



## OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

OFFICE OF  
THE SECRETARY

P. O. Box 178

Hope Valley, R. I. 02832

March 3, 1971

### ANNUAL MEETING and SHORE PARTY

Our Annual Meeting and Winter Dinner will be held at the Mystic Seaport, Mystic, Connecticut on Saturday, April 3, 1971.

The Annual Meeting for members will be held in the Aloha Meeting House at 6:00 P.M.

1. For the election of Officers and Board of Governors for the coming year.
2. To transact any business that may properly come before the meeting.

Cocktails will be served from 6:00 P.M. in the Seamen's Inne, and at 7:15 a fine dinner of roast beef! Members, wives, and guests are cordially invited- to cocktails, to dinner, or both. Cocktails are on a buy-your-own basis, from travelling waitresses at \$1.00 per.

Dinner will be \$7.25 per plate if paid in advance, \$7.75 if paid at the door. Please fill out and mail the attached card as promptly as possible; the cards should be returned regardless of whether or not you plan to come.

Three hundred fifty is the maximum seating in the River Room. Any above that number may dine in the other dining rooms offered by the Seamen's Inne or at one of the excellent places in town. To be sure of River Room seating, we recommend:

Send your check very soon made payable to the Off Soundings Club to:  
Donald P. Robinson, Mystic Seaport, Mystic,  
Connecticut, 06355.

He will mail your dinner tickets up to March 27. Any thereafter will be held for your pick-up at the door. As long as there is room, tickets may also be purchased at the door. This is always a crowded and confused purchasing area- we heartily recommend you shop by mail early! Last year 328 attended, only 22 from capacity!

The after dinner program will include the awarding of Perpetual Trophies for 1970 winners, movies and slides thoughtfully edited in advance and accompanied by hilarious interpretation.

All members and guests are cordially invited to this program whether or not they have dinner tickets.

A superb afternoon program has again been arranged by the Museum staff:

All Day	Fascinating and worthwhile exhibits per sheet attached.
4:30 P.M.	Movie "Duel In the Wind" in the Aloha Meeting House. This is a 70 minute "on board" drama of the 1970 Racing Trials for The America's Cup. It was presented on television by Alcoa last fall and is very worth seeing.

We regret there will be no GOSH! Regatta this year. Interest has waned and, besides, the tide is wrong.

Arriving visitors please use the North Parking Lot and enter through the North Gate. As before, if you identify yourselves at this gate as Off Soundings members, you will be admitted without charge. Any who are not yet MHA members are cordially invited to take out a \$25.00 family membership (tax deductible) at this convenient time.

Our Governors hope as many as possible will be with us for another fine Off Soundings Annual Meeting.

Dates to remember:

Spring Races: June 11 & 12  
Fall Races: Sept. 17 & 18  
Dhow Derby: Oct. 9

Sincerely,

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

*Bill White*  
William B. White  
Secretary

When you come to Mystic Seaport for Off Soundings, we welcome you to visit the grounds and see our on-going activities and new exhibits.

At the south end, now dominating the landscape and also the view from the Mystic River, is the new Ships Preservation Facility. With the Lumber Shed finished, the Main Shop almost completed, and work on the Lift Dock scheduled to begin this spring, visitors will soon be able to watch the fascinating work of restoration and preservation of our prized old ships and boats right here at the museum. Meanwhile, the work of installing this facility is itself interesting to inspect.

The Charles W. Morgan is undergoing a complete overhaul necessary to preserve this magnificent old whaleship. Right now work is in progress " 'tween decks" furnishing a unique opportunity to see the way the ship is put together and how the experts go about the carefully researched task of replacing parts exactly as they were originally and with exactly the same kind of materials handled and treated in the original manner.

Our Small Craft Exhibit in the Spar Shed and the North Boat Shed is a constantly changing one. As we at present lack space to exhibit every small craft in our collection, those in storage and those on exhibit are periodically rotated so the returning visitor will have a new collection to see. Apropos of this, interest in building small boats of wooden construction has been so great that Mystic Seaport expert, John Gardner, has been giving a course in wooden boat construction this winter. The course, which emphasizes building methods and techniques that are not adequately treated in published manuals, has been held once a week for two hour sessions in the Greenman Shipyard Building.

The Clifford Day Mallory Building is now open. It has undergone renovation and redecoration and includes new exhibits well worth seeing. In addition, the Philip R. Mallory Wing now houses in its main and lower floors exhibits that vividly tell the history of shipbuilding on the Mystic River. Just to see the magnificent, original, handmade half hull models is alone worth a trip to visit this exhibit.

While you are here, be sure to inspect the newest exhibit in the Seaport boat collection, Emma C. Berry, a Noank smack. Believed to be one of the oldest commercial vessels in American documentation, the Emma C. Berry slid down the ways into the Mystic River at Noank in June 1866 and on her 100th anniversary in June 1966 was brought back to Noank by her dedicated friends. She was given to The Marine Historical Association in 1969 and is now undergoing restoration in the Boat Shed beside the coasting schooner, Australia. The restoration is nearly complete and it is expected that the Emma C. Berry will once again be afloat this coming summer.