

# New Castle Sailing Club

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

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### Commodore's Corner- Len Saari

The 2012 sailing season is about to begin, and I want to take this opportunity to welcome all of the new members joining the New Castle Sailing Club (NCSC). The welcoming session and first instruction class will be at the NCSC Clubhouse (see directions and parking rules below) at 10:00 am on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. Future classes will be held nearly every Saturday at 10:30 am to noon until the launch of the boats after which on-the-water instruction will commence. Information regarding these and future events is available in the 2012 NCSC Calendar which is located on the NCSC website, [www.newcastlesailingclub.org](http://www.newcastlesailingclub.org). Ask any member for the

username and password for the site. Mike Evans, our Safety and Instruction Director, will organize and lead the classroom instruction which is open to all members and their families.

To keep our dues minimal, we ask that you help to maintain the fleet by participating in the work sessions that begin at 9 am each Saturday before classroom instruction. Dave Koppeser, Fleet Captain, will assign you to a boat, and the Boat Captain will direct the activity required. Not only does your work help to ready the Fleet be ready for launch, it may provide the training required to repair a boat during sailing. The work sessions are a great way to learn about sailboat maintenance.

Learning to sail begins with our classroom instruction, but after the launch of the boats, scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup>, on-the-water instruction will be available every Saturday and Sunday except when Regattas and Open Houses are held. I encourage you to get as much "tiller time" as possible in order to expedite your learning of sailing. You can also schedule individual sessions with club members. On Wednesday evenings, fun sails are scheduled and present another opportunity for tiller time. Persons interested in sailing generally show up around 5 pm at the Sailhouse.

Racing is another way to learn about sailing. On most Saturdays, there are races organized by our Racing Director, Kevin Foley. In addition to the races themselves, there will be clinics to further the knowledge of anyone interested in racing. During the season, we have several fun regattas scheduled such as the Boat Captain's, Separation Day, Charity, Founders Day, Pea Patch, and Delripett where it is both easy and fun to participate in racing.

Other opportunities for sailing include the Holiday Sails held on the Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day weekends. Applying the learnings gained from these activities should help you to eventually pass the on-the-water exam, thereby attaining the status of "skipper" with your own key to the properties. This status will allow you to independently sign-out a boat for sailing.

There are a number of social events in which we encourage you to participate. They include the Annual Lunch (February 11<sup>th</sup>), St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Lunch (March 17<sup>th</sup>), Spring Dinner (March 31<sup>st</sup>), New Castle Beach Clean Up (April 21<sup>st</sup>), and Fall Dinner (November 10<sup>th</sup>). These events are organized by our Vice Commodore, Mary Davis.

Open Houses, which attracted many of you and we hope will attract more new members, are the responsibility of our Membership Director, Patti Parziale. Both Mary and Patti will be requiring volunteers to help with their efforts.

The organization of the NCSC activities results from the hard work of the members of the Board of Directors. In addition to those already mentioned, the Board also includes Kathy Leef (Secretary), Mike Hennessy (Treasurer), and Donna Powell (Property Director). The Board is at your service so if you have any concerns, please contact them.

Since the NCSC is a volunteer organization, the strength and vigor of the club is also a function of the involvement of the members. Accordingly, I encourage you to help and participate in as many activities as you can. Our club and your ability to enjoy the club will benefit from your work. Best wishes for a great sailing season!



## Parking Near the NCSC Clubhouse

An important logistical item for the benefit of our new members and as a reminder to returning members involves parking around the clubhouse. We have quite a few vehicles to accommodate each week. 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 the former 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 former Brosius-Eliason customer lot, there should be no need to park along the streets.



## Directions to clubhouse for our new members:

Directions to the clubhouse:

Take Rt. 141 South until it ends at Rt. 9 (7<sup>th</sup> Street) in New Castle. Turn left onto 7<sup>th</sup> Street and pass the former Gambacorta Chrysler/Jeep dealership on your right. The clubhouse will be on your right, at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and South Streets.



## Fleet Assignments

Participation in the spring work sessions is key to the success of our club and we are hoping for enthusiast support for fleet assignments. The assignments will be sent by separate email and posted on the club's website. It is a great opportunity to meet your fellow club members and learn a few things about fleet maintenance. If you have a concern about your assignment, please email me at [dkoppeser@gmail.com](mailto:dkoppeser@gmail.com). Boat captains should look at the list of crew and contact them to encourage participation in fleet maintenance.

**Dave Koppeser, Fleet Captain**



## Beer, Soda, and Water

If you build up a thirst after working on the boats or just feel like a refreshment while you're in the clubhouse, you'll find the refrigerator stocked with beer, water, and sodas. Please feel free to help yourself. Beer is \$ 1.00 and sodas and water are 50 cents. There is a cash box on top of the refrigerator and you can put your money there.



## Upcoming Events

### Annual Lunch- February 11<sup>th</sup>

Stay tuned for plenty of events and sailing activities this sailing season. We'll kick off the season with our annual lunch on February 11<sup>th</sup> where old and new members share some camaraderie over a hearty meal. In March, back by popular demand, we will have our St. Pat's Day corned beef and cabbage lunch on March 17<sup>th</sup>. You can expect a festive lunch after our hard work on Launch Day. The month of May will bring a new member sail and our traditional Memorial Day cruise. And that's just the beginning. We'll have a ladies only sail, a progressive dinner party at the fleet, birding on the Delaware and destination sails to Crabby Dick's and the Riverview Inn, just to mention a few. We're going to have a lot of fun! And don't forget to mark your calendars now for the Annual Spring Dinner on March 31<sup>st</sup>. We're almost there!

**Mary Davis, Vice Commodore**



## Instruction for New Members and Those Who Joined Late Last Season

In a few weeks we will begin holding classes for our healthy crop of new members and anyone else who would like to brush up on any of the topics. The classroom schedule shown here is included in the 2012 NCSC calendar that was sent out by NCSC Secretary Kathy Leef (differences from dates shown in the calendar are noted below). Please note that "**Charts and Local Hazards**" is **mandatory** for all new members. Also note that all classes begin on Saturdays at 10:30 am **except** for the first class which will start at 10:00 am on February 11.

I look forward to getting to know all our new members as we gear up for another great season!

**Mike Evans, Safety and Instruction Director**

### Class Instruction Schedule

<b>Feb. 11</b>	Welcome and Orientation, Basic Sailing I <b>10 am start</b>
<b>Feb. 18</b>	Basic Sailing II
<b>Feb. 25</b>	Rules of the Road and Knots <b>New Date</b>
<b>Mar 3</b>	Tides, Current, and Moorings <b>New Date</b>
<b>March 10</b>	Weather, Emergency, and Personal Gear
<b>March 17</b>	Charts and Local Hazards <b>Mandatory Class</b>
<b>March 24</b>	Snow day make-up class if needed
<b>March 31</b>	Snow day make-up class if needed
<b>April 7</b>	Snow day make-up class if needed
<b>April 14</b>	Scot and Thistle Rigging <b>New Date</b>
<b>April 28</b>	<b>Fleet Launch Day</b>
<b>May 5</b>	On The Water Instruction Begins (1:30PM)



**Member's Profile Update**

All members are requested to check the website directory. If you need to update/change your contact information, please notify Patti Parziale at [membership@newcastlesailingclub.org](mailto:membership@newcastlesailingclub.org) and the corrections will be made so that we can stay in touch with you.

**Social Calendar**

- Feb 11      **NCSC Annual Lunch**  
**First Work Session and Classroom Instruction**
- Mar 17      **Annual St. Pat's Day Lunch**
- Mar 31      **Spring Member's Dinner Meeting**
- Apr 21      **New Castle Beach Cleanup**
- Apr 28      **Fleet Launch Day and Lunch**  
**Barn cleanup**
- May 5      **Boat Captains' Race**

**Spring Dinner**

The annual Spring Dinner will be held on **Saturday, March 31st** at our favorite restaurant, The Riverview Inn in Pennsville, NJ. Cocktails begin at 5:30 pm. More information to follow.



**2012 NCSC Board of Directors**

<b>Commodore</b>	Len Saari
<b>Vice Commodore</b>	Mary Davis
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mike Hennessy
<b>Secretary</b>	Kathy Leef
<b>Fleet Captain</b>	Dave Koppeser
<b>Racing</b>	Kevin Foley
<b>Membership</b>	Patti Parziale
<b>Safety and Instruction</b>	Mike Evans
<b>Property</b>	Donna Powell



## The Bitter End

Ever wonder where all those words and phrases come from and what they mean? Here are some for your reading pleasure.

### Port and starboard

Port and starboard are shipboard terms for left and right, respectively. Confusing those two could cause a ship wreck. In Old England, the starboard was the steering paddle or rudder, and ships were always steered from the right side on the back of the vessel. Larboard referred to the left side, the side on which the ship was loaded. So how did larboard become port? Shouted over the noise of the wind and the waves, larboard and starboard sounded too much alike. The word port means the opening in the "left" side of the ship from which cargo was unloaded. Sailors eventually started using the term to refer to that side of the ship. Use of the term "port" was officially adopted by the [U.S. Navy by General Order, 18 February 1846](#).

### As the Crow Flies

When lost or unsure of their position in coastal waters, ships would release a caged crow. The crow would fly straight towards the nearest land thus giving the vessel some sort of a navigational fix. The tallest lookout platform on a ship came to be known as the crow's nest.

### Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea

The devil seam was the curved seam in the deck planking closest to the side of the ship and next to the scupper gutters. If a sailor slipped on the deck, he could find himself between the devil and the deep blue sea.



## The Devil to Pay

To pay the deck seams meant to seal them with tar. The devil seam was the most difficult to pay because it was curved and intersected with the straight deck planking. Some sources define the "devil" as the below-the-waterline-seam between the keel and the adjoining planking. Paying the Devil was considered to be a most difficult and unpleasant task.

