



THE

Masthead



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Looking Forward to the Sun Rising on a New Year



Happy 2021 to Our MCYC Members

Best Sunrise Photo by Paul Dara, *Relentless*

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Commodore Shirley Nel, Nels' Belle II

As 2020 draws to an end, let's focus on all of the things we could do, instead of everything that we couldn't.

They said we wouldn't have a boating season, but we did! What better way to social distance than to be with our loved ones on our boats. For many, boating weekends provided a welcome respite from the real world, where we could safely socialize with our friends.

You won't be able to race they said, who will crew? Well, we raced a number of times this year. First, we had the Memorial Day "Lemonade" Race with family and close friends as our crew. Next we had the Ladies' Skipper Race where most of the crew got to take a break from being at the helm while the Ladies ran the show.

Our Masthead Race was very successful under the circumstances, with 9 boats racing and followed by an outdoor socially distant After Race Event. Cold Spring Harbor Labs are extremely grateful for our donation since most of the Fundraisers couldn't be held this year.

Although not in person, we had many cocktail hours, board meetings, our annual meeting and a Virtual Awards Ceremony via Zoom. How wonderful to have the technology to connect with one another without having to leave our homes.

Our future in 2021 may not be clear, but if we keep on social distancing, wear masks and stay responsible, we will get through this.

Stay healthy,

Shirley.



After a successful Race Fundraiser, members of the Board of Directors present a check for \$5,000 to Cold Spring Harbor Labs.

Dennis Plenker (CSHL Research Investigator) talked about his research including his research in developing a test for COVID-19 which uses saliva instead of a nasal swab.

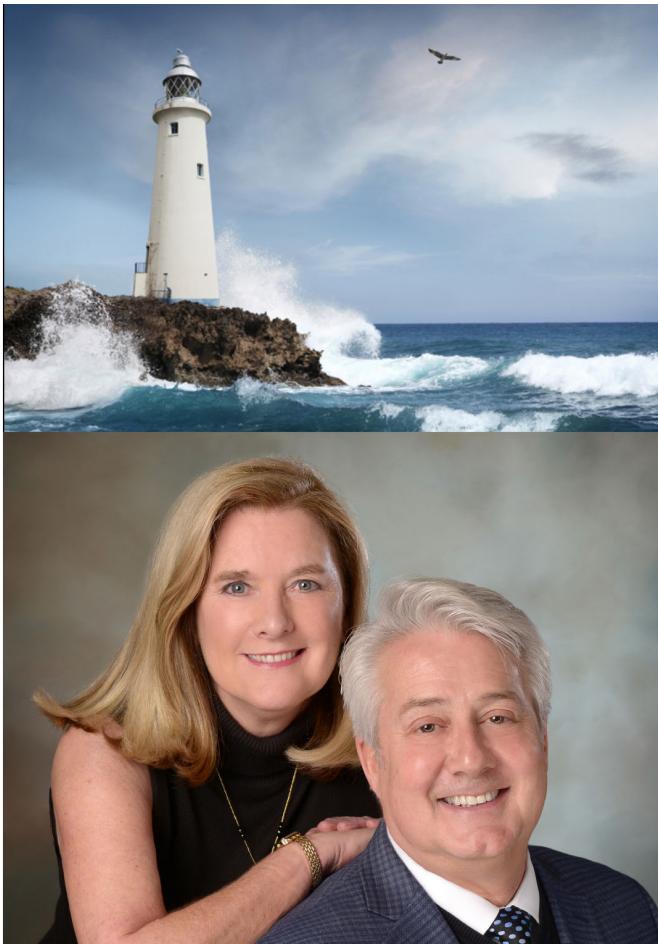
Sunrise and Sunset Picture Winners

By May it was clear that 2020 would not be a regular cruising season. We all had our boats in the water though; and slowly but surely, we started to find places to go and defined social distancing rules we were comfortable with. Members were challenged to submit pictures of the sun rising and setting. Thank you to all who have submitted pictures. Over 130 pictures were uploaded to our club DropBox. A best sunrise and best sunset picture were selected from these. Winners were honored at our online Change of Watch.

Sunrise pictures are few and far between as it is often very early to get up and watch the day's awakening. Unlike the chatter, cheering, blowing of a conch shell, or playing of Amazing Grace that accompanies sunsets, sunrise watchers simply raise a cup of coffee to acknowledge each other and the beauty of the day starting. There are a few early risers in our club and one of them is **Paul Dara**. Paul's picture of a calm Lloyd Harbor on July 4th was selected as the winner of the Sunrise pictures.

Selecting a winner in the sunset category was not that easy. There were some exceptional entries by Bones II, Escape Plan, Exhale, Frankie Anne, Late Harvest, Luna, Morgana, Nels' Belle II, Optimistic, Relentless, Risky Sunsets, Water Music, Whirlaway, and Wind Surfer. Pictures taken by this group were all in the conversation and it took some time to pare it down to the final three or four pictures. In the end, the committee unanimously voted on the picture taken by **Valerie Link** (Escape Plan) at Danfords in Port Jefferson.

Thank you to all who participated and submitted pictures. Congratulations to the winners!



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WELCOME NEW MCYC 2020 MEMBERS

Reminder:

In spite of a challenging year for the boating community, our Membership Chair Karla Marrero, has done a tremendous job adding five new members for the 2020 season. Our total membership for 2020 is 74 members consisting of 65 Regular, 7 Associates and 2 Honorary.

Just a reminder, the 2021 season dues are upon us. Dues are: \$180.00 full and \$90.00 for associate dues. Please send your renewal in if you have not already done so. Thank you.



John and Cathy Collins

Blue Jacket 40, Salacia

My interest in sailing began when we bought our historic home on West Shore Road which is relatively close to West Shore Marina. Many years ago as winter approached at night you could hear the halyard shackles banging against 100 masts beckoning me to the water.

On a trip to Annapolis, I was allowed to steer a 76 foot schooner in the Chesapeake. I was hooked!

My chosen vessel was always supposed to be a 37 Island Packet but when I finally traveled to Mystic, I came across a boat that was built by Island Packet but designed by Tim Jacket of Tartan fame. I could not resist and so today my Blue Jacket 40 named "Salacia" for the Roman goddess and patron of lost sailors resides at West Shore Marina.

No amount of reading and YouTube videos prepared me for the lessons taught by the wind and sea.
Every time I go out I learn something new.

Submitted by John Collins

New Members 2020

Ron & Diane Ingram, *Girl in Motion*

Jonathan & Jodi Rosenzweig, *Brown Eyes*

Curtis & Kat Lee, *Risky Sunsets*

John & Cathy Collins, *Salacia*

Stewart & Nancy Gittleman, *Nan Sea I*

Scott & Maureen Molin, *Kinship*



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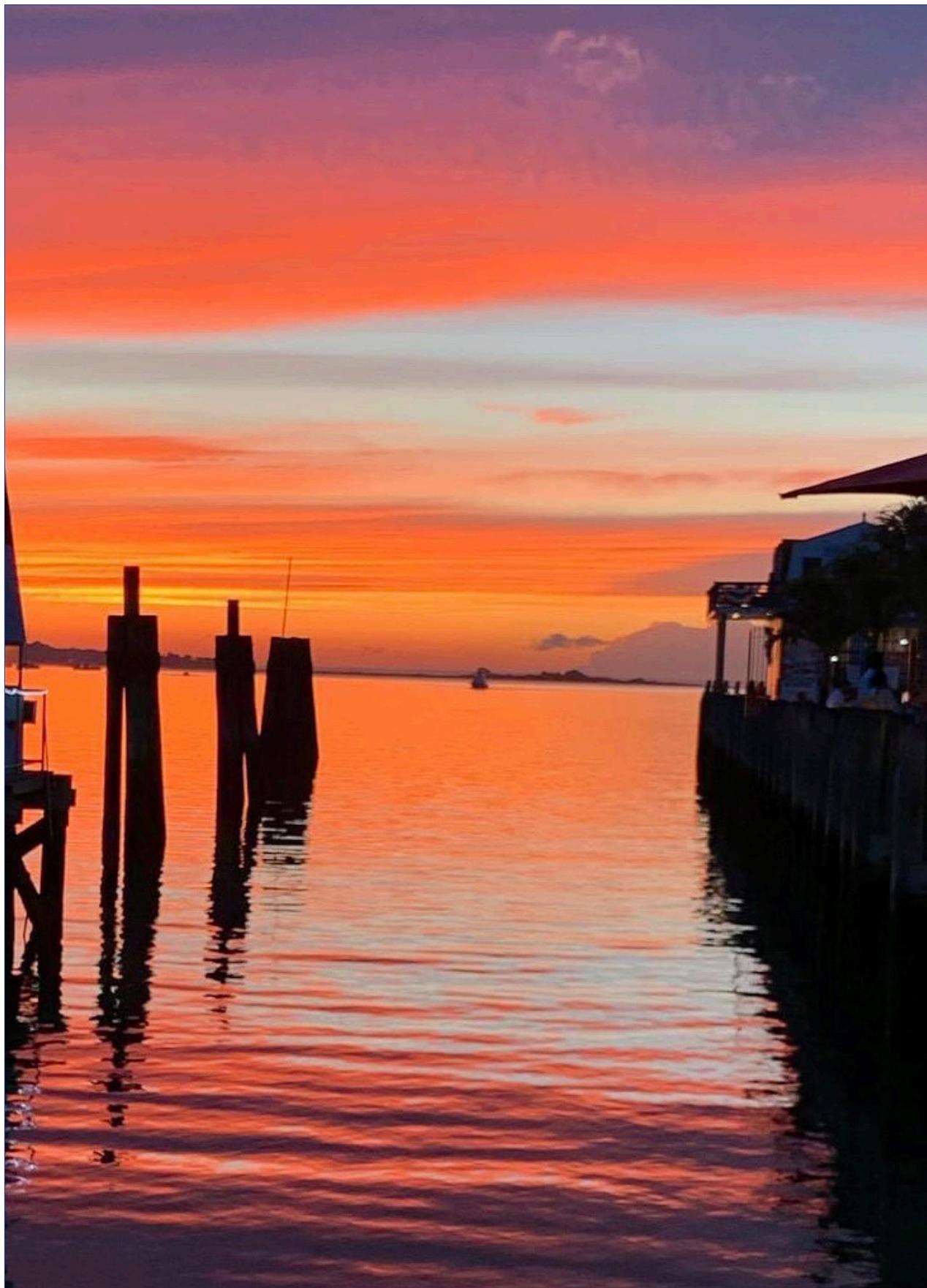


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Winner Sunset Photo Valerie Link

Sunset in Port Jefferson *Escape Plan*



Our Annual **Change of Watch** was Saturday, December 5th. As with many other events, an in person event was not possible, so we met virtually on Zoom. A total of 36 boats were represented. Despite the lack of lamb chops, dancing and the open bar, the evening was enjoyable.

Congratulations to our trophy winners:

Past Commodore's Cup (presented for participation in the most races): **Rich Correll and Ginger Bourguignon**

Phil Dworkin Sportsmanship Award (presented for outstanding contributions to the sport of sailing): **Stephen O'Reilly**

Wally Hughes Seamanship Award (presented for an outstanding seamanlike accomplishment or performance) **Lindsay Honorof**

Britannia Cup Cruising Award (presented for an outstanding contribution to the cruising program) **JP Nel**

Masthead Award (presented to member(s) who have performed above and beyond to produce, partake and promote the activity of the Club.): **Linda and Brad Simon**

We said goodbye and thank you to the 2020 board:

Commodore: Gary Matthesen/Shirley Nel

Vice Commodore: Shirley Nel/Linda Simon

Rear Commodore: Linda Simon

Treasurer: Keith LeClaire

Secretary: Francesca LeClaire

Fleet Cruise Captain: JP Nel

Fleet Race Captain: Stephen O'Reilly

Membership Chair: Karla Marrero

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Past Commodore's Council: Brad Simon

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Webmaster: Mark Ambrosius/ Emma Hendlar

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Communications Director: Helene Harrison

Boating Council Reps: Jackie Martin and Linda Simon



And we welcomed in the 2021 Board:

Commodore: Shirley Nel
Vice Commodore: Linda Simon
Rear Commodore: George Link
Treasurer: Keith LeClaire
Secretary: Francesca LeClaire
Membership Chair: Karla Marrero
Race Fleet Captain: Stephen O'Reilly
Cruise Fleet Captain: J.P. Nel
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Past Commodore's Council: Brad Simon

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A special thank you was extended to Chris Matthesen for being our club photographer and documenting our club events through her beautiful pictures.



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RACING 2020

“The Sun Sets on the 2020 Racing Season” photo by Stephen O'Reilly



2020 RACE RESULTS

Memorial Weekend “Lemonade” Race:

- 1) Exhale (Schacker)
- 2) Gusto! (Rossbotham)
- 3) Avanzare (Simon)

Women Skippers Race:

- 1) Loki IV (Ginger Bourguinon)
- 2) Exhale (Wendy Grand)
- 3) Pirate Bey (Heidi Gerakaris)

The Masthead Race*

- 1) Orion (Brian Coon - KYC)
- 2) Strider (Dan Corcoran - LHYC)
- 3) Loki IV (Rich Corell - MCYC)

*only Masthead Race awarded trophies 🏆

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Directions

Simmer all ingredients together for 20 minutes then strain and cool. Can be used to marinate meat, chicken or fish. Marinate overnight for best results.

Tales of Block Island-A Sailor's Recollection

by Jackie Martin "Whirlaway"

Perhaps it is because of its fog shrouded mystery and the way it looms up on the horizon to greet weary sailors; or maybe it's the amorphous shape that looks so great on a baseball cap and at quick glance could resemble Barbados; or maybe it is the natural and diverse beauty and quaint homes and shopping districts; or more likely because it is a boater's playground. Have no doubt, Block Island is the Holy Grail of cruising destinations to most sailors who hail from Long Island and the southern New England Coast.

As so it was for us, mysterious and elusive in our early sailing days and somehow, not meant to be.

Our first attempt to sail there (after traveling by ferry and power boat with friends) was thwarted when Dan was accepted into the Graduate School of Banking at University of Virginia for exactly the same weeks that we had planned to cruise there with the Eaton's Light Yacht Club (another Huntington paper club). Bad enough that Dan was the cruise captain and that the group reported a wonderful trip, but we were not able to join in that Summer.

Our next group cruising opportunity came sometime around 2004 with MCYC. Again, Dan was the cruise captain and planned for the large group of cruising boats to depart Noank Shipyard for a modest trip to Block. The air was full of anticipation for those who longed to return and for those seeking a first experience. For "Unbridled", our Catalina 30, her crew had another level of anxiousness. Our propulsion had been intermittent up to Noank and we engaged the services of their fine mechanics to repair our problem and ensure a safe passage to our cruise's ultimate destination, Block Island.

The morning of departure arrived. We coordinated the departure order as boats dropped lines and fell into place, exiting the channel. After a long hiatus from Block (1989) we were finally on our way! Or were we? After a small wave and a little engine cavitation, we were heading right back to our slip at Noank Shipyard saying good-bye and good luck to the BI Port Captain and cruisers on the VHF and vowing to catch up or meet them in Shelter Island.

More parts were ordered and the Captain and a disappointed crew drowned their sorrows at S&P Oyster House in Mystic. Not a bad location as second best! The MCYC Fleet reported a wonderful time when we met them at Shelter Island with a repaired and reliable boat. Attempt number two without success.

Our next date with destiny found us a bit more resolute to make the trip no matter what. So, in the summer of 2006 we vowed to keep our cruising plans a secret (preventing a jinx) and with a larger, newer boat, Catalina 36, "Perfect Drift". We departed Watch Hill alone, on a clear and beautiful day for the mysterious and elusive jewel in the Atlantic and Block Island Sound.

We hoisted the sails early and set our course for the Great Salt Pond. As luck would have it, we sailed the entire length of Watch Hill Passage and could see the outline of fogless Block growing ever closer with only a minor adjustment to sail trim once in a while. I had been helming for the entire journey and wanted to pinch myself to see if I was dreaming.

Was there no one to celebrate our triumphant entrance into the Great Salt Pond, past the Coast Guard Station and the pristine shoreline? We were still sailing on the main, and I had not left my position as helmsperson, when we heard excited voices calling our names. It sounded as if they were in the cockpit next to us!

Our power boat friends from Huntington and their families were fishing on the beach right at the entrance to the Salt Pond and welcomed us as we dropped the sail and prepared to cover it.

To this day, I honestly don't know if the sight of their friends who had chosen to learn to sail were celebrating their good fortune of wind and weather made any impact on them as they greeted us with enthusiasm.

I remember how grateful we were to finally know that we had sailed to Block praising our good fortune and vowing to do it again soon!





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Dave's father Paul worked for Eddie Fairclough at one point. I think we've all heard of Fairclough boat covers. He subsequently started Paul McSorley Sailmakers of Bedford, New York and did canvas and enclosures for the first 28 Grand Bank 49's delivered to the United States.

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