



April 2024

NEW HAVEN YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

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SPECIAL DOMINO ISSUE



Ever since the game of dominos was invented in ancient China, perhaps during the Song dynasty (960-1279), the wooden, bone or ivory tiles have provided a potent demonstration of the principle of chain reaction. The wooden tiles, also known as pieces, bones, rocks, stones, or men, can be set on end in such a way that if one topples, the rest will fall. While yacht club members are understandably anxious about seeing this phenomenon visited on their boats, for many others, especially children, the domino effect is ludic and, indeed, amusing.

President Eisenhower introduced dominos to the world of geopolitics during a press conference in 1954 when, in answer to a question, he declared...

Finally, you have broader considerations that might follow what you would call the "falling domino" principle. You have a row of dominoes set up, you knock over the first one, and what will happen to the last one is the certainty that it will go over very quickly. So you could have a beginning of a disintegration that would have the most profound influences.

This fallacious metaphor was used by a succession of U.S. administrations to justify military intervention in Asia and the Pacific on the principle that if one country were allowed to topple into communism, the rest would follow. That nothing like this occurred, even after the fall of Saigon in 1975, can only be explained by observing that nations and dominos are different.

Dominos first appeared in Europe in 17th century Italy. It's thought the name derived from the black and white carnival costumes popular in Venice.

It was illegal to play dominos on Sunday in Alabama until 2015.



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR NEW HAVEN YACHT CLUB BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING, 3 APRIL 2024

ATTENDING OFFICERS:

Commodore Drew
Vice Commodore Stocky
Secretary Cheryl
Treasurer Ashley
Membership Secretary Carlo

ATTENDING MEMBERS: Debbi, Nick, Barry, Paul, Felix, Allen, Josef, Leland, Barry, Mike, Nick.

MINUTES: Commodore Drew called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. A motion was made and unanimously passed to accept the minutes of the March 2024 meeting minutes as published. The April meeting minutes are pending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Launch: I have 2 people who contacted me regarding returning as launch attendants for this season. A motion was made and unanimously passed for returning attendants to get \$1.00 above minimum wage per hour and new attendants will get minimum wage. Effect on budget is \$1000.00 expense and within budget. Elizabeth thinks it is more important that have attendants who can work past August. She feels like there is more incentive for attendants to return if we have bonuses.

Moorings: no report

Yards and Docks: Carlo has put in a purchase order for 4 new metal pilings. There is a piece of broken piling in one of the sockets that needs to be removed. Nick made some suggestions on how to remove it. It needs to come out so the new one can be put in. The eye bolt that connects the docks together need to be tightened up. Circular chains need to be augmented this year. Some planks may need to be re-fastened. Docks should be good for a few more seasons. Nick announced that he is going to resign his position on yards and dock effective in November when the new board is elected.

Website: no additional updates. All dates that he was given were put onto the site. Web cam is operating.

House and Grounds: Water has been turned on in the club house. Back flow preventors need to be put back on.

Social: Memorial Day picnic is the next holiday. The awards ceremony will be in conjunction with this event.

Cruising: no report

Membership: as noted in Treasurer report

Race Committee: no report.

Old Business: no old business to report.

New Business: There was a mishap this weekend with a boat falling off the jack stand and falling into Barry's boat. Because his boat was well supported his boat was able to sustain the load of the failed boat without a domino effect. A group effort on behalf of club members to come to the aid of the affected member was appreciated. The boat was relocated by crane hire. Pursuant to this event Barry wishes to propose a minimum requirement of 3 jack stands per side be required to support boats on poppets for winter storage. He also recommends that boat owners need to be responsible for monitoring poppets throughout the winter. As a club we probably need to consider review of existing policy for winter storage for boats on poppets as it relates to insurance requirements and overall good policy. Nick contends that the boat fell because of lack of attendance to equipment given changing weather circumstances over the winter. He does not feel that change in, or an additional policy will hold up in court. There was consuming discussion on this event and speculation on what precipitated this event. There was a member at the club when the event took place. He did not observe the event but heard the event as it was unfolding.

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Since then, there have been insurance inquiries regarding this event to determine coverage for the claim. There was some question as to whether there is Web Cam footage of the boat in question. Ashley has asked for a volunteer to liaise with the insurance company because their inquiries may be beyond her scope to explain. Drew will be POC for this matter. This is probably going to be an evolving situation as insurance matters are decided.

The special board of governors meeting that took place last week voted to approve the expenditure to fabricate metal pilings for the floating docks in the sum of nearly \$7000.00. Minutes of that meeting are an addendum to these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT: a motion was made and unanimously passed to adjourn at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl, Secretary



NEW HAVEN YACHT CLUB SPECIAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING, 6 MARCH 2024

ATTENDING OFFICERS:

COMMODORE Drew

VICE COMMODORE Stocky

TREASURER: Ashley

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Carlo

ATTENDING MEMBERS: Barry, Allen, Wayne, Stas, Paul, Felix, Elizabeth, Gary, Elizabeth, Robert, Leland, Raimund, Nick

MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by commodore Drew. Board members were notified in advance and in accordance with the by-laws.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and vote on a major expenditure on the metal pilings that are necessary to secure the floating docks. One of the pilings is degraded and 1 needs to be repaired. The club could replace all the pilings with ones of a better design. The cost is around \$7,000.00. There would be a design change to avoid the chain hanging up although the chain would still need to be the correct length. Funding for this project will come from special assessment funds that need to be used within a certain window of time to avoid taxes on the assessments.

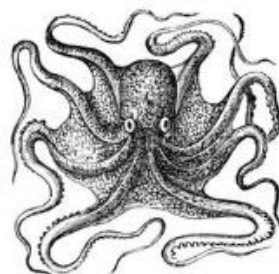
Discussion to spend the \$7,000.00 which includes material and labor versus the club purchasing the materials and using club labor.

Our current pilings are 16'. The new ones would be 18' but would be heavier. Nick's proposal would like to buy 21' length \$2750 and cut them. Tabs and weld-ons would need to be added. The advantage is time and manpower versus cost. The cost difference is \$3900.00. It would take time to cut the pipe; 32 hours of manpower and special tools that we would have to rent or buy. Weather conditions can affect work. We could also decide to only replace 2 pilings that are most in need of replacement. The rest would endure the season. There was detailed conversation on the logistics of the design and additional pros and cons of the options above. The question is simply to make or buy the piling package from Logan Steel.

A motion was made and seconded to spend \$7000.00 to have prefabricated metal pilings made by Logan Steel. Approval was unanimous (13 in favor) with one abstention.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting at 18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl, Secretary





Nautical Dominos

These sets replace the pips of regular dominos with nautical flags for digits zero through six. While at first glance this appears to be a delightful way of teaching flag numbers, there are shortcomings to the method. For starters, the game fails to teach the flags for seven, eight and nine. More seriously, it's quite possible to play the game without ever referring to the numbers represented by the flags. Instead of "I need a four," one might just as easily say "I need one of those white X things." Instead of "three," one might call for "a French flag sideways." Indeed, nautical dominos is the perfect game to play with children who have yet to learn their numbers in any form.

Domino Cookies

Ingredients

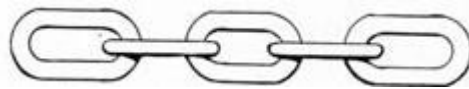
One (18-ounce) package refrigerated sugar cookie bar dough

Semisweet chocolate morsels

Roll half of dough to a 10- x 6-inch rectangle on a lightly floured surface. Cut into 12 rectangles, and place 2 inches apart on a lightly greased or parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Score each rectangle in the center crosswise with a knife.

Gently press semisweet chocolate morsels, points down, into dough, forming domino dots. Repeat with remaining dough.

Bake at 325° for 10 to 15 minutes or until the edges are golden. Slightly cool on baking sheets; remove to wire racks and cool completely.



THIS MONTH'S LINK

A tsunami from Japan travels 5300 miles and checks into a marina in Santa Cruz, California. Another sort of 'domino effect' but not so much fun as the ones you can make at home.

<https://youtu.be/COAfa4pjWg4>

Fiction

Fluke the Flying Fisher, episode 4

Fluke could now see the whole of *Lady M's* glossy black hull. She might have been a sleek, metallic destroyer from another galaxy. *Lady M's* air horns gave another blast, even sharper "get out of my slip"!

"You had better go," whispered *Amore Vero* alongside. "She means business."

Reluctantly, Fluke raised her narrow mainsail. The breeze was coming across her starboard beam and she saw no reason to start her motor. She cleared the slip in less than a minute, but *Lady M* wasn't satisfied. With another furious blast of her air horns, the skulking yacht refused right-of-way, forcing Fluke to come about.

Fluke felt anger rising within her like the rumbling of a much larger motor than the small diesel buried deep in her bilges. Refusing right-of-way to a vessel under sail!

Suddenly, Fluke felt herself rising literally-her anger was lifting her clear of the water. As soon as Fluke felt the breeze whistling between her prop and rudder she soared into the air. Banking to port, she circled *Lady M* at low altitude almost clipping the rotor of the helicopter. Another tight circle and then another! Fluke felt uncomfortable pressure building up in her tanks. "It's probably due to centrifugal force," she told herself. The fuel and freshwater tanks were bearable, but the pressure in her wastewater tank was excruciating. Somehow, it opened the Y valve that led to her discharge tube. Another tight circle and Fluke saw a thick brown spray spiraling beneath her, a corkscrew of excrement flowing from her holding tank.

Fuke was mortified, of course, but she felt even more ashamed when she remembered the discharge rules. "Oh no! I've got to be *at least* three miles offshore to empty my holding tank and here I am right downtown!"

Luckily, the filthy brown stream never hit the water; it splashed across *Lady M's* upturned bridge windows and dribbled down onto her spotless deck. From there, it streamed aft to a scupper and cascaded into the swimming pool on the deck beneath. The painful pressure was gone from the holding tank and the sewage hadn't hit the protected waters of the old port. Fluke was doubly relieved. With grateful sigh, she looked for a landing spot.

Lady M trembled with indignation and all her numerous alarm sirens went off at once. She backed her powerful motors, churning up the water. Simultaneously, her bow thruster kicked in, spinning her around like a windvane. With a sound like the crushing of a giant aluminum can, *Lady M's* bow smashed sideways into the sea wall.

Next month: Shiver me timbers!



NHYC—Sailing Seminar

The wikiHow guide to caulking your boat <https://www.wikihow.com/Caulk-an-Old-Wooden-Boat>

1. Get the boat ready for caulking. If you intend to repaint your boat, strip off the paint before starting to re-caulk.
1. Clean out all the old putty and caulking cotton with the raking iron, taking care not to damage the wood.
2. Prime the seams with oil-based paint or with red-lead paint.
3. Different builders have differing ideas on where to start caulking. Some like to do all the butt ends first then start on the lower seams and finish off with the rabbet and garboard seam. However, here is no reason why you should not start on a seam above the water line if you want to get into the swing of it first.
4. The main thing is remembering which seams have been done and which are still to do.
5. How many strands of cotton you use will depend on the size of the seams. Ideally, the cotton should fill the deepest third of the seam.
6. This means that when tapping it home the iron should go in by about two thirds of the plank thickness.
7. Add or subtract strands as needed. But always remember that it is to be tapped in, not hammered.
8. Don't over caulk, the cotton and the wood are going to swell when wet.
9. Some authorities suggest laying out enough cotton to do a full seam. That's fine if you are laying it out in a perfectly clean floor. The cotton is rather hairy and will pick up any and every bit of dirt or wood shaving on the floor.
10. I found that it was better to feed it straight from the ball, but keeping the ball in a cardboard box which can be pushed along with your foot as you go.
11. If you have to join strands mid seam do not tie a knot, this will produce a thick, hard lump. Simply roll the ends together between finger and thumb.
12. Start off by using the paying iron to tack or loop the cotton loosely into a foot or two of the seam. Then go back and using a rocking action with the iron tap the cotton home with the mallet.
13. If there are any wide seams leave them for last. By caulking all the tight seams first, you could find that this has caused the wider ones to close up.
14. Wide seams can be caulked in two runs, thus increasing the number of strands.
15. Some builders suggest priming the cotton before applying the putty.
16. Mixing the puddy: the traditional compound for stopping seams is linseed oil putty mixed with red lead powder. When mixing this caulking compound take a tennis ball sized dollop of the putty mix enough red lead powder to give an even red color add linseed oil if needed to keep it soft.
17. Then add a thumbnail sized dollop of multi-purpose grease, mix it well and push it into the seam with a putty knife. The grease will help keep the putty soft and flexible thus preventing any hardening and cracking later.
18. You can either smooth the putty flush with the planking or use a curved scraper to produce a concave seam. Or fill the cracks with soap, use bar soap rubbed into the crevices this will eventually just wash away.



Wind-blown Pages

In Ian Fleming's *Thunderball*, James Bond has been sent to the Bahamas to look for a sunken NATO bomber that was hijacked by a criminal syndicate with H bombs aboard. He's met an attractive woman who drives recklessly around town in a sapphire-blue MG.

'Yes, my name's Dominetta Vitali. But I was sent to school in England. To the Cheltenham Ladies College. Then I went to RADA to learn acting. The English kind of acting. My parents thought that was a ladylike way to be brought up. Then they were both killed in a train crash. I went back to Italy to earn my living. I remembered my English but' - she laughed without bitterness - 'I soon forgot most of the rest. You don't get far in the Italian theatre by being able to walk about with a book balanced on your head.'

'But this relative with the yacht.' Bond looked out to sea. 'Wasn't he there to look after you?'

'No.' The answer was curt. When Bond made no comment she added, 'He's not exactly a relative, not a close one .. He's a sort of close friend. A guardian.'

'Oh yes.'

'You must come and visit us on the yacht.' She felt that a bit of gush was needed. 'He's called Largo, Emilio Largo. You've

probably heard. He's here on some kind of a treasure hunt.'

'Really?' Now it was Bond's turn to gush. 'That sounds rather fun. Of course I'd like to meet him. What's it all about? Is there anything in it?'

'Heaven knows. He's very secretive about it. Apparently there's some kind of a map. But I'm not allowed to see it and I have to stay ashore when he goes off prospecting or whatever he does. A lot of people have put up money for it, sort of shareholders. They've all just arrived. As we're going in a week or so,

I suppose everything's ready and the real hunt's going to start any moment now.'

'What are the shareholders like? Do they seem sensible sort of people? The trouble with most treasure hunts is that either someone's been there before and sneaked off with the treasure or the ship's so deep in the coral you can't get at it.'

'They seem all right. Very dull and rich. Terribly serious for something as romantic as treasure hunting. They seem to spend all their time with Largo. Plotting and planning I suppose. And they never seem to go out in the sun or go bathing or anything. It's as if they didn't want to get sunburned. As far as I can gather, none of them have ever been in the tropics before. Just a typical bunch of stuffy businessmen. They're probably better than that. I haven't seen much of them. Largo's giving a party for them at the Casino tonight.'

'What do you do all day?'

'Oh, I fool around. Do a bit of shopping for the yacht. Drive around in the car. Bathe on other people's beaches when their houses are empty. I like underwater swimming. I've got an aqualung and I take one of the crew out or a fisherman. The crew are better. They all do it.'

'I used to do it a bit. I've brought my gear. Will you show me some good bits of reef some time?'

'The girl looked pointedly at her watch.'

'I might do. It's time I went.'

She got up.

'Thanks for the drink. I'm afraid I can't take you back. I'm going the other way. They'll get you a taxi here.'

She shuffled her feet into her sandals. Bond followed the girl through the restaurant to her car. She got in and pressed the starter. Bond decided to risk another snub. He said, 'Perhaps I'll see you at the Casino tonight, Dominetta.'

'P'raps.'

She put the car pointedly into gear. She took another look at him. She decided that she did want to see him again. She said, 'But for God's sake don't call me Dominetta. I'm never called that. People call me Domino.' She gave him a brief smile, but it was a smile into the eyes. She raised a hand. The rear wheels spat sand and gravel and the little blue car whirled out along the driveway to the main road. It paused at the intersection and then, as Bond watched, turned righthanded towards Nassau.

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. Submissions should be limited to 500 words. The author will be able to review and accept edits before publication.

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