

Frostbite Season in Full Swing

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With an historical perspective provided by Mary Von Conta, Betty Gosselin and Gerry Presson, the Frostbite Committee held the Turkey Cup which was organized by frostbiter John Wilcox on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, and it was a spectacular success. The weather could not have been better. With the focus on getting children involved, there were 10 boats, including 17 kids participating in a fun-filled morning of unique races. The frostbiting families ate saltines, blew up balloons, and raced for floating rubber ducks. Sailing a Dyer in Southport harbor, in a strong outgoing

tide is difficult enough, but with a paper bag over your head and directions provided by a 7 year old, it gets even more challenging! Adults and kids all had a great time. Top honors for the day went to the Jeff Wilson family, followed closely by the Peter Sallick family. The kids-at-the-helm race was won by PYC junior sailor Alex Nizet, with her father Bernard crewing. Participating in the event were the Wilson, Dumke, Nash, Wilcox, Hewitt, Ballou, Clarke, Nizet and Sallick families. The group convened for lunch and an award ceremony afterward. SAM Andrew Graham ran Race Committee with the assistance of Jeff Engborg's staff who did a wonderful job running the safety boats and the races. Look for this event to return next year ♦



Frostbite Rigging Day, November 4. Left to right, John Donovan, Jeremy Frost, Bernard Nizet, Tim Clark (kneeling), John Wilcox with son Charlie, Charlie Sherts, Pam Toner, Dorwin Culver, Dan Nash, Peter Sallick (rear), Damien Brier, Michael Jehle, John Dumke, Adam Pratt and Treef Rosow.

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Lively Lady II Dazzles in Bermuda Race Centennial

Will Hubbard IV, graduate of seven years in the PYC Junior Program, tells how he and his father, Bill, managed to compete so effectively in the 2006 Newport-Bermuda Race, where they won 10 trophies. This report is part of a longer article (too long for this Pilot) covering the author's background at PYC and his victory in the 2005 Transatlantic race aboard Tempest. The full text is posted on the Club website or available from Wendy.

One night we were all sitting in the living room discussing our summer racing plans. An old friend, Bugs Baer, had called about chartering a big boat for the Bermuda Race, but, it being the hundredth anniversary we were having trouble finding the right boat. I came out against the idea for a variety of reasons. First, I felt the time and effort to prepare a boat we did not know would be far greater

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2006 Newport-Bermuda Race. William Hubbard, skipper of the Carter 37 Lively Lady II with his daughter Alyssa, receives the St David's Lighthouse trophy for the SDL division ILC rating from the Princess Royal, Princess Ann, President of the Royal Yachting Association.

Governors Elected and Annual Awards Presented at November 19 Meeting

Commodore Chuck Sprowl called to order the Club's 85th annual meeting on November 19. Key on the agenda was the approval of newly elected Governors John Hewitt and Norman Marsilius, who were warmly received by the quorum represented.

Always a highlight of the meeting is the presentation of annual awards. The Club's premier award is the Joseph F. Watkins Memorial Trophy, which was donated by Drummond Bell in 1968 for the member contributing outstanding service to the Club over a period of time. Commodore Sprowl proudly presented this trophy this year to **Nancy Foote**. Nancy's accomplishments are many: two-time chair of the One-Design Program; a Governor

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Junior sailors Bridget Clark and Henry Dumke keep their eyes open during the Wacky Family Races Thanksgiving Weekend. Henry is the lone junior sailor in Division I.

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JANUARY

7, Sunday—New Year's Brunch, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

12, Friday—Oysters, Clams & Roast Beef Dinner, 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:15.

19, Friday—Past & Present Commodores' Dinner.

27, Saturday—Candlelight Dinner.

Pub Night Draws a Crowd

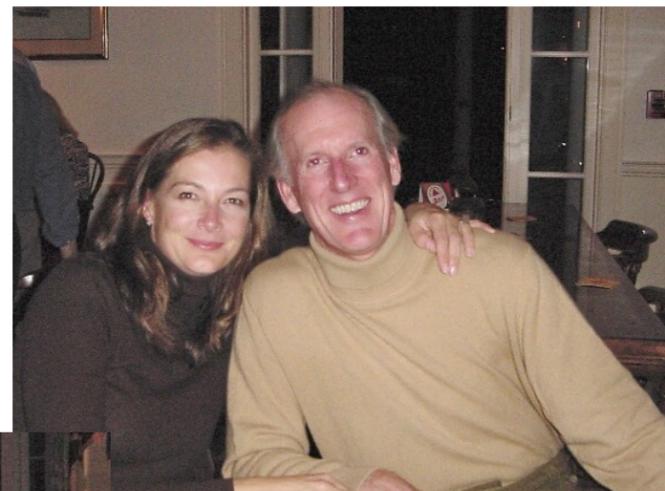
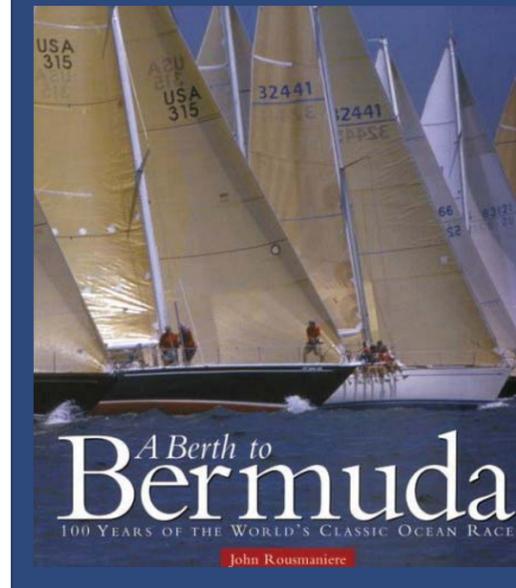
—Eric Sundman

On November 11, PYC was transformed for the evening into The Ship Public House. Approximately 90 hearty souls gathered around the Clafin's old English bar, choosing from an exclusive selection of English beer provided by the BCMM&R. Darts and foosball, a warm fire, soccer games on the telly and candlelight set the cozy atmosphere. Jonathan Thomson officiated at the beer tasting competition, pouring five different bottles, while samplers wrote down their best guesses. According to Jonathan, Old Jock Ale was not a crowd favorite, while Boddingtons and Young's Double Chocolate Stout were.

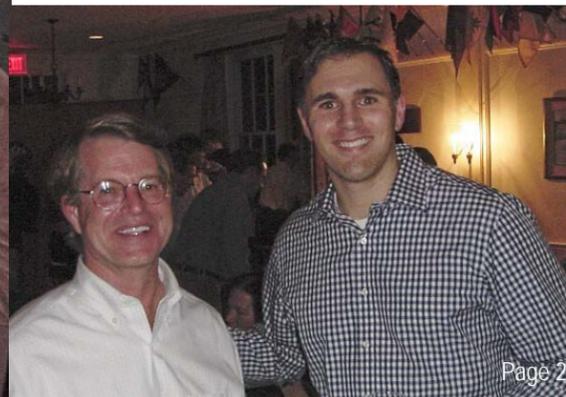
After the ploughman's platter and the fish 'n chips, serious dart and foosball competitions began. Chris Smith won the Name-that-Beer contest, correctly naming a variety of brews imported from the U. K. Charlie Reynolds excelled in darts, and Dan Nash re-entering the competition with a new partner, Bahram Azarm, bested John Wilcox and Betsy Perry in foosball. ♦

Coming Soon to PYC!

John Rousmaniere, renown sailor and author, will talk about his book, *A Berth to Bermuda*. Details and a date coming soon.



Pub Night, November 11. Left, Debbie Reynolds, Nadine Nizet, Dan Nash, Bernard Nizet, Karen Nash. Above, Laila Tiefenthaler and Chester Burley. Below, Charlie Wolstenholme and Rick Laferriere.



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Postponement!

The month of January will find **Dave Perry** in Dubai which makes it impossible for him to be at PYC on January 14th. Therefore, his joint presentation with **Brad and Dave Dellenbaugh** on the upcoming Olympic Trials in Valencia, Spain will be rescheduled. Back to you soon with a date in February.

Annual Report in Verse

Below is the Entertainment Committee's Annual Report, as read by Chair Nancy Marcantonio.

The truth be told I do disdain
The need to each of you explain
What happened in the year that's passed
To entertain, so I'll be fast.

The trouble began with Santa Claus
This big red suit did give me pause
Til Timmy Curtis agreed to pose
As the jolly good fellow in Santa's clothes.

Next, we decked the halls with glee
And gathered 'round the Christmas tree,
Invited to caper by the Commodore
With season's joys, and toys, and more.

But then winter was so bleak
With no clubhouse of which to speak.
Yet undeterred by the cancellation,
We managed a New Orleans celebration.

We rose above construction chaos
And adapted to a plan with no fuss
The junior clubhouse did provide
The perfect venue to oblige.

With springtime came Commissioning
The chance to dance, a black tie fling.

How lovely all we sailors looked
And waltzed and wiggled to the music booked.

Certainly everyone got onboard
To round the buoys with the hoard
For cocktails, dinner, members gave
Such festive parties, we all did rave.

Summer came, then summer went
And in a wink the summer spent.
To drown our sorrow we met right here
And brought good wine to spread some cheer.

As if the wine was not enough
A pub night followed with beer and stuff.
The pub did rock with British booze
The season's done, so now we'll snooze.

But wait, Good lord, it starts anew.
Come trim the tree with your whole crew.
December 3rd we'll sip some soup
And decorate til the tree doth droop.

Bring something elegant to drape
Upon the boughs, a star, a skate.
It's fun to gather all around,
And Christmas caroling will abound.

But now it's time to thank you all,
To every sailor large and small.
The members who did us support
Who actually get this weird report!

The galley and it's mighty crew,
To Nancy we must give her due.
To Jeff and staff who never fail
Each with a smile, if need to bail.

It's done, I managed to survive
The annual report and I'm alive.
We thank you every member here
For your participation and good cheer.

Governors Elected and Annual Awards Presented at November 19 Meeting

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for three years, author of the Committee Protocol Reports, progenitor of the Sailing Center, and a superb One-Design sailor in her own right.

The Rennell Long Distance Prize went to the cruising boat making the best record during the year. This year's recipient was **William Hubbard**, who also won the award last year and is the subject of this issue's feature story.

The W.T. Hatch Communication Award given to the member who makes a special contribution to the Pequot Pilot or any other Club publication, was presented to **Kimberly Smith**.

The Edward A. Jennings Trophy for One-Design sailor of the Year is awarded to the One-Design Sailor who best exemplifies the traits and characteristics of enthusiasm, sportsmanship and competitive spirit. This year's recipient was **Betsy Hulme**.

The William B. Cargill Trophy, for the member who by enthusiasm or special effort contributed to the sport of sailing through encouragement of individual sailors or through promoting sailing in the greater community, was awarded this year to Fleet Captain **Jonathan Thomson**.

The Tee Hawkins Ladies Cup for achievement, enthusiasm and promoting interest in women's yachting went to **Katherine Montgomery**.

The Ernest A. Ratsey Memorial Bowl is awarded to the yachtsman exhibiting qualities that Mr. Ratsey would have judged to be outstanding seamanship. **Ginny Vought** received this award in recognition of her recent circumnavigation of the Atlantic (See October 2006 Pilot).

Two annual awards were previously awarded at the Awards Dinner. The Sherwood Cup went to the winner of the Club Championship of the cruising fleet. This year's recipient: Vice Commodore **John Watkins's Grace**. The Starring Trophy, awarded to the Club winner of the Falkner Island Race, went to **Ted von Rosenvinge's Freedom**. ♦

New Program Chair: Maren Hood has taken over from Nancy Foote as the One-Design Chair and will serve the remainder of Nancy's term.

Lively Lady II Dazzles in Bermuda Race Centennial

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importantly, the two watches of two (with my father and Mike floating, i.e. sleeping and awake when they felt it necessary) we were able to sail the boat as fast and hard as we could at all times. And as a result *Lively Lady II* made tremendous gains between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m. when other tired crews were unable to keep their boats moving at full speed.

Thanks to the help of a satellite phone and the computer, we knew that we were doing well just by hanging close to the bigger rivals in our class, most importantly *Emily* and the Cal 40 *Sinn Féin*. Position reports which we got every eight hours were major events and prompted much bothering of Mike and discussion among the crew. At times we were sure we were going to win our class, but then there were the times when Michael would stick his head up the companionway and mutter, in his Scottish brogue, "We've lost; we've thrown it all away. A wonderful opportunity and we blew it". Our success became more tangible as darkness fell in the last night of the race. During my off watch I had thrown the last of our hot pre-prepared Mother Hubbard special dinners into the oven and was now handing up piping hot chicken pot pie to everyone on deck. Mom had once again perfectly provisioned the boat for the race, without our running low on food at the end. Surrounding us in the pitch black were what seemed like a hundred sets of running lights from the fleet around us. (We think we counted 35.) Everyone remarked that they had never finished an ocean race so close to so many other boats and after one more sleepless night of trying to keep the boat speed over two knots, our success dawned upon us with the rising sun. In the final thousand yards to the finish line, we were passed by not one, but two 60-foot boats, not to mention the 40 and 50-footers with which we also finished.

My father and I and the rest of the crew spent the next week wandering around Bermuda in a state of shock not believing that it could possibly have happened on our tiny *Lively Lady II*. We ended up winning ten prizes, including the St. David's Light House Trophy, which was presented to us by Princess Ann and Sir John Vereker, at Government House. ♦

Frostbite Season in Full Swing

—Dan Nash & John Wilcox

What difference does 70 years make you may ask. Absolutely nothing when you're on the water with frostbiters Henry Dumke (PYC junior sailor) and senior member David Smith, as they battle it out every Sunday for the top spots in the Division I fall series. Neither rain, nor sleet nor high winds will keep these two sailors from coming out and enjoying their favorite Sunday afternoon activity. The energy and passion Henry and David have for sailing is representative of the entire Frostbite fleet.

A total of 37 sailors are participating this season in two divisions. The season kicked off the first weekend in November with a clinic held by veteran frostbiter, Jeremy Frost, who brought the new frostbite sailors up to speed and passed along some go-fast tips to the more experienced sailors. All sailors listened intently to Jeremy's chalk talk and on-the-water coaching. Jeremy certainly knows frostbiting as he holds the top spot in Division I. With the harbor still populated with cruising boats, Jeremy took the fleet up into the north harbor at high tide to practice tacking, mark roundings and downwind speed using weight to steer the Dyers. The fleet also welcomed Chris Heyn, Tom Hood, Dorwin Culver and Jeremy Frost back to the program, each having taken off a number of years.

A bright spot for the frostbiting fall series was the return of an old PYC tradition of holding a series of wacky races on Thanksgiving weekend.

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Division II Frostbiters, December 10.

Lively Lady II Dazzles in Bermuda Race Centennial

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than the returns we would get on the relatively short racecourse to Bermuda. The second, and real reason for my opposition, however was my love affair with *Lively Lady II*. I thought that with the right crew and sails we could do really well and maybe even win our division. After much discussion—and the lack of a good viable alternative—Dad decided to give up on a bigger boat and instead bankroll the commissioning of the *Lively Lady II* for another run down to Bermuda. We then put together a crew made up mostly of veterans from *Tempest*, most importantly, our lucky London-based navigator Michael Lawson, whom I had been recruiting over the past year. After Mike, we had on board Phil Wilmer and Ashley Perrin from *Tempest* and Ashley's younger brother, Myles Perrin, who at 19 was the youngest member of the team. (Finally, I wasn't the youngest.)

Preparation for the race was a long process, which I began as my last months of college wound down at Columbia. Luckily, having done the race twice before, many of the hard-to-acquire and/or expensive items were already in *Lively Lady II's* inventory. That, combined with tremendous help from the Essex Boat Works under the direction of Ted Lahey, made my job as boat organizer fairly

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Sir John Vereker, the Governor of Bermuda and his wife Lady Vereker, inspects William Hubbard's 'Lively Lady II' at the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. Will Hubbard IV is seated at left.

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easy. Coincidentally, our inspection was carried out by Hewitt Gaynor, who was also racing in the double-handed division.

As shakedown races, we decided to enter both the Block Island race and the New York Yacht Club Annual Regatta. Both were fairly unsuccessful because the Block Island Race was a drifter from which we retired and because the Annual Regatta was short course racing which is not *Lively Lady II's* forte. Despite our struggles in those races, they proved to be a good test of the boat's preparedness and with a week before the start, the boat was more than ready to go. (I had learned my lesson about preparedness from *Tempest*).

The race itself was a long slow drift to Bermuda. We spent 90% of the first four days on starboard tack, sailing tight reaches and close hauled under the number one head sail. Mike, using his computer and downloading satellite images off the Web, guided us expertly into and out of the Gulf Stream (there's nothing quite like sailing at 2.5 knots and going 7 knots over the ground). More

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More photos at www.pequotyc.com
Members are invited to email digital photos for the *Pilot* or for posting on the site.

The Sun Sets on 2006 at PYC



Peggie Baker, Philip Hood, Julie Lelek and Maren Hood.



Ed Lahey, Past Commodores Hugh Smith and Steve Galpin.



Photo Credit: Hugh Smith

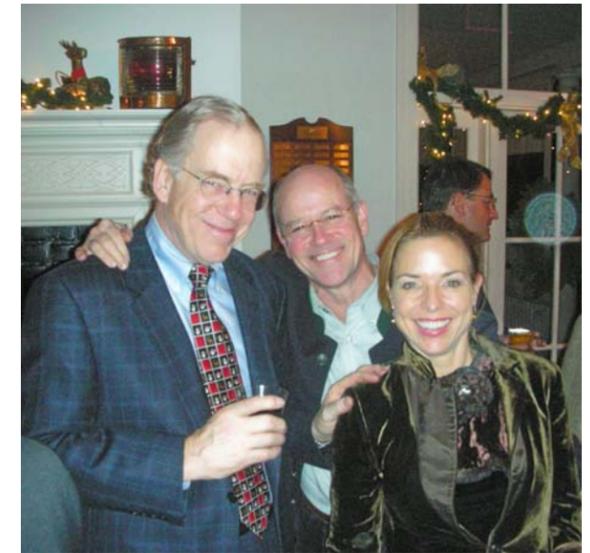


Governor Joel Kunkel and Entertainment Chair Nancy Marcantonio, Left, a December sunset.

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Gail and Frank Scholan with Joan Van de Berghe.



George Clark, Kelsey and Sissy Biggers.

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Susan Kunkel, Joy Walker, Margie Zellers, Sally Wallace and Crandy Wheeler.



Shrink Wrap Snowman by artists in residence Luis Fabian and George Finch.



Melanie Smith's grandson, Henry, with Santa (Tim Curtis).



And work continues on the Junior Clubhouse porch.