



# The MSSA Mariner

Mount Sinai Sailing Association

P.O. Box 291, Mt. Sinai NY 11766

April 2005

## 2005 Bridge

Commodore	John Baker
Vice Commodore	Tom Brischler
Rear Commodore	Lorraine Romard
Fleet Captain	Len Holter
Treasurer	Dianne Imhof
Secretary	Brian Watson
Past Commodore	Fran Nilsen
Handicapper	Ted Turner
Race Results	Doug Dalessio
Newsletter Editor	Mike LeVine
Bar	Len Holter

## Upcoming Events

**General Meeting**  
April 9 @ 19:30  
MOD Bldg

**Mt Sinai Harbor Cleanup**  
April 16 @ 09:00  
MSYC

**Race Marks Party**  
April 17 @ 09:00  
Old Man's

**ACS Regatta Meeting**  
April 25 @ 19:30  
Port Jeff Bowl

**May Newsletter Deadline**  
April 15

## COMMODORE'S REPORT

April is the month for boat maintenance. Spring projects are on everyone's mind. Bottom paint, batteries, engine, teak, ... Sound familiar? Even if you don't have anything planned just yet, once the cover comes off the boat, and you take a look around, something will come to mind. It happens every year. I, for one, dream up all sorts of projects to do, even if they are not really necessary. I wonder why that is, I am normally a pretty rational individual. When it comes to the boat I tend to be a little more eccentric. I suppose it is a natural desire to make the boat safe, fast and attractive. Perhaps the emphasis should be on safe. I have spent a lot of time sanding, and painting to make the boat both look good and go fast, but I also spend time on making the boat safe. Below is a checklist of things to inspect/replace before the boat gets launched:

- Replace zinc anodes
- Inspect cutlass bearing, prop and shaft
- Inspect hull for blisters, dings and scratches
- Through Hull Fittings (inside and out)
- Stanchion base plates
- Chain plates
- Check hatches & port lights
- Clean out lockers and inspect for signs of leaking
- Check hoses and clamps
- Exercise all sea cocks to ensure they are operable
- Check sea strainer on engine water intake
- Check steering system, rudder bearings and cables
- Check battery cables and clamps for corrosion, clean and tighten
- Check battery hold downs to ensure they are secure
- Check all electrical circuits

- Check all rigging, stays and shrouds for meat hooks
- Examine turnbuckles, swages and chain plates
- Check sheets, halyards for chafing, integrity of splices and fittings
- Service winches

Hopefully, you will find your boat and all its systems functional and ready to launch. If you don't, then maybe you have found a problem before it grows into something more serious.

John Baker  
*Raggamuffin*

## VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

At least the snow falling now is melting under a benign afternoon sun. *Firebird* was happy to see me visit earlier this week and the bilge pump worked fine after I gave it a gentle kick-start with a tap to the positive battery cable.

Earthmoving equipment is making quick work of the "humped," southern end of the parking lot at Mt. Sinai Harbor. Deputy Parks Commissioner John Kreutz has made good on his promise that the Town would be working fast and furiously once the weather broke to begin renovations to the harbor. If the weather continues to cooperate it appears that the parking lot drainage system will be in place by the time you read this newsletter. Next on tap should be bulkheading for part of the harbor and addition of new access areas for dinghies and installation of a new series of tender racks. We'll be keeping you posted of news as we get it from Mount Sinai Harbor Advisory Committee meetings. Thanks again to John Kreutz and the Town for their hard work on this much needed project.

Racing season is upon us! The race schedule is in place for this season as is the master schedule of MSSA events for the upcoming season, all of

which will be coming your way in the 2006 MSSA Yearbook. Congratulations go out to Doug Dalessio for being the very first MSSA racer to volunteer for Race Committee –June 8 – you got it, Doug! Which brings me to the annual call for Race Committee sign up!

All racers from last year and those planning on racing this year need to contact me ASAP to fulfill their mandatory Race Committee assignments. All Racers - Please call me at 331- 0626 (yes my number has changed since last season) as soon as possible to reserve your Race Committee duty assignment on a first call-first served basis. Slots are filling fast, so please call now!

Also, please reserve Saturday April 16, to help with the annual Mt. Sinai Harbor Cleanup and the following day, Sunday, April 17, for the Race Marks Party at Old Man's Boatyard. Looking forward to seeing all of you very soon!

Think spring!

Tom Brischler

*Firebird*

### TREASURER'S TRIVIA

**Blazers:** Uniforms were not commonplace amongst the lower deck but most captains liked to show off their crews for ceremonies and since the captain paid the bills they were able to choose the outfits for their men. The snappy blue jackets worn by the crew of the H.M.S. Blazer were the most memorable, and in no time the crew were known as 'the blazers' and, that is how the garment got its name.

Dianne

### PURSER'S REPORT

As of the end of the February membership meeting, the club has a total of 74 paid members. This total is right on par with last year's numbers. If you have not renewed your membership, the dues are now \$65 dollars, which includes a \$10 late fee. You can mail your renewal to the MSSA post office box, or give it to me at the next membership meeting on April 9.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members. They

include Joann and Bruce Hecht, and Marianne and Kevin Waterbury. I hope you enjoy this sailing club as much as I have.

Thank you to everyone who expressed their sympathies to me and my family after the loss of my father. This is a difficult time for us and knowing you cared makes this time easier. Thank you for the beautiful basket of fruit.

I hope to see everyone at the next meeting. Spring is coming so start working on those boats!!

Dianne  
*Excalibur II*

### TEE SHIRTS FOR THE ACS REGATTA

Crew sponsored T-shirts are available once again for the 23rd annual ACS Regatta! It was very successful last year, so we are doing it once again. The charge is \$50 and we are taking orders now. Please send your check, with crew or boat name to:

Sharon Leiman  
122 Alden Drive  
Port Jefferson, NY 11777

### REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Spring is officially here, or at least that's what the calendar says. More snow is predicted, a wintry mix, I think is the term. Granted, snow now doesn't stick around long, but enough is enough already. I'm ready to get to work on the boat. The first cruise is set for May 21 to Milford, and I have a lot to do to get ready. Kind of funny how cleaning the house is such a chore, but cleaning the boat is so enjoyable.

The first ever social committee meeting was successful. We had a small gathering, but a lot of good ideas. The Jackrabbit Race will be combined with the summer BBQ, with race results announced during the party. And the Lobster Bake, as well as the BBQ will be held on a Saturday evening instead of Friday. Check your yearbooks and the websites for dates and details.

Our next meeting is April 9; we are trying to get someone from the Town who is working on the Mt Sinai renovation project to speak at the meeting. This person can give first

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hand information on what is happening and what we can expect. In addition, we are also planning "a night at the races". This will be a sailing/nautical trivia game made up of three teams. Brush up on your nautical trivia, bring your competitive spirit, and the first team around the racecourse wins.

Also in April we have the harbor clean up on Saturday April 16 at 9:00am and the race marks party on Sunday April 17 at 9:00am. Bring gloves for each event.

Our last meeting at the Mod for the season is May 14. The May meeting is the Commodore's Reception; this is a covered dish dinner. This year also marks the thirtieth anniversary of our club. I was thinking it would be fun if people would bring in some old pictures from club events, pictures of boats, races, etc. from years past for the Commodore's Reception. You have some time, so dig through those boxes of old pictures and see what you have. Finally, I must end this on a sad note. Our friend, Diane Imhof, lost her father this past week. Our deepest sympathies go out to her and her family.

Lorraine Romard  
*Billy Boy*

## THANK YOU

To All My Friends in the MSSA, Words cannot express my deepest gratitude for everything that you have done for me, including the generous fruit basket, the gifts of food, and the beautiful flowers. Seeing so many of you at the wake, at the funeral, and then at my house afterwards, showed me how much you cared about Dennis and myself. Thank you for making this difficult time easier for me and my family. How Good You All Are!!!

Gratefully,  
Georgette and the Coffey Family

## AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY REGATTA REPORT

Crew sponsored T-shirts will be available once again at the 23rd annual ACS Regatta! If you remember, we created a shirt with many boat names on it and it was

given in the captains' bags and was for sale at the event. This approach was very successful last year, so we will do it once again. The charge is \$50 and we are taking orders now. Please send your check, with crew or boat name to:

Sharon Leiman  
122 Alden Drive  
Port Jefferson, NY 11777

The planning for this year's Regatta is going great, but we still need some help. Please try and make it to the April 25th meeting, to be held at 7:30 at the Port Jeff Bowl. Things are coming together but we still could use some help for this worthy cause.

To volunteer please contact Debra Baker at 631-988-1044 or via email: [ACSRegatta@aol.com](mailto:ACSRegatta@aol.com).

Debra Baker  
ACS Regatta Chairperson


## FLEET CAPTAIN'S REPORT

It looks like the cruising season is shaping up. The sign-up sheets were out at the March swap meet and quite a few boats are already on board for the cruises. Remember, you don't have to sign up to go - it just helps us organize the events.

Our long cruise this year will be to Newport, RI. I will captain this one and could use a co-captain. We will probably get there by way of Clinton, CT to Block Island then on to Newport. The final route will be determined later in the season. Should be fun with lots to do and see. I have passed Newport a few times but never had the time to stop in, and of course, Block Island is always fun.

Norwalk Islands is on the calendar again. This will be a repeat of a very popular trip we did last year with maybe a few new surprises. Our cruise captains will once again be Tom Brischler and Janine Stoerback aboard *Firebird*. The season will begin and end with our traditional Milford Conn. cruises. The September Milford Cruise will be with Tom and Pokey Cramer but the May Milford cruise still needs a captain. The Mattituck race/cruise is back on the sheet and will be captained by Ted Turner. Last year it was a hoot when we decided to take it up a notch and have dinghy drag races (I won). We will repeat that event, and are open to suggestions for new ones. These are non-club sanctioned events but I'm

sure the fleet captain will mention



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your name (at least) at the Awards Dinner. And now we come to the pajama party cruise. This is the fruit of my sick mind but I take no responsibility for damages to: career, self-esteem, image, marriages or future political aspirations. You must sail your boat to Port Jefferson in your bed clothes, your crew must do the same and once we are rafted-up on the club mooring we will have a pot-luck cocktail party with pot-luck appetizers. Then we stay the night since we will already be in our jammies. The Duck Island cruise is expected to go on, but, as usual we don't know till later in the season if the facilities will be available and we absolutely need a cruise captain for this one. Once again, here is the official list:

- Milford I  
May 21-22  
Cruise captain: None
- Port Jeff Pajama Party  
June 18-19  
Cruise captain: Len Holter
- Mattituck Race/Cruise  
June 25-26  
Cruise captain: Ted Turner

- Norwalk Islands  
July 9-10  
Cruise captain: Tom  
Brischler/Janine Stoerback
- Long Cruise to Newport  
August 13- ?  
Cruise captains: Len Holter
- Duck Island  
Sept. 3-5  
Cruise captain: None
- Milford II  
Sept. 17-18  
Cruise captains: Tom and Pokey  
Cramer

Please consider being a captain for either Milford I or Duck Island. If you have never done it before trust me it's easy and you will have lots of help. Also: The point system will be used this year again. Additional cruises may be added at later date and I will try to notify everyone as soon as I know. Questions? Drop me a line: [lennyholter@optonline.net](mailto:lennyholter@optonline.net) or 374-5232.

Sail on,

Len  
*Dreamer*

## FROM THE EDITOR

It is spring again and most of us will be working in the boatyards for the next several weekends. In the past I have noticed that some people bring their dogs with them for company. It is certainly a temptation, but one that may end up costing your dog his life.

As you may know, my daughter is now a practicing veterinarian. She has had to watch several dogs die this year because they had ingested antifreeze, probably a result of intentional poisoning. But it only takes a small fraction of a cup of antifreeze to cause irreversible fatal liver damage in a dog. In one fatal case the dog had swallowed just two shrimps soaked in anti-freeze.

The boat yards at this time of year often have puddles of anti-freeze as a result of boat owners having flushed various systems on their boats. Of course your dog doesn't know what is in the puddle he is drinking from.

Mike  
*Pegasus*

## MARKET PLACE

### PLEASE NOTE:

Any member who would like to advertise anything for sale (free), let Mike LeVine know ([editor@mssa.org](mailto:editor@mssa.org)) and he'll put it in the Newsletter. At the direction of the Bridge, all classified ads will only run for a period of 3 months. If you would like them to run longer, please let Mike know.

## FOR SALE

**There are no ads this month...**

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**April Meeting**

April 9 19:30 MOD Bldg

**Mt Sinai Harbor Cleanup**

April 16 09:00 MSYC

**Race Works Party**

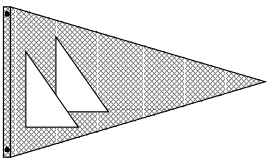
April 17 09:00 Old Man's

**ACS Regatta Meeting**

April 25 19:30 PJ Bowl

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- 2005 CRUISE SCHEDULE
- TREASURER'S TRIVIA



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