



The Bristol Yacht Club MAINSHEET

Highlights of 2021 BYC Annual Meeting

Nearly 100 BYC members attended the 2021 Annual Meeting on November 14, held at the BYC Clubhouse for the first time since 2018. About 30 of the 100 members participated by Zoom.

In his review of the financial results for the year, Treasurer Peter Maloney reported that the Club exceeded budgeted net income for the year by almost \$12,000. Peter proposed and members approved the operating and capital budgets for 2022. Because dues and fees have not kept up with inflation, there will be an increase of \$100 in annual dues, \$200 in the new member initiation fee, and marginal increases in waterfront and storage fees.



The 2021 capital budget includes the ongoing funding for the Dock Replacement/Rebuild project, Clubhouse repairs, new upper deck furniture, and other improvements. A conditional capital expenditure would provide funding for other items, including a Beach Bar tent and enhancements to the launches and workboat if the projected net income significantly exceeds the budget.

Standing in for Waterfront Chair Glen Petaja, Waterfront Co-chair Bill Toohey reported that the Dock Replacement/Rebuild project design has been completed and is well underway with completion of this phase of the project planned in time for 2022 BYC Commissioning.

Standing in for Race Chair Nick Cromwell, Mark Rotsky reported that the Club's racing program ran well with excellent participation in all of the weeknight and Frostbite season races. The US Sailing Team Race Championship drew 144 sailors, with over 40 volunteers supporting this event.

In the final annual report of his term, outgoing Commodore Chris Bjerregaard spoke about the importance of volunteerism at BYC and his pride in the way BYC came together to make the Hinman National Champion Regatta and the Foiling First Clinic a success. He stated that both programs could not have happened without our club members' enthusiasm and volunteerism in every aspect of the endeavors.

Representing the Nominating Committee, Past Commodore Ruth Souto presented the slate of officers for 2021-2023. Their election was approved by acclamation, with Joe Whelan moving up to Commodore. More information the new board members was outlined in the November edition of The Mainsheet. The full team of Flag Officers and Committee is posted at <https://www.bristolyc.com/officers-and-chairs>.



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DECEMBER 2021



A Bylaw revision proposed by Treasurer Peter Maloney was approved unanimously by the membership. The revision allows the number of Senior members of the club who are on active duty in the armed forces (presently there is one) to not be counted against the Senior member limit of 325 specified in the bylaws.

Susan Grandpierre proposed and others spoke in favor of the club holding a spring membership meeting to improve communications between the membership, the Flag officers and the Board; Commodore Joe Whelan agreed to schedule that meeting as a trial for the next two years.

- Roland Gendreau, Secretary

NEW YEAR'S DAY POTLUCK!

After a one-year hiatus, please save the date for our traditional New Year's Day Potluck on Saturday, January 1, 2022 beginning at 12:30 PM.

Details will follow in the Monday e-mails.





House “Boatique” Rocks!

As Frankie Valli would sing...Oh, what a night, late November back in '21, such a special time for Yacht Club FUN! We'll remember such a night!

The House Committee pulled together a sparkling evening of champagne, hors d'oeuvres, mingling, and early Christmas shopping. Our Ship's Store and 14 incredible vendors transformed six-foot tables into individual stores. We had soaps, jewelry, artwork, baked goods, woven products, and even a shoemaker. The fantastic jazz guitar/bass duo Two For The Rhode provided the perfect soundtrack for the evening. Our present and future Commodores participated in this exciting event, and Jim Sallinger captured the evening in photographs.



Photos (clockwise): Pam and Bob Yaylalian with Barry Schrutt; Denise Schrutt with Kirsten Sorensen and Jossy Lownes; Elizabeth Springett of WovenSea Designs; and a BYC tree decorated in Club ornaments

Congratulations to the House Committee for bringing an old Club tradition back to life.

- Rosemary Alden, Member-at-Large



We have an amazing club! We share a newly refurbished house, a well-functioning waterfront, and an incredible location on Bristol Harbor, with infrastructure that other clubs envy. Our vibrant sailing community cruises from Narragansett Bay to the coast of Maine, presents a national championship in dinghies, and hosts an unparalleled weeknight racing program. We provide common ground for young, old, experienced, inexperienced, and serious (and less serious) sailors and boaters who want to enjoy the beauty of Bristol Harbor and Narragansett Bay. How lucky are we? Bristol Yacht Club combines fun social events, great traditions and history, and more than anything, great membership. Our members are open, helpful, and friendly. How great is that?

With all that said, here are my goals for the next two years: (i) do no harm; (ii) do no harm; and (iii) do no harm. Ruth took us through a fire, Chris took us through a pandemic, and unless the locusts show up – and they might – my goal simply is to keep us steady and moving forward.

I do have objectives – not the bright shiny objects that may attract a lot of attention, but rather subtle ones that I think will make this great club even better. These include:

1. Remove vertical silos and create a more horizontal structure in the management of the club. Like the rest of the world, we tend to get into groups, focus on those groups, and become narrow in how we

view our surroundings. In the context of the Bristol Yacht Club, we have committees, such as House, Social, Waterfront, EBSF, Race, and Grounds. These groups tend to work independently of each other. My hope is that they will be more integrated as we go forward. For example, Social and House Committees would be completely symbiotic, and Race, Waterfront, EBSF, and Grounds would work seamlessly together. I do not see this as difficult to achieve, but really a small change in the direction of how people see the path forward. I will be asking committees to focus on this notion, to meet together and maybe prepare budgets together

2. Objective two is a subset of objective one: Continue to better define the relationship between BYC and EBSF. In large part, I view this as a matter of EBSF better defining itself and all of us becoming better educated about the history of EBSF and what it does for BYC and its future. My hope is that every BYC member will be proud and supportive of EBSF, and every non-BYC member who participates in EBSF will be appreciative of all that BYC does for EBSF.

3. The Executive Committee should resume work on the strategic plan – just as we said we would when we paused to assess the EBSF/BYC relationship – by identifying remaining recommendations to the membership and, if approved, move forward. I am confident that everyone will be pleased with how much of the strategic



Commodore's Corner

plan has already been implemented, but I know there is more work to be done. One capital expenditure project that seems to have strong support is the construction of an out-building that could double as a workspace and a home for EBSF. Chris Bjerregaard will lead this charge. The project could be funded entirely by EBSF through fundraising before a shovel hits the ground.

Beyond these objectives, there are a few “like to haves” that I could see coming together in the next few years, and maybe some reaches. We can – and should – get a better handle on our IT situation while at the same time improving the membership experience by having a fully integrated IT system. A strengthened IT infrastructure would allow for better security and allow people to have a member number so that they could charge drinks, meals, events, and dues directly from their bank accounts. We also might seek a full-time bookkeeper (current cost is approximately \$30,000 per year who would also serve as the House Manager and facilitate events and rentals. A modest increase in rentals along with the

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savings of the bookkeeping expense may render this cost-neutral with a very big move forward for membership experience.

I see the opportunity for better cooperation and collaboration with other clubs on the bay. Should we co-host events or races with Barrington Yacht Club? Could we find a better use for the Prudence Island property? What about joint cruises with Barrington, Ida Lewis, or East Greenwich? Perhaps a BYC cruise in the BVIs in the spring of 2023?

Some or none of these things may happen, but I go back to the beginning. We have a great club, and the goal remains: Do no harm!

Volunteerism is the engine of our club, and as I was reminded recently, we do not say “thank you” enough. So here are a few for those that went off the Executive Committee this term: Thank you Catherine Murray, Tom Pasqual, Kristin Browne, Pete Levesque, and Ruth Souto! Your hard work is appreciated.

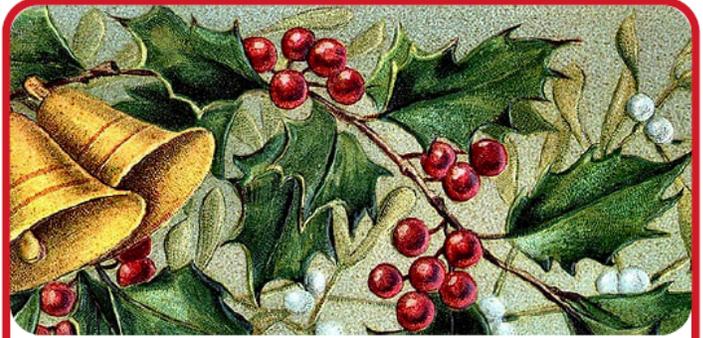
- Joe Whelan, Commodore

Peggie Perrotto and “Cap” Woodruff: Recognizing Two Longtime Friends of BYC

There is a long arc of time to communities, including our community here at Bristol Yacht Club. And sometimes, it is important to pause and recognize people who have considerably impacted our commuover many years. This month, two people in particular deserve such recognition.

Peggie Perrotto, who recently applied for “Old Salt” membership status, along with her husband Tom, has been a member at the Club for 49 years. Over that time, she was Club Secretary for 30 years and served variously on the Membership, Waterfront, Grounds, and Social Committees. As longtime travelers on their Catalina *Tom Foolery*, she and Tom have spent many a happy day cruising with BYC members in Florida,

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Saying Thank You to BYC Staff

As we move into the Holiday Season, please express your thanks to our BYC staff members for their many contributions this season by contributing to the 2021 Staff Holiday Fund. Between now and December 15, send your check of appreciation, payable to BYC, to POB 180, Bristol, RI 02809. Note on the memo line “Staff Fund.” Funds collected will be distributed to staff during the holidays. Should you wish to send a special thank you to individual staff members, here are their addresses.

Chief Steward

Chris Healey 46 Sowams Road, Barrington, RI 02806

Dockmaster

Peter Turenne 83 Burton Street, Bristol, RI 02809

Launch Drivers

Peter Dwyer 34 Bayview Avenue, Bristol, RI 02809

Stephanie Erickson 44 Rocky Crest Road, Cumberland, RI 02864

Peter Forsberg 67 Hillside Road, Greenwich, CT 06830

Brice Giblin 1500 Main Road, Westport, MA 02790

Ryan Gray 16 Stanton Road, Portsmouth, RI 02871

Daniel Grover 20 Thomas Street, Barrington, RI 02809

Harley Hayes 38 Pelham Street, Newport, RI 02840

Patrick Monaghan 1 Musquit Road, Medway, MA 02053

Zoe Mouligne 7 Edmund Lane, Bristol, RI 02809

James Nott 3 Third Street, Portsmouth, MA 02871

Steven Sammis 110 Pine Street, Rehoboth, MA 02769

Dock Hands

Braeden Flaherty 15 Frederick Drive, Barrington, RI 02806

House Hand

Brendan Adams 12 Opechee Drive, Bristol, RI 02809

Bartenders

Kimberly Bottomley 57 Belvedere Drive, Bristol, RI 02809

Morgan Chaves 1202 Hope Street, Bristol, RI 02809

Bridget Flaherty 15 Frederick Drive, Barrington, RI 02806

Laura Leal 3 Larson Court, Bristol, RI 02809

Kyle MacGovern 14 Tilbury Drive, Bristol, RI 02809

Stacy O’Shaughnessy 37 Opechee Drive, Bristol, RI 02809



the Bahamas, and other lovely warm places. Today she continues to serve the Club, sending condolence notes and donations to families on behalf of the Club for members who pass away.



We all owe Peggie an enormous thanks for her efforts in making this Club as wonderful as it has been and continues to be today. We are grateful to count you among our “Club Family.”



On a more somber note, we bid one of our longtime members, Spofford “Cap” Woodruff, goodbye. Cap died peacefully in Middlebury, Vermont, on Sunday, November 14, 2021. He was 91 years old. For many decades, Cap was an active member at BYC and a supporter of Save the Bay. He was never happier than when sailing—whether cruising with his family, skippering a big race, or crewing on a friend’s boat. Memorial donations may be made to Homeward Bound, 236 Boardman St, Middlebury, VT 05753, to honor Cap and his lifelong love of animals. (Source: Addison County Independent. <https://bit.ly/3FTSKOH>)

It’s Only A Name...

Have you ever wondered how a particular boat acquired its name? Peter Canzone (Commodore 2007 - 2009) gives us the answer.

Boat: *True Love*, Pearson 36

Owners: Bill and Barbara Petrocelli

Why the name *True Love*? Barbara provides this answer:

When we bought *True Love* 19 years ago, the previous owner had already picked the name based on the movie *High Society* where there is both a boat and a song bearing that name. The song begins “Suntanned, windblown; Honeymooners at last alone; Feeling far above par; Oh, how lucky we are” (and so on). You can hear Bing Crosby and Grace Kelly croon their way through the whole song here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZ1ZLiyGrEQ>. We kept the name because it was and is perfect.

We often say that we might love our boat more than any other family in the club (in kidding of course.) It’s perfect for us – just enough space, speed, fun and comfort. We can’t count how many weekends, vacations, and day trips we have enjoyed on our boat. And yet we never stop loving that feeling when we step onto the deck from the launch, pause to admire the view, and start opening the boat up again for another lovely voyage. It really is a true love for both of us, hopefully for a long time to come.



P.S. We have contemplated naming our dinghy *Fling* as a joke since it goes away and comes back. We have never quite gotten around to it. Maybe this coming summer. It would be a hoot!

So...Now you know how the name *True Love* was chosen for Barbara and Bill’s boat. If you have a name you would like to submit, please email me, Peter Canzone, at americanart1@aol.com.



The Fall Dock Haul - 2021

November 5th's BYC dock haul was a triumphant success. The season has been so full of energy that the last big outdoor volunteer event had its largest turnout in many years, 52 people. The take-away order for good weather was delivered shortly after 8:00 AM with bright sun and temperatures that warmed from the thirties into the forties, headed for the fifties at lunchtime. The wind was light from the north, so no waves, just as ordered.

Following gourmet coffee, juice, and muffins from the Breakfast Bar crew of Jane Guinther and Rosemary Alden, the safety briefing was concise and to the point, emphasizing "don't rush, be safe, speak up if something doesn't look right, and wear hard hats in the zone." The BYC staff had done another excellent job preparing for this event by raising/lowering the ramps, loosening up the dock connection bolts, and assembling the neighbors' floats on moorings. With volunteers strategically deployed, the floats steadily flew from the water to their designated landing spots on the lawn. Each year the puzzle of which floats should be where is adjusted to facilitate maintenance or other projects. This year's big project is modifying several floats to be deployed in new positions in the Dock Expansion Plan, debuting in the spring of 2022.



The House Committee kept everyone fed and happy.



The quonset hut team worked together to finish early.

Shoreside, the volunteers did a great job of stowing away the outdoor Adirondack chairs and other furniture and assembling the second Quonset hut in which our launches will be stored and serviced during the winter. Finishing first, this crew had deck side seats to watch the last few scenes of dripping floats ballet. The entire crew enjoyed a hearty lunch of hot and cold sandwiches, cookies, coffee, and beer. The satisfaction of doing tangible work with a good team and a real reward at the end was palpable as people chatted about the day's work, the days gone by, and the days to come.

- John Bell, Waterfront Committee



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A Scary Night at the Clubhouse

The BYC Halloween Costume Contest was a scary success – thanks to the contribution of so many members, notably the Gilmore Family/crew.

Daisy, Jim, Salamon, and Audrey hosted the event as Morticia, Gomez, Uncle Fester, and Wednesday (Audrey also doubled as Thing). The group led us in laughter, enjoyment, and dancing right through the night. Thank you, Gilmore crew!!

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Photos (clockwise): Daisy, Jim, Salamon, and Audrey Gilmore; Steve and Nancy Barron with Bill and Kathy Toohey; Carole and Ed Mansur; Gina and James Croce; and Terri and Chris Hughes



Photos (clockwise): Carol and Jack Pino; Dave and Jane Guinther with Susan Maloney; Kimberly Bottomly; Peter and Susan Maloney; and Jim Dollins and MJ Finkenstaedt

Also to be saluted for their contribution to the event are our very own Sea Captains Chris Bjerregaard, JP Mouligne, David Schwartz, and Joe Whelan. Thanks to their generosity and spirit, we awarded sailing excursions on their yachts to the three winners of the costume contest.

Numerous members donated hours of their time and talent to bring this event together. On the “creative” team were Sarah O’Neil, who designed the logo for the event, and Jim Gilmore, who created the set for the Addams Family skit, including a working Thing box, through which Thing made several appearances that night.

Several other Social Committee members showed up to dress the club in skeletons and cobwebs and prepare it for the Frankenstein feast. Susie Holloway painted pumpkins for centerpieces, and Terri Hughes and MJ Finkenstaedt saw to the delicious fare and dinnertime entertainment.

First prize in the costume contest went to Steve Barron, who dressed as the Mad Hatter. The second prize went to Dave Guinther, dressed as a scarecrow, and the third prize went to Gina Croce, attired as Frida Kahlo.

- MJ Finkenstaedt, Social Committee Member



Diamond Days Launch BYC Frostbite Season



Black Diamond Harry Anderson Reach

Four weeks into the BYC Frostbite Season (BYC FBS), “diamonds on the bay” have served up 11 races for 18 frostbiters. We have had more boats sign up this year — 30 in total — than in any year previously, including six in the RS Aero class. We expect more sailors to sign up in January.

In addition, this year for the first time, we are doing something new by breaking the season into two race series, a fall season that ends on December 18 and a winter season that begins on January 8.

Mother Nature reminds us that not all “diamonds” are created equal. We’ve seen gentle diamonds, black diamonds sparkling on two-foot whitecaps, and far away diamonds that never made it from Narragansett Bay into Bristol Harbor. These are all part of sailing from October to April.

Our fleet comes from RI and eastern MA; many drive an hour-plus to sail. The draw? Bristol Harbor’s protected setting, BYC’s outstanding facilities, easy launching, hot water baths for boats and drivers,

and our Chartroom for post-race drinks and debriefing. Most importantly, we boast an experienced Race Committee that delivers 6-8 diverse races each day.

Unlike the Millard Series, we set penguin flags to provide a variety of windward, leeward, and triangle courses. Have you ever sailed a Harry Anderson course? If not, check it out on our Frostbite Website (www.bristolyc.com/frostbiting). There you will find all race docs, registration links, FAQs, results, and photo directories.

On Saturdays, you may find teenagers and “oldsters” helping each other rig, launch, and retrieve. Men and women, experienced sailors and not-so, all enjoying the ability to race year-round in (mostly) enjoyable settings. Yes, it can get cold, and not all frostbiters sail in all conditions, but what our frostbiters do enjoy is the camaraderie of our fleet characterized by welcoming, open, and sharing sailors.

Robin Crocker deserves a shout-out for her determination to frostbite while learning to tame a Laser

for the first time, as does Tiverton Science teacher Courtney Kingsley. Courtney, who teaches at Sail Newport, is also new to Lasers. Technology editor Faye Flam, graphic designer Judith Krimski, and hospital chaplain Toni Sacco add years of frostbiting experience to our fleet.

Of course, many crossings, roundings, and strategies are shared over soup and drinks in the Chartroom following each Saturday session. We encourage the daily top three sailors to share their words of wisdom in our post-race email—where to start, which side of the start line to favor, how to trim, tactics, and the best downwind path to success. You can find their comments on our results page (<https://www.bristolyc.com/race-results>). Not surprisingly, new BYC member David Crawley is a frequent “wisdom” contributor, as he’s currently in first place in the Laser Fall Series.

Speaking of scoring, racing wouldn’t be racing without results. For frostbiting, we created a

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straightforward, low-point system with one primary goal: increasing participation. Anytime you race, you can only improve your position in the series. Even if you miss the first race or retire to the Chartroom early, your score is going to go up!

Frostbiting is not for everyone. However, everyone who frostbites is extending their sailing season, keeping in practice for the Millard Series, enjoying those diamonds, tuning their boat-handling and tactical skills, and making new friends.



Lasers at the start line in the first race of the season

Registration is open, so join us now or get your “boat” in gear for the Winter Series starting January 8.

- Dave Guinther, Frostbiting Series Co-Chairperson

Update on the Dock Rebuild/Expansion Project from the Waterfront Committee

Dock Rebuilding Efforts are Well Underway

This fall, BYC Waterfront volunteers have been busy preparing for the 2022 Dock Rebuild / Expansion. Our previously described plan is to move the outer dock system (all new floats) further east and add a series of three floats south of the dock house. This float system will be composed of repurposed “old outer floats” and add approximately 180 linear feet of new docking area. To make this happen, the volunteers have inspected the floats, repaired weaker areas, added more floatation for a new ramp that will be installed, and adjusted the hardware that holds the floats in position to fit their new location.

Existing Floats Emerge from The Operating Room Transformed to Serve a New Role

Another major change is to double the length of the launch float. To accomplish this without buying a new float, the Waterfront volunteers transformed BYC’s existing 7,000 lb. trapezoidal launch float to serve in its new role. After first cutting 4’ off the long side, the team squared off the previously angular end, relocated the current “tubs” (floatation),



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and attached new hardware to hold the repurposed dock in its new position. We have also repurposed the current main ramp float to extend the launch float by 30'. The launch boats will tie up at the north end of this float. These huge steps were accomplished over the four days immediately following the November 5th "dock haul" event, and are the culmination of tons of planning, detailed analysis, and the sweat and toil of 9 to 12 volunteers on each of the workdays. Congratulations on a terrific accomplishment. Way to go, team!!

The project to reuse existing floats in the new dock layout provides the Club with additional dockage with a replacement cost exceeding \$65,000. Next up is the planned "winter desk work." The new outer float system that the Club is purchasing will have cleats located every 10', just like the old floats. To be good stewards of the Club's resources, the Waterfront Committee has decided to splice dock lines to each of the more than 50 cleats themselves, rather than contract out that work. This "winter desk work" will be much easier done seated, indoors, at table height, before the cleats are installed on the new floats.

These are your volunteers. Commend them, celebrate them, and join them when you can.

- John Bell, Waterfront Committee

Share your Holiday Cheer with BYC Holiday Decorations and Cards

Visit www.bristolyc.com/ships-store to order today.



A new BYC greeting card - featuring our Clubhouse's festive front door - is now available in the Ship's Store.



This special edition ornament shows our Clubhouse following the 2018 fire and renovation. A limited quantity is available for \$20 each.



A nice reminder from one of our own of how lucky we are to have our wonderful community, facility and staff at the Bristol Yacht Club. It is truly something to celebrate and be thankful for.

I Rented The Use of THE CLUB FACILITIES
 For A surprise Reception For my wife ^{CHRISTINE}
 I've BEEN A member For 53 years & was
 Commodore FROM 1977-1978. I WAS VERY
 impressed with How BEAUTIFUL OUR CLUB is FROM
 Stem to Stern. We sometimes TAKE THINGS FOR
 GRANTED I GUESS I DID BUT WILL FOREVER BE
 GRATEFUL FOR WHAT WE HAVE ESPECIALLY SINCE OUR
 BEAUTIFUL RENOVATIONS
 We Also compliment OUR CHIEF STEWARD CHRIS
 Henley For His Attention TO DETAIL.

Sincerely,
 Herb & CHRIS BROWNE

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