

"To preserve and encourage the sport of sailing, and foster a spirit of camaraderie among yachtsmen."

The Mainsheet Newsletter

January 22, 2024



Duck Island Yacht Club

Founded in 1932

Welcome to our 2024 season!

The new incoming officers have quickly taken on their new roles w/energy & passion! Thank you kindly to the outgoing officers for their incredible support! Race schedule, race seminars, membership dues, communication, off season events and officer contact emails were just a few items discussed at our first officer meeting.

RACE INFO

Race Start Dates

(Tentative)

Bob McLellan: May 8th

Shirley Hall: May 14th

Thursday One Design: June 20th

Dates TBD

ECSA Spring Regatta

ECSA Daytime Distance

ECSA Thundermug

Questions/concerns contact
Ruth at diyc.race@gmail.com

[DIYC Swag](#)

Welcome 2024 Officers!

Commodore: Anne Edgley

Vice Commodore: Mike DeNamur

Rear Commodore Race: Ruth Emblin

Rear Commodore Social: Jessi Kneier

Rear Commodore Cruise: Lauren Weinstein

Treasurer: T.J. Buckley

Secretary: Renee Carlisle

Fleet Captain: Roger Bauman

Director of Publicity: Robin Konrad

*Webmaster: Dick Saunders

Click the [Officer](#) tab on our website for
contact info

Duck Island Yacht Club

Post Office Box 593, Westbrook, CT 06498

[Racing](#) [Cruising](#) [Social](#) [Club History](#) [Calendar](#) [Officers](#) [Directions](#)



BOG Updates

The BOG has accepted Peter Emblin's resignation as Rear Commodore Race and unanimously elected Ruth Emblin to fill the vacancy.

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****MEMBER SPOTLIGHT****



Anne Edgley, Commodore: Anne is British and moved to CT in 2005 to become CFO of a start-up wind power company. She met her husband, Fred Beckham in 2007 and they married in 2010. Together they own Augenblick, a J109 which is docked at the club during the season. Fred races on their boat or on others while Anne sticks to cruising and loves the annual club cruises to Three Mile Harbor and Mystic Seaport. Prior to becoming Commodore Anne was Treasurer for nine years and frequently steps in to help at the club social events such as the parties following Thundermug and Bill's Cup. In the winter Fred and Anne are avid skiers and spend time at their condo in Steamboat Springs. **Anne's vision for DIYC in 2024 is ...** "To build on inclusivity, add a family event such as a Summer Social and to look at youth education as a means to bring young sailors into the club."

Mike DeNamur, Vice Commodore: Mike and his wife Karla are both from WI, hailing from a small town that was also the home of yacht-builder Palmer Johnson. Surrounded by water and boats it was easy to be attracted to sailing. A memorable moment was when Mike's HS history teacher had the class watch live coverage of the 1983 America's Cup race 7 - history in the making. Fresh out of college, his first boat might have been a JY15. Instead, the local JY dealer encouraged Mike to show up at Wayzata YC for Thursday night beer can racing - "bring a six pack and I'll make sure to get you on a boat". Sailing J24s and Capri 25s on Lake Minnetonka turned into opportunities for weekend racing on big boats in the Great Lakes. Mike completed three Chicago-Mac races, a TransSuperior and other events; mostly doing foredeck on boats up to 50'. In 2000, Karla lured Mike to CT and their first boat was a Capri 25. They found DIYC when they acquired Windshear from Dave & Maria Gilmore in 2005 and have been loving sailing in Eastern LIS ever since. In 2017 they traded the Olson 911SE for a Beneteau First 36.7 (BADGER). Along the way they raced in Leukemia Cup and the occasional DIYC event. When their son moved off to college, an expanded racing schedule became an option. And once Dave & Kathy Nauber recruited Mike & Karla into the Wolverine program, the DIYC hook was set. Over the past few seasons the BADGER cruising calendar and racing schedule have ramped up - as has Mike & Karla's involvement in DIYC. Ever-grateful for the good friends and great experiences that DIYC provides, Mike is excited about the opportunity to help lead the club forward. **Mike's vision for DIYC in 2024 is...** "to be a place where competitive sailors hone their skills, new sailors are welcomed and encouraged, and members share an appreciation for the history, tradition, beauty and camaraderie of sailing."



Ruth Emblin, Vice Commodore Race: Ruth grew up in Munich, Germany, as far as can be from any body of salt water. Her primary sports growing up in the Bavarian and Austrian Alps included skiing, hiking and mountain climbing. When she met Peter, he introduced her to windsurfing on Italian mountain lakes and in the Mediterranean, but she wasn't really into it as much as he was. Not until they moved to the United States did the sailing bug hit. They bareboated, had a "timeshare boat" for a while, trying to see whether this was something they both would like. Ruth raced with a friend on a J109 for several years. In 2006 they purchased a 1980 40-foot Doug Peterson Islander they renamed "Tartuca". She was in pretty bad shape and they lovingly restored her. She raced in the ECSA circuit for several years, and she and Fusion often traded "transom views" on weekends! In 2019 Tartuca went back to Bristol where she originally came from (to a new owner who loves her), and a 45-foot Outremer performance catamaran christened "Honu Nui" took her place. For a couple of years she was berthed just opposite Duck Island Yacht Club and cruised extensively around the Northeast. Ruth became a member of the DIYC Race Committee two years ago, and acted as the Vice Commodore for one and a half years. This year, she takes over the role of Rear Commodore Race. In her two years on the committee Ruth has become very impressed by the deep commitment and camaraderie of the race



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committee volunteers without whom DIYC Racing would not be what it is, and this made the decision to take on the role very easy. **Ruth's vision for DIYC in 2024 is ...** "for the Race Committee to continue the Corinthian-style volunteer work and camaraderie on board of the DIYC RC vessels, and to encourage other members to join the committee. It is the perfect way to give back to the club, and to ensure that DIYC's long and excellent racing legacy endures for many years to come"

Jessi Kneier, Vice Commodore Social: Jessi is going on her 2nd year as a member at DIYC and is looking forward to serving as Rear Commodore of Social this year. She has held the Rear Commodore position at a previous yacht club as well as Membership Chair and Entertainment Co-Chair. Jessi is enthusiastic to bring that experience into her new role here at the club. Jessi currently crews onboard Prism (along w/ her husband, Jason) which is owned and skippered by Joel Mangini. She also helps out on Race Committee during the Shirley Hall series. Her own sailboat, Argo, is a Hunter 33 and is kept at Pilots Point, North Yard. Up until last year, her experience was purely cruising but she would like to race Argo in some lower profile events for fun. Fairly new to the sailing world, Jessi and Jason bought their sailboat six years ago without any prior boating or sailing experience. Thankfully, they were supported by many generous sailors who took the time to instruct them and tag along on those exciting first trips. Jessi and Jason have an ambitious goal to circumnavigate the globe so they are eagerly learning all they can to prepare for their epic voyage! **Jessi's vision for DIYC in 2024 is...**"for our club to continue to be known as a true sailing club that fosters an environment to both challenge the seasoned and nurture the novice as well as provide a place for all members of the family to gather for fun social activities."



Robin Konrad, Director of Publicity: I grew up in Scituate, MA where my family would always be out on our powerboat cruising around Boston Harbor, often setting anchor to listen to the Boston Pops. I had never been on a sailboat until I joined DIYC as a Social Member in 2014 thanks to my hubby Mattman who has been a member for many years. Since joining I have increased my sailing knowledge. First, while having no idea of what to do on both Fusion and Wolverine, I started by sitting on the rail of Wolverine observing everyone, to now having the confidence of knowing enough to make my way around the entire boat, especially mast and bow...all thanks to the Naubers, Team Wolverine and many other Duckies! In more recent years, during the Fleet Series, I have crewed on Badger which has broadening my knowledge even more ~Thanks Mike & Karla! Cruising on friends' boats is something I really enjoy doing along /keeping my garden up in the summer. I was Rear Commodore Social for 3 years, introducing Grillin' & Chillin' up on the deck for both Spring & Summer Series growing it's attendance year after year... which I loved and continue to help with! **My vision for DIYC in 2024 is ...** "to keep members and others regularly informed of Club happenings w/the hopes of having more join in to enjoy the excitement of racing, cruising and socializing here at DIYC!" ☺



Secretary's Summaries:

- ✓ In the near future dues notices will be emailed. If you prefer a paper copy please send requests to Renee at secretary@diyc.com
- ✓ Monthly Officers' Meeting minutes will be posted in the "Members Only" section after approval the following month! (Active/Social members have access only)

Members Only
Requires userid & pswd

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❖ **Are you a Race Committee Volunteer???**

I would like to do a Member Spotlight on you...please contact Robin at diyc.pub@gmail.com

❖ **Have you served MORE than 4yrs in any officer role for DIYC? Or know of someone who has??**

Let's recognize you/them....please contact Robin at diyc.pub@gmail.com

Fleet News

We are in search of a new/gently used **90-115hp outboard** for our Mighty Duck chase boat. Any suggestions/donations gladly accepted.

Contact Roger at fleet.captain@diyc.com



Vice Commodore's Comments

If there are any outstanding facilities issues and/or improvement ideas that you'd like us to consider.

Please contact Mike at vice.commodore@diyc.com



Cruise Highlights

Start reserving your slips!

Book your Labor Day Weekend at Mystic Seaport via dockwa now!

Please contact Lauren at cruise.chairman@diyc.com



From Ruth, Rear Commodore Race:

The DIYC Race Committee is not just a great way to get out on the water and meet a few Duckies, it is a very useful tool to learn more about courses, individual fleets, wind shifts, tides, currents, starting sequences, flags, protests, penalties, etc. You can watch everyone do their practice runs, shoot the wind, gauge their starting positions, strategize against their opponents, round the marks, find the best way to approach the finish - and let's not forget, hear them yell "starboard"! You basically experience the racing rules of sailing condensed into a package that might come in handy when you have the chance to become a member of a racing crew or race your own boat. Experience is not needed to become a member of the DIYC Race Committee, but if you have done this before, we really want you on board! If you have your CT Safe Boating Certificate, even better. We are always looking for qualified chase boat drivers for evenings when our club stewards are not available or for our weekend regattas. And, let's not forget, we ALWAYS have plenty of fun on board!

For more information on how to become a member of the DIYC Race Committee, please contact Ruth at diyc.race@gmail.com

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SOCIAL CENTRAL

Save the Date:

Feb 20th - [DAMES ON THE DECK](#) - 6pm at Hamburg YC

Feb 24th - [WINTER SOCIAL](#) - 7pm at the Naubers'

TBD Dates

Raft Ups, Dames of the Deck & TGIFs

If anyone would like to help out w/social events
please contact Jessi at social.chairman@diyc.com

Condo Happenings

Dues notices went out

A committee to address
dredging has been formed.

Treasurer's Report

"Nothing to report"

Please contact T.J. at
diyc.treasurer@gmail.com



Commodore's Corner

Next Officer's meeting
Tuesday Feb 6th (5:30p)

Dates TBD

Spring Work Party
Commissioning Day
Annual Meeting
Awards Banquet
Fall Work Party

Questions/Comments please contact
Anne at commodore@diyc.com

Not a racer? ...but want to be in the action?

Consider joining race committee!

Contact Ruth at diyc.race@gmail.com



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"To reach a port we must sail, sometimes with the wind, and sometimes against it. But we must not drift or lie at anchor."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.



DIYC Website News & Updates from your Webmaster:

✓ [Helpful Links](#) has grown over the years....check it out!

DIYC SWAG Cool Apparel	About Duck Island Yacht Club
Helpful Links	Membership Information <small>Updated 1/12/24</small>

✓ Preliminary race schedule has been updated
Click [Calendar](#) link on the top our website

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Please contact Dick for questions/comments webmaster@diyc.com

Previous Month		February			Next Month	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Officers Meeting 5:30 PM	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Dames on the Deck at Hamburg Cove YC - 6PM	21	22	23	24 Winter Social at the Naubers - 7:00 PM
25	26	27	28	29		

Other Happenings:

EYC's The Sam Wetherill Trophy Overnight Race registration is open.
Next DIYC's "The Mainsheet Newsletter" – Monday February 19