

HARTFORD YACHT CLUB

August 2017 Newsletter

The Hartford Yacht Club
Organized 1895



Hurricane Season is here and our hearts and prayers go out to all the victims on the south coast. Remember, if you chose to donate, please ensure the agency collecting the money is legitimate. Unfortunately, scammers take advantage of people trying to help and divert the money to themselves using methods that appear legitimate. Do a little research and ensure they constantly monitor the needs of the people involved and allocate the funds for the most basic needs first (sheltering, food, medicine, clothing, etc.) to the advanced needs as the situation improves.

We all love nature, but we have a little problem...

Beavers have moved in underneath our gas ramp dock and chewed two of our floats, causing a severe listing on the North side. This has been fixed for now. In addition, they constantly pile logs, sticks, and brush under the docks which interfere with our launching and retrieving our boats and jet skis. The debris is rebuilt by them and removed by us almost daily. We were optimistically hoping that we could discourage them by walking on the dock to disturb them and removing their brush for weeks, but even the experts agree this simply doesn't work. We all love nature and wildlife, but the beavers have created a severe safety problem not only with the dock floats, but by chewing the ends of the wood into the shape of a sharp spear. These ends stick out into the water by our ramp and can cause severe gashes and lacerations for any of our members using the ramp.

Beavers are protected under State Statute and normally can only be removed by licensed trappers between the months of December through March. For all other times, you must request a special permit from the DEEP. The proper paperwork and photos were submitted as required and we expect the final approved permit on September 5th. It is against CT law to move Beavers to another location because Beavers are very territorial and will fight to the death if placed anywhere near another Beavers location, and can cause extensive damage to nearby properties at a new location where Beavers are not living. Beavers will also return to their original location from very long distances. We are told there is a large number of Beavers living along the banks of the river already. The licensed trappers who both have over 30 years of experience each have assured us that they Beavers will be handled in the most humane way possible.

Remember to visit our website at: www.hartfordyachtclub.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!!!

Not yet on a committee? Please consider joining one where you will actively take part in club improvements, enhance comradery with fellow members, and share your opinions and skills in the club's future. We all agreed to be on a committee in our application for membership and this is a chance to fulfill that promise if you have not already done so. Please email me at: garyjameskelly@yahoo.com

The summer is almost over but we still have over a month of good boating weather!

Thank You!

Thanks to Dave Cabrera, Ed Bagot, Kris Zadrozny, and Frank Cooper for helping us paint the outside of the club with rollers and brushes to ensure a thick coating. Before attempting to paint, the walls were treated with biodegradable Simple Green using a pressure spray, then power washed to ensure the maximum cleaning effect. It took a lot of work and painting had to be done during certain times of the day before the sun made the metal sheeting too hot to paint. We also had to ensure cars were not around to eliminate splatter and make room for the ladders. We used a specialized paint from Sherwin Williams formulated for direct to metal applications. Take a look, we think you will agree it was worth all the effort!

Upcoming Events

Clam Slam this Saturday, September 9th. Gary Winick has been sending out emails to remind our members of this very important and fun event!

The next General Membership Meeting is Thursday, September 14th at 7:30 p.m. A revised calendar was sent out earlier in the year, changing the date from September 7th to September 14th. Lately, I have received numerous calls from members saying they cannot attend on September 7th due to scheduling conflicts. Please ensure that you are using the revised calendar. We only have 4 General Membership meetings a year and we look forward to seeing you there on September 14th.