



MAINSHEET

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISTOL YACHT CLUB

DECEMBER 2023

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual meeting of The Bristol Yacht Club was held Sunday, November 19 at 4:00 pm

Thank You to Club Secretary Roland Gendreau for the meeting minutes as transcribed below

The Annual Meeting was held on November 19 at the BYC Clubhouse. Nearly 90 BYC members attended with a dozen of the members participating 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 \$65,000. Peter presented and members approved the proposed operating and capital budgets for 2024. Senior dues will increase by \$50, launch fees by \$15 and waterfront storage fees will increase marginally in an effort to keep up with inflation. Funding is also needed to address increases in insurance premiums. Additional staff funding will be available to clean up after house and social events, reducing the extra work that committee volunteers had been tasked with.

The 2024 capital budget includes significant additions to Waterfront reserves to fund the future phase of the Dock Replacement Project, in addition to launch refurbishment and maintenance. Additions to the House reserves will help cover the cost of a new roof, which is thought to be due for replacement in the near future.

Standing in for Waterfront Chair Glen Petaja, Waterfront Co-chair David Schwartz reported that the next phase of the dock rebuild project is on hold as the existing docks are still not at end of life. The committee is looking at ways to extend the life of the main pier and improve the ability of the waterfront and clubhouse to minimize damage from severe storms.

Representing the Nominating Committee, Past Commodore Ruth Souto presented the slate of officers for 2023-2025. Their election was approved by acclamation with Paul Redman moving up to Commodore. For more information on the new board members see the article on p. 3 of this issue. On behalf of the Executive Committee and members of the Bristol Yacht Club, incoming Commodore Paul Redman, thanked Joe Whelan for his friendship, leadership and selfless dedication to the club. In response, those in attendance showed their appreciation for Joe with a standing ovation. Paul went on to thank the nominating Committee for putting forth a great slate of officers and expressed how lucky he was to serve with this group and honored to be the Bristol Yacht Club's 56th Commodore.

A Bylaw revision proposed by John Bell for the Financial Advisory Committee was approved by the membership. Key changes to the bylaws are intended to formalize the duties of the Executive Committee to manage to budget, minimize unbudgeted spending, and manage the spending of reserves.

A second Bylaw revision, proposed by Membership Chair Lee Dawson, was also approved by the membership. This revision provides the ability for past BYC members to rejoin the club as an Old Salt if they meet the age and membership longevity requirements; they would then pay a reduced Old Salt initiation fee and dues.

Link to Annual Meeting presentation:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/6m7x71r6n2wg9gg758zx/BYC-Annual-Meeting-Master-final.pdf?rlkey=wnrvi4xrtf0j1gehxtdev8e6&dl=0>



COMMODORE'S CORNER

PAUL REDMAN

I recall 48 months ago, then again 24 months ago, joking with Chris Bjerregaard and Joe Whelan after their first Executive Committee meeting, *one down, twenty-three to go!* What is impressive to me is how quickly those next twenty-three months passed in both cases. In a blink of an eye, their terms were over. Well, now it's me and our new board with 23 months left. One of our Past Commodores wrote to me this past week, "Button up Buttercup." It's go time!

With nine new Executive Committee members joining the board, my first priority is to orient the new members and then, by February, have alignment across the Executive Committee on the goals and opportunities ahead for this board. This effort started during our first board meeting.

The flags and I borrowed the Board Orientation section of the Operations Manual published in 2014, updated it, and shared it with the New Executive Committee. That was sufficient to get everyone into DropBox and understand general expectations around the administrative part of being on the board. We have updated and will be addressing the financial disbursement and guideline sections next.

A weekend Executive Committee meeting is planned for after the holidays. Roland and Peter will start the meeting by reporting on BYC membership and financial trends, followed by a facilitated SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis. We will then concentrate on areas we can focus on as a board over the next couple of years. We intend to leave the meeting with a high-level understanding of these areas needing attention. Then, we will work with the Executive Committee and subcommittees on solutions and new opportunities in the areas uncovered during the SWAT analysis.

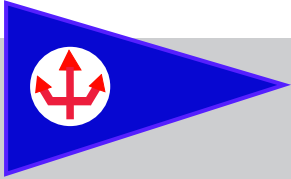
Meanwhile, the days are flying by, and we find ourselves in the middle of the holiday season. Given the nightly news and the craziness in the world, how lucky we are to have BYC as our happy place and home away from home. I look forward to seeing you at the Charlie Enright Event and the not-too-distant New Year's Day Potluck.

Loren and I wish you all happy holidays, good health, peace, and prosperity in 2024!

-Paul Redman
Commodore

Have you ever wondered how a particular boat acquired its name?

WHAT'S IN A NAME? **TEMPEST**



Peter Canzone asks this question each month to a BYC member and provides the answer in this column.

Tempest is a Catalina 320 owned by Jason Conley and Chris Silvia. Why the name Tempest? The answer is best described in Jason's own words:

Should a boat's name be personal or a cultural touchstone? The origin of our boat's name turned out to be a combination of both.

Chris is a literature teacher and a theatre director, so he wanted the boat to be some kind of literary or mythological reference connected with the ocean. The problem was that so many possibilities were either already taken, or too obvious. Chris is a big Shakespeare fan, so Caliban came to mind, but did we want our boat named for a morally questionable fish-monster? Not the best fit!

Nothing seemed exactly right....

We tried the personal route. We thought about our origins as sailors; we had both taken up sailing fairly late in life, in our 30s shortly after moving to Bristol. We had the benefit of fantastic BYC mentors: Paula Langello, Peter Maloney, and especially Ray Renaud. Ray was so trusting with us, even in the early days, and let us take his Sea Sprite Fur Elise out on our own. It's amazing how quickly you learn under pressure, when your hands alone are on the helm and the sheets. Our very first solo sail started so well...until the weather took an unexpected turn. The stormy weather hit quickly and sharply, as if to say, "You think you're real sailors, huh? Let's find out!" Needless to say, we were like a comedy routine come to life. Jamming halyards and stalling our small outboard, we were slapped in the face with the power of the elements (not to mention our luffing sails!). We grabbed a random mooring to gather ourselves just in time to see Ray pass by in Aggressive, waving with an ear-to-ear grin.

This fond memory suddenly gelled with the literary angle. Shakespeare's final and most nautical play, *The Tempest*, begins and ends with a fateful sail and its title, meaning "the storm," seemed a perfect reference to our first solo sail.

Now you know how the name Tempest was chosen for Jason and Chris's boat. If you have a name you would like to submit, please send me an email.

Peter Canzone at americanart1@aol.com

December Chart Room Hours

As we look forward to the holidays, please note the Chart Room will be open limited hours in December.

In general, the Chart Room will be open most Saturdays from 3:00 - 7:00 PM and on Friday nights when another special event is being held at the Club.

Specific details are provided below.

Friday, January 26 - TGIF beer tasting. More details to follow

Saturday Hours:

The Chart Room will be open Saturdays from 3:00 to 7:00 PM except on December 23, and December 30

The BYC Mainsheet is published monthly. Club members are encouraged to submit story suggestions and photos by emailing byccomms@gmail.com. Editor: Mary Beth Taylor

MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE BYC EXECUTIVE BOARD

A new slate of officers were voted in during the annual meeting

In their own words, they have provided a glimpse into their background as well as their view to the future for Bristol Yacht Club

Donna Bettencourt-Glavin Social Committee



"I joined the Bristol Yacht Club in 2010 after completing beginner and advanced sailing lessons at the Club, officially joining after my husband passed away in 2009. I purchased my 32 foot Bristol Sloop *Charisma* in 2014 and have enjoyed recreational sailing in local waters. My experience includes various leadership roles in educational fields as Principal and Assistant Superintendent, in addition to participation on various Executive Boards for non-profit organizations, including Coggeshall Farm, The Community String Project, and the International Reading association.

My goal, as Social Committee Chair is to provide fun activities for our members, and to create evenings that members look forward to attending."



Charlie Payne Grounds Committee

"BYC became the focus of my sailing and social life after recently joining the club and moving to Bristol. I am pleased to serve as Grounds Chair—my goals being (1) to follow member input to maintain and improve our landscaping and outdoor facilities, and (2) to keep expenses low, using volunteers wherever possible.

The immediate need we have is for (1) additional committee members and/or (2) volunteers with expertise in landscape design and maintenance to serve as advisers. Please contact me if you have an interest, and I promise we will make it fun and productive."

Lee Dawson Membership Committee

"I look forward to my new role as chair of the BYC Membership Committee. My husband, Tom, and I have enjoyed sailing in Narragansett Bay for the past 11 years and joined the Club in 2019. We are the proud owners of *Allegro*, a burgundy colored Beneteau 423s. A native of Massachusetts, Tom and I have 2 adult children and split our time between homes in Hopkinton, MA and Bristol. When not out on the water, I enjoy gardening, biking and traveling. I look forward to welcoming new members to the Bristol Yacht Club Community."



Christopher Brito Member at Large

"A native Bristolian, I began sailing at the Bristol Yacht Club at 5-years old and continue to race under the Bristol Yacht Club burgee today at age 37. I am passionate about the preservation of the BYC as a sailor's club, its tradition of celebrating youth and young member sailing, and promotion of the membership's presence in regional, national and world competitions. In addition to BYC, I am a member of the Herreshoff Marine Museum Reliance Society and the New York Yacht Club. You can find me at the helm of the *J/121 Incognito* on the race course and with friends on my Hunt picnic boat *Bird Dog*."



Brian Fitzgerald Waterfront Committee

"I joined the Club in 2018 with my wife, Julie, after participating in Club cruises as a guest. Being a life-long sailor, having spent summers sailing and boating on a pond in western Massachusetts; Julie and I have cruised extensively in the Western Atlantic from Grenada to the Canadian border and organized the Club's 2021 and 2023 Maine Cruises.



I have served on the Waterfront Committee for several years, leading the committee's resiliency working group, to develop new protocols for protecting BYC's waterfront in the face of rising sea levels and communicating with members through tiered warnings in the event of major

storms. I plan to focus on ensuring that all members have access to a fully functional waterfront and expanding committee membership. The committee will undertake projects to: extend the life of the pier by "hardening" it against hurricanes in the near-term; plan for its replacement later this decade with a taller pier to account for sea rise; and, work with the Chief Steward and Dock Master to continuously maintain the moorings, floats, launches and workboat".

Rachel Porkorny Junior Activities Committee

"I joined the club in 2022 with my husband and two sons. My fondest memories of growing up are with family and friends at my hometown yacht club on Long Island. I had been searching for a place to connect with others over my love of sailing and teach my boys to love sailing as well. BYC has been just that place!



Sailing has the ability to teach countless life lessons like patience, resourcefulness, teamwork and problem solving. My goal was always to provide young sailors with the chance to create the same amazing memories I have of my childhood yacht club. The community that exists at BYC is truly unmatched and I am excited to be part of it. As chairperson my hope is to be able to provide families at BYC a chance to create their own amazing memories at our youth events. We have some great things in store so stay tuned for a fun year!"



Susan Grandpierre Instructional Committee

"As the new chair of the EBSF Instructional Sailing Committee I hope to help this heroic group bring the delights of sailing and seamanship to children in our extended BYC community. I have taught adult sailing at EBSF and in Vero Beach, where I got a Level One Sailing Instructor's Certificate. Coming from a racing family, I have avidly skippered 110s out of City Island, NY and crewed on Atlantics in Westport, CT. My husband, Donald, and I have been BYC members over 20 years and took *True Blue*, our C&C 30, on many annual BYC cruises. Recently, I learned a lot about the program's operations working with the EBSF Focus group and last year helped develop the SOPs governing EBSF-BYC interoperation.

Each year committee members and volunteers work with BYC's Officers, Board and Staff to deliver this amazing program with its many moving parts to so many people— children and adults. It's a miracle. And so is the generous moral and financial support from BYC members, parents and community friends. I look forward being part of this great collaboration next season."

Steve Barron House Committee

"My wife, Nancy, and I joined the Club in May of 2020. Sailing is my passion. As a 10-year old my father taught me to sail and race out of the Detroit Yacht Club. *Blessings* is my first boat, a Morgan 38cc. Most recently, I led the Cruise Committee. I am excited to head up the House Committee and I hope to learn the inner workings of our Club. My skills as a leader, good listener, engineer and delegator can augment the diverse skills of the House Committee and continue the amazing work led by Jane Guinther over the last two years.



My goal is to make the house a safe, comfortable, and enjoyable place to meet new friends and promote boating. I will focus on continuing to improve the Vic's Galley experience so that more people will come to the Club for food and friendship. I also plan to review and improve the bar offerings. Feel free to come to me with your questions, comments or concerns".

continued on p.5



EAST BAY SAILING FOUNDATION NEWS

We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. At EBSF we are deeply grateful to the more than 40 members, nonmembers, friends and parents who volunteered to give BYC members' and our extended community's children an introduction to the joys and fun of sailing with EBSF's sailing classes. It takes so many of us at BYC to make this program successful.



Pictured Above: Susan Grandpierre, BYC Instructional Committee Chair and her grandson Michael, age 7

If you're looking for a wow of a stocking stuffer, seek no more: sailing lessons could be just the thing. Youth enrollment opens January 1, and January 31 for adults.

You can't start children too young with sailing: When you take your children or grandchildren out on your big grown-up boats, give them the helm! Our granddaughter Emily first took the helm of our O'Day 192 when she was 18 months old. By age 3 1/2 she took on a Cal 37. Kids are thrilled to steer a big boat and that experience could lead them to learning to sail boats they can handle on their own.

Grandparents, even if your kids don't sail, your grandchildren might! Our son and daughter-in-law weren't sailors, but all three of their children became racing sailors through good instruction and coaching at their local boat club. Besides, it's so fun! And they make great friends.

In this Holiday season of giving, we hope you will remember EBSF in your plans. Your gifts will help us keep our boats and equipment in safe and tip-top condition, ready for kids and adults to use next season. And they are tax deductible, too. To make a donation, follow the easy steps below.

You can Venmo us at @EBSFRI, or donate using PayPal or your credit card on our secure EBSF website www.eastbaysailingfoundation.org or mail checks to:

East Bay Sailing Foundation
PO Box 855
Bristol, RI 02809

Thank you all for your support of East Bay Sailing Foundation.
Wishing a Merry Christmas to you and your families!

Susan Grandpierre
Instructional Committee

FROSTBITE FACTS

The Fleet Keeps Getting Bigger and Better!

21 Aero and Laser Sailors (5 BYC members) from Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Washington State

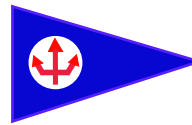
52 races over five days

Eight BYC members have volunteered as PRO, driver, mark set and scoring in support of Super-Frostbite-PRO Will Pierce

Newest BYC member to sail is Molly Gregory, a new intermediate member

For more information or to join the fleet contact **Dave Guinther, Frostbite Fleet Captain**





NOVEMBER EVENTS AT BYC

In the Kitchen L-R:
Jane Guinther, Robin Crocker, Marti Schwartz, Dianne Miller and Wendy Quinn



SCENES FROM THE HOLIDAY BOATIQUE

It was a magical night. The Club's annual Holiday Boatique on Friday, November 17, was a festive affair, with a full house enjoying a delightful evening of cocktails, appetizers, live music, and holiday shopping. People were all smiles and kudos to the House Committee, who outdid themselves by putting together an exceptional event – from the format and food to the music and vendors. The event featured live music from our popular jazz duo, *Two for the Rhode*, and our eight member artists who showcased their beautiful work for viewing and purchasing.

Steve Barron
House Committee Chair



The Ship's Store Team L-R:
Becky Levick, Barbara Smith, Elizabeth Hanson
Betty Brito and Brenda Munro

Don't Forget! You can always find something for the sailor on your Holiday List by visiting the Ship's Store page on our website:
www.bristolyc.com/welcome-to-store-2



L-R: Janet Gendreau, Susan Maloney and Jossy Lownes

Continued from P.3

COMING UP New Year's Day Potluck

January 1, 2023 - 12:30 PM

Bring your favorite family recipe to our annual potluck luncheon on January 1st to share with other members.

Electrical outlets will be available for crock pots, but please bring any serving utensils required for your dish.

More details to follow in upcoming emails
REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED

Donna Bettencourt-Glavin
Social Committee Chair



Mary Beth Taylor Member at Large

"My husband, Max, and I have been members of Bristol Yacht Club since 2011. At the time, we purchased our 32 foot Shannon *Seabiscuit* right here in Bristol and were instantly hooked on sailing Narragansett Bay. Truth be told, I got the sailing bug quite a bit earlier, when at age 10, I ditched the ballet lessons for a Sunfish and I've never looked back!

Like so many Club members we are drawn to BYC for the camaraderie and relaxed atmosphere that truly make BYC a sailors' club. Max and I currently sail *Pearl*, our Alerion 20, and as I get ready to take on my third tour of duty as a Member at Large responsible for Club communications and *The Mainsheet*, what they say is true, the third time really is the charm!"



Of Note from Roland Gendreau, Club Secretary Recognizing the passing of BYC members

When we become aware that a current BYC member has passed, we will notify members in the weekly and include a link to their obituary if available. BYC will make a donation in the name of the passed member to a charitable cause identified by the family or identified in the obituary and send a sympathy card from BYC to the family. We encourage members to advise the Chief Steward of a member's passing so that we won't miss anyone with this process.

Saying Thank You to Our BYC Staff

As we enter the Holiday Season, please express your thanks to our BYC staff for their many contributions over the past year by contributing to the 2023 Staff Holiday Fund prior to December 15. Donate on-line at: www.bristolyc.com/staff-holiday or send your check, payable to Bristol Yacht Club to: Bristol Yacht Club PO Box 180, Bristol, RI 02809.

Please make a 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.



Chris Healey
Chief Steward
46 Sowams Road
Barrington, RI 02806

Peter Turenne
Dock Master
46 Thompson Avenue
Bristol, RI 02809

Launch Drivers:

Oliver Browne
19 William Street
Bristol, RI 02809

Adriana Colombo
69 Davenport Drive
Stamford, CT 06902

Peter Dwyer
55 Spring Street
Riverside, RI 02915

Brice Giblin
265 Cornell Road
Westport, MA 02790

Ryan Gray
16 Stanton Road
Portsmouth, RI 02871

Kyle Greenberg
22 Chapel Road
Barrington, RI 02806

Daniel Grover
20 Thomas Street
Barrington, RI 02806

Jackson Harney
11 Bridge Street
Warren, RI 02885

Jack Kelty
429 Enterprise Drive
Somerset, MA 02725

Zoe Mouligne
10 Bowen Avenue
Tiverton, RI 02878

James Nott
3 Third Street
Portsmouth, RI 02871

Bartenders:

Kimberly Bottomley
57 Belvedere Drive
Bristol, RI 02809

Sydney Dawson
15 Burton Street
Bristol, RI 02809

Yumiko Chelsea Frazier
54 River Street
Bristol, RI 02809

Tess Kfoury
224 Montgomery Circle
Fall River, MA 02720

Meghan Mascola
10 Lugent Lane
Bristol, RI 02809

Stacy O'Shaughnessy
37 Opechee Drive
Bristol, RI 02809

House Hands:

Brendan Adams
12 Opechee Drive
Bristol, RI 02809

Nathan Calouro
17 Fesser Avenue
Bristol, RI 02809

Dock Hand:

Trent Senn
5 Touisset Road
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