

Boats Launched!

Crew of volunteers
prepared AFSS fleet.
Page 2



OBYC

**Club Gardens
Bloom**
Page 3

Mark your Calendars

Jam-packed social season
Page 4

Happenings

**Blessing of the
Fleet**

Rev. Kitty Babson
Page 8

July 2017

Commodore's Letter

My friends have heard me say this more than once: "I should have named my boat *Pinch Me*," for what we have at OBYC is dreamlike. Still today, after hundreds of excursions to OBYC, I am continuously enamored by the wonderment of it all.

There simply can't be a "yacht club" that offers more. I must be living a dream. Stand on our float landing and look around. To the south there is the historic and unique Cribstone Bridge. At its North end is Prince's Point and a barn, over 150 years old. It used to be frequented by fishing schooners that picked up stores and offloaded fresh cod. The evening view to the west will find some of the most glorious sunsets imaginable. Some nights, the view is punctuated by the graceful schooner *Alert* on its evening trip with passengers who long to enjoy just one of our many evenings. *Pinch me*. This must be a dream.

Our protected mooring field is midway across Casco Bay, with easy access to the open ocean and many islands of Casco Bay. Our members enjoy all that Casco Bay has to offer in big boats and

little boats, whether sail or power or paddle. Dozens of kids, wannabe sailors all of them, will enjoy our waters through the Abbott Fletcher Sailing School. Their smiles and joy should bring back memories of our own experiences that led us to connect to the water and boats. *Pinch me*. I remember my early days in boats in my dreams. Am I really reenacting my youth?

Our biweekly social events provide the opportunity for all of us to come together - to enjoy each other's company, to get to know one another, and to share our tales — our respite from the world. *Pinch me*. Our events remind me of carefree college parties, albeit tempered by a few decades of maturity. It simply doesn't get any better than this.

Summer is upon us. Don't let it go by without trying to take it all in!

Fred Rusczek, Commodore

Fred is recovering from rotator-cuff surgery. He will be driving again in August.

AFSS Boats Launched

A large crew of volunteers washed and launched the sailing school's fleet of sailboats on Saturday, June 17: John & Margot Almeida; Sue Baker & granddaughter, Emma Leadley; Jack Evjy; Dan, Morgan & Savannah Gates; Bob & Maggie Gill; Jock Gracey; Allan Jarvis; Diana Kenyon; Helen Kitchel; Ned Kitchel & Charlene Post; Augie Lienert; Doug, Jen, Hannah & Tadd Nelson; Chris Nichols; Nick Nichols; Ashley & Lee St. Louis; and Jim Whalen.

Emma Leadley, age 3 3/4 pitched in.



Most boats are launched via the ramp; a few are trailered to Cook's and towed to OBYC



Cleaning the boats left to right: Ashley St. Louis, Nick Nichols, Augie Lienert, Doug Nelson, Ned Kitchel, Hannah Nelson, Charlene Post, Diana Kenyon.

Photos by Sue Baker



Blooming Gardens

The small gardens bordering the parking lot behind the clubhouse are in full bloom. They were originally designed by Gloria Doughty. Now ten members led by garden chair Nancy Kinser, take turns weeding, watering, and deadheading.



2017 Social Calendar

Items in italics are for general information only – not club functions

Members should bring their beverage of choice to ALL events.

*Members must sign up either online or at the club.

*Sign up must be completed by Wed evening for all Thursday events and Thursday for all Saturday events.

DAILY AND WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Wednesdays 6/21-8/30 **WEDNESDAY BINGO** – Bring a wrapped white elephant bingo gift (not exceeding \$5 value). Great fun for all ages!
 6:00 pm Social Hour/Dinner – Bring something to grill and a dish to share (appetizer, salad, dessert)
 7:00 pm Game of Bingo begins!

Mon-Wed-Fri **YOGA CLASSES** by Instructor Hoa Tran
 6/26-9/19* 7:30-8:30 am Drop-in classes, donations accepted. Bring a water bottle and comfortable mat. Please arrive early – classes start promptly at 7:30 am!

Tues & Thurs **GENTLE AEROBICS CLASSES – July Session**
 7/6-7/27* 8:30-9:15 am by Instructor Heather Preston-Weeks
Come 5-10 minutes early on 7/6 to sign up & complete appropriate paperwork. Classes start promptly at 8:30 am.

Mon-Fri **ABBOT FLETCHER SAILING SCHOOL** – Barker Rm
 7/3-8/11 9:00 am-Noon Beginner classes (Including July 4 class)
 7/3-8/11 1:00-4:00 pm Intermediate classes (Including July 4 class)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sat 7/1 8-10:00 am **AFSS PANCAKE BREAKFAST**– Open to the public
 \$8.50 Adults; \$6 Kids 12 and Under

Sat 7/1 6:00 pm **SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION** - Bring a picnic supper & watch Cooks' fireworks at 10:00 pm!

Thurs 7/6* 7:00 pm **BOOK GROUP #2 – The Belles of New England - The Women of the Textile Mills and the Families Whose Wealth They Wove**
 by William Moran



- Sat 7/8* **OBYC ROCKS!!**
Join us for an evening of rock n’roll! Feel free to wear your tie-dyed tops, bell bottoms, love beads, head bands, and peace signs, though this is optional!
5:00 pm Social hour – Hors d’oeuvres provided
6:00 pm Buffet dinner prepared by Caterer Diane Gagne
Music by DJ Larry Moore of Rainbow Productions
Members \$20 pp; Guests \$30 pp
- Thurs 7/13* 7:00 pm **LECTURE SERIES #2 – “Casco Bay Islands at War: WWII Military Surveillance”** by Kimberly MacIssac
6:30 pm Coffee and dessert
- Tues 7/18 7:00 pm **KNOT- TYING CLASS** - For all ages!
- Thurs 7/20* 7:00 pm **BOOK GROUP #3 – A Good Man With a Dog: A Game Warden's 25 Years in Maine** by Roger Guay & Kate Flora
- Saturdays 7/22-8/19, 9/2 **SUMMER SAILING SERIES @ MYA**
12:00 pm Chowder Lunch at MYA – Only offered on Opening Day!
1:00 pm Skippers’ Meeting
2:00 pm Race
- Sat 7/22* **“HOEDOWN AT OBYC” - FAMILY DAY**
3:00-5:00 pm Afternoon Activities and Games for all ages!
5:00 pm Awards Ceremony
- “HOEDOWN AT OBYC” – FAMILY DAY DINNER and OLD FASHIONED BARN DANCING**
With an “oink” and a “moo”, and a “cock-a-doodle-doo”, We’re having a barn bash, and we’re inviting you!
5:00 pm Social Hour
6:00 pm Casual “Barn-style” Dinner provided, followed by Hoedown Music by Dance Caller Bill Olsen
- Thurs 7/27* 7:00 pm **LECTURE SERIES #3 – “Island Protectors”**
by OBIFD, EMS and the Sheriff’s Office
6:30 pm Coffee and dessert

- Tues & Thurs
8/1-8/31* 8:30-9:15 am **GENTLE AEROBICS CLASSES – August Session**
by Instructor Heather Preston-Weeks
Come 5-10 minutes early on 8/1 to sign up & complete appropriate paperwork. Classes start promptly at 8:30 am.
- Tues 8/1 4-8:00 pm *PRIVATE EVENT*
- Thurs 8/4* 7:00 pm **BOOK GROUP #4 – The Beans of Egypt, Maine** by Carolyn Chute
- Sat 8/5*
5:00 pm **ANNUAL LOBSTER BAKE**
Social Hour
6:00 pm Dinner – Cost to be determined
Music by the “Squid Jiggers”
- Thurs 8/10* 7:00 pm **LECTURE SERIES #4 – “Maine’s First Ship, the Virginia”** By Orman Hines, President of MFS
6:30 pm Coffee and dessert
- Thurs 8/10* 7:00 pm **LECTURE SERIES #4 – “Maine’s First Ship, the Virginia”** By Orman Hines, President of MFS
6:30 pm Coffee and dessert
- Thurs 8/17* 7:00 pm **BOOK GROUP #5 – Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy** by Gary Schmidt
- Sat 8/19 **4:00 pm** **ANNUAL MEETING – **NEW TIME!****
Proxies will be dispersed to membership by Aug. 1

*Directly following meeting!
SOCIAL HOUR & SUMMER PICNIC SUPPER
Bring a cold dish to share or a crock pot dish!
- Thurs 8/24* 7:00 pm **LECTURE SERIES #5 – “Sailing Around the World”** by John and Margo Almeida
6:30 pm Coffee and dessert



- Sat 9/2 **SUMMER SAILING SERIES @ MYA – RACE, POTLUCK DINNER & AWARDS**
 1:00 pm Skippers' Meeting
 2:00 pm Last Race
 6:00 pm Potluck Dinner and Awards Ceremony
- .Sat 9/2 4-10:00 pm *PRIVATE EVENT*
- Sat 9/9* **SOUTHERN PULLED PORK DINNER**
 5:00 pm Social Hour
 6:00 pm Dinner cooked by the Kinsers and Volunteers
 Members only, \$10 per person, limited to 90.
- Fri 9/15 3-9:00 pm *PRIVATE EVENT*
- Fri 9/22 5:30-10pm *PRIVATE EVENT*
- Fri 10/13* **AUTUMN GATHERING** with Bowdoin “Longfellows”
 5:00 pm Social Hour
 6:00 pm Hearty Potluck – Bring an entrée, salad, bread or dessert
 7:00 pm Entertainment by the Bowdoin “Longfellows”
- Sat 10/14 TBA am **WATERFRONT DECOMMISSIONING / FLOAT REMOVAL / CLUBHOUSE CLEAN-UP**
****Volunteers Needed!****
- Sat 12/2 4-6:00 pm **ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**
 Bring a hearty appetizer



DON'T FORGET TO COME!

Saturday, July 1 8-10 AM ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Bring your family and friends to this feast of plain or blueberry pancakes with REAL maple syrup!

Blessing of the Fleet

A large crowd came to hear the annual blessing of the fleet and enjoy a substantial potluck dinner.

Rev. Kitty Babson delivers her annual blessing.

Vice-commadore Kristin Fletcher hands the mic to sailing-school co-chair Nick Nichols.



Randy Nelson serves up a hearty platter.



Board of Directors

Commodore Fred
Ruszczek

Vice Commodore

[Kristin Fletcher](#)

Secretary [Teena Patton](#)

Treasurer [Sue Baker](#)

Membership

[Sandy Nelson](#)

Board Members

Jim Whalen

Holly Lusk

Malcolm McFarland

Richard Siegel

Ned Kitchel

Don Robertson

Fred Holler

Allan Jarvis

Garrett Knight

OBYC

PO Box 236

Orr's Island, ME 04066

(207) 833-7312 *summer only*

(street address) 26 Osbourne Lane

Newsletter

This is the third newsletter for the 2017 season. The newsletter appears monthly during the summer season.

Contact **Bill Bulkeley** with photographs, articles, and suggestions for your OBYC newsletter. Any pictures of dogs or cats on boats are particularly welcome.

617-320-2528, bill.bulkeley@gmail.com,
newsletter@obyc.org