



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

3 February 1993

COMMODORE'S WINTER NEWSLETTER

As my old hot (and oftimes wet) bunk mate used to say "all the Commodore has to do is bring good weather". Now, without mentioning any names (he hangs out in Stuart, Florida, is an Honorary member, has over fifteen Bermuda thrashes including four lighthouses in his pocket, gets in the bunk with his wet gear on, needs an eight part purchase to break him out, and never ever fluffs the pillow!) I have to say that I think he is absolutely right for once, and I am happy to take the credit for a couple of years sans rain, fog, sleet, hail, storm or other general gloom which have been known to spice up our racing. We even uncorked some real beauties around Block, and only once did some heavies on the long course get caught at the Race with that nifty combo of a strong flood and faint air thus blowing the time limit. Long may the good stuff endure!

But it has been a great experience, and any and all success is strictly due to your Governors, the Committees, and those who contribute their talents and vessels to run our events. Without them, our picture could not be the rainbow tip our Treasurer can depict.

We are continuing to address several items including:

- a) Specific and workable methods of splitting the Cruising Class.
- b) Reaffirming the readiness, willigness, and ability of the Race and Protest Committees to assist any and all of our volunteer Doctors who render assistance and deserve redress as provided under Rule 69. Our volunteers are deeply appreciated, and their efforts will be recognized.
- c) Our Fall series instructions will be clarified with regard to fees, moorings, anchoring, launch service, and use of the SIYC facility.
- d) We are looking at some alternate courses for the Fall series which might avoid some of the vagaries of Gardiner's Island Bay.
- e) We are completing the details for a perpetual trophy in memory of Bill Donovan being donated by Peter Brinckerhoff, and we are tuned in to some good vibes emanating from Past Commodore and Historian Bill Ames regarding a "Black Arrow" trophy.

Our Secretary reports a slow decline in our membership numbers to where we are not just above 500 - same as 1968. This is a good time to get your faithful crew aboard.

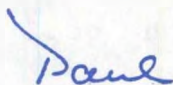
Your Long Range Race Planning Committee is anxious to hear from you. This is a fairly new group, and they would welcome your thoughts and ideas on how to improve our races.

We lost a great friend last year with the death of Ed Raymond. Off Soundings, the world of sailing, and indeed the entire civilized world are all a bit the better for having had Ed in their midst, and he will always be remembered with the greatest respect, admiration, and affection.

Again my deep and abiding thanks to all who have done the real work, and I look forward to our annual visit in April.

Stay on top of the wave and, a Happy 60th to all!

Savor, relish, and enjoy !



Paul C. van Dyke
Commodore