



THE BLOOPER

Commodore's Message



The brutal cold and major snowstorms over the last few months aren't quite forgotten yet but we're certainly moving in the right direction. To start, about 30 brave members and guests attended our first event at our new club location at the Varnum armory, and it was a huge success. Education Chair Grant Brandon followed that with his first monthly education night which also was a success. The Super Bowl Party returns (hosted by Dave Pickering) in a joint effort with the Varnum Armory folks. The website calendar will be updated by February 3 and you will see a full slate of events going forward from there.

Those who have heard me speak recently know that one of my keywords for 2018 is "participation". This refers not only to members attending events, but also contributing to those events by helping to plan, setup, execute, or clean up after the event. We are a small club and can't depend on the same people to keep the wheels turning for every event. So, whether you're a new member or you personally knew the club's founders, it's time to ignore the remaining cold weather and attend an event that you typically wouldn't go to. They're always a lot of fun and you will be helping the club thrive and grow. If you're not sure how you can help, contact the event host. S/he will be happy to get your help and participation.

On the home front, Julie and I went to Barcelona in November and then Guadeloupe earlier this month. The day after the Super Bowl will see us on a plane heading to New Zealand where we will be on the ground for over 5 weeks. By the time we return in mid-March, any warm days will find me starting to prep Knot So Fast for a spring launch. So for me, winter will soon be over as long as a snowstorm doesn't affect our departure date. I'll be posting a few pics and comments on the WBYC Facebook page from Kiwi-land. So if you're not on Facebook, this might be a good time to check our FB page for upcoming events.

Go Pats!!!!

Kind regards and best wishes,

Scott Tagen, Commodore
(mobile) 401-203-9676

Rear Commodore's Message



Happy New Year Everyone! Here's hoping yours was a joyous one, and your new year's resolution is to spend lots of time on the water, and with all your WBYC friends! We have some wonderful activities coming up to "tide" you over until the warmer weather arrives. As you know, our new home is in the Varnum Armory on Main St. in E. Greenwich (for directions see the Membership article in this Blooper). We have 2 activities fast approaching which will help us all get to know our new home better:

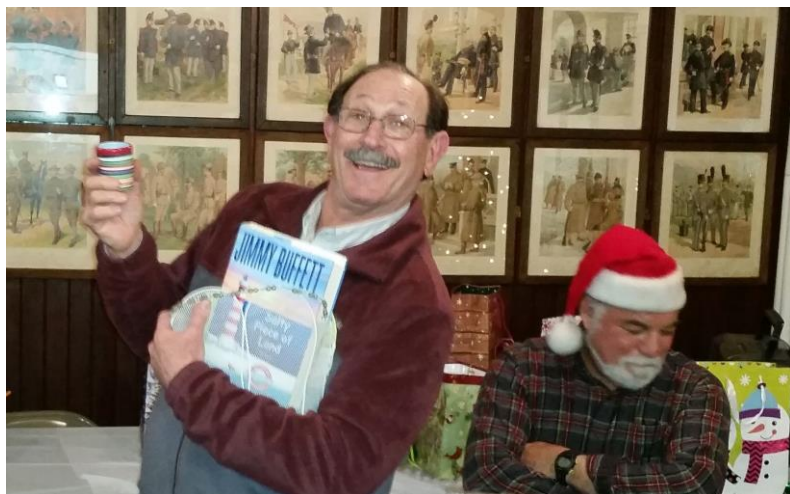
1st is the Super Bowl Game this Sunday. Bring your team spirit and a dish to share. This will be a shared event with the Varnum Armory members in the upstairs hall. Dave Pickering is setting up a HUGE 12-foot Projection screen with a really great sound system. During the shared pot-luck we will have the opportunity to meet our host members, maybe recognize some people we know, and make new friends. Wouldn't it be great if some of them join our membership and some of us join theirs! Then of course we will settle down to watch a great game of football - may the best team (the Patriots) win!

2nd is the next Education Committee's activity: to view the Varnum Armory's museum! It's downstairs and right across the hall from our new "digs". It will be a guided tour with a presentation given by the museum's curator. The museum has a remarkable collection of artifacts, of importance both nationally and locally, from the American Revolution all the way through WWII. It will be a fascinating experience that you won't want to miss!

After that, if you haven't been there yet, you can stroll across the hall to our meeting room and kitchen which will be the site of all our gatherings this year including game nights, after racing dinners, St. Paddy's Day Dinner, May Breakfast, etc.

Be sure to join all your WBYC racer and cruiser friends for these events, and more, throughout the new year. CHEERS!

All in fun at the Holiday Yankee Swap:



Jennifer Brandon

(401) 954-4485

From the Membership Desk



Membership Report *** 2018 Renewals

Hello Members,

As you may know, our membership drive is underway. So far we have mailed out postcards to all members from 2016 and 2017, we've posted the announcement to our Facebook page and we have sent a direct email to each and every one of you. Over the last several years we've lost a few members because we didn't use all points of contact during the off season to give notice of our renewal campaign. -Our fault and we wish this year to be different.

So how can you renew?

We offer two options of payment:

1.) Pay by check. Checks payable to "WBYC" mailed directly to our PO Box. The address is:

West Bay Yacht Club

PO Box 1604

East Greenwich. RI 02818

***Please check the WBYC club website for current membership pricing.

2.) Pay by PayPal. Online payments through PayPal can be done directly through the West Bay Yacht Club website. Here is the page.

<http://westbayyachtclub.org/membership.htm>

Can you pay by check at an event? Absolutely.

Do you know someone who wants to join as a new member? That's easy too. Contact me at my email listed below. I'd love to hear from you.

Any questions? Send me a note.

Please take this opportunity to renew today!

Dean Travis, Membership Chair 2018

Have you heard? We are now renting event space at the Varnum Armory located in East Greenwich, on the corner of Main and Division Street. The Armory is an excellent solution for West Bay Yacht Club as it



maintains our presence in the community and offers expansion for future growth. Our current commitment is for event space located within the Armory that has a full commercial kitchen to accommodate all our kitchen needs for all events including after race meals held on Monday nights during the summer months. It's a great solution and, to say the least, we are extremely excited about this. West Bay Yacht Club again has a home.

Thanks! Dean

dean@travistechnologies.com

(401) 573-3276

Super Bowl Party!

WBCY Super Bowl "Pot Luck" Party being held in the upstairs main room of the Varnum Armory



- WBYC Members and Guests -

SUPER BOWL PARTY!



VS.



**Watch the *Patriots* take on the *Eagles*
Sunday, February 4th – 6:15 PM! (Doors open
at 5:00)**

**In the main upstairs room of the Varnum
Armory!**

Come and meet Varnum Members and bring a dish to
share and participate in the **Pot Luck Supper!**

This is a BYOB Event - Admission is FREE!

Dave will however be making his famous Frozen
Mudslides!

**Please RSVP, with the total in your party, by January
31st to: rsvp@westbayyachtclub.com**

Come and Enjoy the Fun!

We will be using a **new giant 12' diagonal screen** with an amazing sound system!

Secretary's Report



Board of Governor's meeting notes for Jan 17, 2018

Attendees:

Scott Tagen (Commodore), Paul Finstein (Vice-Commodore), Jennifer Brandon (Rear Commodore), Grant Brandon (Secretary), Jim Thorsen (Treasurer), Jo-Ann Grima (Activities), Ray Perrotta (Member-at-Large), Michele Lilly (Member-at Large), Raleigh Jenkins (Member-at-Large), Bill Lilly (Parliamentarian) and Dean

Travis (Membership).

Board of Governor's meeting was brought to order at 7:25PM @ PAL's Restaurant by Scott Tagen:

- **Secretary's Report and Minutes were approved & accepted as presented – Grant B.**
- **Super Bowl Party arrangements have been made by Dave Pickering (remote call-in)**
 1. Sunday February 4th a "joint" event at the Armory will be sponsored by both the Varnum Armory and West Bay Yacht Club. Dave P, event Chair, has arranged for a large screen TV and appropriate essentials for projecting the game starting at 6:30PM.
 2. The event will be open to both Varnum and WBYC members and friends. Standard "Pot luck/BYOB" venue will be in play for the evening and all members are encouraged to attend.
 3. Last but not least, at the conclusion of the Party, members will be asked to assist in some general cleanup.
 4. A general discussion regarding raffles to be donated to local charitable organizations followed Dave's call in.
- **Vice-Commodore's Report – Paul F.**
 1. Discussion regarding the Annual Awards Plaques went around the table as they have yet to be located.
 2. The Board will be reaching out to the membership to locate these items for both recovery and updates.
- **Activities Report – Jo-Ann G.**
 1. Holiday Party was very successful. Many good comments and a good time was had by all.
 2. Pursuing BJ Membership as Sam's club has closed.
 3. Super Bowl party Feb 4th to be Pot Luck & BYOB. Cleanup help will be needed ...
- **Treasurer's Report – Jim T.**

Developing a three-part process in understanding the role of the Treasurer:

1. Create a process methodology for generating Income and Expense statements
2. Produce monthly balancing reports and procedures
3. Create committee reports which are user and management friendly
4. Savings and Checking accounts are in order and fully accounted.
5. Board approved payment for the annual invoice from the Cruising Club of America

Treasurer's report was approved and accepted as presented

- **Rear Commodores Report – Jen B.**

1. Need to firm up the Armory Calendar for publication on both the website and the Blooper
 2. All Blooper articles need to be sent in by the 25th for a Feb 1st publication
- **Parliamentarian – Bill L.**
 1. Revised By-Laws need to be revisited and incorporated into a new document
 - **Membership – Dean T.**
 1. Four paid membership have been carried over from last Fall's promotion
 2. Annual membership drive will be sent out early February
 3. Application and membership acceptance was unanimously voted on for Rob Hamlin
 - **Old / New Business – Scott T.**
 1. Discussion of membership tiers (Admiral/Captain/Family) reviewed for reinstatement
 2. Three-person committee created to articulate the benefits of the membership tier offering
 3. Scott and Julie will be traveling to New Zealand for six weeks following the Super Bowl game
 4. Paul F. to conduct the February meeting scheduled for Feb 15th at Pal's Restaurant
 5. Meeting adjourned at 9:05PM

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD AT PAL'S RESTAURANT AT 7PM on Thursday Feb 15rd

Activities Report



From the Activities Corner

Welcome to 2018 everyone (just a little late). Haven't seen any robins at the birdfeeder yet but Spring will be here before we know it. Agreed?

Hopefully, you've been keeping an eye on all of the postings on our webpage or Facebook about what's been going on with the Club.

Our first official social event was the post-holiday Yankee Swap. Just about 30 folks were there to enjoy good food and friends. Not quite sure who got what gift by the end of it all but we're pretty sure The Minion Fender Covers will be back next year!!

The Superbowl Bash is Sunday, 2/4. Bring a dish to share with our new Varnum friends and root for your favorite team. The doors open at 5pm.

Grant is hosting a Night at the Museum on Thursday (2/22). Keep an eye out for the details.

Paul and Cathy O'Finstein will be hosting their "world famous" Corned Beef Dinner on Thursday, 3/15 for St Paddy's Day. They'll be needing lots of help so give Paul a call and volunteer.

GOOD and WELFARE—Just wanted to pass along our thoughts and prayers to Deb Richard on the loss of her husband, Hank. They had been members of WBYC for quite a few years. Hank was a quiet guy with a smile for everyone.

If you have any news to share, please let us know!

-Here are a few photos from our Holiday Pot Luck/Yankee Swap Party with Chanukah Harry handing out gifts:





Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

The Activities Crew
Jo-Ann, Jen, and Michele
738-0272

What does a retired sailor do in the winter time?



Making Christmas Work

What does a retired sailor do in the winter time? I can remember when my dad retired, he took a job at H&R Block. Doing taxes in the winter might mean a new mainsail for the summer campaign. In my case, since retiring in the fall of 2016, I travelled a lot last winter before the 2017 sailing season began. But I had a different kind of adventure during the most recent holiday season: I worked for UPS as a Driver's Assistant. Aside from making enough cash to

buy Christmas gifts, I lost 15 pounds.

A few other observations about the experience:

During peak season, Thanksgiving through Christmas, UPS hires extra Package Sorters and Driver Assistants to cope with volumes that may double. For example, in Rhode Island, I was told that during the rest of the year, UPS averages approximately 65-70,000 packages per day and this spikes up to 120,000 per day during the holiday season.

Routes are assigned each day at Dispatch (Warwick). Each driver is assigned a route based on truck volume. The truck I was on would have as many as 470 packages and 270 stops for the daily shift. While the Driver reported to dispatch at 8 AM, the daily shift for me was 11 AM-7 PM. So, during my shift, this represents a delivery of one package almost every minute, stopping on average every 107 seconds. This included drive time, so I was literally running from the truck to houses and back with packages. Incredibly, though UPS advises taking breaks, when we were rolling, there was no time for lunch or the bio breaks during the shift, just grabbing a granola bar and swigging a soda. At the

end of the shift, we would go back to the UPS store for pickup of 250-300 packages (and could use the bathroom).

The packages delivered included everything from typical business deliveries, to Christmas gifts at single family homes and apartment complexes. The route was incredibly local – neighborhoods around my house, within five miles, and although I am a long-time Rhode Islander, I discovered some nooks and crannies in town I had never known about. What struck me was how people live. Cumberland is well-to-do, but there were some very modest homes that were well kept and other big houses that were trashed and dumpy – with everything in between. I also got a sense of what it was like to work at certain businesses in town – each had their own personalities. Some were nicer than others.

At night, I would come home tired and sore, taking inventory on body parts that were especially sore. My legs, were like rubber from jumping on and off the truck, my fingers were raw from handling cardboard all day. Strangely, my biggest fear, my back, held up ok. Packages over 70 pounds call for a team lift and there were only a few of those on the truck in any given day. Most packages weighed less than ten pounds.

UPS drivers can make a decent living but work very hard. My driver was a naturalized US Citizen from Hong Kong, with a 6th grade education. He had difficulty with the English language and is a short man. He was told by others that he was not qualified for the job, which put a chip on his shoulder and his approach was to work like crazy. He can make up to six figures with all his overtime and earns every penny. As for me, I was making \$10.20/hour, about \$75 per day before taxes, which works out to less than 28 cents per package.

Overall, the takeaway was newfound respect and appreciation for people who perform this job – it's tough. But the feedback was rewarding. People would wait at the door for their chemotherapy medication, tools for a job, or just a little kid's Christmas gift – they were mostly happy to see me. But I am really looking forward to sailing instead!

JET

From the Race Committee



West Bay Yacht Club
c/o Racing Series
PO Box 1604
East Greenwich, RI 02818

2018 WBYC Racing Calendar

The racing calendar dates for 2018, excluding Saturday events, are as follows:

Summer Series (12 races)

June

Monday Races: 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th.

July

Monday Races: 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th.

August

Monday Races: 6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th.

Fall Series (4 races)

September

Wednesday Races: 5th & 12th. Monday Races: 17th & 24th.

Note: Any races not held during the Summer Series' scheduled dates will be made up on an available **Thursday**. We typically expect at least one maybe two weather related cancellations during the Summer Series, and Thursdays is the least conflicted day of the week (AHYC sails on Tuesday and EGYC sails on Wednesday).

Cruise Committee Report



Cruise Committee Report

There is good news to report. The days are getting longer. And, we are putting our 2018 WBYC cruising calendar together. So, summer cruising is getting closer!

As of now we are expecting to host at least the same cruises we held last year and can hopefully coordinate with our Race Committee to get our Whaler's Race to BI back on the schedule. We are also thinking about another one in early to mid-June. So stay tuned. It is too early to announce cruise captains and their chosen destinations, although Bristol for the July 4th weekend looks promising.

We are currently trying to figure out a Saturday night for our annual cruise social, so stay tuned for that. Once we get the venue and date set, announcements will be via email, our website and our Facebook page.

Anyone interested in serving on the Cruise Committee or interested in hosting one of our cruises will be welcomed. We can always use new ideas for destinations or cruises. Please contact me via phone or email.

Tom "Cruise" Stocker
Cruise Chair



From the Education Committee

Here is an article for your reading pleasure written for an on-line magazine by one of our own, Alex Collier:

[Learn to Sail Like a Pro - SkipperTips.com](http://SkipperTips.com)



Three Diesel Engine Tips -- Check Your Fuel Return Line

One of our subscribers sent in this highly informative article on how he handled a diesel engine problem while coastal cruising in New England. Included are three excellent "lessons learned" that will benefit all sailing and power skippers.



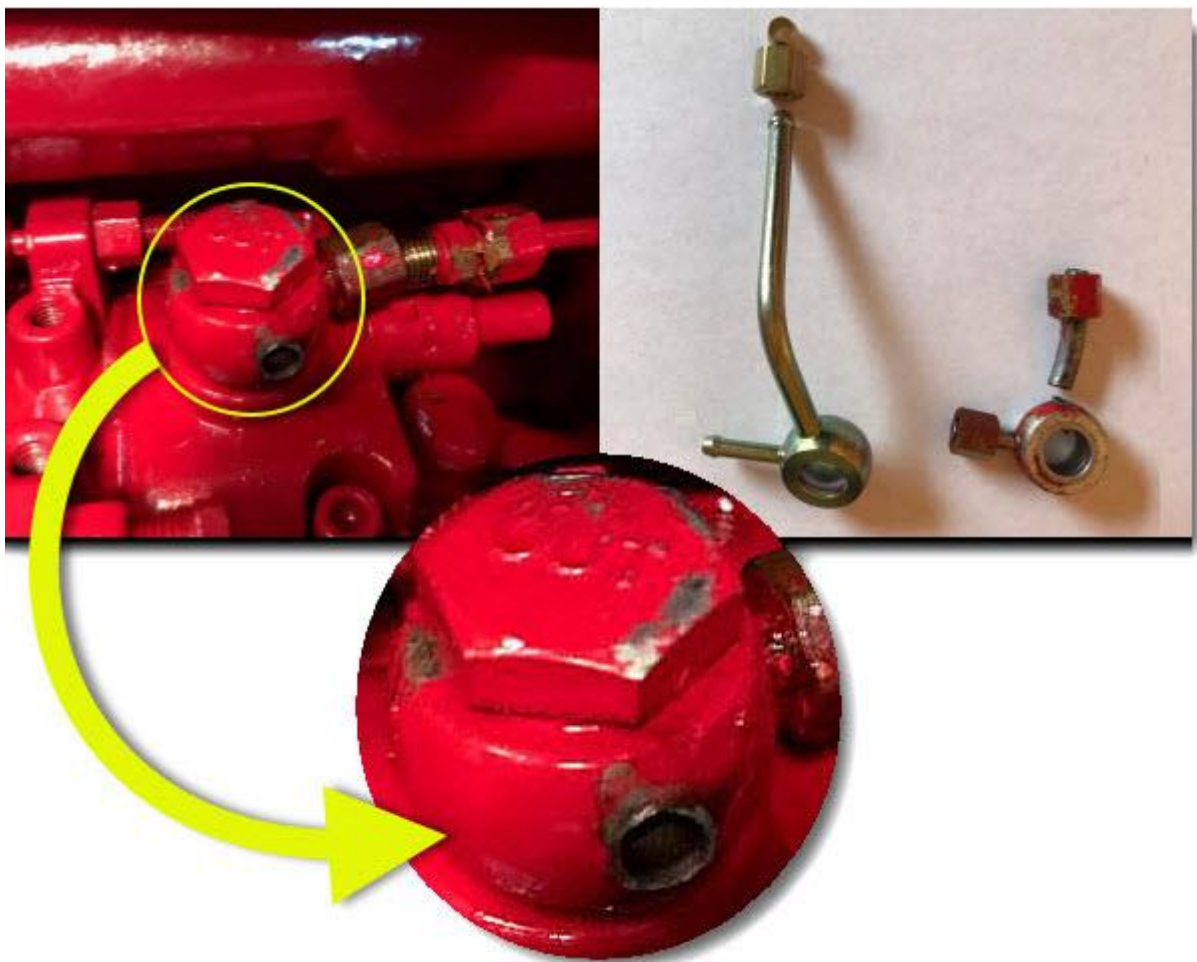
Zanzibar, owed by Alex Collier (a member of West Bay Yacht Club in Rhode Island), is a 2001 Beneteau Oceanis 461 with a Westerbeke 63C Four diesel engine. Three of us

left for a four-day cruise around Narragansett Bay. We had a great sail out to Cuttyhunk on Friday and took a mooring on the inner harbor for the overnight.

In the morning I checked the bilges -- which, along with the engine oil, coolant, belt et al is part of my daily pre-sail ritual. They are normally bone dry. To my dismay, the bilges contained diesel fuel. We quickly traced the source to be a failure of the banjo connector to the fuel return line (see photo below.)

All diesel engines have a line that returns the excess fuel from the fuel pump back to the tank. On my engine, this return line is a 3/8- rubber fuel pipe that runs from the banjo down the engine and back to the fuel tank.

This fuel line was not stress-relieved and so all the vibration and load of this return line was actually only supported by the banjo pipe -- which after a time failed. I had noticed some red liquid on the oil blanket under the engine in the previous weeks but "assumed" that this was coolant and was still trying to find the leak.



LESSON 1

Find the source of all leaks as soon as possible -- a delay can (and did) cause a catastrophic failure. The boat did not have the necessary materials and empty tanks to clean up the diesel and they were not available nearby.

So, we decided to return to shore using the local ferry and return once the necessary parts had been obtained. We subsequently returned with the replacement part, diesel fuel cans, manual fuel pump, rubber gloves and cleaning materials.

The replacement part was installed and the offending fuel line rerun and tie wrapped to the engine so that no load was put on the banjo.

LESSON 2

Check all lines, pipes or wires that leave the engine and ensure that they are all secured correctly and no load is put on the attachment points to the engine. In this case, I had

"assumed" the existing setup was correct as it had been in place for an unknown period of time.

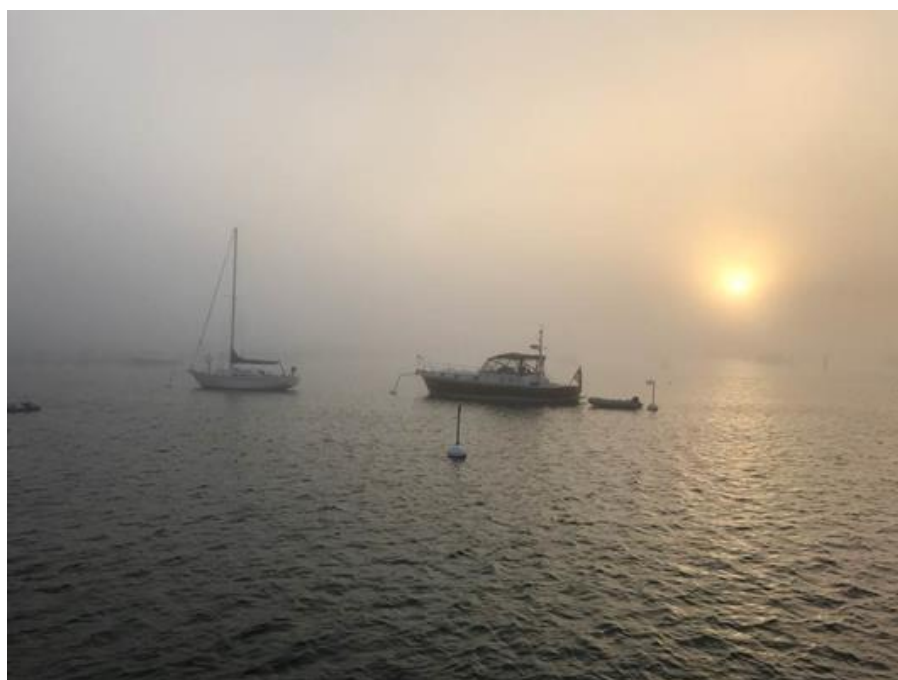
All the fuel was pumped by hand into the fuel cans and the bilges washed down with strong detergents (Dawn & Simply Green) and all of this residue pumped into tanks. Finally, the bilges were wiped clean with cloths and we returned home -- in thick fog with no incidents.

The bilges are now, undoubtedly cleaner than they have ever been and Zanzibar is back sailing again.

LESSON 3

Carry a minimum cleanup kit- for oil or diesel spills. Even a very tiny amount that gets into the water can incur a heavy fine. Oil blankets under an inboard engine are a mandatory requirement.

A foggy return to Narragansett Bay



Calendar of Events

Next Board of Governor's Meeting – Feb. 15th at 7:00 Pal's Restaurant, E.Greenwich

February 4th-5:00pm Super Bowl Party & Pot Luck Dinner (Sunday). Upstairs at the Varnum Armory, E. Greenwich

February 22nd-7:00pm Tour & Curator's Presentation: The Armory Museum (Thursday Night). Varnum Armory

March 15th- St. Paddy's Day Dinner (Thursday Night). Varnum Armory, E. Greenwich

March 22nd- Summer Races Planning Meeting (Thursday Night). Varnum Armory