



Cooper River Yacht Club



*South Park Drive, between Route 130 and Cuthbert Boulevard
Collingswood, New Jersey*

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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ANNUAL TWO DAY LABOR DAY WEEKEND REGATTA

SCHEDULED AT COOPER RIVER YACHT CLUB

Collingswood, New Jersey – August 2009 – Members of the **Cooper River Yacht Club** report that this summer has been another great one for sailing on the Cooper River. So conditions should be ideal for their upcoming annual **Ernest**

M. Ritchie Regatta, scheduled for **Labor Day weekend: Sunday September 6, at 1:00pm**, and **Monday September 7 at 11:00am**.

Mr. Ernest M. Ritchie was the head of the **Camden County Park Commission** in the 1940s. Mr. Ritchie was instrumental in arranging for the newly formed club to occupy the formerly abandoned tennis club building as a headquarters for the club, with the tennis courts used as a boat storage yard. Every year that he was involved with the Commission, now known as the **Camden County Parks Department**, Mr. Ritchie attended the club's awards ceremony on Labor Day. He also arranged for the Park commission's donation of funds used to purchase trophies for the Labor Day awards, so in honor of Mr. Ritchie's generous support of the club, the club's Labor Day regatta is now known as the "**Ernest M. Ritchie Regatta.**"

There will be **three sailing races each day**, open to the different types of sail boats but most of the sailors will compete in the most popular **GP14, Laser**, and **Sunfish** sailboats.

The public is invited to stop by to see the races. **Admission and parking is free**, and club officers will be on hand to answer questions on sailing, sailing lessons, and other upcoming club activities.

The club also schedules annual regattas on **Memorial Day** and the **4th of July**.

Conveniently located on **South Park Drive**, in **Collingswood** along the **Cooper River Park**, the **Cooper River Yacht Club (CRYC)** provides a comfortable, safe, and friendly place to learn how to cruise and race, at a home away from home for like-minded boat lovers, where there is always ample free parking.

Throughout every season, the club offers lessons tailored to specific age and skill ranges, but this year in these tough economic times, the club offers some extra special values. For people living in the greater Philadelphia area, the club is much closer than the New Jersey Shore. And sailboats are the original, pure “green” mode of transportation. They have no environmental impact because they don’t consume fuels of **any** kind - ***the wind is free!***

The club’s sailing instruction programs are open to anyone interested in learning more about sailing. You don’t need your own boat or any experience - all you need is a desire to learn how to sail to get started. All courses are taught by certified **US Sailing Instructors**, who are trained in **CPR** and **First Aid**.

Community Sailing Stretches the Family Budget

For a moderate extra fee, the club’s **Community Sailing** program is a **great way to stretch the family budget**. The program entitles members to use any of the club’s fleet. Some of the many types of sailboats available are **Precision, Laser Radial**, and **Sunfish**. **Community Sailing** is an excellent way to personally

experience each of the different types of sailboats without the purchase, maintenance, and storage costs of owning a sailboat. The program also helps members who may be considering the purchase of their own sailboat to make informed decisions based on hands-on experiences.

For over sixty years, the CRYC has been a vital part of the Camden County Parks system, providing a full season of activities for sailing enthusiasts. The club hosts races on Sundays at 1:00pm, from April through November, as well as a summer series of Thursday evening handicap races.

CRYC is part of an association of fourteen sailing clubs located from the New Jersey Shore throughout the Delaware Valley: the **Mid-Atlantic Yacht Racing Association (MAYRA)**. MAYRA schedules regattas at the various member clubs throughout the summer, including CRYC. For many sailing club members, MAYRA competitions are the highlight of their summer sailing experiences.

The exciting world of sailing is as close as the easy to reach **Cooper River Yacht Club**.

For more information on the **Cooper River Yacht Club**, and all of their sailing instructions, community sailing program and summer sailing season activities, visit the club's website at www.CooperRiverYC.org or arrange to visit the club in person by calling the steward at **856-869-9145**.

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The Cooper River Yacht Club

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