



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

[2-86]

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WINTER NEWSLETTER

1979 for Off Soundings? I'll borrow the song title: "It was a Very Good Year." We had a fine Annual Meeting at the Seamen's Inn in April, with a superb dinner and some excellent movies by Pete Converse. June brought us two gorgeous days of sailing. Maybe not as much air at times as some might like, but keeping her moving in the soft stuff is a challenge too, and the shore parties were super, thanks to our smooth-working Entertainment Committee and the fine Shelter Island Yacht Club hospitality and facilities. Fall brought us a good, solid test of boats and crews on Friday and, looking at the overall picture, I think we passed. Some boats did not start, and some withdrew, to the everlasting credit of their skippers' judgment, and there were several cases of boats giving up the race to stand by a boat in distress - the ultimate in good sportsmanship. There were a few unfortunate incidents, but when the day was done everyone was accounted for with no serious injuries or major boat damage, and the shore party was one of the best, thanks in part to Bill Ames and his Rock (of Ages) Group. Saturday was one of the most magnificent sailing days we've ever had.

The Race Committee work was particularly outstanding all year - good courses, good starts and superb coordination. Yes, "It was a Very Good Year", and the guys who get those overall trophies in April earned them in almost every kind of sailing.

A good blow usually teaches some lessons, shatters some illusions, and creates or strengthens some resolves. One thing we learned last fall is that Category 4 ORC Equipment Standards are an absolute minimum, and the Board of Governors is resolved to have every entrant be familiar with them and the fact that his boat must conform. We are not going to get involved with inspections, because we don't think that should be necessary among corinthian sailors, but we are going to include a copy with the First Notice, and you will be required to sign a statement on your entry blank that you have read them and that your boat conforms. A word to the wise: a #3 is NOT a heavy weather jib. A great many boats had to drop out last fall because they had nothing smaller, and they couldn't control their boats with the #3. The ORC is developing some more precise regulations on heavy weather sails. I suggest you keep in touch with your sailmaker. Another advance notice to those who are not familiar with Category 4: If your heavy weather jib is designed for a seastay or luff-groove device, it must have an alternative method of attachment to the stay, or a wire luff.

Reference to the ORC (Offshore Rating Council) leads me to the subject of the United States Yacht Racing Union (USYRU). The Board of Governors wants every Off Soundings entrant to be a member. A brochure is enclosed which tells their story better than I can. If you can afford a boat, you can afford the minimal dues which finance the organization that makes racing the superb sport it is today. They are doing a magnificent job, and they deserve your support. JOIN!

This year we will again race to Shelter Island in the spring and Block Island in the fall. Suggestions for change in this format will be considered, but we have to keep in mind that we have entrants all the way from Narragansett Bay to the western end of L. I. Sound.

While we are on the subject of this year's racing, you should know that our new Race Secretary is Bill Ames, and his address is 9 Gravel St., Mystic, CT. 06355. Bill agreed to take over when Tom Wadlow accepted a career opportunity which necessitated relocation to New Jersey. We all owe Tom a rousing vote of thanks for a flawless, smooth-as-silk job these last three years. I am grateful to him and to Bill for stepping into the breach. Tom still plans to race with us, which is good news. I'd hate to lose the fun of watching our race results announcers wrestle with the name XIAPE!

Some final items for your information:

1. The closing date for guest invitations is March 26th. Write Bill Ames for a form if you want to issue one.
2. The Annual Meeting will be at the Seaport on April 5th.
3. Your nominating committee is Don Robinson, Chairman; Bruce Lockwood and Rick Harrison.
4. The Secretary would appreciate copies of any old yearbooks you may have, from the beginning up through 1970. We are trying to maintain a complete set in his files as well as in the Blunt White Library at the Seaport.
5. Your attention is drawn to the N. E. Sailing Yacht Symposium being held at the Coast Guard Academy on March 22nd. (Program included in this mailing.)

See you in the spring,

Don Davis

P.S, Last year Dr. Duncan MacDougall retired as Fleet Surgeon, and I want to take this opportunity to thank him for his years of watching over us. For our 1979 races we used a young third year resident from the Middlesex Hospital's Family Practice Program. If any of our M.D. members who have retired from active racing would like to take on the job of Fleet Surgeon, I'd be glad to hear from you. Also, Peter Converse, who has taken those great movies of our races for so many years, would like relief. Any volunteers?



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

DUDLEY W. BUTLER
Chairman Membership Committee
c/o Advest Co., 1 Union Plaza
New London, Conn. 06320

Area Code 203 443-2821

February 25, 1980

To The Members:

The following have been proposed and seconded for Membership in the Off Soundings Club. Their names are submitted for your CAREFUL SCRUTINY AND CONSIDERATION. Members acquainted with the candidates should send any information they possess or recommendations they have concerning the candidates to the Membership Committee.

All such communications will be strictly confidential and should be mailed to:

Dudley W. Butler, Chairman, Membership Committee, Care of Advest
Inc., One Union Plaza, New London, Connecticut 06320

No action will be taken on the following applicants until at least thirty (30) days from the date of this notice.

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>NAME OF BOAT</u>	<u>PROPOSER</u>	<u>SECONDEES</u>
Hayes Ellison 109 Tunxis Road West Hartford, CT	"Yankee 38"	Richard Taylor	Ben Whitcomb Norm Gahm
Robert J. LaFrance 18 Cottage Place Groton, CT	Laser	Eric Robba	William L. Ames William D. Webster
James Edward Fayal 155 Water Street Stonington, CT	-	Kenneth B. Tate	Fred Richartz Peter Freeman
Roy Warren Fox, Sr Four Juniper Circle Canton, CT	-	G. Donald Feree	John H. Conard Lucian E. Baldwin
Allen Sterling Ames Charles Street Centerbrook, CT	"Sesame"	Ben E. Dupont	Stanley G. Barnes Alan Wasley
Errol Thomas Silvestri 8 Seabreeze Drive Waterford, CT	"Jester"	Larry Jacobsen	William Ames C. Paul Lebeau
William Freeman Leuze 95 Gardner Avenue New London, CT	"Yankee"	Aborn D. Smith Jr	C. Paul Lebeau Peter Brouwer



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<u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	<u>NAME OF BOAT</u>	<u>PROPOSER</u>	<u>SECONDER</u>
Fabyan Richardson Saxe 15 Halliwell Drive Stamford, CT		John R. Saxe	Edward J. Keyes Jr Eugene M. Reardon
William Lee 225 Vine Street New Britain, CT	"Pelagia II"	Benjamin Whitcomb	Richard Taylor Herbert Pasternak
Darryl Edgar Hersant 34 Grandview Terrace Essex, CT	"Guillemot"	Peter Comstock	Stewart Hotchkiss Robert English

DUDLEY W. BUTLER

Chairman, Membership Committee