

# New Castle Sailing Club

## N E W S L E T T E R

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### Commodore's Corner

The 2010 sailing season will begin on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, with the beginning of classroom instruction for our new members. Instruction will be held almost every Saturday at 10:30 am until the boats are launched. Details regarding these classes, directions to the New Castle Sailing Club (NCSC) Clubhouse, and parking details will be provided elsewhere in the Newsletter by our Safety and Instruction Director, Bob Cann. Also, the 2010 NCSC Calendar, which is available on the NCSC website, provides a lot of information about upcoming events.

Welcome to all the members that have joined since last spring and will be participating in the instruction. In particular, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members, Steve Udovich, Tom Gorman, and Anne Masse. We hope that you enjoy the sailing facilities and camaraderie provided by the Club. Part of the experience of being in the NCSC is to help with preparing the fleet for launch on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Before classes, beginning at 9:00 am, you will help other members repair and maintain the boats. Not only is this helpful to the Club, but the lessons learned in boat maintenance are invaluable to the aspiring sailor.

We had an unfortunate incident at the Sailhouse. Someone placed graffiti on a couple of walls including the mural. A report has been filed with the New Castle police. Rick Pennell, our former Property Director, had the foresight to apply a graffiti-resistant paint. Hopefully, this paint will allow us to restore the building to its former state without too much effort. We will keep you updated on the progress.

As the new Commodore, I am pleased to be working with a balance of experienced and new Board members. Continuing Directors bring a sense of continuity whereas the new ones provide a new perspective and energy to Club tasks. We have already seen a lot of effort and fresh input from our new Treasurer (Mike Hennessy), Membership Director (Louise Eliason), Property Director (Dan Rakus), and Fleet Captain (Mike Berninger). The "old hands" in the roles of Vice Commodore (Kathy Leef), Safety and Instruction Director (Bob Cann), and Secretary (Dave Koppeser) continue to provide stable and wise guidance and effort. Last but not least, we are really happy to have a former and popular Board member, Norm Yoerg, back as our Racing Director. Thanks to all.

Finally, I want to thank our outgoing Commodore, Nancy Peffer, for the great job that she has done over the past two years. Nancy has put a lot of energy into all aspects of the Club as evidenced by the many improvements instituted and the new members recruited. We will all miss her as Commodore but will still get to see her at the NCSC events and on the water.

*Len Saari*  
Commodore

## TIME TO SHAKE OFF THE WINTER BLUES

The 2010 sailing season is about to begin and soon the boats will be in the water. But first up are the work sessions and classroom instructions. And the **Social Events**, so be sure to Save the Dates. The **Annual Hot Dog Lunch** will be on **Saturday, February 13th** which coincides with the first work session. The **St Patrick's Day Corned Beef Lunch** will be on **Saturday, March 13th**.

The Spring Dinner will be held on **Saturday, March 27th** at the RiverView Inn in Pennsville, NJ. We will have a guest speaker. More information on the dinner will follow in a couple of weeks as the details are finalized.

As we prepare the boats for the sailing season, we also need to work on our beach area. Together with the City of New Castle, the Sailing Club sponsors the **Annual Beach Cleanup** which will take place on **Saturday, April 10th from 9am to noon**. Rain or shine. More information to follow.

*Kathy Leef*  
Vice Commodore

## FOOD AND DRINKS

For the new members and as a reminder for all, there are drinks in the refrigerator- soda, water, and beer. Prices for the drinks are posted on the refrig and there is a gray metal cash box on top of the refrig. Help yourself to the refreshments and please abide by the honor system. If you have a specific drink request, let me know.

Also, the Club asks that no food be left in the kitchen. The food can attract bugs and mice; and the little critters can get into sealed granola bars and have a feast.

*Kathy Leef*  
Vice Commodore



## Fleet Assignments

Participation in the spring work sessions is key to the success of our club and we are hoping for enthusiast support for the fleet assignments that will be sent by separate email and posted on our website. It's a great opportunity to meet your fellow club members and learn a few things about fleet maintenance. If you have an issue with your assignment please email me at [berninger59@comcast.net](mailto:berninger59@comcast.net) or [michael.berninger@tetrattech.com](mailto:michael.berninger@tetrattech.com) and we can talk about it. Boat captain please look at the list of your crew and contact each of them to encourage them to come out to help.

*Tom Berninger, Fleet Captain*



## Parking for Work Sessions and Classroom Instruction

An important logistical item for the benefit of our new members and as a reminder to returning members involves parking around the club house. We have quite a few vehicles to accommodate each week, and in the past there have been complaints lodged against the Club for our parking practices. To keep in good stead with our neighbors and the City of New Castle, please observe the following:

DO park in the grassy area to the right of the clubhouse, on the left and right side of the railroad tracks. Please pull in diagonally on the right side to leave room for as many cars as possible. If you need to block people in, leave a slip of paper with your name under your left wiper so they can find you. You can also park in front of our house along 7<sup>th</sup> Street, but be sure not to block the gate. DO park in Brosius Eliason's parking lot.

DO NOT park in or drive through the property of our neighbor to the right (the yellowish stucco sided building on the other side of the above-mentioned grassy area). His property line extends from the telephone pole along the road, to the large tree back by the fence. Please stay well clear of his property.

DO NOT park in front of any of the houses along 7<sup>th</sup> or South Streets, as these neighbors consider these spaces 'theirs'. With the availability of the Brosius-Eliason customer lot to us, there should be no need to park along the street.



## Attention: New Members and Those Who Joined Late Last Season

Classroom Instruction begins February 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am in the Club House with Basic Sailing I. Please show up half an hour early for this first session.

There will be a Welcome Session with the Officers of the Sailing Club before hand at 10:00am. This will give you and the officers a chance to get to know each other.

*Bob Cann  
Safety and Instruction Director*

## Class Instruction Schedule

Classes for the 2010 Sailing Season begin February 6<sup>th</sup>. All classes are from 10:30am until noon.

Feb. 6	Welcome, Basic Sailing I (Welcome 10:00-10:30)
Feb. 13	Basic Sailing II Start of Fleet Work Sessions
Feb. 20	Tides and Currents
Feb. 27	Knots and Rules of the Road
March 6	Charts and Local Hazards (Mandatory class to earn a key)
March 13	Weather, Emergencies & Personal Gear
March 20	Moorings: Departing and Arriving
March 27	Thistle Rigging Demo
April 3	Easter Holiday Make Up Class
April 10	Beach Clean Up – No Class
April 17	Scot Rigging Demo
April 24	Fleet Launch Day
April 25	On The Water Instruction Begins (1:30PM)





### **Member's Profile Update**

All members are requested to check the website Directory and email any contact info changes to me at our new web mail: [membership@newcastlesailingclub.org](mailto:membership@newcastlesailingclub.org) by January 28, 2010 so I can generate and publish a new 2010 directory in February to our website.

*Louise Eliason*  
*Membership Director*

## WILMINGTON POWER SQUADRON

The Wilmington Power Squadron (WPS), the largest regional boating organization for all boaters, power, sail, and paddle is offering Basic Boating Certification courses to the public for those boating in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

Anyone born after 1/1/79 must take an approved basic boating course in order to drive a power boat

Cost is \$25 for advance registration or \$30 at the door. Courses are offered beginning on three different days of the week: Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Kennett Square, Pennsylvania area, Tuesday March 9<sup>th</sup> at A.I. DuPont High School in Greenville, Delaware, and Thursday March 18<sup>th</sup> at McKean High School in Wilmington Delaware. Course information and application forms can be viewed at [www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org](http://www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org) or contact us at 610-444-5155 or 302-733-0289

February 2<sup>nd</sup> BOATING CERTIFICATION COURSES for MD, DE, PA, NJ

7PM at VFW Post # 5467, 704 West Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, PA 19348 for 4 consecutive nights  
 \$25 Advance Registration, \$30 at door  
 610-444-5155 or 302-733-0289 or jimrobinson37@aol.com  
[www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org](http://www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org)

March 9<sup>th</sup> BOATING CERTIFICATION COURSES for MD, DE, PA, NJ

7PM at A.I. DuPont High School, DE for 4 consecutive nights  
 \$25 Advance Registration, \$30 at door  
 610-444-5155 or 302-733-0289 or jimrobinson37@aol.com  
[www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org](http://www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org)

March 18<sup>th</sup> BOATING CERTIFICATION COURSES for MD, DE, PA, NJ

7PM at McKean High School, DE for 4 consecutive nights  
 \$25 Advance Registration, \$30 at door  
 610-444-5155 or 302-733-0289 or jimrobinson37@aol.com  
[www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org](http://www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org)

## BOATING SKILLS SEMINARS

WPS are offering three boating skills seminars in collaboration with the City of Newark. They will be held in the Newark Senior Center at 200 White Chapel Drive, Newark, DE 19713, [www.newarkseniorcenter.com/](http://www.newarkseniorcenter.com/). The cost is \$33/person for Newark residents and \$44/person for non-residents. For more information, contact Sut Anderson at 302-733-0289 or at [sailhappy@comcast.net](mailto:sailhappy@comcast.net)

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1830-2030: Boat Anchoring: It shouldn't be a drag!**

This first of a series of 3 boating skills seminars will explain different anchor types and where each works best, sizing the anchor and rode for your boat, how much chain and line to set along with tips and tricks to stay safe while "on the hook."

**February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1830-2030: Using VHF and DSC Marine Radio Seminar**

The VHF radio is the mainstay of coastal communications and your lifeline to the Coast Guard in emergencies. Learn how to make proper social and emergency calls and how to use the new DSC, digital selective calling feature.

**February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1830-2030: GPS Navigation while Boating**

Learn how to choose and operate your marine GPS to know your position and navigate accurately. Enter waypoints and routes and interface with computers for cruise planning.





### The stern view

A sailor and a pirate walk into a bar. They sit down next to each other, get to talking and their chat soon turns to their sea adventures. The sailor tells of his days fighting wars with the Navy, and the pirate tells of robbing ships and killing his enemies with the other pirates.

The sailor notices that the pirate has an eyepatch, a hook and a peg leg and asks, "How did you get the peg leg?"

The pirate replies, "When I was thrown off my ship and floated for two days until my crew rescued me, my leg was bitten off by a shark as I was being pulled out of the water."

The sailor, impressed, says, "Wow. That's very exciting. But how about the hook?"

The pirate smiles, shining the hook a bit, "When I was swordfighting with a pirate from our enemy ship for treasure, he took it right off."

The sailor's eyes were wide with awe at how tough this pirate was, and he asked,

How did you get the eyepatch?" "Well," says the pirate, shifting in his seat a bit, "a seagull shit in my eye."

The seaman looks puzzled: "You lost an eye from gull shit?"

The pirate sighed and shook his head. "It was my first day with the hook."

