

**GUIDE TO THE
KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB COLLECTION**



Collection Abstract: Records and memorabilia (1878-2009) of the Knickerbocker Yacht Club including ledgers, meeting minutes, photographs, books and artifacts relating to the history of the Knickerbocker Yacht Club and its members.

Collection Title: THE KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB COLLECTION

Inclusive Dates: 1878-2009 (Bulk Dates: 1878-1939)

Size: 10 Boxes (8.25 l.f.)

Source: Gift of the Knickerbocker Yacht Club

Accession Number: 2009-008

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Repository: Port Washington Public Library Local History Center

KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB COLLECTION

INTRODUCTION:

The Knickerbocker Yacht Club was founded in 1874 on the Harlem River to encourage “yachting and the cultivation of naval science and seamanship.” Claimed to be the second-oldest yacht club on the Long Island Sound, it migrated from its original Manhattan location to Port Morris in the Bronx, then to College Point in Queens and in 1907, set up a club station in Port Washington. Later on, a clubhouse was built in 1921, on Main Street. Some firsts of the yacht club include admission of Jewish members at a time when not the common practice, the concept of winter "frostbite racing" in the 1930's, and establishment in 1982 of the Knickerbocker Cup yacht race that attracted top sailors from around the world. Though most members' boats were modest, with owners operating as one-person crews, there were 10-foot dinghies along with 200-foot yachts. Reaching its peak in the 1980s, the club had approximately 290 families with 165 boats. On January 20, 2009, after a 135 year history, the club was dissolved.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The Knickerbocker Yacht Club Collection spans the years 1878-2009 and includes primarily the club’s early history. Bound volumes contain ledgers with account information, meeting minutes, details of events with newspaper clippings, and 1897 data about Knickerbocker Yacht Club yachts. The collection also contains books with information about the club’s history, constitution and bylaws, and photographs. Artifacts include racing trophies, menus, pennants, scarves, mugs, and models.

ORGANIZATION:

The collection is arranged into three series:

- SERIES I: Administrative Files**
- SERIES II: Photographs and Miscellaneous**
- SERIES III: Artifacts and Memorabilia**

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS:

Series I: Administrative Files, [1878 - 1999] [Bulk 1878-1939]

Files include minutes, account information, the constitution and by-laws of the club, data on yachts, news article, detailed account of events and the club history.

Series II: Photographs and Miscellaneous [1900 - 2008]

Photographs of yacht club, boats, commodore, club members and KYC events from 1900-2000.

Series III: Artifacts and Memorabilia, [1894 - 1999]

Artifacts and Memorabilia relating to Knickerbocker Yacht Club including trophies, plaques, and boat models.

BOX LIST:

<u>Box</u>	<u>Content</u>
1	
	Series I: Administrative Files
Volume 1	Minutes of meetings, 1878 - 84
Volume 2	Minutes of meetings, 1885 - 89
Volume 3	Printed book containing data on KYC yachts, 1897
Volume 4	Hardcover, KYC Constitution & Bylaws, 1906
Volume 5	Booklet, KYC Constitution & Bylaws, 1939
2	
Volume 6	Ledger, account information, 1883; 1901
Volume 7	Ledger, account information, 1888
Volume 8	Ledger, account information, 1891
Volume 9	Ledger, account information, 1898 - 1901
Volume 10	Ledger, account information, 1904 - 1905
3	
Volume 11	Ledger, account information, 1906
Volume 12	Ledger, account information, 1917
4	
Volume 13	Log book, detailed account of events with news clippings, 1878
Volume 14	Log book, detailed account of events with news clippings, 1880
Volume 15	"The Knickerbocker Yacht Club Seventy-Fifth Anniversary", 1949
Volume 15A	"One Hundred Years of Knickerbocker History", 1974
Volume 16	"Knickerbocker Yacht Club 1874-1999 "
Volume 17	Certificate of Audit, KYC April 1922
5	
	Series II: Photographs and Miscellaneous
Folder 1	News article, 'Lady Knicks Undefeated', 1995 <i>Newsday</i> article, "All sails final: Auction marks bitter end for club", Oct. 26, 2009 "Dessert Menu" from KYC restaurant

<u>Box</u>	<u>Content</u>
5	
Folder 2 - 3	Photos of KYC events, club members, Manhasset Bay events and photos used in 125 th Anniversary Book
Not Foldered	KYC Menu covers - 1 Blue cover with Wine List, ca. 2008 1 Blue cover with dinner menu 1 Blue cover, empty inside
Oversized- Not Boxed	Beefsteak dinner of the KYC at Hofbrau House, 1917 (in Local History office) The KYC "Season of 1926" (Map Case) Photo of Scoville Cup won by "Grey Flash", 1935 (Map Case) Colored aerial view of KYC with pool (Map Case) Black & white aerial of KYC from over bay (Map Case)
6	
	Series III: Artifacts and Memorabilia
	1) black embroidered patch with burgee on it 2) red burgee patch 3) white silk scarf decorated with "THE KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB 1874-1999" 4) navy blue silk scarf covered with KYC, red burgees & flag border 5) textile art design on silk of burgees of the 4 yacht clubs, 1965
7	
(A)	Wood Plaque - FLYING JUNIORS North American Championships, 1968
(B)	Cannon & plaque - cannon trophy for highest YRA score, 1966
(C)	Wood plaque - The KYC Centennial Trophy, 1874-1974
Hat	Black Braided, KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB WOMEN'S AUXILARY COMMODORE'S PERPETUAL TROPHY New Years Eve 1966-7
8	
(Tray 1)	Silver cup - won by NANITA, Knickerbocker Yacht Club Regatta, 1894
(Tray 1)	Silver cup - 3 handles, THE KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB ANNUAL CRUISE COMMODORE'S CUP, 1904
(Tray 1)	Silver cup - KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB ANNUAL REGATTA Star Class 2nd Prize won by ISCYRA, 1927
(Tray 1)	Silver stein - KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB ANNUAL POWER BOAT RACE won by NANITA II, 1906

<u>Box</u>	<u>Content</u>
8	
(Tray 2)	Trophy base- black base for Arnold Greene Trophy, 1969
(Tray 2)	Blue glass cup - power boat race won by NANITA II, 1906
(Tray 2)	Coin in plastic - The KYC Centennial (A Commemorative Medal), 1974
(Tray 2)	Porcelain mug - KYC dinnerware
9	
(A)	Crystal jar, silver top - The KYC annual race won by MILADI, 1902
(B)	Silver cup - THE KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB COMMODORE'S CRUISE, Won by "PAIUTE II", 1912
(C)	Crystal bowl with silver - The KYC annual race won by "LEDA", June 3, 1905
(D)	Silver bowl - VICE-COMMODORE HAROLD L. LEMLEIN trophy, 1951-1955 - "For Outstanding Progress by Juniors in Yachtsmanship"
(E)	Silver tray - KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB ANNUAL REGATTA won by "KNAVE", 1903
10	
(A)	Copper cup with plaque: BONNIE LAURIE TROPHY, for outstanding performance by a woman sailor of KYC. On cup: THE KNICKERBOCKER YACHT CLUB Won by "PAIUTE II" presented by M.W. Torrey, 1912
(B)	Model - half-ship inscribed "VICTORY"
(C)	Model - half-ship inscribed "CALIFORNIA GIRL"
(D)	Model - half-ship inscribed "CONTENTMENT", name written in ink on back of model
Pennants	4 miniature pennants on flagpoles