



*Membership Booklet*

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1. **WELCOME** to the Landfall Sailing Club. We are a group of Single sailors getting together to enjoy the sailing and marine related experiences that the New England Coast has to offer. Some of us own boats but do not have regular crew to help us sail them. The rest are sailors without boats more than willing to help sail and get the boats ready to launch in the spring. Together we are a great team. The officers and other members hope you will join us for some great summers and winter educational experiences

Landfall is much more than just a sailing club. It is a group of friends from all walks of life, who share a passion for sailing and the marine environment. The satisfactions gained and friendships made are in direct proportion to your participation and sharing of your boating skills.

We invite you to attend meetings, join a committee and experience our activities such as spring boat preparation, treks to boat shows, marine lectures and concerts, as well as dockside dinners, island charters and trips to area museums.

As Water Rat said in Kenneth Graham's "Wind in the Willows" There is NOTHING—absolute nothing—half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats. Let the messing begin!!

## 2. PURPOSE –

In February, 2001, the Landfall Sailing Club was founded in Eastern Massachusetts to encourage and promote the sport of sailing and seamanship for single people over 35. The club seeks to bring together boat owners who need crew and people who want to sail, but don't have boats. The emphasis is on enjoying the sport. Being active in the club should increase sailing skills and an awareness of the marine environment.

Members should have a genuine interest in sailing. We require that an applicant attend a certified safe boating course offered by either the Coast Guard Auxiliary or the U.S. Power Squadron. Applicant must have either first-hand sailing experience, the successful completion of an on-the-water sailing course or equivalent experience as approved by the officers.

The club is a year round, non-profit organization offering day sails, weekend sails and occasional cruises in the Eastern Massachusetts and Buzzards Bay areas.

Members' yacht sizes vary from 19' to 47' and are moored from Portland, Maine, to Providence, RI with the majority on the South Shore and Buzzard's Bay.

Fellowship is fostered through the year with other activities such as bike rides, skiing, hikes, visits to museums, concerts, dockside dinners and raft-ups. Each of the events happen because of the initiative and participation of members. Active participation and consideration of other members creates a host of new friends.

Monthly gatherings of all members are generally held on the first week of each month at a local restaurant. At these gatherings, we share food, schedule sailings and events, share plans and ideas and often have speakers providing educational or informational presentations.

## NON-PROFIT AND NON-POLITICAL STATUS

- The Landfall Sailing Club is a non-profit social organization.
- The club shall not attempt to influence legislation or participate in any political campaign for or against any candidate for public office.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP

### ACTIVE MEMBER

- a. Membership is open to single persons 35 years and over of good character, who are actively involved in sailing.
- b. Criteria for Membership
  - i. Single
  - ii. Age 35+
  - iii. Successfully completed an approved basic boating safety course offered by the USCG or USPS.
  - iv. Have relevant sailing experience or have taken an onboard sailing course.
  - v. Annual Dues must be paid by February 1<sup>st</sup> each year.
  - vi. New members will be considered after March 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - vii. All members must conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times. Unacceptable behavior is to be reported to a member of the board as soon as reasonably possible.
  - viii. Membership lists are confidential and not to be used for solicitation.

### INACTIVE MEMBER

A prior member who is no longer able to attend functions on a regular basis may opt to have an inactive membership. Inactive members pay a lower membership fee but pay guest rates for any function. Inactive membership needs board approval.

## 4. GUESTS

- a. Potential members must attend 2 meetings within 120 days prior to applying for membership.
- b. Attendance by a guest at a meeting must have prior approval from a board member.
- c. Non-members cannot attend more than 2 meetings.
- d. Non-members may participate in events only as a guest of a paying member.
- e. For a house party or dockside dinner, a member must obtain the direct consent of the host/hostess to bring a guest.
- f. Captains have the final say as to guests on their boat.
- g. Non-members will not be accommodated on boats unless specifically invited by the captain.

## 5. GETTING INVOLVED

As a member of the Landfall Sailing Club surely you will be looking forward to making new friends and enjoy some time on the water. Here are some ideas for getting started.

1. Attend the meetings. It's a great way to meet other members and listen to interesting, informative speakers arranged by our Speaker Committee.
2. Volunteer – Join a committee, offer to decorate for a party, assist at a special event.
3. Boat work – in the spring and fall our boat owners will be looking for crew to assist them in preparing their boats for the season. Offer to help. It's fun and usually includes socializing at a local pub or restaurant when the work is done for the day.

## 6. OFFICERS

The annual meeting for election of officers and rule changes is held during the January membership meeting.

The officers of the Landfall Sailing Club shall consist of:

- Commodore – General administration, runs monthly meetings, board meetings, and skipper's meetings.
- Vice Commodore – Takes over if commodore is unavailable, arranges location of monthly meetings, food, etc.
- Secretary – Records meeting minutes, maintains original membership applications, maintains membership list, provides application information to membership chairman, sends renewals
- Treasurer – Oversees all financial transactions for the club and maintains all financial records.
- Membership Chairman – Updates Yahoo groups, sends new member applications, sends welcome packet to all new members, greets new members at meetings, assigns 'advocate' to potential and new members.
- Historian – Maintains pictures and chronological history of the club.
- Sail Coordinator - The job of sailing coordinator is to bring together boat owners who want crew (by direct request to the sail coordinator) and members who would like to sail on a Saturday or Sunday.

## 7. COMMITTEES

- Speaker/Program Committee – Plan, research, select and schedule educational presentations, activities and speakers for the monthly meetings.
- Events Committee – responsible for assisting in the scheduling, planning, coordination and execution of club sanctioned events and activities which occur throughout the year.
- Fleet Captain(s) – Organizes sailing rendezvous and overnight cruises for the summer.
- Nominating Committee - The Nominating Committee and its chairperson shall be appointed by the board of officers. It shall consist of six members; two presiding officers, two boat owners and two people from the general membership. They will be responsible for nominating the new commodore, vice commodore, secretary, treasurer and membership chairman. The panel shall present the recommended individual officers to the general business meeting in January for approval.
- Website Committee – Update and maintain website
- Marketing Committee – Develop and execute a plan to utilize the new website to encourage new members to join the club.

Anyone interested in being on a committee or an officer of the club should contact the committee chairman or an officer of the club.

## 8. LOGO

The club has a logo that is available to members for use on personal items such as polo shirts, hats, jackets, totes, etc. Periodically these items are made available to members and you have the opportunity to have anything you currently own embroidered with the logo. If you'd like more information please ask a board or committee member.

Club burgee's are available. Please see a board member if you are interested in purchasing one.

The burgee represents one of the most famous lighthouses in New England, the Brant Point Lighthouse located on Nantucket Island.

## 9. GETTING READY TO SAIL

As stated in our Statement of Purpose, the club seeks to bring together boat owners and members who want to sail but don't have boats.

Emphasis is on enjoying the sport. The sailing experience of both captain and crew can enrich your knowledge, offering the opportunity to increase sailing skills and an awareness of the marine environment.

### A. CREW

When sailing season arrives here is how you will be invited to crew.

1. Notify the Sail Coordinator by phone or email by 9pm on Wednesday evening that you are available to crew on Saturday or Sunday. Utilize the new website as required.
2. Let the Coordinator know if you wish to sail in a particular area and they will try to meet your request. Please realize this is not always possible.
3. Captains will be contacted on Thursday regarding available crew.
4. You can expect a call from a captain some time Thursday evening.
5. If for some reason your request to crew cannot be filled the coordinator will let you know.
6. If you must cancel because of illness or family emergency, call the sail coordinator or the skipper to whom you have been assigned as soon as possible. A replacement cannot just show up or take another's place.
7. Crewing is for members only and a guest cannot be invited without the approval of the captain.

When you sail:

1. Arrive on time. It is important not to keep the captain waiting.
2. Call if you are going to be late. Be sure you have your captain's phone number with you.
3. Do not bring uninvited guests, no matter what the circumstance.
4. Wear boat shoes or sneakers that will not mark the deck.
5. Bring a jacket or sweatshirt, and foul weather gear no matter how hot the day.
6. Bring plenty of sunscreen.
7. If you have a PFD you are welcome to bring it.
8. Ask your captain about food. For day sails, generally everyone brings their own lunch and something to share for a happy hour once you return from the sail. You may offer to bring lunch, for the captain.

9. Smoking and drinking— check with your captain if you are a smoker or if you are sensitive to smoke. Also about drinking, especially during a sail. It is a State law that you cannot consume alcohol while underway.

10. If sleeping overnight, bring a sleeping bag.
11. If there are expenses, for example a mooring or slip, fuel, ice, etc. expect to share the expenses with the captain and crew.
12. When you get onboard the captain should show you the location of safety gear, how to operate the radio, how to start or stop the engine, and how to use the head. If the captain forgets, please ask.
13. If you are asked to do something and you are not sure how to do it, please say so.
14. As crew you will sometimes be at the helm. If not, you should keep an eye on other boats and obstructions such as lobster pots or float debris.
15. Check with the captain regarding any additional equipment.
16. No pets are allowed on sails.

Crew are not assigned to boats in a specific location. The assignments are based upon captains calling for crew for a particular day and crew placement considerations. The skippers make the ultimate choice. The sailing coordinator presents the list to the skippers and they make their crew selection.

Important: Membership in the Landfall Sailing Club does not guarantee a sail on a boat. In most cases members will be able to sail but, ultimately, it depends on the availability of yachts and the skipper's decision to take people.

## B. BOAT OWNERS

1. Landfall boat owners have the absolute right to allow on their boats those whom they choose. Even if some self crew with friends made in the club, they are encouraged to, occasionally, take other members. This makes for a healthy club.
2. Boat owners are encouraged to contact any member for mid-week sails. Some members are retired so this activity is available.
3. For Saturday and Sunday sails, skippers are asked to contact the sailing coordinator directly.
4. All boat owners are expected to meet the minimum Federal Requirements and are encouraged to have their boat inspected by the USCG auxiliary annually. <http://www.safetyseal.net/>

According to the US Coast Guard, based on approximately 100,000 vessel inspections, 75% passed and 25% failed. Here are the reasons for failure as of November, 2009. For updated information go to: <http://www.safetyseal.net/>

Visual Distress Signals 12.2%  
State and/or Local Regulations 10.4%  
Navigation Lights 8.5%  
Registration/Documentation 5.6%  
Display of Numbers 5.4%  
Sound Producing Devices/Bell 5.2%  
Overall Vessel Condition 4.7%  
Fire Extinguishers 4.5%  
Marine Sanitation Device 2.9%  
Personal Flotation Devices 2.8%  
MARPOL Trash Placard 2.8%  
Navigation Rules 2.7%  
Pollution Placard 2.4%  
Backfire Flame Control 1.6%  
Ventilation 1.5%

## RECOMMENDED ITEMS NOT FOUND DURING INSPECTIONS

Marine Radio 33.4%  
Dewatering Device and Backup 14.3%  
Mounted Fire Extinguishers 21.6%  
Anchor and Line for Area 11.3%  
First Aid and PIW Kits 27.9%  
Inland Visual Distress Signals 24.3%  
Capacity / Cert. of Compliance 28.2%

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

Accident Reporting / Owner Responsibility  
Offshore Operations  
Nautical Charts / Navigation Aids  
Survival Tips / First Aid  
Fueling / Fuel Management  
Float Plan / Weather & Sea Conditions  
Insurance Considerations  
Boating Check List  
Safe Boating Classes

## 9. ACTIVITIES

- Sailing
  - Day sails - Day sails will be offered through the coordinator from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. These are lots of fun and are a great way to get to know other members while sharing a love of sailing.
  - Overnight/Rendezvous – Overnight sails are not handled by the coordinator. Captains will contact members to invite them.
  - Vacations – The club occasionally plans trips for 7-14 days to an international location. Over the past few years trips have been taken to the British Virgin Islands, Greece, and the Bahamas.
- Meetings
  - Meetings are generally held the first week of the month. Cocktail hour starts at 6:00pm, dinner at 7:00pm and presentations at 8:00pm.
- Club Parties
  - We usually have a Holiday Party in December and a Caribbean Party in March. These are generally held at a restaurant or function hall and often include music and dancing. Reservations and prepayment are required for these functions.
- House Parties
  - Occasionally we have parties at a member's home. These have included an annual "Kick Off" party in May, a Halloween party complete with costumes, and a dinner in Boston after attending a major event in the city. Guests may not be brought to a member's home without the homeowner's permission.
- In case of any behavior by a member injurious to the welfare of the club as a whole or individual members, such behavior is to be reported to any officer of the club. The commodore may convene a meeting of officers to consider disciplinary action. The officers as a group are empowered to take whatever action necessary including termination of membership.

## 10. USEFUL INFORMATION

### Aides to Navigation

The term "aids to navigation" encompasses a wide range of floating and fixed objects (fixed meaning attached to the bottom or shore), and consist primarily of:

- **Buoys** - floating objects that are anchored to the bottom. Their distinctive shapes and colors indicate their purpose and how to navigate around them.
- **Beacons** -Which are structures that are permanently fixed to the sea-bed or land. They range from structures such as light houses, to single-pile poles. Most beacons have lateral or non-lateral aids attached to them. Lighted beacons are called "LIGHTS", unlighted beacons are "DAYBEACONS".

Both Buoys and Beacons may have lights attached, and may have a sound making device such as a gong, bell or horn. Both Buoys and Beacons may be called "marks".

**CAUTION** - Do not count on floating aids to always maintain their precise charted positions, or unerringly display their characteristics. The Coast Guard works constantly to keep aids on station and functioning properly, but obstacles to perfect performance are so great that complete reliability is impossible. Only use floating aids for use as a navigation fix when **YOU CANNOT SEE A FIXED POINT OF REFERENCE.**

### Aids to Navigation Systems

Depending on where you boat in America, you may see several differences in how navigational marks are colored, numbered, or lighted. Regardless of the location, buoys and beacons are placed in very specific locations, to mark either a particular side of a waterway, or some other navigational feature. The primary system in use is referred to the "U.S. Aids to Navigation System". The U. S. Coast Guard maintains this system in conformance to the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), which is an international committee which seeks to ensure safe navigation, primarily through the use of common navigation aids and signals.

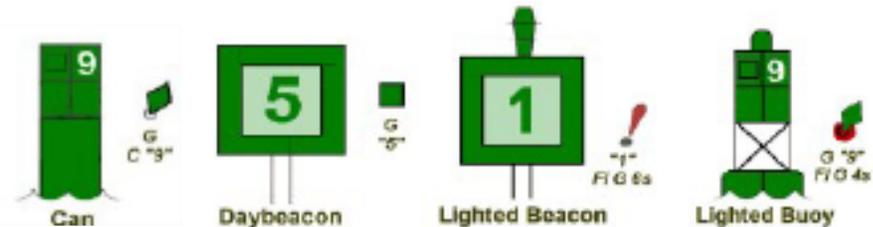
The "LATERAL" system is the familiar RED RIGHT RETURNING system, meaning that on all navigable waters returning from sea, the red even-numbered marks are on the starboard (right) side of the channel and the green odd-numbered marks are on the port (left) side of the

channel. Numbers on the marks ascend when traveling from sea to harbor--if you don't have a compass and become disoriented on the water, you will always know you are heading upstream if the buoy numbers get larger as you travel.

### Port Side Odd Numbered Aids

Are numbered with odd numbers, are green in color, and may be lighted (Will have a green light).

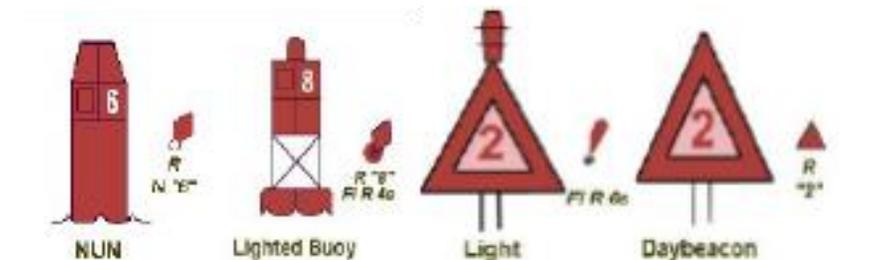
Port side marks are located on the left side of the waterway as you travel upstream, and the buoy numbers will increase as you head upstream. (Chart depictions are shown next to the marks) Port-Side Buoys have a cylindrical above-water appearance, like a can or drum floating on its axis. Commonly referred to as "CAN" buoys. Beacons - Port side beacons have square marks attached to them, with two shades of color and a reflective border.



### Starboard Side Even Numbered Aids

Starboard aids are red in color, evenly numbered, and will be on your right side as you travel upstream. Buoy numbers increase as you head upstream, and may have a red light.

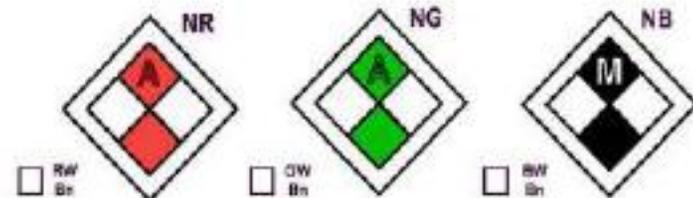
Starboard-side Buoys have an above-water appearance like that of a cylinder topped with a cone, pointed end up. The cone may come to a point or be slightly rounded. Commonly referred to as "NUN" buoys



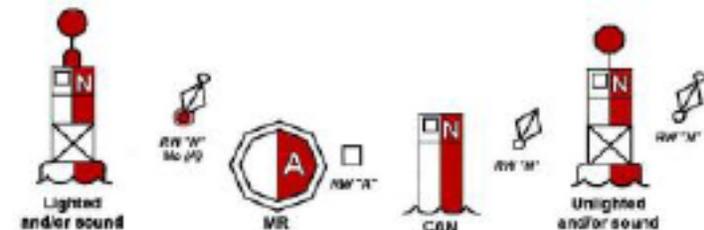
Starboard-side Beacons have triangular marks attached to them, with two shades of color and a reflective border.

### OTHER AIDS

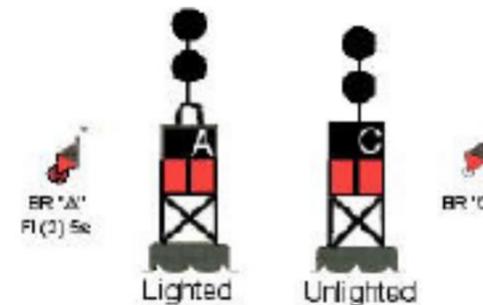
**DAYBOARDS** - These diamond shaped marks are used to help the vessel operator determine location on a nautical map. When you see a dayboard, and find the corresponding mark on the chart, you know your precise location. They may be lettered, and may be lighted with a white light. Th



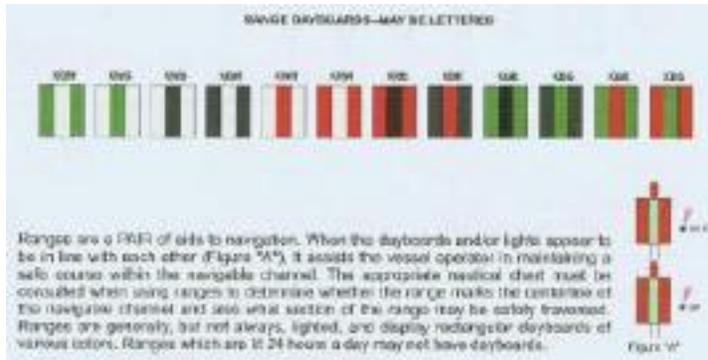
**SAFE WATER MARKS** - These marks are used to mark fairways, mid-channels, and offshore approach points. They have unobstructed water on all sides. These marks may be lettered, and may be lighted with a white light. They may also have a red top mark.



**ISOLATED DANGER MARKS** - These indicate a danger which may be passed on all sides. They are erected on, or moored on or near danger. They should not be approached closely without special caution. They may be lighted, and they may be lettered.



**Ranges** - pairs of unlighted or lighted fixed aids that when observed in line show the pilot to be on the centerline of a channel.



**Diver Down Flag - CAUTION**

Indicates a diver is in the water. Keep 75’ away from the dive boat.



**Visual Distress Signals**

Visual distress signals are displayed only when there immediate danger to persons aboard the vessel. The requirements are:

3 Signals for night use

3 Signals for day use

OR 3 day/night signals

**USCG Approved Pyrotechnic Visual Distress Signal**

Floating Orange Smoke (day)

Hand held Orange Smoke (day)

Hand Held Flare (day/night)

Parachute Red flare (day/night)

Hand Held Rocket-Propelled Parachute

Red Flare (day/night )

Red Aerial Pyrotechnic Flare (day/night)

**USCG Approved Non-Pyrotechnic**

Orange Distress Flag (day) – Flag must be at least 3’x3’ with a black square & ball on an orange background flown from the mast or a paddle.

Electric Distress Light (night) This must automatically flash the SOS signal 3 short, 3 long, 3 short.

**Additional Visual Distress Signals**

Fog Horn Continuous Sounding

Wave Arms Overhead

**Boating Accidents**

**Federal law requires that a report be filed after a boating accident when:**

- A person dies
- A person disappears from the vessel under circumstances that indicate death or injury
- A person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid
- Damage to vessels and other property totals \$2,000 (lower amounts in some states) or more
- The boat is destroyed.

The report should be filed within 48 hours for a fatal accident or within 10 days for a non-fatal reportable accident with your state Boating Law Administrator.

## Pollution Regulations

- **MDS:** All recreational boats with installed toilet facilities must have an operable marine sanitation device (MSD) onboard. Vessels 65' and under may use a Type I, II or III MSC. All installed MSDs must be Coast Guard certified. Coast guard certified devices are so labeled except for some holding tanks, which are certified by definition under the regulations.
- **MARPOL TRASH PLACARD:** Boats 26' and over must display a MARPOL trash placard. Boats 40' and over must also display a written trash disposal plan.
- **Discharge of Oil:** All vessels with machinery propulsion must have a capacity to retain oily mixtures onboard. A fixed or portable means to discharge oily waste to a reception facility is required. A bucket or bailer is suitable as a portable means of discharging oily waste on recreational vessels. No person may intentionally drain oil or oily waste from any source into the bilge of any vessel.
- **Federal Water Pollution Control Act**  
The Federal Water pollution Control Act prohibits the discharge of oil or oily waste into or upon navigational waters of the United States or the waters of the contiguous zone. If such discharge causes a film or sheen upon, or discoloration of, the surface of the water, or causes a sludge or emulsion beneath the surface of the water. Violators are subject to substantial civil penalties and/or criminal sanctions including fines and imprisonment.

## Quick Reference Telephone Numbers

Boat US (Tow Boat US)

24-Hour National Dispatch Center: 800-391-4869

Sea Tow

800-4SEATOW

Boat US

800-888-4869

Coast Guard – Boston Area

617-223-8555/56/57/58/59

## EDUCATION

There are many opportunities to further your knowledge of boating. Below are a list of website links that will connect you with many educational courses. Some of these courses are given online and some are given in your local community.

Boat US

<http://www.boatus.com/courseline/default.asp>

Boater Education

<http://www.boat-ed.com/>

BoaterExam.com

<http://www.boaterexam.com/>

BoatSafe.com

<http://boatsafe.com/>

Commander Bob's

<http://www.commanderbob.com/>

PWC Safety School

<http://www.pwcsafetyschool.com/>

Safe Boating America

<http://www.safeboatingamerica.com/>

National Association of State Boating Law Administrators

<http://nasbla.org>

US Sailing

<http://www.sailingcourse.com/>

United States Coast Guard

[http://www.uscgboating.org/safety/boating\\_safety\\_courses.aspx](http://www.uscgboating.org/safety/boating_safety_courses.aspx)

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

<http://www.cgaux.org/boatinged/>

United States Power Squadron

[http://www.usps.org/e\\_stuff/Basic.html](http://www.usps.org/e_stuff/Basic.html)

## WEATHER

There are a number of useful websites for weather. Before sailing it is a good idea to check one of these marine forecasts as they can vary significantly from weather predictions on land.

NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration)  
For marine weather service from Portsmouth NH to Bridgeport CT to go:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/box/>

weather.com

<http://www.weather.com/activities/recreation/boatandbeach/?from=secondarynav>

Weather Underground

<http://www.wunderground.com/MAR/>

Everything presented in this booklet is accurate as of 1/1/10 unless otherwise stated.



This Booklet is dedicated to Landfall Sailing Club's founder, Donald Weaver. He started the Club with a vision, an abundance of energy, generosity of spirit and the tenacity to stay the course.

As a result of his continuing efforts our lives have been enriched in a multitude of ways. The club has brought us wonderful friendships, expanded sailing experiences, knowledge and skills, as well as opportunities to sail from Maine to the ICW, the BVI's and beyond.

So thank you, Don, for staying the course and being a teacher who has imparted your love of sailing to so many others...

