



From the Publisher

Mornings are becoming a bit nippy, the leaves are changing, schools are in full swing, pumpkins abound and Christmas gifts have already appeared on major stores' shelves. Some folks have pulled their boats out, though those of us who enjoy autumn fishing on less crowded waters and crisp cruising with family and friends on weekends wouldn't dream of it.

It's boat show time, when people are allowed to and, indeed, encouraged to dream a little (or a lot) about what they'll have floating next season. Here on Long Island, an extremely popular early show will be the 31st Annual Tobay Beach In-Water Boat Show, located at the Tobay Beach Marina and held over two weekends: Saturday, September 29 and Sunday, September 30 and Saturday, October 6, through Monday, October 8. It's beckoning, showing and selling from 10:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m. daily. There'll be plenty of new and previously-owned boats to see, to board and to plan on, so bring along your family and your nautical pals. If you come to Tobay by boat, there'll be free water taxi service thanks to Sea Tow of Freeport. We hope to see and meet many of you there!

This issue of *Boating World* offers a stories and articles for readers of all ages and many interests. The maritime historians among you will enjoy Tim Coleman's "Out of the Fog", a vivid ac-

count of May 15, 1934, when the 800-foot-long White Star liner *Olympic* came out of deep fog en route to New York and struck the 133-foot *Lightship 117* about 40 miles off Nantucket, sinking her. Resting on the bottom in 200 feet of water, *Lightship 117* was not seen by human eyes for the next 64 years until divers confirmed her identity in 1998.

Contributing writer Adam Grohman has written "A Tale of Two *Turtles*", having to do with the evolution of submarines as stealthy, underwater denizens. The first *Turtle* operated some 130 years ago as a one-man, self-propelled, totally enclosed "vessel," which attempted to attach a naval mine to the hull of *HMS Eagle*, a British ship that was blockading New York Harbor on that evening of July 6, 1776. The other *Turtle* was also handcrafted, but in 2007. Its creator, designer/artist Duke Reilly, and two friends decided to test it in New York Harbor, submerging the plywood look-alike beneath the waters around the British cruise ship *Queen Mary II*, in order to take photos of the great liner. Local and federal law enforcement officials intervened, so neither *Turtle* managed to accomplish its mission.

Editor George Nammack's article, "The Daring and Deadly PT Boats", traces the history of the patrol motor torpedo boat. He writes, "Our navy's PT boats had distinguished ancestors. Motor Torpedo Boat (MTB) was the name conferred on fast torpedo boats by the United States Navy, the

Royal Norwegian Navy, the Royal Navy and the Royal Canadian Navy. In World War II, U.S. Navy boats were called by their hull classification symbol of "PT" (Patrol, Torpedo) while the German Kriegsmarine (Navy) referred to theirs as S-Boote (*Schnellboote* – fast boats)." George's article recounts the story of PT-109 and its heroic commander, President-to-be LTJG John Fitzgerald Kennedy,

Writer Bob Bachand's story, "Tales From Keepers' Logs" will have your spine tingling as you read about two Connecticut lighthouses that were said to be haunted including the Pennfield Reef Light off Fairfield, CT. In 1989, Bob Bachand and two companions from the Maritime Museum at Norwalk visited the Pennfield Light. Bob climbed up the spiral stairway holding a small flashlight. He put it down to take some photographs, inadvertently kicked it away down the stairs and then felt a heavy chill in the air..."the hair on the back of my neck and arms seemed to stiffen" and he didn't hang around too long after.

Have an enjoyable and safe October, particularly those of you who still will be out on the water. And please remember, "Just wear it!"

Bill



From Our Readers

In our August, 2007 issue, we alluded to a July letter received from a reader who was asked not to walk his two small dogs on a Poet Jefferson beach in front a home. Two other readers responded and we published their opinions in the August issue. One, an attorney, mentioned the rights of jus publica...the right of a person to access the beach between the mean (average) high and low water levels. The other, a professional realtor, wrote about "riparian" and "littoral" rights, which also permit a person to access a beach between the two water levels.

A third reader, a Bayville resident, wrote to clarify the issue. He informed us that the aforementioned public access rights hold, the Supreme Court's final ruling applies only to ocean beaches, not to inland waterways, such as lakes, ponds, bays, estuaries...and all of Long Island Sound. "If you can get to any area between high and low water via a public beach or by landing in a boat, you have a right to be there, but you cannot go across privately-owned land, including beaches, to get there, if said area is not on the ocean." 'Nuf said on this subject, we think. [ed.]

The letter below was written to our editor by a friend of more than 60 years, a former lifeguard and Beach Commissioner of Atlantic Beach, Long Island, Arnold Annisfield Levey, in response to last month's article, "Swim The September Ocean Safely". [ed.]

Dear George:

I enjoyed your safe autumn ocean swimming article in the September issue, but you left an important detail out. You KNOW, of course, that I had to call you on it! Remember, when we were guarding together, especially on rough, hurricane surf days, we'd never fail to have a guard stand in ankle-deep water on the swimming beach to watch the little kids like a hawk...they could get in trouble in a matter of seconds. I remember well (better 'grab sand'), that you, "Chief", would frequently volunteer to leave your throne on the center stand and position yourself in the shallows to allegedly keep an eye on the little tykes, while actually your main interest was chatting up the mothers and nursemaids who were down there doing just that. I just wanted to keep the record straight, old pal. And rest assured, I always will! See

you soon, Arnie

What a prince! Thanks a pile, Lev!

From the Editor

We encourage our readers to write us with questions, boating news, suggestions, and critiques. Please send any of this material and/or your personal boating stories with reproduction-quality photos that will be returned to you promptly. Letters become the property of Long Island Boating World, which reserves the right to edit them as necessary. Please mail to George S. Nammack, Editor, Long Island Boating World, 93 Montauk Highway, Copiague, NY 11726. Writers' guidelines are available upon request. Long Island Boating World is not responsible for unsolicited articles and photographs.

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