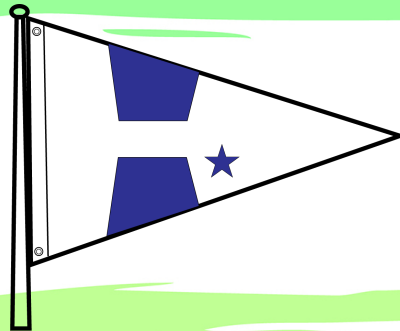


March, 2024

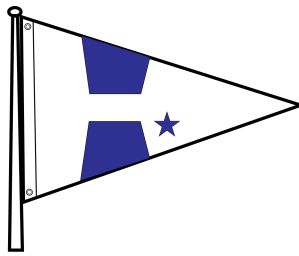
OVER *the* WAVES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Wickford Yacht Club



Wickford Yacht Club





Commodore's Corner

Hope this finds everyone well and enjoying the longer days and looking forward to warmer weather.

Having traveled for work for 40 years and having cruised the east coast I am overwhelmed by our amazingly good fortune to have RI, Narragansett Bay, Wickford harbor and the Wickford Yacht Club. In my humble opinion, there's no place better!

I hope you've noticed that younger families are joining us. Hopefully more family activities and events will be scheduled. Our family day is scheduled later this year. It is often said that change is hard, and even good change is hard. As we uphold our traditions and respect our past, Wickford Yacht Club continues to change.

There are lots of new members to meet and become friends with. Fortunately, this goes well almost all the time. I am uncomfortable that I feel a need to say more, but please consider the view of those to whom you are speaking, and please don't instruct or inform unless asked, compromise when required, contact the member-at-large or a board member if unsuccessful.

We all abide by the same bylaws and house rules. Every member must have an equal chance to enjoy the club within these rules. Most of all be kind, polite, and respectful of each other. If you are ill please consider your impact on others before coming in close contact. This is common sense stuff we all learned a long time ago, that already happens almost all of the time. I apologize for sounding directive or condescending, thanks for taking this to heart and continuing our tradition of welcoming kindness to all that makes our club great.

Sincerely yours,

Rex Rex Brewer
Commodore

Vice Commodore's Update



In my experience, March always feels like the longest month of the year. Not warm enough for boat prep, too soon for gardening, not quite the frozen romance of a late evening snowstorm, and definitely the start of the mud season. At least we have the joy of tax preparation (!) to carry us through...

On the upside, March is a great time to lay groundwork for this summer's fun. Cruises are being planned. Summer racing is only a few months away. We can dedicate time to physical conditioning and recovery from any injuries, positioning ourselves for optimal warm weather fun. Our daylight keeps increasing as the vernal equinox approaches.

I am pleased to announce that Jay Kolyer, Sarilee Norton, and Jeff Wadovick have kindly agreed to serve on the WYC Finance Committee this year. Please thank them in advance for their unseen work that permits the club to continue to function for its members.

The Finance Committee will work closely with the newly formed Building Committee, chaired by Past Commodore Neil Bergh, to monitor and address the WYC infrastructure. The House Committee, chaired by Charlie Costa, will also be a key player in these discussions. We look forward to tackling short and long term projects to keep the club operational for everyone.

This is a key time to help each other through what can be a challenging period of the year. Please continue to reach out to friends and neighbors. Many of us put up a good front, but benefit tremendously from spontaneous connection from those who care about us.

When I was a competitive rower, March was always our most intense month of training. Spring break meant double practice sessions, whether on land or on the water. It was hard, but we inevitably emerged stronger and faster, primed for the races to come. These days, as I seek a less competitive but more sustainable level of satisfying intensity, I welcome March's opportunity to build a solid platform for the months to come. I hope the upcoming weeks offer similar potential for all.

Your Vice Commodore,
Dave Lindquist



Rear Commodore's Report

Happy March All!

Plans for Wednesday Night Racing at WYC are progressing well! I had a wonderful talk with Doug Nannig, our Race Committee Chairperson. Thank you, Doug, for your years of service to the WYC racing community! Your knowledge and willingness to help are very much appreciated!

We have a call for help for three dates for our summer racing series. We need a committee boat; July 3rd, July 24th, and August 14th. Please send me a text, email, or give me a call. If anyone wishes to be a backup for any other race dates (see dates below), it would be terrific to have that help in place too. We are looking for mark boats for both race series. If anyone is interested in volunteering for this opportunity, please reach out to me.

We will have the one and only Race Committee Meeting on Wednesday, May 22nd at 4:30, one week before the Summer Solstice series starts. If you are on the race committee, would like to be on the race committee, or are race committee curious, please make a point to be there! Please let me know if you have a big conflict with the 22nd and would like to be on the race committee, we will see what we can do to help.

For all the early planners out there, the Wednesday night racing dates are as follows:

Summer Solstice Series – start 6:15pm

May 29 – Captain’s Meeting 4:00
June 5
June 12
June 19
June 26
July 3

Dog Days Series – start 6:00pm

July 10 – Captain’s Meeting 4:00
July 17
July 24
August 7
August 14
August 21

We will have sign-ups for the series via Regatta Network soon. Please keep an eye out.

My best to all for a terrific March,
Suzanne Thoms
WYC Rear Commodore
suzythoms@gmail.com
(401) 932-3306

Fleet Captain's Report



Tidings, All,

Personally, February was a short month of long journeys. I beach-walked alongside the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf of Mexico, crossed over the pond and under the English Channel, hopped river boats for short cruises down the Reie River canal in Brugge and up the River Thames. Speaking of cruising...

The Spring Equinox is nigh and while gardeners check their mail for seed catalogs, cruisers await news about the Spring Cruise. Planning is in motion for a mid-June overnight cruise. Details to follow.

The 2024 Summer Cruise – July 27th– August 2nd includes an array of eastward ports of call beginning with Cuttyhunk, the outermost of the Elizabeth Islands in Massachusetts located between Buzzards Bay to the north and Vineyard Sound to the south. Cruisers can settle in by pre-ordering fresh oysters and chowder to gather on the fuel dock to kick off the week. Sunday the fleet will make a quick hop over to Quissett Harbor, a lovely anchorage that boasts the cleanest water in the state. It's one of the few navigable and protected harbors in New England that doesn't have a town. Next up, Red Brook Harbor, located between Wings Neck and Scraggy Neck where we will soak up the ambiance of Buzzards Bay and chilled libations served Tuesday evening at the Commodore's Cocktail Party. Wednesday morning, we'll weigh anchors and set a course to Padanaram, home of the New Bedford Yacht Club. Thursday evening will find our merry fleet – including members arriving via land yachts – enjoying the 2024 Cruise Dinner at NBYC. Friday the fleet traditionally disperses.

Some members will head out independently while others will opt to return to Wickford via Aquidneck's Third Beach to take a break from the helm. Many thanks to Randy Weitman, Mike Tamarro, John & Linda Hughes, John Thoms, Scot Jones & Sue Smith for volunteering to serve as port captains. It's a vital job that's rewarded by warm appreciation and a cool burgee. Please contact me at fleetcaptain@wickfordyc.com (if you haven't already) so we can get a count of those joining us via land or sea at any or all ports of call.

(cont.)

Fleet Captain's Report



(cont)

The dinghy dock storage policy has been revised and unanimously approved by the Board after two years of study and substantial input from past commodores. It is posted on the member's area of the club web page.

I enjoyed connecting with members holding dock, in water, and rack spaces to confirm assignments as well as those on the wait list who celebrated the news that they will be assigned a space. To all who graciously let go of a space as their recreational priorities have changed, know that the jubilation and gratitude of those on the wait list who moved into a space is profound.

March On!

Jeri Levesque, Fleet Captain



Map of 1776 of Buzzards Bay.

Sailing Activities Report



Wickford Regatta.

Things are shaping up nicely for the June 8 th & 9 the Wickford Regatta.

We have our beach permits from the Town and the USCG permits are in the pipeline. We have begun to talk with the classes about their expectation around participation, and we even have our first registrant!

We will be meeting with the various team Captains soon – Venue, Race Office, Alpha, Bravo, Accommodations and Shoreside Support/Hospitality. If you are a veteran worker, please let your Captain know if you will be returning. We will post a list of openings by category as soon as we get the list of vacancies. Just want to volunteer – send BJ an email at **Barb@JacksonWhyte.com**



Can't volunteer but have room on your couch for a guest? Let Pinkie know at pinkiesweetholland@gmail.com and she'll connect you with a sailor.

See you on the Beach!

WSA Report



New Co-Head Instructors

It has been a huge challenge to build a staff comparable to last year's great team. Rodrigo Benvenuto and Michael Fletcher took full-time positions and David Berson will be taking an internship in Philadelphia this summer. They had been the leaders on the staff and hard to replace. We are happy to announce that we have surpassed our goal and will have an even better staff in 2024.

After an extensive search and many interviews of almost exclusively international applicants WSA has hired two very experienced instructors to lead our program this year. Calvin Lamosse and Craig Keenan will be co-head instructors this summer.

Calvin is currently a Junior at the University of Vermont and is the Captain and A Division skipper of their sailing team. Calvin is from Minnesota where he grew up sailing and has been instructing for three years in Minneapolis, MN, Plymouth, MA and Lido Isle, CA. Calvin will lead the 420 classes and support the Beginner and Beginner Plus classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are very fortunate to have Calvin on the team.



Craig hails from Auckland, New Zealand years where he has been coaching for 5 years in a broad range of Dinghy's and Skiffs, specializing in advanced Optimists, 29ers, RS Feva, Open Bic/Skiff, and 49er. He has a Marine Biology degree which will be a huge asset for our STEM program. Craig will lead our Opti program and support Intermediate and Adventure.

Calvin and Craig will both need a place to stay this summer and we are asking WYC members to consider putting one of them up for the whole or a portion of the season.

The rest of the WSA staff is in place and we are happy to welcome Jake Demos who has been instructing at URI for three years and was eager to move to a more comprehensive program. He will lead the Intermediate group and join Craig in Optis. Dawson Chambers is a freshman at Roger Williams and will be getting her Level 1 this spring and joining returning instructors Will Hanney and Tim Rapoza. Finally, Whitman Bressler and Jackson Palmer were JIs last summer will be getting their Level 1. Kathryn McQuesten will return as a JI.

Record Registration Since February 1st

WSA registration opened on February 1st with two days of priority registration for WYC members and returning WSA families. We received 124 registrations in those two days which was a great testimony to WSA's ability to retain its customers year after year. By February 4th WSA had received 155 registrations and many classes were full.

Growing Participation by WYC Families

To date WSA has received a record number of WYC registrations with 12 member kids, 10 grand kids and 5 adults, who signed up for a total of 33 classes.

Skip Whyte
President, Wickford Sailing Association

Call for Volunteers

WYC Yearbook Team needs a Graphic Designer

Any graphic designers out there in our WYC membership?

Our WYC Annual Yearbook Directory production team needs a new team member who has experience with Adobe InDesign (or access to the software).

We need someone to assist with the build of the document for the printer. We have a template in place and always begin by editing last year's document. Edits generally occur during the month of April.

Anyone that can help with this annual task or simply has access to InDesign please let me know asap. I will continue to do all the data editing for member information and manage the edits necessary. We do not need to redesign the yearbook (but suggestions always welcome!), just need to update it for the 2024 season.

Thank you in advance,
Kathy Brown, wickfordbrowns@gmail.com



The Wickford Sailing Association Seeking New Designs

**Are you artistic? Can you draw or create computer graphics?
Do you want to see your work displayed?**

We are looking to add to our current artwork portfolio with artistic pieces that showcase the sport of sailing, and represent the culture of our sailing school. We are hoping to use your artwork in the following ways:

1. On T-shirts for the summer program participants
2. On the website
3. On communications from WSA
4. Any other way we can display your talent within the organization!

Please submit either your digital art or a photo of your original artwork to: anthearesnick@gmail.com by March 15, 2024

Members Update



New Membership Posting

Ajaj, Family Membership Stephanie & Jamail Children: Ophelia & Zayd
Sponsors :Skip Whyte & Barbara Jackson and Leigh & Charlie Wolpensinger

Green, Family Membership Theodore & Priscilla Returning Members
Sponsors: Will & Marsha King and Former Commodore Gordon Fletcher & Sharon Fletcher
Boat(s) *Sirene* 36' Grand Banks Inflatable 9' North Atlantic

Kolaski, Family Membership Thomas & Karyn
Sponsors: Benjamin Rice and Former Commodore Ed Sherman & Nancy Sherman
Boat: *Caso Del Mar* 17' Hutchins
Any WYC Member wishing to comment may contact the Board of Governors

Sending boatloads of *Good Wishes* to Missus & Mister McCrory who celebrated their **14th Anniversary** by getting married. Cue the confetti toss.



Social Committee Update

We Did It "Our Way" in February... Did someone say 'Sinatra Night'.... Walking into WYC on Sinatra Night was, a real flashback to clubbing!!

People dressed to the '9's', Fedoras floating, gowns flowing, while drinking and eating some of Sinatra's favorites... Goodies from Venda Ravioli, Martinis & Manhattans and skinny fries (who knew they were one of his favs)!

We danced under the candlelight with Ben and Chuck to great Sinatra tunes. Originally concerned about not being inclusive with the music, we had people from 26 to 86! By the end of the evening, people were begging to do it again!! Great news... Old Blue Eyes (George) is penciled into the calendar for another "Sinatra Night" Feb 8 th , 2025!!

Here are just a few pics from an Absolutely Amazing evening! A Huge thank you to Sue MacDowell and Greg Grande for such a fabulous idea and all their hard work as Champions of this Event!

And as always... to our Amazing Team of Volunteers from Set-up to Clean-up and everything in between, we can't thank you all enough!



In an attempt to catch our breath, we met for 'Friday Night Wine UP' with Scott Monroe and Gerry from West Passage Brewery... We filled the Members Room for a Brew tasting and Education on their local brew making. We would like to Thank Randy Weitman for this Fantastic idea and all his efforts to make this evening a Success! Next time you pass West Passage, stop in and have a Brew at the Bar and thank Scott himself. Next up... Our St. Patrick's Day Party... Saturday March 16 th ! Watch your email for more information!

We might also have another Surprise Friday Night Wine UP coming!!

Scot & Sue

🎵 You make me feel so young



🎵 You make me feel so Spring has sprung



Roberta and Norma Perry's daughter, Ann



🎵 And every time I see you grin

I'm such a happy individual 🎵

Seminar & Swag Update

SEMINAR UPDATE

The Master Gardeners Seminar was held the evening of February 29th. Our own Peggy Scully and Linda Oliver Highes presented insights and tips on gardening by the season, winter, spring, summer and fall. Participants welcomed their experience, knowledge and well-placed humor. Everyone engaged in dialog and camaraderie while sharing ideas. What a team! Thank you Peggy and Linda, we are sufficiently poised for spring, watching for crocuses and making our plans.



SWAG UPDATE

Need a Coat?



Go to [Wickford Yacht Club - We Make Gear](#)

If you need the password it's WYC2023

New styles on sale...both are wind and water resistant!

Events Calendar

Upcoming Events

3/11 Board of Governors Mtg.

3/15 St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Weekly Events

Monday: 13:00 hr. Mahjong

Thursday: 10:00 hr. Coffee Hour

Friday: 18:00 hr. Happy Hour wine down



WYC Board of Governors

Commodore	Rex Brewer
Vice Commodore	David Lindquist
Rear Commodore	Suzanne Thoms
Fleet Captain	Jeri Levesque
Member-at-Large	Agu Suvari
Secretary	Rich O'Brien
Treasurer	Ben Rice
House Chair	Charlie Costa
Past Commodore	Ezra Smith

WYC Committee Chairs

Awards	Anne Cunic
Social	Sue Smith and Scot Jones
Club Rental	Agu Suvari
Communications	Rich O'Brien
Sunshine	Pinkie Sweet-Holland
OTW Editor	Erin Spear
Website	Kyle Wilson
Yearbook	Kathy Brown
Finance	David Lindquist
Frostbiting	Chuck Allen
Membership	Karen Pizzaruso
NBYA Rep.	Doug Nannig
Nominating	Ezra Smith
Race	Suzanne Thoms
Regatta Activities	Skip Whyte
WSA Grants	Paul Nannig
Seminars	Winnie Hagan
WSA	Skip Whyte

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