



Beachwood Yacht Club with M-Scoops in foreground. (Press Photo)

SHORE YACHT CLUBS

Beachwood Is Youngest Bay Club

BEACHWOOD — Beachwood Yacht Club, newest member in the Barnegat Bay Yacht Racing Association, will be host to the weekly regatta here tomorrow.

The morning races will be held on the Toms River. The afternoon series will be moved to Barnegat Bay to give the larger sailing classes more room.

The yacht club here was established in the late 1930s. It was formed several years after the Polyhue Yacht Club was disbanded during the depression.

The Polyhue was named after the many-colored sails skippers used during the 1920s and '30s. The Polyhue's fleet of racing boats was built around Ferrine sneakboxes, many of which are still in existence at the Shore today.

One Member Left

A. C. Cunningham, now living in Florida, is the only living charter member of the Beach-

wood Yacht Club. He was made an honorary life member two years ago. Past Commodore Emmet Gaunt, long-time BBYRA scorer, also has been accorded this honor.

Beachwood still retains a small sneakbox fleet, but the majority used now are built by Beaton. Beachwood dominated the sneakbox scene for many years, along with Seaside Park, Mantoloking, and Lavallette.

The Hotaling sneakbox series is run here annually. This year, Beachwood skippers took the first three places in a field of 20.

Snipe Favorite

Snipes have been a favorite for many years. The National Snipe Championships, one of the biggest regattas in the na-

tion, was held here in 1951. Beth Olson of the local club has been one of the leading Snipe skippers in the East. Her daughter, Debbie, was state champion in 1960.

Other classes represented at Beachwood include Jet 14s. Max Culpepper, former sailing master who still belongs to the club, has held the national title. Tom Chapman, a past commodore has won the Eastern E-Sloop championship.

While club owners have power boats measuring up to 50 feet in length, sailing has the principal interest of club members. There are some 60 sailing craft on the club grounds. Sailing prams are used by Juniors and several Penguins have been introduced.

The largest fleet now, however, is the M-Sloop, a modification of the E-Sloop. There are about 15 in the club now.

2 Instructors

The sailing program was established at Beachwood about four years ago. Two sailing instructors are maintained now. Dr. Donald Valdes, a professor of sociology at Denison University in Ohio, is the sailing master. His assistant is Danny Crabbe, a well-known E-Sloop sailor in the bay.

The sailing program has resulted in a large Beachwood participation in bay sailing, particularly last year when one-fourth of all BBYRA qualifiers were from Beachwood.

Beachwood Yacht Club leases the ground floor of the Beachwood Community Club, at one time the Polyhue Yacht Club. Last year, the club bought a large tract next to its quarters for beach expansion and a possible building site.

Some Social Activity

Social activities are built around dances, barbecues, covered dish suppers, and other typical yacht club events.

More than 100 young people participate in activities of the