



The Bristol Yacht Club MAINSHEET

Happy New Year!

Winter is an unheralded and beautiful time of year on Bristol Harbor. The wind whistling through the rigging of boats on the hard — the chimes of the season — rings in the new year. The sunrises and sunsets seem more intense — more orange and pink. The cold wind also reminds us of the strength of nature and the sea; a good lesson to start the year. Even the smell of the hauled floating docks and their rotting cargo makes me happy and brings hope. And what really makes me happy this time of year is the sound of the starting sequences and the frostbite fleet tacking back and forth across the harbor. A conquering of nature of sorts, but one very much in concert with the nature of the harbor and the engineered world around it. But enough of that. Here are a few miscellaneous items:



Commodore's Corner

On Saturday, January 8, an ad hoc subcommittee lead by Greg Aikman and Phillip Kinder will meet with a mirror committee of members from Barrington Yacht Club to discuss the property on Prudence Island. There is no immediate plan for any change, but rather the beginning of what I hope is a long and thoughtful exploration with Barrington into the best use of the property for both clubs in the future.

As I noted in my last article, I have been reminded that we do not thank people enough. This month I want to highlight one volunteer in particular — Tom Pasqual. Tom served for two terms as the Grounds Committee Chair. I first worked with Tom when I was in that spot and he arrived for the fall cleanup with an industrial leaf blower and a positive attitude to match its power. He has worked tirelessly over the last four years to make the grounds beautiful. He has also been very thoughtful and methodical in how he improved parking and the organization of the property. I feel fortunate that I preceded rather than followed him as Grounds Chair, as he is a hard act to follow. We should all wish Doug Kallfetz, who recently took over as Grounds Chair, good luck! (Although Tom being Tom, he has agreed to stay on and help Doug as Co-Chair). Thank you, Tom!

This pandemic is not going away, notwithstanding Past Commodore Bjerregaard's promise that he took care of it. Because of the fluidity of the circumstances and the guidance and its prevalence all around us, we are not updating rules on the website. Instead, we are pointing you toward the State of Rhode Island's Department of Health guidelines. Most importantly, use common sense. Do not come to the Club if you are not feeling well and when in doubt, exercise caution.



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JANUARY 2022



We will follow the protocols set forth by the Department of Health, and you should plan accordingly. If you come to an event at the Club, plan to have proof of vaccination or be prepared to wear a mask. And ask Chris B. when this is going to end! Enjoy your January!

- Joe Whelan, Commodore



Moonlit anchorage on Mallorca

Join Us January 21 for a Dinner and Presentation **Cruising in Spain and Portugal**

Presented by Jil Westcott and John Bell

The BYC House Committee invites you to join us for the first Friday Night Dinner of 2022, featuring a presentation by Jil Westcott and John Bell on their 2021 cruising in Spain and Portugal. Having left their boat, *Moon Shadow*, in Portugal in November 2019, the thrice rescheduled return to the boat was finally accomplished in early May 2021.

- How did they beat the COVID restrictions?
- What about the CDC recommendations not to travel to Manhattan, never mind Lisbon?
- What is it like passing through the Straits of Gibraltar, with Africa six miles to starboard?
- How could you spend five weeks in the Balearic Islands and then come back for three more weeks only two months later?

Come, learn the answers, and hear a first-hand account of cruisers determined to make it happen.

[Register here.](#)

Who's Cooking on January 21? You Are! Consider the Pastabilities!!

Join the House Committee crew and BYC volunteers to create a fabulous dinner in BYC's spectacular kitchen on January 21.

Work on a team, meet new friends, and serve your Club for ONE day - no committee commitment! We aim to bring low-cost, creative meals to BYC along with providing a great opportunity for YOU to get involved and have some fun.

On January 21 there will be a Cooking Team and a Serving Team. Choose one and come on down! Desserts are also needed (whip up a batch of brownies at home and drop them off at BYC on January 20 to bake in BYC oven, per food licensing rules).

Contact marti.schwartz@gmail.com to sign up for kitchen fun.



Life on Hog

Just two nautical miles from the BYC Clubhouse, Hog Island is a world of its own. In this unique place, generations of families have built a community rich with traditions, history, and lifelong friendships. Recently a group of BYC members and friends with homes on the island shared some of their memories and perspectives on what makes Hog Island such a special place.

“There is something about the Island that just keeps you coming back,” said Sharon Monaghan. “I’ve been going for 55 years to a cottage initially purchased by my great grandparents. Today I have over 80 relatives on the Island, including fourth and fifth cousins. Knowing that many relatives and regularly spending time with them is unheard of today.”

Lifelong and multi-generational relationships among islanders are the norm. Now in his 80s, Ted Maher has spent every summer of his life on Hog Island, first in

cottages built by his great uncle and grandfather, and later in a home he constructed in 1971. Patricia D’Aiello married a second-generation islander, while her daughter, Ashley Medeiros, is confident her kids will carry on the island tradition to become fourth generation residents.

Part of what keeps people coming back is the community, where neighbors visit, chat, and lend a hand in an atmosphere of relaxed conviviality. “If you walk around long enough on the island, you are going to end up helping some friend on a project,” said Scott Davis. “Before you know it, you are fixing a sink or on a roof banging nails. And when someone needs some part or tool, he can usually find it by asking around. That’s how it works on the island. We help each other out.”

For kids, Hog Island offers a magic playground where, unplugged from their electronics and under the



watchful eye of the community, they play outdoors from dawn to dusk while building friendships that will last a lifetime. “As a little girl, I spent every day of the summer with my same group of 20 friends swimming, eating PB&J sandwiches in our fort, boating, and generally being free,” said Jossy Lownes. “We couldn’t get lost or in trouble; everyone was our Mom.”

Ted recalls the independence he enjoyed while growing up on the island. “I remember as a teen rowing to Bristol to go to the movies with my buddy Guy Davis. We stowed our boat on shore, walked to town from Low Lane, enjoyed the movie, and then rowed back in the dark around midnight. My parents never expressed any worry about these trips. They were confident in me. I have a hard time imagining many parents today allowing their kids that much independence.”



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New COVID-19 Safety Protocols at the Clubhouse

Effectively immediately, new COVID-19 safety measures are in effect at the BYC Clubhouse.

Following the State of Rhode Island's latest COVID-19 guidance from December 15, 2021,

All visitors entering the BYC Clubhouse must now show proof that they are fully vaccinated or wear a mask while in the Clubhouse.

As defined by the Rhode Island State Department of Health, being fully vaccinated means that the individual is two weeks out from a second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or two weeks out after a single dose of Johnson & Johnson. It does not include boosters.

Rhode Island's latest COVID-19 guidance is posted here: <https://governor.ri.gov/press-releases/governor-mckee-announces-comprehensive-actions-address-covid-19-cases-and-alleviate>

Thank you for your patience and support as we persevere together through this pandemic.



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: *Quartet*, Lyman Morse 50

Owners: Chris and Beth Fay

Why the name *Quartet*??? The answer is best described in Chris's own words:

“Truth be told, we sold our sailboat back in January of 2020. We closed days before news of COVID hit, which was strange timing given that cruising on one's own boat would undoubtedly have been one of the world's best activities in the summer of 2020.

“The origin story for the name *Quartet* itself may hold the record for the shortest—and perhaps most boring—in your column: There are four of us in our family; my wife Beth, son John, daughter Claire, and me. And we liked the word. Quartet has something to do with music. And sailing, of course, does something for the soul, as music does.



“I will add that compared to *Pentimento*— the name of our Sabre 34, which was my first boat and which served us well for around 20 years — *Quartet* was a hell of a lot easier on the VHF.

“And I am going to end there rather than try to get into the story behind the name *Pentimento*!”

So.....Now you know how the name *Quartet* was chosen for Chris and Beth's boat. If you have a name you would like to submit, please email me Peter Canzone at americanart1@aol.com.



Life on Hog continued from page 3



Jossy says another advantage of raising kids on the island is how it fosters resourcefulness. “Without our parents’ constant hovering, money, or a store, we learned how to make a boat or a fort or do whatever we needed with what was on hand. It was fabulous.” That demand for resourcefulness extends to the adults on Hog. When they can’t share or improvise what they need to make life work, they carefully plan how to move everything — from building materials and golf carts to groceries and furniture — from the mainland to the island.

Perhaps these qualities of independence and resourcefulness, combined with a love of the ocean, are why so many of BYC’s launch drivers grew up on Hog Island. As former BYC launch driver Casey Henchman explained, “Like Ashley and Scott and Sharon’s son Patrick all of whom were launch drivers, I’ve spent my whole life on Hog Island. It’s where I grew to understand that being near the ocean is where I am at home. It led me to go to the Mass Maritime Academy and my career. On a similar

note, Steve and Joyce Buck said, “Our time on Hog Island instilled in us a love for the water and boating, which directly contributed to our decision to pursue years of cruising after retirement.”

With a season that extends from mid-April to Columbus Day, summers on Hog Island are punctuated by a series of annual events that bring off-island guests and residents together. The Island’s 4th of July tradition features a parade of decorated golf carts. After traversing the island, they are judged, with winners receiving prizes of quahog shells.



At an annual Field Day event in August, athletes participate in swimming, boating, and quahog digging competitions in the morning, followed by various races and field games in the afternoon. First prize winners score two dollars; second place finishers earn a dollar. Competition is steep, and athletes have been known to break bones in the fray. Locals come together for dances, trick-or-treating, and steak dinners — all part of everyday life on Hog Island.

“Life on Hog Island is so endearing because of our shared community,” said Scott. “On any summer day on the Island, when I’m done with whatever work I have to do, I hop on my golf cart and take a tour to see what’s going on. There is always someone to talk to and something to talk about. On the Island, we slow down, connect, and escape. That is why we love it there, and that’s why we keep coming back.”



- Barbara Petrocelli, Member at Large



EBSF is Hiring!

As we welcome in 2022, we want to thank all the students, volunteers, and supporters that together make up our local sailing community.

Sailing instruction at BYC brought smiles, joy, relaxation, adventure, and competition to many of you this year, and we are looking forward to seeing you again in the spring. New this year will be Family Sailing classes in J/22s starting in May 2022 and our Foiling First classes. Registration will open this month.

We are hiring a new Program Director and/or Head Instructor. If you know of a good candidate, please introduce us.



MANY WAYS TO SUPPORT SAILING CLASSES

A fun way to help is to charter a J/22 for Wednesday night or Thursday night races. For much less than the cost of owning a boat, all the fun can be yours! You can also charter a J/22 for a weekend event or with an instructor.

Our pre-season work parties and launching parties are another great way to support EBSF. Paint, varnish, rig, and repair the fleet with friends and family while enjoying some coffee and snacks on Poppasquash Point.

Your financial support makes it possible for us to provide the community with equipment, scholarships, and passionate, dedicated instructors. We are asking for your help in supporting the East Bay Sailing Foundation with its mission to run programs that build a community of skilled, self-confident sailors of all ages. Thank you for donating today. It's this easy:

Go to www.eastbaysailingfoundation.org/donate and send your gift via credit card or PayPal. Alternately you can write a check to East Bay Sailing Foundation and mail it to POB 855, Bristol, RI 02809. And remember EBSF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation, so your donation is tax-deductible!

With deepest appreciation for your generosity,
Richard Feeny, Instructional Chair



Wanna Dock?

No, this is not some strange pick-up line but a legitimate offer from your friends on the Waterfront Committee. As we upgrade the outer float system, we have two 10' x 31' surplus floats available on a first-come, first-served basis to BYC members. They are in serviceable condition and ready to be put in the water for the 2022 season. If you're interested, get in touch with Chris Healey as soon as possible. We will advertise them in the *Bristol Phoenix* and will offer them to the Town, as well, to ensure they are repurposed. Priority will be with you, a yacht club member, once you make your wish known to Chris.

- David Schwartz, Waterfront Committee Member

2022 Cruising Events

The BYC Cruising Committee held its first meeting for the upcoming sailing season in December and set a tentative 2022 schedule. Here is a list of cruising events being planned for 2022:

- Gaspee Days Cruise – June 11-12 (Contact Tom Dawson)
- Juneteenth Cruise – June 18-20 (Destination and details t/b/d)
- Annual Week-long Summer Cruise - July 16-23. Tentative destinations are: 3rd Beach, Marion, Plymouth, Red Brook, Quissett, and Cuttyhunk
- VJ Day Weekend Cruise to the Kicky - August 6-8 (Contact Steve Barron)
- Wickford Weekend Cruise - September 17-18 (Contact Roland Gendreau)
- Prudence Island Property Cruise - October 9-10 with Beach Part (Contact Greg Aikman)

Cruising Committee meetings are held at the Club and on Zoom on the 2nd Monday of the month. At the January meeting, we will continue planning for the season, appoint day captains for the annual cruise, set up planning groups for the individual cruises, and work on a survey for the membership.

Join the fun whether you are interested in one or several cruises. The cruises are a great way to get to destinations in and out of the Bay with the security and camaraderie of a group. It is also a terrific way to meet other Club members. Please feel free to contact me directly at rkinder@gklfirm.com or 401-316-6383.

- Ralph Kinder, Fleet Captain



So How Are We Doing?

“If we were meant to talk more than we listen we would have two mouths and one ear.”

- Mark Twain



Mr. Twain had a point. Listening is a great idea; it is how you learn things!

And that is why this spring, the BYC Executive Committee will be doing some extra listening. We invite you to respond to a quick, short, easy survey to hear how you feel about your BYC experience.

The Executive Committee seeks an overall sense of member satisfaction as well as specific feedback on how we can improve members' experience, social and sailing functions, and communication. The survey is still being developed, so if you have thoughts on potential questions, email them to BYCComms@gmail.com. You will see an invitation to respond to the survey in the February *Mainsheet*, in the Club's weekly emails in February, and on our website.

The Executive Committee will share summary results and potential next steps at a special meeting for all members in the spring. Thanks in advance for your support!

- Susan Grandpierre, Member, and Barbara Petrocelli, Member at Large



On November 30, many of BYC's past Commodores got together for their annual dinner at SS Dion. From left to right the group included Jim Dollins, Chris Bjerregaard, Jim Holland, Bob Hamel, David Schwartz, Ruth Souto, Matt Hayes, Anne Quigley, Peter Canzone, Joe Brito, Bruce Cox, and Craig Lippman. What a great looking group of BYC friends and leaders!



SAVE THE DATE FOR
THE SWEETHEART
DINNER WITH WINE
AND CHOCOLATE!



February 12, 2022 - 6:00 PM

Details to come in future e-mails



Friday Night Fun at BYC!

Mark Your Calendars Now

The BYC House Committee has selected the dates for Friday night events throughout 2022. We will share more specifics on each event as the date approaches, but mark your calendars now to save the dates.

- January 21
- February 18
- March 11
- April 22
- May 20
- June 24
- July 15
- Aug 26
- Sept 30
- Oct 28
- Nov 18



In late December members were emailed bills for 2022 dues and fees. If you have not received your bill or if you have questions, email steward@bristolyc.com.

To avoid a 10-percent late fee, payment must be received by January 31.

Thank You.



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