



OBYC

Happenings

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Commodore's Letter

Summer is in full swing now at the OBYC!

The first week of this year's Abbot Fletcher Sailing School concluded this past Friday, with enrollment up significantly over last year. Associated with this, the Annual Pancake Breakfast was very well attended this morning with sunny skies and temperatures that, at least, didn't melt the butter on the tables.

Our mooring field has been slow to fill this season, but more and more mooring balls now have boats attached to them and the member boat traffic at the float is starting to pick up. Remember to run your boat at 'No Wake' speed in the mooring field. There are many, many kayaking groups that pass within what seems like arm's length of our floats and recently we have seen several swimmers, without signal buoys attached, in the water, close to our float system. And for the next 5 weeks we will have Junior Sailors in our mooring field from time to time. So, please keep everyone safe and slow your craft's speed as soon as you enter the outer boundaries of our mooring field.

Freshwater quality and quantity remain topics that we're monitoring carefully and continuously this season. As you know, we now have a bib lock on the freshwater hose at the float (unlocked with the same key that operates the gas pump) and shortly we will be installing low-water use fixtures in
cont.pg. 2

Sailing School Thriving

By Sue Baker

The Abbot Fletcher Sailing School held its annual Independence Day weekend Pancake Breakfast Saturday July 4, attracting a record crowd of 258 members and neighbors.

AFSS classes began on June 29 with 84 students (16 more than last year) currently enrolled with 44 attending for the first time.

Peter Worthington returns as Head Instructor. A former physical science teacher, Peter taught sailing at OBYC in the mid-1990's in the predecessor program to AFSS. He also served as Assistant Sailing Coach at Bowdoin College under Abbot Fletcher. Pete has extensive lake and ocean sailing experience. He is US Sailing Level 2 certified as well as First Aid & CPR certified.

Assisting Pete will be Claire Filipowicz, in her first year as a paid instructor; she is a student at Wellesley College and is the younger sister of Chloe Filipowicz who was a paid instructor at AFSS 2023-2025. Elena Rodriguez is with us for her second year as a paid instructor. She hails from Apalachicola, Florida, where she regularly participates in sailing regattas. Both Claire and Elena are US Sailing Level 1 certified as well as
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Commodore's Letter

(Cont. from Pg. 1)

our Club bathrooms. So, conserve freshwater whenever you can, it is an important resource for our Club.

This year's Social Program is also well underway with multiple activities including games, health-oriented programs, book groups, lectures and pot luck dinners. So, relax, enjoy yourselves and join in the fun that the Club is offering to its members this season. The Social Calendar is located on the Club's website; Members Page -> Events List.

The Annual New Member Introductions and Blessing of the Fleet was a fun event and gave us a chance to not only meet many of our New Members, but also to begin to introduce them to the various functions, committees and people that keep our Club running. The Reverend Katharine "Kitty" Babson performed the blessing and reminded us that we are all very fortunate to be able to enjoy our time on the water as members of the Club.

I look forward to seeing many of you around the Club this season. Enjoy your time on and near the beautiful waters of Merriconeag Sound and beyond. Fair winds and following seas.

Allan



Sailing School head instructor, Peter Worthington and Erin Deschenes, previous head instructor at the Pancake Breakfast.

Sailing School

Cont. from Pg. 1 First Aid & CPR certified.

Volunteer Assistants include Elena's brother, Kai Rodriguez; Charlie Gray; Adelaide Pulju; Fiona Tillinghast; and Sundari von Wentzel who is back with us for a third year. Also serving as a Volunteer Assistant is Mark Nickerson, a retired optician from Brunswick, who has experience as a middle school substitute teacher in addition to decades of sailing and racing experience. All Volunteer Assistants are First Aid & CPR certified.

Dinghy Rules for 2026

OBYC Dinghy Master, Tim Vail, says that members who keep their dinghies tied to the floats must have names and phone numbers visible. The club didn't issue dinghy stickers this year because Tim says he knows all the registered dinghies.

It's also important that dinghies be pumped out after rains. Overweight dinghies are hard to move around and can strain the float moorings.

The club encourages members to use our five club dinghies to get to their moorings and then return them to the docks within fifteen minutes.

Two of the dinghies - the Puffins with the numbers 1 and 2 on their bows - may be signed out and used for up to twelve hours. If you want to tow a dinghy and use it for island access from your boat, or you are working on your boat at your mooring for an extended period, please use Puffin 1 or 2 and sign it out. The Sign-out Sheet is in the kiosk at the end of the pier. Signs in the stern of each boat explain the rules that apply to it.

Club Dinghies can never be kept overnight.

Please contact Kristin Fletcher at (207) 798-1616 or our Dinghy Master Tim Vail at (207) 729-2447 if you have any questions about this policy.





Pancake Breakfast

Above: members dine on the porch.

Left: AFSS instructors flipping pancakes: Kai Rodriguez, Charlie Gray, Elena Rodriguez, Claire Filipowicz.

Serving line: Barbara Messamore, Bobbi Robertson, Marty Jarvis, Kathy Nicholson, Jill Olausson



Photos by Bill Bulkeley

Social Calendar

The Social Committee encourages informal sunset socializing on Friday nights. Bring an appetizer to share; barbecue supper if you wish. No sign up, no set up; just show up, but don't forget to clean up and lock up.

PLEASE NOTE: All events are BYO beverage. For events where sign-up is required, please sign up on the OBYC Web site or on the sign-up sheets posted on the bulletin board at the clubhouse. If there is a cost for an event, please pay with cash or check prior to, or at the event. Lastly, since pitching in is how OBYC functions, if you can lend a hand, please offer assistance.

Weekly events:

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| July 1 thru Aug. 26 | Bingo on Wednesdays - Great fun for all ages! Social/dinner hour begins at 5:30pm. Bring something to grill for yourself and an appetizer, salad, or dessert to share. Bingo starts promptly at 7pm. For the games, bring a low/no-cost wrapped fun gift for prizes. This year's bingo games will be drop-in style (i.e, no designated host, so please show up, but don't forget to pick up, clean up & lock up.) For questions contact: Teena Patton [Christine.Patton48@yahoo.com] |
| June 29 thru Aug 7 | Abbot Fletcher Sailing School is in session 9 am to 4 pm |
| June 16 thru Sept 15 | Tuesday Yoga with Kara Douglas - 7:30am to 8:30am – These Gentle Yoga classes are for everyone, including those who have not participated in yoga before. Please bring your own yoga mat. Classes start promptly at 7:30 – please arrive 10 minutes early to settle in. \$15 per class. For questions contact: Charlie Johnson [charlie-j@outlook.com] |
| June 16 thru mid-Oct | Tuesday Mah Jongg - All you need is a 2026 Card. We meet at the club on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 and play until 4:00-4:30. We will play through mid-October or until it gets too cold. For questions or if you are interested in learning how to play, contact Linda Kittle at 913-306-2986 |
| July TBD | Overnight Cruise with OBYC Friends – Cruise your own boat to a nearby anchorage. Meet at 5 pm to socialize with friends. Specific dates and destinations will be announced at a later date. For questions contact: Chris Nichols [nicholodeoncreative@gmail.com] |

- July 11, Sat, 9am – 10am Pick up purchased AFSS online auction items at the club.
- July 18, Sat, 5pm Pot Luck Dinner and Trivia Night – Bring a dish to share. Trivia games commence at 6:00. Arrive 30 minutes early if you can help set up. For questions contact: Jill Olausson [jillmarieo@gmail.com]
- July 23, Thurs, 7:00pm Book Group – The book selection for discussion is “The Weir,” by Ruth Moore (1943). For questions contact: Alice Hootsmans [alicehootsmans@gmail.com]
- July 30, Thurs, 6:30pm Lecture – Gather for refreshments and then enjoy this interesting presentation. OBYC’s Lew Incze, who studied lobsters during his career as a marine biologist, will inform us about the early life of lobsters in a dynamic coastal ecosystem. For questions contact: Cathy Kelley [ckelley0506@gmail.com]
- Aug TBD Overnight Cruise with OBYC Friends – Cruise your own boat to a nearby anchorage. Meet at 5 pm to socialize with friends. Specific dates and destinations will be announced at a later date. For questions contact: Chris Nichols [nicholodeoncreative@gmail.com]
- Aug 27, Thurs, 6:30pm Lecture – Gather for refreshments and then enjoy Cook, will talk about his experience publishing the independent news report, “The Cook Political Report.” For questions contact: Cathy Kelley [ckelley0506@gmail.com]
- Sept 12, Sat, 5pm Chili/Chowder Potluck – Bring an appetizer, chili, salad, bread, or dessert to share. Please let us know what type of dish you are planning to bring on the sign-up sheets at the club. Arrive 30 minutes early if you can help set up. For questions contact: Judi Hartman [judiandsam123@gmail.com]
- Oct 3, Sat, 5pm Cocktail Social – Bring an appetizer to share. Arrive 30 minutes early if you can help set up. For questions contact: Lucy Cook [lucycook56@gmail.com]
- Dec 5, Sat, 4pm Annual Holiday Party – Bring a hearty appetizer to share. Please remember the water has been shut off and the fireplace will provide the only heat. questions and/or if you can help contact: Tim Vail or Joanne Urquhart [jurq.23@gmail.com] Lucy Cook



Welcome Back Social Hour (above) Kathy Rimmel, Sue Baker and Debra Bulkeley chatted on the porch. Kristen Fletcher and Susu McIlvane admired the appetizers.

Blessing of the Fleet (below) The Rev, Kitty Babson, who gave the blessing, with David Hamilton. New members Jim and Bebe O'Neil with Kim Nichols and Jan Skillings-Goff. Photos by Bill Bulkeley and Teena Patton



Managing Water Use Remains a Concern

Lee McIlvaine, who spearheads the club's efforts to monitor water use, says that continued dry conditions in coastal Maine make water conservation by the club vitally important.

Careful monitoring of usage last year revealed that water use peaks on July and August weekends when the club has social events. Bathroom and kitchen use are the major causes of stress on the club's well.

The club has installed a lock on the hose on the dock, so only members can use water. The same key that is issued to boaters for the gas pump also unlocks the water hose.

The club will be installing water conserving fixtures in the rest rooms. Please make sure the toilet isn't still running when you exit the facilities. Keep an eye out for any dripping faucets or other sources of slow leaks, and alert Lee or the Commodore if you see a problem.

The danger is that if our well is drawn down too far, salt water might enter it. Once that happens, a well is almost invariably ruined, Lee says. Nearby Merritt House lost its well to salt water incursion several years ago. Without a well, organizations and individuals have to build a water storage facility and pay to have water brought in on a regular basis.

New Member

Mary Seaman, daughter of Bob Seaman, is the Club's newest member.

She lives in Brunswick and is a physician's assistant in Thoracic surgery at Maine Medical Center. She is a co-owner of her family's sailboat "The Voyager". She moved to Maine two years ago and plans to stay.

Mary was sponsored by Bob Seaman and John Henning.

Club Newsletter

OBYC Happenings comes out monthly from May to October.

Member contributions and photos are always welcome. Bill Bulkeley is the editor. Reachable at bill.bulkeley@gmail.com.

Orr's-Bailey Yacht Club

Officers

Commodore — Allan Jarvis
Vice Commodore — Andy Ruszcek
Secretary — Dawn Kalmar
Treasurer — David Hamilton
Asst. Treasurer — Sue Baker

Directors

Tara McCarthy
Phil Sumner
Howard Levitan
Janice Skillings-Goff
Teena Patton
Lee McIlvaine
Chris Nichols
Tom Nicholson
Liz Incze