

MRYC *Tidings*

SPRING 2013 VOLUME TEN ISSUE TWO

View from the bridge

By Bill Volmar, Commodore



Ahoy, Mates! The new boating season is here! I hope that everyone survived the long hard winter and cold spring. It does seem that the good weather is headed our way, and it's about time. By now we are all busy working hard on our boats to prepare them for the new season, and then setting up our summer vacation calendars. Remember to check the MRYC calendar on our website for the latest updates to all club functions. Here are a few special events to keep in mind when making your 2013 summer plans:

On Friday and Saturday, June 21-22, is the Sails Up 4 Cancer Regatta, a must for all MRYC members. Join the fun sailing, or come to help out at the event. Every minute of your help will be greatly appreciated. Both the Skipper's sign-up party Friday evening and the Sunshine Kids party on Saturday will be at the clubhouse. On Saturday evening, the Regatta awards party will be held at Mystic Shipyard West, under the big tent.

This year our junior sailing program begins on Monday evening, July 1st at 1700 hours and runs for eight weeks, also at MSY-W, a great time for all children eight and up. Another highlight is the "QUAD" Party on Saturday, Aug 3rd, held at Mason's Island Yacht Club this year. This is your chance to interact with members from several other yacht clubs in the Mystic area. We especially enjoy the dancing under

the tent after dark. And don't forget to attend our Labor Day Senior JY-15 Ancient Mariner Cup Regatta held at Mystic Shipyard West in the early afternoon, followed by a barbeque picnic and award presentation.



We honored our first reciprocity request in late April when Jess and Robin Borthwick of Niceville, Florida, requested a place to stay on their way to Boston. With the help of Geoff Jones and Jon Henson (thank you, Geoff and Jon), we were able to find a berth for *Robinsong*, their Island Packet 40-3. They are members of the Fort Walton Yacht Club in northwest Florida and we exchanged burgees during their visit to Mystic.

We hope to see all our members either at the clubhouse or on the water for one of our events this season. If you don't see that special event that you would like to attend on the web site calendar, please give a Board member a call to get it added. We are always interested in your ideas for our club events, socials, and cruises.

Keep informed by regularly checking our web

site, MysticRiverYachtClub.com for the latest updates and information. Remember, "Mystic River Yacht Club" is on Facebook, so you can see all event pictures and share in the fun! We are the friendliest Yacht Club in New England and that starts with our own members. On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself, I would like to welcome everyone to the 2013 MRYC Boating and Party Season, a good time for one and all!

The Annual Commodore's Dinner

By Philip A. Shreffler



On Saturday, May 4, Mystic River Yacht Club kicked off its 2013 season in fine style with the Annual Commodore's dinner in our new clubhouse. M.E. Rich and members of the Social Committee decorated and laid out beautifully appointed dining and buffet tables, which greeted members when they arrived for the cocktail hour at 1700. Actually, that hour became an hour and half since a number of our yachting crew are also equestrian aficionados and stayed glued to the widescreen TV long enough to watch Orb win the Kentucky Derby. When we finally sat down to a dinner of spinach-stuffed pork and delicious Chicken Marsala, accompanied by first-rate lasagna, veggies and all the trimmings, conversations that had sprung up during the cocktail hour continued unabated. Lusty toasts were raised to MRYC's 2013 season and with loud sincerity to Commodore Bill Volmar who has done outstanding yeoman's work for the club during his year-and-half tenure.

It was a memorable evening and excellent beginning to what we're sure will be a really great boating season for MRYC members.





MRYC'S 2013 Cruising Season

By Philip A. Shreffler

At a club social on April 19, our Cruising Committee, headed by Fleet Captain Bob Davis, together with other MRYC members-at-large sat down around a table covered in charts to plan a varied and very attractive

Our extremely popular Wine Cruise to Shelter Island—our eighth annual!—will be held from Friday, September 20, to Sunday the 22nd. We'll arrive Friday evening and check in with the Shelter Island Yacht Club



and then enjoy dinner ashore. On Saturday, from 1000 to 1600 hours we'll explore the North Fork wine country with stops along the way at several vineyards (to be announced) for tours and tastings.

Saturday evening's cocktails and dinner will be at the Shelter Island Yacht Club, and Sunday we'll wend our way home. Those without boats can participate too by ferrying out to Long Island on Saturday morning, returning that evening.

October, when the leaves are beginning to turn, actually features two cruises. The first will be a raft-up at West Harbor,

cruising season. The focus this year is on both one-day and overnight destinations that will accommodate and appeal to everybody in the club.

On Saturday, July 13, we'll raft up at Flat Hammock Island near Fishers Island's West Harbor and dinghy ashore to Flat Hammock for a good old-fashioned barbeque. Afterward, it'll be back to our boats to watch the spectacular fireworks display over New London. In order to include as many club members as we can, we'll be looking to accommodate as many members without boats as possible.

The August cruise will be a great overnigher: Three Mile Harbor on Long Island from Friday the 9th to Sunday the 11th. For those who arrive early, that is on Friday evening, there will cocktails and dinner ashore. On Saturday, we'll enjoy cocktails and a barbeque on Sammy's Beach. Sunday will feature a brunch in the Hamptons and the return home.

Fishers Island on October 5th at 1300 hours. We'll have cocktails and conversation aboard and dinner at the Pequot House on Fishers Island.

Saturday, October 12, to Monday the 14th (Columbus Day) will take MRYC cruisers along the Sound and up the beautiful Connecticut River to Essex. Saturday arrivals will check in with the Essex Yacht Club or Essex Corinthian Yacht Club, and we'll dine at the Essex Yacht Club with an after-dinner party (probably raucous as usual) at the Griswold Inn, just a block from the harbor. On Sunday, cruisers will have leisure time to enjoy picturesque Essex and then sit down together for dinner at the Essex Corinthian Yacht Club.

Looking over this schedule of events, it seems as if the Cruising Committee has outdone itself and that MRYC members are going to have a lot—a lot—of fun on the water this season!





MRYC Yachts rafted up in Three Mile Harbor



Dining at the Harbor Bistro, East Hampton



MRYC's 2013 Family Sailing Program

By Philip A. Shreffler

MRYC's 2013 Family Sailing Program starting in July - in conjunction with Team Chance - is now in its third year. The program will feature an expanded fleet that includes four JY-15's for the Junior Sailing Program and a J-24 for the young adult and adult sailing/racing program. Registration for the program needs to start as soon as possible as space is limited.

The Junior Program will begin Monday night, July 1, at 1700 hours at the Mystic River Yacht Club's new home at Schooner Wharf, 14 Holmes Street, in downtown Mystic. This is the location where the classroom activities and orientation will be held, 20% of the program consisting of classroom instruction and 80% on-the-water activities.

For 2013 we will continue to conduct on-the-

water activities at the Mystic Yachting Center located at 100 Essex St, Mystic, CT.

The Young Adult and Adult Program will begin Tuesday, July 2 at 1700 hours and will be geared to the slightly more experienced sailors who would like to familiarize themselves with a larger boat and an emphasis on racing. The minimum age requirement is 16 unless it is determined that someone younger has demonstrated the necessary skills. This program will be held aboard the J-24. Participants will see their skills greatly improved and may engage in local Wednesday night or weekend competitive racing. There will be a fee for this class which is yet to be determined.

For further information, contact Fleet Captain Bob Davis at bobdavis@mymryc.com or 860-383-5405.





Clubhouse Ribbon Cutting

By Philip A. Shreffler

Even though our clubhouse has been open for business for a year, MRYC Board members and representatives of the Mystic Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 17 to make the opening official.

Commodore Bill Volmar snipped the ribbon using those impressive-looking over-sized scissors, while Rear Commodore Dick Dixon, Past Commodore Philip Shreffler, Secretary Joan Volmar, and Board members Mike Ryan and Bob Davis looked on.

Mystic Chamber members Cherie'lin Toporowski and Hannah Stewart, Manager of Membership and Operations for the Chamber, also presented the club with a certificate marking the occasion.

After the ceremony, MRYC and Chamber members bellied up to the bar and the buffet to enjoy a casual and very pleasant evening social featuring really tasty clam chowder provided by MRYC member Anne-Marie Foster and equally tasty chili provided by Commodore Bill Volmar.



MRYC in the Mystic Irish Day Parade

By Philip A. Shreffler

As our club has for many years past, MRYC was represented in the 2013 Mystic Irish Day Parade on Sunday, March 24. This year, our float was a smaller one—in fact, Commodore Volmar's service dinghy from his catamaran *Miracles*—but it was just as gaily bedecked as our floats have been in past years. Our Irish Queen aboard the float was Rebecca Ryan, in her regal robes and accompanied by the Queen Mother Michelle, plus those intrepid hikers Joan and Bill Volmar who bravely walked the parade route following the float.

Nor was this MRYC's only representation in the parade. In the Grand Marshal's car was Past Grand Marshal Jessica Morrissey, also beaming and resplendent.

After the parade had snaked its way from Mystic Seaport, through town and past the reviewing stand, everyone headed back to the clubhouse for an afternoon Irish *ceilidh* (that's pronounced kay-lee)—well, minus the Irish

singers and dancers, but at least with Irish sweaters, lots to drink and animated conversation, a good deal of which was probably blarney. *Erin go bragh*, shipmates!



Sails Up 4 Cancer *Annual Regatta* 2013

By Robert S. Davis

Mystic River Yacht Club will once again host the Sails Up 4 Cancer Regatta on Saturday, June 22. This ECSA-sanctioned-points event is open to all sailors and all classes for a \$50 registration fee, which includes five tickets to the Post-Regatta Shore Party. The Skippers' Meeting will be held on Friday, June 21, at 1800 hours at the MRYC clubhouse. Scratch sheets and sailing instructions will be distributed, and all sailors are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served.

The first gun for the Regatta is set for 1130 hours on Saturday the 22nd in Fishers Island Sound. The post-race party will be held under a tent at the Mystic Shipyard, 100 Essex Street in Mystic beginning at 1700 hours.

Sails Up 4 Cancer and MRYC will host a barbeque with entertainment by a surprise group comprising some of the area's most talented musicians. There will be a silent auction, an open bar with wine and beer, and Dark 'n' Stormy stations provided by new sponsor, Gosling's Rum. Awards will be presented to the top three boats in each class.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.su4c.org or at the door for \$20. The weekend's activities will also include the Annual Complimentary Alternative Medicine Expo, featuring an array of vendors and practitioners who will highlight means and methods for healthier lifestyles.

Once again, Sails Up 4 Cancer will be hosting their special guests of honor, "The Sunshine Kids," who will sail aboard the schooner *Argia* to watch the start of the race. Proceeds from this and other SU4C events support the new Lawrence & Memorial and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute partnership and cancer research.

Visit www.su4c.org for the Notice of Race, entry forms and sponsorship opportunities. Sails Up 4 Cancer is seeking items for the silent auction and volunteers for both on- and off-the-water activities. To submit an auction item, volunteer, or become a sponsor with all the benefits, contact Bob Davis at rdavis@su4c.org or call 860-383-5405.





MRYC 2013 Calendar

June 2013

July 2013

8th Monday - 6-7 p.m. – MRYC Board Meeting – Hosts: Bill & Joan Volmar
 12th Friday - 7-9 p.m. – Friday “Theme” Social – Hosts: M.E. Rich & Philip Shreffler
 13th Saturday – 2 p.m. - Raftup at Flat Hammock for Barbeque & Fireworks over New London!
 21th Sunday - 6 .pm. – 9 p.m. – Dinner on the Dock at Schooner Wharf – Host: ?



August 2013

- 3rd Saturday – 2013 QUAD CLUB Party** – 6-10 p.m. @ Masons Island Yacht Club
9th Friday – 11th Sunday – Three Mile Harbor Cruise
12th Monday- 6-7 p.m. – MRYC Board Meeting – Hosts: Bill & Joan Volmar
16th Friday - 7-9 p.m. – Friday “Theme” Social – Hosts: ?
18th Sunday - 6pm – 9 p.m. – Dinner on the Dock at Schooner Wharf – Host: ?
26th Monday - Junior Sailing Class Picnic and Awards @ MSY

September 2013

- 2nd Monday – 2 p.m. – 8 p.m. – Senior JY15 Regatta “Ancient Mariner Cup” & Barbeque
9th Monday- 6-7 p.m. – MRYC Board Meeting – Hosts: Bill & Joan Volmar
13th Friday - 7-9 p.m. – Friday “Theme” Social – Hosts: ?
15th Sunday - 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. – Dinner on the Dock at Schooner Wharf – Host: ?
20th Friday – 22nd – 8th – Annual MRYC Wine Cruise Shelter Island

October 2013

- 5th Raftup West Harbor, Fishers Island – 1 p.m., followed by dinner at the Pequot House.
12th Saturday to 14th – Monday (Columbus Day)—Essex and Connecticut River Cruise
14th Monday- 6-7 p.m. – MRYC Board Meeting – Hosts: Bill & Joan Volmar
18th Friday - 7-9 p.m. – Friday “Theme” Social – Hosts: ?
19th Saturday – Morning Work Party – Put JY-15s away for the winter
26th Saturday - Annual Membership Meeting & Party – Bill & Joan Volmar

***The QUAD CLUB party is a great evening of fun, interacting with other yacht clubs in the Mystic area. ALL members should attend!*



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Tidings is published online for MRYC members. Back issues may be found on our website at mysticriveryachtclub.com.

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