



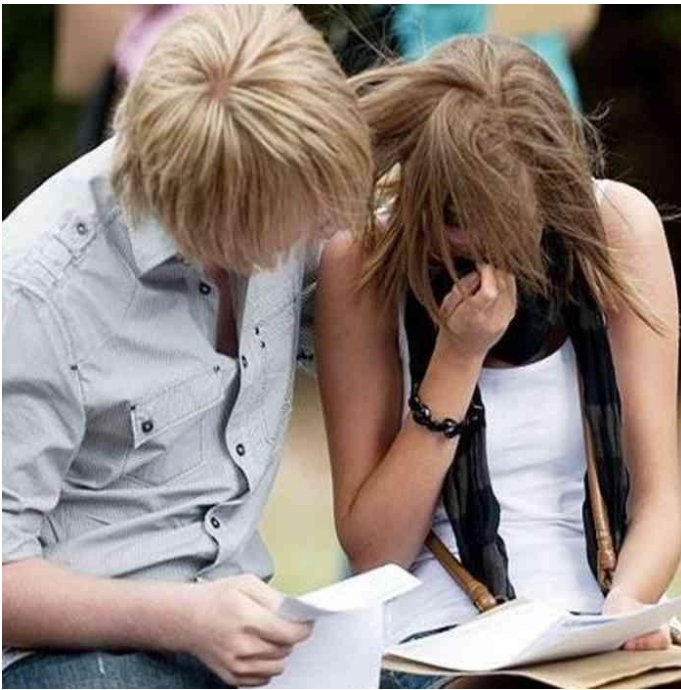
NEW HAVEN YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

November 2023

VOLUME CXLI

ISSUE 11

YACHT CLUB PICKETED BY LBMDA



Members arriving for the second Saturday work party were surprised to find the club driveway blocked by members of the Limpet, Barnacle and Muscle Defense Alliance last month. A half-dozen barnacle and mussel activists chanted slogans. Three of them carried signs: “Scrape=Rape,” “Shellfish or Selfish?” and “Will I Be Next?” Maggie Coneshell, spokesperson for the Alliance, issued the following statement: “Every time you guys pull your boats and docks from the water, you destroy vital habitat for limpets, barnacles and muscles. You call it “normal maintenance,” but for marine organisms it’s genocide.”

Your newsletter protested that none of the species were threatened or protected. Absent our boats and docks, they’d have that much *less* habitat. “That’s capitalism speaking,” replied Ms. Coneshell, “You don’t see the human dimension at all. A barnacle can have over 150,000 children. Can you imagine the anguish of these

parents watching hundreds of their offspring sliced into a mush with a scraper or smashed to oblivion with a power washer? You’re wiping out whole communities. You’re destroying crustacean culture!”

Your newsletter had never heard of the LBMDA, so research was in order. The Alliance introduces itself like this on its website, barnaclealliance.org : “We educate people that barnacles and muscles are filter feeders; they make the water you swim in cleaner. These tiny creatures are our friends, and we stick by them.” The group’s manifesto goes on: “Once they’re settled, they can’t move; they *own* that habitat. It’s the only home they’ve ever known; we have no right to evict them. What’s more, these creatures have something to teach us. Scientists are discovering ways to use barnacle adhesive to close trauma wounds in humans.” At his point there was a link to a study done at MIT: <https://news.mit.edu/2021/barnacle-glue-wound-seal-0809>

Back at the yacht club, Ms. Coneshell took a more conciliatory approach. “You guys aren’t evil, you just don’t know who you’re killing. Barnacles are fascinating creatures. Relative to their body size, they’ve got the longest penises in the animal kingdom. I mean, it has to be long because the animal isn’t all that mobile. Their penises are actually coiled up inside the shell. And all that yellow goop on your scraper—those are eggs! With your scrapers and washers and your horrible Beastie, you destroy hundreds of thousands of unhatched organisms every fall.”



MINUTES OF THE NEW HAVEN YACHT CLUB BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING, 1 NOVEMBER 2023

ATTENDING OFFICERS:

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

ATTENDING MEMBERS: Debbi, Allen, Felix, Philip, Ashley, Philip, Raimund, Elizabeth, Nick, Michael, Kevin, Robert

MINUTES: Commodore Drew called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. A motion was made and unanimously passed to accept the minutes of the October 2023 meeting minutes as published. The November meeting minutes are pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Launch: motors will be going in for service, repair, and storage when work parties are over. Wages and bonuses were discussed. Joe suggests that we move away from bonuses and increase wages. 2 attendants met criteria by working all season and should get \$200.00. A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the bonus for this year and to take future bonuses out of the policy.

Moorings: we lost 1 300# mooring when the swivel failed.

Yards and Docks: beastie has shifting issues. Unsure of the exact issue or how to remediate it. This is problematic for moving work float and floating docks and moving launches. Nick will need to solicit assistance with repair. Pilings have not been removed. One piling has been pulled out and is on the sea bottom.

Website: no report

House and Grounds: fall maintenance of grounds by work parties. Signage discussion to either replace or renovate existing signs. The dumpster was emptied.

Social: Annual meeting potluck is scheduled for November 11,2023. Katie is spearheading the event.

Cruising: no cruising, it's the off season

Membership: As for membership, we have 63 members including 50 Full, 1 Young Adult. 5 Associate and 7 honorary. Last year, we had 69 total members. We have 6 new full members and 2 renewals from the past. We have lost 3 Full and 2 Associate since last year.

Race Committee: off season.

Old Business:

Nominating committee still in need of 1 delegate and rear commodore for next year.

The Mariner that was near the dumpster has been removed from the club.

There were multiple questions, suggestions, and discussion on how to remediate our current financial situation; too many to note in this newsletter. Essentially, it boils down to equitable distribution among the members taking into consideration what we get taxed on, the cost of mooring supplies, and our income from dues and fees. We can raise dues, raise moorings fees or a combination of the two.

There was a motion made to recommend the following proposal to balance the budget for next year by increasing the dues by \$113.00 with the 12% mooring fee.

There were 9 yeas and 5 nays for Frank's proposal. The motion passes.

New Business:

Condition of the crane was discussed. Bolts and gussets condition are called to question. Plan for remediation included new anchor bolts and sistering the gussets to preserve the assets.

The owner of the Oday 222 in the yard is derelict in payments and without response to club inquiries. Frank would like to seize the boat in accordance with the state statute. A certified letter will be sent to the owner with the plan of disposition of the boat. A motion was made and unanimously passed to move forward with empowering the treasurer to move forward with this plan.

ADJOURNMENT

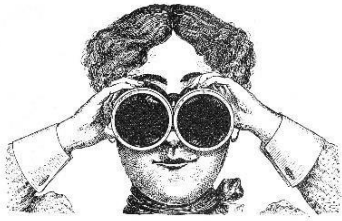
A motion was made and unanimously passed to adjourn at 10:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl, Secretary



UPCOMING EVENTS:

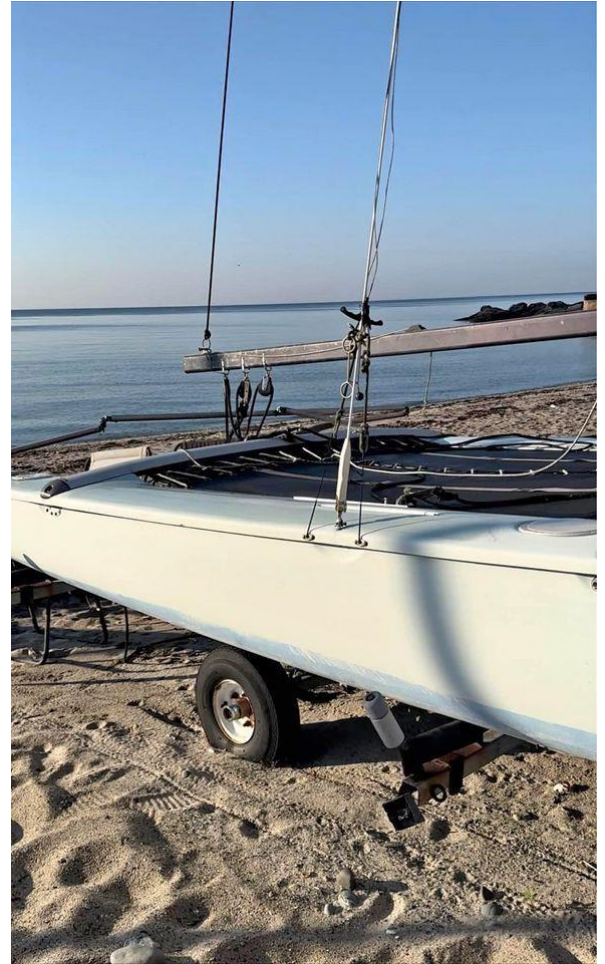
Winter



Spotted on Facebook Marketplace:

Lonely? Maybe you should get a cat?

Lonely? Maybe you should get a cat?

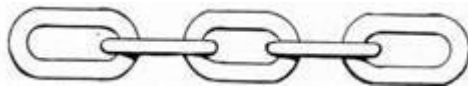


“Free Hobie Cat 12 ft sailboat and trailer”
Listed 2 weeks ago in Milford
Maybe this kitty still needs a good home?

NHYC—Sailing Seminar

Seven recommended off-season tasks you probably won't do:

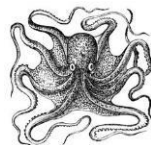
1. Wax your topsides
That way you can wax them *again* next year when it wears off.
2. Have a qualified technician check your batteries
Because maybe his hygrometer is better than yours.
3. Check the level of the gear oil in your outboard at least once a month.
Does it evaporate?
4. Have your sail cover washed and waterproofed. Doesn't it get washed when it rains?
5. Inspect aluminum sail guides for corrosion.
Of course they're corroded—but only where the jib cars sat.
6. Pull all fuses for inspection.
What happens if I don't?
7. Check the spelling on your 'cutless' bearing. A 'cutlass' is a sword used by pirates.



THIS MONTH'S LINK: Canny Icelandic couple inspects Spanish-built cruising boat in California

Juho and Sohvi are not your typical, “aren't we beautiful” sailing bloggers. With realism and method they tour a Garcia Nouanni 45 that's been sitting on the hard for 15 years. It's quite endearing to see them focus on the underlying merits of the boat and not the incredible mess left by the previous owner.

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



Wind-blown Pages

Your newsletter presents pages torn from nautical literature. From Joshua Slocum's classic *Sailing Alone Around the World* (1891) we excerpt his account of rebuilding the boat that would carry him to all latitudes.



The next day I landed at Fairhaven, opposite New Bedford, and found that my friend had something of a joke on me. For seven years the joke had been on him. The "ship" proved to be a very antiquated sloop called the *Spray*, which the neighbors declared had been built in the year I. She was affectionately propped up in a field, some distance from salt water, and was covered with canvas. The people of Fairhaven, I hardly need say, are thrifty and observant. For seven years they had asked, "I wonder what Captain Eben Pierce is going to do with the old *Spray*?" The day I appeared there was a buzz at the gossip exchange: at last someone had come and was actually at work on the old *Spray*. "Breaking her up, I s'pose?" "No; going to rebuild her." Great was the amazement. "Will it pay?" was the question which for a year or more I answered by declaring that I would make it pay.

My axe felled a stout oak-tree nearby for a keel, and Farmer Howard, for a small sum of money, hauled in this and enough timbers for the frame of the new vessel. I rigged a steam-box and a pot for a boiler. The timbers for ribs, being straight saplings, were dressed and steamed till supple, and then bent over a log, where they were secured till set. Something tangible appeared every day to show for my labor, and the neighbors made the work sociable. It was a great day in the *Spray* shipyard when her new stem was set up and fastened to the new keel. Whaling-captains came from far to survey it. With one voice they pronounced it "A I," and in their opinion "fit to smash ice." The oldest captain shook my hand warmly when the breast-hooks were put in, declaring that he could see no reason why the *Spray* should not "cut in bowhead" yet off the coast of Greenland. The much-esteemed stempiece was from the butt of the smartest kind of a pasture oak. It afterward split a coral patch in two at the Keeling Islands and did not receive a blemish. Better timber for a ship than pasture white oak never grew. The breast-hooks, as well as all the ribs, were of this wood, and were steamed and bent into shape as required. It was hard upon March when I began work in earnest; the weather was cold; still, there were plenty of inspectors to back me with advice. When a whaling-captain hove in sight I just rested on my adze awhile and "gemmed" with him.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NEW MEMBERS (AND NOT-SO-NEW MEMBERS)

Tell us your name(s)?

How and where did you learn to sail?

Tell us about your boat?

How did your boat get its name?

Are you looking for people to sail with?

Who would you *most* like to go sailing with? (You can choose anybody, living or dead!)

What port would you most like to sail into? (You don't have to make the whole trip, just enter the port) What about appeals to you most about our sport?

What needs fixing on your boat?

Have you got a personal sailing motto?

Please answer as many of these questions as appeal to you. Also answer any questions you can think of that are better than the questions above. Send your response (and a photo?) to Bob, the newsletter editor. He's tired of writing nonsense. He wants to write about you!

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

If you wish to unsubscribe from this publication, please contact Bob.