

The Masthead

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FALLING INTO BOAT PROJECTS



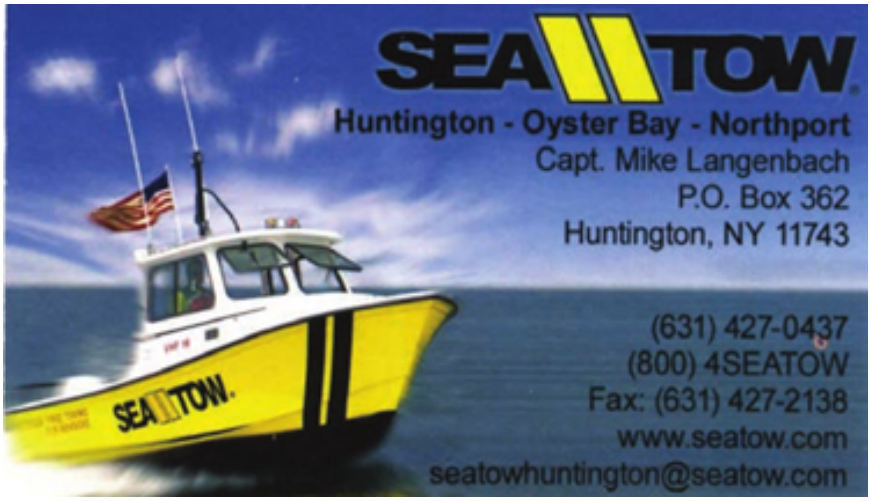












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A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMODORE



As I am writing this, another boating season is officially behind us. With our Decommissioning now complete, we have marked the traditional end of the sailing season at Masthead Cove Yacht Club. Most, if not all, of our boats have been hauled, winterized and tucked away until spring. Conversations around the docks have shifted from cruising destinations and sailing adventures to winter boat projects, maintenance and improvements planned for next season.
While our boats may be put away, the club calendar still has two very important events ahead of us.

Annual Meeting – Sunday, November 15
I want to emphasize the importance of our upcoming Annual Meeting and encourage every member to attend. We have three significant items requiring membership approval:

1. **Board Appointments:** Approve the appointment of our Board positions for the coming year.
2. **Annual Budget:** Review and approve the club's budget for the upcoming year.
3. **Bylaw Updates:** Review and vote on several important proposed updates to our club's bylaws.

The third item is particularly important, as amendments to our bylaws require a two-thirds approval of the regular membership. This means we need **all hands on deck!** Your participation is essential to ensuring we can conduct the club's business and position MCYC for another successful year. Please make every effort to attend.

Change of Watch – Saturday, December 5
Finally, please mark your calendars for our annual Change of Watch celebration on December 5th. This is always one of the highlights of our club's social calendar, bringing members together in a formal gala setting to celebrate the past year, recognize those who have served our club, and welcome our incoming leadership. Featuring excellent food, drinks and dancing, it is a wonderful opportunity to close out the year with good friends, great company and a little elegance.

As we put another season in the books, I want to thank everyone who contributed to making this year a success. From our cruises, races and social gatherings to the many volunteers who keep our club running, it is your participation and commitment that make Masthead Cove Yacht Club such a special organization.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Annual Meeting and, of course, at the Change of Watch.

JP

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The Masthead Race: Following a Course for Charity

By Ed Dicken (*Hat Trick*), Race Captain







Race Day brought a shifty breeze to Huntington Bay — starting out of the East before swinging South and then settling into the West for a stretch — and a fleet ready to see what the day had in store.

The gun went off at 11:00, with the line set west of Nun 6. Clean start, no drama, no one buried in the pin end.

From there it was straight upwind to 11B, and the tide made its presence known early. What should've been a brisk beat turned into a grinding tactical battle, with boats hunting favorable current and paying for it whenever they drifted back into the main flow.

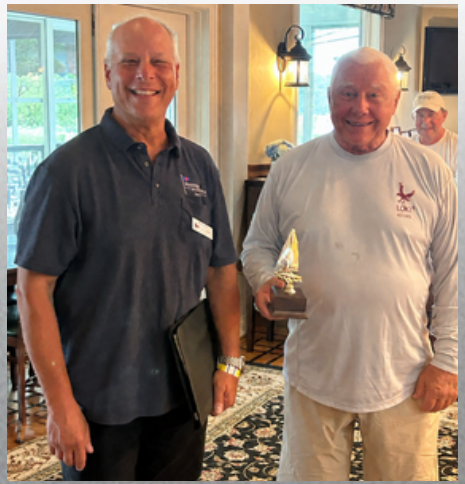


From 11B the course continued to Nun 4, then around 6, and finally West to the finish. It was a tough day on the water, and several boats ultimately withdrew.

At the line, *Scapegoat* was first to finish, with *Orion* close behind and correcting over *Scapegoat* on handicap. *Loki* came home third, followed by *Paper Tiger*.







MCYC Celebrates The Masthead Race Fundraiser Supporting Long Island Cares

By Stephen O'Reilly (*Water Music*), Vice Commodore





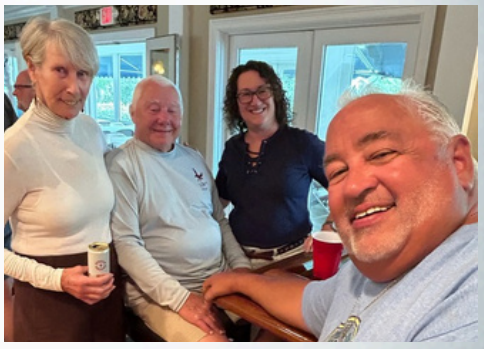


Huntington Harbor came alive with purpose this past August as Masthead Cove Yacht Club hosted a special fundraising race and party to support **Long Island Cares | *The Harry Chapin Regional Food Bank.***



More than a day on the water and a gathering on land, it was a chance for our boating community to make a real impact for our neighbors facing food insecurity across Long Island.

Attendees at the post-race party enjoyed socializing over delicious food and beverages. There were great raffle choices, including donations from many area restaurants and other businesses. The silent auction included a Merola Tile gift certificate, a one-year Sea Tow membership, Engeman Theater tickets, a Coneys gift bag, beverage baskets, and numerous other graciously donated items. And once again, West Shore Marina and Britannia Yachting Center provided winter wet storage opportunities.



Many thanks to Wyncote Club for providing the terrific venue, and to all the donors and people who attended. Thanks also to Vivian O'Reilly (*Water Music*), Rear Commodore, for her hard work in securing almost all of the auction prizes – AND congrats to Vivian for winning the 50/50 drawing!







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THE NEXT GENERATION OF SAILS

MCYC Helps Long Island Cares Provide 4,214 Meals to Those in Need Through Donation of $6,688

By Stephen O'Reilly (*Water Music*), Vice Commodore



At our annual Masthead Race and post-Race party, MCYC filled the Sound with sails — and helped fill local food pantries with hope. As a result of the fundraiser, which celebrated camaraderie, community and compassion, our club raised $6,688 to benefit Long Island Cares, equating to 4,214 meals.

Founded by the legendary Harry Chapin, Long Island Cares provides millions of meals each year to families, seniors and children in need. Members of the MCYC Board were treated to a tour of the facility, and happily presented our donation to Nicole Kalman and Mary Pat Beirne of Long Island Cares.



Additional donations can be made through our MCYC fundraising page:









ANOTHER TERRIFIC MASTHEAD COVE EVENT:

The Decommissioning

By Stephen O'Reilly (*Water Music*), Vice Commodore





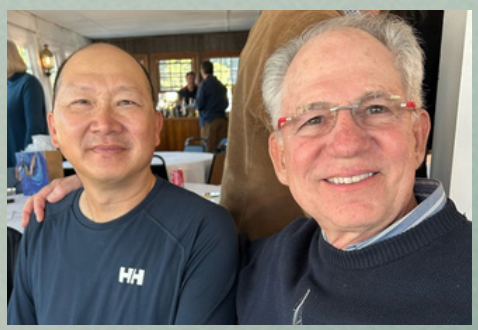




















As we're working on putting our boats "to bed" for the winter – and some of us sneak in a few late-season sails – the fall brings our annual MCYC Decommissioning.

Held this year again at Ketewomoke Yacht Club, the beautiful afternoon featured animated mingling and an array of yummy foods and drink. The Ship's Store was onsite for members to stock up on awesome MCYC merchandise.

Also at the event, Kat Lee (*Risky Sunsets*), Secretary, announced the "kick-off" of our third annual MCYC Super Bowl Pool, a fun opportunity to win cash prizes AND help raise money for the club! Contact Kat to buy a box or for more info: secretary@mastheadcoveyc.org.

Our esteemed Commodore, JP, made a few club announcements, including reminders about the upcoming Annual Meeting (November 15) and Change of Watch (December 5). All in all, a great time was had by all!

















and New MCYC Members Membership Drive Winners!

BY KARLA MARRERO (*OPTIMISTIC*), MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Joan and Robert Cesario have joined MCYC. They own *Water Music*, a 35-foot Kirie, which they keep at Willis Marine.



Our new member Toni Fiori owns a Hunter 336 named *Blue Heaven*. She also has a 13-foot Whaler Super Sport, which she uses on non-windy days. She keeps both boats at Huntington Yacht Club.



Please look for Joan and Robert, and Toni on land and at sea, and join me in sharing a warm "Welcome Aboard!"

And speaking of new members, I'm delighted to announce the culmination of our season-long membership drive, the "**Reel 'Em In" Raffle**. At this year's Decommissioning, we drew the names of the lucky raffle prize winners… **Lee and Harvey Stern (*Daddio*)** – who will receive complimentary tickets to our upcoming, amazing Change of Watch event! Congrats to the Sterns, and great job to ALL those who helped "reel in" new members to our wonderful club!

Steering Our Way Back to Port

By George Link *(Escape Plan)*, Past Commodore





Every sailor has their rituals they perform before dropping the lines. My rituals include basic checks such as warming the engine, and checking the throttle, transmission and steering. These inspections usually serve me well.

An example of this is when I went to bring the boat home at the start of the season and found my steering linkage had let go. After a quick repair I was on my way. This could have been very interesting if I had realized the issue after the lines were cast.

We had a lovely season and we were enjoying our last cruise to Port Jefferson. We had a great time there and we were heading home. A storm was on its way, and we wanted to beat it to Huntington. After performing our checks, we shoved off and had a nice ride home. That was until about 150 feet from the bottleneck entering Huntington Harbor.

As we were making our approach to the harbor, Val started the cleanup and prep process. After closing the cockpit table, my helm went free. The wheel was no longer controlling the rudder. And the boat made a sharp turn to port directly toward the rocks.

I instantly said, “uh-oh,” which put Val on heightened alert. I could see the concern growing in her face. I shifted into reverse to slow and stop progression. Having a strong idea what the issue was, I quickly asked Val to open the storage located under her seat and to get the screwdriver from the chart table.

Once she vacated her seat, I grabbed the emergency tiller stowed inside. After opening the access port covering the rudder post, I connected the emergency tiller. After that was done, I was able to regain control. I used the emergency tiller to navigate back to our mooring.

Once we were secured safely, I used the screwdriver to remove the access panel covering the steering linkage and confirm my suspicion. The Nyloc nut had worked itself free, and the jolt of closing the table knocked the bolt free separating the steering linkage. The new bolt will have a cotter pin above the nut locking it in place.

I would recommend knowing where your emergency tiller is located and make sure it’s accessible, as well as being familiar with its use. I do find it comical that I started and ended my season the same way and that it chose that moment to fail rather than out in the middle of the sound with nothing around. At least it’s never boring.

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Sunshine Corner

By Barbara Dicken (*Hat Trick*),
Sunshine Columnist

Ahoy, MCYC! In this issue, we have good news to share, along with some well wishes.

Saying "I do!"
All the best to:

- Heidi and Chris Helrich (*Lulu*) on the engagement of Heidi's son, Colin Kern
- Valerie and George Link (*Escape Plan*) on their son, George's engagement
- Jodi and Jonathan Rosenzweig (*Stargazer*) whose daughter, Alyssa, is engaged



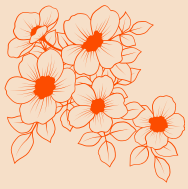


Congrats on their new boats to:

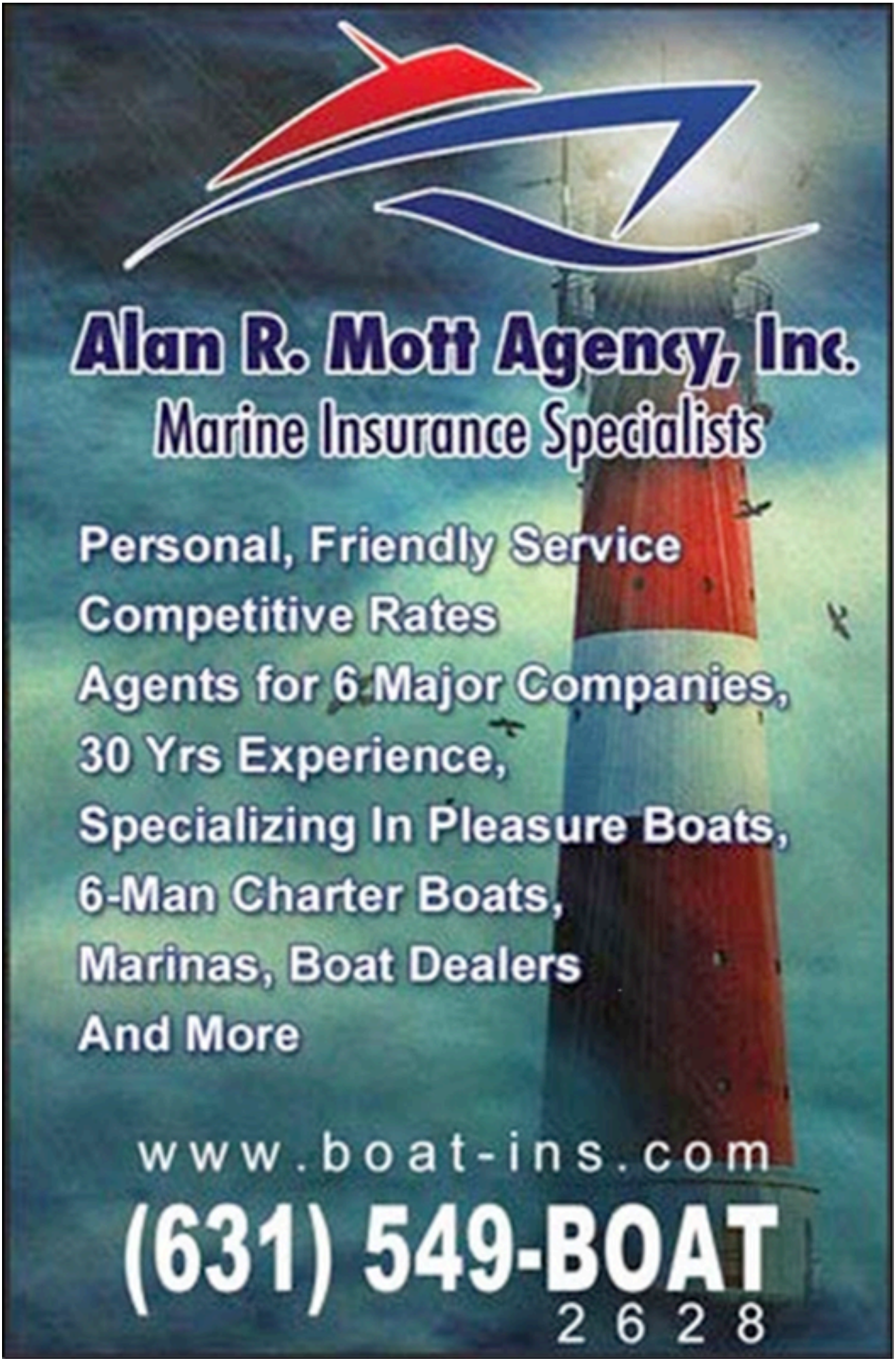
- Francesca and Keith LeClaire who will be sailing *Balance*, their Jeanneau 42i
- Dafna and Daniel Stein on their yet-to-be-named Catalina 36

Sending wishes for fair winds and following seas to:

- Dan Martin (*Whirlaway*)



Please remember! We can't celebrate your happy news and support your challenging times if we don't know what's happening in your world. Send your updates to sunshine@mastheadcoveyc.org so everyone can be in the know!


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