

## Making A Clubhouse A Home

From time to time, when there is significant news to report, *Tidings* will be publishing supplements like this one between regularly-scheduled issues. And thanks to the Clubhouse Committee, we really do have good news.

The committee is pleased to announce that the MRYC Board has donated a set of new indoor-outdoor wicker resin furniture to the clubhouse which made its "debut" at the March 4th Cabin Fever Social. The furniture was delivered on March 2nd and was installed on the clubhouse's first floor in a cozy arrangement around our 42-inch satellite television (which features VHS and DVD).

The set was to have included a loveseat, two club chairs, two end tables and a cocktail table, but actually arrived with two loveseats and no chairs. That shipping error will be rectified, of course. Even better news, however, is that members Wally Lohr and Dave Bolger have volunteered a donation toward a second set of furniture (how about a little additional help from the members?). This will offer a goodly amount of very comfortable seating for social events or for when members drop by the Club on their own.

And that last statement, no doubt, raises a question that MRYC members all have on their minds: When *can* we just drop by the Club on our own and make use of its facilities? The committee has addressed that issue by working up a Clubhouse Departure Checklist and a Key/Use Agreement. Bob Davis—the Clubhouse Committee chairman—reports that keys allowing access to the clubhouse should be available to all members by early Spring, along with a comprehensive set of rules.

In addition, the Club now has a stereo sound system, and Fred Chester has submitted a sketch for liquor lockers that some handy members will build for the clubhouse.

It's really impressive how much Bob and his committee have done for the Club (and how *fast* they've done it!). And they aren't finished yet. Rear Commodore John McCrea, Fred Chester and other members have prepared a list of questions for the MRYC Board to submit to the Mystic Shipyard in the very near future. Topics include how the Club may have swimming pool rights, whether we may set up a storage area down below, the issue of a dinghy dock and, of course, the much-desired bar inside the clubhouse.

"As the boating season is rapidly approaching," says Bob Davis, "so is the commitment growing to make MRYC truly a members' club. It's coming together. The wealth of talent and enthusiasm is inspiring."



### Clubhouse Mailing Address

And what's a home without its own mailing address? According to Vice Commodore Michael Cavanaugh, MRYC's clubhouse will shortly be getting its own mail box, and correspondence may be addressed to Mystic River Yacht Club, 90 Essex Street, Mystic, CT 06355.

### The Mystic Fall Regatta

The planning is now underway for the Mystic Fall Regatta, sponsored by the Mystic River Mudhead Sailing Association and MRYC. Racing is scheduled for Saturday, September 24th in Fishers Island Sound with a party to follow at the MRYC clubhouse. See the Notice of Race at [www.mudhead.org](http://www.mudhead.org).

# EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## ... *around the world!*

*By Richard Walter*

On Tuesday, February 15th, more than 75 people gathered upstairs at the MRYC clubhouse to experience the Bercaw family's "Circumnavigation Trilogy." The night started with a fabulous potluck dinner provided by the many guests.

But the focal point of the evening was the program: presentations by Mary K., Katrina and Sean Bercaw chronicling the 1971-74 circumnavigation that they undertook with their parents aboard *Natasha*, a 38-foot ketch. Each sibling presented a slide show created from the over 8,000 pictures they took on their trip. Sean, the youngest went first, his sisters Katrina and Mary K. following. While the three shared the same experience, each presentation was different. And this was the first time that all three programs were presented in the same evening.

Some trip highlights included their time spent in the

Galapagos Islands and Pitcairn Island, surviving a two-day hurricane Bebe at anchor in Fiji, as well as dead-calm between Pitcairn Island and Tahiti. The hurricane, blowing over one hundred miles per hour, took varnish off their masts! Starting and ending in Santa Barbara, California, the trip took three and a half years, covered 38,000 nautical miles, and brought them to 248 ports of call in 28 countries. For noon-to-noon travel, the longest distance covered was 177 nautical miles, and the shortest was 12. The longest leg of their journey took them from Ascension Island over 3,000 nautical miles to Barbados. From the Galapagos Islands to Pitcairn took them 29 days.

The event marks the beginning of the MRYC Spring Education Series. The next event takes place on Sunday, April 3rd, a "How-to Buy" seminar with a boat broker, marine surveyor, and marine finance representative. Contact me at (860) 245-0146 or [rjwalter@snet.net](mailto:rjwalter@snet.net) for further information.

## 'Frostbite' At The Mystic Irish Parade

*By Jessica Morrissey and David Bolger*

What do the Mystic Irish Parade Association (MIPA) and MRYC have in common? Well, they're both relatively new to Mystic and both promise to be a tremendous amount of fun.

MIPA is celebrating its second year, promising to mount a bigger, better and more impressive Irish Parade for the whole family. MRYC is extremely excited about its "maiden voyage" in entering a float in the March 20th parade. Our Club is planning its float to be an entertaining representation of our "Frostbite Series" racing, which is in its second season commencing March 20th.

The MRYC Fall Frostbite Series was a huge success (featuring 14 JY-15's) thanks to Bruce Cathcart and our very active Board of Directors and volunteers. The Club is getting quite a reputation for not only its enthusiastic sailors (weathering

30-plus-knot winds in the Mystic River) but also for its great camaraderie and fantastic events! The yacht club is new and "young at heart" and practices what it preaches—encouraging new relationships and adventures at the panoramic MRYC clubhouse, capitalizing on the best location on the Mystic River.

The details of the float for the Irish Parade are under somewhat secretive wraps and are being finalized as this article goes to print (that's my story...and I'm sticking to it!). But a pretty good set of clues includes the fact that there'll be a Float Princess (Bridget Morrissey), "The Wearing of the Green" (Connor McCrea) and, naturally, the Frostbite Enthusiast (Kyle Fast) on MRYC's JY-15 *Irish Eyes*.

We hope you enjoyed the second annual Mystic Irish Parade on Sunday, March 20th!

## Membership Committee Co-Chairs Named

The MRYC Membership Committee has announced the election of Jay Keegan and Bob Kenyon as committee co-chairs. All Membership Committee business should be directed to Jay at [tntrum@aol.com](mailto:tntrum@aol.com) or Bob at [greencorp@prodigy.net](mailto:greencorp@prodigy.net).

*Time & Tide* would remind its readers that the MRYC By-Laws set out the membership process: "The Board of Directors shall elect all new Members. The Board of Directors shall not act upon a candidate for membership unless the name of the candidate together with the name of the proposer and seconder along with two members' letters of recommendation have been submitted to the Board of Directors for considera-

tion. The candidate's request for membership shall have been submitted to the general membership along with the names of the proposer and seconder ten days prior to the meeting, at which time the candidate's name is acted upon accordingly."

Applications for membership together with supporting letters should be submitted to the Membership Committee for presentation to the Board.

*The Club thanks Jay and Bob for their commitment to this important committee and looks forward to the ideas they'll generate to fulfill its responsibilities.*