

Shattemuc Yacht Club, est. 1889



THE SAILING RACE AT THE SPRING MEET OF THE HUDSON RIVER CANOE CLUBS.—(DRAWN BY M. J. BURNS.—[SEE PAGE 719].)

“The Sailing Race at the Spring Meet of the Hudson River Canoe Clubs”

Wood engraving by M.J. Burns.
Harpers Weekly, June 13, 1885.

Shattemuc's roots can be traced to the old Sing Sing Yacht Club which held its first regatta in 1858, over 160 years ago! That club raced cat boats and sloops using sand bags and bricks for ballast. Challengers came to test their mettle and bet large sums against the boats of the Club. The old Yacht Club dissolved after the Civil War, and organized boat racing at Sing Sing waned until canoes became popular in America after the Civil War. A group of local men who gathered on summer weekends for paddling, sailing and informal racing formed the Shattemuc Canoe Club on June 20th or 28th, 1884, taking their name from a Native American word for the Hudson River. Shattemuc quickly became one of the leading canoe clubs of the State, holding many regattas for trophies and prizes offered by local patrons.

Around the same time, a trio of Sing Sing ice- and sail- boaters formed the Sing Sing Boat Club, which was incorporated as the Sing Sing Yacht Club on December 18th, 1888, to “encourage aquatic sports, yacht

Original Clubhouse



building and the cultivating of naval science and promote the social, physical and moral condition of its members”. The interests of club members evolved over time to include power launches. Their first clubhouse was built in the spring of 1889 and was little more than a boathouse on a pier connected to shore by a bridge. It had two stories, a timber frame and a tin roof, and was extensively renovated over time, becoming a noted landmark along the Hudson.

In 1901 when the village of Sing Sing changed its name to Ossining to distinguish itself from the nearby penal institution, the Sing Sing Yacht Club and the Shattemuc Canoe Club consolidated and became the Shattemuc Yacht and Canoe Club.

Shattemuc has faced many challenges and gone through many changes over the succeeding years. Two clubhouses have been lost to fires and membership fell as low as 11 members during the Great Depression. In 1962 we built an Olympic style pool and our Sailing Academy just celebrated its 50th year. In 1987, we purchased the waterfront property for the Boathouse Restaurant.

Recently, Shattemuc has expanded its marina to over 125 slips with 25 moorings and now

welcomes transient boaters from all over the United States. It's state-of-the-art wave attenuator dock system was the first of its kind on the Hudson River.

Members have never faltered in their commitment to promoting the Hudson River and aquatic endeavors, from recreational boating to organized racing, social events, public entertainments, sailing instruction for juniors, swimming, promotion of safe boating, and educational programs.

We're excited to welcome new members help us to create a vision for the club for the next 160 years!

For a more detailed on the club and its history, please visit the History page of the website: shattemucyc.org/about-us/history/

