

## ELYC SEMAPHORE

EATON'S LIGHT YACHT CLUB  
VOL. 39 NO. 1 JANUARY 2014

EATON'S LIGHT YACHT CLUB  
PO Box 494  
Northport, NY 11768

### OFFICERS

**Commodore** - Franklin LaBarbara  
**Vice Commodore** - Ed Carr  
**Rear Commodore** - Curt Matheson  
**Secretary** - Nancy Morcerf  
**Treasurer** - Bill Atkinson  
**Trustee 1 Year** - Stephanie Quarles  
**Trustee 1 Year** - Jan Sharlun  
**Trustee 2 Years** - Warren Grossman  
**Trustee 2 Years** - Tony Winger  
**Past Commodore** - Mary Lomuscio

### COMMITTEES

**Membership** - Open  
**Social** - Jan Adair, Rosemary Matheson  
**Law** - Inactive  
**Boating Activities** - Carolyn Barry  
**Boat & Yard** - Open  
**Publicity** - Stephanie Quarles  
**Finance** - Bill Atkinson  
**Greater Huntington Council of Yacht and Boating Clubs Rep** - Warren Grossman, Tony Winger  
**Junior Activities** - Inactive

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## ELYC EVENTS CALENDAR

### ANNUAL MEETING

January 26, 2014, 'The View' at Crab Meadow

### WELCOME ABOARD PARTY

April 2014

### LADIES AT THE HELM PARTY

July 2014

### BLUE MOON PARTY

August 2014

### MEMORIAL CUP BRUNCH

September 2014

### COMMODORE'S CUP PARTY

October 2014

## ELYC RACE SCHEDULE

### 2014 TUESDAY EVENING BAY SERIES

Fifteen races, June through September.

June through Mid-August start time is 1930 hours and  
Mid-August through Mid-September it is 1900 hours.

### SPRING RACE

June 2013

### LADIES AT THE HELM

July 2014

### BLUE MOON

August 2014

### ADAIR CUP

September 2014

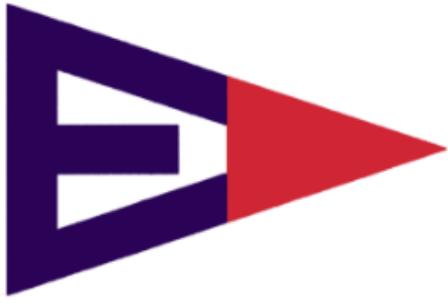
### MEMORAL CUP

September 2014

### COMMODORE'S CUP

October 2014

Please contact Carolyn Barry, Boating Activity Chair, for racing details



## Commodores Corner

### Illuminating the “Dark Endeavor”: Sailing at Night

Maintaining “Night Vision” is arguably the most important factor in sailing at night. After all, being blind to objects around you is a serious navigation problem. However, this is easier said than done. The area around our bays and harbors abound with ambient light. Worse still, some beaches and yacht clubs, that should know better, have flood lights aimed out at the water. While this might facilitate navigation in and around a yacht club, it destroys the night vision of boaters’ even miles away. Some coastal communities have ordinances that prohibit unshielded light sources around the waterfront. The town marina at Mill Dam has properly shielded lights on the docks, but with all the other ambient sources it is rather futile.

One example that some of us are immediately familiar with is locating the “red buoy” by the Huntington Yacht club at night, an almost impossible task until you are right on top of it, even for boaters who know where it is.

“Night Vision” is provided by receptors in the eye called “rods” which are more concentrated in the periphery of the retina, provide only black and white vision, and are 17 times more numerous in the eye than “cones” which provide color reception. Rods are 1,000 times more sensitive to light than cones. Rods can function in conditions equivalent to an overcast night with no moonlight. The problem is that for the rods to reach full effectiveness they must be in total darkness for 30-45 minutes, a condition that is difficult to achieve in this area. Because of both chemical and neural processes in the eye required to achieve full “night vision”, a single burst of light reaching the retina will restart the 30-45 minute time frame to restore full night vision.

There are a couple of things we can do to preserve as much “night vision” as possible. These include eliminating any extraneous light sources on your own

boat and using red safe lights to read maps or move about inside the boat. Avoid looking directly at any shore lights to the best of your ability. The light from a smart phone or boat instruments, if not illuminated with red lights, can be enough to totally destroy “Night Vision”. When sailing at night scan the water slowly and continuously. Scanning is important because at night you’re more likely to first spot an unlit object in you peripheral vision. Once spotted this way the object can disappear again as you reflexively look directly at it, and you may need to scan the area again to catch sight of it.

Many unlit buoys bear the marks of nighttime encounters. Drifting debris, lobster pot buoys, fishing nets and moored rafts or work barges can be extremely difficult to see at night. We need to be vigilant and take extra precautions when sailing at night, not least of which is protecting our “night vision”.

Curt Matheson  
Rear Commodore  
Eaton’s Light Yacht Club

## Annual Meeting Coming Up

You will receive an invitation to ELYC’s Annual Meeting in the mail. Come join the camaraderie.

Sunday, January 26, 12 Noon  
The View at Crab Meadow  
2 tickets per family at \$10pp\*  
Additional tickets full fare of \$35pp\*  
Hors d’oeuvres  
Complimentary Mimosa/Bloody Mary  
Buffet brunch, cash bar

Please RSVP by January 20 to  
Treasurer Bill Atkinson

### Program

#### Board & Committee Reports

#### Election of Officers

Commodore: Ed Carr  
Vice Commodore: Curt Matheson  
Rear Commodore: Mary Lomuscio  
Secretary: Jan Charlun  
Treasurer: Bill Atkinson  
Trustee 1 Year: Jim Morcerf  
Trustee 1 Year: Stephanie Quarles  
Trustee 2 Years: Mike Denny  
Trustee 2 Years: Andrew Whiteley

#### Presentation of Awards

#### 50/50 Raffle

#### Silent Auction

\*Best way to pay: Mail check to Bill Atkinson, PO Box 494, Northport NY 11768 to arrive by 1/20; OR pay at door.



## From the Racing Chair

Previous Semaphores have summarized all of the results for the 2013 Racing Season. While you all know that the awards are presented at the Annual Brunch, you don't know how fabulous this year's Awards will be! They are *very highly* customized and something that has never before been given in this Club - they are sure to please! Do I have your interest? Hmmm, want a hint? Think outside of the box for 'awards for yacht club racing' .... You MUST be at the Brunch to join in the fun.

While the Racers look forward to most of the awards, the Barnacle Award is never a favorite. I'm not sure why - I wear my badge of infamy proudly). However it is a necessary fall-out from the season. And here is where I beg and plead and promise almost anything that you want for dirt on your fellow racers. As is the rule for all good informants, you are guaranteed anonymity. But PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE help me; while I participated in almost every race, I could not be on every boat, so I know that there are juicy stories out there. I always read the ELYC email at

[eatons\\_light\\_yc@yahoo.com](mailto:eatons_light_yc@yahoo.com). Don't want to be traceable via email? No problem! Call me, anonymously....

As always, we will have a slideshow from the 2013 season. I have great pictures from Curt, and from crew aboard Rose of York. If you have additional pictures to contribute to the slideshow (from the parties?) please contact me as described above.

I hope to see all of you at the January Brunch!  
Carolyn  
Racing Chairperson

## From the Editor

I added some of last year's pictures to remember the fun. Thank you again to Curt Matheson for the pictures.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the Annual Meeting. Please let me know, if you can take pictures!

Spring will come!!

Stephanie Quarles  
Publicity Chairperson



Wings in clear air on the home leg.



Chutzpah and Bright Star neck and neck.



Rose of York waits for air.



A beautiful sunset.



Mercy and her 'motley' crew practice a start.



Breakfast at the Sluice.