

New Toms River Yacht Club Opened

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TOMS RIVER — The 97-year-old Toms River Yacht Club opened its new clubhouse yesterday on the former Halton estate on the eastern tip of Money Island.

The club has been located at the foot of Robbins Parkway in a building constructed in 1914 and enlarged in 1924.

The new facility, dedicated yesterday with a cornerstone ceremony, is a two-story building of cinder block and frame construction. The first floor will be devoted to junior activities and storage with a large dining room, dance floor, and lounge on the second floor. A full-length veranda offers a sweeping view of the Toms River.

The area around the new clubhouse is ideal for the expanded sailing program of the club, a member of the Barnegat Bay Yacht Racing Association. A 190-foot dock has been installed with bulkheads built around the property which juts out into Toms River.

The new site will afford a launching and sailing area and alleviates the cramped conditions around the former clubhouse situated in town where the river is narrow.

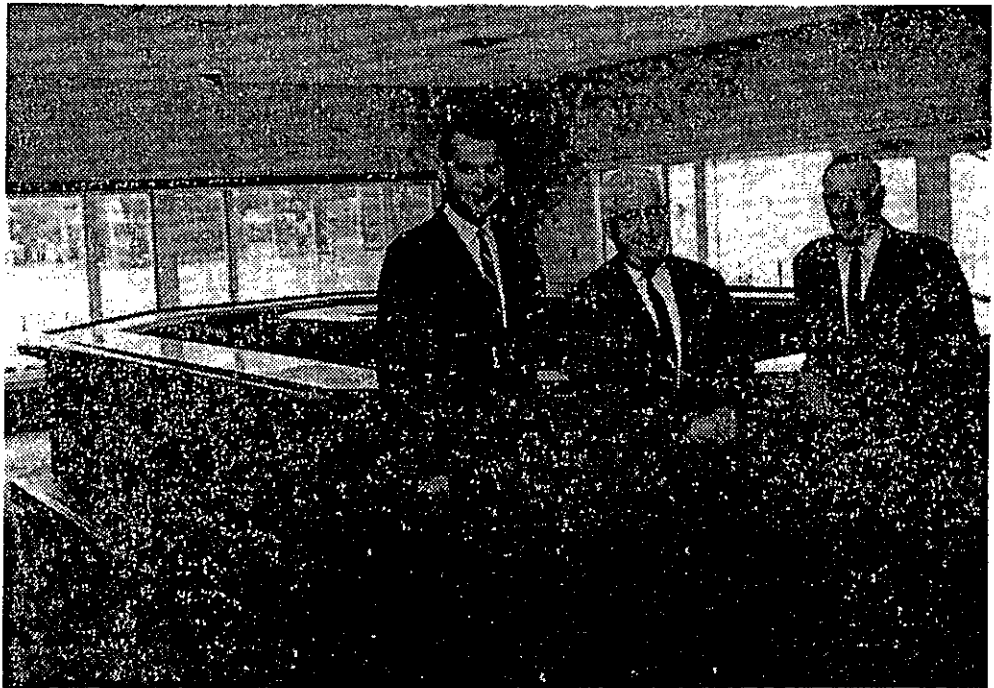
After the Money Island site was acquired several years ago, the club transferred its sailing program from Silver Bay, where it was started, to Money Island.

Plans for the clubhouse were prepared by Hankins and Hyres, architects. The building was erected by Simpson Construction Co., which also took over ownership of the former clubhouse on Robbins Parkway. The company plans to convert it into a restaurant.

The new building, measuring 80x48 feet, was approved after several years of planning and discussion. Members had rejected a proposal to move the former clubhouse here.

F. Peter Weber was chairman of the building committee. Parking facilities has been provided for 80 cars.

The club was founded July 1,



This is the interior of the lounge section of the Toms River Yacht Club. Standing, from the left, are Vice Commodore Franklin H. Berry Jr., Commodore Raymond Taylor, and Fred Rollman, fleet captain.

1871 by retired sea captains from Toms River, Forked River and Waretown for the purpose of organizing races for the yacht owners and captains of the Toms River-Barnegat Bay area.

Its first venture and one that has grown in fame throughout the years is the Toms River Challenge Cup now raced for by the A Cats in the annual BBYRA competition at the club.

The cup, purchased for \$175 from Tiffany's in New York, was originally a prize for the winner of a 10-mile race for the broad-beamed catboats that later were to be developed into the

Barnegat Bay catboat.

The first race was held July 27, 1871 and won by Job Falkenburg of Forked River in a catboat named Vapor. Starting from stake boats posted off Long Point at the mouth of Toms River, Vapor sailed 10 miles to Forked River and back faster than the rest of the fleet.

Since that time many boats have issued challenges and many winners have had their names engraved on the silver cup.

It was first decided as a trophy to be retired by the first yacht winning it three times in a row. But it was changed to a perpetual trophy in 1904.

Dr. Raymond A. Taylor is the current commodore. He succeeded Robert Mayer in 1967. Other officers are: Franklin H. Berry Jr., vice commodore; Fred Rollman, fleet captain and Howard Wright, secretary-treasurer.

Mrs. Alice Weber is president of the Ladies Auxiliary which financed the stainless steel kitchen in the new building.

Following dedication ceremonies yesterday, the flag officers, board of governors, and Ladies Auxiliary hosted a cocktail party for members and guests, including officers from other clubs and the Barnegat Bay Yacht Racing Association.

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