

WILLOW BANK YACHT CLUB NEWS

FROM THE BRIDGE

August 2002

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655-5477

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ARTICLES

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Dry and hot weather has been welcomed after the damp and cool June. The July 4th picnic was a winner thanks to the efforts of Leigh Garber, Maureen Fellows, and Beth Prieve. Many statements were made about the fine appearance of the Club during July, which is attributable to the efforts of Gene Barilla and his fine group of yard boys. The fish fries also remain a huge hit with over 125 dinners served each Friday. Thanks to the many volunteers who batter and cut slaw.

Please direct wishes and cards for a speedy recovery to Don Diefendorf, who underwent emergency surgery recently and will be sidelined for an indefinite period of time. Good luck Don and hope that you return to WBYC soon. Take out service for Friday night fish fries can be graciously arranged.

Don's temporary absence leaves the racing community with the significant challenge of finding an experienced and consistent race committee. Although several volunteers have already signed up, including Don Stehle, Dick Tuttle, Dave Bull, Steve Burrell, and Scott Baldwin, additional volunteers are needed. If interested, please contact Bitsy Namy for the available openings. I challenge each fleet captain to identify one or two members of their respective fleets to assist with Race Committee duties. The experience can be humbling, but provides a perspective that is extremely valuable.

New York will compete at WBYC for three consecutive days. Come show your support. The Finn Class is also an Olympic Class sailboat that sails actively at the Club. WBYC will once again play host to the coveted Toilet Bowl regatta on August 17 and 18, which in the past several years has seen Olympic sailors from Canada and the US join for competition and camaraderie.

These recognized regattas are just two examples of the Club's strong reputation in sailing that tend to go unnoticed. We encourage all members to become more active in sailing, as it is a sport that becomes more enjoyable with experience and knowledge. Before the summer passes by, take out that sailboat that has been sitting idle in the rack, take lessons to brush up on your skills, or join one of the groups that sails during the week.

And finally, please don't drop your guard about safety while at the Club. Whether it is a youngster without a lifejacket near the waterfront or someone swimming outside of the designated areas, we each have an obligation in making this a safe summer. Kindly remind members of safety where it may be overlooked. Don't rely upon the lifeguards, Club Manager, or Assistant Club Manager to police the grounds...

Enjoy...

The 25th Empire State Games will begin on August 1, 2002 and this year 17 of the most talented sailors in

Ray Cudney
Commodore

FROM THE VICE

A Few Words from the Pulpit . . .

A funny thing happens when you're elevated to the exalted rank of Flag Officer. The Willow Bank you've always loved becomes even dearer — not the opposite.

Sure, there are bunches of meetings, formal and informal; phone calls at home that arrive before Katie Couric and Matt Lauer; Gordian knots to untie; even disputes about milk shakes being too thick or thin. Sometimes it seems as if there's hardly time to lose another Sunday afternoon sailboat race to Steve Burrell.

But for some reason the fuss and frustrations become part of the fun.

During your three-year rotation you see how Willow Bank works from the inside to satisfy the varying needs of 270 families. You learn about the gazillion lumpy details that keep the Club running smoothly on the surface. You watch members enjoying themselves day after day, whether sailing, swimming, picnicking, tanning, gasping at the July 4th fireworks, or just savoring the Sunday *Times* when no one else is around.

And when you turn your back to the thin October sun after the club is shuttered for the season, you walk away satisfied that Willow Bank continues to be what it was meant to be when it was founded more than 50 years ago. A feeling of ownership? Not really, since ownership implies the outright purchase of rights and privileges. It's more like stewardship, the voluntary granting of rights and privileges in exchange for obeying a few rules and giving back as much as you get. The dues and fees we pay, when compared to open-market prices for the same "commodities," are more like token honoraria to sustain the Club's basic structure.

The fact is (yup, here comes the sermon), we want everyone to feel like stewards of the idea called Willow Bank. So when we witness or hear about some members' wanton or ill-considered acts, it hurts. The pain is usually minor, but even being pecked to death by ducks is eventually uncomfortable.

We cringe when we see nine-year-olds racing

barefoot around the docks while parents blissfully devour paperbacks. Angels must protect our young.

And when you, or your kids, spill mustard or salt on the table outside the galley, why not just wipe it up with a napkin and toss the napkin in the trash instead of walking away?

There's a place for empty boat trailers, and it's not in front of the clubhouse where it impedes the flow of others trying to launch their craft.

There's a place for trash, too.

If the commode is plugged, please tell a staff member instead of letting the next person discover it.

The new lines and orange ribbons you've seen on the boat ramp and in front of the Sunfish racks are to prevent Canada geese from making deposits on club property. If you move the goose lines, please put them back.

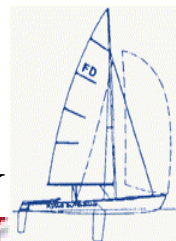
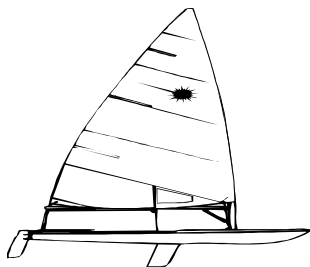
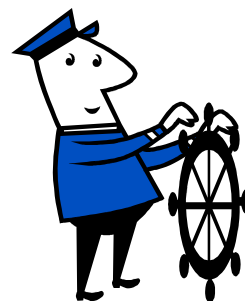
Whatever the transgression, you get the idea.

Willow Bank, whatever ideal it represents for each of us, can fulfill its individual promise only through the active *stewardship* of each of us. The Club's bylaws, about as formal as this organization gets, spell out clearly the few regulations that govern our corporate and individual behavior. You can read them in less time than it takes to read J.K. Rowling's description of quidditch. The rest must be left to common sense and courtesy.

I'm told that in nearly every religion and culture there's an equivalent to the biblical text: *Do unto others as you would have them do unto you*. Put into practice by each of us, that simple aphorism can make Willow Bank even better than it is now.

Amen, and amen.

Eric Johnson
Vice Commodore



SOCIAL CORNER

We are at the half way point and down to some of our last events. I first want to thank all who helped make the July 4th such a fabulous event. We had something for everyone: great boxed dinners, music for the adults and fun activities for all the kids. The member guest was another great event: music, great appetizers and desserts. Thanks to all that helped make it great, with an extra special thanks to Deb McCollough and Kim Dewan for organizing the event.... Wow...

Our next few events are going to really heat up the summer. The first will be our 2nd annual Karaoke/Dance Party. The theme is to "Wear an outfit from your favorite decade". Note: the ability to sing is not required, but the ability to have FUN is a MUST. Date: 8/24 Time: 7 pm to Midnight, Cost is \$7.00 pp. Bring an appetizer to pass along with BYOB. Call Kelle Flannery at 655-1034 to make reservations. Thanks in advance to both Kelle and Sue Woltman for chairing this event. It will be a night to remember. I never realized what talent we had at our club.

The last event of the season, our Labor Day / Annual Award Ceremony, will be catered by Dinosaur BBQ. The event is scheduled for Sunday, September 1st. Adults are \$12.50 , Kids are \$6.50 (under 12). The menu will include: St. Louis Cut Ribs(I promise this year), BBQ Chicken & Beans, Salt Potatoes and much more. See the attached flyer for details. Please call Shea Palmer by 8/25 to make your reservations. Thanks again to Shea and all

that help make this a great event...in advance.

Lastly, we may hold some additional events, so check the club as we will be hanging flyers. Sorry, but I do not have all details at this time. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please feel free to talk to me at the club or call me at 655-5447.

Happy Summer.....

Barb Axelson Social Chair



BOATER'S SAFETY COURSE OFFERED AT WBYC

FREE OFFER

Late breaking news.

There will be a second Boater's Safety Course offered at WBYC on Saturday, August 17, 2002 from 8 AM until 4 PM. Youth between the ages of 10 and 18 who want to operate a motor boat in New York State alone and anyone born after 1/1/75 who wants to operate a personal watercraft must successfully complete this course. The course and materials are provided free of charge to participating youth and adults. Please pre-register for this

course by calling the Cornell Cooperative Extension at 655-2075 or (315)684-3001 Monday through Friday from 8AM to 4PM. If you have any questions, please call Anne King at 655-2244.

Thanks,

Anne King



Moorings 2002

Moorings - There are still lockers available for members if you would like one. Any unregistered kayaks, canoes, etc. will be placed in the "ballroom" until claimed by owners, so please get a green sticker on your kayaks and canoes. Also, please label all boat parts as we approach the

end of our boating season. Any questions please email Bruce Campbell at bcampbel@twcny.rr.com

Bruce Campbell
Moorings Committee Chair

Scuttlebutt...

For Sale - 1973 MADER FLYING DUTCHMAN (US 1434) - Very good shape - Ready to sail - Fiberglass hull - Mahogany deck - Proctor mast, Full set of sails (Main - North, 2 Genoas - North & Hyde, Spinnaker (used one season), New long spinnaker pole - Lindsey rudder - New top cover - Trapeze vest - Trailer and dolly - \$1900. Call: Lou Kempton at 315-682-9513 or lrkemp1@ix.netcom.net

Sunfish Sail Wanted - Looking for a replacement sail, preferably with window, for sunfish. Please contact Maryann Lansing at 662-7241.

Sunfish Wanted - Sunfish preferably 1995 or more recent in great shape with low sailing hours and sail with full view window. Call Ann King at 655-2244.

Sunfish Sailboat For Sale - 10 years old and in good shape. Call Susan at 655-9246 asking price \$700.

Note: I will continue to run all notices until you let me know that you no longer wish to have it listed. The best way to get this information to me is by email. Thank you.