

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB



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To the membership:

Winter has been a tough sell for many of us. I think most of you can agree we have had enough of this New England weather and yearn for longer days and any sign of spring.

I can report to the membership that this winter, some important initiatives are getting accomplished. As with any organization, change is inevitable. Our Race Secretary, Walter Pratt, has resigned, effective January 1, 2010. In his absence, James D. Francis, has accepted the appointment of Race Secretary for 2010. At the annual meeting we will vote to elect him to this most important post.

As you know, we have elected to utilize a website that can provide many of the automated needs of the Club: dues collection, maintaining a member address list and registering for club events. To date, we have approximately 50% of the membership paying dues on-line, using the direct link to the www.compete-at.com website from our own website (<http://www.offsoundings.org>). There are a few minor inconveniences. The [compete-at.com](http://www.compete-at.com) website's generic template is set up to handle any yachting event, from offshore racing to junior one-design training classes. Some of the information requested is clearly not applicable to us - like birthdates and gender. The good news is, this information is not shared or used by anyone. It is a small annoyance to provide such information when registering, in order to progress to the next template. I ask everyone to give the website a try, and PLEASE provide us some feedback so we can improve this communication resource.

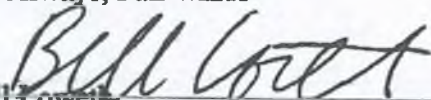
Vice Commodore Steve Purdy has planned an excellent shore party extravaganza for the April 10th, 2010 annual meeting and shore party at the Mystic Seaport. Please see the attached notice. We are looking forward to a great turnout for this annual event. On-line registration is available.

The New Suffolk, NY and Stonington Luncheons were well attended, and it was a treat to see many of the membership. A 3rd luncheon is planned for March 4th at Lenny's in Branford, CT. Directions are posted on the Off Soundings Club Website, <http://www.offsoundings.org>

We again have arranged for Off Soundings Club members to join members of the Ram Island Yacht Club to watch the Antique Boat Parade from the RIYC pier July 25th 2010. Last year was a very low key and enjoyable event. I expect the same this year! Hot dogs/hamburgers and refreshments will be provided.

I welcome your comments and suggestions.

As Always, Fair winds


Bill Loweth
Commodore

Dues are Due!!

If you have not yet paid your 2010 dues, they are due no later than March 31st. After that a \$10 late fee applies. As previously announced, dues are \$60 or, if you have been a member for 25 years or more and are 65 years old or older you may elect "Senior" status and pay \$45. You can pay online via credit card or PayPal transfer or if you prefer mail a check, payable to "Off Soundings Club", to the OSC Treasurer:

Harlan Fredericksen, OSC Treasurer
10 Laurel Grove Drive
Higganum, CT 06441

To pay online or update your address or other information, go to www.offsoundings.org, click on "Members Only" and follow the directions. The logon requires your email address which is the email address you had on file with OSC in 2009. If using your email address does not work properly contact Harlan at harlan@ditman-greer.com and he will send you the email address that is on file. (You will be able to update your email address once you have logged on.) About half the members who have renewed have done it online via credit card. If you have comments or problems doing that please email Harlan and we will work to post clearer instructions.





OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

2010 ANNUAL MEETING AND SHORE PARTY

April 10, 2010

6:00 P.M.

Latitude – Mystic Seaport

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Guided Tour of the Charles W. Morgan Restoration Project

4:30 P.M. Meet VC Steve Purdy at the Seaport Visitors Reception Center (across from South Parking Lot)

Annual Meeting and Dinner

Latitude Restaurant (formerly the Seaman's Inn) across from Mystic Seaport North Parking Lot

5:45 P.M. Cash Bar opens

6:00 – 6:15 Annual Membership Meeting, 2nd Floor

6:15 – 6:45 Cocktails (Steve White, President, Mystic Seaport in attendance for personal conversation). Music by *Rock of Ages*.

6:45 – 7:15 Opening Remarks:

Commodore Bill Loweth;

Stephen C. White, President, Mystic Seaport Museum;

Quentin Snedicker, Director - MSM Shipyard: Review of the *Charles W. Morgan* Restoration Project.

7:15 - 8:15 Dinner is served

8:15 Awards Presentations

Latitude is the new name for the former Seaman's Inn, which is now being managed by Coastal Gourmet, a local firm that operates the well-known Mystic Markets, East and West. We have a varied dinner menu available (see reverse) and are looking forward to a fine meal from the new management.

The Off Soundings Club has a long standing close relationship with Mystic Seaport. Big things will be happening at the Seaport over the next several years culminating in the completion of the first major refit of the *Charles W. Morgan* since 1881 and her sailing voyage to New London, New Bedford, and other SE New England ports in the summer of 2013. The events of this year's OSC Annual Meeting and Shore Party will begin at 4:30 P.M. at Mystic Seaport with a no charge private guided tour of the *Charles W. Morgan* restoration for Off Soundings members and their guests. The tour will be conducted by VC Steve Purdy who is a maritime history Interpreter on the Seaport staff. The tour will form up at the Visitor's Reception Center at the south entrance of the Seaport and depart for the Henry B. duPont Shipyard and the *Morgan* at 4:30, sharp!

The bar will open at 5:45 and the annual meeting will be held on the second floor at 6, followed by a cocktail hour and dinner. Stephen C. White, President of Mystic Seaport Museum, will be present during the cocktail period to meet and talk with our members and will offer opening remarks. Quentin Snedicker, Director of the MSM Shipyard will present a brief update on the objectives and progress of the *Morgan* project. Dinner and the Awards presentations will follow.

The dinner menu is enclosed. You can register and pay for the dinner online through the OSC website, or by mail using the enclosed registration form.

Latitude, the former Seaman's Inn is now being managed by Coastal Gourmet a local firm that operates the well-known and respected Mystic Markets, East and West. We're looking forward to a great meal from this now new restaurant.

MENU

Salad

**Field Greens with Grilled Pears, Candied Pecans, Gorgonzola,
and Champagne Vinaigrette**

Hearth Baked Breads, churned butter

Choice of Entrées

**Roasted Chicken Breast, Sun-Dried Tomato, Basil and Pine Nut Glaze
Au Gratin Potatoes, Tuscan Style Cauliflower**

**Cedar Plank Salmon, Maple Mustard Glaze
Roasted Sweet Potatoes, Steamed Scallions**

**Tuscan Sirloin Steak, Barolo Wine Sauce
Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli Rabe**

Dessert

Flourless Chocolate Torte

All Entrée Selections \$44 Per Person, Tax and Tip Included

You can make your dinner reservations and payment by completing the enclosed registration form and mailing it to: Steve Purdy, 116 Oslo Street, Mystic, CT 06355, or online through the club website, www.offsoundings.org.

Dinner reservations can only be made by members and guest members. Therefore, you must make the reservations and payments for all of your crew and guests.

You can make an initial reservation and then add dinners to it through the online system or by phone, mail, or e-mail until the deadline date, April 3. Once your initial registration has been processed, whether on-line or by mail, you can order additional dinners online.

To continue with registering online now, access the website, sign in, check the Sign-up Agreement box, submit, enter your name in the Team Name box, select Attendee/Participant, submit, and proceed to make your meal choices, calculate cost, and pay by credit card or mailed check. If you are going to mail a check you will be asked for the check number on the payment screen. For your convenience please have your checkbook available.

To order additional dinners online sign in on the website, go to the Annual Dinner page and click the 'Additional Purchases' button on the right side of the Entry Summary screen, or contact Steve Purdy at 860-636-0812, or at steve_purdy@comcast.net.