THE MASTHEAD

Ned Dimes Marina in Winter

Photo by Ida Lowe
**Bulletin Board**

### HAVE AN SUS QUESTION? Contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President *</td>
<td>Terry Cotterall-Lagana</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tclaga@yahoo.com">tclaga@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President *</td>
<td>Bob Frishman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SUSvicepresident1@gmail.com">SUSvicepresident1@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer *</td>
<td>Alison Merlo</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SUStreasurer1@gmail.com">SUStreasurer1@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary *</td>
<td>Kathy Currie</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SUSsecretary1@gmail.com">SUSsecretary1@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Commodore *</td>
<td>Peter Luciano</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sloopquest@aol.com">sloopquest@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-Commodore *</td>
<td>Janet Steinberg</td>
<td><a href="mailto:crewsaits@gmail.com">crewsaits@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership *</td>
<td>Marie Taney</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marie.taney@gmail.com">marie.taney@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter *</td>
<td>Ida Lowe</td>
<td>SUS <a href="mailto:masthead@gmail.com">masthead@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs *</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Events *</td>
<td>Ronnie Ross</td>
<td>SUSpublicrela-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Webmaster</td>
<td>Ida Lowe</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SUSwebmaster18@gmail.com">SUSwebmaster18@gmail.com</a></td>
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* Board Member

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Click on event to get full details**

- **Thu Mar 3**  
  Membership Happy Hour
  @5:30
  Crabshell Restaurant, Stamford

- **Sat Mar 19**  
  Tailgate Party
  @1:30
  Longshore Club Park, Westport

### Welcome Renewing Members!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sherry Anderson</td>
<td>Ida Lowe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caryl Bate</td>
<td>Peter Luciano</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cliona Becker</td>
<td>Alison Merlo</td>
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<td>Leisa Bell</td>
<td>Florie Munroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Behnke</td>
<td>Teresa Nilla</td>
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<td>Cynthia Bunt Gardner</td>
<td>Ronnie Ross</td>
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<td>Peter Cloutier</td>
<td>Paul Savage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathy Currie</td>
<td>Petra Schallenberg</td>
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<td>Jane Deyoe</td>
<td>Janet Steinberg</td>
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<td>Karen Ferris</td>
<td>Rick Takatsch</td>
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<td>Bob Frishman</td>
<td>Marie Taney</td>
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<td>Tom Kane</td>
<td>Tom Zagaroli</td>
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<td>Lenny Lipton</td>
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### March Birthdays

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Birthday</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Luisa Heluk 3/4</td>
<td>Janet Steinberg 3/27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan O. Strumer 3/8</td>
<td>Leisa M. Bell 3/28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Luciano 3/9</td>
<td>Maryann Ramos 3/30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary Geffner 3/16</td>
<td>Jim Malone 3/30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Behnke 3/16</td>
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<td>William Draper 3/24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leonard Lipton 3/26</td>
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Greetings from the Caribbean!

I am on a ship, it’s the middle of the night and I am somewhere between Panama and Cartagena, Colombia. It’s a cruising hotel on water and I’m here with your Vice-Commodore, Janet Steinberg, working as Covid testers and having a ball! I’m a bit seasick as the wind and the rollers get to me in open waters. Thank God for ‘chemical fixers’. I took Bonine, my seasick drug of choice, and I’m going to type until I can’t.

Janet and I missed the Skippers Zoom meeting because our “at sea Wi-Fi” was MIA. Fortunately, Wi-Fi in Belize worked perfectly and we got caught up right away thanks to Commodore Peter’s email briefing.

Your Board and Skippers have been hard at work putting together an AMAZING slate of events to carry us through the up-coming sailing season. The 2022 Calendar of Activities will be available at Meet the Skippers on April 2nd.

Here is something else I really want to share with you. It’s a quote from Denise Linn and I think it defines the Spirit of the people who seek out a club like Singles Under Sail.

Hoist your sails. Catch the trade winds of adventure and enter the open seas. Explore new ports of call. It’s easy to stay safe in the harbor, but that’s not where the juice of life is. When you sail the open seas, without knowing what the day will bring, life-force energy is activated within you. There are no guarantees when you take a risk. Be willing to go out on a limb; that’s where the best fruit is. When you push yourself beyond your personal boundaries, life is so much more fulfilling.

This was in an inspirational book I was reading which had nothing to do with sailing but I think that EVERYTHING ABOUT SAILING IS A METAPHOR FOR OBTAINING A FULFILLING LIFE. I cannot wait for the season to begin.

Oh, one more thing, why not share a copy of our Masthead with someone who might be interested in what we do; you might change someone’s life. And do not forget to renew your membership!

CAPTION THIS SHOT - Responses

*Tow-to-tow*
Terry Cotterall-Lagana

*Yellow-tow-duckie*
Susan Gallo

*Pardon me, do you have any Grey Poupon?*
Ida Lowe

*Your hawser’s feeling a little worn, cuddle me and I’ll soothe it.*
Mike Smith
There is nothing like messing around on boats to get the sailing season started. The skippers in the Club more than appreciate assistance from Club members during this busy time of the year. There is a lot to do and the sooner it is done the faster the boat can be splashed (put it in the water). Working on yachts and in boatyards in the spring is fun, but there are some precautions we all should take to prevent injuries or potential damage to our long term health. Based on my personal as well as business experience, I believe we should all be aware of the following:

**Most boats are supported on poppets.** A boat should have most of its weight resting on the keel not the poppets. They prevent the boat from falling, or moving, or toppling over, especially in a blow. Poppets tend to dig in during the winter months and can get loose. Before working on a boat inspect the poppets and make sure the pads are tight to the hull.

**Ladders are used when waxing or getting on a boat.** Ladder rungs can break, ladders can wobble or move sideways, if not properly secured. Ladders should be inspected for soundness and good construction. An old wobbly ladder should be discarded. When using a ladder to get on the boat make sure it is long enough and it is tied off at the deck so it won’t move sideways. When using a ladder to wax the boat make sure it is a good angle and well footed. It’s better to move the ladder often so that you don’t have to overly stretch sideways as you may slip or strain your arms. Some have found having two ladders with a large board placed between the rungs helps get the job done. I have also found that some waxes go on easier, last longer and protect better. It might be better to spend a little more and save time.

**Walking around boat yards can be fun** but there are things we should avoid. Extension cords, used by many, can get frayed. Wire and water = potential electrical shock. Discarded poppets, pieces of wood, ladders and other potential tripping hazards are all around, be careful. At least once a year I walk into something and cut my head open because it is just above my line of sight. Walk slowly and look up as well as down. Be careful when walking near a boat. Some don’t look below before throwing things over, like buckets of water from above. Keep your dog at home. Puddles are attractive to dogs and they may contain antifreeze - propylene glycol is lethal to dogs and extremely toxic to humans.

**Walking around the deck when the boat is on land (the hard)** is different from when it is in the water. My boat deck is 10’ above the ground. You can only fall 10’ to a hard surface once. If you ever paid attention to ‘one hand for the boat one for you’ this is the time. In my opinion balance on a deck when on the hard is scary at best. Don’t trust the life lines to keep you from falling, the gate may be open, they are only knee high, and they may be rusted and weak. They were never designed to keep someone from falling off a boat on land. Decks should be cleaned and waxed in the spring, but it is probably better to get it done after the boat is splashed.

**Prepping and painting boat bottoms is a necessary but potentially hazardous task.** First, before sanding, washing or painting, cover all your skin with an appropriate coverall. Next, make sure you have a good face mask (respirator), not a paper dust mask. Make sure your sander has an attached dust bag. I have observed yard hands using a stand up stick fan blowing the residual dust away from them. I have also found spot sanding and washing down the boat bottom with fresh water does a good job of prepping. Not sure if it helps, but I put a few oz. of ground red pepper in each gallon of bottom paint. I also believe we tend to over paint bottoms, more is not always better. Consider using water based bottom paint.

Looking forward to seeing all of you soon on the water!

Pete
Spring is in the air, and each day brings us closer to the beginning of sailing season. As the weather warms up, boats will be coming out of wraps, prepared for splashing and given all the routine maintenance and preparation needed to be ready for the season and the SUS kickoff sail-away Memorial Day weekend.

The ideal time to check out our to do lists is before the active sailing season begins. Skippers will be working on boat preparation - organizing boat maintenance and working together with crew to get this accomplished. Now is also a good time FOR ALL OF US to check if our club educational requirements have been met. In addition to the new member orientation and dockside orientation, have you checked the status of your SAFE BOATING CERTIFICATE? Do you have one??

To legally operate any boat with a motor, or a sailboat, residents of Connecticut, persons owning real property in Connecticut, or persons with vessels registered in Connecticut must have a Safe Boating Certificate. Other states have such requirements, and CT’s Certificate is accepted in NY, NJ, and PA. Obtaining the certificate requires a two-part process. The first is attendance at an 8-hour course (in-person, online, or hybrid). Then, after attending the course, the candidate needs to send evidence of attendance and passing the exam, as well as the required fee, to the CT DEEP (Dept of Environment) to obtain the life-time Safe Boating Certificate. **When sailing with the club, each member should carry and have available their certificate or a copy for inspection when the need arises.** Now is the ideal time to get this squared away.

America’s Boating Club (formerly US Power Squadron), the Coast Guard Auxiliary and local sailing schools are all scheduling classes, which fill up quickly at this time of the year. In-person classes are available at some locations, in addition to online courses. The education department at Landfall Navigation is doing a 2-session zoom/in-person course for those with limited time. Most courses will cost in the region of $60.00-90.00 and include educational materials. You will find flyers for upcoming classes at the end of this Newsletter, and up-to date listings of local and online providers on our website, under **Resources** (just click on the link). You can also check your local marinas and boatyards for other available courses.

Janet

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**SUS Website Highlight—Ida Lowe, Webmaster**

Every month, as the editor of the Masthead, I put together a collage of photos of that month’s events and activities, most contributed by club members. Several members have expressed an interest in the photos, and I thought this would be a great opportunity to tell you about the wealth of information available to members on our website. In addition to the calendar of activities with full details, members and skippers lists, full details of the annual cruise, you can get **Photos**. Click on this link and you will find, not only the photos in the collages, but photos, videos, slide shows going back as far as 2005, including the 10th and 30th anniversary celebrations. If you see a photo you want to save, just right click on it, and chose **Save image as**.

Enjoy browsing through! And keep those photos coming!
SUS Membership Happy Hour
Thursday, March 3rd, anytime after 5:30 pm

It's not sailing weather, so let's get together, catch up with old and new friends, reminisce about 2021 and plan for sailing season 2022.

THE CRABSHELL RESTAURANT
46 Southfield Ave., Stamford

Join us for drinks to the left of the bar after 5:30 and, if you'd like, stay for dinner after "schmoozing". There's a large menu - something for everyone!
SUS TAILGATE PARTY

Saturday, March 19
1:30-4 PM
Longshore Park
260 Compo Road S. - Westport
You will find us in Parking Lot D

Bring: Some “nibbles” to share (apps or dessert)
Your beverage of choice (not visible alcohol)
A chair, if you’d like to sit and visit
Some portable music

Dress in Layers to keep warm – think hat, mittens, hand warmers
If you want to go for a long walk in the park, come early or stay late
There are restrooms which are open!

Rain date Sunday, March 20.
If the weather is “iffy”, we’ll send out an e-mail blast with an announcement.
GET YOUR CT BOAT/PWC OPERATING CERTIFICATE IN ONE DAY

BOAT AMERICA

Virtual Classes (ZOOM) $60/person
Sat 3/5, 4/9, 5/7, 6/11, 10/8 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Contact: flotilla72pe@gmail.com (203)451-3244
Visit: flotilla72.org

SAFE BOATING CLASS

Saturday March 12, 9:00 - 5:00
At Greenwich Police HQ
11 Bruce Pl, Greenwich CT
$80/person or $130/couple sharing the textbook

Includes coffee on registration, water and snacks throughout the day. Please bring your own bag lunch.

Register Online https://tinyurl.com/ABC31222
or Email: GreenwichSquadron@gmail.com

Qualifies you for the State Boating Certificate