



Ship to Shore

Stony Point, NY 10980

Vol. LXVI, No. 3, March, 2015

Minisceongo Yacht Club will hold its next meeting on
Friday, March 13, 2015, at 8 P.M. in the Clubhouse.

2015 Bridge Officers

Commodore Kevin Silver
Vice Commodore Wayne Mitts
Rear Commodore Art Basley
Treasurer Frank Romano
Secretary Keira Burtch

2015 Board of Directors

Ed Gutierrez
Bob Tamagny
Joe Senackerib
Tony Ferraro
Andy Hudson

Ship to Shore will transition to digital publication this season. The first step is to update the membership e-mail addresses. Please fill out the enclosed form and return it to: **Keira Burtch 73 Hunt Rd Orangeburg, NY 10962**. This will also update your information for the 2015 roster, and includes some boat registration information needed by the club. **Please return this form before March 20, 2015.**

I encourage you to include email addresses for your spouse/partner so they can also have the convenience of easy access to the publication.

For the next few months everyone will receive both the digital and print editions. Sign-up forms for social events will come as a separate attachment for easy printing of a single page that can be returned with your check as usual. **During the summer everyone will have the option of requesting to continue to receive the print edition.** Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns or suggestions via email or phone.

From Commodore Kevin Silver:

Blame the cold weather on Mark Hechinger. Rumor has it he saw his shadow and that's why we have had six more weeks of winter (see digital edition page 6). Thanks a lot Mark! .. Despite the cold weather there are a lot of fun things happening at the club.

A hearty thank you to Don Rubin for organizing the Pot Luck dinner last month and to all who participated by bringing your special dishes! Good food and good company is always a winning recipe. Don Reported that there are over 13 "boats" signed up so far for this month's Cruising Fleet winter cruise to Annapolis the weekend of March 20-22. There's always room for one more so call the Historic Inns of Annapolis today and make your reservation! It's a safe bet you'll have a great time and laugh a lot!

The Race Fleet held its planning meeting in February with a good turnout. More about this in Bob Weismantel's Race Fleet News Report.

March also brings the first ever Rain Gutter Regatta to be held on Sunday, March 15 at 1PM in the MYC Clubhouse. Almost Twenty Junior (and Senior) Boaters have already entered to compete. Don't be fooled, it's seriously fun business and all are invited to compete. I'll be competing in the regatta and look forward to seeing everyone there. Contact Jesse Fitzgerald if you have any questions about this event.

Bill Gooley and his ever working crew are busy planning this year's social calendar. They're kicking around some novel activities and welcome member input as well. Got an idea? Please share it with Bill or other members of the social committee this month.

Art Basely, Wayne Mitts, Tom Austin and Rich Brienza have been diligently working on the plans for the 75th Anniversary of our club next year. I recommend you take time to share your ideas with them. Their enthusiasm for this glorious celebration is palpable.

Listed below are some of the exciting projects that are planned for this year.

➤ Fixed steel canopies have been ordered for the East and West Bank picnic areas. One canopy will be installed over the existing concrete slab and a new concrete slab, managed by Dave Tonneson, will be poured just to the right of the Dock 6 gate. Please contact Dave and offer any assistance he requires so we can be ready for the canopy installation in May.

➤ Preparations are being made to re-install road barriers along the access road to Dock Six. Art Basely, assisted by Tony Ferraro, is heading up this project. Please contact Art to offer assistance.

➤ Plans are underway to re-vamp the Wi-Fi system at the club. Many thanks to Joe Moreno, Tom Saylor and John O'Brien for their technical review to validate the design. Installation will be site wide and require the coordination efforts with security, harbor and electrical committees. Help is most definitely needed to install and maintain the system!

➤ There is a plan afoot to increase the size of launch ramp with the addition of one of the docks previously acquired by John Kime. The discussed "L" shaped

continued on page two

The next Deadline for Ship to Shore is Wednesday, March 25, 2015.

Check out page six of the
Digital Edition
to see some photographs

Race Fleet News

From Chairman Bob Weismantel:

It's been quite a month, lots of snow to keep the skiers happy and lots of ice for the ice boaters. With all this, the Sail Fleet has been very active; we managed to get in two meetings in February in-between the storms.

Chris Wentz of "Z-Sails" gave an interesting and informative seminar Wednesday, February 4, 2015, on the latest sail materials for racing and cruising. We had 25 members from MYC and HRYRA attending. A lively Q and A followed his presentation. According to Chris, the newest material with carbon fibers woven in is the best choice. The new material has very little stretch, and sails made with this material will last up to 6-7 years with normal use. Most of the non-racers questioned why not continue with the proven Dacron material which can last up to 15 years. The bottom line is sail shape—Dacron stretches considerably, and as it ages it stretches even more. This makes it difficult to get the proper sail shape for optimum speed and control. The choice is an interesting one—how much do you value that extra speed, control and of course money.

On February 21, 2015, we held our annual Sail Fleet organization meeting. It was well attended by 20 MYC members. A light breakfast of coffee, bagels, cake and juice was served. We set the MYC racing schedule for the 2015 season. This year, as last year, *all MYC races will be held on Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.* We have scheduled 16 races for the season starting on May 16 and ending on October 10. After the May 23 race a barbeque will be held.

The Laser Regatta will be on August 29, 2015, to be organized by Andy Hudson.

Jessie Fitzgerald outlined her Jr. Sailing Program including Sail Camp and the Rain Gutter Regatta, which were outlined in the last issue of *Ship to Shore* including sign-up forms. She also discussed the overnight "Camp Out" at MYC. On July 25, 2015, the "Half Moon Regatta" will be held at Nyack Boat Club where MYC Juniors will race. Also, MYC Juniors have been invited to go on Fridays to get sailing experience with the Juniors at Nyack, more info to follow.

Last but not least the "Sutherland Regatta" to be held on September 19 and 20, 2015, was discussed. We got a leg up and have assigned the committee for the regatta as follows:

- ☞ PRO (Race Marshal): Kevin Sliver
- ☞ Committee Boat: Keira and Jeff Burtch (Many thanks to Jeff and Keira)
- ☞ Trophies: Andy Hudson
- ☞ Food Coordinators (in conjunction with the Social Committee): Dennis Doyle and Tony Schweiker
- ☞ Protest Committee: Chair Dick Bracken and Eric Schreck

We will be holding a committee meeting mid-summer, date to be announced.

"Commodore" continued from page one

configuration should reduce the congestion caused by our increased dry storage community. To lend assistance on this please contact the Harbor Chairman John Kime (via email) or Rich Brienza.

➤ And last, but not least, plans are underway to increase the parking for Dock Six.

A few members from the bridge, board and membership attended the Hudson River Boat and Yacht Club Association meeting in February. The key topic was membership and various approaches to broaden the reach of Yacht Clubs in the Hudson Valley to prospective new members. It was a thought provoking discussion and I'm sure the creative talent of our membership committee will be hard at work on this subject. One thing was clear, there's no "one size fits all" clubs. But, all who attended walked away with good ideas. In keeping with this theme, Membership Chairman Gurran Kane has scheduled April 19 for new member orientation. I look forward to meeting all of our new members.

Work Weekend is April 11 and 12, just a month away! For those new to the club, work weekend is a two day ritual to prepare the club grounds for the coming season. While associate members do not have to participate in this annual event, I can't think of a better way to get to know your fellow club members. The committee Chairmen should start thinking about what needs to be done by their committee and the amount of manpower it will require. I'll be reaching out to all committee heads to assure we are ready for Work Weekend.

Spring is just a few weeks away and most important.. less than sixty days to boating season!

Sunshine

*From Andy Hudson for MYC
and Miriam Raber for MYCA*

Condolences to Barbara Moore and her family

On Tuesday, February 3, James C. Moore of Highland Falls passed on at Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern. He was 79 years old. Jim was an avid boater and a member of Minisceongo Yacht Club with a boat on dock 6 for several years. Jim is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Barbara Moore, their 2 daughters, 6 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Our wishes for speedy recovery to:

- ♥ Dennis Doyle after eye surgery
- ♥ Robert Kamissaroff after wrist surgery

Cruising Fleet

From Chairman Don Rubin:

Reminder- Cruising fleet winter cruise to Annapolis-weekend of March 20-22; call before it's too late; reservations 410-263-2641 (<http://www.historicinnsofannapolis.com>).

The Cruising Fleet potluck lunch was very successful. Lots of good food and cruising conversation. The date for the MYC Dock-Go-Round is June 27. We are planning on a dessert party after the dock visits; everyone should bring their favorite dessert. There will be a fee of \$5.00 per person to cover the club costs. Our favorite DJ will be providing music for your dancing pleasure.

Discussions and planning continue for the two cruising fleet trips this summer. There will be a group heading north to Lake Champlain, and another group—comprised of many of the same people—will be heading for Long Island Sound. No dates have been decided yet.

Our favorite harbor series this month travels north to Northeast Harbor on Mt. Desert Island Maine. Northeast Harbor is one of the major yachting centers in Maine. The harbor is well protected during most weather. As with all yachting in Maine, it pays to be very careful while navigating, as the shoreline appears to be very unforgiving rock, the tidal range is very wide, and the currents can be strong. Be sure to follow and identify the buoys, and be aware that fog can be a major consideration during your visit.

The marina services commercial fishing boats as well as pleasure boats. Some dock space may be available. The town also has moorings available. Check with the harbormaster for availability. The marina provides a dinghy dock and a water taxi also cruises the harbor. Rest rooms are located adjacent to the harbormaster's office. Fuel, water, ice and garbage disposal are located on the west side of the harbor. The Chamber of Commerce operates the Yachtsmen's Building with tourist information, reading room and showers.

Marine services are well located along the waterfront and Main Street is within easy walking distance. There is a hotel and the Main Sail restaurant along the waterfront. A short walk up the hill from the harbor is the casual Dockside Restaurant with ice cream shop. A coffee shop is located across the street. Local shops include the Pine Tree Market a well-stocked market and liquor store for provisioning, a post office, bank, F.T. Brown hardware store with marine supplies, bookstore with new and used books, laundry, antique shop, and several fancy boutiques and galleries. The old firehouse is now the "Old Firehouse House Museum" with local artifacts and photographs.

Mt. Desert Island has a public jitney system that runs several routes all over the island on a convenient schedule, including one route takes you to Bar Harbor. The jitney stops in front of the harbormaster's office. This system provides an excellent opportunity to explore the island beyond Northeast Harbor. (Photo on page 6 of the digital edition)

MYC Auxiliary Dues Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone(s): _____

E-mail: _____

Please send check (\$15) payable to MYCA,
c/o Janice Romano, 45 Cherry Ave.,
Cornwall on Hudson, NY 10956

MYC Auxiliary Installation Dinner

Friday, April 10, 2015, at 7:00 PM

Lynch's Restaurant

79 S. Liberty Dr. (Route 9W), Stony Point NY

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please send check (\$25) payable to MYCA,
c/o Janice Romano, 45 Cherry Ave.,
Cornwall on Hudson, NY 10956

The Minisceongo Yacht Club Auxiliary

From Captain Karen Hudson:

By the time you read this it will be March and hopefully, we will be on the upswing as far as weather is concerned. At the moment, however, it still feels very much like winter as it was -8 in my back yard this morning. We are getting closer to boating season in spite of the weather and also to our annual dinner and installation of our new officers. The dinner will be April 10, 2015 at 7:00 pm at Lynch's Restaurant in Stony Point. The cost of the dinner is \$25.00 per person. We will have appetizers served family style and a dinner with three choices, a chicken dish, a fish dish and a vegetarian dish, coffee, soda and dessert. Please RSVP with a check to Janice Romano by April 1, 2015. There is also a membership form for the Auxiliary.

I hope to see many of you in Annapolis and if not there at Lynch's in April. Continue to think warm thoughts and spring will be here before we know it.

The Digital Edition page five is a letter from former member Charlie Strahan about his lifetime of boating and his years at Minisceongo, provided by Andy Hudson.

The Board of Directors Report for February 2015

From Director Joe Senackerib:

☞ The directors discussed the possibility of using credit cards or electronic payments for MYC invoices. It was agreed that the payment procedure would not be changed.

☞ Commodore Silver presented a draft document which will be given to associate members expressing their interest in becoming regular members.

☞ The report by the New Clubhouse committee was discussed and a number of additional questions were raised. The Board will discuss these questions with the new club house committee.

☞ The Board discussed the idea of renting or purchasing a portable bathroom unit to be placed in the dock 1 parking area.

☞ Director Giturrez presented several concepts for improving the bathrooms in the snack shack. Additional information needs to be obtained before a plan is presented to the membership.

☞ It was decided purchasing the Mullholand House would not be in the best interest of MYC at this time.

☞ Director Hudson presented his idea for Kayak storage which will be revisited at the March Meeting.

☞ Secretary Burtch presented her plan for digital publication of Ship to Shore.

☞ The club will be purchasing permanent canopies for docks 5 and 6. This will require the installation of a new concrete pad at dock 6. The canopy from dock 5 will be installed at dock 4.

☞ The Vending Machines that have been at MYC for the last few years will be removed.

☞ Commodore Silver will install a new WIFI system in time for boating season.

☞ Yard Chairman Wieland sent a letter to the Board proposing that MYC provide dumpsters for shrink wrap. He proposed that all boats that use shrink wrap would be charged a small fee to cover the cost. The Board agreed to investigate further, but would not charge a fee this year.

☞ A member sent the Board a letter suggesting that MYC should have additional casual social events to develop a closer relationship among members. He also suggested several improvements around the club that would improve the appearance and increase safety. The Board will consider these ideas for the future.

Yard Committee Report From Chairman Roger Wieland:

We will begin launching boats on **Saturday March 28**, if the weather cooperates and the snow is gone. We will be launching on Saturdays and Wednesday mornings. Call or email me when you would like to launch. The boats in the aisles must launch in April because they are blocking boats in the rows.

When working on your boat, be safe, secure your ladder

and wear eye protection. When you are sanding or painting the bottom of your boat put a tarp down to catch paint chips or paint that drips.

When you remove your shrink please remove it from MYC. If you have any questions call or email me.

Thanks for your cooperation, Rog

A Look at the Future

Sunday, March 8	noon	Clubhouse	ACBS Wooden Boat Meeting
Tuesday, March 10	1900	Clubhouse	Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, March 13	2000	Clubhouse	MYC Membership Meeting
Sunday March 15	1300	Clubhouse	Raingutter Regatta
Thursday, March 19	2000	Clubhouse	Coast Guard Auxiliary Meeting
Weekend of March 20-22		Annapolis	Cruising Fleet Winter Trip
Wednesday, March 25		Keira Burtch	Ship To Shore Deadline
Friday, April 10	1900	Lynch's Restaurant	Auxiliary Installation Dinner
April 11 and 12	0800	All Club Facilities	Work Weekend
Sunday April 19	Noon	Clubhouse	New Member Orientation
Sunday, May 17	Noon	Flagpole	Opening Day
Sunday, June 21	1100	Pavilion	Father's Day Brunch
August 15 and 16		Kingston	ACBS Wooden Boat Show
Saturday, August 22	Noon	Pavilion	Annual Picnic
September 19 and 20		Pavilion and River	Sutherland Regatta
Saturday, October 24	0800	All Club Facilities	Fall Work Day
Saturday, November 21			Change of Watch

Minisceongo Yacht Club, Inc., PO Box 572, 83 Grassy Point Road, Stony Point, NY 10980
website: www.MinisceongoYC.org E-mail: info@minisceongoyc.org

- Please report changes of *address or phone number* to Frank Romano: 45 Cherry Ave., Cornwall on Hudson, NY 12520
 - Please send *articles and e-mail address changes* to Keira Burtch
 - Please send *items for the web page* to Andy Hudson

MYC History: Charlie Strachan Recalls 70+ Years of Boating

submitted by Andy Hudson

The hallway gas lamps were lit as I ran up the four flights of stairs to the landing, leading to the flat where my mom, dad, two sisters, and I lived in the East Bronx. As I burst through the door, Mom yelled "Charlie, I told you to change your good knickers and tie when you come home from school."

"Mom, guess what? All of the kids got free tickets to the Giants game over in the Polo Grounds this Saturday. Christie Mathieson is playing and the manager, John McGraw, says Christie is back in action and better than ever." The year was 1911.

As was the norm back in those days, most kids, including myself, went to work when they graduated from the eighth grade. I was fourteen years old and very fortunate to land a job with Western Electric down on West Street.

I guess the fact that World War One was taking so many men made my finding a job that much easier. During my four years at that job, I developed a chronic urge to own a canoe. Swimming in the East River with the other kids and watching the graceful canoes weave their way along the banks probably helped to foster my interest.

It wasn't long before I found myself being accepted as a member of the Inwood Canoe Club. It was based just north of where the George Washington Bridge stands today on the New York side of the Hudson, but, of course back then we only had the ferries to get us over to the wilderness of New Jersey. Our club had some pretty adventurous members, so it was not unusual for us to take canoe trips up the Hudson, through the locks, into Lake Champlain and over into Canada. Surprisingly enough, we would paddle all the way to Canada two in a boat only to have one person purchase a new, Canadian cedar strip canoe.

Incidentally, the Canadians really knew how to make a good canoe. Mine lasted fifty years. My membership in the Inwood Canoe Club has lasted for 73 years, although I haven't been down there for quite a while.

In 1923 we made the canoe trip to Champlain, but this time, on the way up we decided to try to find some jobs. We had to portage the canoes around the Champlain Locks because we were too small to have the lockmaster open the locks for a few canoes. We stopped by Fort Ticonderoga and found out from a truck driver that the YMCA summer hotel on Lake George needed some fellows to work in the icehouse and to help out carrying coal to feed the powerhouse operated by the hotel. After setting up camp on one of the many islands on Lake George, we began our summer's work. I have to say the work was hard but the YMCA sure did know how to put on a good feed.

Year-Round Fun

In 1927 the Inwood Canoe Club leased a brickyard on George' Island. It lies across the Hudson from Minisceongo,

but a bit south. It wasn't long before we set up platforms for our tents and, within a few years, our platforms became the base for some cabins that we erected on the site. It was year-round fun in those days; in summer we had an ideal base for our canoes and in winter we would ice skate and have some fantastic parties.

It was in the early 1930's that we started to get interested in sailing, so some individuals started purchasing 14' sailboats and before long we found ourselves racing anything that moved. Lightnings soon came on the scene and it was in the early 1940's that we held our first regatta. Shattamuc came upriver, the guys from Chelsea came, and Minisceongo was there. In fact, Frank Sutherland came over and he had Marie on board as crew. It was a great day and from then on I had friends over at MYC.

When World War Two broke out, I was working for the city of New York. I joined the Navy (of course) and was assigned to the SeaBees. My first duty was in Iceland building airfields, followed by assignments in England and France and then over to the Pacific to work on the airfields of Guam. Every day during my tour of duty, I dreamed of being back on my serene Hudson River. I could not wait to return to George's Island and pick up where I left off.

When the war was over and I was released from duty, the first thing I did was to drive up to visit George's Island. Our camp was gone. It was over and I felt empty and for the first time very alone. The Veterans Hospital took over the property but never actually developed it.

One day I ran into Bill Grimm (today he is probably the oldest member of MYC) and he invited me to crew with him on his Lightning. Back then MYC had about 20 active racing Lightnings. In 1949 Eddie McGovern had a Lightning up for sale and I bought it. But, like all things, as time went on that number began to dwindle, so in 1952 they asked me to become a member.

Times change and so do one's interests. I married, and I guess it was about 1952 that I bought a Herreschoff 28' sloop. This boat was ideal because you could actually live on board if you wanted to. I probably was the first in MYC to own this larger-sized boat. As time passed, Doc Phelps bought a larger boat and so did Dick Chase and so did many other members. Our new enthusiasm centered around trips to the Long Island Sound.

Two or three boats at a time would rendezvous every few days on the Sound and we would have some terrific times.

I can tell you my story and explain all the trips and such to you, but what I can't put into words are the wonderful feelings I have for the members of Minisceongo and the good times we shared. I hope all of you can see how lucky you are to be part of such a wonderful family.

Winter at MYC



photos by Keira Burtch



photo from "Z-Sails" web site

What was Mark up to? Which caption fits best?

L-R: Chris Wentz, Chris Zaleski and Waldek Zaleski of "Z-Sails"
Chris Wentz gave an interesting and informative seminar
Wednesday, February 4, 2015,
On the latest sail materials for racing and cruising.



photo by Don Rubin

View of Northeast Harbor on Mt. Desert Island Maine
Fog, current, rocky shoreline and tidal range all make
cruising in Maine challenging but rewarding.



photo supplied by Tony Schaefer

Getting ahead so I can fertilize
Darn snow! Ruins the ice!
Actually, Mark was using his winter version of a pooper scooper.