

New Castle Sailing Club

N E W S L E T T E R

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Commodore's Corner

The fiscal year for the New Castle Sailing Club ended on October 31, 2011. Accordingly, we had our Fall Dinner at the Riverview Inn in New Jersey on November 12th, organized by Vice Commodore Mary Davis. The food and company were great, and the slide show provided by Kathy Leef was very entertaining. The topics covered during the meeting were 2011 Club highlights, recognition of new members, racing awards, Fleet usage, Club financial status, presentation of the Helm Award, recognition of newly-keyed members, and election of board officers for 2012.

We acknowledged the departure of Louise Eliason (Membership Director), Danny Rakus (Property Director), and Mike Berninger (Fleet Captain). We elected new directors- Patti Parziale (Membership), Donna Powell (Property), and Mike Evans (Safety and Instruction). Dave Koppeser will move from Safety and Instruction to Fleet Captain. Other board members remained the same for 2012: Len Saari – Commodore, Mary Davis – Vice Commodore, Mike Hennessy – Treasurer, Kathy Leef – Secretary, and Racing Director – Kevin Foley.

We have really benefited from the work done by Louise, Danny, and Mike. For the last two years, the Fleet has been flawlessly prepared, maintained, launched, and retrieved due to the excellent efforts of Mike Berninger. Louise instituted a new membership database on the web and increased the overall active membership from 104 to 127 during her tenure. Danny upgraded our entertainment and teaching areas with a new digital TV, replaced our furnace and water heater, and added a new kitchen fan. In addition, he organized the Club premises to be much more attractive and useful. We will miss their contributions, and look forward to enjoying the talents brought by Patti, Donna, and Mike.

We have had a great year in recruiting new members and the 26 new members were recognized at the Fall Dinner. Please see the article submitted by Louise Eliason later in the newsletter. Newly-keyed members include Mary Davis, Hans Gass, Bato Jahic, Veronica Giglio, Tom Gorman, April Moore, and Jeff Arriza. Well done!

Kevin Foley, Racing Director, gave out the sailing trophies. Congratulations to the winners of the various venues. Tilo Stahl is our Club champion. Mike Berninger, Chris Poulouin, and Tilo Stahl won the Spring, Summer, and Fall series, respectively. Norm Yoerg won the Novice Series and Earl McMaster won the Delripett Regatta.

Later in the Newsletter are the statistics for sailing of the Fleet over the years. In 2011, the overall usage of 543 sailing events was similar to previous years. The Thistles were used more uniformly than the previous year; whereas Scot use was down slightly. Hunter outings remain around 50 per year.

Mike Hennessy, Treasurer, presented the 2011 financial status for the Club that had been audited by Don Grant and John Ingram. For fiscal year 2011, our net income was \$ (-676) with a remaining cash balance of almost \$55,000. The budget for 2012 was given. The net income is projected to be \$ (-180), in spite of purchasing Scot and Hunter sails, a new water heater, and a new furnace.

The Helm Award is given to the member who provides the most on-the-water teaching sessions. This year, Dave Koppeser, Safety and Instruction Director, presented the award to Norm Yoerg – Congratulations and thanks! It is also important to note that thirty-five other members provided instruction throughout the season – many thanks to them as well.

On another note, a development that could potentially affect how the Club functions is the one and a half year project that DeIDOT is starting in the spring to improve the curbs and sidewalks of New Castle. Mike Hennessy and I met with representatives of DeIDOT on various occasions to first learn of their plans for the acquisition of two permanent easements on our property, later to provide input on plans that needed to be altered, and finally to receive their revised offer. The good news is that DeIDOT clearly received and responded to our concerns about any property alterations. Basically, the alterations will not substantially affect our ability to use the property, and we will receive \$17,000 in compensation for any potential changes that we might need to make. On Saturday, Nov 12th, the NCSC Board of Directors voted to accept the offer by DeIDOT.

The easements pertain to two areas where new telecommunications poles will be placed. One pole will replace the existing pole by the garage entrance gate. DeIDOT believes that the new guide wire for this pole will follow the current one, and if so, no alterations to the landscape will be required. If not, the contractor may have to remove a small area of bushes and/or fence that reside around the new guide wire stake. The contractor will re-sod the area, but we have to replace any bushes or fencing. We anticipate that only a fraction of the hedge will need replacing, if at all. In any case, the \$17,000 compensation will cover the worst-case scenario where all of the bushes would have to be replaced.

The other pole will be a new one on the corner of our property at the intersection of South and 7th Streets. The placement of this pole will probably necessitate the removal of the small tree on our property. DeIDOT will also claim an aerial easement above the bushes; this means that new wires will flow from the pole by the garage gate to the new pole on the corner, and DeIDOT will have the right to repair them using a hoist bucket when necessary.

A new sidewalk will begin just past (i.e., on the WSW side) our steps on Seventh Street, go around the corner, and continue on South Street. The sidewalk and new curbs on Seventh Street will probably reduce or eliminate parking places currently located there. The parking area by the railroad tracks will not be affected. The new curbs will help with water drainage. There is a bus stop already located at the pole by the garage gate, and there will not be any change to this area other than the new curbs. The work performed by the contractor that DeIDOT hires will commence next spring and will take up to 1.5 years to complete. However, our Club will be inconvenienced, if at all, for only about 6 weeks. We also plan to get estimates from the contractor for tying our sidewalks into the new city ones.

Another fiscal year is in the books. Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped our Club remain a prosperous one.

Len Saari, Commodore



2011 Fleet Usage



		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Thistles	3791 (Red)	26	42	63	37	22	35
	3972 (Gold)	37	64	58	55	45	51
	4012 (Red Stripe)	54	27	41	46	39	34
	3927 (Green)	39	62	38	37	37	51
	3881 (Grey)	13	32	25	52	21	61
	3827 (Navy)	55	29	25	24	58	33
	3902 (Sky Blue)	20	16	21	27	13	44
	3858 (Green Stripe)	31	29	15	48	60	22
		275	301	286	326	295	331
Scots	5223 (Red Stripe)	21	44	56	62	73	48
	2906 (White)	29	37	35	35	33	60
	3900 (Blue Stripe)				65	85	52
			50	81	91	162	191
Hunter 216		60	55	38	49	45	52
TOTAL		385	437	415	537	531	543
Cruising/Instruction			70%	71%	80%	81%	80%
Racing			30%	29%	20%	19%	20%
Avg #boats/race day		5.7	5.0	4.9	4.8	6.2	5.6



From the Racing Director

Wow! What a great year racing.

Things are getting pretty cold and as I sit with a fire in the stove I am feeling very distant from the hot days of summer.

From late April (The Boat Captain's Race) to the end of October (The DELRIPETT), most Saturday mornings at my house start with me rolling out of bed at about 6 am without an alarm. I have been told people have no trouble getting up in the morning to do something they love...I guess I must love it, because I always look forward to Saturdays during the racing season.

Some of you know I live about a half mile off of the river in NJ directly across from the club. When I reach the end of my street, the morning sun reflects off of the fleet and I check to see what the wind and tide are doing. I learned years ago that if you look carefully at the channel markers in the river, you can tell what the tide is doing by the way they are leaning. I check again as I cross the DMB, looking upriver at green can "3C" to see what kind of a wake it is leaving as the current moves past.

There are several large flagpoles at the base of the bridge on both sides. When the flags are blowing straight out I think how great a morning we are going to have and hope that a lot of folks show up. If they are hanging straight down I remind myself that I never really know what kind of winds will show up, optimistically hoping we will have enough wind and that a lot of people show up. I start thinking where the "weather" mark will be set and what the best strategy will be for the day vs. the wind and tide.

I could continue, because it is a little bit of a ritual for me...fill up the same water jug every Saturday morning, sun block right out of the shower so I don't have to worry about it for the rest of the day, and hoping a lot of people show up (I do that a lot).

I am sure many of you have similar rituals and I recognize some of them. Tilo Stahl has his trademark "barber pole" life vest. I never need to remember what boat he is driving, just look up and see that vest. Usually by the time I get there, Scott Diestelkamp is helping whoever is on race committee get equipment ready, or moving debris off of the beach. I think, what a great help he is, and I am glad for his membership. Mike Evans shows up and assumes his traditional parking spot, adding a little style to our membership, which is noticeably not evident in the clothes we wear. Those are just a few, but there are many more folks that add to the experience, too numerous to mention here.

Everybody has such a great attitude on Saturday mornings and we could all still be in bed!

But let's talk about the racing season. We raced a lot, every Saturday for 25 weeks. This year we scheduled 4 "series" races for each of the Novice, Spring, Summer, and Fall Series. We also hosted 6 different "Club Regattas". That accounts for 22 Saturdays. We allowed for a training Saturday and this year we hosted the Central Atlantic District Thistle Regatta, something we do once every 4 years. It was a great success! That leaves one Saturday for a makeup, should weather not be cooperative. We needed 3 this year. We averaged 5.6 boats for each and every race day, assuming 22 Saturdays where we actually raced and an average 2.5 crew members per boat...hmm, that comes to 308 people that raced this year, with repetition. Not bad for a club of 127 members. Keep coming back!

We also had several racing clinics!

As I write this, I am already looking forward to next year's racing season. I am a year smarter than I was last season and will be making some changes to the schedule, training, communications, etc. to hopefully make the program even more fun. Must be fun if we don't need an alarm clock to show up on a Saturday morning!

Thanks to all....see you in February!!

New Castle Sailing Club 2011 Racing Season			
Regatta	1st	2nd	3rd
Boat Captains	Jim Tait		
Separation Day	Chris Poulouin	Earl McMaster	Kevin Foley
Central Atlantic Districts	Scott Latham (3)	Earl McMaster (5)	Scott Buehler (6)
Charity Regatta	Chris Poulouin	Kevin Foley	
Founders Day Regatta	Kevin Foley	Chris Poulouin	Tilo Stahl
Pea Patch Island Regatta	Tilo Stahl	Mike Evans	Patti Parziale
Delripect Regatta	Earl McMaster	Chris Poulouin	Mike Berninger
<u>Series Winners</u>			
E.E. Downing Novice Series	Norm Yoerg	Scott Diestelkamp	Chuck Shorten
Spring Series	Michael Berninger	Tilo Stahl	Chris Poulouin
Summer Series	Chris Poulouin	Dick Harrison	Tilo Stahl
Fall Series	Tilo Stahl	Dick Harrison	Chris Poulouin
Club Champion	Tilo Stahl	Chris Poulouin	Dick Harrison

And many thanks and congratulations to the skippers and crews who came out and made the racing season such a success!

Kevin Foley, Racing Director



Central Atlantic District Regatta 2011

Photo by Pat Shorten

New Castle Sailing Club Closes the 2011 Season with 127 Active members!

New Castle Sailing Club is off to an exciting start for 2012. Our current year end total is 127 active members for 2011 with a few more interested in membership in January.

Our newest family member is the Jon Abramczyk family. Jon, Jennifer, and their two daughters are friends of Phil Iannelli who invited them to our Fall Open House for a sail. Given the ferocious storms that ended (luckily!) at midnight and the calm, grey weather that prevailed during our Fall Open House, we know the Abramczyks' have great patience for the wind and enthusiasm to sail. Welcome aboard, Abramczyks! There's much more fun and great weather ahead!

Everyone, please join me in extending a great big welcome to the following new members who joined NCSC in 2011:

Jon Abramczyk Family
 Tom Boettger
 Joe Capano
 Collin Caputo
 David Carey
 Eric Cobelens
 Dudley Cunningham
 Wil Davis
 Wolcott Davis
 Susan Dounce & Paul Kronke
 George Earle
 Anne Marie Esswein and family
 Kristen Gebhardt & Scott Siesel
 Bob & Diane Haddock
 Gabriel Humphreys
 Bato & Ipana Jahic
 Jim Kendra
 Alex Kopatsis
 Jim MacFadyen
 Ramaz Metreveli Family
 Roy & Kathleen Millsapp
 Dave Morse
 Charlie Nakamura
 Tom Novak & Robin Kessler
 Alan & Victoria Spiro
 Steve Stavrakis
 Donna & Bill Zimmerman

Welcome aboard new members!

Please join me in welcoming Patti Parziale as NCSC's membership director. I have enjoyed working with all of the NCSC Open House volunteers. Thank you for a great two years!

Louise Eliason, Membership Director



One Final Note

A great sailing season finished with Haul Out that had to be postponed by one day due to severe weather. Nevertheless, boat crews and support crews gathered on Sunday, October 30th to retrieve our boats from the river and stow them away for the winter at the clubhouse. The Scots and Hunter had been stowed away on Friday, thanks to Phil Iannelli and crew. Both days went smoothly as everyone worked together to prep the boats for winter. On Saturday we started a new tradition that was so much fun; it will have to be continued! Patti Parziale made up some delicious chicken and vegetarian chili (I have the recipes if you would like them). Scott Diestelkamp brought some of his home-brewed beer to complement the chili. Other volunteers donated goodies and we all had a great time unwinding and thinking about next year. February (start of work/classroom sessions) will be here before you know it. Until then **Happy Holidays and enjoy the winter!**

Kathy Leef, Secretary

