

The Horse Shoe Crab

March 5, 2015

Motto: Of Crabs, By Crabs, For Crabs

A Note from the Commodore:

Greetings from snowy New Hampshire! I hope this newsletter finds all of our members well and everyone is finding ways to survive the dead of winter...especially those living in New England who are experiencing historical amounts of snow. While living in close proximity to ski country has been great, I have to admit that I am growing tired of falling into the 5ft high snow piles surrounding my mailbox each time I collect our mail. As I write this newsletter, you will notice in all the photos I've included from last season that I am setting my sights on warmer weather and will gladly trade my heavy layers for flip-flops, a t-shirt and shorts. The good news is that this will be a pleasant reality very soon as our summer season is only 4 months away!

Our board members and volunteers have accomplished a lot behind the scenes this winter to provide our membership with an even more enjoyable and convenient experience next summer. We are working to upgrade our website and billing systems, optimizing our sailing school class schedule, and adding a 4-day lunch program. I want to thank all of our members who filled out the Sailing School Feedback Survey last fall. The changes we are making are based on the feedback we received.



Sunset during the 2014 Thanksgiving Gathering

With the summer fast approaching I want to be sure that members have the following list of key dates for our 2015 season:

2015 SHYC/SHSS Schedule

6/22, Mon	Opening Work Week Begins (<i>Staff required - Volunteers Welcome</i>)
6/28, Sun	Opening Meeting
6/29, Mon	1st Session Begins - <i>First day of Sailing School</i>
7/3, Fri	Float Decorating Party
7/4, Sat	4th of July Parade
7/5, Sun	11th Annual Day Sailer Regatta
7/9, Thurs	21st Annual SHYC Opti Regatta, Stage Harbor YC
7/11, Sat	All Member Cocktail Party & Sailing School Auction Jr. Member Cookout
7/18, Sat	Annual Luau
7/21-25, Mon-Sat	DSNAC- sponsored by CYC, OYC, PBCB & SHYC
7/26, Sun	Mid-Season Cookout-BYOF&B (<i>Tentative</i>)
7/27, Mon	Session 2 Begins
8/16, Sun	16th Annual Commodore's Cup Regatta & Past Commodore's Tea
8/21, Fri	Ladies' Annual Luncheon
8/22, Sat	Jr. and Sr. Hovey Cup (<i>Breakfast at the Club</i>)
8/23, Sun	Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony--followed by Jr. and Sr. Hovey Cup Finals
8/24-25, Mon-Tues	Closing Work Days (<i>Staff Required - Volunteers Welcome</i>)

It will be a very busy season and there are still more events that are being scheduled. A more complete calendar will be made available in the coming months.

Technology/Website Update

The Technology/Website working group, consisting of Liz Potter, Emma Rozantes, Sonja Bartlett, Chris Ritchie and Lisa Patten, is working on streamlining the registration process. This season members will be able to register for sailing school and social events through our website.

Membership renewal invoices for 2015 will be going out this week. Included in the mailing are important details regarding updating contact information for our annual SHYC Member Directory. In an effort to print and send out the Directory before the start of the season, we are requesting all members to update/edit their contact info so that the printed Directory will accurately reflect all current contact information. It is important that members update their contact information by April 1, 2015.

You can update your contact info by visiting the SHYC website: www.shyc.com and clicking the Member Login tab in the top right corner of the page to sign in and update your account. If you do not recall your login or password, there are instructions on the website on how to reset it. If you have any questions or need further assistance, you may contact our Club Secretary, Emma Rozantes at erozantes@aol.com. We thank you for your cooperation and appreciate your patience as we make this online transition.

ARC Conversion and Fundraising Update

As you are already aware, the Sailing School kicked off a fundraising campaign last June in order to:

- Pay off the remaining debt of \$148,000 on the 2006 purchase of the adjoining property containing the pier and the building on shore.
- Fund improvements necessary to convert the building on shore into a new Sailing School Center to be used by club and sailing school members.

I am happy to report that our first goal has been achieved! We are so very grateful for the support from all of our members. I am always amazed at the strength of our SHYC community and I want to thank all of you who have made gifts thus far. Plans are being made to have a mortgage burning ceremony at the Opening Meeting in June to celebrate this monumental occasion.

The Club is well on its way toward attaining its second goal of financing the new Sailing School Center conversion but we are still actively raising funds to pay for this important project.

In April, the Club will be publishing a list of donors to the campaign and we would like everyone to have the chance to be included in this donor listing. SHYC is aiming for 100% participation and I am hoping we can achieve this goal.

Please consider making a gift of any size to Stage Harbor Sailing School by March 31st to get your name on the list.

Donations can be made by check to ***Stage Harbor Sailing School*** and mailed to:

Stage Harbor Yacht Club

c/o Meservey Accountancy

104 Crowell Road Chatham, MA 02633.

(Please include in the notation-2014 Fundraising)

In an effort to begin updating the ARC Building, the Board approved installing a new roof, replacing several existing windows and re-shingling two sides of the building. Board members Doug Whitla and Doug Gensler are guiding the improvements planned for the building. They are working on a timeline that will be the least disruptive to our sailing season and to our ARC tenant. We look forward to sharing progress on the improvements to be done with you in the coming months.

Off Season Events

We had a great turn out for both the Thanksgiving Gathering and the New Year's Eve Day Family Gathering. It was great fun catching up with members who stopped in to connect with friends while warming themselves by the roaring fire and drinking hot cocoa and cider. A big thank you to both our Vice Commodore Matt Evans and Rear Commodore Drew Carlson for getting the fires going and supplying the food for these annual events.



2014 New Year's Eve Day Gathering

Another great event that took place recently was the Jr. Member's Boston gathering that took place on January 24th. Many of our Jr. Members braved the snow to travel into Boston for drinks and appetizers at the University Club. I want to thank Amy McCarthy and Drew Carlson for hosting such a great evening and Katherine Schock for all her help in organizing the event.



2015 Jr. Member Boston Event

There is another Jr. Member Gathering taking place in New York City at the home of Johanna and Jeff Cahoon on March 7th. I hope that all the Jr. Members who are in the NYC area will be able to attend this fun event! Please be on the look out for your invitation and contact Katherine Schock or Sonja Bartlett if you plan to attend.

Sprites Update

Traditionally the club works on one of its fleets during the off-season. Our Sprite Fleet was introduced in 1959 and has served the Club ever since. Thousands of kids in our sailing school have learned to sail in these boats. I am very pleased to share with you that 12 of our Sprites were brought to Kent Richardson in the fall for major refurbishments. Work to each boat included new paint and regel coating of the hulls, new sails, and new standing and running rigging. These 12 boats look fabulous and will be in great shape for kids this summer.



Refurbished Sprites

Please click the link below to view more before and after photos of our refurbished Sprites:

<https://www.icloud.com/photostream/-A55nhQSTGmky1e>

~Lisa Patten

Vice Commodore Report:

I am sure everyone is looking forward to a nice warm summer after enduring a very cold and snowy winter in greater New England. As you start to form your summer plans, I thought it would be helpful for everyone to have a couple of key dates to mark down on your calendar. Please consider attending one of these social events.

- Saturday, July 11th All-Member Cocktail Party & Sailing School Auction at the home of Jim and Regina Shakin.
- Saturday, July 18th 52nd Annual Luau at Stage Harbor Cut Beach. Shuttle service will again be provided.
- Sunday, July 26th Mid-Summer Cookout at SHYC. BYOB/BBQ. Come down to the club and enjoy the evening with other members. Casual Cook Out on the club grounds. Club grill provided.
- Saturday, August 15th Commodore's Ball at the home of Judy Hoyt and Jim Goddard.
- Friday, August 21st Ladies Luncheon at the home of Jim and Sonja Bartlett.



2014 51st Annual Luau

Additionally, we will be planning two speaker-series events this summer. These lectures were well-attended last summer and very well received. As an example, for July, we will invite speakers to discuss Cape Cod's growing Aquaculture business. A sampling of the local shellfish will be also be served. The exact dates are still being worked on and we will share those with you in the coming months.

Looking forward to a great summer in 2015!

~ Matt Evans



2014 Mid-Summer Cookout

Rear Commodore Report:

The Racing Subcommittee has been busy in the off-season. Brendan Bradley, Colleen Cassidy, David Leary, Cheryl Lubin, Allan Royal and Katherine Schock have worked on a few key projects to facilitate racing at SHYC. In an effort to clarify racing options and opportunities at the club, the subcommittee drafted responses to Frequently Asked Questions related to racing. Racing FAQs and responses are posted [here](#) on the SHYC website.



DS Racer-Fran Hyde and Crew

2015 DSNAC

Time to order new sails and dust off you Day Sailer in preparation for the 2015 Day Sailer North American Championships! The event will be contested in Pleasant Bay out of Chatham Yacht Club on July 23-25. Special thanks to long time SHYC member Fran Hyde for her role during the off-season to promote this event. In addition to Chatham YC, Stage Harbor, Pleasant Bay Community Boating, and Orleans Yacht Club will all participate to help run the regatta.

Competition should be great with an anticipated fleet of thirty boats. Mark your calendars for a great event. Boats will be weighed and measured on July 20 and July 21. The Junior National Championship will take place on July 21 and 22. The Skipper's Meeting and practice racing for DSNAC competitors will be on the afternoon of July 22. Racing commences the morning of July 23 and will finish around lunchtime on the July 25.

If you would be willing to volunteer during the week of the DSNAC or if you have room to host a crew from out of town for a few days, please contact Fran Hyde at ffhcqx@gmail.com. Other useful DSNACR links: DaySailer.org ~ [North Sails](#)

Cape Cod Sailing League

Hats off to Allan Royal for proposing a new sailing league for yacht clubs and sailing organizations in Southern Mass. Allan presented the Cape Cod Sailing League concept to the SHYC board and received approval to move forward toward efforts to commence competition this summer on a small scale. The goal of the CCSL is to foster a positive sailing experience for all skill levels and use club resources effectively. The CCSL will provide fun inter-club sailing experiences for 420 sailors. Initial steps will be to reach out to 3-4-5 like-minded clubs to establish rotating weekday sail competition. Clubs will either host or send sailors on a weekly rotation. The CCSL will require simpler and less taxing effort compared to away regattas, which include transportation of boats to and from events. The CCSL is not designed to replace participation in away regattas. We will still participate in local area regattas in 420, Opti and O'Pen BICS.



2014 Tuesday Racing Series

Sanctioned Regattas & Racing Circular

Speaking of away regattas, we are now working on the list of 2015 Sanctioned Regattas for Optimis and 420s. Look for a schedule of sanctioned regattas to circulate to the membership in the coming weeks.

Also, look for a revised Racing Circular this summer complete with details related to local racing series, away regattas, starting signals, courses, scoring, charts, and special club rules.

~Drew Carlson

Sailing School President Report:

The Sailing School and the Sailing School Working Group have been hard at work during the off-season to prepare for our 2015 sailing season. We are very grateful to those families who participated in the end of season Sailing School survey. The information we received from the completed surveys has been extremely beneficial. Based on the feedback, we have made some positive changes starting with the Sailing School schedule for this summer. Those changes will be posted, as we get closer to the start of the season.



Sailing School Class

Staff Training

Sailing School staff will be participating in professional development before and during work week. An instructor from US Sailing will be offering Level I certification to Senior Instructors at the Club. The Harbor Master will be speaking with the staff regarding safety and communication between our instructors and his office. Staff will also be asked to arrive at workweek with CPR training.



Lunch Bunch Program

Lunch Bunch will be offered Monday through Thursday during both sessions this summer. In conjunction with Lunch Bunch, the Sailing School is hoping to provide a Community Service program. We are currently working with the Fishermen's Alliance to create a program that will be a part of the Lunch Program.



2014 4th of July Parade

Volunteers Needed

At this time, the Sailing School is still looking for a family or families to volunteer for the Fourth of July Parade float. Please consider helping the Yacht Club continue a long-standing tradition of parade involvement. The parade float is

an event everyone loves to participate in – the volunteer family will have lots of help! Please contact me at shakinjr@aol.com if you would like to volunteer to help.

There may be lots of snow and ice all around but happily the summer and our sailing season are not far away!

~ Regina Shakin

Additional News:

Pleasant Bay Community Boating

As many members know, the Pleasant Bay Community Boating organization has achieved several milestones over the past year, as they have acquired a permanent home on Pleasant Bay. Many SHYC members have been key players in supporting PBCB, such as Pat and Commodore Dick Siewert. Having operated out of Jackknife Cove for years, PBCB has just closed on five lots totaling 3.6 acres with 750 feet of water frontage on the western shores of Pleasant Bay. SHYC extends a warm congratulations to this well run nonprofit organization which is dedicated to offering educational and recreational boating opportunities to residents and summer visitors to Chatham, Harwich, Orleans and Brewster. The Board of Pleasant Bay Community Boating welcomes SHYC members to join PBCB's efforts to build and sustain their programs and presence on Pleasant Bay. For more information on PBCB, check out: www.pbcbb.cc/page.php?file=main.htm.



Only 114 days until our 84th season at Stage Harbor Yacht Club begins!