**NEW SKIPPER ROB LOCKWOOD**

SUS welcomes new skipper Rob Lockwood and his beautiful cruising boat, Magic, a 33 ft Beneteau sloop! Bob is a longtime Long Island Sound sailor and resident of New Rochelle in the western sound. You will find them at the New Rochelle Municipal Marina Dock “A”.

*Welcome Rob to the SUS family!*
**President’s Message—Terry Cotterall-Lagana**

As you read this, I have loaded my car and am driving 1500 miles to get to the SUS Annual Meeting on Cinco de Mayo at Longshore! Should I bring a pitcher of Margaritas? I doubt if anyone will drive as far as I will, so I hope to see ALL our members at the Meeting. Your Board has worked hard to put together a full calendar for the upcoming season, and at the meeting there will be a lot of information about events, reports from various chair-people, awards and time for Q&A’s.

On May 21 we will have our first big social event of the season (or is it the first big social event since the beginning of Covid?) At our Cast-Off dinner dance, you will meet some of the ‘Ancient Mariners’ who were SUS members for YEARS and will be in attendance. Together, we will honor former Commodore Charlie Raymond who bequeathed a sizable amount of money to SUS. His widow, Caroline, will be in attendance to accept a special award of gratitude which will be inaugurated as the Annual Spirit of SUS Award.

These two big events in May are great opportunities to meet and chat and mingle and learn about the “doings” of SUS weeks before our first organized on-water sailing event Memorial Day Weekend. Watch for news of the sail/drive happy hour on Saturday, May 28th at Captain’s Cove in Bridgeport.

Our ‘wax on, wax off’ work is underway and soon we will be sailing! I’m so happy these events are fast approaching!! I CAN NOT WAIT!! I wonder if you’re as excited as I am?!

Hope to see a great turnout at all these events!!

♥ 🌟 💜 Terry

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**Commodore’s Corner—Peter Luciano**

*Sailing - A Boring Experience Punctuated By Brief Moments of STARK TERROR*

That was written on the hull of my J-24 STARK TERROR. Most of us, if not all, have experienced both the boredom and the terror while sailing in the North East. We manage to enjoy the water even without wind. When the winds are calm, we talk to each other and realize that the problems that surround us are really manageable. In a storm there is no time for talking, but all must work together to meet the challenges Mother Nature has thrown at us. I have always found that with a good crew, it is never boring. I have put my life in the hands of some SUS members, and they have come through for me. Once the boat is safe and at anchor after bad weather, there is nothing better than going below and having a hot drink and just enjoying rehashing the experience.

I have found there is another dimension to sailing, and it does not happen on every sail. I will share a few of my favorite examples: Sailing at night with a fair wind and stars overhead, crossing the ocean and seeing the curvature of the earth, watching dolphins jumping in the bow wake, enjoying crew members sitting on the bow with their legs hanging down, having a drink at anchor at sunset with friends, rafting up with friends and having dinner together, sailing under the Brooklyn Bridge and having your picture taken, having someone you trust crank you up the mast and get you down safely, having a fellow sailor come to your aid when you were in trouble, stepping back after a hard days work prepping your boat for the season, and winning a race. I could go on and on but you get the point, i.e. in order to experience that dimension you have to be out on the water!

I have owned many boats and captained many others across oceans, have been in many storms and still find new experiences after sailing over 70,000 miles. La Bella Vita and other boats in the club will be looking for new experiences and making new friends in the 2022 sailing season.

Pete
SUS SAILING 2022 NEWS

If you’ve visited a marina recently you can see and feel the excitement and anticipation of boats being prepped for the sailing season. Some have already been splashed and others are emerging from their covers - hulls and propellors being sanded and polished (check out the photos in this month’s Masthead)

There is much to be accomplished! With boat preparations underway, check in with a skipper, as participating in pre-season boat prep is an integral part of what SUS crew membership is all about. A list of SUS skippers can be found on the SUS website, just click SUS 2022 Skippers List.

THE MEMORIAL WEEKEND SAILAWAY INVITATIONAL. If you are available to sail that weekend, let Vice Commodore Janet know so that this information can be given to any skipper who may be looking for crew for the weekend.

A NEW MEMBER DOCKSIDE ORIENTATION is being planned for SATURDAY MAY 7 at 11:00 AM. Contact Vice Commodore Janet to schedule or for more information. (see contact below) Remember, this is mandatory before getting on boats!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - Please take time to look at the upcoming schedule of the Sail Aways and let Janet know of your availability. Although we cannot predict all weather conditions and last-minute upsets, planning ahead assists everyone involved in these events. The complete skippers’ list is available on the website or contact Janet (see below) for more information and assistance.

THE 2022 ANNUAL SUS ALL ABOARD (DAYSAIL) SAILING EVENT takes place over the weekend of June 18/19. Members are asked to sign up with Janet ASAP to participate in this event. Join in the fun and camaraderie of this fun event for a great celebration of the skippers and crew of SUS.

Any sailing event questions? Contact Vice Commodore Janet at crewsails@gmail.com, or call/txt (914) 522 9645

SAFETY ON THE WATER

Knowledge and experience are key to safety on the water. Learning the fundamentals of boats and boat handling are the beginning of the journey. Each trip as crew on board is an opportunity to learn more and gain experience!

Now is the time to check your sailing gear:

- Are your sailing shoes, rain/foul weather gear and PFDs (personal flotation device) in good repair and functional? If in doubt, take your PFD to a marine store or get a skipper to help you check it out. If it is a self-inflating device, the canister may need to be replaced - check that expiration date!
- Have you completed your mandatory dockside orientation (DOC) ?
- Do you have your Safe Boating Certificate?

These are SUS requirements and the SAFE BOATING CERTIFICATE IS A CONNECTICUT STATE REQUIREMENT

HOW DO I GET MY SAFE BOATING CERTIFICATE (SBC)

- Complete an approved 8 hour boating course
- Pass the examination
- Apply for the certificate.

All can be found at: https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Boating/Safety/Safe-Waterskiing-Endorsement
SAILING EVENTS
April is behind us and the new sailing season is fast approaching. Skippers have been busy planning the upcoming sailing season. Crew members have been meeting and assisting with boat preparations.

**SAILING SEASON 2022** will be starting in May - with Daysails, Dockside Orientation (DOC) and of course the **Memorial Day Sailaway**! (Captain’s Cove, Black Rock to Port Jefferson) To non-sailing crew - We all meet on the floating dock at Captain’s Cove Marina for happy hour on Saturday May 28. (See informational flyer on another page).

**HOW DO I GET TO SAIL?**

**CREW** - Get to know the skippers. This is what SUS is all about. Crew and skippers meeting together and getting to know each other. Sign up to help prepare boats for the season. Tradition is that work comes before play. Sailing is not just about time on the water and suntans, it’s about who scrubs the most bottoms!

**SIGN UP – GET INVOLVED** - Friends you meet cleaning out the bilge and scrubbing bottoms are friends for life! Better still - skippers DO notice if you are a bottom scrubber (or come to help them in many other ways!)

**Twilight Sails** – A great way to start to meet other SUSers, while sailing with gentle breezes and magnificent sunsets on the Sound. Check the skippers list and call the skipper to see if they are sailing and have space available - and you could be onboard!

**Day Sails – Weekday and weekend.** Check the skippers list and see who is daysailing. Contact the skipper by their preferred method (telephone or email)

**Weekend Sailaways** and the Club cruise are overnight events which are invitational from the skipper to available crew. See the “How to get to Sail” document (on the club website)

**CLUB CRUISE** will be from July 23 - August 7 Always a wonderful event, it combines the best of sailing with all the magical anchorages, coves, sunsets & destinations that can be found on Long Island Sound. Skippers have worked long and hard to bring you the best combination of destinations, anchorages and land events!

**Skippers – Do you need crew?  Crew—You want to sail? I can help.**

Let the Vice Commodore know of your availability –
Janet Steinberg  (914) 522-9645 or on SUS email  crewsails@gmail.com
Come talk to me at meetings. Questions, comments and ideas are always welcome.

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**POP QUIZ by Gary Silberberg**

Here’s new feature for the Masthead – a fun way to test your boating knowledge and, hopefully, brush up on your skills!

*Without referring to the Internet, other people or resources*, please submit your answer to the question below. The first person with the correct answer will have their name published in next month’s Masthead along with the correct answer. The reason not to refer to the Internet or other resources is because if you were out on a boat and encountered a problem, you would not have the time to consult.

**Question:** You are on a boat and see someone go overboard, what are the **TWO** things you must do immediately?

Please email your answer to Gary Silberberg at GreenwichRealty@aol.com with "POP QUIZ" in the subject line.
April Activities

Getting Boats Ready

Program Meeting
Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony

Thursday, May 5 at 7 PM
The Inn at Longshore
260 Compo Rd S, Westport

Join Singles Under Sail members to see who wins this year's awards!

♦ Neptuna Award
given to two very special people

♦ Rookie of the year
given to a "newbie" who jumped right in and become a valued member of SUS

Hear about the exciting plans for the upcoming season!
Sailing events! Social events! Meetings!

Meet SUS'rs after 5 pm for dinner at the restaurant La Plage
(click on the link to check out the menu and make reservations)
or drinks at the bar before the meeting.
Let's celebrate finally being able to have a great party!
Let's celebrate Charlie Raymond, who was so generous to SUS!
Let's celebrate the Beginning of Boating Season!

Saturday, May 21 5:30-9:30
Cedar Point Yacht Club (upstairs party room)

Catered Dinner & Live Music
BYOB (set-ups provided)

Dress up & mingle with old and new friends!

*SUS Members $50 / Guests $75

Select a link below to reserve your spot:
SUS Member Only $50
SUS Member + Guest $125
Guest Only $75

We have a limited number of guests allowed so get your payment in soon!

Final day to sign up is May 17
Join us for the first sail/drive of the season!

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
Saturday, May 28  4:30 PM
Sail/Drive to Captain’s Cove, Bridgeport

If you are not on a boat, drive to Captain’s Cove Marina in Bridgeport.
Bring a good nibble to share and, of course, a beverage for yourself.

Take the launch over to the “floating docks” (please tip the launch driver) and join your SUS friends for a Happy Hour or two as we begin the 2022 Sailing Season!

See you there!!!