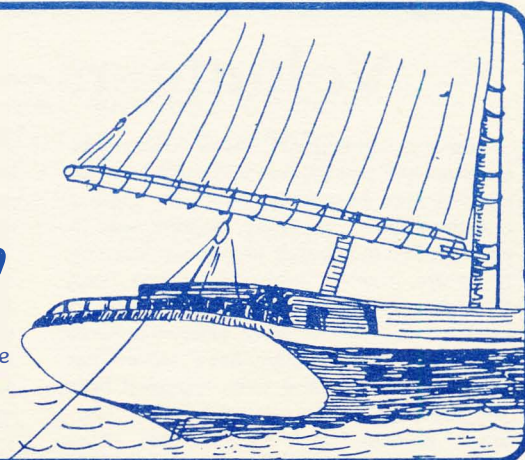


THE TAFFRAIL

By
Long Island Sound Taskforce
of
The Oceanic Society

Volume IV, No. 2 March-April 1979



Taffrail tariff

We all know, *The Taffrail* is terrific. It brings you solid and accurate information about the Sound's resources as well as the issues it faces for survival. News of LIST's efforts in watchdogging the Sound's problems and progress is in every issue. And Stamford Marine Center programs and educational activities are there for your picking and choosing.

Yet, *The Taffrail* costs money and time to produce. More importantly, to date *The Taffrail* has been produced for and sent to every Oceanic Society member in the greater Long Island Sound area—for free.

The friendly people who have brought you this wonderful service, your Society and the paying members of the Long Island Sound Taskforce, can no longer afford to do so, particularly in the face of rising costs for paper, printing and postage.

The result? You guessed it—*The Taffrail* will only come into your life again if you are willing to pay the tariff for belonging to the Taskforce (a mere \$10 a year over and above your regular Society membership dues).

Chapter membership is open to all Oceanic Society members. The memberships dues go towards publication of *The Taffrail* six times a year, and support of LIST's public education projects, the water quality monitoring program, research on current environmental issues such as dredging, Coastal Area Management and the "bridge" and involvement in Connecticut's Environmental Caucus. In December of last year, LIST ran an environmental leader's conference, coordinating environmental groups from CT, RI and NY States in an effort to join forces in working on specific areas of concern regarding Long Island Sound. This year the chapter plans to host a Sound-wide conference involving not only environmentalists, but scientists and concerned citizens as well.

LIST's goal is to increase public awareness of Long Island Sound, as a valuable resource and a means of recreation for thousands. It is an estuary of great beauty with a tremendous

potential for the future if it is wisely managed and preserved today.

The chapter provides Society members with an opportunity to become more actively involved in local areas of concern, in this case, Long Island Sound. The benefits of chapter membership include discounts on courses, free admittance to most seminars, and chapter activities, opportunities to get out sailing on Long Island Sound, free family field trips, volunteer openings in the areas of water quality and environmental research and, of course, *The Taffrail* which will keep you informed on chapter events, important

Sound-related issues, what fish are running, and more.

A questionnaire has been enclosed with this issue of *The Taffrail* in order to help LIST design and coordinate its programs for the coming year. Please take this opportunity to tell LIST what you are interested in and what programs and activities you would like to see run at the Stamford Marine Center, or elsewhere. LIST would like to hear from everyone who has read and enjoyed *The Taffrail*, and hopes that many of you will take the time now to join the Long Island Sound Taskforce.

Bridge across Sound proposed

In the fall of 1978, New York's Governor Carey mandated a feasibility study for a bridge crossing Long Island Sound. The study is slated to be completed by January, 1980. The state's Department of Transportation was required to engage consultants to assess economic, social, and environmental impacts of such a bridge. In addition to obtaining new data, existing data from the 1972 study, as well as other sources will be compiled.

Four independent consulting firms are participating in the \$350,000 three-phase study. One firm, Equitable Environmental Health will be compiling the environmental aspects of the study. A former consultant with Tri-State Regional Planning Authority, Edward F. Sullivan, has been appointed as the study manager.

In addition, a Policy Advisory Committee will be established to contribute regional input to New York's DOT. The thirty person committee will be comprised of representatives from New York and Connecticut, as well as Rhode Island.

The controversial Rye-Oyster Bay crossing is not being considered in this study. Seven other routes, as drawn up in the 1972 study, are being reviewed. Six of these span the Sound between various points on Long Island to Connecticut, while the final possible terminus is in Rhode Island. Many persons who have been following this issue believe the most likely routes to be Port Jefferson to Bridgeport and Wading River to East Haven.

Although much opposition to the bridge exists in Connecticut on the part of environmentalists and elected officials, sentiment on Long Island may be relaxing. This change may be due to a December, 1978 study conducted for the Long Island Commerce & Industry Association. The study points out economic benefits to the area with improved transportation access. Of the Connecticut terminuses under consideration, Bridgeport would probably be most receptive, due to the increase of construction jobs and to needed longer-range economic bolstering. LIST will continue to monitor the status of the bridge by examining existing data on environmental impacts posed by a bridge, and by close observation of the political processes involved.

Volunteers – an important part of LIST

Through reading OCEANS, coming to seminars and courses, many people have increased their knowledge about the Sound and the oceans. However, another way in which a few individuals have been learning about the marine environment has been through volunteering here at the Center. In previous Taffrails we have given thanks to volunteers, and you many have noticed that the same names have been repeated time and time again. The reason for their continued participation is because they enjoy what they are doing, meet people with similar interests, learn new skills, and are able to share ideas with others. Volunteering at the Center can mean utilizing talents which go untapped at your job, or it can mean finally doing your college major. Your volunteer services at the Center would be utilized and greatly appreciated and would allow expansion of existing programs.

Volunteers have been involved in various programs and activities here at the Center. Much of the success of our water quality lab has been due to volunteers. A short training period was conducted to teach lab skills and then the volunteers were assigned jobs. This training program will be starting up again this spring.

Another area in which volunteers have helped is "special events". Here members help man our booth at boat shows. Other volunteer activities at the Center include assisting with the planning and operating of seminars, social functions, forums, symposia and mailings.

For your mid-morning coffee break, instead of having it alone, join us at the Marine Center and help read and clip articles from newspapers and periodicals that concern

water-related subjects. In doing this you keep up with what is happening in the marine world and help us by keeping our research file up to date.

If you are a Public Relations person, we can always use help in typing press releases and doing other organizational communications. Don't forget that the Taffrail comes out every two months, and people are needed to prepare it for mailing. Taffrail time is always more enjoyable when lots of people are helping!

We are setting up a mid-week evening as an activity time for creating educational displays for use in our programs at the Center. This will be a good opportunity to learn how to do algae pressing, set shells and other organisms in plastic, and be creative with beach drift.

If aquaria interest you, help us create and maintain model habitats in our Resource Room. Four tanks are presently in operation with several tanks, ranging from five to 150

gallons, ready to set up. Since we want this Resource Room to be of interest to visitors and school groups your input will be most valuable.

If you find yourself wishing you could volunteer some time but find your everyday schedule too hectic, become a consultant for us. Questions often arise which could be answered by using your expertise on the subject.

The most important part about volunteers can be best expressed by the Latin meaning for the word "voluntarius", from which the English word "volunteer" was derived: "of one's free will". With all of the pressures and demands put upon people today, it is very rewarding to see many people come to us of their own will to help create interesting projects. If you are a "voluntarist" and want to join others helping out at the Center call Skip at the Stamford Marine Center, telephone 327-9786, for help in planning your activity.

You can help:

The accompanying article demonstrates the importance of volunteer help at the Stamford Marine Center. Specific areas in which help is now needed include:

public relations person-to coordinate publicity released to area media in order to promote various LIST activities.

lab and sampling persons-to help with water quality monitoring which will be gearing up this spring. Come to the April 5, 7 p.m. water quality workshop at the Stamford Marine Center if you are interested in this opportunity.

environmental resource persons-to facilitate following of Sound issues from various geographic locations around the Sound.

Society mail order personnel-to respond to merchandise requests sent to the Society.

monthly newsletter assistance-to work on the new *Taffrail* with content, editing or distribution.

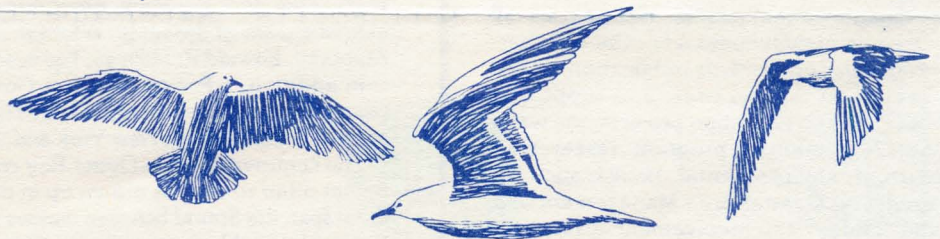
All of these volunteer opportunities are an exciting way in which to expand your expertise in a given area. Call the Marine Center now to learn more on how you can help!

The Taffrail

The Taffrail is published six times a year by The Long Island Sound Taskforce, serving 5,500 Oceanic Society members in this region. LIST offices are in the Stamford Marine Center, Magee Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902; (203) 327-9786.

LIST activities are coordinated by a Board of Directors which includes: Ann Marie Bury, Trudy Bryson, Garrison Corwin Jr., Walter Crane, Andrew Egeressy, Art Glowka, Haynes Johnson, John McDonald, George Rodenhause, Christopher Roosevelt, Emerson Stone, Wayne Stout, Mary Russell, Thomas C. Jackson, Suzi Wilkins, and Pete Pearson.

The Taffrail is edited by Suzanne Wilkins at the Stamford Marine Center.



Cruises with Oceanic Society

Two Oceanic Society expeditions will be offered on the East Coast this Spring and Summer. One of the most illustrious sailing vessels ever built, the 88' schooner *Bowdoin* will sail out of Camden, Maine and cruise among the lovely islands of Penobscot Bay, and along the Maine coast. Cruises will be for periods of seven to ten days at a cost of

\$375 or \$535, respectively, and will be scheduled from June 15 through Sept. 5.

The *Windigo*, a beautiful 73' yawl, will set sail on May 27 for a 7-day cruise from Bermuda to New Bedford, Mass. Sailors are invited to share in all aspects of handling this famous ocean racer/cruiser, and novices can learn basic seamanship. The cost is \$350 and it is certain to be a trip to remember. For more information on this and other Oceanic Society expeditions, contact **Ocean Society Expeditions, Building 240, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123.**

Courses, seminars, workshops

The aim of this issue of *The Taffrail* is to encourage membership involvement through increased chapter participation. We hope you will take the opportunity this Spring to show your support and enthusiasm for the Long Island Sound Taskforce by attending a few of the many programs and activities provided for you.

Courses!

On March 15 we will start our first **CPR** (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) course at the Stamford Marine Center. Taught by American Heart Association instructor, Jeannette Semon, the course will begin on Thursday, March 15 and continue March 29, April 5 and 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

CPR is a basic lifesaving technique pioneered by the American Heart Association. It provides basic emergency life support through a combination of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and closed chest compression until more advanced life support is available. The course fee is \$5 and upon successful completion of the program, participants will receive BLS-2 certification good for one year. Enrollment is limited and registration must be made in advance by calling the Marine Center at (203) 327-9786. No first aid experience is necessary for this course.

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"The History and Heritage of American Whaling" taught by Richard Mayer was such a success last September that we have decided to offer it again. The course, co-sponsored with the Norwalk Historical Commission, is scheduled to be held in the Commission's Townhouse on East Wall Street in Norwalk.

The whaling industry will be traced throughout the span of its 300 year history by means of a fascinating combination of films, entries from personal journals, manuscripts, slides and recordings. The four-session course will begin March 22 at 8 P.M. and run on consecutive Thursday evenings until April 12.

The fee for this course is \$20 per person (\$18.50 for LIST members) and all are invited to enroll. Registration in advance only, please, by sending a check to LIST, Stamford Marine Center, Magee Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902. For more information call (203) 327-9786.

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LIST is offering a **basic sailing** course this Spring in cooperation with SEAS (Society for the Education of American Sailors, Inc.). Included will be three 3-hour classroom sessions on April 26, May 3 and 10 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Stamford Marine Center. This will be followed with 16 hours of on-the-water instruction by American Red Cross and SEAS certified instructors. The course fee is \$50 which includes books, boat rental and all other materials. Come join us on the Sound this Spring. Call LIST at (203) 327-9786 to sign up.

Seminars!

A special evening of entertainment is in store for you Thursday, April 19 at 8 p.m. at the Stamford Marine Center. Joseph H. Cooper, author of the recently published book, **Land's End, Water's Edge** and staff member of *The New Yorker* magazine will present a program of anecdotes collected from experiences while sailing on Long Island Sound.

Land's End, Water's Edge is all about sailing and racing in the western section of Long Island Sound with particular emphasis on the characters and personalities of members encountered at the various local yacht clubs which occupy several select areas of the Sound's shores. Clubs mentioned in the book include: Larchmont, Knickerbocker, Stamford, Riverside, Manhasset Bay, Port Washington and American, among others. Copies of Mr. Cooper's book will be available during the evening. You won't want to miss this seminar so mark it on your calendar now.

Workshops!

On Thursday, April 5 at 7 p.m. Anne Marie Bury, a LIST Board member and water quality expert, will run a workshop for all volunteers interested in working on the **water quality monitoring program** this year. Please come whether you are interested in the lab work or in the actual

collection of samples from Long Island Sound or even if you are just interested in the idea. As you may know the Long Island Sound Taskforce conducts this program every year between April and October to watchdog levels of coliform and fecal bacteria in recreational areas of the Sound.

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A **basic marine life workshop** will be offered this April to persons interested in becoming instructors in our intertidal field trip program. The course, conducted by Skip Crane, a marine biologist with the Oceanic Society, will be aimed at those wishing to expand their knowledge of estuarine life so that they are then able to work more effectively with interested groups that come to the Center.

The course will consist of a two-day workshop, augmented with reading material. An "on-site" field trip will be conducted to give students experience in doing activities in the field.

Subject areas to be discussed include: how to deal with different age groups, how to know where to look for the marine life you want, designing activities, and interesting facts about different marine life found at the shore.

If you are interested in the workshop please call Skip Crane at the Marine Center, (203) 327-9786, by Monday, March 26. Reading lists will be available April 2 and the in-class sessions will be April 10 and 17. The field trip session is scheduled for April 20.

Marine Center news

On May 19, the State of the Sound Conference will be held at the University of Bridgeport. Area environmental leaders, scientists, and governmental officials will participate in discussion of issues facing Long Island Sound. The conference will be co-sponsored by the University and LIST. For further information, please contact Suzi Wilkins at the Marine Center, 327-9786.

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Due to the great demand for spring field trips, the Center is seeking part-time field trip leaders and assistants to augment its staff. A degree in marine biology or extensive knowledge of intertidal life forms is requested. If interested, please mail your resume to Skip Crane at the Marine Center.

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The Marine Center can use the following items: a 20' or more fiberglass open boat with a motor for research and education projects; a commercial grade floor waxer; and aquaria supplies (see article). Donations to the Society must be in serviceable conditions and are tax-deductible.

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Special thanks to those volunteers who helped man the Society booth at the New York Boat Show in January: Joe Impara, Nigel Bowers, Jerry Terenzi and Judy Fitzpatrick. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Calendar

- March** 15 **CPR Course** starts at 6:30 p.m. at the Stamford Marine Center
 22 **Whaling Course** starts in Norwalk at 8 p.m.
 22 **Photography Course** starts with Bob Bachard at Stamford Marine Center, 6:30 p.m. Call 327-9786 for information.
 29 **CPR Course**, session 2.
 29 **Whaling Course**, session 2 (Norwalk)
 29 **Photography Course**, session 2.
- April** 5 **Water Quality Workshop**, 7 p.m. in the Stamford Marine Center's lab.
 5 **Whaling Course**, session 3 (Norwalk).
 5 **CPR Course**, session 3.
 5 **Photography Course**, session 3.
 10 **Field Trip Workshop**, Stamford Marine Center, please call in advance.
 12 **Whaling Course**, session 4 (Norwalk).
 12 **CPR Course**, session 4.
 12 **Photography Course**, session 4.
 17 **Field Trip Workshop**, Stamford Marine Center, session 2.
 19 **Seminar with author Joseph Cooper**, 8 p.m., Stamford Marine Center.
 19 **Photography Course**, end, session 5.
 20 **Field Trip Workshop**, session 3, in the field.
 26 **Learn-to-Sail**, session 1 at the Stamford Marine Center, 7 to 10 p.m.

Whaling course set for N.Y.C.

There has been considerable interest expressed over the past few months for a "History and Heritage of American Whaling" course in New York City. The course has been run with great success by the Long Island Sound Taskforce in Connecticut. Taught by Richard Mayer, the four-session course focuses on the 300 year history of the whaling industry in the United States through a combination of slides, entries from personal journals, recordings, photographs and more. If you are interested in a course of this nature in the City please check the box on the membership application section of the questionnaire and sign your name if you wish to be contacted should the course be offered.

"R/V OCEANIC" sails in summer

The Society's new education and research vessel, "R/V OCEANIC" is currently under construction at the yards of Atlantic Boat Works in Boothbay Harbor, Maine. The fire-retardant hull, built by Webbers Cove Boatyard in East Blue Hill, Maine, was moved to the new yard at the beginning of the year for "finishing" and is expected to be delivered to the Long Island Sound area by late Spring. Atlantic Boat Works is installing the engine (Detroit Diesel 6-71) and all mechanical work and is constructing the remainder of the vessel. Tentative reservations for educational programs aboard "R/V OCEANIC" are being accepted for late May and early June, subject to delivery schedule and final Coast Guard approval.

Stamford Harbor survey stalled

The Oceanic Society in cooperation with three Stamford City agencies and several other community groups has proposed a comprehensive survey and assessment of Stamford Harbor and its shorelines. The results of the survey will provide better planning and management data with recommendations for natural resource preser-

vation, land use, marine related job preservation and revitalization, recreational facilities, and neighborhood enhancement. The original proposal under consideration by the Stamford Community Development Program was turned down, and it is hoped that with a resubmitted budget it will be accepted.



The LIST of THE OCEANIC SOCIETY

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LIST Questionnaire

Please fill out the following questionnaire, whether or not you are a member of the Long Island Sound Taskforce, and return it as soon as possible to: LIST, Stamford Marine Center, Magee Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902. Please take this opportunity to voice your opinion and help influence LIST's direction in the coming year.

1. I would like to see LIST primarily as:

- a marine education organization
- a reporter of environmental issues
- an environmental decision-making group
- a biological information service
- a Long Island Sound recreational group
- other (please be specific) _____

2. I would like to see the above accomplished through:

- chapter committees, speaker's bureau, Taffrail
 - volunteer programs, public symposia, other
-

3. I am interested in the following LIST activities:

- seminars (one session)
- courses (several sessions)
- public symposia on environmental issues
- water quality monitoring
- field trip programs
- chapter sails (summer)
- volunteer opportunities
- attending meetings and hearings on environmental issues
- reporting to LIST on local marine issues
- scientific studies

Subject areas of interest:

- biology (whales, intertidal life, seabirds)
- pollution (oil spills, water quality)
- history (whaling, history of Long Island Sound)
- "how to" marine recreation (fishing, sailing, diving)
- health and safety (marine first aid, boating standards)
- other (please be specific) _____

4. A. Content of the Taffrail

- no changes: interesting as it reads

B. I would like to see more Taffrail articles on:

- environmental issues and concerns
- LIST's educational activities, courses and seminars
- scientific information on local marine life
- research results
- volunteer participation opportunities
- historical aspects of Long Island Sound
- chapter activities
- human interest stories
- other _____

5. I have ___ / have not ___ attended activities at the Stamford Marine Center in the past year.

If you have, how many times _____

6. I have not attended more LIST programs and activities at the Stamford Marine Center because:

- Stamford is too far away
- programs are held at inconvenient times
 - too late in the evening
 - bad day of the week
 - other _____
- I have not been interested in the selection of programs offered
- other _____

7. I would attend more LIST programs if they were held in:

- Manhattan
- elsewhere in New York (please be specific) _____
- New Haven, CT
- Hartford, CT
- Long Island
- Rhode Island
- other _____

8. I am ___ / am not ___ currently a member of the Long Island Sound Taskforce.

I have not joined LIST because: _____

Thank you for your time and consideration in filling out this questionnaire.

SIGN ME UP!

Name _____ Daytime phone () _____

Address _____ Zip _____

I want to support the Long Island Sound Taskforce chapter of the Oceanic Society and receive future issues of the Taffrail.
Enclosed is my annual \$10 tax deductible dues. (Check if renewal)

Please make checks payable to: LIST, Stamford Marine Center, Magee Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902

I am interested in attending the whaling course in New York City.
 spring, summer, fall

Sign me up to help with the water quality monitoring program.

I am interested in an underwater photography course in Stamford, Ct.