

Friendships

Newsletter of the Friendship Sloop Society

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FSS.ORG

Issue 2

Commodore's Message

As we think about what to say in this June newsletter message, we are sitting in the fog in a cottage on Capitol Island, on the southwest side of Booth Bay Harbor. We have been here for a week of rain, clouds, a tease of sun, more showers and now dense fog. Hopefully, the weather this week will be the opposite of the weather for the rest of the summer.

There are not many boats in up here just yet, but we saw **Sarah Mead** sailing off Spruce Point, on the other side of the harbor from Capitol. Captain Nate Jones is chartering **Sarah Mead** from the Spruce Point Inn dock this summer.

Bay Lady sits at her dock down in Booth Bay Harbor without her sails bent on, but the sails are on the deck. Just like the rest of the fleet, she is getting ready.

We are leaving Capitol Island on Sunday to return home to get our boat ready. To quote Robert McCloskey from "Time of Wonder" -- "a little bit sad about the place you are leaving, a little bit glad about the place you are going." We are ready to get **Compromise** in the water.

After you get your boat ready, we hope you have a great sailing season. Enjoy every minute, whether you sail around your home port, or go off on an adventure.

This is the last newsletter message we will be sending as your Commodores. In November, Bill and Kathy Whitney will take the helm. We want to say "thank you" to everyone who has helped us with the tasks that must be done for the Society. We have a fantastic group of volunteers who keep this Society moving ahead. Our hats are off to all of them. As we move forward into the next 50 years of the Society, we will need every available volunteer, both current and future. If you can take on even a small task, please consider stepping forward. We are always ready to hear from you.

Thanks to you all for a great four years,

Nancy & Pete Toppan
Commodores

The 2012 Rockland Race Program

By Dave Graham, FSS Race Committee Chairman

As with any worthwhile endeavor, the Friendship Sloop races at Rockland do not "just happen". Each year, it takes the careful planning that includes no less than four off-season meetings of the committee, plus bringing the produce of each RC meeting to the follow-up meetings of the FSS Executive Committee for coordination into the overall "Homecoming" Regatta program.

Then, there is the matter of the all-important filing of our permit with the South Portland office of the United States Coast Guard. The filing is done in early January and traditionally, it is but a few weeks (occasionally less), with several calls made to the office, before we have the required paperwork in hand. This year, it was different - - - when surprise upon surprise, our 2012 permit arrived by mid-February! However, we will *never* look a gift-horse in the mouth and can only hope that early receipts of our future USCG Marine Event Permits will become the rule rather than the exception.

Least I forget, there is the all-important matter of getting trophies organized. This is ably done each year by Marcia and Penny, so that the rest of the RC can concentrate on the actual race program.

Armed with all of the above, we have progressed to the point where the 2012 Sailing Instructions and race charts are waiting to be distributed at the 10:00 AM (please note the new time) Skippers' Meeting under the tent at the Rockland waterfront on Thursday, July 19th.

All this is to say that a *lot* of work-effort is placed into getting ready for each three-day "Homecoming" Regatta. We have absolutely no regrets in pulling forth this effort and the only pay-off, if there is to be one, will always be a good turnout at Rockland, regardless of whether you plan to race or cruise - - - or just plan to remain tied-up at the town floats. Just being there is a sufficient reward. Of course, an exciting start, race-course and finish, is always the "frosting-on-the-cake".

2012 Schedule of Events

Southwest Harbor Rendezvous

Saturday, July 14th

Pulpit Harbor Rendezvous

Tuesday, July 17th

52nd Annual Homecoming Rendezvous & Races at Rockland

Thursday, Friday, Saturday - July 19th to July 21st

Marblehead Classic Boat Regatta

August 11th & 12th

Gloucester Schooner Festival

Saturday, September 1st

Fall Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday, October 13th

Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 10th

Best Western Merry Manor Inn

South Portland, ME

Pulpit Harbor Rendezvous

Friendships cruising from the west and from the east will be rendezvousing in Pulpit Harbor the night of Tuesday, July 17th. For the last few years the fleet has been gathering at Pulpit Harbor the day before they continue on to Rockland on Wednesday. For those not familiar with Pulpit Harbor, it is a snug and comfortable harbor for the fleet to gather, and a short sail to Rockland Harbor on Wednesday.

Trophy Engraving Reminder

Please remember, before you return the trophy you won at the Rockland Homecoming to the Race Committee, it is your responsibility to have the trophy engraved with your name or the name of your sloop and the year.

Racing Numbers

The Race Committee is asking skippers to use sloop numbers for racing. Numbers do not have to be permanently attached to sails, they can be attached to shrouds. Numbers should be large enough to be read from a reasonable distance.

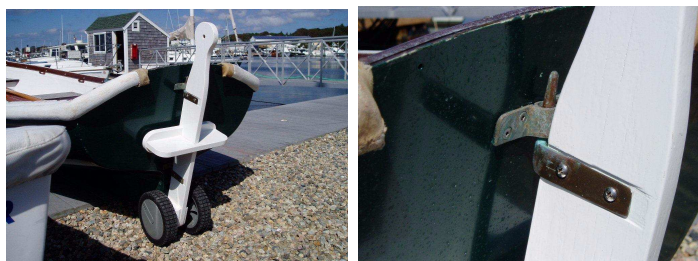
Membership News

- Long-time member Gard Thompson of Saco, ME wrote the following on his membership renewal: "In 1970 or 71 **Old Baldy** was owned & berthed on Cranberry Isle. Nubby Barns, Bill Johnston and I took her down to Friendship, boiling all the way - the lady's owners were delighted - what a wonderful weekend that was!"
- Peter & Meg Reilly of Belfast, ME have purchased one of the oldest sloops afloat, #9 **Amity**. The new owners have joined the Society.
- Steve Chandler, who crews onboard **Banshee** with John & Carole Wojcik, is now a member of the FSS.
- Ed Zimmerman has sold #18 **Chrissy** to Downeast Windjammer Cruises of Bar Harbor, ME.

Tech Tip - A Dinghy Dolly

by Bill Whitney

I needed wheels to move my rather hefty Newman dinghy from the storage area to the floating boat ramp. Instead of fixed wheels I decided that a simple, removable wheeled fixture that floats would be the best approach. The design goals were these: support the dinghy, be easily removable, not corrode, move smoothly over packed gravel and wood surfaces, and store easily either in the dinghy or ashore. Rolling easily requires large wide wheels. So the first stop was to Lowes and Home Depot to find what they may have in largest plastic wheels that would support the weight and have enough of a footprint to move over the gravel surface at the boat yard and not sink. Lowes had the best selection. There I found a pair of 8" diameter, 1" wide plastic wheels with 3/8" axle holes that would do the job. At first I thought it may take four wheels, two on each side, but with the gravel surface two wheels provided enough surface area to support the weight. Somewhere in the past I saw a dinghy that had the wheels on hinged bracket permanently mounted on the centerline of the transom. The centerline mounting I liked, but not the hinged mount. Having sailed a lot of dinghies with removable rudders the idea of mounting the wheels like a rudder with pintles and gudgeons struck me as an idea that might work and attaching a pair of gudgeons to the transom wouldn't alter the dinghy's good looks. In the scrap pile I found a 24" X 3" X 3/4" piece of hard pine that was longer than the transom was high and set to work. The pictures below show the results.



I wanted to be able to mount the wheels so they would function with the dinghy right side up or inverted which is her winter storage position. The pintle/gudgeon configuration works well but I found that a horizontal cross brace was needed to keep the wheels from turning if you had to push the boat backwards. The axle is a piece of 3/8" bronze rod that has bronze pins and washers holding the wheels in position. The wheel assembly floats upright and stores nicely in the bottom of the dinghy. When the dinghy hits the water all you need to do is wiggle the wheel assembly and push down. There has never been an outboard motor on the boat (I prefer rowing!) but think that the upper gudgeon would not interfere with one. This design works well for me and doesn't detract from the classic lines of the dinghy. It's hard to pin down a cost for the assembly since most of the pieces were left over from past projects, but my best guess would be less than \$50.

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- Tom Berry has sold #118 **Wenonah** to Steven Pytel of Katy, TX. The sloop will be berthed at Seabourne, TX.
 - John Crumpton, owner of #117 **Leading Light** sent a note informing us of the passing of his wife Eve in December. John & Eve participated in many Boothbay Homecomings.

Friendship Sloop Long A'Building Finds a Homeport

The following article, written by Steve Cartwright, appeared in the April issue of *Points East* magazine.

Volunteers at a Rockland marine museum are planking the hull of a 30-foot Friendship Sloop whose keel was first laid more than 50 years ago. The saga of the gaff-rigged **Persistence** started with the late Carlton Simmons of Friendship, Maine, a builder of sloops that were, in the age of sail, the vessel of choice for lobstermen. Simmons, then in his 70's, started building a final Friendship Sloop for his wife and himself in 1966. But his wife fell ill, and the project languished for a decade.

Enter then 21-year-old John Lichtman, who had seen a Friendship under sail while vacationing in Boothbay Harbor. He thought he'd like to build wooden boats, so he drove from Gold Hill, Ore., to Friendship and found Simmons. Simmons was glad to get rid of his half-planked project.

Lichtman needed a place to store his boat, so he bought a waterfront property - prices were more affordable in that era - and stored his boat under a blue tarp. Wife, kids, construction work... the boat stayed in the woods for another 10 years until he completed a shop and stuck it in the corner. And there **Persistence** stayed until a neighbor suggested last fall that he donate it to the building Sail, Power & Steam Museum, founded by veteran Camden windjammer Capt. Jim Sharp.

"It's heartening to see her there," said Lichtman, whose wife, Dr. Jackie George, now offers acupuncture in one of Sharp's buildings. Lichtman said he looks forward to a sail aboard **Persistence** when launched - for the first time ever.

"The Friendship Sloop is so indigenous to this part of the coast," said Sharp, who hopes to enter the museum's new boat in the annual Friendship Sloop regatta, held each July in Rockland. Sharp is no stranger to racing, having won events with his schooner **Adventure**, a dory-fishing vessel that he donated in 1988 to Gloucester, Massachusetts.

Sharp said the project is 100 percent volunteer. Tom Hammermeister, of Waldoboro, who first suggested Lichtman donate his sloop, is a regular at the twice-weekly work sessions. He is milling cedar for planking and said he doesn't anticipate completing construction until spring of next year.

Hammermeister knew of the **Eagle**, a derelict 1923 Friendship Sloop, beyond repair but good for a variety of parts. She was built by Wilbur Morse, and had been stored at nearby Spruce Head Marine. Janice McLennan, boatyard owner, was happy to donate the vessel to the museum.

A three-cylinder Universal engine from **Eagle** still runs, and the sloop's former owner is expected to donate sails and rigging. Thanks to donations and volunteer time, it appears that **Persistence** does indeed pay off.

To find out more go to:
www.sailpowerandsteammuseum.org

#53 Eagle - Gone But Not Forgotten

We recently learned of the demise of the sloop **Eagle**. (See the preceding article) Don Huston, FSS member, past commodore, and longtime owner of **Eagle**, sent along this history of his ownership of **Eagle**:

I bought **Eagle** in 1964. She was built by Wilbur Morse in 1915. In the fall of 1964 and into the spring of 1965, I replaced the stem, forward knee, frames and planking aft from the new stem. I launched her in June of 1965 and sailed **Eagle** to the homecoming in Friendship and placed LAST in the regatta.

In 1969 at Friendship we placed first overall and took home the Governor's Cup. We won again in 1977, this time placing first overall to win the Governor's Trophy. **Eagle** is the only Class A sloop to win both of these trophies.

Over the years we as a family worked as "backyard boat builders" replacing keel, stern post, horn timbers, floors - deadeyes stays and rigging.

We attended many regattas and sailing events:

Friendship Homecoming	15 Years
Boston Yacht Club	1
Corinthian Yacht Club	19
Gloucester	9
Nahant	1
New London	4
Old Gaffers	1

Op Sail Boston 1980 - In Parade

Donald McKay Festival - 1984

On February 22, 2012 in Rockland, ME after 42 years of faithful service, our **Eagle** met her demise. Gone But Not Forgotten

Please Check the Registry

Each year the registry of sloops is published in the back of the yearbook. We attempt to keep it up to date when new members are added and boats change hands. This is, however, an imperfect process and incorrect or incomplete entries occasionally make their way into our records. Since this is our official register we are requesting that each of you check the entry for your boat and get back to either secretary@fss.org or registry@fss.org with any changes or additions. Thanks for your help.

Dues Reminder

If you haven't mailed your annual dues in for 2012, please send them to our membership secretary:

Carole Wojcik
Membership Secretary
347 Lincoln Street
Norwell, MA 02061

Bruce Lanning

Bruce was a longtime member of the FSS and an active participant for many years at Friendship, Boothbay, Rockland and Marblehead with his sloop #128 Schoodic.

Lt. Bruce Edward Lanning, U.S. Navy, retired, 81, husband of Jan (Crowley) Lanning, passed from this life to eternal life May 9th, the result of the ravages of diabetes. He was born May 31, 1930, in Herkimer, N.Y.

Bruce graduated from Herkimer High School in 1947, leaving home at age 17 to join the Navy, where he served for 23 years going from seaman recruit to lieutenant commander. At age 19 he married his high school sweetheart, Mary Agnes Binda of Herkimer, N.Y., and they were married 47 years at the time of her death in 1996. In 1967 Bruce, Mary and their two children moved from Norfolk, Va., to Winter Harbor, where he was to serve as the commanding officer of the U.S. Naval Astronautics Group. Bruce fell in love with the area and the opportunities to enjoy his love of sailing. So when his time at Prospect Harbor was up he resigned his commission and retired after 23 years in order to remain in Winter Harbor. Bruce and Mary grew to love Winter Harbor and involved themselves in the community, not to try to change it, but to serve. Bruce served on Winter Harbor Utilities District for 19 years, water committee, trustee at Sumner High School, and various other boards and committees.

Bruce also owned and operated Lanning Marine Electronics for a number of years. After retiring Bruce built a number of boats. One being his own Friendship Sloop, **Schoodic**, which he sailed for 24 years from the Maritimes to islands south of the Bahamas. He raced the **Schoodic** for a number of years at Corinthian Yacht Club, Marblehead, Mass., Friendship Regatta, Mass Bay Regatta and the annual Friendship Sloop races held in Friendship and Rockland, until he sold her in 1997. For many years he sailed and delivered boats from Maine to Florida. In 1997 he purchased the captain's gig off the **Dwight D. Eisenhower** and turned it into the very livable motor yacht, **Chickadee**. In 2002 Bruce married the former Jan Crowley of Ellsworth and they took the **Chickadee** from Winter Harbor to Florida that year living aboard for eight months. After a stroke in 2004 he was no longer able to sail and sold the **Chickadee**.

Bruce also built, entirely by himself, the house in Winter Harbor that he lived in since retiring from the Navy. Bruce was a very talented man in many areas. He had held an active amateur radio license for more than 50 years – W1GBS. He was a member of American Radio Relay League, Military Officers Association of America, Fleet Reserve Association and member of the Friendship Sloop Society for 25 years, and Mount Desert Island Sailing Club for 10 years.

Since boyhood Bruce had a keen interest in electronics. Much of his ham radio equipment he built himself. If he couldn't repair something it was likely not repairable. He taught electronics while in the Navy. He also was a member of Time Nuts, a group who discuss precise time and frequency measurement and related topics. He spent much time pursuing this hobby.

Bruce is survived by his wife and best friend of 10 years, Jan (Crowley-Willard) Lanning; his much-loved children: son, Wayne Bruce Lanning and wife, Vicki Underwood Lanning,

30th Annual Antique & Classic Boat Festival

Pat Wells, one of the organizers of the Antique & Classic Boat Festival, has again invited Friendship Sloops with the following note: "We would love to have a Friendship sloop at the Festival. Please let members of the Society know about our show in Salem, August 25-26."

This is a rare chance to see vintage motor yachts and sailboats, tour the vessels, meet skippers and crews and vote for your favorite boat! A crafts market, artists, old-time band music, children's activities, the Blessing of the Fleet, Parade of Boats and more! Boats don't have to be in "show" condition. The spirit of the Festival is to gather together the grand old craft and all who love them."

The festival will be held at Brewer Hawthorne Cove Marina in Salem, MA on Saturday from 11 AM to 5 PM, and on Sunday from 10 AM to 3 PM. Admission is \$5 with children under 12 free. For more information or to enter a sloop, visit their website at www.boatfestival.org or call Pat Wells at 617-666-8530 or 617-868-7587

Cruise Down East to the 52nd

Cruising in company with other sloops is a safe way to make the voyage to the 52nd Homecoming in Rockland, especially if this may be your first extended cruise. Not only is it safer, it also can be a lot of fun.

Again this year a cruise is planned to leave Buzzards Bay. Current plans are to rendezvous on the night of Sunday, July 1st at the mooring area on the north side of Bassett's Island by Wings Neck at Cataumet. Currently there are three sloops planning to meet that afternoon: Bill Whitney with **Gaivota**, John Wojcik with **Banshee** and Laurie Raymond onboard her sloop **Hegira**.

The planned itinerary is to depart Bassett's Island at 6:30 AM on Monday and pass through the Cape Cod Canal with the fair tide. The destination for that day is Scituate. The following day the "fleet" will head to Cape Ann and anchor in Folly Cove on the north side of Cape Ann. Wednesday's objective will probably be Cape Porpoise Harbor since it's generally uncrowded and is a good anchorage. The cruise will then continue to the Portland area and will attempt to spend the night at Jewell Island or Cliff Island in Casco Bay. The schedule after that day will be flexible depending on the wishes of the crews and of course the weather.

If you are interested in joining the cruise anywhere along the line, please contact John Wojcik at home at 781-659-2820 or 617-571-5824 (CP). Since the schedule is very dependent on the weather, we may not be able to keep to the above schedule, so do not assume that we will be in any of the above locations without contacting John to verify the status.

and their sons, Ian Wayne and Samuel Riley, of Lincolnville; and daughter, Lauren Lanning Armstrong and husband, Col. John Armstrong, and their sons, Gregory and Phillip, of Woodbridge, VA.

20th Annual Southwest Harbor Race

Miff Lauriat will again be hosting the first Friendship regatta of the summer season. This year's gathering will be on Saturday, July 14th, and will be the 20th year that sloops will race at Southwest Harbor. This race has become more popular in recent years. Last year there were sixteen sloops at the event, with fourteen sloops on the starting line for the Saturday start. Miff is hoping for a few more sloops to attend this year's event. There are no entry fees, no handicaps, and no trophies. Just plain old FUN! Everyone is invited to attend. Miff promises that "we will have long reaching and running legs, with delightfully short beats!" So come on down to the Eastern most regatta of the Friendship Sloop Society, enjoy the fantastic scenery that is MDI and Acadia National Park, and meet some new and old friends.

While they don't have any pre-registration, Miff would love to hear from you if you are expecting to make it. New participants that need to know what's going on should get in touch with Miff by email or phone. He will fill you in on local knowledge and can assist with any needs that you might have. Basically, the boats will gather off the NW corner of Greening's Island at around 1300hours. The canon signals are: 10 minutes to start, 5 minutes to start, and START is the third gun. The course is displayed on the **Seven Girl's** mast. The code flags are read from top to bottom. Sloops should all sail by the stern of the RC boat to receive a race chart and sailing instructions. Also, that way the local press can get a good picture of your boat, and maybe you can be on page one next week!

A change to this year's event is that Steve Hughes has graciously agreed to host the post race party.

Between SW Harbor and Rockland are 50 miles of some of the best cruising anywhere in the world. We plan to have a rendezvous at Pulpit Harbor on Tuesday night, so should any boats want to sail in company Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday to get there, that would be grand!

Contact Miff (miff Lauriat@gmail.com) or 207-244-4313 (between 5pm and 9pm EDT)

Corinthian Classic Yacht Regatta

The Corinthian Yacht Club of Marblehead will again be hosting the Classic Yacht Regatta on Saturday and Sunday, August 11th & 12th. The Corinthian will be providing complimentary moorings for entrants on a first come first served basis.

- The Classic Rating Formula will be standard for all boats and the event will assist anyone without a rating to easily secure a certificate.
- The racing is done in a "pursuit" format - unique, safe, fun.
- Long reaching legs will be emphasized and beats will be minimal (Gentlemen do not beat.)
- Reasonable entry fee includes mooring
- Unsurpassed social events including this year's feature speaker, Halsey Herreshoff

For more information, regatta rules and how to enter the event, visit the regatta website at: www.corinthianclassic.org.

Rime of the Ancient Underwriter How I Stowed the Day Job and Went to Sea

Ed. Note: Jim Salmon, FSS member and owner of #206 Kumatage, has recently published a book which is his account of his 19 months at sea on board a square-rigged ship. It's a great book to add to your onboard summer reading. Here's a summary of the book from the back cover:

"What's it *really* like to sail around the world on an old, square-rigged ship?

Jim Salmon found out when he quit his job as an insurance executive and signed onto a three-masted barque for a nineteen-month circumnavigation of the globe. Here now is an account of his voyage of discovery aboard the **Picton Castle** out of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. The world voyage was the subject of a popular, sixteen-part series on Canadian cable television called *Tall Ship Chronicles*.

Jim weathered storms at sea and stormy relations aboard ship, tramped through a steamy Panamanian jungle, climbed the rarified summit of Kilimanjaro, and tracked wildlife on the high plains of east Africa and the Australian Outback. There are pirates and a mutiny, but mostly his account is about people, places, and the human conditions as seen through the eyes of a corporate exec turned seafarer.

For Jim Salmon, sailing around the world was a lifelong dream. His dad had crewed on the arctic schooner **Bowdoin** with Captain Donald MacMillan in the late 1920's. His ancestors commanded Navy ships in the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, and many a Nantucket whaler in between, including the ill-fated whaleship **Essex**, the inspiration for Melville's *Moby Dick*.

Jim lives with his wife in Conway, New Hampshire where he serves on various non-profit boards, and has worked as a part-time high school teacher and part-time schooner captain. His Friendship Sloop **Kumatage** is moored in Falmouth Harbor, Maine.

Support Our Supporters

This year as usual, our yearbook is made possible not only through the efforts of our members, but also through the businesses that place ads in our book. We are grateful to the many advertisers who chose to take an ad in the yearbook. When you read the articles in this year's yearbook, take some time to notice the advertising. Then, when you stop in the store or restaurant, make a point of telling the waitress, manager, or anyone that will listen, that you saw their ad in the Friendship Sloop Society publication. Please help us keep the yearbook afloat by supporting our supporters.