

Newport Daily News 7/25/11

## ON THE WATER

# Amorita's sailing days were nearly numbered

**Boat:** Amorita.  
**Owner:** Jed Pearsall, Newport.  
**Designer:** Nathaniel Herreshoff, Bristol.  
**Builder:** Herreshoff, Bristol.  
**Year:** 1905.  
**Length:** 44 feet.  
**Hull:** heart of pine plank on white oak frame.

**History:** The very beautiful Amorita is back. NY-9 Amorita — long revered for her beauty as well as her racing success — is back in Newport after a horrendous crash that sent her to the bottom off Beavertail Point in Jamestown in 2007.

Originally named Adelaide, Amorita was renamed by her second owner in 1910. After 30-plus years on the Great Lakes and several refits, she found herself in dire-straits in the late 1970s. Her original refit took place in 1981 by her current owner. After numerous upgrades, Amorita rejoined the ranks of the New York Yacht Club in 1995.

Long a local favorite, Amorita was a regular part of the classic yacht-racing scene when she literally was cut in half



Onne van der Wal photo

by a much larger boat during the Robert H. Tiedeman Regatta on July 7, 2007; the whole thing caught on camera by local photographer Billy Black. Thankfully, no one was seriously hurt, and now after a major restoration, the boat is back in Newport.

Described by world-renowned yacht

designer David Pedrick as “a rare and irreplaceable antique,” Amorita is indeed a jewel of Newport Harbor:

*“On the Water,” a weekly feature that highlights local and visiting boats of interest to the area, is produced by freelance writer Will Tuthill.*

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

Regular features on the Local & State section front:

**Monday:** ‘On the Water,’ highlighting local and visiting boats of interest.

**Tuesday:** ‘Off the Clock,’ taking a look at the extracurricular activities Newport County residents are passionate about.

**Wednesday:** ‘Remember When?’ What was making the news this month in history.

**Thursday:** ‘Then & Now,’ produced in conjunction with local historical organizations.

**Friday:** ‘Reading Reaps Rewards,’ tracking Newport’s summer literacy program.