



## OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

DR. CHESTER B. HUMPHREY, MD, Fleet Surgeon  
14 Sunset Farm Road  
West Hartford, CT 06107

Home (203) 521-1158  
Office (203) 527-8201

October 19, 1983

*E. Carleton Granbery, Jr., Commodore  
Old Quarry, Leetes Island  
Guilford, CT 06437*

RE: *Fleet Surgeon's Report for 1983*

Dear Commodore Granbery:

*The 1983 season proved to be a safe one from a medical point of view. There were several minor accidents, all of which were able to be handled by the on-call surgeon and none of the physicians who are members and who agreed to take call had to drop out of any of the races. The most serious medical incident appeared to be that involving a young crew member in Block Island, and this would have been easily solved had the skipper of that vessel known of the medical condition of his crew, specifically the fact that one of his crew men was a diabetic taking Insulin. Obviously, this type of information is beyond the realm of the fleet surgeon or any of his assisting physicians. The existing First Aid Kit was replenished and several additional items added during the year at no cost to the Club.*

*Three items of concern come to mind. The first is the feasibility and/or necessity of having oxygen available on the Patrol Boat. One of the obvious potential dangers that we sail under is that of one of our members sustaining a heart attack during the race. The presence of oxygen might make a critical difference as to whether the individual survived transportation to a larger medical facility which would have oxygen. If the Off Soundings Club were to accept this basic principle, then two modes of providing this are available. One method would be for the Club to purchase an oxygen tank and mask and to replenish it as needed. A second method would be to lease a tank for the two weeks of the races, and a third alternative would be to utilize one such as presently in my office which my associates and I would be more than glad to loan to the Patrol Boat for the duration of the races if the Off Soundings Club would be willing to refill the tank were it used.*

*A second concern has been the problems associated with obtaining on-call physicians for the races. As I went through our Yearbook, I noticed that there are many physicians who are not designated as such and there is no master list available of these individuals and their specialties. I would like to put together such a list during the coming winter months which would also indicate which members are happy to serve and which are*

E. Carleton Granbery, Jr., Commodore

Page 2

RE: Fleet Surgeon's Report for 1983

October 19, 1983

less than eager to be called upon again. The other problem arises such as this Fall when I was unable to obtain a list of any members who are racing until three days before the start of the race. This compelled me to make phone calls to individuals who had not entered the race and makes a more difficult situation exist than might be necessary. I would like to suggest that just as soon as a Race Secretary or his designate has compiled the list of boats entering the race at the "closing date," that a copy of this be forwarded to the Fleet Surgeon so that he might have adequate time to appropriately compile a list of physicians from several specialties to act as on-call physicians.

As this is my first annual report and having never heard any other annual reports, I hope that this has not been too lengthy and that it encompasses that which you would desire from it.

Respectfully submitted,



Chester B. Humphrey, M.D.  
Fleet Surgeon

CBH/jmc