

Friendships

Newsletter of the Friendship Sloop Society

Volume 12

Winter 2000

Issue 1

Commodore's Message

Phoenix may be high, dry and frozen for the winter but the Friendship Sloop Society is not. We have a few exciting new projects in the works. I think we are entering our 40th year with our eyes set on the future.

Harold Burnham (owner of **Chrissy** and renowned Essex builder) really enlivened the annual meeting by conducting our most successful auction to date. But that's not all, he has decided to start on the task of taking the lines off of all the original Friendships and continuing the research of their origins. We have been in the business of tracking down our Class A sloops' origins for a number of years, but this job has never included pulling the lines off the boats. I think we will begin to really see how the design developed and also see some of the more subtle decisions each builder made. The executive board voted with great enthusiasm to create the position of Original Sloop Historian and Harold was also voted into the position.

I'm also thrilled with the progress we have made on the web page. Jim Wilson was voted into the new position of Web Site chair and has a number of exciting new ideas that we should see in the future. But for the immediate time, John Wojcik has created a site at <http://pages.prodigy.net/johnwoj/> that really gets us some notice on the Internet. There are the upcoming schedule of events, complete sloops listings, the recent newsletters, a history of the Friendship Sloop, race results, a membership form and even some pictures. I have been contacted through email from New Zealand and the UK. The website can really help us stay in touch with the fleet as it slowly disperses throughout the globe. (Thank you John!) The website is the perfect project for the Sloop Society going into the 21st century.

So with one project originating in 19th century Friendship, Maine and one originating in cyber space, we head into our 40th year festivities. I hope that we can make the Rockland Homecoming a huge success this year. The dates are slated for July 24-27th. Add this to your vacation plans for this summer. No matter what your interests are with your Friendship sloop, I think you will find the homecoming a moving and beautiful sight. Every now and then I am able to stop and see the majesty of the fleet together; it's beyond words. And it's an awful lot of fun too.

I hope to see you all this summer, either at Rockland or one of our other wonderful events. The warm weather is coming (or

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The Races at Marblehead

By David W. Graham

One of my winter projects this season has been the refurbishment of the Ridgway Trophy that hangs on the wall at Corinthian during the summer months. Initially presented in 1976, the trophy was beginning to look a little tired. But the real reason for undertaking the project was simply that Erica Beck's capturing of the trophy in 1999, filled up the 24th and remaining brass plate that the trophy had originally contained. The upshot of it all is that I am delighted to report that with an additional 20 plates and the rearranging of the originals, the Ridgway Trophy is now an even more handsome, eye-appealing presentation than when brand new out of the box!

While doing the project, I became engrossed once more on who had won the trophy over the years it has been presented and for those who won it more than once - - - how many times that may have happened. As you might have guessed, the results were not startling; that is, **Phoenix** came out on top with 9 victories, while **Tannis** ran close behind with a total of 8. It has been the usually light airs of mid-August that have looked kindly on these two contenders over the years; still they have by no means captured every race. **Voyager** has twice taken home first prize and there were even two back-to-back years of '87 and '88, when little **Philia** did the good deed. Single regatta wins have gone to **Old Baldy** in 1989 and **Liberty** back in 1984. And who among us that were there in 1983 will ever forget the heavy air weekend when more bare-bottom paint was exposed at the finish line than were topsides? That was when **Schoodic** won it all.

While the Ridgway winners are a matter of record, the "rest of the story" can only be told by looking at just how closely the margins were for some of the victors, against their first runner-up. Here is where some of the old behind-the-scene records paint a story - - - a few extra seconds here and a few there, and an entirely different outcome might have been the result.

All this is to say that while **Phoenix** and **Tannis** have been the Ridgway Trophy giants over the years, there are simply no hard and fast advance guarantees that any specific entry will be in for a happy time at the winning line of a FSS Marblehead gathering.

Given the probabilities of good equipment, seamanship and experience, Lady Luck and Dame Fortune, may very well be awaiting your arrival for the gun finish. Come and participate. Enjoy the camaraderie with your fellow FSS members. If you do, you may present yourself with the

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New London Friendship Sloop Rendezvous & Regatta OpSail2000CT

Jack Vibber has sent along this update on the happenings in New London in July.

Friendships - Tall Ships Parade - Entertainment - All at New London, Connecticut July 12 - 16. The Parade of Sail will begin at about 10:30 AM on Wednesday the 12th with a fleet of 30 sizable ships and 300 recreational vessels. On Friday the 14th there will be an antique and classic boat parade, and all Friendships are invited to participate in that event.

In between the above events there will be a battle enactment and visitation times for the Tall Ships. Late Saturday afternoon we will have our usual good picnic at the Thames Yacht Club, followed by a gigantic display of fireworks. Sunday breakfast will be at the TYC followed by a Friendship regatta in the afternoon.

Please send or phone for a booklet with more information to:

Gregory Roth
510 Montauk Avenue
New London, CT 06320
Phone (860)-442-2747
E-Mail: SCUPPERS-@WORLDNET.ATT.NET

or
Jack Vibber
5 Soljer Drive
Waterford, CT 06385
Phone (860)-442-7376

Commodore's Message

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so they keep on saying). **Phoenix** needs some rudder work, **Tannis** has some new wood in her stem, Richard Stanley has his own sloop under way; we're all getting down to work to continue the living history of Friendship sloops. Good luck with yours.

Email List

Tad is putting together an email list for the Sloop Society. There are times when we need to spread the word quickly and this is the best way to do that. You will still get all the regular mailings.

To get onto the email list...just send Tad an email to TADBE@AOL.COM saying that you would like to be added to the list.

Dues Reminder

If you haven't mailed your annual dues in for 2000, please send them to:

Caroline Phillips, Society Secretary
164 Sturbridge Road
Charlton, MA 01507

Home to Friendship 1999

written by Caroline Zuber

After three sunny, but not-enough-wind days of racing in Rockland, the Friendship sloopers woke on Friday, July 30, to a pea-soup fog enveloping Rockland Harbor. We had signed up 11 other sloops and **Messing About** to make the trip to Friendship Harbor for the Friday night lobster cookout on the wharf of Alice and Tom Loomis' lovely island home across the harbor from the mainland.

We thought we had figured everything out - even to the point of passing out directions by land or sea. **Gladiator** and **Departure** left promptly at 8:00 a.m., promising to shuck the corn and toss the husks overboard for the other sloops to follow down the Muscle Ridge channel. We had signed up the crews of **Content**, **Tern**, **Sorceress**, **Omaha**, **William Rand**, **Salatia**, **Eagle**, **Tannis**, **Flying Jib**, and **Gannet** to make the journey. In addition, we had Glenda Armandi, Sidney Leonard, Bob and Betty Monk, Greg and Daneen Roth, and the Plumer crew coming by land. Marcia Morang and her daughters came over from Nobleboro, Jane Lash, Holly and Tom and the twins, Betty Roberts and Dick Lozier and his daughter and husband were going to meet the **Gladiator** ferry in Friendship. All told, 70 folks were going to get to Friendship for the cocktail party and lobster cookout.

Despite the fog and various other reasons, only **Gladiator**, **Departure**, **Content**, **William M. Rand** and **Messing About** made it to Friendship. However, the rest of the crews drove down the peninsula and made it to the traditional event! Everybody brought snacks and appetizers to share, and all lobsters and other goodies disappeared. We were able to give David Bell \$350 for the Scholarship Fund on Saturday morning at the Memorial Service.

Thank you all for your support and effort in getting to Friendship - one way or the other!

The Races at Marblehead

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opportunity to get your name onto the Ridgway Trophy. Without your participation, there is but one guarantee - - - that your name will not appear on the Ridgway Trophy for that given year.

But try entering - - - we think you'll like coming to Marblehead. Save the dates - - this year they will be August 12th and 13th.

For more detail on the Marblehead gathering, see the next issue.

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.

Sloop Society Financial Statement October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999

Treasurer David Bell has submitted the following unaudited treasurer's report:

Receipts:			
Dues:	Boat Owners	\$2,910.00	
	Assoc. Members	1,500.00	
	CO-OP Members	440.00	\$4,850.00
Rendezvous:			
	Entry Fees	810.00	810.00
Annual Meeting:			
	Meeting Dinner	1,337.50	
	Auction	235.00	
	50/50 Raffle	108.50	
	Soda Offerings	29.50	1,710.50
Miscellaneous:			
	Trophy CD Interest	177.79	
	Donations	105.00	
	Chandlery Sales	5,353.00	
	Bulletin Board	540.00	
	Bank Interest	170.98	6,346.77
Total Receipts			13,717.27
 Disbursements:			
Administration:			
	Copies	147.88	
	Membership	253.31	
	Newsletter Mastheads	342.50	
	Newsletter - Other	975.68	
	Yearbook Bulletin Brd	460.00	
	Postage & UPS	580.21	
	Phone	14.63	
	Secretary's Comp.	1,000.00	
	Other Administration	20.00	3,794.21
Race Committee Expenses:			
	Other Regatta	50.00	
	Trophies	366.62	
	Race Insurance	321.30	
	Brass Plates	245.00	
	US Sailing Membership	75.00	
	Other Expenses	357.60	1,415.52
Rendezvous Expenses:			
	Tip-Rockland Stewards	80.00	
	Posters	227.50	
	PA System	100.00	
	BBQ's	27.91	435.41
Donations and Gifts:			
	Friendship Museum	300.00	
	Pendleton Scholarship	400.00	
	Maine Maritime Museum	300.00	1,000.00
Meetings:			
	Annual Banquet	1,657.97	
	Cheese & Crackers	55.20	1,713.17
Miscellaneous:			
	Chandlery	3,798.93	
	Scholarship	60.00	
	Supplies	42.98	3,901.91
Total Expenses			12,260.22
Total Receipts			13,717.27
Receipts over Expenses			1,457.05

Pendleton Memorial Scholarship Fund of the Friendship Sloop Society

The Friendship Sloop Society through its Pendleton Memorial Scholarship Fund continues to offer scholarships to the young people of Friendship who are graduating from high school in June. Additional funds are also granted to those who are currently continuing their programs in college or technical school.

In 1983 Elbert Pratt and other folks from the Sloop Society founded this fund specifically for the students from Friendship as a thanks for sharing the town and its heritage of beautiful boats and hard working people. Since that time, more than one hundred young people have been helped with funds raised from the efforts of many involved over the years; selling peanuts, having sales of homemade goods on the wharf, auctions at sloop meetings, collections of bottles and cans at the sloop races, and many donations from townspeople sloop owners and crews, and friends. It all adds up to a lot more than money!

In 1999, a total of \$4,850 was awarded to 12 students. The seven first-year recipients of \$600 each were:

Nathen Barrett	University of Maine
Megan Benner	Univ. of Southern Maine
Jennifer Campbell	University of Maine
David Dean	Univ. North Carolina
Audra Emerson	University of Maine
Allison Love	University of Maine
Keith Simmons	St. Joseph's College

Five students were awarded \$250 each for their continuing studies. They were William Bramhall, Lori Burns, Alexis Hooydonk, Seth Neal, and Ellen Simmons.

Applications for scholarships for those graduating in June of 2000 may be obtained from the guidance office or from Betty Roberts in Friendship. Completed applications must be returned to Betty Roberts by June 1, 2000.

Income received during 1999 totaled \$5,928.74. The value of the principal of the Scholarship Fund as of November 30, 1999 was \$72,377.92.

Donations to the Pendleton Memorial Scholarship Fund are always gratefully received. Please send your contribution to:

Rev. David Bell, Treasurer
35 Pumpkin Cove Road
New Harbor, ME. 04554-4912

Bill Zuber Chair

Pendleton Memorial Scholarship Fund

Computer Donation Sought

The computer that our Secretary uses for the mailings and creating / maintaining the Society records has become woefully obsolete. We are looking for a donation of a computer that is capable of running at least Windows 95 and can access the Internet. If you have a system that you'd like to donate, please contact Tad. The donation is tax-deductible.

Yearbook Deadline Approaches

Roger Duncan has sent us this update on the yearbook:

It is time to set the mainsail, drop the mooring and get the new yearbook under way for a long beat to the weather mark. Half the book will be advertising and half will be copy and pictures. The more advertising, the more copy. So take an ad if you can, and urge your boatyard, hardware store and rich uncle to join you. A rate sheet is enclosed.

We need good articles as much as we need good advertising. Accounts of cruises, exploits and adventures -from which we learn sometimes more than we want to learn- if merely told over the fried chicken at the barbecue, are soon forgotten and lost forever. Published in the yearbook, they are preserved as part of our history and tradition.

If you want to make a modest contribution to the yearbook and salute our readers with a cheery message, take a spot in the Bulletin Board for \$20.

Stories, poems, pictures, and Bulletin Board contributions should reach me before April 15 at:

P.O. Box 66
East Boothbay, Maine 04544.

Clear Skies,
Roger F. Duncan

2000 Schedule of Events

New London Rendezvous & Regatta

July 12th - 16th

Tall Ships Parade - July 12th

Regatta - July 16th

Southwest Harbor Rendezvous

July 15th

Homecoming Rendezvous & Races at Rockland

July 24th - 27th

Friendship Day

July 29th

Marblehead Regatta

August 12th - 13th

Gloucester Schooner Festival

September 2nd

Annual Meeting

November 11th

New England Center, Durham, NH

Membership News

Doug Amsbary has sent the following news about our members:

We spoke with David Holmes at the Rockland Homecoming and he mentioned that he has added a topmast to his sloop #261 **Bluenose**. He also added a new suit of sails by Nat Wilson constructed in the new "oceanus" fabric.

We would like to welcome Keith & Christyne Roberts of Rockport, MA as new members. He noted on the membership application that "we will be sloop owners soon!"

We received a completed membership application from Adrian Edmondson of Surrey, England informing us that he owns a newly constructed sloop built by renowned Friendship sloop builder Ralph W. Stanley and his son Richard. He has named his sloop **Acadia** and will be keeping it in Dartmouth, England. We have issued it our newest sail number which is #268.

#229 **Cap'n George** has been sold to Robb Darula of Richmond, RI. He will be homeporting the sloop in Mystic CT.

A remarkable number of 31' "Dictator" sloops have changed hands of late and below is the list of changes that we have heard about:

Jeff Cohen of Mamaroneck, NY has bought #145 **Edna** (ex **Yankee Lady**). It is reported that he will be changing the name of the sloop. You might all remember that this was the sloop that was purchased by a German fellow and the last that we heard he had started his trek across the Atlantic. A couple of years went by before it was again seen in a photograph participating in Antigua Race Week.

#206 **Mary Eliza** was purchased by Craig Collemer & Gary LaParl of Salem, MA and will be changing the name of their sloop to **Legacy** in honor of ancestor Elmer Collemer, who built a number of Friendships and schooners. They will be keeping the sloop at Salem Willows Y.C. along with **Rights of Man**, **Tannis**, and **Flying Jib**. Craig sailed with the crew of #156 **Departure** during the Rockland Homecoming and got the Friendship "bug".

#171 **Golden Anchor** has had her name changed to **Resolute** and purchased by Allen Waldman of Marblehead, MA and is now for sale.

Barry Abrams of New York, NY has purchased # 147 **Solace** (ex. **Anna B.**) from Roland Shaw of Peaks Island, ME. The sloop is now in the shop of Ed Gray/Jarvis Newman on Cranberry Island undergoing extensive cabin modifications.

Mr. Jeffrey Richards of Rockland ME, owner of #240 **Raven** has joined the Society. Hopefully we will see **Raven** at the next Homecoming in Rockland.

Sloop #144 **Josie** has been sold to John Burke of Gloucester.

The Cronin family is performing some major surgery to #7 **Tannis**. The entire stem has been removed with strong hopes of getting the repair completed before the summer sailing season.

We have learned that #39 **Downeaster** has been sold by Forrester Valle to Dr. Brad Wilkinson. It is reported that the sloop is in the shop of Eric Dow in the Brooklin, ME area undergoing repairs.

Memorial Book

Our new book, "Friendship (sloops)" is under way. The price of printing has gone way up since the 60's. The cost of printing is around \$7000 through Book Master's in Ohio. In order for the Sloop Society to handle the printing, we must make a number of presales. Each book will be coffee table size, 120 pages long with a color photograph section and b&w photographs throughout. The presale price is \$40. After printing the price will go up \$50. Buy a few as gifts. Your in-laws need one!

So please fill out the attached pledge form. Send it to:

Tad Beck, 380 Broadway, New York, NY 10013.

DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY. But please send photographs of your boat (if you have not already done so) and you will be guaranteed to see her in the book. We will collect funds when we reach a prudent pledge level to begin production.



I _____
agree to buy _____ copies of
"Friendship (sloops)" at \$40 each.

Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Cruising Division Proposed for Homecoming Gathering

The following is a proposal to the membership in general. Namely, the creation of a cruising division at the Homecoming Regatta in Rockland.

The proposal is twofold:

First, to offer sloop owners who do not enjoy racing another venue to participate in. Second, to encourage a larger attendance at the regatta. This division III would operate as follows:

- Division III participants would pay the same nominal fee to enter.
- Participation in all other activities is welcome, but strictly voluntary.
- Division III skippers would attend the morning briefing. After the racing division business is over, the cruising division would decide what to do or where to go.

Some of the activities suggested include:

- A leisurely sail to Isleboro for a picnic on the beach.
- A short cruise to High Island Harbor for a rafting party or a hike to the quarry.

All this is weather permitting. If Mother Nature does not cooperate, there is always the ever increasing number of galleries and shops to visit, and of course, the Farnsworth Museum should not be missed.

July 2000 will be the 40th anniversary of the Homecoming Regatta. The efforts and impetus of the founders as well as the contagious enthusiasm of regatta participants make it one of the most worthwhile activities in the summer. So whether you want to test your mettle and compete in the races, leisurely cruise or just hang around and enjoy the camaraderie, come and join us this summer in Rockland.

For questions or comments, please contact:

Dr. Ruy Gutierrez
57 Heritage Drive
Auburn, W 04210

Telephone: (207) 782-8199

Class A Birthdays

There are a number of member Class A sloops that are celebrating significant "birthdays" in 2000. Our congratulations to the owners and crews of the following "Senior" members of the fleet:

100 Years:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| #9 Amity | Ted & Patricia O'Meara, So. Portland, ME |
| #19 Blackjack | Wilson Fletcher, Bar Harbor, ME |
| #24 Tern | Paul Haley & Elizabeth Stubbs, Marblehead,
MA |

85 Years:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| #53 Eagle | Capt. Donald Huston, Nahant, MA |
|------------------|---------------------------------|

Memorial Service Friendship Harbor - July 31, 1999

written by Caroline Zuber

A beautiful sunny, breezy morning followed the foggy Friday. The official piper of the Society, Donald Duncan, was on hand to start and end the simple service. Retired minister David Bell led the larger than usual group in remembrances of those who had gone before. The service brought together the families of three of our members who have "crossed the bar" in recent months: Bill Rand, Bob Lash,, and Al Beck. As Priscilla Rand wrote in a note to me: "That was a wonderful event in Friendship last weekend. I hadn't been back for several years and was really touched to be in those waters and in the village again ... The Service at "The Rock" meant a great deal. David always finds just the right words. ...(he) very thoughtfully sent me the poem he read. He keeps a remarkable collection. With all the delightful new babies in our midst, it did seem that "the bridge" is already well traveled."

The poem to which she referred was "The Bridge Builder" by Will Allen Dromgoole. I include it here.

*An old man going a lone highway
Came in the evening cold and gray
To a chasm vast and deep and wide,
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fears for him,
But he stopped when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.*

*"Old man, " said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way.
You've crossed the chasm deep and wide
Why build you this bridge at evening tide?"*

*The builder lifted his old gray head,
"Good friend, in the path that I have come," he said,
"There follows after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way,
This chasm which has been as naught to me
To that fair-haired youth might a pitfall be,
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim,
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."*

Reflect on this and if you can, come to Friendship, to the "Rock" overlooking the harbor and remember those who have crossed and prepared the bridge for us.

Elbert Pratt

Elbert Pratt passed away in January. He was a charter member of the Society, our cannoneer, and past president of the Pendleton Scholarship Fund. The following dedication appears in the Town of Friendship town report:

Elbert Sewell Pratt was born in Farmington, Maine on July 31,1917. He was the son of Dr. Harold and Cora Chase Pratt. Elbert and Constance Logan were married in 1943, and shortly thereafter he was sent overseas to New Guinea to serve with the U.S. Army Medical Corps. Elbert was a graduate of the University of Maine and taught Geology at Upsala College in NJ for 28 years. During the summers, he and Connie came to the "summer cottage" on Davis Point overlooking the Friendship Harbor entrance. Retirement in 1977 brought the Pratts home permanently to Friendship. Elbert was a charter member of the Friendship Sloop Society, the Official Cannoneer, and a founding trustee of the Pendleton Memorial Scholarship fund. This fund was created to benefit students from Friendship in their quest for higher education or training after high school. As President of the Scholarship fund for many years, Elbert gave many of our young folks the help needed to become productive citizens. Always helpful and forever the gentleman, Elbert will be sorely missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Bob Stein

Robert M. Stein of Newbury, Mass. passed away on November 19, 1999. Bob was the father of Irene Amsbary. He was the former owner of the Pemaquid Sloop **Essential** (#178) and frequently crewed at the homecoming races onboard **Dictator**, **Phoenix** and **Departure**. Bob joined the FSS in 1973, and continued to be an avid support for 25 plus years. He will be missed.

Boston Tall Ships 2000

The Commodore has sent this note regarding the July event:

I received a call from Ed McCabe of the Hull Life Saving Museum. He was telling me about the Tall Ships in Boston and was hoping that the Friendship Sloop Society would be able to join in the festivities. The parade is July 11. It appears that we already have an invite from the Hull Yacht Club. Basically we're invited to participate if anyone would like to organize the event. **Phoenix** and I will not be able to make the trip down as I see it right now. SW Harbor is that next weekend ya know.

If you would like to see us participate in the Boston Tall Ships Parade, please give me a call: 212-966-4690. It sounds pretty easy to organize ... all the ground work is already done from 1992. The Hull Life Saving Museum is planning events all weekend before the parade. Please also pass on the word to anyone who might want to make this happen also.

Fair Winds,
Tad

FRIENDSHIP SLOOP SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING

Commodore Tad Beck opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. In his opening remarks he stated that the Society was heading into its 40th year, and that he was amazed that everyone is still enjoying the Society and the Society is growing stronger with the years. Tad then introduced the members of the executive board in attendance and new members. .

Tad then stated that he had a questionnaire about the annual meeting and the other events within the Society. He asked that everyone fill one out so that it would give the executive board some direction as far as what people would or would not like to see as the Society moves ahead in the future.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Caroline Phillips

Membership for 1999 was as follows:

Boat owner:	94
Full/associate:	53
Cooperative:	21
Honorary:	7
TOTAL Membership:	175

Caroline reported that although these numbers were considerably lower than previous years, she seemed to think that the numbers would return to the 200's in year 2000. She already had 16 members who did not join in 1999, join in 2000 - 6 of them paid for 1999 as well. Six members have asked to be dropped from the mailing list in 1999 due to illness or they have sold their boat.

TREASURER'S REPORT: David Bell (See Page 3)

David stated that all the figures were listed in his financial reports. He said that the Society is floating well!! He then stated that if anyone had any questions about the reports were welcome to ask him.

PENDLETON SCHOLARSHIP FUND: Bill Zuber

Bill stated that the scholarship fund was doing fine. The fund has a principal balance of \$73,000. The scholarship fund awarded \$5,000 in scholarships last June -- 5 new students and 3 ongoing students.

FRIENDSHIP DAYS: Bill Zuber

Bill began by saying that there was a lot of FOG!! He stated that 11 sloops and **Messing About** had signed up to sail to Friendship. Because of the FOG, only 4 Friendships and **Messing About** were able to sail to Friendship. All the other sloops and crew drove over land. The event raised \$350 for the Scholarship Fund. Bill then stated that David Bell led the Memorial Service which honored all the deceased members with the newest to the list - Bill Rand, Bob Lash and Al Beck. Caroline Zuber then read a poem to the membership that was read at the memorial service.

NEW LONDON: Jack Vibber

Jack stated that they had good weather, but only 5 Friendships participated this year. Jack then talked about OP Sail 2000 in New London CT. He invited and encouraged everyone to come down for the event.

SOUTHWEST HARBOR: Tad Beck

Tad stated that the weather was great and winds were 10-15 knots. There were 8 boats that participated which either ties or beats the record for attendance. A great time was had by all.

ROCKLAND: Bob Rex

Bob began by thanking his race committee (Dick Salter, Jerry Ross, Gene Costanza). He then thanked Bill Zuber for getting another stake boat, Marcia, Penny, and PJ Morang for organizing the trophies, and Dick and Alice Salter for use of **Messing About** as the committee boat. He stated that Rockland had a good turnout. He wants everyone to make a gigantic effort to make it to Rockland in 2000 for a huge showing.

MARBLEHEAD: David Graham

David began by stating that the Society needs to get more boats to participate in Marblehead or the Society will lose its date slot for racing. David no longer has the authority to set the dates, but instead has to approach the race committee for the date. In order for the race committee to give us our racing slot, we need more boats to attend because Marblehead has become very crowded with all the different races that take place during the year. David stated that only 8 boats were registered to race. David then said that people should call him at (781) 631-6680 and give some suggestions or ideas for increasing attendance at Marblehead.

GLOUCESTER: Jack Cronin

Jack began by saying that it was a larger than usual turnout of Friendships. He stated that Gloucester put on a fantastic two day event and the event was a great closure to the sailing season. Results were **Tannis**, **Rights of Man** and **Resolute**. The second day the large schooners raced and it was spectacular watching them race. The **Pride of Baltimore** was there and was beautiful to watch. Everyone just had a wonderful time and he encouraged others to try to attend. Jack summarized by saying that Gloucester is a first class event.

YEARBOOK: Roger Duncan

Roger started out by saying "I have two things on my mind - money and materials." Roger stated that we get 1/2 of the yearbook for articles, pictures, etc. and the other 1/2 is for the advertisements. The more advertisements we get, the more pages for articles. As usual, we have a bulletin board for individuals to write messages (cost is \$20.00 / box). Roger encouraged everyone to sign up for the bulletin board. As always, articles, pictures, etc. must be submitted by April 15th. Roger stated that if you get a business to advertise, be sure to state that you are with the Friendship Sloop Society so that the ad comes off our commitment. Roger then encouraged everyone to submit an article or photos for the 2000 yearbook.

NEWSLETTER: John Wojcik

John stated that another newsletter was about to be printed, and as usual, it is easy to get the newsletter out because of all the nice articles from the membership.

WEB SITE:

Changes are coming, but it needs more effort to keep up to date and accurate.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Whitney's award the Friendship Award to Jack and Virginia Vibber.

NEW BUSINESS:

DONATIONS:

Scholarship Fund \$500.00
Friendship Museum \$400.00
Maine Maritime Museum \$400.00

BANCROFT AWARD: Jack Cronin

Jack stated that his committee consists of Maria Burnham, Jim Wilson, and Doug Amsbary. This year the award was presented to Betty Roberts.

WILLIAM HADLOCK AWARD: Doug Amsbary

Awarded to Adrian and Pamela Hooydonk

BRUCE MORANG TROPHY: Morang family

Awarded to Richard Dudman for his article "Freedom" in the yearbook.

OMAHA AWARD: Charlie and Maria Bumham

Awarded to Bill and Cathy Whitney for their assistance provided to a number of sloop owners who had encountered technical problems (engines, radios, etc.) at Rockland.

David Graham then discussed the presentation to Ralph Stanley by Hillary Clinton for the National Heritage Fellowship.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Dick Salter

Commodore Tad Beck
Vice Commodore Paul Haley
Secretary Caroline Phillips
Treasurer David Bell
Inspector of Mast Wedges Bruce Lanning

The officers were voted in unanimously with the Secretary casting one ballot for the slate.

Dick Salter stated that the Society needs a new cannoneer for Rockland. Bill Zuber has the cannon and felt that everyone should get a cannon blast when arriving at the homecoming.

50/50 RAFFLE - \$135.00 was won by Marcia Morang

AUCTION - raised \$931.20 for the Society.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Sloop Society Chandlery

Our store keepers, Tom & Peg Miller, have the following close-out sale items available:

Sweatshirts	Long Sleeve, Crew Neck, 80/20 Blend, Society Logo, Green. M,L,XL,XXL	\$20.00
Post It Pads	3X4, Light Gray, Logo, 50 Sheets	\$1.50
Plastic Cups	12Oz., Logo, Red, Green	4 / \$1.00
Wallet	Sports Wallet, Velcro Closure	\$6.00

These and other items can be purchased by contacting Tom & Peg at 77 Bedford Road, New Boston, NH 03070
Phone: (603)-487-3883.

The Nickerson Trophy

by Caroline Zuber

A magnificent silver two handled trophy mounted on a wood base, this trophy was donated by Leon Nickerson, who served as race committee chairman of the first regatta in 1961. The first recipient in 1971 was Bruce White aboard his dad's sloop #59, **Sarah Meade**, named for his sister. The Race Committee originally awarded the trophy to the "youngest skipper" aboard a "winning" sloop. The recipient had to actually be in command during at least one race in which the sloop finished "in the money". This tradition continued for most of 20 years.

Because Friendship Sloops seem to stay in the same family for many years, and the birth rate of sloop owners with eligible family members was in a decline, the rules were changed in the early 1990's to the "youngest crew member aboard a racing sloop", with a year's warning given to those present at the regatta to plan any family expansion accordingly. In creating the list of winners and sloops, the "family" aspect of membership in the Friendship Sloop Society becomes apparent. **Tannis** holds the record for the number of times either a youngest skipper or youngest crew member was aboard.

In 1999, the first "next generation" winner was Ben Zuber, at the winning age of 6 weeks. His uncle, Bob Zuber, was a two-time winner as the youngest skipper in 1980 and 1982, while he was still a teenager. Ben was not awarded the trophy at the awards banquet in Rockland, as the previous year's winner had forgotten to bring it back. Thatcher Carter's dad personally delivered the trophy to Ben's dad, Andy Zuber, the next week. He caused quite a stir when he strode into Andy's office bearing the trophy.

Handicap Reminder

The Society Measurer and Handicapper, Dick Salter, would like to remind all sloop owners that if you are planning to race in a Sloop Society sponsored event, you must have a current handicap sheet on file. Please submit your handicap form to Dick as soon as possible so that he can provide a handicap rating to the race committee in advance of the event.

If you have any questions, need a form, or would like a set of instructions on how to measure your sloop, call or write Dick at:

151 Bridge Street
Manchester, MA 01944
Tel: (978)-526-1004

Wanted: A Cannoneer

With the passing of Elbert Pratt, the Sloop Society is in need of a Cannoneer. It had been a tradition of the Society that a sloop receive a cannon salute upon entering Friendship Harbor to attend the races. The Society is looking to revive the tradition in Rockland. Applicants need not be capable of accurate firing, loading using a rammer, keeping a slow-match burning in a match-tub, or providing their own cannon. The Society will provide the cannon and (if necessary) grape-shot, should a sloop return fire. The applicant need only be able to attend the Homecoming starting on Monday to greet the homecoming sloops. Contact Tad if interested.