



MAINSHEET

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISTOL YACHT CLUB

JANUARY 2024

11TH HOUR RACING COMES TO BRISTOL YACHT CLUB



Above: Charlie provides a quick view of the in-port stopovers

Below: a capacity crowd at BYC



On December 3rd, distinguished ocean racer and BYC member Charlie Enright provided a multi-media presentation of Team 11th Hour's Ocean Race challenges and ultimate victory. The packed house was glued to their seats listening to Charlie recounting his travels around the globe, including gut wrenching crashes. Charlie described the team's near-loss when, at the start of the last leg, they were T-boned by a competitor and forced to retire from the race. After an excruciating multi-day wait for a decision on redress, the team was awarded enough points to win the competition.

11th Hour Racing also claimed a major victory by successfully encouraging each of the competitors to support ocean scientists by collecting invaluable data from seldom traversed areas of the Southern Oceans. Their samples will lead the charge on ocean sustainability. Charlie explained how it all started here at the BYC: first entering the EBSF program as a student, then as an instructor. BYC members Chris Brito and Peter Levesque, both spoke of their experiences sailing with Charlie over the years. It was Pete, however, who landed the line of the night. While looking straight at Charlie, he said, "Some heroes wear capes while others round them." Bravo, Pete, well said!

Tom Enright left us with his departing story. "When your child has a passion, make it happen. We never said no. We just packed the car with the boat, gear, kids, and headed to the next regatta - CT, NJ, the Chesapeake, Miami, Arkansas ...Life changing!"

It was a fitting end to the evening when Commodore Paul Redman unveiled BYC's new perpetual trophy-***the Enright Outstanding Achievement in Offshore Sailing Award***--which hangs in the Chart Room.

Charlie's name is engraved on the trophy as the first recipient.



L-R: Chris Brito, Charlie Enright, and Paul Redman with the award

To learn more about The Ocean Race and 11th Hour Racing's journey, as well as view some incredible racing footage, visit the official website at:

<https://www.11thhourracingteam.org>



11th Hour Logo and Victory photo courtesy of 11th Hour Racing

-Steve Barron
-Brian Fitzgerald photos

What's in a Name? **HUNGRY PELICAN**



So.....Now you know how the name **Hungry Pelican** was chosen for Aria's and Sareh's boat . If you have a name you would like to submit, please email Peter Canzone at: americanart1@aol.com

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

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

Hungry Pelican is an Oceanis 41 owned by Aria Olumi and Sareh Parangi

Why the name **Hungry Pelican**?

The answer is best described in Aria's own words:

Hungry Pelican is our sailboat's name that refers to an adventurous vessel with a light hearted crew that is curious, enthusiastic about sailing, and has a lively character. Pelicans are known for their voracious appetite, their ability to catch and store fish while swimming because of their long beak with a large pouch. They are social birds that adapt to many different environments. Overall, **Hungry Pelican** evokes a sense of adaptability, teamwork, and a love for exploration and catching opportunities—characteristics that align well with the spirit of sailing.

TGIF FRIDAYS FOR 2024

Friday Night Fun at BYC! Mark Your Calendars Now

Here are the dates for upcoming Friday night events throughout 2024.

More details to come for each event as the date approaches, but mark your calendars now to save the dates.

January 26 February 9 February 23 March 1 March 22 April 12 April 26

Join us on **Friday January 26 from 5-8 pm** for the **3rd annual BYC craft beer tasting!** Representatives from local breweries and Craft Collective will be on hand to sample their offerings. Participants will be able to provide feedback on their favorite beers, with the most popular ones being made available next season in the Chart Room. Light appetizers will be provided by the House Committee and several of the beers will be available for purchase during the event.

A \$5 donation is requested.

Bristol Yacht Club

Craft Beer Tasting

Friday, January 26
5-8pm *

* Chart room will stay
open until 9pm

Light appetizers
provided

\$5 Donation



"Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy."

-Benjamin Franklin

www.bristolyc.com



Warm Weather, New Faces, Dedicated Volunteers Launch BYC 2023-24 Frostbite Season



The Bristol weather gods delivered warm, light-air sailing to kick off the BYC 2023-24 frostbite season. PRO Will Pierce, supported by BYC volunteers, served up seven solid days of competitive racing to both familiar sail numbers and new faces.

Although our first annual "Stuffie Regatta" fell victim to rain and wind, a shirt sleeves (really!) day with 70-plus degree temperatures, light wind,

and a touch of "diamonds on the bay" kicked off our fall series. Then six more days of 50-ish temperatures, with one "frigid" 37degree day sneaking in.

Fall Series congratulations to Eric Aker, Patrick Chokron, and Jeff Curtis for their top positions in the Aero fleet; and to William DeLong, Adam Langerman and Faye Flam who topped the Laser fleet.

The BYC frostbite fleet continues to grow; a visiting AERO racer from Washington state, a URI student and a Quincy, MA, high schooler, new Bristol and Barrington residents (including a soon-to-be BYC intermediate member), and a father and son from Medford, MA. Three new faces sailed chartered boats from EBSF and RWU in the Fall Series; a fourth is coming in January (See Zim Sailing donation to EBSF, also in this month's Mainsheet.)



Add in our regulars from ME, MA, and RI and the BYC Fall Series stats tell the story: 10-15 Laser and Aero sailors on the line enjoying 5-8 races each day in winds ranging from light to moderate to NNW 8-16, gusting to 22. In total, 27 male & female racers ages 17-77, 85 races, and 557 starts over seven Saturdays.

These stats were enabled by a dedicated team of volunteers who spend Saturday afternoons on the water so frostbiters can race. Will Pierce has served as our frostbite

PRO for over 30 years. Pete Turenne drives the safety boat after BYC has been "put to bed" for the Fall. Volunteers Ian Clarke, Nancy Clarke, Steve Crocker, Doug Laroche, Peter Maloney, Sue McKay, Charlie Payne, Bob Yaylaian, and Nick Fontela filled 23 "shifts" as PRO, driver, scorer, and deckhand during the fall series.



How come so many sailors drive hours to frostbite at BYC? The draw? It's Bristol Harbor's protected setting, BYC's outstanding facilities, easy launching minutes from the starting line, hot water baths for boats and drivers, and our Chartroom for post-race drinks and debriefing. Most importantly, an experienced Race Committee that delivers 7-ish diverse races each day. All that topped off with massively supportive camaraderie - a big factor when frostbiting. Come join us!

Photos top to bottom:

1. Lasers heading toward leeward mark. Will Pierce and Charlie Payne in BYC frostbite shack
2. Aeros rounding the mark
3. Lasers and Aeros running downwind

-Dave Guinther
Photos: Peter Maloney

Reserve a spot on the starting line for the Winter Series Saturday, January 6th at <https://www.bristolyc.com/frostbiting> Watch the 1pm races starting from the frostbite shack just off our pier. Join post-race "tech talk" (left or right after start, how to tune for light/heavy air, downwind tactics, and more) guided by daily race winners. Buy drinks in the Chartroom to support BYC. And if you enjoy being on the water, especially on "diamond days," photographers are welcome on the safety boat. If interested, contact Dave Guinther, Frostbite Fleet Captain.



BYC Frostbite Camaraderie

Sailors helping sailors was in play during the last Fall Series Race. With the safety boat moving the windward mark in response to shifty winds, an accidental gybe caught one of our racers by surprise at the leeward mark. Recovering from a downwind capsize to windward is never easy or fun, especially when unexpected. Two racers immediately closed in to offer help; one went in the 43 degree water to expedite righting and return to boat. The other passed on the next race to help with launch ramp recovery and de-rigging. Now that's supportive camaraderie!



Zim Sailing Donates ILCA/Laser Hull to EBSF

Zim Sailing has donated a like new ILCA hull to EBSF for BYC frostbiting and youth regattas. Zim's objective is to increase participation by potential ILCA/Laser sailors year-round who do not currently have a boat.

This 2021 hull from Zim's charter fleet has been fully reconditioned and is in mint condition. We already have it chartered for the BYC Winter Frostbite Series.

Laser charters typically include the hull only. Sailors traditionally bring their own sails, blades, rigging, and even mast sections and booms.

We quickly acquired a new sail, cover, and beach dolly. We are now putting out a call for donations of spars, blades and rigging, including fittings, micro-blocks and line for vang, outhaul, and Cunningham controls. We hope to line up donated equipment as soon as possible. Hats off to John Bell for equipment loan to start BYC Winter Frostbite Series on January 6 without delay!

Please check your garages and basements for "all things ILCA/Laser". If you have any questions or can make an equipment donation, please contact Dave Guinther: dave.guinther@yahoo.com

Thank You Zim Sailing for making this year-round "gift of sailing" possible.

EBSF NEWS



Meet Doug Laroche, former EBSF adult student turned BYC member and now EBSF instructor

“Participating in the EBSF Adult Sailing program has been one of the best decisions I ever made. Full disclosure, I was a more than a little intimidated to learn to sail as an adult, but my desire to get out on the water and realize a lifelong

dream finally won out. The EBSF program was exactly what I was looking for and the instructors couldn't have been more supportive and encouraging!

In 2018 I began with Beginner Mercury sailing, then on to J 22's the following year. With the encouragement of several instructors and existing members of BYC, my family joined the club in 2020 even though we didn't yet own a “real” boat. I was then invited to join the Millard Wednesday night races crewing for other boats and in the summer of 2022, we purchased a Pearson 26. My family and I have been enjoying adventures ever since!

FYI, anyone who says they've never gone aground...well...ha! Suffice it to say, the camaraderie, passion for sailing and willingness to share knowledge at EBSF and BYC is incredible! Such a fantastic group of people! I am now an instructor for the Adult Beginner's class and am honored to be part of such an amazing team! Who says you can't teach an old Doug new tricks!”

This season, please donate to EBSF and help teach more “old dogs” some new tricks! Your donations will help improve the fleet for adult and junior sailors.

To donate, please venmo @EBSFRI, use paypal or credit card, visit our website, or send a check to PO Box 855 Bristol RI 02809.

For all those interested in signing up for EBSF summer classes, registration is opening Jan 1st for Juniors and Jan 31st for adults. We anticipate classes will fill quickly so please do not wait! Visit our website to register:
<https://www.eastbaysailingfoundation.org>



COMMODORE'S CORNER PAUL REDMAN

Happy New Year Everyone!

In case you have not noticed, as of December 23rd we have turned the corner. The days are getting longer, and we can enjoy more daylight each day! Even if it's only 4 seconds, it's a start, and I'll take it!

December was incredibly busy as the Executive Committee transitioned into our new roles. We hosted a very productive “meet and greet” with Bristol Marine. The meeting was attended by Bob Millard, Brian Fitzgerald, Charlie Payne, Steve Barron, Chris Healey, and me, along with key Bristol Marine leadership team members and staff. Beyond simple introductions, the purpose of the meeting was to continue building a positive and productive relationship with our neighbor, opening the possibility of working together on mutually beneficial projects and opportunities. It's a continuation of the good work started by Past Commodore Joe Whelan in establishing a positive relationship with our neighbor. I am unsure if anything concrete will come out of it this year, but having open lines of communication between the two teams is an important step forward.

January signals the beginning of a new year. It's a time of personal reflection, resolutions, and renewal. Are you looking to enrich your life this year? If you are not already volunteering at the club, consider joining a committee and getting involved. January is a great time to do it as it provides an opportunity to meet new people, develop new skills, hone existing skills, and be on the ground floor planning the many exciting upcoming events.

If you need help getting started, feel free to reach out to me or any of our committee chairs directly.

It's great to see sails on Bristol Harbor! Thank you, Dave Guinther and your group of hearty-spirited volunteers and sailors, for keeping our frostbitten fleet alive and well. They are at it every Saturday afternoon and well worth a ride down to the club or Independence Park to watch, or if you are so inclined, talk to Dave on how to get started racing!

As a gentle reminder, please take note of the CDC's Covid guidelines. You will find a link included in weekly emails and below. Covid is no joke and should not be taken lightly. For some, it is no more than a nasty head cold, but for others, it can lead to a hospital stay or even death. Please follow the CDC guidelines and let's keep everyone safe.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

The BYC Mainsheet is published monthly.

Club members are encouraged to submit story suggestions and photos. Contact Mary Beth Taylor, editor.

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS



**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**

BYC Frostbiter Molly Gregory sailing upwind
in an EBSF Laser -Peter Maloney photo



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