

DUSTS & PUFFS

The Newsletter of the Otsego Sailing Club

March 2018

Commodore's Column

Dear Members,

What a way for March to begin. I am looking at snow on the ground and in the air and I am thinking of our Spring Meeting at the Otesaga, the Pre-Dock days, and Dock Day all happening within two months. Is that really possible? Our club is a most remarkable organization. Just think about the effort required to run the club and the activities it provides for our members—and all is done by volunteers! Just think of the planning and the organization that goes into the pre-Dock Days, the Spring Meeting, and Dock Day; providing the food at Dock Days; the calendar and duty roster; having the boats ready and maintained; keeping track of the harbor, the slips, and the waiting list; keeping track of winter storage boats; sending bills and keeping track of dues; putting together membership lists; paying the bills and ordering supplies; keeping the website running and updated; maintaining the OSC Facebook page; running the OSC Sailing School and sailing club advertising; planning and organizing the Commodore's Corn Roast, the Fourth of July social event (keeping track of who has paid, who's supplying, cooking, and serving the food, and who is serving it, and who is going to clean-up), and at least two pier parties. Look at the organization of the Saturday Orientation Program, the weekend racing program, scoring of all those races, ordering the trophies, and filing the permits required to hold those races. Don't forget landscaping, getting the garbage picked up, contacting the lawn mower service, ordering the tent (finally, for the last time), securing a plowing service, and clearing the docks of snow so they float all winter. And, of course, the major event: planning, organizing, advertising, and staffing the Glimmerglass Regatta. I apologize to those whose activities I left out... but I think it is plain to see why I am so proud to be a member of our volunteer-run sailing club. If you want to become a stakeholder in any of these activities, all you have to do is just let me know!

Okay, now on to the business at hand.

The Spring Meeting is really the start of our sailing season. It provides an opportunity to get together with friends and talk about the up-coming events and the sailing activities. This Spring Meeting may be rather unique as one of the big agenda topics will be the Pavilion. As a result, the agenda has been modified from our usual format to allow an informative discussion. We hope to explain where we are, how we got here, and where we are going. For your viewing pleasure, we plan to have a scale model of the pavilion framing along with a survey map showing the pavilion's location. The Board and I are eager to discuss the project and hope we can answer all your questions. We would really like to see you there, so please join us at the Otesaga, Saturday April 7th at 12:00 for a lunch buffet, or at approximately 1:00 downstairs for the meeting. **(continued on page 4!)**



To young men
contemplating a voyage,
I'd say go.
- Joshua Slocum

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Spring Meeting Details

Otsego Sailing Founda-
tion update

Otsego Sailing Club 2018 Calendar

- April 3** Board Meetings, First Wednesdays
- April 7** Spring Brunch and Meeting – The Otesaga, Lunch at 12:00, meeting at 1:00
- April 21** Pre-Dock Day
- April 28** Pre-Dock Day
- May 2** Board Meeting
- May 5** Dock Day ~ Mandatory for all members
- Hawkeye Spring Series (Handicap):***
- May 19, 20** Racing
May 19 Launch Day
- May 26, 27, 28** Racing
May 26, 27, 28 Memorial Day Series
- June 2, 3** Racing
Big Boat Racing 1 PM Start~Competitors' Meeting at 11
- June 6** Board Meeting
- June 9, 10** Racing
- June 16, 17** Racing
June 16 New (and Old!) Member Pier Party
- June 23, 24** Racing
- Kingfisher Summer Series (Class and Handicap)***
- June 30, July 1, 4** Racing
TBD 4th July Celebration
June 30 & July 1 4th July Series 1 PM Start
June 30 & July 13 Mile Point Big Boat Racing 1 PM Start, One race daily. Competitors meeting at 11.
- July 7, 8** Racing
- July 11** Board Meeting
- July 14, 15** Racing
- July 21, 22** Racing
July 21 Pier Party
- July 28, 29** Racing
- August 1** Board Meeting
- August 4, 5** Racing
- August 11, 12** Racing
August 11 Commodore Corn and Lobster Roast
August 11, 12 Lawrence Cup/Club Championship. 10 AM start Saturday; 1 PM start Sunday

Natty Bumpo Fall Racing Series (Handicap)

August 18, 19	Racing Big Boat Championship 1 PM start
August 25, 26	Racing
Sept 1, 2, 3	Racing
Sept 3	Hyde Bay Race & Glimmerglass State Park Picnic. Big Boat start at 9:30; all others at 10AM
Sept 4	Board Meeting
Sept 8, 9	Racing
Sept 15, 16	51st Glimmerglass Regatta: Glimmerglass Regatta 9 AM Start Saturday; 9 AM Start Sunday. Both day's race start time subject to revision, but assume 9 AM.
October 2	Board Meeting
October 13	Dock Day ~ Mandatory for all members
November 7	Board Meeting
November 10	Fall Brunch and Meeting at the Otesga: Lunch at 12:00, meeting at 1:00

OSC Brunch and Spring Meeting

The Board cordially invites everyone to attend this enjoyable event. Please join us as we renew old friendships and make new ones. We especially would ask new and recent members to come discover what makes the Otsego Sailing Club such a great organization. If this will be your first or your fortieth, we'd love to see you.

As you have no doubt guessed, we have quite a bit going on at the club this year and will answer all the questions we can answer! Please join us. Bring a friend!

Brunch will begin at 1200 at the Otesaga Hotel in Cooperstown, NY. The Spring Meeting will follow at 1300. The price this year will be \$25 per person. **Please RSVP to Dave Ainsworth using the Gusts and Puffs email address by Wednesday, April 4.** Checks may be sent in advance to Otsego Sailing Club, P.O. Box 816, Cooperstown, NY 13326, or you may pay Dave at the door.

The Pavilion Project

Wow, where to begin?

Fund Raising: We will be funding the Pavilion Project with a loan as well as through our fundraising effort, where the support from you, our members, has been overwhelming. The pavilion would not be possible without the generous donations of our members.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank all of our donors and remind everyone who hasn't already done so to send their checks payable to the Otsego Sailing Foundation,

c/o Jonas Kelly, 484 Dover Road, Barneveld, NY 13304.

Town Of Otsego Planning Board Permit Process: Our Planning Board Team, headed by Vice- Commodore David Ainsworth with the support of Gary Herzig, Ron Streek, Finn Jensen, and Jim Dulak, attended a scheduled Sketch Plan Meeting on March 6th to propose the project learn what the Planning Board will require for OSC to obtain a building permit. The next step in the process will be to meet with them again on April 3rd for the Site Plan Review, with the Town of Otsego Planning Board to submit the required materials and permit application. To this end, the Executive Board has employed Mr. Jim Forbes as our engineer to produce blueprints and Kaatskill Mountain Surveyors to provide a site plan map indicating the location of the pavilion and a scale property map.

The location of the pavilion has to be at least 100' from the lake shore, which places us farther inland from the existing tent site. The proposed building site has several advantages. First, it opens up a large space between the pavilion and the lake, creating a large grassy area for kids to play and other activities that will be much more sheltered from traffic flow. Second, the pavilion will be much nearer the road, making loading and unloading near the pavilion much easier and safer. We gain all of this yet still have easy access to the club house.

Loan Application Process: Past Commodore Gary Herzig has been authorized by the Executive Board to begin the process of applying for a loan of \$40,000 from the Sidney Federal Credit Union, securing the loan with the club-owned boats (motor and sailing school boats) as collateral. The loan materials are nearly complete and it may be possible to submit the application as early as next week.

The Next Steps: We are hoping the permit process goes smoothly, and if so, the first phase of the project will be the excavation for the foundation and the pouring of the cement floor. We hope to have this completed this spring. We recognize that the foundation will have an impact on our traffic flow for the summer and ask you to bear with us! The construction phase of the pavilion structure will begin after Fall Dock Day, which should be completed in about three to four weeks. In the meantime, we will be using the tent once again for our summer activities. Who knows, we may even be having a "Farewell, So Long" party for the tent sometime this summer. I guess we have to find a Social Chairperson first. We look forward to keeping the project moving and to keeping you updated as we progress through the rest of the process.

Before ending I must again thank the members of the Executive Board (David Ainsworth, Jeannine Webster, Patricia Weyland, Tom Rusk, and Finn Jensen) as well as Chris Kelly, Gary Herzig, Wayne Mellor, and Ron Streek for all their energy, enthusiasm, and guidance in moving this project along.

Sail fast, Butch Weir

Otsego Sailing Foundation Update

The Otsego Sailing Foundation is off to a great start! The Foundation has received a Flying Scot, a 10' Zodiac inflatable dinghy, 2 Optimists, and over \$21,000 in cash contributions. Thank you to our generous contributors! Remember, the Otsego Sailing Foundation is a 501(c)(3) and contributions to the foundation may be tax deductible.

The 10' Zodiac is for sale. The boat is at the club and available for inspection. Send us your purchase offers!

The OSF now has information on-line. Go to the OSC site and look for the link on the homepage.

Email Foundation-related questions to Jonas Kelly ([click here](#))

Mail contributions to Otsego Sailing Foundation, 484 Dover Rd, Barneveld, NY 13304

Thank you for your support!

Otsego Sailing Foundation Directors

Jonas Kelly
Kathy Brooks
Tom Rusk
Drew Porter
Butch Weir
Ron Streek

Invasive Species Policy of the OSC

The Otsego Sailing Club supports the preservation and protection of Otsego Lake, its ecosystem, and supports NYS Invasive Species Law. The OSC Board will maintain an effective inspection and disinfection system for every craft, trailer and launch vehicle prior to launching from the OSC for invasive species compliance. Club members and visitors are required to honor NYS Law and the OSC Invasive Species Policy.

The OSC will post notices in the clubhouse and at the launch ramp on invasive species and the necessity of maintaining clean boats, trailers and vehicles. The OSC will include a section on its website dedicated invasive species and continue to take measures designed to educate the membership on invasive species.

An inspection procedure, in accordance with NYS DEC guidelines, will be maintained, with minimal inconvenience to the skipper, for the inspection and, where required or recommended, cleaning of boats, trailers and vehicles that use the OSC launch.

The OSC will communicate with and seek to cooperate with organizations and local and state governments that strive to protect the Otsego Lake ecosystem.

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