



# The Link

Long Island Sound Sabre Association

[http://www.geocities.com/lissa\\_assoc](http://www.geocities.com/lissa_assoc)

## A Voyage to Essex —

LISSA and the 2003 Sabre Regatta / World Cup ... by Peter Tacy

Having the annual Sabre / Sabreliner Regatta and World Cup in our home waters was a treat for LISSA...and great fun!

However, for visitors from outside the LISSA area, the weekend in Essex might have served as an introduction to Long Island Sound **weather #1** — all of it, with each of its forms represented. How so? We began on Thursday with cloudy skies, a stiff easterly, and an ever-increasing chop (so much for cruising books' advice about "prevailing summer southwesterlies" in the Sound). And this, for

the LISSA members who were enroute from the west to the rendezvous at Branford, meant a day of punching into wind and waves. Nevertheless, all who were expected in Branford made it (good for us, and hurrah for the folks who build Sabres!) — but there were a lot of tired people in Branford that evening.

Tiredness notwithstanding, over 50 LISSA members showed up for a "Dark and Stormy" party on Thursday evening. This LISSA event was sponsored by our good friends at Boatworks, aided by LISSA members and  
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## Change of Watch —

New leadership for LISSA



Commodore Peskin

As Anne Peskin announced the schedule of events for 2004 she also welcomed new

commodore Jim Drinane at the Annual Spring Brunch this March. She had served as commodore for the past two years and under her leadership, LISSA has continued to exhibit a strong and enthusiastic membership.

Anne and her husband, Bernie, will both remain actively involved in upcoming events and cruising aboard their Sabre 32, "Forever AnnBer".

Commodore Drinane



Jim Drinane comes on board as commodore with a long sailing history. With his wife, Suleika, they enjoy cruising with their Sabre 30 "Scoundrel". Jim's sailing career has taken him over most of Long Island Sound, as well many miles crewing for friends on offshore passages on board their boats in the Carribean 1500 three times, Sweden to Ireland last year and most recently Chesapeake to Florida.

Assuming Jim's position as treasurer is Vickie Sturtevant.

2004  
Schedule

### March 7

#### Stamford, CT

Annual spring brunch at beautiful Stamford YC.

### June 18-20

#### Mystic Seaport

Weekend at the historic seaport with many activities being planned.

### June 25-27

#### Sabre Regatta

Annual regatta and on-the-water racing in Oxford, MD. Check info [www.sabreyachts.com](http://www.sabreyachts.com)

### August 21-22

#### Liberty Landing, on the Hudson River

A weekend cruise to a friendly and familiar destination. Details to be announced.

### November 7

#### Frostbite Brunch

Watch mail and website for information.

# Voyage to Essex — the Sabre Regatta

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Clockwise from center above: 1) Boatworks host of Branford gathering, Grove Ely (L) and LISSA commodore Anne Peskin (R), 2) Pat Clark of Boatworks with LISSA member Alan Sarokhan, 3) Board members Mike Withers and Harry Gonzalez, 4) Brenda and Bentley Collins of Sabre Corp., 5) Board member Millie Gonzalez with Moses Lieberman, a friend and guest of Burt Alter (R), and 6) some of the attendees.



joined by friends from Sabre Corporation. And guess what? Pretty quickly the group's energy level zoomed right back up to normal (amazing what generous amounts of rum, ginger beer, and good finger-food can do!)

On Friday morning we faced **weather variant #2** — negligible/variable wind, periods of heavy rain, and a lot of fog. The voyage up the Connecticut River was especially fogbound — and, given the amount of traffic, produced quite a few white-knuckled moments, as boats suddenly loomed out of the fog and then vanished back into it, the bridge opened and shut invisibly, etc. But by evening, we were safe and sound at the Essex Island Marina and in the capable hands of the Sabre team.

**Statistics:** this was a full-to-capacity event. It set a record for Sabreliner participation. And LISSA members were by far the largest part of the total turnout — nearly half of all participants. Among those present were two especially long-voyaging LISSA members: Nancy deVries, just back from a trans-Atlantic adventure, and Bob Bennett, who recently sailed around the world. (Bob is looking very trim —



interesting what a day-after-day shipboard diet of Spam can do to encourage fasting...)

On Saturday we experienced **weather variant #3:** clear and sunny, but while there was a nice breeze in Essex, a few miles away in the area near Long Sand Shoal, where the fleet was to race, there was almost no wind at all. Consequently, those who made the trek downriver to race ended up logging speeds over the ground that were, for the most part, attributable to current. Was this a surprise? To some, yes. But although NOAA had forecast 10 to 15 knots, LISSA members certainly know the omens of a calm July day on the Sound — and weren't fooled. Consequently, only one LISSA boat even showed up at the starting line. Result: the LISSA contingent spent the day happily sightseeing in Essex — and this year the LISSA trophy wasn't awarded.

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## “Going Places” by Nancy DeVries

For the first time ever, the Fall Frostbite event became a Sunday midday brunch. Held at theRiverside YC on a sunny day, the view of the L.I. Sound was extraordinary.

“Going Places” meant voyaging to places. Three of LISSA’s offshore sailor members kicked off the program. Nancy DeVries and Buddy Tell gave updates of the last and longest leg (4000 nm) of their Atlantic Ocean roundtrip on member Ken and Lil Bardon’s 40 ft “Moonbeam”. Gil Osnos, who recently purchased a 53 ft sailboat built in Sweden gave some of the pros and cons of buying overseas.

But they were only the introduction to a much more in-depth presentation by Bob Bennett. Recently returned from an 11-month circumnavigation on a 42 ft sailboat, Bob had departed from the south shore of Long Island, June 2002. With a first night in Block Island, the remainder of the voyage touched the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans and rounded the southern capes of Africa and South America. Ports of call included the Azores; the Canary Islands; Cape Verde; Fernando de Noronha, Brazil; Cape Town, South Africa; Kerguelen Island; Hobart, Australia; Falkland Islands; South Georgia Island; Santos, Brazil and finally to Barbados. Illustrating his talk with many photoviews from on board “Fiona” and ashore, Bob related the good times and the scary times.

*Here’s an excerpt from email sent by Bob while at sea:* “We had a remarkable visit to South Georgia Island, (54° S), with snow capped mountains, shores covered with penguins and fur seals, a population of 15 people, and the deserted whaling station where Ernest Shackleton is buried.

“Fiona” left here on March 3rd [2003] for perhaps the most difficult leg of this trip. The first two days out, the sea

## Voyage to Essex

*(continued from page 2)*

The evening’s events and Sunday morning breakfast in the Regatta tent were exactly what everyone has come to expect: great fun, great food, and lots of socializing. As things were starting on Saturday evening, though, members had a chance to attend an excellent Sabreliner seminar, and a really useful demonstration / class on Lewmar two-speed winch maintenance. Sunday morning featured the traditional Sabre blueberry-pancake-and-maple-syrup feast, of course — the Message from Maine — and then a trip home, in what at last was **weather variant #4:** pretty weather, a fair tide, and a good breeze. OK!

was covered with icebergs. To minimize the danger, we dropped the sails and lay ahull at night, drifting at 1.5 knots. The first night we actually hit a small iceberg (a “growler”, as they are called), that was a little bit bigger than our boat, but no damage was done. After getting out of the iceberg belt, into the roaring 40s, we encountered gale force winds right on our nose. Beating against these winds for a couple of days and pounding boat and crew mercilessly, we thought we were never going to make it out of the 40s, as we found ourselves traveling almost perpendicular to our course a lot of the time. Things got better once we got into the 30s, and the weather started getting warmer. We had one nice afternoon and were able to have happy hour in the cockpit, but this did not last long. By 0200, we found ourselves in the middle of a major storm with some of the highest winds we had experienced of the trip. We could only estimate the wind speed (at 60 Kts), as the anemometer cups had been blown off the masthead in the previous gale.”

Bob said that he had a great trip, a once in a lifetime adventure. When asked if he would repeat the passage, the answer was an emphatic, “No.”

As for the 2004 fall event, program and details are still being formulated, but judging from an informal survey of the many LISSA members present, the brunch format was favored and will definitely be considered again.

### Financial Report YE 2003 Jim Drinane, Treasurer

<b>Balance 01/01/03</b>		<b>\$ 1,247.41</b>
<b>2003 Revenue</b>		
Memberships (79@\$30)		\$ 2,370.00
Events		
Spring Brunch	\$ 2,292.00	
Branford—Boatworks contrib.	1,018.96	
Participants fees	235.00	
City Island	1,320.00	
Frostbite Brunch	<u>1,798.00</u>	
Total Events		6,663.96
Sale of Burgees/hats		185.00
Board Meeting contrib.		265.00
Interest		<u>5.31</u>
<b>TOTAL 2003 REVENUE</b>		<b>\$ 9,489.27</b>
<b>2003 Expenses</b>		
Printing and Postage		708.60
Events		
Spring Brunch	1,927.93	
Branford	1,018.86	
City Island	1,271.16	
Deposit for Mystic	250.00	
Frostbite Brunch	<u>2,509.66</u>	
Total Events		6,977.61
Miscellaneous		
Misc Meeting expenses	101.14	
Contribution	100.00	
2003 Board Meetings	<u>654.66</u>	
Total Miscellaneous		<u>855.80</u>
<b>TOTAL 2003 EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 8,542.01</b>
<b>Balance 12/31/2003</b>		<b>\$ 2,194.67</b>



# The Link

30 Crosby Lane, Oakland, NJ 07436

## Board of Directors

**COMMODORE:**

Jim Drinane

**TREASURER:**

Vickie Sturtevant

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Burt Alter

Bob Bennett and Sue Montana

Suleika Drinane

Craig and Lora Hugelmeyer

Curt and Susan Koster

Harry and Millie Gonzalez

David Sturtevant

Peter and Barbara Tacy

Mike and Celia Withers

Anne Peskin, *former Commodore*



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## Thanks to:

The members and board of LISSA would like to extend our sincere thanks to the following companies for their support in donated door prizes for our various events.

**Boat/U.S.** – 9 Washington Street, So. Norwalk, CT 06854, (203) 866-4426.

**Bruce & Johnson's Marina** – (Brewer Yacht Yards), South Montowese Street, Branford, CT 06405, (203) 488-8329.

**Doyle Sails** – Huntington Station, NY

**Hathaway Reiser & Raymond, Inc.**–184 Selleck Street, Stamford, CT 06902, 203-324-9581.

**International Marine Publishing** – New York, NY (800) 262-4729.

**Pilot's Point Marina**– Westbrook, CT (860) 399-7906.

**Rex Marine Center** – 144 Water Street, So. Norwalk, CT 06820, (203) 866-5555.

**Sabre Corporation** – Hawthorne Road, South Casco, ME 04077, (207) 655-3831.

**Z Sails** – 65 Commerce Street, Stamford, CT 06902 (800) 221-1884.

**Sandy Hook Yacht Sales** – 1410 Ocean Ave., Sea Bright, NJ 07760, (732) 530-5500.

**The Boatworks** – 95 Rowayton Avenue, Rowayton, CT 06853, (203) 866-0882.

**West Marine** – 621 Jericho Turnpike, Syosset, NY 11791 (516) 364-4330.

**West Marine** – 401 Shippan Avenue, Stamford, CT 06903 (203) 969-7727.

**West Marine** – Milford, CT (203) 877-4004.



## In Memoriam

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the death of the following members:

**Nina Demuth**, died in October 2003 following an illness. She and her husband, Herb, were owners of "Nina-D", a Sabre 28 berthed in Sheepheads Bay, NY. Nina attended most LISSA events and also was co-founder, president and treasurer of the PDA Foundation.

**Fred Bayroff**, owner of "Courageous Fievel" which he kept at City Island, died in January 2004 of cancer. He was an enthusiastic LISSA member, attended many events, and last joined us for the dinner at City Island YC in summer 2003. In 1998 he had presented a segment of the spring brunch program "Cruising to NYC Harbor", the former home sailing area of his Sabre 30.