

COMING UP

Saturday, July 12, Mixed Doubles 8 a.m.

Saturday, July 12, Kayak Workshop 9 - 11a.m.

Saturday, July 12, Safe Boating Course 9-5 p.m.

Sunday, July 13, Patrons' Coffee Social 10 a.m.

Tuesday, July 15 Women's Doubles 8 a.m.

GROTON LONG POINT NEWS

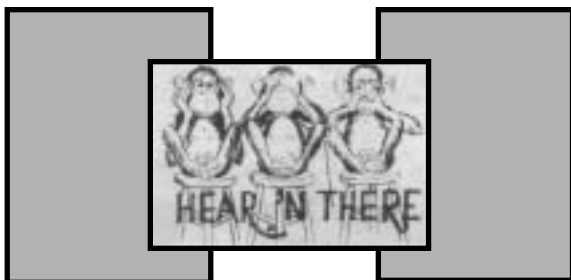
Volume 65

July 11, 2008

Issue # 3

I LOVE A PARADE!





Time for some mea culpa's. Last week we forgot to advertise the Association's Annual Meeting last Saturday. So we hope you all went anyway. It is important that people are part of the process and not part of the problems and we apologize profusely for forgetting to remind you..... And, because we had to get two issues ready in just one week we couldn't get our proofreading corrections in on time and so thanks to all of you who pointed out typos and misspellings and the like. Weezie Pease is not guilty **THIS** time so please do not annoy her with accusations of lax proofreading. We are actively looking for a good scapegoat to blame and we are rapidly closing in.... Hey, kudos to the Lyman family on East Beach. Their spectacular flag display around their house on the Fourth was terrific. And they lined East Shore with what seemed like hundreds of small American flags. It looked absolutely great. Thanks to the Lyman family..... We're sure that you've seen the beautiful landscaping down around the Casino and the new stone work all along the lagoon. It's

absolutely a wonderful job. The roses currently in full-bloom glory in front of the Casino were originally a birthday present to Geneva de Labry from some of her gal pals. Geneva graciously donated them to the landscaping project and they are beautiful now.... Michael Matthieu, son of Paul and Wendy of Sound Breeze, was this year's recipient of the City of Norwich's "Native Son Award". Sponsored by the Norwich Rotary Club and the Women's Club of Norwich, the award "honors a local individual who went on to fame or fortune and/or significant achievement after leaving the area." A Harvard graduate, Michael went on to Microsoft where he had interned as a junior. He invented the program that produces the little red squiggle that appears under a misspelled word as you work on your computer. Now living in Seattle, with his wife and two daughters, Michael has been part of many Internet start-up companies and launched his own one-man venture, an internet aid for colleges and universities in the recruitment of students. More anon.....

FIRST DAY



Working hard at registration.



Dancing is hard work, too.



Swimmers wasted no time.



We just joined because of the instructor.

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Our House at the Point

Is it possible to create a new house on the point that gives the feeling of an old time Groton Long Point cottage – yet features a high tech kitchen and dining area set in an open floor plan? Do the owners and their architectural team have the vision – and flexibility – to make a decision, in less than 24 hours, to forgo detailed plans for a home on one site, and reconfigure their concept to build a home at a different location? Can a family continue to maintain hope and optimism for the future – in spite of a year fraught with serious medical issues, and a closing date on their properties scheduled on a day of national tragedy, September 11, 2002? Ask Mary and Dick Froeb – they have accomplished it all.

28 Tautog Street is a familiar sight to most of us – the large 2 story home with an oversized yard located on the corner of Tautog and Pacific Streets. How many times a day do cars, walkers and bikers pass in front of this house on the way to sea shell sailing, tennis or the beaches? It is a hub of activity for many of us at the Point – not just for the Froeb Family, who lived there for 25 years. Over that time, Mary, the oldest of six children, has enjoyed seeing their house serve as the family vacation

homestead for their large clan. In order to continue and encourage this important part of their lives (and prepare for future retirement at GLP) – the Froebs planned to take down this home and rebuild. That is . . . until Bob and Jean Carroll decided to sell their home on West Shore – which had always been a favorite of Mary and Dick's, due to the spectacular view, generous lot size – and the magnificent oak tree which anchored the property.

The house on West Shore was built in 1910 by the Pond Family of Hartford; it was sold to The Carrolls in 1970, then to the Froebs in 2002. Even though they had only lived in the house a few years, and did not have a strong attachment to it, it was difficult for Mary and Dick to decide to take the house down – and give up some features they had

grown to love, like the pantry, a round rock fireplace, and the numerous traditional blue hydrangeas. Their solution . . . save these items and incorporate them into the new house! Mary loves to show visitors the glass knobs and doors, taken out of the old house, that serve to recreate the pantry into their new one – and the original hydrangea plants that now nestle up to the current house's beautiful wraparound porch. As for the favorite oak tree (one of the oldest on the Point) - it was carefully protected throughout construction – and serves as the anchor around which the house, garage and landscaping were designed.

What does it take to build a house at the Point? Bricks, mortar . . . and, in the case of the Froeb Family, the vision to create the modern home needed to serve their large family, paired with a respect for the values and advantages of traditional beach cottages here at Groton Long Point.

The next edition of 'Our House at the Point' will feature The Romani family house story. Would you like to share some information about your House At The Point?

Please contact:
Kate Romani
KFRomani7@comcast.net
536-4514.



FAMILY NIGHT

Family Night is fast approaching and so it is time for you to make plans to attend the season's most popular event.

**Date - 7/19
dinner and dj
6-9pm,
then fireworks at 9:30 p.m.!**

Dan, from the Seahorse, will be grilling for us. There will be delicious burgers and hot-dogs that can be purchased.....and maybe some other surprises from him.

Tickets are \$15.00 per person, and that supports all of the inflatables, rock climbing, free popcorn, cotton candy, snow cones, soda, water and set-ups.....and the tent and DJ.

If you have been to Family Night before you know how much fun and how unique it is. If you haven't joined us before you have to get tickets and experience the fun, the games, the food and fireworks. This is really a reasonable and a wonderful community event.

GLP WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC AT 6 P.M. TO ANYONE WITHOUT A PARKING STICKER TO ASSURE THAT EMERGENCY VEHICLES WILL NOT BE IMPEDED IF REQUIRED.

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**KEITH BRIDGHAM
JOHN HOLGREM**

DID YOU KNOW?

The blue boxes in the marsh at Bridge Street and East Shore Avenue are Green Head fly traps. The GLP Harbor & Beach Management Committee consulted with the Cape Cod Mosquito Control program regarding Green Head fly eradication. The result of those conversations are the two wooden boxes in the marsh.

For an unknown reason, Green Head flies are very attracted to this particular blue color. The inside of the box is painted black to absorb heat. There is a screen at the top of the box and two screens inside the box to channel the inquisitive flies into the upper chamber. In the upper chamber, the flies are trapped and eventually die of dehydration. The traps have only been in use for two weeks and have already captured nearly 100 Green Head flies.

The Battle of Groton Long Point

On Sunday, August 10th at 2:00 PM, there will be a commemorative event to honor the Battle of Groton Long Point which took place on August 12, 1814. The event is being organized by Peter Viering and Jonathan Fuller and will take place in the open lot at the corner of Windham Street and East Shore Avenue. Groton's Town Historian, Ms. Carol Kimball, will be the keynote speaker. Ms. Kimball will provide an historical account of the events which lead to this battle and its outcome.

There will be a display of British flags, a naval cutlass of the era, British uniform buttons of the period, colonial coins used in England and America, a map of the battle, and other interesting artifacts surrounding this event. Local militias are being invited to participate. Please join us in commemorating this important day in Groton Long Point's history.

"FROM THE ARCHIVES"

With all the controversy about the railroad bridge filling the local newspapers lately, Charles Pond had some insight into the bridge in New London about 80 years ago.

"Many years have come and gone since we first saw the country around New London and Groton and our own Groton Long Point. As we look back our earliest impression was of the New London railroad station. It is the same one that is there now and it was not so very new even then. The single track road brought us in to 'change cars' for a local train. This was in 1887 - or eighty years ago. While waiting, we stood on a seat and watched the train ferry take the cars over the river as there was no bridge of any kind that we can remember. So all other traffic across the Thames had to use the public ferry between the Whaling City and the Town of Groton.

It was twenty-nine years later, or 1916, that we returned to that particular spot. During that interval, the railroad had built a drawbridge for its trains but all other traffic was dependent on the ferry boat. And that was only 50 years ago. Not long thereafter the Highway Department took over the old railroad bridge and we could drive across. That was the end of the ferry. You can still see

the old slip in Groton. Sometimes, it seemed that this converted bridge took a special delight in opening just as our car arrived and stayed open a long time while a boat crawled through and a big 'jam' of nearly twenty-five cars piled up. Toll was ten cents a person.

So 1916 was the first summer we spent at Groton Long Point. To get there from Hartford the family carried their bags three blocks to the trolley, thence to the station where they boarded a Valley Branch train down the banks of the Connecticut River to Saybrook where they changed cars for New London, then the ferry to Groton and the Mystic bound trolley through woods and fields to a little shed which stood near the present entrance to the Point. Here Mr. Wheeler... would load us on his horse-drawn truck and wind a slow way over sandy lanes to the main beach where a little cottage named 'The Breakers' was waiting with no other house nearby. 'The Breakers' is still standing, having survived for fifty years of winter storms and the Great New England Hurricane of 1938. It rented for the princely sum of one hundred dollars a month. It was a three and a half hour trip."

It's a good thing Mr. Pond is not alive to see what it's like to travel on I-95 when we are trying to get to the Point.



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Luise Bethencourt at Centercourt



Saturday's early morning rain probably kept the numbers down for the Adult/Child tournament but everybody who did show up acquitted themselves well. There were 10 teams, 6 in the 12 & under, 4 in the 13 & up. The July winners turned out to be Meg and Russ Newell in

12 & under and Ben and Jay Washburn in 13 and up. Those pictures will be in next week.

The Scrambles brought out a good crowd. When I went down about 10 a.m. all the courts were full and the players were all switching partners. Scramblers pictured below.



Two good groups of Scramblers filled all four courts.

COMMISSIONING OF THE FLEET



Gordon Lange, Capt., USN, RET., was an apt choice for the man to commission our fleet of boats here in GLP. With 30 years in the country's submarine service, Gordon enlightened the small but enthusiastic audience, gathered at the flagpole for the commissioning, with some information about the ceremony. While not strictly legal to commission a non-naval vessel we learned that the first commissioned ship in the Navy was a schooner, *the Alfred*, commissioned in 1775 even before the signing of the Constitution.

Gordon displayed a pendant with 7 stars and a dash of red and white stripes that continually flies on board after the commissioning. (shown above with Gordon)

Fireworks donations still being accepted by the YC.

GET READY TO LAUGH!

Date: Saturday 7-26-08

Time: 8:00-11:00

Three Comedians will perform from 8-9:30.

E.J.Murphy has performed in Boston and New York. He has been a semi-finalist in Comedy Central's Boston Laugh Riots.

Joe List is a Boston comic, working over the past 4 years at top clubs in Boston and New York. He has played the Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom and the Cape Cod Melody Tent.

Mike Dorval is described as one of Boston's best by the Boston Globe. He has been featured on Comedy Central's Laugh Riots, television commercials. has toured overseas for the USO. the Boston Herald says "Michael Dorval is hilarious!"

At 9:30, get ready to dance, or just relax and listen to the wonderful music from our fave GLP Party Band. They will play until 11:00.

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Who Are We ?



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Steven Okamoto crabbing & Heather & Faith Pease celebrating!



Phyllis Chericoni & granddaughters; Maria DeAngelis & grandchildren



Suzy & Jay Fisher & Suzy's mother, Sally Olmstead and this last one is a doozy. I call this "easy does it." This is a picture of Beezy, Weezie & Luisey. (Lorenzen, Pease & Bethencourt, in that order!



Valerie Stowe's SEASCAPES



Every year I get asked about the appropriate time to prune hydrangeas. I would love to give a simple answer, but in truth it depends on what you want the end result to be. If the plant has gotten too large that is one problem. If the plant is covered with dead blossoms from the last season, do you need to dead head? Is the plant simply unsightly, straggly, or are there strange branches sticking out?

To avoid incorrect actions, I would first like to emphasize that NO pruning is better than wrong pruning. Hydrangeas will grow and flower provided they are fed and watered, even if they are never pruned at all. However, correct pruning will rectify some errors, and if the correct time and place for pruning is clear, the display will be improved, not decreased.

The most obvious form of pruning is dead heading. Most of the hydrangeas here are H. macrophylla 'Nikko blue', a mop head. Although there are others, this is the one most popular here and around which most questions arise. Most of us leave the flower heads on the plants in the fall. Some feel doing this protects the next year's flower buds, and there may be some merit to this. Remaining flower heads do have to be removed in the spring, if for no other reason, they really spoil the current seasons display. Each stem should be cut back to just above the uppermost pair of

new buds, taking care not to damage any green shoots, as these provide the new season's flowers. Spring to early summer is the time for this operation, when danger of spring frosts is past. This is also the time to remove any shriveled or dead leaves that have been hit by cold or frost.

In the normal course of things, young hydrangeas need hardly any pruning, beyond dead heading, or perhaps trimming a branch that spoils its shape. You should always remember whenever any part of a branch is removed, it takes away with it flowers for the next season. New shoots grow from below the cut, but they will not flower the first year. Any pruning of young shrubs should be done in the spring after the danger of frost is past.

Older plants, beyond 5-6 years can have more drastic pruning if desired. A safe rule to keep a plant in good shape and strength, as well as to control its size is to remove one third of all main shoots at ground level. The stems selected should be the oldest, most gnarled, grey and flaking stalks. Their removal allows light to the center of the plant, ripening of the wood and encourages new growth from the base. This is replacement pruning and should be done in mild weather, during January or February, since at that time there are no new shoots to be damaged.

TO BE CONTINUED

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The 2008 Fourth of July Road Race Brings About Fun for All

Defending champion and course record holder Steve Sergeant finished first place with a time of 17:25 followed by Tyler Edwards (18:06) with a strong third placement by college sophomore Dante Paolino with a time of 19:54. Over 150 adult entries; the second largest turnout (2007 was the largest ever!). In addition to the adult race, there were over 130 combined registered youngsters in the two kids' races.

1. Steve Sergeant
2. Tyler Edwards
3. Dante Paolino
4. Billy Murphy
5. Todd Brown
6. Dave Lattizori
7. Tom Sullivan
8. Dan Dumais
9. Dan Putnam
10. Peter Donahue
11. Kevin Hope
12. Katie Christian (first place female)
13. Michael Zenowitz
14. Christine Muchard
15. Derek Munn
16. Greg Rueling
17. Erin Welcher (second female finisher)
18. Joe Reangeus
19. Alex Reed
20. Chris Melanson
21. Tim Christian
22. Tricia Edwards (third female finisher)
23. Robert Breck (eighth grade)
24. Will McBee
25. Suzanne Jones (fourth

- place female)
9 Years Old and Under 1.
 Crawford Jones 3:09
 2. Noah Reuling
 3. Mike Kane
 4. Jack O'Leary
 5. Sam B
 6. Robbie Laidlaw
 7. Olivia Anderson (first female finisher)
 8. Patrick Mahoney
 9. Molly Carroll (second female finisher)
 10. Jack Kane

Youth Race (10-12year old)

1. Tim Carroll 2:55
2. Keam Quick
3. Jack Walsh
4. Ryan Reuling
5. Abigail Jones
6. Corey Donahue
7. Jesse Mony Quinn
8. Matthew Donahue
9. Jack Schildge
10. Olivia Keefe

A very special thank you goes out to the dedicated and very efficient race day crew of Natalie Burfoot-Billings, Joanne and Gary Zenowitz, Anne Horbatuck, Lindsay Horbatuck, Wesley Horbatuck, and Maeve DeFronzo. Without the assistance of these amazing individuals the race day would not be possible. Thank you to the GLP Police Department for helping to lead the race around the point. Thank you to Race Director Tom Zenowitz for his continued volunteer efforts and tireless work to make this event an annual occurrence. We look forward to another successful day of racing on July 4th, '09.

GRAPE NOTES

John Lombardo



SHIRAZ

Australia is one of the leading exporters of wine to the United States and Australia's most popular red wine is Shiraz (pronounced shi-rahz). Shiraz is a variety of grape. It is more commonly called Syrah elsewhere in the world. Syrah gained its reputation for serious and outstanding wines in the Northern Rhone region of France. There, it is the predominant grape type in wines from the Rhone appellations (a wine term meaning a legally defined sub-region) Hermitage, Côte Rôtie, and Cornas. The French labeling laws do not allow the naming of the grape type in these Rhone wines. However, the Aussies prominently display the name "Shiraz" on wines made from the syrah grape. Shiraz is also the commonly used term for Syrah in South Africa, Canada, and New Zealand.

The syrah grape requires a warm climate to fully and properly ripen. Therefore, it is a natural for the southern wine regions of the Australian continent. It is particularly successful in the Barossa Valley in southwestern Australia where it has been grown since the nineteenth century. Indeed, today there are some rather special Barossa Shirazes made from grapes from vines that were planted over one hundred years ago.

Shiraz wines are typically full-bodied with strong, ripe, black fruit (think black raspberry and blackberry) flavors.

Because of the ripeness, they tend to be a bit alcoholic. Unlike the Rhone Valley syrahs which are typified by elegance and a hint of smokiness, the Australian manifestation is less subtle with hints of black pepper and chocolate. Despite the sensation of sweetness, Australian shirazes are typically vinified completely dry (no residual sugar).

The Shiraz grape is sometimes combined with other grape varieties in making Australian wine. A dollop of viognier (see last week's column) will add a floral, apricot note to a Shiraz. A blend of shiraz, grenache, and mourvedre (often labeled GSM on the bottle) is Australia's version of the famed French Chateaufort wine. There are even sparkling shirazes, an effervescent red wine.

Australian shirazes are widely available. One can spend as little as \$8 for a credible Shiraz or as much as \$200 for Australia's most famous Shiraz, Penfolds Grange. During the winter, try a shiraz with beef stew. At this time of year, a shiraz makes a great complement to grilled meats. And if you aren't fond of beer, have an inexpensive shiraz with pepperoni pizza!



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Class A Reports

Kite Takes Two As Class A Fleet Recommences

With last Saturday's opening Point Race moved to Sunday due to inclement weather a number of skippers suddenly found themselves with conflicting dance cards, a fact which kept a number of boats at their moorings. Six did assemble, however, and with a modest southerly breeze trying to part the remaining clouds overhead, a cautious course of N22, the buoy off Westons Point, and a leeward floater a bit north of the starting line, constituted the standard windward/leeward course preferred by Olympians. No Red Tide here, however. In fact not much of any current as the end of the flood had little effect on the outcome. With Bo McBee guesting at the tiller, Kite took the start and never looked back, although all six were on the line at the gun. All but Fisher's Kittiwake tacked toward the Main Beach before heading for the mark where she crossed Skimmer's bow and rounded quickly. That was that for the money game. Cormorant, sailed by Nuffy Murphy and her visiting cousin,



Mary Heath, herself a former Seashell National contender on New Jersey's beautiful Navasink River, edged Fisher's Pelican just yards from the line followed by Pintail closing fast but a tad late. The only difference aboard Kite in the second race was that Jay Washburn took the helm, with the same results. Kittiwake claimed a clear second, almost heading Kite at the leeward turn, and Pelican was third. Skimmer, Cormorant and Pintail wrapped it up. Lots of new sails out there; Kittiwake sporting a new set of Halsey/UK's, as did the Kite, along with a brilliant yellow and blue spinnaker. (The latter on the Kittiwake. We know its confusing but when one is viewing everything from behind sometimes its hard to tell who's is what).

HELLO SUMMER!



The Boys! John Lombardo, Bo McBee and Jay Reed!



The Battles, the Spanos, Lorna O'Connor and Tiffany Senecal enjoy a quaff out on the porch!



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