fellow sailors on Narragansett bay to join us in.

The **Gaspee Regatta**, this year Our 15th running, is sailed on Sunday, June 12, commemorating the "First Blow for Freedom" at the start of the Revolutionary War.

The **Ladies Cup Regatta**, sailed on Saturday, June 25, celebrates the competitive spirit of women sailors on Narragansett Bay, and is one of the original Narragansett Bay regattas, dating to 1897.

All documentation including NORs, Race Applications and SIs will be available on the RIYC website and can be accessed [HERE](#).

That's about all the news, I must get back to boat prep, seems I am always behind where I want to be. See you at the club and on the water.

Rex Brewer, Rear Commodore

Fleet Captain's Update



Spring Cruise Update:

We are looking at Newport. Ida Lewis Yacht Club has availability. I would plan to make reservations at a nearby restaurant. June 4-5, 2022. I will send out a separate notice, but please notify me if you would like to join the Spring Cruise!

Summer Cruise Update:

Given the sound of crickets in response to the call for a Block Island Port Captain, I hereby nominate Fleet Captain Dave Lindquist. He will strive to match the prowess of our other Port Captains, a tall order. He will need and welcome any and all assistance. Potluck planning, anyone?

Jon and Suzanne Thoms have arranged for a fantastic Commodore's Cocktail Party at the Ram's Head Inn, during our Coecles Harbor layover.

Carl Bowen has a terrific Cruise Dinner lined up on the Patio Terrace at Latitude 41 in Mystic, CT.

Rear Commodore/Port Captain Rex Brewer has Watch Hill Yacht Club preparing an outstanding cocktail party for us to help close out the cruise in Watch Hill.

In order for our Port Captains to finalize contracts with our hosts, we will need to know the number of guests.

Given all the supply chain challenges, prices are high and volatile. The sooner we can lock in our contracts, the better for all parties. And there will be parties.

Please contact me if you have not already notified me that you will be joining the cruise. The Summer Cruise Packet will be released next week. We anticipate another cruise planning meeting, hopefully in person, shortly thereafter.

Dinghy dock Update:

The list is updated, and posted on the WYC website. Thank you for everyone's patience with this process. As dinghy sizes have grown, safety concerns have arisen regarding crowding on the docks

(cont. on next page)

Fleet Captain's Update (cont.)



Inadequate space between dinghies makes it awkward and therefore dangerous to launch and haul dinghies, with the attendant risk of tripping/falling. Lest you think this a minor issue, bear in mind that the leading cause of death for patients admitted to the Rhode Island Hospital Trauma Service is complications due to “falls from standing,” (i.e. falls from standing on the ground). Two or more rib fractures can ruin your day.

Review of the Dinghy Dock Storage Policy (p.41, 2021 WYC manual) reveals: “To be considered for dock storage, the dinghy must fit within the marked *width and length* of these spaces.”

The Commodore and I measured the spaces as currently striped: 57”, with 3” stripes. Lax enforcement of WYC policy has led to at least 11 members having dinghies wider than 57”.

After extensive discussion and review of options, the Board was forced to settle for fewer, but wider spaces. Two spaces were absorbed on the East Docks, and one space was absorbed on the West Docks. This means 3 fewer spaces for members. This is a serious loss of a precious, limited club asset.

In order that we never again find ourselves forced to give up members’ dinghy dock spaces, the Board will be revisiting the dinghy dock policy. Going forward, please contact your Fleet Captain before acquiring a new dinghy for use on the dinghy dock.

We will be restriping the docks with 67” spaces/2” stripes on the West Docks, and 62” spaces/2” stripes on the East docks. Thank you to all the frostbiters who have removed their Sea Dogs. Please move your Sea Dog if you have not done so yet, so that the work crew is not hindered.

- To recap:
Please contact me if you would like to join the Spring Cruise to Newport, Ida Lewis Yacht Club.
- Please contact me if you plan to join the Summer Cruise.
- Please contact me before acquiring a new dinghy.
- Please move your Sea Dog

In the best Corinthian spirit, these are all boat problems. And boat problems are good problems to have.

Your Fleet Captain,
Dave Lindquist

Social Update



Well, the social calendar is in full swing! We've realized the successful completion of several events already, including the Annual Meeting/Passing of the Flags. Additionally, the weekly Friday "Wine-Down" events are popular and going well, and for good reason. If you're new and looking for a very informal way to meet fellow club members, this is it! Very soon, this Wine-Down event will transition to the outdoor area above the pavilion. There is truly no better view on the bay!

On April 23, we celebrated with the Commodores Reception. Chaired by Bob and Patty Kern, this event was a wonderful evening complete with the flavor of international cuisine. We were blessed to have a chef, and a team, from the Naval War College with experience with the Heads of Navy from over 135 maritime nations. Guest enjoyed an array of Norwegian fare from these talented chefs.

The events that follow include a fundraiser for the WSA called "Sail into Summer - WSA Starlight Gala" to be held on May 14. Registration is by way of an email that you should already have received via either WYC, or the WSA (Wickford Sailing Association). Either email has links that will allow you to easily register and make payment, or a donation. There is a wonderful opportunity to help the WSA with the expenses associated with running the best sailing program in the region. After that, we have our WYC Spring Clean-Up now scheduled for May 15, followed by WYC's Newcomers Meet & Greet on May 22. More details to follow in WYC email.

Verification of vaccination still applies to our social events, but we will make every effort to make compliance easy. You may show your vaccination card, but an even easier way is simply taking a photo of the vaccination card with your phone. We cannot retain the information, so remember to show this for each event until the proof of vaccination requirement goes away. For now, it is required. Thank you!

Remember, if you wish to help with an event, please feel free to contact me at any time. Chairing and event, or assisting with set-up, planning, or bartending, etc, is a great way to meet and engage fellow club members. No prior experience is necessary.

Fair Winds, and Following Seas!

Randy Wietman
Social Chair



PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ELEGANT
EVENING BENEFITING THE
WICKFORD SAILING ASSOCIATION

Sail into Summer Starlight Gala

REGISTER

SATURDAY, MAY 14

6 O'CLOCK 'TIL LATE

WICKFORD YACHT CLUB, NORTH KINGSTOWN, RHODE ISLAND

DRINKS, HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES, AND SILENT AUCTION

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GREY SAIL BREWING OF RHODE ISLAND

TICKETS PRICED AT SIXTY DOLLARS PER GUEST

REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 1



WSA Gala Auction Fundraiser - May 14th

Please see the Gala details on the [previous page](#) and [REGISTER HERE](#).

The Auction will have lots of nautical items, representation from local merchants, national companies and WYC members but more Donations are still needed. If you have a service or item you can donate please reach out to Kathy Brown.

A sampling of Raffle and Auction items have been secured from:

North Sails - Sea Dog Sail

Newport Restaurant Group Certificates

America's Cup Charters

Whalers, West Passage & Narragansett Breweries

S&S Fabric Products \$1000 Gift Certificate towards Cushions

West, Conanicut & Gill Marine

Cindy Wilson Photography - Portrait Session

Weekend Getaway to Maine

Smart TVs, Jewelry and of course a bag from Trader Joe's Sailorbags

And much more!!

If you can't make it but are interested in the list of auction items for absentee bidding, I'd be happy to send you a list for silent bidding by proxy or anyone is welcome to come down to the club for early bidding as we set up that afternoon.

If you have trouble registering online, you may contact Gregory Grande <greggrande5@gmail.com> or call him at 860-997-9751.

We hope you can join us in supporting WSA as we try to keep our fleet current and our tuition reasonable as we introduce new sailors to the sport we all love so much. Thank you in advance for your support. As with other social events at this time, proof of vaccination must be shown at Check-In.

Kathy Brown for WSA, wickfordbrowns@gmail.com

Members Update



2022 WYC Member Directory Distribution

By Commissioning Day, the 2022 WYC Directory Yearbooks will be available for distribution.

They will be labelled and sorted by Last Name. One per member, which means 2 for Family memberships.

The Individual and single Senior members will be in a separate bin since they are single copies, other member copies are paired for easier pickup.

Please check the labels to ensure you're picking up the correct copy(ies). Feel free to pickup for a neighbor or family member, just make sure they know! You can pick up your copy at the Club at your convenience starting over the Memorial Day weekend.



2022 Events Calendar

January 01	NY's Day Brunch
February 19	Craft Beer/Wine Festival
March 19	March Madness/ St Patrick's Day
March 25	Annual Meeting/Passing of the Flags
April 23	Commodores Reception
May 14	Sail into Summer – WSA Starlight Gala
May 28	Commissioning Day
June 18	Commodores Ball
July 16	Cheeseburgers in Paradise
August 20	Lobsterfest
September 24	Fall Fling/Cocktails on the Deck
October 22	Oktoberfest
October 30	Halloween Kids Trick-or-Treat
November 12	Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner
December 10	Holiday Party
December 31	New Year's Eve Party



WYC Board of Governors

Commodore	Neil Bergh
Vice Commodore	Ezra Smith
Rear Commodore	Rex Brewer
Fleet Captain	David Lindquist
Member-at-Large	Agu Suvari
Secretary	Rich O'Brien
Treasurer	Ben Rice
House Chair	Jim Hutchins
Past Commodore	Bob Kern

WYC Committee Chairs

Awards	Anne Cunic
Social	Randy Wietman
Club Rental	Agu Suvari
Communications	Rich O'Brien
Sunshine	Pinkie Sweet-Holland
OTW Editor	Erin Spear
Website	Kyle Wilson
Yearbook	Kathy Brown
Finance	Ezra Smith
Frostbiting	Chuck Allen
Membership	Karen Pizzaruso
NBYA Rep.	Doug Nannig
Nominating	Bob Kern
Race	Rex Brewer
Regatta Activities	Skip Whyte
WSA Grants	Paul Nannig
Seminars	Yarrow Thorne
WSA	Skip Whyte

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wickfordyc.com

