



# NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 484, Mystic, Conn. 06355

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## JON WILSON, WOODENBOAT MAGAZINE WINS ASA AWARD

The annual meeting of the ASA took place January 24th at Mystic Seaport, Connecticut. In the absence of Commodore, Tom Schiller, Vice Commodore Brian Beckwith called the meeting to order about 10:00 and among the first orders of new business were the election of officers for 1981. Elected for the coming year were Brian Beckwith, Commodore; Ed Yoemans, Vice Commodore; Peter Phillip, Rear Commodore and Sam Hoyt, Secretary-Treasurer.

On an irregular basis, the ASA presents the organization's award for an "outstanding Contribution to Traditional Sailing". The award will be given this year to Jon Wilson, editor and founder of the Brooklin, Maine Publication, WOODENBOAT. Mr. Wilson's adherence to only the highest standards of editing and publishing, plus his love to traditional vessels, their creators, their care and keeping, and their history, have made WOODENBOAT a treasure for the boat lover's library and an oft used reference for anyone involved with wooden vessels.

The award will be presented later this year at the Awards Dinner after the Mystic Seaport Schooner race.

## MEMBERSHIP

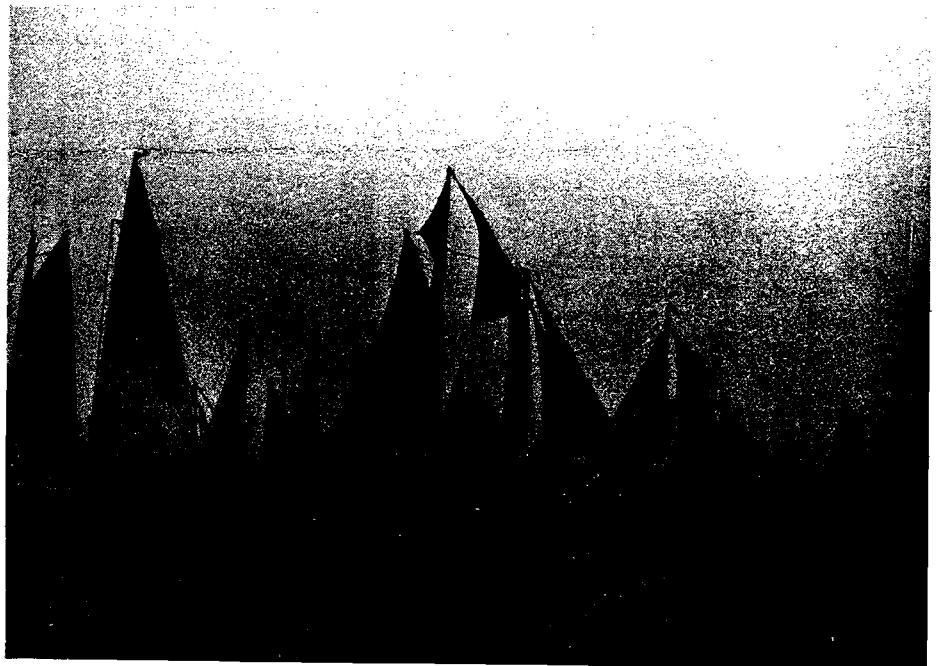
An application blank for membership in the American Schooner Association is enclosed with this News Letter for you to pass along to prospective new members. Make a couple of extra copies on your copier, if possible, and keep a few on your boat.

## RACE REPORT

For the second year, the Seawanahka Yacht Club hosted the first event of the schooner racing season on June 21st, their second Annual Wooden Boat Regatta. And, for the second year, it might have been a few weeks too early for schooner skippers, as even the gala pre and post race activities at the handsome North Shore club attracted only schooners. Owners of Concordia yawls, wooden sloops and fiberglass boat people, with less commissioning chores, completed the fleet and after a leisurely delay, while rafted at the Club dock, luncheon, & a skipper's meeting, the race got underway at 1:30 pm. Light airs

prevailed throughout the afternoon and on the last leg of the course the committee shortened the race. Winning was Tom Schiller's BOUNDING HOME, in second place, the 42 ft. Alden Centerboarder NILIRAGA, owned and skippered by "Bud" Woodworth of Huntington, and in third place, PRUDENCE sailed by Bob Jacobs.

A barbeque on the lawn overlooking the harbor completed the evening. Since this is really one of the most pleasant and well run events of the early racing season, skippers in the area should make every effort to participate in 1981. The date for this year's race is June 20th.



The Start - The Mayor's Cup Race

Photo by Closner

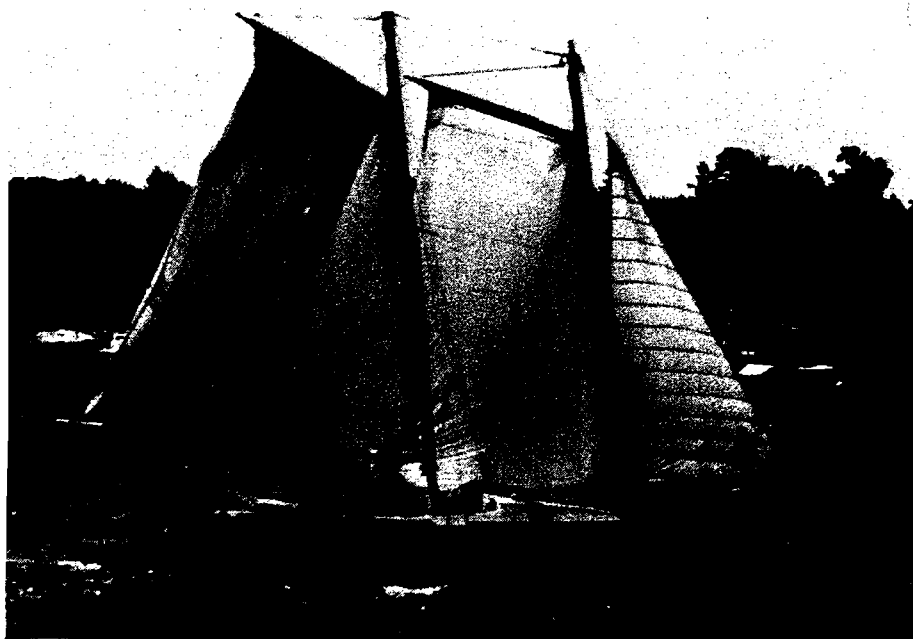
## RACE RESULTS, continued

Next on the schedule was the 16th Annual Douglaston Windjammer Race on July 12th, a day with almost perfect weather conditions for a schooner race; clear skies, 70°, and the wind out of the West at 18 knots. The brisk wind conditions lent quite a bit of excitement at the starting line with four staysail schooners and six traditionally rigged schooners, with all sails flying and seven schooner chasers racing with a spinnaker start from the Douglaston Club. The smallest schooner entry was the LOIS S. DRABO, owned by Pierre Wagner of Douglaston. The 18 ft. gaff schooner was built in 1891 as a Connecticut River fishing schooner and was restored by the Mystic Seaport Museum. Among the largest vessels were the Alden designs, TAR BABY and VOYAGER.

Two prizes are competed for in the Windjammer Race. One is won by a traditionally built boat, the Billy Atkin Trophy, the other - for overall winner of the race, is the Douglaston Yacht Squadron Windjammer Bowl. A new trophy was offered this year by Henry Hock for the winning staysail schooner and this was won by Bob Graves' TOTEM. Winning both the Billy Atkin Trophy, for the second year, and the DYS Bowl, was Peter Phillip's VOYAGER.

The prizes were given out at the annual chili and steamers party, given for all skippers and crews by Henry Hock of HERANDIS. Reports from the Hock's landscaping service were that reseeding or resodding of the lawn will be necessary where plates of leftover chili were spilled, but the skipper of HERANDIS advises us that the event will be held again this year on July 18th and a full complement of schooners is expected.

The Essex, Ct. Traditional Boat Weekend was held last year on September 6th and 7th and as always, beautiful weather conditions prevailed, except for wind. Two classes of boats, schooners with other gaff rigged



The Lois S. Drabo

vessels and other wooden traditional vessels, raced, and the start off the Saybrook breakwater found the fleet stalled with little or no wind and eventually anchored. The committee set an up current start against the strongest current of the month, but schooner captains never complain, and seldom explain. Anchors went down amid oil barges entering the sound down river and ferry boats crossing the sound with whistles tooting, forcing Committee to up anchor! Nevertheless, perserverance prevailed and after committee shortened the course Don Glassie's FORTUNE won, TAR BABY was second and VOYAGER was third.

The Connecticut River Foundation is the host for the weekend's events and hospitality and fun is their main objective. Their newly restored mid-nineteenth century Steamboat Doc, warehouse, an 1813 Chandlery, is fast becoming a fine maritime museum and will soon house the Thomas A. Stebens Maritime Library and feature River history and a collection of marine artifacts. From the beer fest on Friday afternoon, the Saturday races, cocktail party and awards

to the Fife and Drum serenade on Sunday and the cats and gaffers race ending with the River parade, this is one of the most festive of schooner events of the season.

Eleven Alden designed schooners raised sail for the Mystic Seaport Museum's 13th annual schooner race on September 20th, 1980. Beautiful conditions prevailed and 32 schooners raced in three classes. BOUNDING HOME, owned by Tom Schooner of Greenwich, CT. won the Brilliant trophy for the best overall corrected time and the first place in class A. FORTUNE, owned by Don Glassie, Jr., came in second, and VOYAGER Peter Phillips, was third. In Class B, the winners were: TODDYWAX, ISCHMAEL, and TOTEM. Class C winners were: EBB TIDE, SAPPHIRE, and GOLDEN GOOSE. Schooner Association festivities were held after the race and should not be missed. Next season the event will be held September 26, with a skipper's meeting Friday evening, the 26th.