



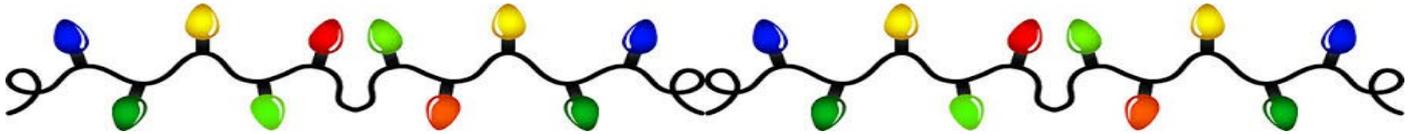
New Castle Sailing Club

NEWSLETTER

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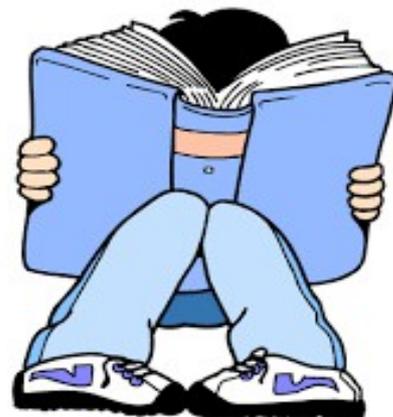
Commodore's Corner

A careful recount of the number of sailings taken has revealed that **DONNA POWELL** is the winner of the 2017 "Old Salt Award" with 69 sailings! Apologies to Donna for the initial miscount.

The off-season is a good time to catch up on reading. There are a number of good books on sailing and sailing adventures in the club library which are available to you to borrow. Two of my favorites are *Desperate Voyage* and *Hard on the Wind*.

Regards,

Michael Evans
Commodore
New Castle Sailing Club





Membership

Welcome to our new members:

John and Tracy Harder

John's Father was a member in the late 60's early 70's and crewed for him in his teens. He has Flying Scot and Hobie experience. He has some carpentry experience which the Club can always use.

Deb Kauffman

Deb has experience as a crew member but wants to learn to be a Captain. She is excited to learn and get more comfortable at the helm.

We welcome you to the Club, and we look forward to meeting you in February.

Mari Paz Russell
Membership Director

Instruction

Classroom instruction will begin this next sailing year on February 10, 2018, at 10:30 a.m. Both classroom and on-the-water instruction are included in your membership and will significantly improve your skills, confidence and safety in sailing.

This year, we'll be using and providing a new book by the American Sailing Association, *Sailing Made Easy*. We encourage all unkeyed members to attend classroom instruction, and we look forward to seeing you there.

For the more experienced sailors, I welcome anyone who would enjoy assisting with instruction to contact me (Michael Hyzny at InstNCSC@gmail.com or 302-547-3552) to discuss which lessons you may be interested in leading.

Michael Hyzny
Safety and Instruction Director

Property

The NCSC thrives, in large part, due to the skills and commitment of its members, and property maintenance is certainly no exception. When there is a property issue that requires engineering and/or trade skill expertise, I have a number of “go to” people in the club. The two members most frequently consulted are Scott Andrews and Jim Looloian. Remember the dingy shed rear roof, soffit, and fascia rebuild? How about the sail house re-roofing? Yep, that was Jim and Scott.

Next up in the area of capital improvement is the boat barn. Required repairs in three separate areas of the barn have been undertaken by the Property Committee and are budgeted for completion in 2018. The projects include repairing or replacing the loft doors, the front and rear second floor gables, and the windows.

The October haul-out and Thistle boat storage brought to light the poor condition of the barn loft doors. The committee met to discuss the design, materials, and effort needed to upgrade the doors. Jim Looloian took the lead, acquiring all the materials, building the new doors in his garage, and then hauling them to the barn for installation. With the exception of 6 original hinges, the wood and vinyl-sided doors were completely reconstructed with solid wood interior bracing between one-half inch exterior plywood sheeting, and heavy-duty hardware. This quality construction and installation was accomplished at a material cost of less than \$500, and a labor cost of zero. Big thanks to Jim!



The front and rear gable reconstruction will require the services of a professional siding contractor, so consequently higher material and labor costs. However, every effort will be made to reduce our costs by using member labor to replace and finish the barn windows. If you are able to contribute some time and effort toward property maintenance this year – here is your opportunity to scrape, sand, tape, caulk, fill, prime, and paint.



Many hands make the work lighter, the sails more frequent, and the balance sheet sweeter.



Racing

With the dusting of snow on the ground, our 2018 NCSC racing season seems a long way off. But, as the new NCSC Racing Director, I am starting to think about our 2018 racing season and schedule.

First, I want to thank Tilo Stahl for his service to the Club and our racing program during the past several seasons. In his 2017 racing season wrap up in the November newsletter, Tilo noted that "racing attendance has been stable for the last few years, but at a low level, so we as a club need to keep working on making the racing program attractive to the largest possible segment of our membership."

Increasing racing participation by more of our membership--whether on Thistles, Scots, or the Committee Boat--will be my goal for 2018. I want as many of our members as possible to enjoy the fun and challenge of sail racing. There is nothing better on the water.

As I begin my planning for 2018, I am looking for ways we can increase our participation in the racing program. If you have ideas for doing this, or any other thoughts regarding NCSC racing, please send me your thoughts and ideas at racingncsc@gmail.com.

Tom Gorman
Racing Director

