

# Friendships

Newsletter of the Friendship Sloop Society

Volume 35

Summer 2023

FSS.ORG

Issue 2

## Commodore's Message "Here Comes Summer"

*(Lyrics by Jerry Keller, 1959)*

This song brings back such memories for me as a thirteen year old looking forward to having the summer off from school and taking my first sailing lessons in an eight foot pram at the YMCA summer camp.

Sixty-four years later, summer starts with getting our sloop **Inherit the Wind** ready for the season. Our mooring has to be inspected every year. Shrink-wrap must be removed and disposed of. There are always some anticipated repairs necessary, and some surprises. The engine must be checked out and serviced. The hull needs to be cleaned and waxed, and bottom paint refreshed. Seacocks should be cleaned and lubricated. Fresh water tanks must be flushed and refilled. Fresh varnish will be applied to mast and spars. The boat must be transported and launched. The mast needs to be stepped and rigged and sails bent on. The list goes on and on, but after a shake down cruise or two we will be ready to sail to Rockland on July 19 for the Friendship Sloop Society's 62nd Annual Homecoming.

There will be nearly twenty Friendship sloops at the docks this year and so many friends who I see here every year. There will be handshakes and hugs and stories exchanged. For the next three days there will be races and friends will become friendly competitors. There will be a delicious banquet and racing and non-racing trophies will be presented. Once again that joy that I experienced so many years ago will be as real as it was back then.

Please join us and perhaps bring back old memories, or even better, create new ones.

Victor Goulding, Commodore

**Inherit the Wind** #156 (seen below)



### *What's in a Name...*

## A Friendship Sloop Named Tecumseh

Well, as with many of the traditional Friendship sloops and other vessels of a now bygone era, quite a lot is possibly embodied in a name.

**Tecumseh's** namesake is that of the Shawnee Chief whose legacy is widely know for his indefatigable character as a leader, a warrior and a person of great integrity.

In the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Tecumseh traveled up and down the eastern regions of North America from his tribal lands in what is now the Ohio region, to as far south as Florida to organize and coordinate the multitude of indigenous tribes to hopefully negotiate on good terms with the advancement of the European "American" settlers. This culminated in Tecumseh fighting along with the Loyalist Canadian General Brock in the war of 1812, with battles on the American and Canadian border, where he was eventually killed in battle but only after very notable successes due to his leadership.

Many may know of this history, but it would seem to be an odd choice for the naming of a very American Maine vessel, and indeed it did seem like this to us too. The sense of it came to us a number of years back when sailing into Annapolis, MD and touring the grounds of the Naval Academy. There we came upon the bronze figure of a Native American warrior that is know by all as Tecumseh, today venerated as a formidable leader. Time changes many things, and it is apparent that in

(Continued to Page 2)

Mark your calendars for the  
**62<sup>nd</sup> Annual FSS Homecoming**

Rockland, ME Public Landing  
July 19-22, 2023  
with races July 20, 21 and 22!

You don't need a boat, just bring yourself, family and friends  
and your love and appreciation of Friendship sloops.

See the sloops, get out sailing, share ideas, swap tall tales,  
meet new friends, enjoy the beauty of Penobscot Bay and the  
Maine coast and all that the wonderful city of Rockland has to  
offer!

We hope to see you by land or by sea in Rockland  
this summer!

## Membership and Registrar Reports

*By Carole and John Wojcik*

Friendship Sloop Society membership continues to hold steady with 231 dues-paying members. Of these, there are 110 sloop owners, 41 full memberships, 68 co-op members, nine complimentary memberships for new sloop owners, and three honorary memberships.

We continue to work diligently to help people maintain their memberships by sending out several renewal reminders if needed, by US mail or email. Lately we have become aware that some of the email reminders are ending up in spam or junk folders and we are trying to remedy this. As of mid-April, there were still 93 members who hadn't yet sent in their dues and renewals, a sizable proportion of our membership, and on April 17 we mailed out 93 postcards as reminders. Please don't delay if you have gotten several renewal reminders and haven't yet responded. Our membership is the heart and soul of the FSS and we need your interest and input (and dues!) to remain vibrant as an organization. *Many thanks* to all our members who have renewed!

We also love to hear from you; news of your boats, sailing travels or adventures, major projects undertaken, photos, and general news, so please send these along with your renewal form.

Andreas Jenny and Elisa Wurmach of New York City are now new co-owners of #183 **Serenity**, along with E. Richard Stanley also of NYC. Richard has owned the sloop since 2014, and has sailed her out of City Island, NY, where she will remain.

The name of #145 **Sabrina** has been changed to **Linekin**. Charlie Normand purchased the sloop at the end of last summer and she is now homeported in Jamestown, RI.

## A Friendship Sloop named Tecumseh (Continued from Front Page)

1902, nearly a century after Tecumseh's death, that either Charles Morse or the commissioning owner of this Friendship sloop wanted her namesake to be that of Tecumseh.

For our part, after 25 years and many nautical miles up and down the eastern seaboard, from the Bahamas to Maine and the Great Lakes, **Tecumseh**, below, has proven her soundness and seaworthiness in the deservedly recognized reputation of a Friendship sloop. We believe her aptly named.

Kim and Dave Frid, "Tecumsehies"  
Ontario, Canada



## Go Digital!

More and more members are electing to receive their FSS Newsletter digitally and we hope you will too. Advantages are: more photos, earlier distribution and everything in **color**, which makes an image of a Friendship sloop under sail on a clear summer day a truly lovely sight to behold! If you're interested, please send us a note at [newsletter@fss.org](mailto:newsletter@fss.org).



*Carole and John Wojcik savor a quiet moment at dusk  
aboard **Banshee** #180 in Northwest Harbor, Deer Isle, ME.*

## A New Start

By Rich Langton, Race Committee Chair

For those of you attending the Homecoming races in Rockland this summer on July 20-22, there will be a change in the start format for the races in comparison to previous years. The Race Committee has met several times over the winter and has decided to simplify the starting sequence by eliminating some of the visual signals and relying more on audible signals (i.e. cannon).

The new sequence will be as follows: There will be a 10-minute cannon signal for the Division II sloops (27 feet or larger). This will be followed by a second cannon, ten minutes later, signifying the start of the Division II race. This second cannon will be accompanied by the simultaneous raising, and then lowering of a red shape. The second cannon will serve as a 5-minute warning signal for Division I sloops. A third cannon, accompanied by the raising of a red shape, will mark the start of the Division I race.

Additional cannons will be fired when the first sloop of each division crosses the finish line. A blue shape and the line flag will be hoisted as the leading sloop approaches the finish line. An additional cannon may be fired when the sloop on which the Commodore is sailing crosses the finish line.

This new starting sequence will be reviewed at the skippers meetings under the tent. As always, the Race Committee will be on the assigned working VHF radio channel should any questions arise after the sloops leave the dock.

We look forward to seeing some new sloops participating this year along with those boats and crews who regularly attend the Homecoming and races. See you in Rockland!



*Inherit the Wind, Rights of Man and Sazerac with the Camden Hills in the background. (Bill Finch photo)*

## Trophy Tracking

By Beth Langton

If you won a trophy at the Rockland Homecoming last summer, and if you haven't done so already, now is a good time for you to have it engraved. You will then need to clean and polish it, so it looks beautiful when it is passed on along to the 2023 winner.

I recently took over for Penny Richards as the trophy caretaker, and would appreciate it if you would send me an email at [bwlangton@gmail.com](mailto:bwlangton@gmail.com) or a text to (207) 380-4071 to let me know that you will be bringing the trophy to the Homecoming in Rockland this summer, or making other arrangements if needed to get it to me before July 19, 2023.



*50 years ago Jarvis Newman of Southwest Harbor, ME launched the 1904-built 31 foot Dictator #2 after an extensive rebuild. She went on to triumph at the races in Friendship later that summer and became the model for the 21 Dictator hulls that Jarvis produced in fiberglass.*

## A 32 Year Maintenance Cycle?

Tech Tips by Bill Whitney

Being a retired US Navy maintenance officer has its hazards if you own a boat. You break things down into systems and decide what sort of maintenance needs to be done to keep things working and looking pretty. Then you decide how often these maintenance tasks need to be done to meet your goal. Naturally this lends itself to breaking down all of the maintenance tasks into cycles of one, two or five year increments depending on the normal wear and tear you impose on the boat and your degree of fussiness for keeping things in "Bristol condition". Finally you become a slave to your maintenance schedule and obsessed with getting the boat in perfect shape. Of course this never-to-be-achieved goal is always thwarted by weather, viruses or family obligations. So you go season to season always trying to keep up.

In the process of pursuing excellence several years ago, I decided to remove the hardware from my bowsprit in preparation for varnishing. A simple task, right? **NOT!** It lead me down the slippery slope of disassembling the bow rollers and investigating the bronze pin for wear, and guess what? It was worn down quite a bit. Not dangerously so, but enough to get my attention. Somehow this item never made the maintenance schedule during the 32 years it's been in place and serving admirably on **Gaivota**. How did I miss this? Maybe at some point you should check yours, and anything else aboard your boat that is easy to overlook or take for granted!

Once I was able to procure a foot-long piece of 5/8th diameter silicon bronze rod, the pin was replaced and the roller has performed flawlessly ever since.

Now let's see, another 32 years will be....

# Marlinespike Seamanship

By Ted Walsh

## Hatch Screen

This Marlinespike is a simple sewing project that can make sleeping below on hot summer nights more comfortable.

Most of us have little port lights or dorades to provide some ventilation below decks, but these don't really move large quantities of air.

What if you could leave your hatches open for the night and not have the bugs get in? This is one of those small projects that we tried out years ago and found it made a huge difference in cooling off spaces below.

For the main hatch, this project is simply a piece of cloth mosquito screen with a 3" wide waxed canvas or Sunbrella border sewn to it. Into the outer edge of that border sew in a piece of 1/2" diameter rope on each side to weight the edges.

The hatch cover can be draped over the open hatch on hot nights.

The materials needed are pretty minimal: A piece of cloth mosquito netting, some waxed canvas or Sunbrella fabric (a couple of yards would be plenty), and some old rope, preferably 1/2" or a little larger in diameter. Access to a sewing machine will make this project fairly easy to execute, although you could certainly sew this by hand.

If you have a forward hatch as well, a similar screen project will really help to move air through the boat. This version is a little more involved but, like the main hatch, the fabric cover folds up, takes up little storage and can really make a difference in the ventilation in your boat. We used wooden battens instead of rope for the edges of this hatch cover.

### Some resources:

For Sunbrella fabric or mosquito screen cloth (sold as no-see-um netting):

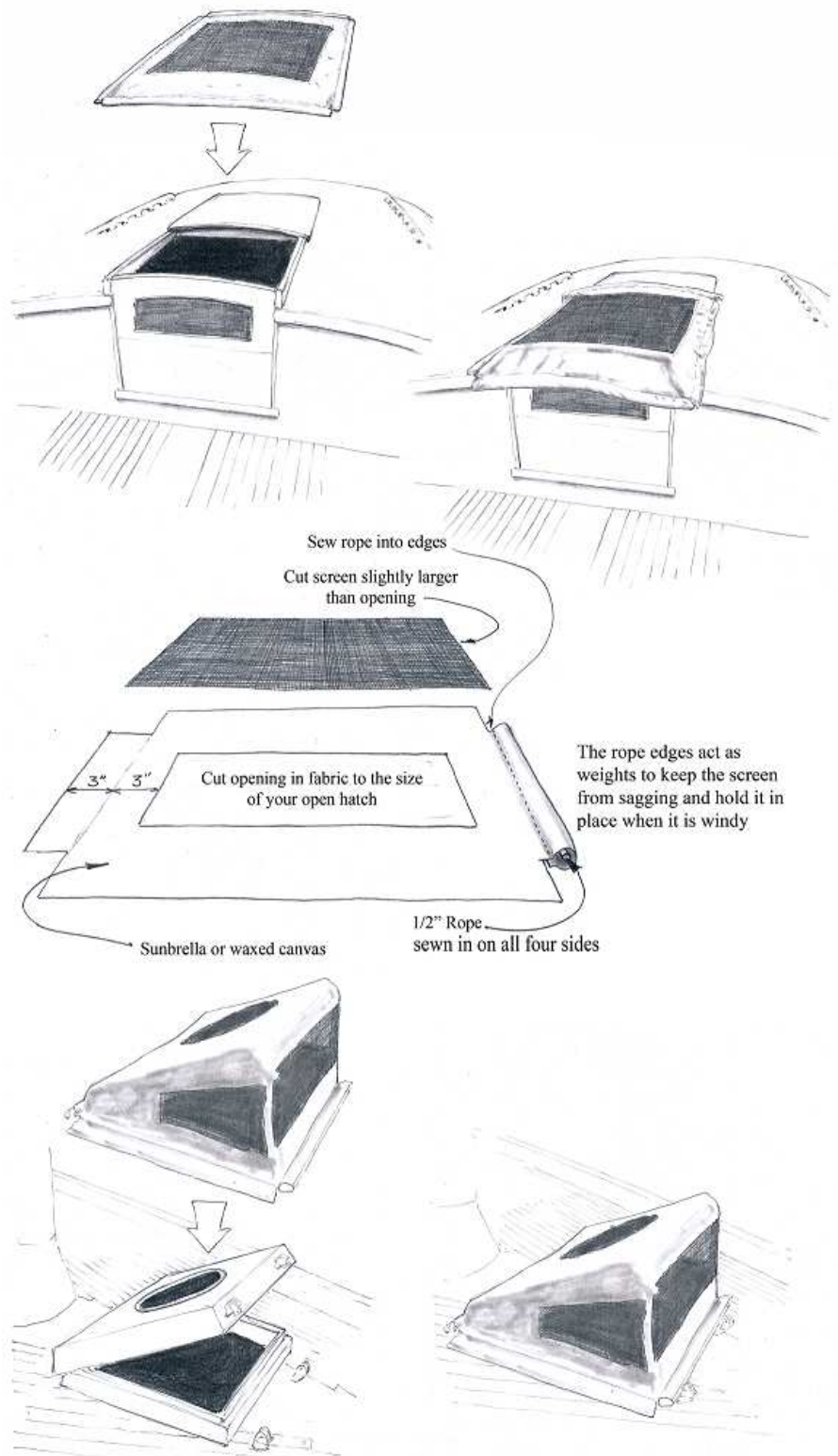
Sailmaker's Supply

<https://www.sailmakersupply.com>

For Waxed canvas:

Big Duck Canvas

<https://www.bigduckcanvas.com>



## Friendship Memorial Scholarship Fund

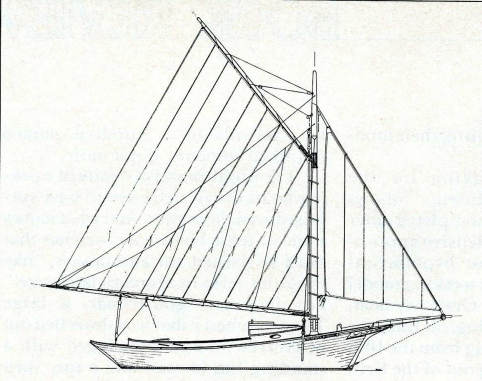
By Phil Pratt, Chairman

We have often cited Bill Pendleton's stated goals for the Friendship Scholarship Fund from the 1968 FSS Yearbook: "...the hope is that this Fund will grow and that subsequent years will see much more available for annual awards." As the fund has continued its substantial growth, Bill's dream continues unfolding before our eyes, making the goal of pursuing a higher education a reality for a growing number of Friendship, ME students!

The Fund created a Vice Chairman position in 2022. The Vice Chair and Chairman continue to analyze the current performance of the Fund and to address future needs. The Maine Community Foundation continues to be the administrative arm for the Fund, providing direction and reporting on financial conditions to the Chairman and Vice Chair on a frequent basis.

The Trustees of the Fund want to again sincerely thank everyone who has been involved with the scholarship process and who has made donations to the Fund in supporting its growth. We are always available to answer your questions, and discuss your ideas.

Phil Pratt, Chairman (207) 832-4335, [davisloop100@gmail.com](mailto:davisloop100@gmail.com)  
John Homon, Vice Chair (207) 354-0409,  
[kwhomon@gmail.com](mailto:kwhomon@gmail.com)



**22' Friendship Sloop**

Length of hull	22'4"	Draft	3'4"
Beam	7'4"	Displacement	4500 lbs.

- Carvel planking over bent frame construction
- Sleeps 2
- Trailerable
- A proven design — several boats sailing

COMPLETE PLANS WITH MATERIALS LIST \$150.00  
(VISA — Mastercard include no. & exp. date)  
Plans for 25' & 29' versions available.

**McKIE W. ROTH JR. ASSOCIATES**  
YACHT DESIGN  
POST OFFICE BOX 50 BATH, MAINE 04530

This ad for Friendship sloop plans appeared in *WoodenBoat* magazine in 1983. McKie "Nick" Roth built at least 10 Friendships of 22' or 25' from 1969 to 1985 in his small yard on Westport Island, ME.

## Southwest Harbor Events

The annual Southwest Harbor Rendezvous, Race and Potluck will be held on Saturday, July 15 with an expected 1 PM start for the race. As in past years, there will be a skippers meeting in the morning, place and time to be determined, to get together greeting old and new friends, discuss the race course and the schedule for the day. Once again the Hinckley Company has very generously offered moorings, limited dock space and the use of their shore side facility to boaters coming from away.

The after-race potluck will be on the beach at the Hinckley yard serving up a delicious meal from local restaurants, with appetizers provided by race participants and BYO drinks.

The free L. L. Bean sponsored buses will be running, providing reliable transportation from the Manset shore where Hinckley is located, into the town of Southwest Harbor and to many other villages and attractions on Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park, so there is no shortage of things to do if you are in the area for a few days, even without a car.

For more information on the schedule, race or potluck, contact coordinator Caroline Phillips by text at (774) 200-0506. More is always better, so please come and join the fun!



FSS Vice-Commodore Andy Zuber & crew maneuver *Gladiator* #71 off Owls Head in 2022.  
(Bill Finch photo)

## Saving the Whales

From Rich Langton

One of the joys of owning a Friendship sloop and sailing along the New England coast and many other places on the planet, is the chance of seeing a whale spout or a pod of dolphins. But did you know that there are safety protocols you should follow if you see a whale while sailing? For example, it is recommended that sailboats drop sails if observing whales close-up for greater maneuverability. There is also a hotline boaters can call if whales are seen in distress: (866)-755-6622, or if in US waters, the USCG can be raised on channel 16.

*See A Spout*, is an organization whose goal is to elevate recreational boaters' awareness across the globe of whales and whale behavior while providing guidance on safe and responsible whale watching or whale encounters. We encourage all of our Society's captains and crew to check out the [See A Spout](http://seeaspout.org) website, [seeaspout.org](http://seeaspout.org) and to learn all they can about the proper and safe way to interact with marine mammals.

## Looking Back - A Series

### Heading For the Friendship Museum

By Dave Graham, FSS Historian

There are times when an ending can have a pleasant tone. Such is the case with the Friendship Sloop Society's "Ridgway Memorial Trophy", named in honor of the late Lincoln Ridgway who began the Marblehead, MA races on behalf of the Friendship Sloop Society. These occurred in mid-August, approximately four weeks after the annual races in Friendship, Maine. In short order, someone named Graham soon came along to be Linc's assistant at running the Marblehead race program for Friendship sloops.

Linc Ridgway ran the Marblehead Friendship race program beginning in 1976 under the sponsorship of the Corinthian Yacht Club, and kept at it until his sudden death on August 8, 1981, just one week before the races were to take place. With a five year understudy behind him, Graham readily jumped in to continue the race program for the Society, which continued until 2009.

Competition in the Marblehead races centered on a beautiful trophy that in time became known as "The Ridgway Memorial Trophy". It maintained a "home" in the Trophy Room at the Corinthian Yacht Club until this past winter, when a decision was made by Friendship Museum Board member Phil Pratt and FSS Historian Dave Graham that it was high time for the Ridgway Trophy to have its 'place of honor' established within the Friendship Museum.

The photograph of the Ridgway Trophy seen to the right appears much as it initially did forty-seven years ago.

Due to declining attendance, the last Friendship sloop races at Marblehead were run on the weekend of August 15-16, 2009, after which the Ridgway Memorial Trophy was placed in semi-retirement, but ready to be awarded once again should it be called upon. While the call never truly came, the trophy has remained on display at the Corinthian Yacht Club for members and visiting sailors to view. It has remained there during all these years in honor of the Friendship Sloop Society.

Now the trophy will have a new 'place of honor' for all to see when visiting the Friendship Museum in Friendship, ME. Long live the Ridgway Memorial Trophy in its new home at the Museum



*Tannis, 'nuff said! (Bill Finch photo)*



*There are some notable names that adorn the Ridgway Trophy as winners, including frequent victories by Tannis #7 seen in photo lower left. Beginning with the year 1976, they are:*

1976 – Alfred E. Back – **Phoenix**  
1977 – John D. Cronin – **Tannis**  
1978 and 79 – Bernard L. Mackenzie – **Voyager**  
1980, 81 and 82 – John D. Cronin – **Tannis**  
1983 – Bruce Lanning – **Schoodic**  
1984 – Dick Salter – **Liberty**  
1985 and 86 – John D. Cronin – **Tannis**  
1987 and 88 – Peter Condon – **Philia**  
1989 – Jim Wilson – **Old Baldy**  
1990, 91, 92 and 93 – Tad Beck – **Phoenix**  
1994 – Bernard Mackenzie – **Voyager**  
1995 and 96 – John D. Cronin – **Tannis**  
1997, 98, 99 and 2000 – Tad Beck – **Phoenix**  
2001 and 02 – John D. Cronin – **Tannis**  
2003 – Bruce Lanning – **Schoodic**  
2004, 05, 06 and 07 – Jeff Cronin – **Tannis**  
2008 and 09 – Roy McCalley – **Margaret F.**

## 2023 Calendar of FSS Events

(some dates weather dependent)

### **Red Brook Harbor Rendezvous**

**(Buzzards Bay, MA)**

Friday, June 30

### **Scituate Harbor Rendezvous**

Saturday, July 1

### **Cape Ann Rendezvous**

Sunday, July 2

### **Boothbay/Linekin Bay Rendezvous**

Thursday, July 6

### **Southwest Harbor Rendezvous,**

**Race and Potluck Supper**

Saturday, July 15

### **Pulpit Harbor (North Haven) Rendezvous**

Tuesday, July 18

### **62nd Annual Rockland Homecoming**

**Rendezvous and Races**

**Rockland Public Landing**

Races on Thursday, Friday and Saturday,

July 20-22

Sloops arrive Wednesday, July 19,

depart Sunday, July 23

Thursday & Friday races, start time 1 PM

Saturday at noon

Skippers meetings & crew call daily,

11 AM under the tent

- *Welcome*: Informal BYO drinks and snacks under the tent, on the floats, on the sloops, Wednesday afternoon/evening
- *Parade of Sails*: Saturday morning, Rockland waterfront, prior to the race
- *Awards Banquet*: Saturday night, 5 PM Rockland Public Landing, under the tent

### **FSS Annual Meeting**

Saturday, November 18

Best Western Merry Manor Hotel,

South Portland, ME

## Events of Interest - Summer 2023

### New England Waters

(please check websites for confirmation)

### **\*\*Casco Bay Gaffers Race**, Portland, ME

June 25, free, 7th year, 11 AM start

After-race party at Cook's Lobster and Ale House,  
Bailey Island

[www.schooneralert.com](http://www.schooneralert.com) or (207) 841-9125

### **Wooden Boat Show**, Mystic, CT

June 23-25, annual show at Mystic Seaport

Presented and produced by WoodenBoat Magazine

[www.thewoodenboatshow.com](http://www.thewoodenboatshow.com)

### **Windjammer Days**, Boothbay Harbor, ME

June 25 – July 1, 61st annual festival,

events for the whole family

[www.boothbayharborwindjammerdays.org](http://www.boothbayharborwindjammerdays.org)

### **\*\*Camden Classics Cup**, Camden, ME

July 27-29, 8th annual event

[www.camdenclassicscup.com](http://www.camdenclassicscup.com)

### **\*\*Eggemoggin Reach Regatta**, Brooklin, ME

Saturday, August 5, all wooden boats

24 ft. or longer welcome

[www.erregatta.com](http://www.erregatta.com)

### **\*\*Chowder Cup Race**,

Friendship Harbor, ME

Saturday, August 5, one day race, free,

42nd year!

Contact Charlie Witherell at [cbwitherell@gmail.com](mailto:cbwitherell@gmail.com)

or Bill Shaughnessy at

[william\\_shaughnessy@comcast.net](mailto:william_shaughnessy@comcast.net)

### **Corinthian Classic Yacht Regatta**,

Marblehead, MA

August 12-13, Corinthian Yacht Club

[www.corinthianclassic.org](http://www.corinthianclassic.org)

### **\*\*39<sup>th</sup> Annual Gloucester, MA Schooner Festival**

August 31-September 3,

[www.maritimegloucester.org](http://www.maritimegloucester.org)

(\* indicates Friendship sloops welcome  
with registration)



**Friendship Sloop Society**  
**347 Lincoln Street**  
**Norwell, MA 02061**

**Address Correction Service Requested**

## **Friendships Among the Schooners**

FSS member, life long sailor and artist Julian Tablada took these photos of Friendship sloops participating in the 2022 Gloucester Schooner Festival. Julian had arrived aboard the schooner **Adventurer** having sailed up from Annapolis, MD and was delighted to spot several Friendships cruising the harbor. On the left is 28 foot **Resolute** #123, owned by Tom Jarvis of Gloucester. She was built in 1973 by Charlie Burnham in Essex, MA, two years after he had built and launched the smaller 21 foot **Maria** #127, now owned by Charlie's grandson Alden Burnham. Charlie was an adventurous spirit, and with his wife Maria and family made the

voyage to Maine many times over the years, participating in FSS events and exploring the coast.

Also participating in the Schooner Festival was **Voyager** #96 seen to the right squeezing into the town dock just off the bow of the historic Gloucester Schooner **Adventure**, also built in Essex. The 32 foot **Voyager** is owned by Cyrus Ebinger of Ipswich, MA, and has put many miles and adventures under her keel in the five years he has owned her. She was built in 1964 by Lash Brothers for FSS founder Bernie MacKenzie of Scituate, MA, and made the trip to the races in Friendship, ME many times. Cyrus will spend this summer working on some needed repairs to the boat and repowering, and hopes to make it to the Rockland Homecoming in the near future.







*Old Baldy #57 with skipper Kathe Newman Walton at the helm, at home in the waters of Southwest Harbor, ME.*



*Artist and avid sailor Julian Tablada painted this view of **Resolute #123** in Gloucester Harbor in 2022. Called "Safe Harbor", this and more of his original artwork appear in a self-published book about sailing north in a schooner from Annapolis, MD, titled "Innocents Aboard" on the Blurb online publishing website. More about Julian and his art can be found on his website, [julianwatercolors.com](http://julianwatercolors.com).*



***Tannis** skipper Jeff Cronin receives yet another well deserved trophy from new Race Committee Chair Rich Langton (Michelle Leppert photo)*



***Jabberwocky #189** is almost completely screened by the 36 foot **Noel #272** as they approach the Rockland breakwater and lighthouse. (Bill Finch photo)*



*From the left, **Banshee #180**, **Hegira #230** and **Celebration #227**, all 25 foot Pemaquids, are evenly matched in this tight downwind finish in 2022. (Bill Finch photo)*



*Kathe Newman Walton and Miff Lauriat are all smiles at the Awards Banquet in 2022. (Michelle Leppert photo)*