

Birds & Worms News

Newsletter of the Newport Yacht Club, Rochester NY
November 2018



Photos clockwise from upper left – Great Lakes Cruising, Brown Jug Winner, one of the Cups and Flags appetizer tables, Briody regatta mark rounding – Details inside.

Upcoming Events

12/31	Hogmanany (Scottish New Year) – see flyer
1/7/2019	NYC Board Mtg.
1/25	General Membership Meeting and Dinner
2/3	Super Bowl Night
2/9	Sports Night – see flyer
2/23	Mystery Dinner
3/16	St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Since the Last Newsletter

A lot has been happening in the last few months – Briody Regatta, Brown Jug, member sailing on different Great Lake, and the Cups and Flags celebration. Read all about it in this issue along with the latest in the Jonny C. adventures. Thanks to all who contributed articles.

Happy Holidays to all.

Commodore's Letter – Delos Wheeler

A year ago we had just suffered a devastating flood for one of our fleets. But what was a disaster was, by our strong commitment and great work effort, turned into an opportunity to replace an old worn dock likely to succumb to another flood any year with a floating dock. This new dock not only solved the issue of flooding but opened the way to handle more and larger boats. This new dock because of its capacity to accept boats with wider beams enables our Cruiser Fleet to grow. Cruisers often bring families into the club and that brings added life to the club. More boats add to our revenue which adds to our ability to handle new challenges before us.

The challenges ahead are to put the finishing work on the new dock and look to repairing the seawall, roof, Laser and Snipe docks. In regards to those small racing boat docks any improvements will also increase our chances to attract more small boat racers and improve the attractiveness of the front of the club. Our Clubhouse and the view from it sets us apart from every other club in the area.

We had a successful racing season. A couple of racers are not racing this year but we have an expectation that more will be joining us in the coming season. We also expect to have more Cruisers involved in the racing program.

This year we hosted successful Regattas Snipe and Brown Jug. The Snipe regatta was so successful we were asked to pursue hosting a National.

Our many social events throughout the year summer and winter deliver an opportunity to meet our friends and strike out new lasting friendships with other members. Last year's events were three Film Nights with dinner and games, Casino Night, Kentucky Derby

party, Monthly Moonlight Sails, Pirate Day, Cups and Flags banquet and a Halloween party.

Once again this club proved it to be resilient in overcoming difficult obstacles, willing to work as one community recognizing we rise higher when we work towards a common goal, active in participation whether in problem solving or labor and with a healthy attitude towards what we are and a positive vision of what we could become.

Vice Commodore Report -Andy Smith

Wow ! It happened again. Folks just show up, and the jobs get done. Simply amazing. It happens every year. Well, not all the projects were completed this fall. There is something about the snow on the leaves that makes them hard to rake. Not to mention that half of them are still up in the trees. The goopy stuff is no longer in the bottom of the freezer. The ladies room door opens freely, without needing to be kicked at the bottom where it was sticking. A big list of other inside items was also taken care of. On the outside, the boats are covered. The Laser ramps are out. Big thanks to all. And a big thanks to Lynn for replacing the bottom trim board under the picture window on the north side. A few jobs remain like dealing with more leaves, cleaning gutters again, and rug shampooing.

Dumpster: We pay about \$135 per month to have the dumpster emptied every 4 weeks. In the summer it is necessary as it begins to stink. In September it was emptied twice with extra dock debris to the tune of \$370 - ouch! It has been shut off for the winter and now has a padlock on it to save a few bucks. If you have a private party - please take your trash home. There are plenty of trash bags under the sink.

The club building now has Wi-Fi available to all members. Speak to any officer to obtain the password. Thanks to Dean Clayton for purchasing all the equipment and getting it installed.

Race Chairman Report – Kevin Haller

Hi y'all. We had a great racing season in 2018. Mother Nature gave us plenty of great bay thermals and a few crazy shifty days of racing. Thanks to a committed race committee, all went with zero complaints. Also a big

thank you to Dean Clayton for his care and concern of having the RC boats gassed up and running well. His devotion to the club is laudable. Three cheers for Dean.

Get ready for an exciting 2019 racing season. Due to popular demand many different course configurations are on the horizon. Figure 8's, Irregular Nonagons, and some Decagons. Most of the courses changes are in hope of confusing John Dentinger enough to give others a shot of winning some races. Expecting another fantastic season of racing in 2019. Hoping to see more boats on the race course. Have a happy holiday season.

Membership Chair – Lynn Bluett

At our July and October general meetings we welcomed five new members. Jane Shafer joined us with a Catalina 22. She is a co-owner of the C22 with Bob O'Brien who joined as a social member. Dave and Eileen Steinchen joined with a Hunter 23. Cathy Callon re-joined us with her recently purchased Hunter 23. Bill Gould has a cottage on the Bay north of NYC and joined as a social member. All of them were impressed with how friendly and helpful our members are.

A strong membership makes it possible to keep our dues cost down. In addition, many hands make light work when we have jobs to be done on our grounds, docks and club house. Hopefully we will continue to add new members in 2019.

Website and Social Media – Jane Shafer

Exciting changes are coming to the NYC website. Landy Atkinson and I will be redesigning it to bring you more and better content, easier navigation through the site, updated photo galleries and dedicated fleet pages. We'll be soliciting input from fleet captains when we're ready to upgrade your page on the site. The 'official' pages (Members Section) will remain the same. This will be a rather involved task but I'm confident we should be able to launch the new site by the time we're launching boats in the spring. We have a beautiful club and our website should show it off to its fullest.

Facebook - If you are on Facebook did you know we have our own page? If this is news to you, search for NewportYC on Facebook. At least once a week, I will try

to post something to keep the content fresh which keeps visitors coming back. You, too, can post event info, race results and photos to our page.

Twitter - We have a new Twitter account! It has just been launched so there isn't a lot of content yet but give it time. On Twitter, search for @NewportYCRoc. You can tweet to the club's page, hashtag us (#NewportYCRoc) or mention us in your own tweet by adding @NewportYCRoc in your text.

Instagram - Our new account can be found by searching @NewportYCRoc from your search section on Instagram. I'll be providing, through email, the logon information for our account. This will give everyone access to post photos from club events, race day or just enjoying our great view of the bay.

We have great opportunities to reach out to potential new members through social media. We can be successful in this with the help of any members that have social media accounts. If you're not on any of these but think you want to give it a try, contact me and I can help get you started.

Cruising Fleet Report – John Wiesenthal From the Crow's Nest

Fall Foliage Cruise September 16- While it wasn't a day for fall color, it was a great time. Eleven of us in three boats: Dean and Julie Clayton with Jack and Catherine Morrissey, Bill and Sue LaBine, Nancy and me with three members of a student's family had a lovely cruise over to the River. Great wind becalming about a half



mile from the river affording a delicious swim, beautiful sky. We gathered for lunch about 1:30 at the Port of Rochester. It was a long lunch on the upper floor of the ferry terminal with a great view of from the lake to the bridge. Getting late by the time we were done, around 3:30, Jack and Dean proceeded up the river. The other boats headed back. More great wind. We got back to the Bay in less than an hour.

Cruisers to the Rescue - On a Saturday night, members of the Cruising Fleet, Dean and John (Yours Truly) and Andy Smith bailed out a fellow cruiser's sinking O'Day. It had taken about a foot of water and was listing to starboard. With the help of a sump pump and some lighthouse electricity it was brought back into buoyancy.

Fall Foliage Cruise Redux - So we gave it another shot! On Sunday October 14, 13 Newporters sailed over to the river, had lunch and proceeded up the Genesee. Under the O'Rourke Bridge, past boats and barges, past the rusting Spirit of Rochester, Turning Point Park, past Seneca Park, past Kodak Park, under the Driving Park bridge, to the rapids of the Lower Falls! To fall color! Under sail much of the way up both the Berbie and the Ulan enjoyed the autumn afternoon. Ulan headed back to the lake and the Bay. Berbie landed at Voyager where she will spend the winter cradled and snugly wrapped.

Lastly, sadly I can no longer fulfill my duties to the club as a board member due to my work obligations on Monday nights. I will be available to help out and advise as needed, but since I can't attend the required meetings I must surrender the posts of Cruising Fleet Captain and Capital Planning Chair.

Catalina 22 Fleet Report – Lynn Bluett

The newly formed Catalina 22 fleet hosted the dinner at the October General Meeting. It was a cold evening, so our homemade chili and corn bread was well received. All our boats are safely stored on the hard for the winter. We will be having a fleet meeting in February to plan activities for the 2019 sailing season.

Cups and Flags Celebration - J. Boettcher

Commodore Delos and co. provided an assortment of appetizers from many countries. They were arranged on separate tables with complimentary decorations and attractive accent lighting. There were also bartenders who could whip up almost any drink you could think of. Non-alcoholic punch was also available.

After an hour or so of grazing, Delos welcomed the attendees and turned the floor over to the fleets for awards presentations.

Cruising Fleet Captain John Wiesenthal presented recognition certificates to the many Newport Heroes who contributed time and effort to making the new floating dock a reality. Named were Lynn Bluett, Bill LaBine, Dean Clayton, John Wiesenthal, Andy Smith, Jim Miller, Delos Wheeler, Ted Horvath, Kevin Haller, Doug Dickman, Bill Mulligan, Steve Mickel, Bill Anderson, John Boettcher, Bill Vaughn, Connie Purdum, Steve Leach, Dave Steinchen, Don Taylor, Scott Sorrels, Vadim Rabovsky, Morgan Smith, and Rob Matthews.

Laser Fleet Captain John Boettcher reviewed the season for the fleet and presented the awards to those present (see summary in Fleet report elsewhere in this newsletter).

Following another hour of grazing, which now included some really special desserts, the awards continued. The Snipe fleet presented many traveling and keeper awards (see details elsewhere in this newsletter). Commodore Delos took the floor to present the service award to Dean Clayton for his many contributions above and beyond his Harbormaster office. Finally, Delos awarded the Whittenburg Trophy to Landy Akinson for his many contributions to NYC.

Snipe Fleet – Joanne/Bill Vaughn

Sailing Season: Snipes had a very successful sailing season. We were able to test our skills in 220 "Official" boat-races after a late start in the spring. We have now completed our Official Fall Series. There was no sailing on the 21st of Oct.

Passing of Phil Morse: Sadly, we lost a longtime member of our fleet, Phil Morse, in August. Longtime member is an understatement, in the Newport

directory it says Phil became a member here in 1958! We will miss him and his family and we will be reminded of Phil often. In Sept the Fleet commemorated the Snipe Little Brown Jug in his name.

Briody Regatta: In August we had a very successful 82nd Briody Regatta with 14 boats registered. We had great weather. Our guests remarked about how lucky we were to have such a wonderful clubhouse. They hoped we would consider hosting the U.S. Nationals here. This is high praise from people who travel all over. See Briody report elsewhere in this newsletter.

Cruisers crewing with Snipes racing: We held a 1st annual Cruisers crewing with Snipes racing day on August 28th. Bill Andrews (sailing with Bill Vaughn) and Scott Sorrels (sailing with Kevin Haller) survived the experience. They noted that “the Snipe seems to be very close to the water” and “you have to move around a lot”. Any interested Cruisers should contact Joanne or me for next years’ event.

Small Boat Dock safety: The Snipes and the Lasers are discussing ways to make the small boat docks safe, more inclusive to smaller and younger or older sailors, and attractive to potential new members. Joanne, Connie and I have researched some ideas but input from any interested parties is welcomed. We will be happy to talk to you about what we have done so far.

Racing Score Sheets: have been posted on the Snipe Bulletin board.

Laser Fleet - John Boettcher

Laser Fleet has 8 members with 6 racing this year. The fleet participated in 80 races. Thanks to Kevin Haller race chair. Thanks to the Snipe Fleet for providing the turnout needed for the racing to take place. In order to qualify for a series, a member must have sailed in at least half the races. Score for a member in a series is equal to the sum of the best finishes in the races they sailed totaling half the races in the series.

Spring Series (10 races) - Very close racing with 2 points separating 1st Boettcher(6), 2nd Fourspring(7) and 3rd Atkinson(8) ! Summer Series (22 races) - Atkinson turns in a perfect score for the 11 races needed to qualify!

Leach is second with 16. Fourspring and Boettcher tie for 3rd with 26 points. Fall Series (16 races) Leach turns in a near-perfect score of 9 for the 8 races needed to qualify. Fourspring is 2nd with 11 and Atkinson is 3rd with 15. Thursday Night Series (32 races) Atkinson(21) is 1st with Fourspring(27) 2nd and Boettcher(28) 3rd. Only one point between 2nd and 3rd!

Awards for 2018 consist of white, felt pennants with the Laser logo and finish and series information designed and fabricated by Norma Platt. Purdum is awarded the “most improved” pennant. Thanks to NYC for the support given the fleet in 2018 and Charlie Maier for his serving as race committee in several TNS races.



Thursday Night Sailing – J. Boettcher

This year TNS ran from June 7th all the way to August 23rd at which point we barely had time to race before darkness came. There were three Thursdays that racing did not happen. After racing, we fire up the grill and have hamburgers and hot dogs at nominal cost. Attendees are expected to bring something for the table. Nearly all of the proceeds from the grill are given to the club. This was done at the October membership meeting by Bob Shanebrook, a non-racer but regular attendee, who gave NYC a check for \$130.

The participants wish to thank the members of NYC for their support of TNS. Deserving much of the credit for the program is Kevin Haller, Race Chair, and regular participant. Assisting Kevin, especially at the end of the season was Charlie Maier a Laser fleet alumnus.

2018 Briody Regatta – Joanne Vaughn/John Dentinger

The Briody began this year on a very somber note, as long-time Fleet 103 member Phil Morse passed away suddenly just one week earlier. In his honor, Regatta Chair John Dentinger gathered attendees to commemorate Phil's sailing career. Phil's sailing accolades were followed by a moment of silence for remembrance and prayer.

Once again, turnout for the regatta was excellent, as NYC hosted boats from Canada and Massachusetts besides our locals: 14 boats total. The weather could not have been more cooperative—a prevailing northerly on Saturday allowed for 5 races, even with our tradition hour-long break for lunch. The battle for first was intense, with Julian Inglis & Angela Vascotto in front by 7 points over Harri Palm & Molly Kurvink, and Max Hetherington-Young & sister Audrey. Sunday, our Thermal northerly came in, rock-steady, with just enough shifts to keep us on point. Harri (sailing with a borrowed boat, mind you) finished with a first place, but Julian took the first three races of the day, to win the 82nd edition of the Briody. Harri & Molly were 2nd, Max & Audrey 3rd, Max's dad Kevin & daughter Audrey 4th, and Gord Richards & Ryan Perry 5th.



The clubhouse and grounds were fully occupied, with sailors sleeping inside, outside in tents or van camping. Saturday was our traditional Dinosaur BBQ dinner, with make-your-own-sundaes for dessert. Thanks go to our sponsors: North American Brewery for lots of Genny beer, Eve's Cidery for bottles of cider, Doug Burtner and

the Rochester Quantum Sails Loft for mainsheet sleeves to all competitors, and Rob Saiff and the Rochester West Marine store for our \$100 raffle prize—won by the NYC Commodore, Delos Wheeler! Keeper prizes for the first 5 boats were custom embroidered hats by “A Stitch in Time.” And our thanks, as always, are due to the many NYC volunteers who made this event one to remember, with special thanks to: Fleet Captains Joanne & Bill Vaughn, Barb Horvath, Julie & Dean Clayton, Eileen Haller, Peg Crevey, Madhavi Dixit, John Boettcher, Sue Hill & Delos Wheeler.

66 Brown Jug Regatta

35 boats participated in the 66th Brown Jug on Labor Day. The day was partly cloudy with a highly variable (direction and speed) west wind. At one point there was a thermal that came in on the North side of the course. 35 boats participated with one dozen from NYC. The PRO for the race was Larry Sills with wife Kathy, NYC Commodore Delos Wheeler and John Boettcher assisting. The course was long and twice around with boats finishing after 2+ hours.



Following racing the participants gathered at NYC for food and awards with MC Commodore Delos. Joanne Vaughn gave a touching remembrance of recently departed, long time member Phil Morse and established the Phil Morse Jug which was accepted by wife Carol Morse and sons Dan and Adam. They in turn presented this Jug to the 1st Snipe in this year's race skippered by John Dentinger with crew Jen Perena. 1st Laser (2 boats) was Kenny Fourspring and first C22 (2

boats) was Bill LaBine. First boat to finish the race and winner of this year's Brown Jug was an NYC cruising boat, Flying Scot skippered by Vadim Rabovsky with crew Igor Esaulenko.

Great Lakes Cruise 2018 - Bill LaBine, Catalina 22

Ever dream of cruising to ports unknown, but not sure if you are ready to head out on your own? Like the idea of meeting other people who also like the adventure of cruising on their small sail boats? If so, the Great Lakes Cruise is for you!

For the last 20 years or so, Mike Bracket has been organizing this "local" cruise for like-minded sailors. This year, the 7-day/6-night cruise was on Grand Traverse Bay, MI – something of a sailor's paradise with incredible harbors in quaint small towns all within a pleasant day's sail from one another.

I've been dreaming of such a cruise for years, and finally had the time, boat and crew to make it happen. Joined



by my best friend from high-school, who I've rarely seen since graduation, I headed out with seven other boats from Elk Rapids to Northport on what turned out to be the only day with light enough winds that we needed to motor-sail. I was a bit nervous about having enough gas in my little 3-gal tank, but was happy to learn that 3 hours of motor sailing hardly dented the gas supply.

Evenings were spent exploring the towns. Some large (Traverse City), some small (Sutton's Bay), but all with plenty of restaurants, bars and shops to keep the sailors

entertained and fed. The harbor facilities varied as well, but all were at least adequate. Some were quite luxurious!



The second morning started like the rest, with very light winds that picked up throughout the day. Turns out my friend really likes to go fast, so there was no main reefing nor genoa furling. I guess Joe thought my



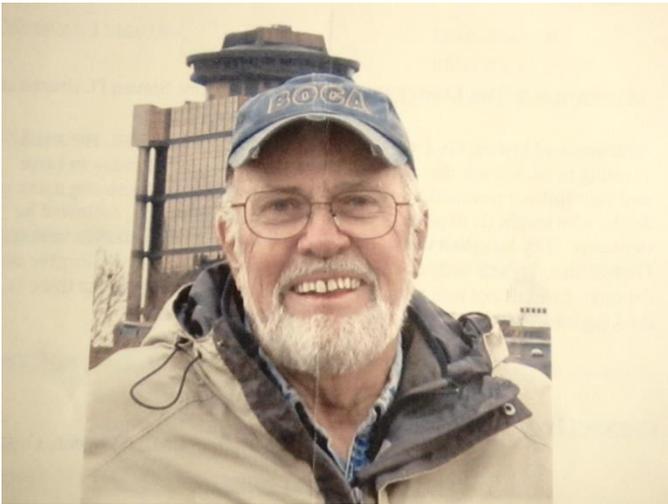
Catalina was a Hobie Cat. Turns out that my boat is rather forgiving of abuse, although I think it might be a

good idea to get a spare rudder (can you see the bend in the picture?).



Next year the Cruise will be end of July to and around Mackinac Island. You don't need to have a Catalina 22 to join the fun.

Memorial



Philip Leslie Morse (1934-2018)

Phil sailed at NYC from 1970 to 2018 and hoped to the last to be back on the water soon. What engaged Phil about sailing was the chance to be outdoors, to be challenged by the wind and water and most of all the friendly competition and camaraderie of the Newport racers. Above all, Phil loved teaching his sons, Dan and Adam, and later his grandsons, Jake, Elliot and Charlie how to sail. (words by Joanne Vaughn)

Mystery Laser – J. Boettcher

This boat appeared in our racks this year and we are looking for its owner. It has a yellow hull with boat number PFS132740274. Another distinctive feature is that in place of a mainsheet block there is a decorative hook. Our guess is that the boat has not been raced very much. Is this yours? If so please contact me.

Small Boat Trailer for Sale – J. Boettcher

Thanks to the generosity of the Morse family, the Laser fleet has a small boat trailer. It is a Masercraft manufactured trailer (1972) with side bunks and center roller that would accommodate any small boat. If you are interested get in touch with me.

Sailing Story (Part 14) - From the Newport Chronicles: A Sailing Story by Johnny Cahuenga

Under the Gun

We were now out in open water under sail. Colonia was receding rapidly astern. The north wind blew 20 knots and we held a close reach to windward on port tack heading northeast toward Falalop, a safe, neutral place to get picked up. If the wind held we would be there in about 12 hours. The Jeanneau 30 was easy-handling. Tonya had the tiller as I hauled up the main and unfurled the genoa. We were doing a good 10 knots. I returned to the tug of weather helm, heeling 10 degrees as we held course. The seas were about five meters at a frequency of around 50 yards. A lovely late afternoon on the water, 10 degrees north of the equator.

“Wow Johnny, you really do know how to sail! I’m proud of you”

I shut my eyes for a moment and a sensation of nausea gripped me. It was a combination of desire and terror as if it were being sucked into a warm pit of sweet smelling quicksand. Here it was, the promise of a life filled with family and home, even parents and friends. A promise offered by a beautiful woman who is capable of anything – ANYTHING. I instinctively reached for my wallet. What? Of course there was no wallet. No money, no identification. I’d been swept up in this world wind for the last 48 hours without any moment to get my bearings. I was hijacked, shanghaied, shot at, pushed out of a 10 story window, and now sweet talked like nothing was the matter. On top of it all is a story about a child I never even heard of. And now sailing along the equator with what might be a psychopath drawing me tighter into a web of who could guess what.

But one thing I've got to say - she never said, "trust me." Hah! ouldn't that be a laugh!

Coming out of my nightmarish reverie I felt her soft fingers stroking the nape of my neck, her firm hand squeezing my shoulder. "Oh Johnny, I know how confusing this must be for you, but you've got to trust me." Her voice turned suddenly hard, " You have no choice. There is a man unconscious in the cabin and if he wakes up I may have to do something drastic." The magnificent early evening sky and warm equatorial wind took my breath away. Closing my eyes I had visions of Gauguin's Tahitian women. Would I survive this day?

I opened my eyes and there was Tonya searching my soul and behind her. In the companionway pointing a gun stood a short, heavy-set Polynesian man.

To be continued

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Photo by Delos Wheeler

Newsletter Contributions

Next issue will be in March 2019. It's your newsletter. Send contributions to J. Boettcher, editor (johnwb2@rochester.rr.com)

Hogmanay

Scottish New Years

December 31st 2018

Newport Yacht Club



Arrive at 5:00 Celebrate at 7:00

Come celebrate the Scottish New Year. Because of the time difference Scotland's New Year is 5 hours before ours so we'll be celebrating at 7:00. This gives you time to go and celebrate at 12:00 somewhere else or just get a good night sleep earlier. We will be streaming directly from Edinburg on a large screen for all the live celebrations in Scotland.



After the bells at midnight, join in a rousing rendition of Auld Lang Syne to start the New Year in real Scottish style.

Until 1958 Christmas Day wasn't even a public holiday in Scotland. So while the rest of the world celebrated Christmas, the Scots toiled and celebrated Hogmanay. The largest celebration of New Years in the World.



There's no right way or wrong way to celebrate Hogmanay, but if you want to do what many Scots do you'll have a nice meal with family and/or friends, plenty to drink – including whisky, of course – to toast the new year.

Most Scots party, but they also observe a number of traditions.

Bring a dish to pass and let Delos know if you are coming:
Delos Wheeler
todelos@gmail.com
585-709-1420

At midnight the singing Robert Burns' poem, Auld Lang Syne accompanied by a mass linking of arms, and those arms are supposed to then cross each singer's chest for the final verse. The most popular one is first-footing, where the first person to enter the house after midnight brings gifts such as food or coal. First-footing is supposed to affect the household's fortunes for the coming year.



Newport Yacht Club SPORTS NIGHT



**Don't like playing sports?
Watching Sports is boring?
We've got the event for you.**



February 9th 2018 at 6:00

At the Newport Yacht Club Sports Center
a sports night for those that don't really care about sports

With non-athletic contests, sports trivia (not what you'd expect) and great films to choose from. Watch the winning film.



Come with your favorite sports jersey or head gear on and have fun like a sports fan at a great game... without all the sport.



Enjoy great Sports Night food in an atmosphere of excitement and competition without all the sweat and muscle. Tickets are \$5.00.



To reserve your seat contact:
Delos Wheeler
todelos@gmail.com
585-709-1420



