



# NEWSLETTER

Vol. IV, No. 1, June 1976

% Mystic Seaport, Mystic, Conn. 06355

## To All Schooner Sailors

Founded in 1972, the American Schooner Association's purpose was to promote, foster and encourage interest in the preservation and enjoyment of schooners and other traditionally rigged sailing vessels. The enthusiasm demonstrated by those attending the annual meeting in April indicates that this dedication of purpose is valid and that the organization is an on-going group.

In the beginning years ASA maintained a low profile while probing for what the mem-

### Gordon Hull

It is with regret that we pass on the news that Gordon Hull died last November in Jamestown, R. I. At one time or another, every schooner owner has been treated to a view of the transom of his swift schooner MORNING LIGHT, which Gordon himself re-designed and rebuilt. He was a gracious winner and schooner sailors will miss him.

bership wanted: scheduling, coordination, ratings, communication, etc. Not unexpectedly communication has emerged as the prime item of importance desired by the membership to achieve our purpose. Surprisingly, after 3 years of investigating a uniform rating rule for racing events, those assembled expressed small concern for the subject, indicating to me that each individual race committee has been handling its affairs with competence.

This Bicentennial Year has presented us with a dozen or more events at which traditional vessels will be the prime participants. I believe that over the years ASA has indeed played an important part in generating the knowledge that we do exist and are actively sailing. It has also bound us together in a camaraderie that did not exist before.

I encourage every member to approve the proposed constitution and to vote for the proposed slate of

officers and governors or others of your choice. This is necessary not only from a legal and taxation standpoint, but also to insure an orderly succession of officers and directors to create a strong and healthy organization.

We are all indebted to Sam Hoyt of WILD SWAN for volunteering to take on the important task of communication, including the Newsletter and press releases. He will be coming up with new ideas and will be looking for contributions from all members. So don't be bashful about telling others about your latest invention for siphoning the bilge into your holding tank.

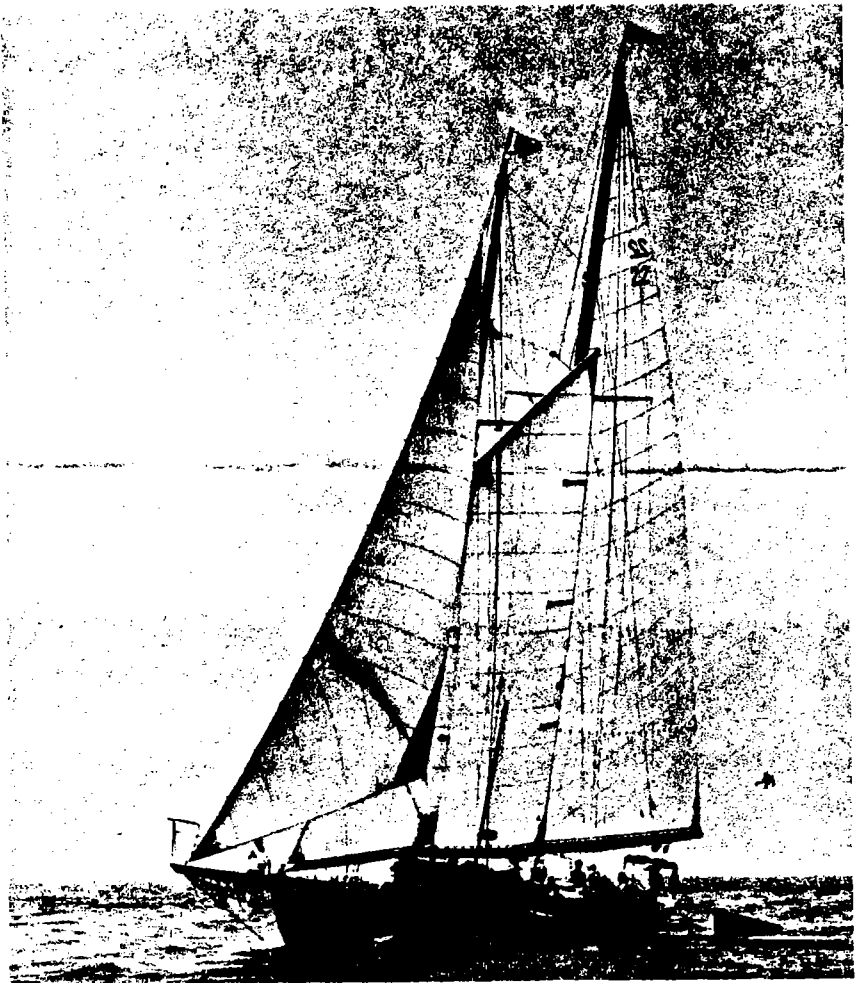
Yes, I can say that the American Schooner Association is alive and well and living in Mystic.

*Chuck*

# ASA VESSELS IN OPSAIL 76

As befits its stated purpose and standing in the boating world, ASA will be well represented in the OpSail extravaganza coming up all too soon. At least three Association vessels, led by the schooner BRILLIANT, will be active participants in the cruise from Newport to New York and in the Independence Day parade through New York Harbor and up the Hudson River.

BRILLIANT (pictured at right) is well-known as the active sail training vessel of the Mystic Seaport. Under the command of Captain Bif Bowker, the Sparkman & Stephens designed schooner will be in Newport as the Tall Ships Race from Bermuda finishes.



Two other ASA schooners are entered in the Tall Ships race from Bermuda to Newport. They are Pete Phillipps' VOYAGER and Ted Charles' TIKI, both veteran blue water passagemakers.

VOYAGER is a 50 foot Alden gaff rigger which Pete had extensively rebuilt several years ago and then took to the Mediterranean. Last year she had an outstanding racing record, winning the Mayor's Trophy in New York Harbor, the first gaff rigger ever to win that

prize, as well as the Soundings Trophy for best corrected time for a gaffer in the Mystic race. Look for VOYAGER to make a fast passage from Bermuda to Newport.

TIKI is 85 feet on deck and is also an Alden design. You may well remember her from the "Adventures in Paradise" television series of the late 50s. Late word from Teddy Charles is that he's "out to win" the Tall Ships leg from Bermuda.

All three schooners will be part of the

flotilla cruising to New York and will take part in the July 4 parade where they will be joined by the MARY E, the Maine-built fishing schooner now owned by the Seven Seas Sailing Club.

We'll hope for a detailed account of the race from Bermuda from one or both of these schooners for the next issue of the Newsletter. In the meantime, ASA members should be proud that the Association will be so well represented.

# Schedule of Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
June 26	Newport Rendezvous (See article, page 3)	Humphrey Barnum Dog Wood Drive Old Lyme, Conn. 06371
July 1	Mystic Seaport/Elco Classic Boat Rendezvous, Mystic, Ct.	Mike Sturges Mystic Seaport
July 4	OpSail '76 Parade, New York Harbor, Hudson River	
July 9, 10	Tall Ships Rendezvous, Boston, Mass.	
July 10	Vineyard Haven Schooner and Gaffers Race, Vineyard Haven	Francis West, Jr. Box 1414 Vineyard Haven, Mass. 02568
July 10	Meg's Raid Reenactment, Sachem's Head to Sag Harbor	
July 16, 17, & 18	Great Schooner Race, Gloucester (See "Dog Watch" on page 4)	
July 31 or August 2	Shelter Island Schooner Race Shelter Island, N. Y.	John McKenna Box 1 Aquebogue, N. Y. 11931
Sept. 11	Essex Schooner Weekend Essex, Conn.	Jim Eastland P. O. Box 236 Essex, Conn. 06426
Sept. 18	Leiter Cup Race, Newport, R.I.	
Sept. 25	Mayor's Trophy Schooner Race New York, N. Y.	Dick Rath & Boating 1 Park Avenue New York, N. Y. 10016
Oct. 2	Mystic Seaport Schooner Race Mystic, Conn.	Jonathan Harley & Mystic Seaport
Oct. 30, 31	Chesapeake Traditional Boat Week, Sandy Point, Md.	William G. Tyler 105 Taplow Road Baltimore, Md. 21212

## Newport Schooner Rendezvous Set for June 26

With all the hubbub deriving from the fact that Newport will be the arrival point for Operation Sail, it's only natural that ASA put in an appearance. Veteran cruisemeister

Humphrey Barnum of SAGAMORE is doing the organizing for a schooner rendezvous on June 26.

Don't look for the schooners in Newport

Harbor, though. That harbor will be chock full of the OpSail flotilla. Thanks to Captain Vince Roberts of DESTINY, a hitherto little used anchorage continued on page 4

# DOG WATCH

The most exciting news to come out of the April meeting at Mystic was that Ned Ackerman is embarking on a most ambitious project to build a 90 foot gaff rigger "for commercial purposes." Most aptly, the vessel will be named the JOHN F. LEAVETT, after the late coaster sailor and historian and Mystic Seaport luminary. She is presently building at Thomaston, Maine, and we'll try to give you a more detailed progress report in the next issue of the Newsletter

Because of this new venture, Ned's lovely two-year-old schooner FIDDLER'S GREEN has been placed on the market. Anyone interested in this classic Pete Culler designed topmast schooner can contact Ned Ackerman at Box 280, Dover, N.H.

This year, the Great Schooner Race at Gloucester will be a bit different. It's a match race series, best two out of three, between Ed Yeoman's AMBERJACK and the Canadian champion. The usual round of festivities will prevail, however, so let's see some ASA boats out there to provide moral support for AMBERJACK.

## Dues Due - Election On - Both NOW

It's already past time to renew your membership for 1976, so dig deep and send your \$10 (no inflation here) to Mike Sturges, P. O. Box 118, West Mystic, Conn. 06388.

There were some familiar faces missing at the annual meeting in April. As this Newsletter is going to members and former members alike, we'd certainly urge those of you who have dropped by the wayside, to renew your memberships. At the same time, all present members are encouraged to do a little recruiting around your home harbor. If you happen upon a schooner whose owner you know is not a member, give him the word.

And while you're sending your dues to Mike, please include a

vote for the following slate of officers put forward by the nominating committee:

Commodore - Chuck Gregory  
Vice Commodore - Joe Myers  
Rear Commodore - Sam Hoyt  
Secretary - Mike Sturges

Governors: (1 year term) John McKenna and Charles Grey. (2 year term) Ned Ackerman and Humphrey Barnum.

Commodore and Secretary were duly voted on and installed at the meeting in April, so you can't make any changes there. The Bylaws state that any five members in good standing may nominate candidates by submitting the name of such candidate in writing to the Commodore. So send your vote along with your dues

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## Schooner Rendezvous Set At Secret Anchorage

east of Goat Island but on the north side of the bridge will be the site of the rendezvous. Vince has sounded the entire area in his spare time and says there's plenty of water for boats drawing up to six feet. Approach around the north end of Goat Island, and you'll no doubt see DESTINY, SAGAMORE and TALISMAN at anchor and already

splicing the main brace.

It should be a great opportunity to view the Tall Ships, perhaps get in a little informal jousting in preparation for Vineyard Haven, and, of course, to have a good good time doing it.

For the latest on the rendezvous and a more precise description of the secret anchorage, contact Humphrey Barnum of Old Lyme, Conn.