

WEST BAY YACHT CLUB'S

Blooper



The Friendliest Little Yacht Club on the Bay!

PO Box 1604, East Greenwich, RI 02818 401-885-4414 www.westbayyachtclub.org

Volume 41 Issue 1

January 2016

Commodore's Message



Happy New Year! As I write this the temperature is 44 degrees, seems like a shame that we put the boats away. Lots of winter activities to look forward to at WBYC, I hope to see you all participating. Thanks to Ken Blais for coordinating shrink wrapping of the roof. Nice to finally have a dry club. We will be beginning a fundraising effort to start to clean up the club and work towards a permanent solution on the roof. Your support is as always appreciated. Finally, we have several open committee positions open that we really need some help with. Please get in touch if you have an extra hour a month to contribute to the success of the club. Hope your New Year is off to a great start!

Joe Crocker

Commodore

Vice Commodore



Do you leave your batteries on board for the winter?

Wow - this question can cause a near argument among boaters. I fully charge mine, shut off all power to them and leave them on board. I have been doing this for years with no apparent problems. I generally haul out in mid to late November and leave the batteries fully charged. I will recharge the batteries in mid March - about 4 months unattended. The article below suggests re-charging every 6-8 weeks.

I did a little research on the internet and found this informative piece on [//www.marineelectrics.ie](http://www.marineelectrics.ie).

They advocate leaving them on board. My boatyards (Brewers) have recommended the same.

Ever wonder what happens to boat batteries in winter?

The answer you would think is, not a lot... The real answer is, depends what you do with them. The life of your battery will also be influenced by the weather.

In winter, boats will generally be either in a marina or out of the water. They will usually be out of sight and out of mind as well.

What we are concerned with in this newsletter is what happens to the batteries on board during the winter months. Surprisingly, low temperatures, down to minus 15 Celsius extend the life of batteries. This often contradicts what people believe. We know that most battery problems with cars occur in very cold weather, why is then that the very same temperatures can extend battery life?

In very cold weather, car engines are more difficult to start. Oils and lubricants are more viscous, it therefore takes far more energy to crank or "turn the engine over". Batteries also produce less energy in cold weather. But we are not usually concerned with starting boat engines in very cold weather, so the battery performance is irrelevant. The issue that concerns us is

the batteries losing their charge or "going flat" during periods of inactivity.

All batteries will discharge themselves over time, this is referred to as self-discharge. During the average summer, this can be as high as 5-10% per month for flooded lead acid (batteries with a liquid electrolyte) or 1-2% per month for GEL or AGM batteries. In the winter, with temperatures averaging less than 10 degrees Celsius, the self-discharge rate will be halved. Therefore, the old advice of removing batteries from boats in winter and storing them somewhere warm, is incorrect.

As GEL and AGM batteries have such low self discharge rates in winter, they will survive through the 5 months ashore without maintenance. Flooded lead acid batteries however, are another matter.

Flooded lead acid batteries should be charged once every 6-8 weeks during the winter, preferably with a charger that is suited to deep cycle batteries. The small (5-10 Amp) chargers available from car accessory shops should be used with caution. I would recommend that they are left connected for a few hours only as they usually maintain a constant voltage when charging. This will damage battery banks if left connected. Far better to get a three or four stage battery charger, and leave it connected during the winter.

Another cause of failure of batteries during the winter on boats stored out of the water, is from severe frost. If a flooded lead acid battery is heavily discharged, the density of the electrolyte reduces, which raises the freezing point of the electrolyte. To prevent your battery being damaged by frost, always ensure that it is fully charged during storage.

Those on a marina, with shore power available and with a battery charger on board, should be left plugged into the shore power. This is generally the cheapest and most efficient way of keeping batteries charged.

Do not fall into the trap of letting your batteries go flat during the winter and then re-charging them at the beginning of the season, at this stage the damage, in the form of sulphation, will have been done. Sulphation of batteries is not reversible!

Kevin Ingle
Rear Commodore

Membership Committee

Hello Members,

Before you know it, we'll be contacting you about renewing your membership for 2016. Last year was another banner year and we're already planning another year of top shelf events for 2016. A membership at WBYC is something not equaled by any other club on this side of the bay. We have more cruises, more racing and more land based activities than all the other clubs. If you're a boater who's looking for some water based activities, WBYC is your only option. Why not introduce a friend to the WBYC experience. We are always looking for new members who are looking for that special club that's both fun and educational. WBYC is that club. Contact the membership Committee today.

Your WBYC Membership Gives You Reciprocity at Yacht Clubs Worldwide!

Did you know that little red-white, and blue card you received with your membership credentials, that says "Yachting Club of America" gives you access to yacht clubs all over the world? Whether you're sailing up to Maine or around the Greek Isles, there's a yacht club in the area you can visit like a member!

Your 2016 YCA card will be mailed out with your WBYC membership credentials when you renew or become a new member, and this card is the key that will open your world to all kinds of travel possibilities!

Planning a trip and need help? Or trying to decide someplace new to explore? Check out their website www.ycaol.com and enter the user ID and password listed on your reciprocal card to gain members- only access and list of all the participating yacht clubs and their details.

Have you already checked out a club from their list and want to share more about the gem with your fellow boaters? Why not write a short paragraph or 2 for the Blooper and share your experience. Photos are also welcome!

The world is your oyster and YCA offers you the opportunity to explore it!!

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Travis
Membership Committee
401-573-3276

Activities Committee



Welcome to 2016 Everyone!! We trust the holidays passed with lots of fun and little stress.

The Holiday Party was a huge success with nearly 70 people attending. Guess who brought the "Snuggie" home once again? Many, many thanks to Dawn and her elves for transforming the Club into a wonderful Winter Wonderland. You are all the best.

We've been working on the Social Calendar, so keep an eye out for upcoming events.

If you're a football fan, join us on February 7th for Superbowl Sunday. The doors open around 5:00 PM. Kickoff is scheduled for 6:30. Bring your favorite munchies, entrée, or dessert. We'll be having a few raffles throughout the night, too.

On a much somber note, we'd like to extend our sincere condolences to Joan Harnish and family for the recent passing of her husband, Les. They have been members of WBYC and EGYC for several years and he will be sorely missed.

We're also looking for volunteers to help out with ideas and events, so don't be shy, just call.

Jo-Ann and the rest of the Committee
Jen, Phyllis, Celeste, Dawn and Michele

Race Committee



We have been working on the 2016 WBYC Racing Calendar and tentatively have established the following dates:

Saturday, June 4th	WBYC's Tune-Up Regatta
Sunday, June 26th	WBYC's Lady Skippers Regatta
Saturday, July 9th	WBYC's Norton Memorial Regatta
Saturday, July 23rd	WBYC's Whalers Cruise/Race to Block Island
Saturday, July 30th	WBYC's Around the Bay Race
Saturday, August 20th	WBYC's Fantastic Plastic Regatta
Saturday, September 10th	WBYC's <u>Rainone</u> Solo/Twin Regatta
Saturday, October 15th	WBYC's Pumpkin Patch Regatta

These dates have been selected to work around other events held by East Greenwich Yacht Club (Annual Regatta, Saturday, July 16th), the Twenty-Hundred Club (various events throughout the season), Barrington Yacht Club (Bud Humphrey and Pret Gladding Races) and the J Fest Regatta (Saturday, August 13th - Sunday August 14th). If there are any other events that we should schedule around please contact me so that our calendar can be adjusted.

We will be posting dates and time for the Evening Summer Series as soon as those dates have been determined.

"Racing Rules Jeopardy" will be held on Thursday, February 25th, at 1900h (that's 7PM) at West Bay Yacht Club. Come have some laughs and test your knowledge

of the Racing Rules of Sailing under the same pressure cooker environment that you find on the racecourse.

David. Lodge
WBYC Race Committee Chairman

Cruise Committee

Happy New Year! 2015 was a fantastic cruising year for WBYC in my very biased opinion! With your help, I predict 2016 will be even better. 2015 ended with our annual cruising award going to Dawn and Rich Safton, our two top-notch racing cruisers (not sure if that is a word, but I'm going



with it). Rich and Dawn made it to every one of our weekend cruises in 2015 and were very involved with planning and executing several of them. Always quick to laugh at something they (or I) did, include others in the fun and always on the hunt to recruit additional cruisers to our humble group; they were excellent choices for this year's award. Congratulations to Dawn and Rich.

Pencil in February 20th on your calendar. That is the date we will be holding our annual cruising kickoff social at the club. Planning is just starting so I don't have a lot of details to report now. If you would like to help out (PLEASE) planning this event, give me a call. We will unveil our 2016 cruising calendar and our 2015 cruising awards. That's right; the REAL awards will be back in all their irreverence and hysterical glory. Please send me your story (about someone else). Facts are optional...no, discouraged because the stories are much better that way. We had a few interesting incidents on several cruises that I am aware of; with your help this will be a great time. To add a lot more to the awards, attendees will get to vote on the best and biggest story of the year. So we will be unveiling a new award, the Capt. Ron Cruiser of the Year Award. Bragging rights are at stake.

Within the next few weeks I will be sending you an email with a link to a cruising survey. We did this back in 2013 and the results have been guiding our program since then with great success (you are showing up). It is time to refresh what our plans are based on what you want. Your opinion really

matters, so please do take the survey. It will be limited to only 10 questions, so it will take less than 10 minutes of your time. We will share the results at the cruise social.

Captain Mark D just sent me an email with a draft itinerary for our annual 2-week cruise. It looks like he and his committee are planning a cruise around Buzzards Bay, the Cape and Martha's Vineyard. The tentative cruise dates are July 2nd through July 17th. According to Mark, there are several points that cruisers will be able to join in or jump off depending on their schedules. Consider joining the cruise this year. It is always a good time.

As always, I am looking for more souls to join our cruising committee and to volunteer to be cruise captains. The work is light if it is divided among many. Not sure if you would like to be a cruise captain but would like to help? Perfect! Give me a call 401-451-9799 or send me an email rtstocker@gmail.com. Your help is greatly appreciated.

See you on February 20th!

Tom Stocker
Cruise Committee Spokesperson

West Bay Yacht Club Store

- Baseball Hat \$10.00**
- Men's and Ladies T shirts \$12.00**
- Sweatshirt \$25.00**
- Men's and Ladies Polo shirt \$25.00**
- All Prices include club logo!**

2016 Board of Governors

- Commodore: Joe Crocker**
- Vice Commodore: Kevin Ingle**
- Rear Commodore: Karen Berg**

- Past Commodore: David Lodge**
- Secretary: Raleigh Jenkins**
- Treasurer: Dale Broadbent**
- Parliamentarian: Carolyn Cure**
- Member-at-Large: Bruce Arey**
- Member-at-Large: Grant Brandon**
- Member-at-Large: Dawn Safton**

2016 Committee Chairs

- Activities:Phyllis Geisser, Jo-Ann Grima**
- Cruising: Tom Stocker**
- Education: Open**
- House: Open**
- Membership:Karen Berg**
- Publicity:Andrew Brousell**
- Blooper:Andrew Brousell**
- Website: David Lodge**
- Racing:David Lodge**

Norton's Discount Marine Store

**Always a Fully Stocked Marine Store Offering
Fantastic *Discount* Prices!**

Store Hours:

- Mon-Fri: 8:30am - 4:30pm**
- Sat: 9:00am-3:00pm**
- Sun: 10:00am-2:00pm**

Norton's is always looking for ways to ensure our customers save money while obtaining the items they need & want. We at Norton's we make it our goal to carry a great selection of cleaning solutions, safety & security items, mechanical & engine parts, electronics, wiring, hoses of all types & sizes, and a "boat-load" of other products for both sail and power boats alike.

In addition, we are a certified Volvo-Penta, Mercury, MerCruiser, and Yanmar dealer and always carry the items you need, when you need them. Please stop by and visit us, pick up a catalog, and remember – Norton's often meets or beats even *our own* listed prices!

Need something we don't have in stock? Their professional & knowledgeable staff will be happy to order it for you.

Winter Weekend - Get Away

In conjunction with our friends at WBYC, Debbi Wloch (PC 2010), has reserved the beautiful Franconia Inn, Franconia NH, for the annual weekend getaway, February 26-28, 2016. We welcome all members and friends to join us for a fun, relaxing weekend in New Hampshire.

Enjoy the day X-C Skiing, Snowshoeing or Ice Skating on the grounds of the Inn, Downhill Skiing is close by (30 Minutes). If you prefer the view from inside the building, the fireplace in the main living room is a great place to relax with a good book, knitting projects or work on a Jigsaw puzzle.

The cozy inn has been a club favorite for many years, please join us again this year.

February 26-28 2016

\$225-\$265/per night/per couple, Bed, Breakfast and Dinner.

Call today to make your reservation 1-800-473-5299.

You may also find more information by visiting their website:

<http://www.franconiainn.com/>



AFC and NFC Conference Championships

Sunday, January 24th - 3:00 PM - Club opens at 2:00 - Pot Luck Late Lunch / Early Dinner - bring your favorite dish, game munchies or chip when we order pizza!

SUPERBOWL GAME

Sunday, February 7th - 6:00PM - Club opens at 5:00 - Pot Luck Dinner - bring your favorite dish, game munchies or chip when we order pizza!

Everyone is invited! Feel free to bring a guest!



Cruising Club of America Safety at Sea Seminar

March 19-20, 2016

at the Marriott Hotel in Newport, RI.

Why take a Safety at Sea Seminar?

- Ever wonder what you would do if someone fell overboard from your boat?
- Thought through your plan to deal with heavy weather if you can't reach a safe harbor?
- Are you interested in selecting the right emergency communications equipment or personal safety gear, but you're not sure what to buy?

If so, a Safety at Sea (SAS) Seminar is for you.

Safety at Sea Seminar facts:

- Moderated and taught by experienced, lifelong sailors who include some of the top names in sailing and safety.
- Safety at Sea Seminars are for everyone: Cruisers, Powerboaters, and Sailboat Racers alike. These informative sessions are designed for boaters of all types and levels — novices and experts, near shore and offshore. Bad weather knows no limits and all boaters can benefit from this valuable training.
- Curriculum is certified by US Sailing Association. This seminar will have particular focus on the Newport Bermuda race and it welcomes (and offers considerable information for) cruisers, racing crews, and skippers, and delivery crews. The offshore environment is the same for the race, the delivery home, and cruising. Both boat and crew require advance preparation.
- More than 1,000 sailors attend safety seminars around North America every year and many bring their families and crews. The certifications are good for five years.

Saturday Safety at Sea Seminar

Bruce Brown will moderate Saturday's Safety at Sea Seminar as well as the Sunday Practical Hands-On Training Session. Bruce has extensive experience working on the West Coast with sailors, and moderating seminars for Pacific Cup crews as well as commercial fishermen.

Speakers and topics:

- *Larry Huntington*, heavy weather.
- *John Rousmaniere*, lessons learned from recent incidents.
- *Ron Trossbach*, changes in offshore regulations, Bermuda Race safety regulations, and new safety equipment.
- *Frank Bohlen*, marine weather and sea state.
- *Christopher McNally*, offshore communications.
- *Dr. Jeff Wisch*, seasickness, dehydration, and hypothermia and their effects on seamanship.
- *Bruce Brown*, MOB prevention and recovery, rescue at sea and the ethics of giving assistance.
- *Karen Prioleau*, crew preparation and training.



Bruce Brown demonstrates a life raft

- *Will Keene and Bruce Brown*, essentials of damage control and abandoning ship.
- *Henry Marx*, personal safety equipment and life rafts.

Materials will be sent by email in advance of the seminar.

Many providers of safety at sea services and products will be on hand Saturday with exhibits.

Sunday Practical Hands-On Training

Combined with the Saturday seminar, this yields the coveted ISAF Approved Offshore Personal Survival Course certificate. Attendees will gain knowledge in the use of life rafts, boarding, and righting skills from experienced instructors. Flares and fire-fighting skills will also be covered. ISAF certification includes hands-on training with your PFD and inflation, as well as pool time with your inflated PFD in offshore clothing. An exam (passing grade of 80) is part of the certification process. This certificate is highly recommended for the 2016 Newport Bermuda Race and required for such races as the Fastnet, the Sydney-Hobart, and races in Mexico and Canada.



In the pool (Rousmaniere photos)

Other sessions:

- **Saturday ISAF Offshore Personal Survival Refresher:** The Refresher allows attendees to renew ISAF certificates and other experienced sailors to acquire their certificate in one day.
- **Sunday Newport Bermuda Race Preparation Seminar:** This is aimed at sailors planning to participate in the Newport Bermuda Race.
- **Sunday Medical Seminar:** Dr. Jeff Wisch and Dr. Barbara Masser will focus on the duties of the boat's medical officer and the unexpected accidents and events this person may face.

[Click here to register for the March 19-20 CCA/Bermuda Race Safety at Sea Seminar.](#)

[For more information on the various sessions click here for the full course announcement.](#)

Questions regarding the seminar email us at: safetyseminar@cruisingclub.org

For more information about the Newport Bermuda Race, click on **this brief description** or go to the race website, **BermudaRace.com**.

The Cruising Club of America views safety at sea as an important part of its mission and encourages sailors to access articles written by members and posted on the CCA's public website:

www.cruisingclub.org



West Bay Yacht Club

"Friendliest Little Yacht Club on the Bay"

Location: Norton's Marina & Shipyard
Foot of Division Street, East Greenwich, RI

2016 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Return To:

WBYC Membership Chair
P.O. Box 1604
East Greenwich, RI 02818

Date: _____

APPLICANT _____ APPLICANT _____

STREET _____ CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE—HOME _____ WORK _____ CELL _____

CHILDREN'S NAMES & AGES _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

YACHT NAME _____ SAIL/POWER _____ CLASS/MAKE _____

YACHT LENGTH _____ MARINA _____

SPONSORED BY: 1. _____ 2. _____

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:

Please contact our Membership Chair to discuss the WBYC Membership options and cost. Thanks for your interest. We look forward to hearing from you!

SAILING INTERESTS: Circle your interests

Club Cruising	Series Racing	Committee Boat	Other
Race Own	Race Crew	Weekend Cruising	Cruiser Races

PREFERENCES FOR CLUB PARTICIPATION: Circle your preference for participation

Activities (Social)	Cruising	Publicity	Education
Racing	Membership	Series Racing	

WILLING TO HELP AS FOLLOWS: Circle your preference

Prepare/bring food for club functions Decorate/Cleanup for club functions Clubhouse maintenance Other

I/We understand that the West Bay Yacht Club is a self-help working club and I/we agree to help and participate in various club functions.

Signature _____ Signature _____

Visit us online at www.westbayyachtclub.org or on facebook



Contact Andrew Brousell to request electronic delivery of the Blooper and most other West Bay Yacht Club correspondence. abrousel@yahoo.com
Electronic Blooper delivered 1/1/2016

PO Box 1604
East Greenwich, RI 02818
www.westbayyachtclub.org

VERY important links to your Club website.
Need to get in touch with a Club Officer or
Committee Chair?

<http://westbayyachtclub.org/2016-wbyc-officers.html>

The latest Club Cruising, Racing and Social calendar is
always at your fingertips electronically:

<http://www.westbayyachtclub.org/wbyc-club-calendar.html>

