

Tell tale

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club

Web page: sailsaratoga.org



January, 2014

Commodore's Corner

By Vic Roberts

We start this year with a heavy heart. Randy Rice, long time member who was Vice Commodore of SLSC in 1965 and Commodore in 1966, and was currently Club Historian, passed away on December 19, 2013. Randy was at the Club on September 2 of this year with his wife, Eleanor, helping out with the Labor Day Lobster Boil social. Randy's obituary is printed in this issue of the Telltale, and I encourage members to also read the remembrances of Randy posted on our website provided by John Hudson, Allan Miller and Randy's daughter, Lisa Rice Hayes. I want to point out one aspect of Randy's contribution to the Club not mentioned in the obituary. In 1972 Randy was appointed Properties Committee Chairman and lead the group that arranged for the purchase and financing of our current property. We would not have our beautiful property if not for the efforts of Randy and his colleagues.

I want to thank the outgoing Board members for their service to the Club.

Gene Auciello has manned the tiller for the past two years as Commodore. Prior to his more recent position Gene held the positions of Vice Commodore and Flag Lieutenant Grounds. Under Gene's leadership, we have added many new and interesting members, have improved our property and our operations, and have continued to maintain a secure financial position. Gene will hopefully now have more time to sail his Kestrel and crew for Hunter Currin on his Ensign.

Bruce Blackie has completed ten years as Treasurer. This works out to 120 monthly financial reports to the Board, plus 20 more to the full Membership, and innumerable reports filed with the State and federal governments. Bruce was Vice Commodore in 1992 and Commodore in 1993. Bruce, who started the Ensign fleet at SLSC and was largely responsible for building it to its current strength, will now have more time for sailing Sundance, #557.

Allan Miller has completed a very active and productive three-year assignment as Flag Lieutenant Race. Remember all those email messages cajoling you to come out and race? Immediately before Race, Allan was in charge of Membership with his wife Barbara. Allan, who is a very active Laser sailor, has held many positions on the Board including Commodore in 1977, 1997, 1998, and 2005.

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Annual Budget Meeting

**Sunday, February 9th
3:00pm
at
The SLSC Clubhouse**

**Agenda Items Include:
2014 Budget with Dues Increase,
Bylaw Revisions.**

The main revision is a change from new members posting a bond, to a one-time initiation fee.

Refreshments will be served!

Please Attend.

What's Inside?

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Upcoming Events

Jan 25.....Ensign No Gotta Regatta
Feb 9.....Annual Budget Meeting
April 6.....Commodore's Party (afternoon)

Commodore's Corner (Continued from Page 1)

JT Fahy, an active Thistle sailor, has been Flag Lieutenant Boats for four years. Under JT's leadership we greatly improved our fleet of boats used for race and rescue. We purchased a new and more comfortable committee boat, converted many of our outboards from 2-stroke to more environmentally friendly 4-stroke designs, and upgraded and improved the other boats.

Now, on to the 2014 Board.

Mark Welcome, who has been Director of our very successful Sailing Program for many years, and a Hobie 16 sailor, is our new Vice Commodore. He will also continue as Director of the Sailing Program in 2014, a position that has traditionally been held by the Vice Commodore. Mark was heavily involved last year in our challenge to the new property tax assessment, and I look forward to working closely with him again this year.

Dave Hudson, a member of the championship Thistle racing team of Hudson, Hudson & Hudson, returns as Rear Commodore, a position he has held since 2003. Dave was Vice Commodore in 1991 and Commodore in 1992 and continues to serve the club in many ways, many unrelated to his official position. As Rear Commodore, Dave is responsible for the waterfront, and can be found moving dock sections with the Bobcat at the Spring and Fall work parties. Dave personally builds one new dock section each year, serves as fire pit chief for the 4th of July Chicken BBQ and the Labor Day Lobster Boil, and is heavily involved in the maintenance of our water system. Dave is also the only person I know who has trailered his sailboat through many of the western National Parks.

John Kimball, an MC Scow sailor, rejoins the Board as Treasurer after a very successful multi-year stint as secretary. As Secretary, John's Board meeting minutes were both complete and creative filled with humorous comments about the meeting. It will be interesting to see if John can maintain this tradition in his financial reports.

Samantha Butler, a Flying Scot sailor and 2013 SLSC Women's Champion, returns as Secretary. Sam was previously Flag Lieutenant House, where she oversaw a number of improvements. The Secretary has to keep detailed minutes of the discussions at Board, Annual and Budget meetings, and convert those notes into understandable documents, which makes Secretary one of the more difficult Board positions.

Fred Barker returns to continue his multi-year run as Publicity Chair. Publicity is responsible for the production and publication of our monthly newsletter, the Telltale. Fred has done an excellent job, keeping all the rest of us on our toes about deadlines and such, while producing a high quality document. Fred is co-owner of Ensign #530, Keeling Time, with Tony Cannone. The team of Barker and Cannone are perennial favorites in the SLSC Ensign Regatta, coming in first in 2011 & 2012 and second to Bruce Blackie in 2013.

Bill and Yvonne Barringer, who have jointly served as Principle Race Officer for many races over the past few years, join the Board as Flag Lieutenants Race. Bill & Yvonne are longtime members of the club and have served in various positions. Bill first joined the Club in 1962, at the original location, and sailed there until 1972. Bill rejoined with Yvonne in 1983. They have owned and sailed the International 14, Celebrity, Kestrel, Herreshoff Catboat, Thistle, and most recently the Ensign. Bill and Yvonne have been joint Social Chair, and Bill has been Flag Lieutenant Boats and Flag Lieutenant House.

Misha Gutin joins the Board as Flag Lieutenant Boats. Misha is an active Flying Scot sailor and co-Captain, with his wife, Olga, of the Flying Scot fleet. Please contact Misha if you have any questions about the operation of our boats or run across a problem while using the boats for Race Committee work.

Melissa Hatch & Greg Tkai, active O'Day Mariner sailors, return as Flag Lieutenants House. In addition to securing donations of some very nice furniture for the living room and center hall of the house, Greg and Melissa, with the help of Tony Cannone and Menno Burmeister, personally renovated the kitchen in Kathy Johnston's apartment, installing new flooring, cabinets, sink and faucet, and range hood. They are currently working with Menno on the renovation of the bathroom of the Men's changing room.

Ann Seidman returns as Membership Chair. Ann and her husband Peter are longtime members of the Club and are active Flying Scot sailors. Ann has held a number of positions in the Club, including Rear Commodore in 1997 and 1998, and Commodore in 1999 and 2000. As Membership Chair Ann provides information about the Club to perspective members, interviews people who want to join the Club and makes recommendations to the Board regarding membership applications. In addition to her responsibilities as Membership, Ann most recently chaired a committee to revise our Bylaws. The membership will vote on these revisions at the February Budget meeting.

Margaret Shirk returns as Social Chair. As Social, Margaret is responsible for organizing the vast armies of volunteer members that buy and cook the wonderful food we have at our three main in-season social events, set up the events and clean up afterwards. This is a difficult task which Margaret does with grace and skill. Margaret and her husband Dan Mehlman sail a Sea Pearl 21, which is the double-masted boat you will see on the lake. They also camp out on the corner of the upper lawn on weekends to improve the ratio of sailing time to travel time.

John Smith returns as Flag Lieutenant Grounds. John, an active YFlyer sailor has arranged for the YFlyer Nationals to be held at SLSC this coming summer. As Grounds, John has successfully completed a number of projects, but one of the most "visible" may be the "goose fence" which was responsible for finally keeping the lower lawn clean.

Randall H. Rice, LATHAM

Randall (Randy) Hinds Rice, 89, entered into eternal life Thursday, December 19, 2013. Born in Danville, Ill., and raised in State College, Pa., he was the son of the late Philip X. and Helene Hinds Rice, and stepson of Maretta Jordan Rice. Randall graduated from State College High School in 1942, and Penn State College in 1948, with a bachelor's in electrical engineering. He served as an Ensign (A1) in the US Naval Reserve from 1942 to 1946, and was proud to be a naval aviator during World War II, spending time in Japan and the Far East after World War II ended. Randall joined Westinghouse in 1948, spending five years as a young bachelor engineer in Cleveland, Ohio. He moved to Albany, N.Y. in 1954, as a lighting sales engineer with the Westinghouse Lighting Division, a position he held for 34 years, specializing in airport and street lamp lighting. In 1980, Westinghouse sent him to Santiago, Chile for 17 months, to work as a lighting consultant for H. Briones Y CIA S.A.C. I., which turned out to be a wonderful and enlightening experience. After retiring from Westinghouse, he served as an independent contractor for the Crouse Hinds Co., and Randall Rice Streetlighting System Sales. Randall was active in his professional community. For many years he was a member of the Illuminating Engineering Society, Mohawk Hudson Division, serving as chairman in 1962, and president in 1978. He wrote various articles on lighting, won several awards, and had one patent. Randall took up sailing as a hobby in the early 1960's. His first sailboat was a wooden Sunfish he and a friend built. He moved up to a Windmill and Mariner 19 that he sailed on Saratoga Lake, and a Greenwich 24 that he sailed on Lake George. Randall was very active for most of his adult life in the Saratoga Lake Sailing Club, serving as Commodore in 1966, and more recently as Club Historian. He was also a long-time member of the Windmill Class Association, serving as president in 1974-76. Randall was a longtime and devout member of the Schenectady Church of Christ. His faith and devotion supported him throughout his life. He instilled a similar belief in God and church in his children. Randall's other devotion was to family, home, and their dogs. He was the proud owner of "The Rice Paddy", an old farmhouse with a barn and land, in what was originally a rural part of Latham, N.Y., that he and his wife lovingly restored and expanded. It was the scene of many picnics and parties, including wonderful neighborhood Halloween parties and rides through the woods in the Paddy Wagon. Randall was the beloved husband of 59 years to Eleanor Corneilson Rice; loving father of Lisa Helene Rice Hayes and her husband, Richard B. Hayes, of Md. and Linda Susan Rice Thorup and her husband, Donald W. Thorup, III of N.C.; cherished grandfather of Alexander Randall Thorup, Anna Elizabeth Thorup, and Ethan Dettmar Hayes; loving brother of David Reagan Rice and his wife, Marge Rice; beloved cousin of Betty Rice Trott and her husband, Dale Trott. Randall is also survived by eight nieces and nephews. Randall was a man of many friends and stories. He was a wonderful son, husband, father, grandfather, friend, and colleague; a man who was both liked and admired, and will be greatly missed. A funeral service will be held 11 a.m., Saturday, December 28, 2013 at the First Presbyterian Church, 362 State St., Albany. Interment will be in Albany Rural Cemetery, Menands. Donations in Randall's memory may be made to the Schenectady Church of Christ, 2042 Balltown Rd., Schenectady, NY 12309. To leave the family an online condolence please visit sbfuneralhome.com.



Photos by Hunter Currin

Property Tax Assessment Update

By Vic Roberts, Commodore

As a follow-up to the information presented at the Annual Meeting, the Board voted on December 19 to authorize attorney David Rowley to open negotiations with the Town of Malta with the goal of obtaining a lower property tax assessment for our main parcel. The objective is to find a mutually-agreeable assessed value for the property that would avoid the additional costs for both parties of going to Court.

Wine Tasting

Interested in the possibility of participating in a wine tasting at the club house sometime in January? Jerry Danielski is thinking of organizing one, and would like you to share your thoughts with him.

If interested, please call him at [518-466-6054](tel:518-466-6054)

Outgoing Board Members



Bruce Blackie, Gene Auciello, JT Fahy, Allan Miller
Photo by Hunter Currin.

On the Block

LASERS WANTED

The Sailing School is in need of Lasers to support the youth program. If you know of someone storing a Laser in a barn that might consider selling or donating it to SLSC or if you have a boat that you are considering selling please tell us. Lasers are the world's most popular class and finding good used boats for our program is becoming increasingly difficult.

Contact Greg Tkai or Allan Miller

2 KAYAKS FOR SALE

Perception Carolina 13.5, red and yellow one-person kayak with rudder. Foot pedals and cockpit cover are missing. Selling as is, with paddle. \$600.

Ocean Kayak Pro SI 129, yellow one-person kayak with rudder. With paddle- \$675.

Both kayaks are on the racks closest to the fenced children's playground, right side of rack, 1st and 2nd shelves, have "Burgess" stickers. See pictures on club website. Call Sharon Burgess at 729-2043.

ENSIGN #170

Watercolors is for sale! \$8,000 to \$10,000 invested. Two sets of sails, ground tackle, stands, dinghy and more included. Will accept best offer by end of summer. Call Doug McGivney at 518 755-6994 or email dmcgivney@nycap.rr.com

LASER FOR SALE

Laser in great condition for sale. Has upgraded outhaul and cunningham, standard vang with swivel added for ease of use. Hull boards and sail in very good condition. Asking \$3500

Contact Greg Tkai [518-496-4650](tel:518-496-4650) gtkal@nycap.rr.com.

BALBOA 26

Excellent condition - complete, clean and ready to go, with: Sails, Trailer (electric brakes), Evinrude Yachtwin 9.9 long shaft outboard, Sleeps 5, Swing keel for low draft / trailerability \$7500

Email: raubws@nycap.rr.com

Brochure: <http://www.msogphotosite.com/MSOG/pdfpage/balboa26bro.pdf>

Ensign Fleet 72 Happenings

By Tony Cannonne

2013 was a good year for the Ensign fleet here on Saratoga Lake. We saw more Ensigns showing up on a regular basis for club races and placing higher in the overall club standings when corrected on the Portsmouth Yardstick. The fleet has been growing steadily over the last 13 years and due to the efforts of the previous administration, Mr. Blackie and Mr. Lacey, things like mast stepping and moorings are non-issues considering the limited capacity for large boat management at the club. The fleet holds three events each season; the first is our No-Gotta Regatta at the end of January, the second is a Race Clinic & Meet & Greet in June and the third is the annual Ensign Fleet 72 Regatta also known as the Ensign Fleet Leukemia Cup Regatta in September.

This year we have added a fleet perpetual trophy to the club house. The trophy holds the winners of each annual regatta and as it turns out the winner of this year's regatta was Sundance, skippered by Bruce Blackie (Fleet Founder). The trophy was made by Singleman's Model Boat Work's located in Schenectady NY. If you ever get a chance to visit Al Singleman, whose workshop is also located at his home, you will not be disappointed. Besides being a really nice guy and very talented he has a lot of interesting stories to tell. Being a retired "Submariner" Al takes a lot of pride in his experiences which is evident by the bumper sticker reading "If it's not a submarine, it's a target" on both vehicles in the driveway.

I am very proud to be the fleet captain responsible for introducing our first Ensign Fleet Perpetual Trophy to club and ensuring that it reflects the efforts and dedication of our founding fleet captain, Bruce Blackie. Please stop and take a look when you're at the club.



Awards Party



Awards Party



Awards Party



Awards Party



SARATOGA LAKE SAILING CLUB

The Saratoga Lake Sailing club promotes and develops interest in sailing and sailboat racing.

The Club cooperates with and aids individuals and groups interested in sailing and requires in return, observance of such rules and regulations as are set forth by this organization.

ACTIVE FLEETS

Ensign.....Tony Cannone
271-0246

Flying Dutchman.....Bill Hamilton
877-5203
Flying Scot.....Misha & Olga Gutin
542-6922
Kestrel.....Bob Barringer
882-6087
Laser.....Barbara Brown
446-0426
MC Scow.....Devon Howe
867-7770
Sailboards.....Gene Altman
393-6713
Thistle.....John Hudson
374-0228

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2014 OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

Commodore.....Vic Roberts
slsc_commodore@sailsaratoga.org.....399-4410
Vice Commodore.....Mark Welcome
slsc_vicecommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....587-9041
Rear Commodore.....Dave Hudson
slsc_rearcommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....370-4894
Secretary.....Samantha Butler
slsc_secretary@sailsaratoga.org.....587-0659
Treasurer.....John Kimball
slsc_treasurer@sailsaratoga.org.....439-1174
Flag Lt. Boats.....Misha Gutin
slsc_boats@sailsaratoga.org.....542-6922
Flag Lt. Grounds.....John Smith
slsc_grounds@sailsaratoga.org.....786-1340

Flag Lt. House.....Greg & Melissa Tkal
slsc_house@sailsaratoga.org.....899-5214
Flag Lt. Race.....Bill & Yvonne Barringer
slsc_race@sailsaratoga.org.....399-8619
Membership.....Ann Seidman
slsc_membership@sailsaratoga.org.....877-8731
Newsletter/Publicity.....Fred Barker
slsc_publicity@sailsaratoga.org.....280-4194
Sailing Program.....Mark Welcome
slsc_sailingpgm@sailsaratoga.org.....587-9041
Social.....Margaret Shirk
slsc_social@sailsaratoga.org.....475-0412
House Attendant.....Kathy Johnston
kmorrisjohnston@gmail.com.....583-9646
House Phone.....584-9659