

**Minutes  
of the  
Board of Governors  
of the  
OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB  
APRIL 4, 1998**

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held at Avery Point, Groton, Connecticut on April 4, 1998. Commodore Anderson presided. Other Governors present were:

W. Frank Bohlen  
CDR John F. Brooks, USCG  
Edward C. Dieckerhoff  
Carl D. Fast  
Carleton A. Granbery  
William G. Gunther

John H. Lockwood  
D. Richard Magovern, DMD  
W. Wes Maxwell  
Neal H. O'Connell  
Norman E. Rabe  
Richard H. Roberts

Present by invitation were:

William L. Ames  
Neal S. O'Connell

Steven M. Purdy

Absent were:

Brin R. Ford  
Peter M. McFadden

Philip Smyth  
Warren F. Woodworth, MD

The meeting was called to order at 1518.

The minutes of the previous January 16, 1998 meeting were VOTED approved.

Vice Commodore Bohlen reported that all is ready for the Annual Dinner. The count is 156, which is about 40 less than last year. There have been fewer multiple ticket sales with the sign up usually being for just a skipper and a spouse but not crew. The question being pursued is why the count is down. He is looking at the Seaman's Inn at the Seaport as a possible change of venue but it would be quite a bit more expensive. The Sub Base's Tavern on the Green was suggested as it might be less expensive. The subject is under exploration and comments and suggestions would be welcome. April 10, 1999 is penciled in at the Coast Guard Academy.

A final 1998 Budget was distributed a copy of which is attached. Increases have been made for video preparation and a small increase for trophies. Income from royalties is zero as we bought ties this year. As the ties are sold we will recoup our investment plus a profit over a number of years. Our surplus at over \$20,000 is above the target. Commodore Anderson indicated that if we need something to improve our races we should consider doing it. Past Commodore Gunther cautioned that it is best to run in a financially responsible way as it opens up options if necessary. The budget was VOTED approved.

Rear Commodore Maxwell indicated that trophies and plaques are ready.

The Secretary reported that no members have been reported as having died since the January Board Meeting.

The following resignations were VOTED accepted with regret:

Burton H. Anderson  
Thomas W. Cashel  
Harry K. Sedgwick

Dr. Richard A. Scheuing  
Edward C. Smith

The following individuals were VOTED dropped for non-payment of dues with the proviso that the Secretary was to use judgment in accepting late payments:

Eric W. Baittinger  
\* Louis John Bevilacqua  
Kirk F. Blanchard  
\* Halsey C. Herreshoff  
\* Karl M. Knauss  
Herbert R. Maher

Robert George Melrose  
Ray Renaud  
\* William Rich IV  
\* Paul D. van Dyke  
\* Durward Woodman  
Charles A. Young

\* Paid since April 4, 1998.

Ronald Levine, who was reinstated at the January meeting, was added to the rolls. Eleven (11) new members were elected February 27, 1998. With these changes, membership is currently at 507 (513 with above reinstatements as of April 19, 1998).

Treasurer Fast distributed a revised 1997 financial statement. Surplus from 1997 activities remains at over \$5,000. All activity since he assumed responsibility in April balances. However, there is a shortage in the figures of over \$2,000 between the end of year 1996 and 1997 reports. This is apparent from the balance sheets for the 1996 and 1997 fiscal years. He has discussed this problem with former Treasurer Messer. It appears that the problem may be some confusion with year end 1996 and early 1997 entries but he has been unable to identify the specific problem. The Secretary commented that he had been unable to obtain information or see resolution of problems with the 1996 report that he brought to Treasurer Messer's attention in January 1997. Past Commodore Gunther expressed his feeling that we had a fiscal responsibility to the Club to resolve this matter. Commodore Anderson indicated that he is not asking for approval of the report at this time and will appoint an individual to audit our financial records and reconstruct them if necessary.

Historian Ames indicated that the video of the 1997 race series is ready. Ken Mahler is using the Seaport's equipment for editing and viewing. He can continue to use their equipment and plans to do the Spring Series for which he will be modestly reimbursed. Only a new job out of the area would take precedence over the Spring Series.

Race Secretary Roberts presented a short guest list of 5 names plus the service academies. The guest list was VOTED approved.

US Sailing's new Regulations for Offshore Racing were discussed with particular attention given to flotation devices. The regulations are not yet available and

we need to publish our regulations for the 1998-year. It was VOTED that we leave requirements as last published and note in the Sailing Instructions that we are not incorporating the new ORC regulations but encourage the use of flotation devices.

Clerk Magovern reported that the state of Massachusetts has simplified our Corporation renewal process. Signatures of Club officers are no longer necessary, just a \$15 check.

Measurer Rabe reported Steen Kokborg's move to California and resignation as a measurer. William A. Loweth has been added to the list of measurers to replace Steen.

Race Committee Chairman Granbery reported that he has proposed a couple of extra legs and mark rounding on Saturday for high performance classes in lieu of a second race. The course board is under construction and two new 8 foot tetrahedon marks have been ordered. He gave thanks to Bill Gunther who declined reimbursement for the materials and labor for preparing the number and letter boards (the Secretary recalls that this was about 136 pieces). A printing stopwatch and computer are being evaluated. The Committee is looking for the loan or donation of 2 or 3 medium (30-inch shaft) yachtsman anchors to secure marks. Jim and Joanna Arnold and Frank Murphy are going back to racing and Bowen Briggs and Bill Read will replace them.

Membership Committee Chairman Brooks has 9 candidates in the pipeline that he hopes to have ready for posting by the First Notice. The Membership Committee's guest list was read and accepted.

Measurement Rule Committee Chairman Brooks told us that the cruising division of the Bermuda race will be using Americap Rule this year and he will report on the results in October.

Classification Committee Chairman N. S. O'Connell had nothing to report awaiting spring series entries.

Protest Committee Chairman Smyth was absent and there was no report.

Entertainment Committee Chairman Dieckerhoff indicated that he has talked to Joan Abrams at Block Island. They intend to continue offering breakfast and will offer a simple dinner on Friday evening. Last year liquor consumption was higher than usual and there may have been some gate crashers from the Oar. This is very difficult to police.

Block Island Liaison Committee Chairman Steven Purdy is going after the same housing arrangements we had last year for the Race Committee.

Shelter Island liaison Committee Chairman Lockwood indicated that the Shelter Island Yacht Club has a new manager, Paul Stewart.

Public Relations Committee Chairman Ford was absent and there was no report.

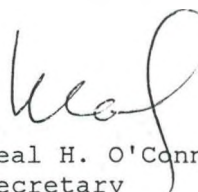
Fleet Surgeon Woodworth was absent and there was no report.

Past Commodore Gunther reported that the Nominating Committee composed of himself, William A. Loweth and Robert Edmands has a full slate for 1998.

Commodore Anderson moved and it was VOTED to propose Paul C. van Dyke to the membership at the Annual Meeting for honorary membership.

Measurer Rabe indicated that he has prepared instructions for measurers' about taking information from other certificates when preparing an Off Soundings Certificate.

There being no further business it was VOTED to adjourn at 1655.



Neal H. O'Connell  
Secretary  
4/10/98

PS: Commodore Anderson has appointed the committee chairmen shown below for the 1998 year.

OFF SOUNDING CLUB  
COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN  
for  
THE 1998 YEAR

Membership	CDR John F. Brooks, USCG
Protest	J. Philip Smyth
Entertainment	Edward C. Dieckerhoff
Classification	Neal S. O'Connell
Measurement Rule	CDR John F. Brooks, USCG
Prizes & Awards	H. Wes Maxwell
Public Relations	Brin R. Ford
Fleet Surgeon	Warren F. Woodworth, MD
Shelter Island Liaison	John H. Lockwood
Block Island Liaison	Steven M. Purdy
Long Range Race Planning	William G. Gunther
Deputy Race Secretary	Robert B. Geary
ECSA Representative	Richard H. Roberts
USSA/ORC Representative	Richard H. Roberts