

NEW MEMBER HISTORY

^{MAY}
YOU WILL BE DELIGHTED TO LEARN THAT YOU HAVE
BECOME NEW MEMBERS TO ONE OF THE OLDEST YACHT
CLUBS IN OUR COUNTRY, A REAL BOATING CLUB!
NO TENNIS COURTS, SWIMMING POOLS AND THE
LIKE - WHICH IS ONE OF OUR GREATEST ASSETS
TO LOWELL - THE DEVOTION TO BOATING AND
ALL OF THOSE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO YACHTING -
AND IS TODAY, VERY MUCH PRESENT. HERE -

ACCORDING TO LLOYD'S REGISTER, AN AUTHORITY
ON SUCH MATTERS, WE WERE ORGANIZED #13TH.
NOTABLE CLUBS IN EXISTANCE AT THAT TIME WERE
1884 NEW YORK #1, 1849 SOUTHERN (NEW ORLEANS) #2
1857 BROOKLYN #5, 1860 BUFFALO #7, 1866 BOSTON #11, 1868 BOSTON #12

~~APRIL 1869~~
IN ~~JUNE 1868~~ ^{JUNE 1868}, THE PORTLAND YACHT CLUB WAS
ORGANIZED AT THE OFFICE OF W. W. (WHISKER BILL)
THOMAS OF CAPE ELIZABETH, AT HIS OFFICE AT
184 1/2 MIDDLE ST, WHERE 21 CONFIRMED SAILORS
MET. THE GREAT FIRE HAD ALL BUT ELIMINATED
THE CITY 2 YEARS BEFORE, LEVELING 1,500 HOMES
AND BUILDINGS, GEN GRANT WAS PRESIDENT AND
THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE WAS JAMES C. BLAINE, "THE
MAN FROM MAINE".

ON APRIL 26TH, 1869 THE PORTLAND YACHT CLUB WAS
BORN WITH 120 MEMBERS, 15 YACHTS, 2 SCHOONERS,
2 SLOOPS AND 1 STEAMER. DUES WERE 1 DOLLAR
FIRST COMMANDER WAS JAMES MORRILL ^(1ST CONSUL TO CANADA) CHURCHILL -
HIS YACHT ETHEL WAS 67' TODAY WE HAVE
340 + MEMBERS, 289 YACHTS - 22 ISABLE 28
POWER - THE DUES WE KNOW 321
299

II

THE FIRST LOCATION WAS CUSTOM HOUSE WHARF
RENT WAS \$8.30/MO

IN 1871 THE CLUB BURGEER WAS ADOPTED -
1" OF FLAG TO 1' OF VESSEL.

IN 1880 THE COAL BILL WAS \$6.20 GUN POWDER
FOR THE CANNON WAS \$21.60 THE CANNON WAS
PURCHASED FOR \$41.00 AND VOTED "TO NEITHER
BORROW NOR LEND SAME. ^{" MEMBERSHIP COMM. REPORTED} THERE ~~WAS~~ ^{ARE} ~~AS NEAR~~ ^{AS NEAR AS WE CAN TELL} ~~AS~~ ^{AS} NEAR AS WE CAN TELL
~~THAT THE~~ 112 MEMBERS - ACTIVE OR INDIFFERENT.

LITTLE DIAMOND IS WAS OFFERED TO THE CLUB BY
THE DEERING HEIRS FOR RENTAL OF \$100/YR. THE
CLUB RAISED \$200. TO BUILD A CLUBHOUSE, BUT
IT NEVER HAPPENED.

LAND WAS PURCHASED IN SOUTH PORTLAND AND
LATER RESOLD. EVENTUALLY THE CLUB WAS
LOCATED AT MERCHANTS WHARF, ^{1884 \$2500.} UNTIL AFTER
WW II.

IN 1890, THERE WAS ABOUT A DOZEN NAPTHA
LAUNCHES IN THE CLUB. NOW THOSE OF YOU
WHO ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH FORM OF
PROPULTION, ^{IT HAS} ~~IMAGINE~~ A BOILER FILLED WITH
NAPTHA (GASOLINE) - BOILED BY A FIRE UNDER IT -
FED BY MORE GAS, THE VAPORS ACTIVATE A 3
CYLINDER ENGINE - UNDER THE BOILER - THE
VAPORS CONDENSED AND RETURNED TO THE
INFERNO. IMAGINE THE SITUATION, BOILER
FULL OF SEETHING NAPTHA, FUMES INTERMITTENTLY
ESCAPING THROUGH THE WHISTLE & POP OFF

III

VALUE WHILE HOT NAPHA FIRE EXISTING (BELOW)-
LURKING - WHILE PASSENGERS RELAXED ABOVE -
SMOKING CIGARS. MOST OF THEM LITERALLY BLEW-
UP - THATS WHY NONE ARE AROUND TODAY.

TAKEN FROM THE MIN. OF THE 1891 ANNUAL MEETING -
"THE YACHTING SEASON THIS YEAR HAS BEEN ENTIRELY
DEVOID OF INTEREST."

1903 - LARGEST SCHOONER "SPERANZA", 101' 26" MEM.
5 MEM CONSTITUTE A QUORUM. "ONLY YACHT OWNERS
CAN VOTE ON MATTERS CONCERNING YACHTS" ANNUAL
MEETING 1ST WED IN MARCH \$5 DUES SEC, TREAS & MEASURER
EXEMPT FROM ALL DUES & ASSESSMENTS

HOUSE RULES - "NO MEMBER SHALL INVITE TO THE
2ND FLOOR OF THE CLUB HOUSE THE SAME MALE
RESIDENT OF PORTLAND OFTENOR THAN ONCE A
MONTH. STANDING RULE "IT SHALL BE THE
DUTY OF EVERY MEMBER BUILDING A YACHT
TO ENROLL IN THE CLUB, FURNISH TO THE CLUB
A MODEL OF SUCH YACHT." MOTION TO REFRAIN
FROM HAVING LIQUOR AT THE CLUB HOUSE OR AT
CLUB BANQUETS WAS DEFEATED 64-11

1903 - FIRST ONE DESIGN CLASS - STARLING-
BURNESS 31' WAFFRIGGED 18' WATERLINE 6'
BEAM 24.9 DRAFT. COST \$1,800.

WWI - BOATING CAME TO A STAND STILL - 72 MEMBERS
JOINED SERVICES.

1919 - 50TH ANNIVERSARY - NEW YEARS EVE -
CELEBRATION - FIRING OF CANNON AT 19 CONITE
AND OTHER ORGIES - USED 1/2 BARRELL

IV

DYNAMITE
OF ~~POWDER~~ RESULTING IN A DIN THAT WAS
PRONOUNCED "REAL A QUATE".

ADMIRAL PEARY, A MEMBER, DIED IN 1920

AUG 10, 1926 CLUBHOUSE COMPLETELY DESTROYED
BY FIRE. EVERYTHING THE CLUB HAD TREASURED
SINCE 1869 WAS LOST, ALL TROPHIES, SILVER,
CANNONS, HALF MODELS AND MODELS OF MEMBERS
YACHTS AND FURNISHINGS GONE. BUILDING WAS
BUILT IN 1885. VOTED TO REBUILD ON MERCHANTS
WHARF AGAIN.

HARBOR CLOSED IN 1940. CLUBHOUSE LEASED
TO COAST GUARD.

MONHEGAN RACE 1928

1928
EXERPED "CRUISING TO MAINE" - CORNELIUS VANDERBOUT, JR.
"BUT CAPE ELIZABETH BECKONS AND AFTER THREADING ITS GRIM
LEDGES, OLD ANTHONY, HUE & CRY AND A HALF DOZEN OTHERS,
THE YACHT SWINGS PAST PORTLAND HEAD LIGHT (THE
MOST PHOTOGRAPHED LIGHT ON THE COAST) AND AFTER
ROUNDING THE BREAKWATER IN THE INNER HARBOR, DROPS
ANCHOR OFF THE NEW STATION OF THE PORTLAND YACHT
CLUB, WHERE A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS, AT ALL
TIMES." THAT TRADITION IS STILL ALIVE
TO VISITING YACHTSMAN AND WE CONTINUE TO
BE A CONGENIAL ~~THAT~~ FRIENDLY HOST TO ALL.
WELCOME TO OUR CLUB!