

Spring 2017

The Tell-Tale



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE NORTHPORT YACHT CLUB

Purpose: *To encourage the sport of boating and sailing, to promote the science of seamanship and navigation, and to provide and maintain a suitable clubhouse for the recreation and use of its members.*



Commodore's Corner

I begin this column on March 13th, with spring just around the corner. This morning it was 6 degrees, a blizzard is bearing down on us and I have to work (sure) from home today as I wait for the furnace repair guy to come rescue my water pipes. This all makes me dream of warm summer weather, leading into thoughts of Bayside, sailing and of course, the yacht club. The club has had some really great years lately. We've managed a steady stream of small and middle sized improvements to the clubhouse (thanks in large part to Dave Leaming). This year we hope to update the lighting. The sailing school has been running smoothly. For the school my main metric is the number and size of the smiles I see as the kids walk off the causeway after lessons. The past several years have been banner by that measure. Our membership counts have also been steady though we'd like to see them go up a bit and we'd like to attract a younger set of new members. I am hoping that our new commitment to a better online presence via a new website will help grow our membership.

I am excited by our move to new club management software. The software incorporates a new more powerful website that integrates with our member database. It has self-service built in, with powerful workflow and reporting capabilities. We can now tell if a member has renewed with a couple of clicks on a smart phone. To date this month, well over half of our members have renewed using the website and it seems to be going smoothly. The most exciting thing about the software is that we can communicate better and faster through the website. and it is easy to post news and information updates. It is also simple to send out

emails to the membership. We'll try not to inundate your inboxes but you will be getting renewal notices, and you will get an expiration notice if you ignore your renewal notices. One great feature is that once you have renewed, you can download your membership card with the new renewal date, for printing or for saving on your smart phone. Please see the separate article in this issue about all the things we can do on our new website.

Racing had strong participation this past year in both the Walter Downs regattas for young people and in the John Short series. We had a record high number of entries for the Around Islesboro Race. We inaugurated a new annual race last summer - the Retired Daysailor Skippers race. We hope to have good participation in the race this year on Tuesday afternoon, July 4th. Our Thursday evening events have been very well attended and well received. Thursday night at the clubhouse have become a great tradition. If you haven't been coming down for burgers and dogs at the Thursday potlucks, you owe it to yourself to make the effort.

I am happy to be able to say that we are bringing back the Silent Auction for the Food Pantry this year (Friday, July 7). This event has always been big fun and a very successful fund raiser for the charity. Patti Wright will run the event so please see her if you have something for the auction. In other club news, Cathie Ross and Gordon Fuller are co-chairing the annual Mother-of-all-yard-sales (Saturday July 22), please see them about donating an item and helping out at the sale. Holly Grose and new NYC Director Karen Trasatti are co-chairing the Kids Games this year (Saturday July 1), they will be looking for help running the games. Volunteerism keeps the Club going and the friendships you make will enrich your summers to be.

I encourage you to join a committee and help where you can. If anyone is interested in getting involved with sourcing and/or selling our NYC merchandise please see Lindsay Huntoon who is chairing that effort this year. We always can use help at the Thursday night potluck cookouts and any and all of our events .

~ Jim Facey

NYC Notes

- Please remember: we can't allow walk-ups at the Kickoff Celebration in May because we have to give the caterer a number for attendance. If you're going, you must sign up in advance. You can do this on the website.
- Contact Patti Wright (pjw.sow.wright@gmail.com) if you are willing to donate goods or services for the Silent Auction (July 7 at the clubhouse).
- Karen Trasatti (trasatti5@comcast.net) & Holly Grose (khollygrose@gmail.com) will run the kids games, contact them to help out.
- Cathie Ross and Gordon Fuller will run the 2017 Mother of all Yard Sales on Saturday July 22. You can drop off items from 2 to 5 PM on Friday 7/21 or Saturday morning.
- Lindsay Huntoon (lah.huntoon@gmail.com) is handling our shameless commerce division (merchandising) this year and could use some help, please contact her if you are willing to source or sell.
- The NYC cruise is from Monday 8/7 through Friday 8/11 itinerary TBD. If you are considering the cruise next summer, go to the cruising forum on our new website to register your opinion on the itinerary.
- The Second Annual Retired Daysailor Skipper's Race will be held Tuesday July 4 at 3 PM, contact Dan Webster V (dtw43@cornell.edu).
- With the advent of the new website and the online database, members are now responsible for ensuring that their contact information is up to date. Please take the time to check your personal information when you login to renew your membership.
- Did you know you can upload a picture that will appear when people look you up our new online directory? Just go to your profile (click the little circle next to your name at the very top of the screen), and click on profile in the dropdown box.





Friday night raft-up in the harbor, July 2016

2016 -2017 NYC Board of Directors

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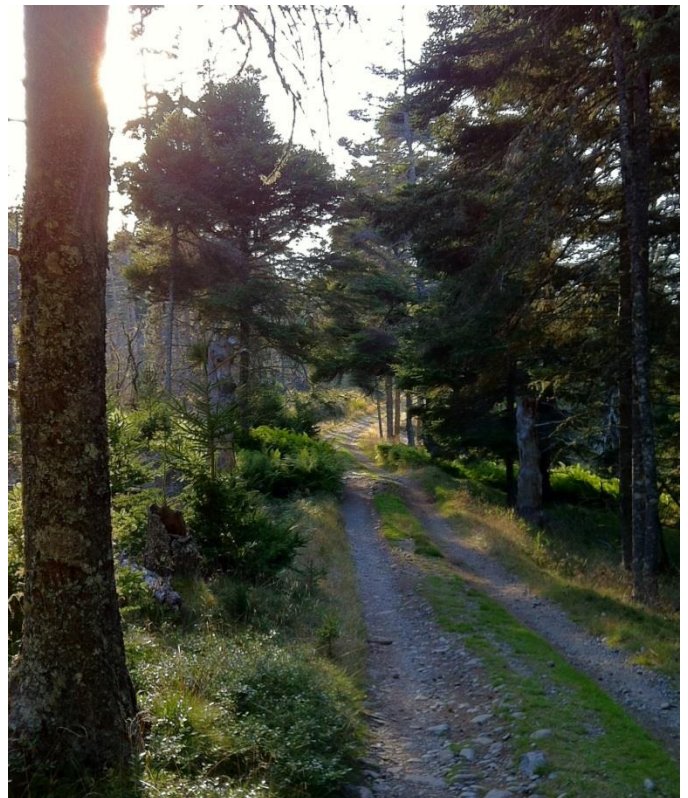
Favorite Places – Duck Harbor, Isle au Haut - Jim Facey



It is only 25 nautical miles “as the crow flies” from Bayside to Duck Harbor. On arrival, a sense of remoteness washes over you and it seems you are a thousand miles away. It’s not a trivial trip, there are islands in the way that make the trip over 30 actual miles; a six hour trip in my sailboat. Yet I’ve made this trip eight times over the past eighteen years that I’ve owned a capable enough boat. I can count 68 distinct islands and harbors in the Bay that I have visited in those 18 years. Duck Harbor is the place I have returned to the most excepting Warren Island, which is only due to its convenience.

The trip from Bayside leads south either through Gilkey Harbor, always a treat, or around Turtle Head and down through all the islands of the East Bay - the prettier side of the Bay. From either beginning, you continue south and east through Isle au Haut Bay, passing west of Deer Isle and east of North Haven and Vinal Haven, with Isle au Haut looming ahead on the horizon (as long as you don’t have fog). It looms due to a high central ridge with several peaks. This topography lead to its name, bequeathed by Samuel de Champlain, whose own name

is given to the highest hill (they call it a mountain, 553 feet) on the island.



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Research Duck Harbor on the web and the following quotes are representative of what you will find:

- “One of the Finest Day Hikes on the Planet”.
- “Features the same, or even better, scenery than Mount Desert Isle, and without the crushing crowds and traffic”
- “A secret corner of Acadia”.
- “Proof that a 300-foot mountain can be amazing, Duck Harbor Mountain might not seem like much statistically, at barely over 300 feet, but you can see ocean on 3 sides and the hike to the top is a lot of fun as well. It's not the easiest hike but it's not far and is definitely worth the effort for the breathtaking views you find”.
- “Wild and less traveled part of Acadia - Isle au Haut is one of my favorite places on this planet. Duck Harbor Mountain has wonderful views of the island and harbor. A moderate, fun hike, which leaves you near a cool, rocky beach and more to explore”.

Beautiful, peaceful and remote, it really does have one of the best hikes on the planet. This was attested to by a woman I came across the second time I hiked the Duck Harbor Mountain trail. This 87 year old and was camping with her granddaughter and related that she had hiked all over the world, Siberia, China, above the Arctic circle and all around the America. She declared

this trail to be the most beautiful of all.



View of the harbor from the Duck Harbor Mountain trail

There are several other good trails of varying lengths available from Duck Harbor, and as a harbor it is better than it appears on the charts. Facing just South of West it provides great protection from North, East and due South winds, and is OK in a mild SW wind, however, if the wind is forecast to be strong and at all more west then south, you should move around the corner to Isle Au Haut Thorofare. I did this with son Geoffrey one fall when we came back at 5 PM from hiking to find a strong Westerly blowing 25 knots straight into the harbor. We weighed anchor and spent a calm comfortable night in Isle au Haut Thorofare.

I know this: I will be going back again sometime soon.





Questions Corner – Emerson Smith

Welcome back to the Questions Corner! Last issue we dealt with the weather related question of why the wind sometimes will come in on the tide. Due to the spring season and everyone having sailing on the brain, this time around we will tackle a question more directly related to sailing. For those of you who know me, you'll know I'm a more racing oriented sailor, so this article will have a more racing slant to it, but will include some general tips useful to all.

We are always looking to explore new topics so please send any other questions to QuestionsCorner@gmail.com.

Without further ado, the topic of this iteration's Question Corner deals with the pre-start (or pre-sailing) checklist. Does the boat you sail on have a pre-start checklist? What do you do in the hour before the start of a race?

Note: the article will take on a bit of a racing focus from here on out. Those who don't race, fear not – there will still be some good tips that we'll get to. Quit being so impatient will ya...



So, the skipper's meeting has just ended. You now know the course, the start time, the starting sequence, etc... Time to rush off to the boat, right? Not so fast. There are a few very important things you should do before leaving the dock. This is the time where you set up your day for success **or** failure. Although the items in this list may seem basic and boring, they can make or break the day.

- Do you have enough food and water for

the sail? Some of those **who have sailed with me**, know I have forgotten this step multiple times and that is why I am listing it first. I have personally set off on not one, but two 70+ mile races while forgetting the cooler with the majority of the food in it...

- What does the weather forecast predict for the day? Now, this deals with not only the official forecast, but also your

personal forecast. Bayside is situated at the top of a bay, with some large hills and mountains nearby. Just because NOAA says one thing, doesn't mean something drastically different may happen. Are there storms in the area? Is a front moving into or out of the area? Will the wind come in on the tide (see what I did there? It's all coming full circle.)

- What is the tide going to be doing at race time? The tide may not seem like a big factor when dealing with large, heavy boats, but if there is a difference of a quarter knot across the course, that can be a BIG DEAL. We all spend a lot of energy trying to make our boats go faster. Who wouldn't take a quarter knot for what is essentially free?
- This last tip is a personal favorite of mine and specific to Bayside. Our starting line situation is relatively unique. The line is sighted from the yardarm on the dock to the outer barrel. However, you have to go between the inner mark and the barrel to start the race. This inner mark isn't necessarily on the line (in fact, it usually isn't). Generally speaking, the longer the line, the harder it is to sight whether or not you are actually on the line. Before leaving the dock make sure to sight from the yardarm to the outer barrel. Note where the inner mark is in relation to the line. Then when you are on the water you can use the inner mark to gauge distance from the actual starting line. This will allow you to confidently be closer to the starting line at the start.

After sighting the line one last time from the yardarm, you've taken your dinghy out to your boat. What now? If you tune the rig on your boat, now is the time to set the rig for the anticipated conditions. This can be tough in a

building or dying breeze, but is learned through experience. Then rig the headsail that you think will be best for conditions.

So you've gotten to your boat, left the mooring and picked up your crew. Now what? Sail off to Belfast for an ice cream? Not so fast, there is still important work to be done. I personally like to get to the starting line 45 minutes to an hour before the starting time. This can sometimes be hard, so do the best you can.

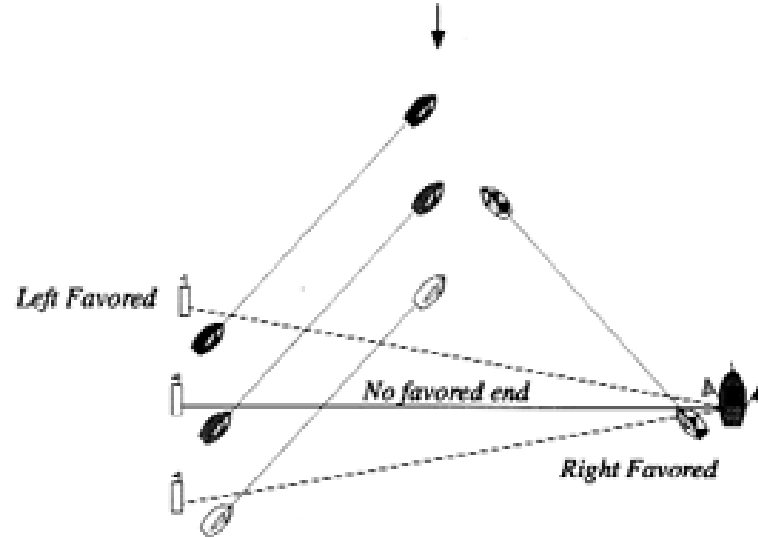
- It is critically important to sail towards the first mark of the course before the start. This will typically be an upwind-ish course and then you get to sail downwind back to the starting area. This allows you to do a variety of things:
 - Test to see if you are in the proper rig tune for the race and adjust if necessary
 - make sure you have the correct headsail for the conditions
 - Note and mark settings for halyard tensions, cunningham, vang, outhaul, backstay, etc...
 - Properly position jib leads and set up an outboard lead if the first leg is a reach
 - Preset twings and spinnaker pole ring on the mast (applies to both spinnaker and non-spinnaker boats)
 - If you are flying a spinnaker, this is a good time to check to see if it is rigged properly. Better to check before the race than to have to re-rig during the race.
- While you are sailing upwind and downwind be sure to note compass readings. As you come off the starting line for the first time you'll better be able to tell if you are on a lift or a header.
- Try to sail by a lobster pot (I know, not very hard...) to see if the actual current aligns with the forecast. There is often an eddy from Bayside down to the point

at Mt. Percival, so watch for that.

So you've done your research **on the forecasted conditions**, you've sighted the line, and you've set up your boat to go as fast as possible. Now is the time to determine which way you're going to point your rocket ship and from which end of the line.

- Look up the course. Which side of the course has more wind? How does that align with what the tide is doing? Is the wind going to shift right coming out of Kelly Cove? Do we think we want to go inside **or** outside of the mussel farm?
- Now **where should you start**? Is there more wind at the outer end of the line? Which end of the line is favored in terms of wind direction? I use a simple trick for this last one. Sail to the middle of the starting line and point your boat directly into the wind. Whichever end of the line

your bow is pointing towards is the favored end.



In the diagram above, imagine a boat pointing directly into the wind. On the left favored line, the boat is pointing toward the left side of the line. On the right favored line, the boat would be pointing toward the right end of the line.

Do you have any other tips or tricks you like to use before racing or going for a sail? Send them, along with other questions to QuestionsCorner@gmail.com . Thanks for reading!





Sailboat in Maine - Rory Sauereisen



Rory, is in 7th grade, and sails with the NYC Sailing School

*The steady rock of the hull,
Swaying from side to side,
The distant calling of a seagull,
Riding the gentle tide.*

*I close my eyes and feel the sun,
Listening to the flapping sails,
My alertness starts to drift away,
and even starts to fail.*

*There is no need for stress,
Only the time for a summer dress,
For this is a drifting sailboat,
In sweet warm, Maine.*

*Listen carefully to the ocean,
Hear it lap against the boat,
"I could stay here forever",
you at least think and hope.*

*The children's laughter on the beach,
Starts to fade away.
The sky turns pretty colors,
Signaling the end of the day.*



New website and club management software

The club has subscribed with Club Express for software and web services which we think will be a huge help in the running of the club. This software, in use by thousands of other clubs and associations, simplifies and automates a lot of the work of the club Treasurer and Secretary, the two most demanding jobs. The software provides automatic renewal and expiration emails, the ability to easily send email blasts on timely

topics or issues and provides an easy to use framework for the clubs online web presence. We plan to use the website to provide a reference for everything you might want to know about what is going on in the club. The board felt we needed to do this to get better control of our information, simplify membership management and enhance our communications capabilities.

Below – The “Home” page of the new NYC Website, found at www.northportyachtclub.org



Welcome to the new NYC website, powered by Club Express!

Bayside Weather Forecast

Club management software from Club Express is designed to help us streamline, simplify and automate the work of our treasurer and secretary, the two most demanding jobs of the board. It also allows us to potentially distribute the administration of our web content to multiple members to enable a more current and useful website for our members.

The board feels this is something we need to do to get better control of our information and institute a more simplified approach to membership management and to enhance our communications capabilities.

Some of the things members can do on the website:

Get the latest Tell Tale

- * Renew your membership
- * Download your personalized membership card (see the FAQ page)
- * Sign up and pay for the Kickoff dinner
- * Volunteer to help with an event or fundraiser
- * Check the NYC calendar for upcoming events
- * Download the Tell Tale, race results and more
- * Check out pictures from past summers
- * Read old cruising logs, or articles on the club's history (see the documents tab)
- * Participate in online forums to discuss both club and non-club issues and interests

The Silent Auction is back!!!

The club will hold a silent auction, on Friday July 7, at 7 PM, all proceeds will benefit the Northport Food Pantry. Volunteer to donate an item or service, and/or to take part as auction crew, by emailing to Patti Wright at pjw.sow.wright@gmail.com.

Retired Daysailor Skippers race - Tuesday July 4th, 3 PM. Contact Dan Webster V (email: dtw43@cornell.edu).

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Some of the many new features of our website and the new software:

- Most importantly, it automates the membership renewal process with renewal and expiration emails and online payment.
- Provides online event registration/payment
- Makes it simple to publish news and articles on the website
- Email tools will allow us to provide you with more timely information on our activities.
- Download your NYC membership card for printing, or to save on your phone. Instructions for this are on the FAQ/How to page
- Register and pay for the Kickoff dinner
- Volunteer to help with an event or fundraiser
- Check the NYC calendar for upcoming events
- Download current and past Tell Tales
- Check out pictures from past summers, add your own albums to the photo page
- Look up contact information for fellow NYC members (only members can see the directory pages)
- Find past cruising logs and race results (see the documents tab / NYC cruises folder or races results folder)

- Serves as a repository for our official documents (documents tab - NYC official documents folder)
- Publish extensive information on club history, in addition to the articles mentioned above (see the documents tab- NYC History folder.
- Elsewhere around the website you can find various historical lists :
 1. list of all past Commodores on the BOD tab
 2. list of Unsung Heroes and Members of the Year on the NYC Honors page
 3. lists on the Racing page for: Skippers of the Year, AIR winners, club sailing champions, Walter Downs and John Short winners
 4. list on the Sailing School page of all former head instructors
- Participate in online forums to discuss both club and other interests.

Currently forums are set up for NYC general interest, Website, NYC Cruising, and a private Board of Directors forum. More can be set up if there is a need or want.

Please make a point of verifying your personal information on the new site (www.northportyachtclub.org) and check all the great new information we have been able to put on its pages.





Dock crew, 2014 Around Islesboro Race photo by Jim Kelly

Membership Benefits and Activities Sustained by the Northport Yacht Club

- Free subscription to the NYC Tell Tale – published twice a year.
- NYC logo and Bayside logo apparel sales
- NYC *members* **receive discounts on NYC merchandise and sailing lessons** for their families.
- NYC *members* receive a **10% discount** on most items available at any **Hamilton Marine** store.
- NYC *members* may use the NYC dinghies at the dock.
- Our waterfront clubhouse has one of the best views from its deck on the Maine Coast – come try it out with your morning coffee!
- Sailing school: perhaps the most important activity of the club. We provide sailing instruction for over 100 students every summer. They learn to sail and race in our Daysailer, 420s and Sonar keelboat fleets at a very reasonable cost – all while growing our NYC future!
- Racing: John Short Big Boat Series, Walter Downs Regattas for kids, Around Islesboro Race, and fun races as the calendar allows.
- Events: May Kickoff Dinner; July Cocktail Party & General Meeting; Annual Potluck Supper & Meeting, Pancake breakfast; July 4th Kid's Games, Waterslide and Bonfire; Band Concerts; Boat Parades; Mother of all Yard Sales; Picnics and Cruising trips.
- Weekend Post-Race Socials, Thursday Evening Pot-Luck and Cookouts, occasional raft-up parties
- Charitable funding for: Sailing School scholarships; college scholarships; the Northport Food Pantry; Northport Volunteer Fire Department; and other occasional charities.
- Junior Yacht Club activities (Age 18 and under), the Warren Island trip; Bingo nights, Dances
- The club is an active advocate and financial supporter of maintenance and improvements to the Bayside waterfront.
- Reciprocity *may* be available at some other yacht clubs for NYC Members.
- Of course, NYC always needs **VOLUNTEERS** to assist in the activities noted above. Interested in volunteering? You can now volunteer online on our website.

Contact us:

The Northport Yacht Club
P.O. Box 957
Belfast, ME 04915

www.northportyachtclub.org



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Some Dates to Note & Remember for 2017

- May 27 – Kickoff Celebration at the Shrine Club, Belfast, sign up online
- June 26 through August 11 NYC Sailing School term
- July 7 – Silent Auction for the Northport Food Pantry
- August 8 through 12 – NYC Cruise

Renew your NYC membership and/or sign up for the Kickoff Celebration online at www.northportyachtclub.org.

Please remember: we don't permit walk-ups at the Kickoff Celebration in May because we have to give the caterer a number for attendance, so you must sign up in advance. You can do this on the website.

In past years we included a membership application with the Spring Tell Tale. With the new website, you can join or renew your membership online. If you don't know your Username or password for click the "Forgot my Username/Password" link on the login page

**If you can't or won't get online to join/renew, please write to us and we'll send a paper application to you:
Northport Yacht Club, box 957, Belfast, Me 04915**



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NYC Calendar	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Notes
May		27	28	
		BOD meeting 8:30 AM	Kick-off Celebration - Shrine club - 6 PM	
June		3	4	
		Work Party		
		10	11	
		Work Party		
		17	18	
		Work Party		
	23	24	25	
		BOD meeting 8:30 AM Work Party	Race Committee 10 am Skippers meeting 11:30AM Fun/Tuneup race	Sailing School starts June 26
July	30	1	2	July 4th weekend
	Friday 6/30 NYC Raftup	Open House/Coffee 10 AM Kids Games Waterslide Concert?	JS #1	Sailing School starts Monday June 26
04-Jul	7	8	9	
Tues. July 4, Retired Daysailor Skippers Race, time tbd	Silent Auction Friday July 7	NYC BOD Meeting 8:30 AM JS #2		
11-Jul	14	15	16	
Tuesday July 11, Walter Downs #1		NYC cocktail party & General meeting 6:30 PM	JS #3	
	21	22	23	
Monday July 17, JYC Warren Island trip	Tag sale drop-off - 2 to 5 PM	MOYS tag sale (7 AM)	JS #4 & #5	
		29	30	
		JS #6	Pancake Breakfast	
August		5	6	
		BOD meeting 8:30 AM JS #7	Walter Downs Regatta #2	
	11	12	13	
NYC cruise Mon-8/7 thru Fri 8/11	Last day of Sailing school Raft up #2	JS Fun race/Make-up Potluck Supper & General meeting		sailing school ends Friday 8/11
		19	20	
		Open House/Coffee 10 AM		
		26	27	
		AIR Committee Meeting		
Sept.		2	3	
		BOD meeting 8:30 AM		Labor day 9/5
		9	10	
		Around Islesboro Race		