



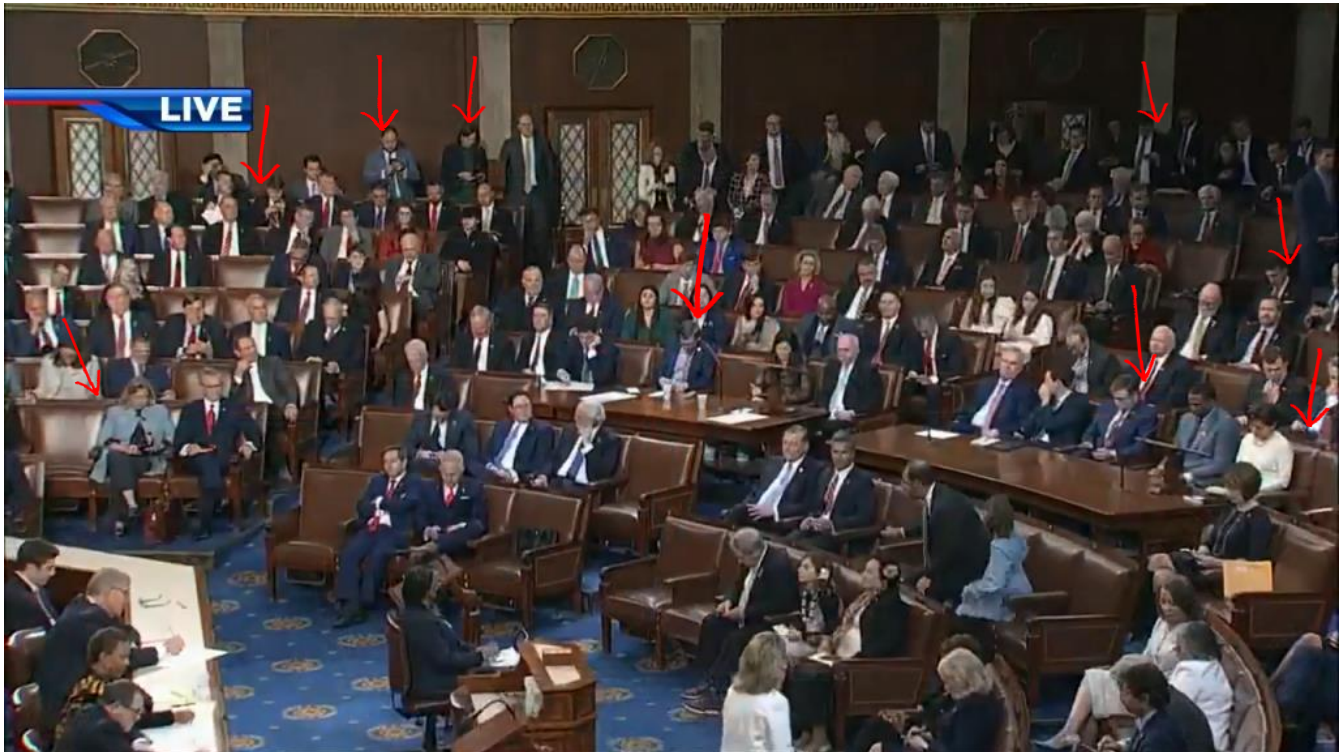
January 2023

## NEW HAVEN YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME CXLI

ISSUE 1

# NINE LAWMAKERS DISCIPLINED FOR READING NHYC NEWSLETTER DURING SPEAKER VOTES



As the U.S. House of Representatives slogged through several days of voting to choose the next Speaker of the House, nine lawmakers, four Democrats and five Republicans, have been disciplined for reading the New Haven Yacht Club Newsletter in the chamber. The Clerk of the House promised the Sergeant at Arms would “come crashing down” on any representative-elect who reads the newsletter during a vote. “I don’t care how much you like sailing or yacht clubs; I don’t even care about new spark plugs for Beastie.” the Clerk said, emphasizing her words with taps of her gavel. “We’ll never elect a Speaker if people don’t pay attention,” she said. “It’s not enough to be *physically* present as we call the roll hour after hour and day after day, you have to be *mentally* present as well.”

The issue is important for both parties because the new speaker will be chosen by a majority of members *actually voting*. If members forget to vote because they’re reading the newsletter, the number of votes necessary to secure the speakership is correspondingly lowered. It would be extremely ironic if leadership of the House changed hands because of a yacht club newsletter, although there was a precedent in 1856.

No business can be conducted until a Speaker is chosen. One Republican member was heard to mutter something about the House “being on the wrong tack.” In contrast, the Democratic whip claimed that his party “knows which way the wind is blowing.”

## MINUTES OF THE NEW HAVEN YACHT CLUB BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

4 January 2023

### ATTENDING OFFICERS:

Commodore: Drew  
Vice Commodore: Stocky  
Rear Commodore: Joe  
Secretary: Cheryl  
Treasurer: Frank  
Membership Secretary: Carlo

ATTENDING MEMBERS: Debbi, Allen, Paul, Wayne, Felix, Robert, Raimund, Nick.

MINUTES: Commodore Drew called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. A motion was made and unanimously passed to accept the minutes of the December 2022 meeting minutes as published. The January meeting minutes are pending.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Launch: winter respite.

Moorings: seasonal

Yards and Docks: metal pilings appear to have been installed. We have not yet been billed for services. Nick is going to contact the installer to obtain details of the install.

Website: this is a busy time for updating the website for future events.

House and Grounds: no report

Social: Memorial Day 2023 is the next social event

Cruising: no report

Membership: 9 inquiries have been sent and 3 have responded affirmatively.

As for membership, we have 66 members including 50 Full, 1 Young Adult, 9 Associate and 7 honorary. Last year at this time, we had 59 total members. We have 1 new full member. We have lost 5 members (4 Full, 1 Associate) since last year. Thus far, we have 8 renewals.

Race Committee: seasonal.

Old Business: none

### New Business:

Wayne suggested that we obtain an AED to have in the club house for emergency cardiac events. Wayne will investigate how to go about getting this.

Terry replaced the spark plugs on Beastie.

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and unanimously passed to adjourn at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl  
Secretary



## And, in case you missed it...

MINUTES OF THE NEW HAVEN YACHT CLUB ANNUAL MEETING via Zoom platform  
12 November 2022

### ATTENDING OFFICERS:

Commodore: Drew  
Vice Commodore: Stocky  
Rear Commodore: absent  
Secretary: Cheryl  
Treasurer: Frank  
Membership Secretary: Carlo

ATTENDING MEMBERS: Wayne, Nick, Allen, Gary, Manning, Kevin, Paul, Felix, Robert,

MINUTES: Stocky called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Reading of the 2021 minutes was deferred. A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of 2021 annual meeting as published.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Launch: no report. Extended launch service for end of season was appreciated. Joe asked that we obtain NHYC shirts for next season. New engine was an added expense for this year.

Moorings: mooring supplies will need to be ordered. Spring will be more telling on what is needed in terms of moorings. We have 3/4 line. Will need pick up sticks and 5/8 line and maybe chain.

Website: website is up to date. Web addition of the newsletters has been added. We have a web cam that has been added. New Haven coast guard weather report is on the web site. A windsock was installed on the dock which members found to be helpful. We might consider adding a web cam to look at the yard without it being publicly available but recorded. It would be an added expense. There is signage that states that the property is under surveillance.

### House and Grounds:

The water needs to be off for the season. We need volunteers to help with this. Kevin and Joe helped with this last year. Gary, Wayne, and Kevin can coordinate to get this done. In the future this can be a make-up work party item.

There has been a pest problem in clubhouse. Please leave/put ANY/ALL edible food, condiments, etc. inside the refrigerator.

Yard and Docks: no work needs to be done on the work float and only small repairs on the floating docks. Wooden pilings and cross bracing have been installed. Metal pilings have not yet been installed. Half of the job is done.

Racing: there were 9 races scheduled and 8 transpired. 6-7 racers generally participate. Participation was good. Lack of race committee volunteers has been an issue in the past with no prospect for solution currently. Rotating a racer into the committee boat position is also consideration. We could consider paying a launch attendant to be committee boat. Cost is \$15.00 an hour. 40 hours' time is about what would be needed for the season. We could potentially cost share with Pequannock. We have had some unofficial races with them in the past. Manning is considering an alliance with Pequannock for racing.

Cruising: no report

Social: The 2023 awards banquet at Amarante's is canceled for this year. We will have an awards event in conjunction with the Memorial Day event as was done last year.

Membership: we are losing 3 members. There were 11 people who reached out over the last season who expressed interest in investigating membership. Bob mentioned that we might pursue more aggressive associate membership group for members who do not have boats. Carlo plans to send out membership forms pending outcome of this meeting regarding change in fees.

Old Business:

There was minimal interest in taking masts down. There is a flat fee of \$600.00. Please also check your boats over the winter season to be sure that your jack stands are secured as weather changes can cause them to lose position. It is recommended that 7 jack stands be in place to secure the boat and there need to be boards under the jack stands to minimize sinking. Please also police your halyards to minimize noise pollution.

New Business:

Frank went over the spread sheet of expenses for this past year.

Pavilion has quite a bit of rust on it and may be an expense soon. Nick thinks that replacing the bottom 10 inches of steel may need to be considered. Projected life expectancy is 3 years. It needs to be an action item in the next 3 years.

We may need to increase the power washing fee. It is currently \$1.00 per foot. It has been pumped out twice in the 11 years that we have been doing this and the fee for disposal has increased. We also need to consider increasing fees for storage. User fees need to cover the cost of the service. To be considered for next year.

The nominating committee presented the following slate of officers for the 2023 sailing season.

OFFICERS

Commodore Drew

Vice Commodore

Rear Commodore Joe

Treasurer Frank

Membership Sec. Carlo

Secretary Cheryl

MEMBERS AT LARGE

\*Serves through 2023

Philip

Nick

\*Serves through 2024

Felix

Paul

\*Serves through 2025

Perry

Wayne

CHAIR and CO-CHAIRPERSONS of STANDING COMMITTEES

House & Grounds: Elizabeth & Gary

Launch: Joe & Phil

Moorings: Raimund & Carlo

Newsletter: Robert

Publicity: Diana

Sail/Racing: Manning

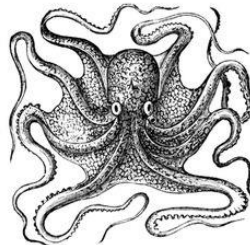
Sail/Cruising: Mike

Yards & Docks: Nick

Social: Stocky, Sarah, & Cheryl

Web Site: Paul & Frank

A motion was made and unanimously passed to accept the recommendation of the nominating committee for the slate of offices as published.



## Sailor Profiles

# VOGUE GIRL HAS A PROBLEM

Karla, age 29, says she's misunderstood:



I know what you're thinking and you're wrong! You're thinking 'this bimbo couldn't sail a Dwyer Dingy across a puddle of piss.' You think I'm just posing for pictures, don't you? Well, wise up! Posing is how I bought my boat—when you're on the cover of *Vogue* twice, you can make a hefty down payment on a 1949 Winslow, gaff rigged sloop. Yup, this really is my boat and my exquisitely toned upper thigh is really and truly steadying the wheel as I adjust my captain's cap at a jaunty angle. That really is Point Dume in the background—you can't see Malibu 'cause it's behind me. And, yup, I really am close-hauled on a port tack in about five-knots of wind.

You probably think my biggest problem on *Vogue Girl* is protecting my high cheekbones and perfect nose from sunburn? Think again! My biggest problem on *Vogue Girl* is the goddamn varnish. You gotta keep doing it all the time! I don't do my own varnishing—I may be blonde, but I'm not dumb. I pay guys to do it every year. It all costs money. Between that and the slip fees, I gotta keep posing for pictures all the time.

It would probably be cheaper to let the boyfriends do the varnish, but the boyfriends can't even hold a brush! The boyfriends aren't actually good for much. I mean, if you're gonna be 'high maintenance,' you should at least *do* maintenance, dontcha think?

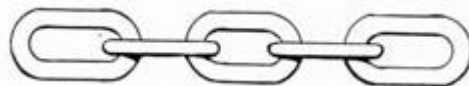
I'm thinking of packing in the boyfriends. I'd probably be happier with someone who's more mature and knows how to sail, someone who knows the difference between a barber hauler and a barbershop. Someone a girl can rely on for a long-distance cruise. You know anybody like that?

# NHYC—Sailing Seminar

## *How to Go Downwind*



Care should be taken to keep the clews of the inner and outer jib as low as possible. (In our illustration, this is accomplished by magic.) The staysail can be safely poled out on the opposite side, perpendicular to the centerline of the boat. The mainsail should go on the same side as the jibs with the gaff forward of the shrouds but well clear of the forestay. Don't allow the boom to ride the shrouds. By this expedient the gaff topsail will spill air forward, forcing the gaff downward and preventing an involuntary jibe. (Take care that the gaff stays clear of the forestay.) The stay topsail, meanwhile, may be flown above the staysail on its own halyard with the sheet secured well aft. The wise skipper will practice going downwind in light air before 'cracking on' in a stiff breeze.



## **THIS MONTH'S LINK:**

### **Idiots on Boats**

The title says it all, but we shouldn't be too proud. To err is human, after all. Everybody makes mistakes. Many of these boo-boos might be ours, right? After all, someday a camera might be pointed at us as we try to pull off some hare-brained, idiot stunt. It's possible, isn't it? Be honest, isn't it?

The caper with the crane is particularly horrible.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBXSVW3r9is>

# Wind-blown Pages

Your newsletter presents pages torn from nautical literature. Today's page is from *Three Men in a Boat*, Jerome K. Jerome's comic tale of three friends who take a rowing boat for an extended vacation. *Three Men and a Boat* is a perennial favorite, continuously in print since it was first published in 1889. In this passage, the three friends debate what they should take with them.

The first list we made out had to be discarded. It was clear that the upper reaches of the Thames would not allow of the navigation of a boat sufficiently large to take the things we had set down as indispensable; so we tore the list up, and looked at one another!

George said: "You know we are on a wrong track altogether. We must not think of the things we could do with, but only of the things that we can't do without."

George comes out really quite sensible at times. You'd be surprised. I call that downright wisdom, not merely as regards the present case, but with reference to our trip up the river of life, generally. How many people, on that voyage, load up the boat till it is ever in danger of swamping with a store of foolish things which they think essential to the pleasure and comfort of the trip, but which are really only useless lumber.

How they pile the poor little craft mast-high with fine clothes and big houses; with useless servants, and a host of swell friends that do not care two pence for them, and that they do not care three ha'pence for; with expensive entertainments that nobody enjoys, with formalities and fashions, with pretense and ostentation, and with – oh, heaviest, maddest lumber of all! – the dread of what will my neighbor think, with luxuries that only cloy, with pleasures that bore, with empty show that, like the criminal's iron crown of yore, makes to bleed and swoon the aching head that wears it!

It is lumber, man – all lumber! Throw it overboard. It makes the boat so heavy to pull, you nearly faint at the oars. It makes it so cumbersome and dangerous to manage, you never know a moment's freedom from anxiety and care, never gain a moment's rest for dreamy laziness – no time to watch the windy shadows skimming lightly o'er the shallows, or the glittering sunbeams flitting in and out among the ripples, or the great trees by the margin looking down at their own image, or the woods all green and golden, or the lilies white and yellow, or the somber-waving rushes, or the sedges, or the orchis, or the blue forget-me-nots.

Throw the lumber over, man! Let your boat of life be light, packed with only what you need – a homely home and simple pleasures, one or two friends, worth the name, someone to love and someone to love you, a cat, a dog, and a pipe or two, enough to eat and enough to wear, and a little more than enough to drink; for thirst is a dangerous thing.

You will find the boat easier to pull then, and it will not be so liable to upset, and it will not matter so much if it does upset; good, plain merchandise will stand water. You will have time to think as well as to work. Time to drink in life's sunshine – time to listen to the Aeolian music that the wind of God draws from the human heart-strings around us – time to -

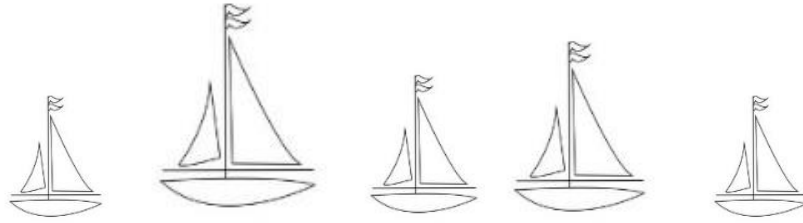
I beg your pardon, really. I quite forgot.

Well, we left the list to George, and he began it: "We won't take a tent, suggested George; "we will have a boat with a cover. It is ever so much simpler, and more comfortable."

It seemed a good thought, and we adopted it. I do not know whether you have ever seen the thing I mean. You fix iron hoops up over the boat, and stretch a huge canvas over them, and fasten it down all round, from stem to stern, and it converts the boat into a sort of little house, and it is beautifully cozy, though a trifle stuffy; but there, everything has its drawbacks, as the man said when his mother-in-law died, and they came down upon him for the funeral expenses.

George said that in that case we must take a rug each, a lamp, some soap, a brush and comb (between us), a toothbrush (each), a basin, some tooth-powder, some shaving tackle (sounds like a French exercise, doesn't it?), and a couple of big-towels for bathing. I notice that people always make gigantic arrangements for bathing when they are going anywhere near the water, but that they don't bathe much when they are there.





### **MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS**

If you are interested in sharing a story with other club members in a future issue, please send it to Bob. The content and focus of the story are up to you. The author will be able to review and accept edits before publication.

### **UNSUBSCRIBE REQUEST**

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