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Equal-Opportunity Yachting

THE flags were flying over the Breezy Point Yacht Club in Amityville as a yachter, James Bunting, showed a visitor his yacht, a 36-foot 1963 Pacemaker. Mr. Bunting lives in Harlem, but on any summer weekend you'll find him out on Long Island at his yacht club, puttering on his boat or sitting enjoying the sea breezes with other yacht club members, Clarence Holloway of Wyandanch, Bill Brazier of Huntington or George Jones of Copiague.

Breezy Point yachters come from all over the metropolitan area because the Breezy Point Yacht Club is the only yacht club on Long Island with a predominantly black membership. Of the 43 members, 42 are black. "We're an equal-opportunity yacht club, however," said Ralph D. Carter of Wyandanch. "We have Jack."

Jack Holzap of South Farmingdale is the only white member of this yacht club. "No one's been obvious about it," Mr. Holzap said. "I'm treated the same as everyone else. It's like a big family here."

The black boaters band together, they say, for camaraderie, not because of any bias against them. "Everyone couldn't be nicer," said John Nixon of Hempstead, the vice commodore of the club. "Being a black boater has never been an issue."

That wasn't always so, said Chris Leftenant, formerly of Amityville and now of Massapequa, and the founder of the Breezy Point Yacht Club. "I was rejected from a fishing club and had to pay \$10 more a foot to dock my boat than any one else," he said, explaining how Breezy Point came into existence 21 years ago. "I finally decided to go for it. We'd have our own yacht club." Members bought the property in South Amityville, and now 21 powerboats and one sailboat, ranging in size from 20 feet to 37 feet, occupy the slips in front of the small three-room clubhouse.

Breezy Point, today, is like any other Long Island yacht club. There are dances and the annual luau, and while the small clubhouse doesn't have a veranda overlooking the bay - this yacht club sits on a canal - the jovial members have set up a tent with picnic tables for the summer. As Mr. Nixon and his wife, Frances, relaxed on their 28-foot Silverton watching the rest of the boaters, Mr. Nixon smiled and said, "This is like a home away from home."