



The Bristol Yacht Club **MAINSHEET**

BYC Spring Members’ Meeting Delivers a Lively and Productive Discussion

Over 70 BYC members attended the Spring Membership meeting on Sunday, April 24. Commodore Whelan opened the gathering by stating the purpose of the meeting was to provide members with an opportunity to share their inputs and ideas. He then offered a brief update on the Club, reporting that the Club’s finances are in strong shape. He explained that despite inflationary increases in expenses such as insurance and a drop in initiation fee income due to lower than expected membership turnover, it looks very likely that the Club will achieve budget targets for the year. He called attention to the great job done by BYC Committees, including the Waterfront improvements, the great events that the House and Social Committees have run recently, and the full Racing program planned for the season.

Paul Redman provided a summary of the EBSF/BYC Focus group study report issued last year. This information generated a lively discussion and several questions. Members used the open forum time to raise various topics, including more ways of providing input on an ongoing basis, inquiring on plans for major regattas, discussing the current relationship with our boatyard neighbor, and the possibility of reservation-less Friday night events.

May Events @ BYC

- 5/1 Commissioning
- 5/7 Sea Sprite Meeting
- 5/13 Momma’s Glad It’s Fiesta Friday Party
- 5/18 Skippers’ Meeting for Millard Series
- 5/22 Barrington Yacht Club Thank You Party
- 5/25 Practice Race for the Millard Series

Susan Grandpierre reviewed the results of the recent membership survey, which showed overall that members are quite happy with the core services provided by the Club. She showed feedback from each committee with some plans and ideas from each to address some of the survey input.

Lastly, Commodore Whelan presented, and members approved, a bylaw change that will temporarily increase senior membership limits from 325 to 340 memberships. There was a lively discussion about potential impacts on parking and launch capacity. Members will have the opportunity to revisit the bylaw change at the Annual Meeting in November, where it will need to be affirmed in order for it to be a permanent change.

— **Roland Gendreau, BYC Secretary**



MAY 2022



Commodore's Corner

On your mark... get set...go! Out of the starting cannon we fly into a busy summer. Commissioning, lawnmowers, boat paint, evening light – these are the hallmarks of May. The Commissioning held on Sunday is a great tradition at the Bristol Yacht Club. It is a way to honor the past and at the same time pass our club on to the future and our new members. What were things like in 1888 – before the advent of mass-produced cars? What will things be like in 2146 – flying cars? Both are hard to imagine, but sailing on our beautiful bay then, now and in the future is not. So, we continue.



One of the pleasures of being commodore has been getting to know other clubs. We have great opportunities to work together on issues large and small. In the end, we are not competitive with other clubs; instead, we are all trying to do the same things in different locations. On May 22 – after several attempts – we will host Barrington Yacht Club as a thank you for reaching out to us and providing support after the fire. Please join us for this B&BYC event. If it goes well, I hope to see more such events in the coming years.

I have two “shout outs” for volunteers this month. The first goes to the Executive Committee. They include:

Vice Commodore, Paul Redman; Rear Commodore, Bob Millard; Fleet Captain, Ralph Kinder; Past Commodore, Chris Bjerregaard; Treasurer, Peter Maloney; Secretary, Roland Gendreau; Social Chair, Carole Mansur; Membership Chair, Alan Dimson-Doyle; Race Chair, Nick Cromwell; House Chair, Jane Guinther; Instructional Chair, Richard Feeny; Junior Activities Chair, Susie Holloway; Waterfront Chair, Glen Petaja; Grounds Chair, Douglas Kallfetz; Member at Large, Barbara Petrocelli; and Member at Large, Rosemary Alden

These individuals have been working tirelessly for our Club and it is an honor to serve with them. We have a great group. You should always feel welcome to raise issues with any one of them about their committees, and do not be afraid to thank them too!

The second shout out is to Paul Sanroma, may he rest in peace. Paul did a lot for the club, including a lot of little things. And the little things matter. The one that comes to my mind is his role as volunteer security officer. Paul helped lock up many nights, walked female bartenders to their cars, and drove through the Club most nights before bed just to check on things. The Club is a better place thanks to Paul. God bless him.

- Joe Whelan, Commodore

Hooray, hooray, the 1st of May! May Hours of Operation:

Launch:

May 2 - May 26: 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM

May 27 - May 31: Sun. to Thu. 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM,

Fri./Sat. 8:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Chart Room:

May 1 - May 29: Fri./Sat. 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Sun. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

May 25 - Millard Practice Race: 4:00 PM - 10:00 PM

May 30 - Memorial Day: 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Neptune's Coffee Bar:

Saturdays 9:00 AM - 11:00AM starting May 14





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: *BEST* is a Catalina 36

Owners: Tom and Susan Hagan

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

Our first boat was a 22-foot Catalina named *Triscuit*, based on my love of Triscuits and cheese and maybe a little wine. When we purchased our second boat, an Ericson 30, we searched for something unique. Susan came up with the idea of using the letters of our first names to come up with an acronym boat name. So after tossing a few combinations around, she came up with *BEST* for Bridget, Evan, Susan, and Tom. To this day, Susan always reminds Evan that we only had him because we needed a vowel. Our third boat, a Catalina 36, can be considered second *BEST*.

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



You're Invited To A...

Mama's Glad It's Friday Fiesta

May 13, 2022 - Bar Opens 5:00 PM - Dinner at 6:00 PM

May is the month we celebrate mothers and embrace the season's richness. The BYC House Committee invites you to celebrate mothers and their nurturing nature in a Cinco de Mayo themed fiesta.

Submit pictures of any important mother in your life to be displayed on our MOM-tage to: byc.pics@gmail.com

- Nacho Mamas dinner \$20/person
- MA-garitas /jello shots
- Cinco de Mayo inspired music
- Flip flops Bright & Bold colors encouraged
- RSVP by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, May 11

REGISTER HERE





A Long Walk Off A Short Pier

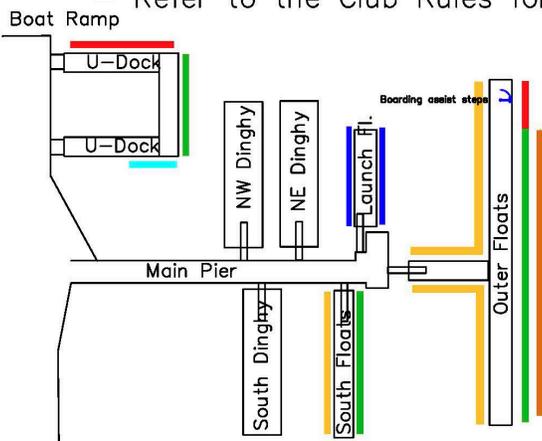
When you first visit the outer floats at BYC this spring, you may find that the walk tires you out more than you remember from years past. Yes, we are all a year older and possibly a year more out of shape, but there is a more benign reason for your shortness of breath. The new outer float system has been installed, and it is, in fact, about 30' further out from the pier. The new position covers a rock that some of us have hit at low tide, gives about 1 ½ foot-deeper water than previously, and allows for an additional span of docks extending south. This span is about 90' long and made from the best 20-year-old used floats that we had. It will give all members more dockage for both short and extended stays.

There are two other improvements that you might notice. The floats where you board the launch have been extended, again by repurposing existing floats. This longer stretch of floats will be used for docking BYC service craft such as the two launches, the Race Committee boat, and the workboat. Finally, with funds donated as a memorial to Carl Levick, the Waterfront Committee designed and installed a two-step boarding ramp that will make it easier for those of us with stiff joints to get on and off our boats. It is located at the north end of the outer float system. It is secured to the float with a bolt that the system will rotate around. When in the stowed position, the steps will be out of the way in the center of the float and pointed north. To use it, simply rotate the steps to be right on the edge of the float. Please let us know how they work for you, as with your input, we might be able to make them even more functional.



Where may you dock at BYC?

- Only members may dock at BYC
- Guests must get approval from the Dock Master
- If in doubt, ask the dock staff (VHF68)
- Refer to the Club Rules for details



- Load & unload only (5 Mins)
- Short term docking only (ask dock staff)
- No docking Wed.1600 to 2000 on race nights
- Long term docking (reservation only)
- Club owned boats only
- Visiting dinghies

Please take a look at the color-coded diagram included here, which shows the allowed use of each area of the float system. A full description of the rules can be found in the Club rules section of the website and 2022 Yearbook. If you have any questions, just ask the dock staff.

Finally, a “thank you” to all the members of the Waterfront Committee who rebuilt a number of the existing floats in the fall, especially Glen Petaja and Bill Toohey, who managed the replacement effort, and Cliff Curtis who was my collaborator on the structural design. We hope you all enjoy these improvements to our fantastic facilities.

- David Schwartz, Member



Thank You to Our Friends on the Water

A Memorable Mediterranean Voyage for BYC Members

Our Friday April 22, Jil Westcott and John Bell shared their odyssey of cruising in Spain and Portugal aboard their boat, *Moon Shadow*. This vicarious trip into the Mediterranean showcased the wild monkeys of Gibraltar “playing” with local cars, Orcas tearing off rudders at sea, wild Mistral winds, and a labyrinth of caves lacing the rocky shoreline. Meanwhile, 18 BYC volunteers cooked up a delicious pasta dinner, bringing our fabulous kitchen to life and giving new members and old a chance to make new friends and have a great time. Many thanks to House Committee member Marti Schwartz for organizing this well orchestrated endeavor.

- Jane Guinther, House Committee Chairperson



Barrington Yacht Club Thank You Party

We have invited Barrington Yacht Club to a barbeque dinner of steaks, chicken, and sides to thank them for their hospitality after the fire at our Club. Live music will be provided by the band, Ghost Cat Rodeo, which includes BYC member Jonathan Walsh, skipper of *Hot Tuna*.

Date: Sunday, May 22
Time: 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM
RSVP Deadline: May 15

[REGISTER HERE](#)





Introducing Tricia Sellon, the New Program Director for the East Bay Sailing Foundation

Hello, I'd like to introduce myself; my name is Tricia Sellon or Trish for short! I am honored to be joining the BYC community as the new Program Director for East Bay Sailing Foundation. I'm very excited for our upcoming summer program and to be working with so many wonderful people who have such a passion for sailing as I do.

I grew up sailing all throughout New England for the past 30+ years and am working towards becoming a full-time teacher. In my youth I won State Champion for my high school, Mary Rose Marshall, and countless others in NBYA regattas. I still enjoy racing all throughout New England with friends and family on yachts ranging from 30-70 feet. In the past 10 years I've coached and managed Youth, High School, and College racing, and have seen my students sail in National regattas and transatlantic races. I've also had a chance to encourage them to reach their dreams of going to the Maritime Academy.

My passion is to teach people how much sailing has to offer and to see them flourish as part of the sailing community. My hope is to always bring new and inspiring programs and lessons to EBSF so that every student not only learns how to sail or race safely, but that our programs encourage them to become the next generation of amazing sailors.

I look forward to meeting all of EBSF's families and friends during this summer season and if you have any questions or would just like to say hi please feel free to reach out at any time at programdirector@eastbaysailingfoundation.org.

Read, Set, Race!!!!

The summer racing seasons kicks off this month and there are a few important dates and deadlines that captains and crew should note:

- For the Wednesday Night Millard Racing Series:
 - » Skippers' meeting will be held May 18, 6:30 PM
 - » Practice race will be on May 25
 - » First race of the season will be on June 1
- Thursday Night J-22 One Design Racing starts on June 2. Register [here](#).
- Monday Night Team Racing starts June 6. If you want to get near the water for some exciting team racing on J-22s, contact Nick Cromwell at nccromwell@gmail.com.
- Sea Sprite and J-22 Championships will be the weekend of July 23-24. Register [here](#).

Calling all BYC Summer Cruisers

The Summer Cruise sails east and through the Cape Cod Canal or Woods Hole with interesting ports of call for boats of all shapes and sizes.

The final registration guide and registration sign-up is now available on the BYC Summer Cruise Webpage. Click [here](#).

Please review ASAP as some ports require that you book your own moorings.



Neptune's Beach Bar Coffee Shop Is Back, Starting Saturday, May 14 at 9:00 AM

Springtime at BYC is defined by Docks In and Neptune's Beach Bar Open! We are your morning and afternoon gathering place. On Saturday, May 14 our Coffee Shop will begin season two where you can finish "the rest of the story" with a fresh brewed Custom House coffee, pastry and a friend. Here, invaluable stories are shared among new and seasoned members, issues addressed and solved overlooking the finest views of Bristol Harbor. This Volunteer driven Done in a Day project will continue with more creative managers planning a variety of tasty treats every Saturday. We are the happy face of BYC as people head out or home from the sea! Check the BYC website for weather related closings. We will also cater your Saturday morning meetings and work parties.



If interested in meeting new members and volunteering in our shop along with our creative managers Marcia Turenne/Anne Quigley, Robin Crocker, Faith Hassinger, Jane Guinther/Rosemary Alden, please contact Jane Guinther, House chair, JSGuinther@sbcglobal.net.

BYC Ship Store Opens for the Season At the Friday Fiesta on May 13, 5:00 PM



Visit the BYC Ship Store on-line [here](#).



Stop by to get your spring shopping started. Pick out some BYC gear and apparel to kick off your season in style!



Member Input Survey Reports High Levels of Satisfaction and Some Good Ideas for Potential Improvement

The response was strong to BYC's first Member Input Survey: 151 members responded to 12 questions on members' experiences, with additional sections for Communications, House, Social, Membership, Waterfront, Instructional Sailing, Racing, and Cruising Committees, and one about post-Covid participation. Responses to this last question showed that most members expected to participate more or at the same as pre-Covid levels, so we can expect the Club to be just as busy as last year and maybe more so if Covid activity remains low. In another section, some committees sought volunteers and found them for future activities.

Most members were Very Satisfied (95) or Satisfied (51) with their Overall Member Experience; 5 of 151 indicated any dissatisfaction at that overall level.

Members were given many opportunities to offer guidance or suggestions to the Executive Committees for discussion at the April 24 Spring Member meeting. Comments and suggestions were numerous and specific and should be helpful to the Executive Committees making improvements or trying out new ideas.

Ratings were overwhelmingly complimentary, and many members proposed interesting ideas. Here's a sampling:

The Social Committee received requests for better-quality food options and lower prices – it's challenging to deliver on both simultaneously. Some members suggested holding higher-cost dinner events interspersed with lower-cost options, while others suggested inviting guest cooks. There were requests for more music and more guest speakers at Friday night dinners on various subjects, including sailing/racing instruction. Some felt name tags would be helpful, there's a lot of support for allowing last-minute signups at nominally higher prices. We also received suggestions for games and competitions.

The House Committee got requests for longer bar hours, keeping the Chart Room open on Friday and Saturday nights, offering snacks such as chips, sandwiches or pub food, and more selection for alcoholic beverages. Requests for food service have been consistent over the years but considered impracticable. We can explore whether the new clubhouse configuration changes those calculations.

There's interest in getting easier/better access to sailing and racing, and to make it easier for members to sign up to sail Mercuries or J-22s. Some commented about finding boats poorly maintained. We can explore how to monitor/manage that, including a system to make it easier to find crew to race or for volunteers to find crew slots.

For EBSF, members requested a better setup to store/maintain boats and equipment— and please lose the trailers. They also asked to see the findings of last year's EBSF focus group study?

Learn More

You can learn more about the survey results and potential changes BYC Committees are considering in response to members' input using the links below.

[Summary of Results](#)

[Communications Committee Analysis of Results](#)

[Waterfront Committee Analysis of Results](#)



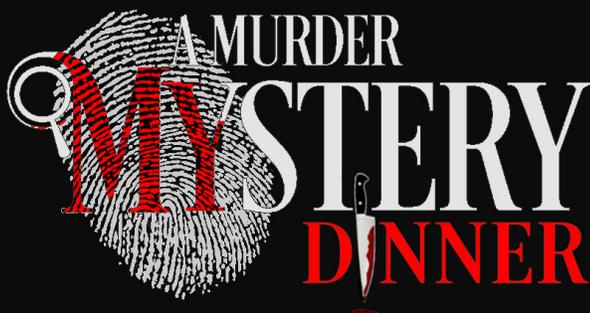
There were requests for more integration across committees. For example: Could the Social and Racing Committees coordinate events during regattas? Could Cruising and Social sponsor more family events? There's interest in more family day cruising/sailing events and other family activities. There was also a request for a more extensive playground.

For Communications: Members suggested that we post current information on BYC premises or make it available to review in the Chart Room. In particular, they would like to see information about upcoming events, the latest Mainsheets or Weeklies and updated BYC calendars available at the Club, so we can keep up with sailing/racing and other activities when visiting BYC. It was also suggested that we add a Letters to the Editor section to the Mainsheet.

For Grounds, members expressed general satisfaction, but some ideas came forward to improve parking, such as stickers, guest passes or a parking map. Members asked where they could park near the trailers and how to reduce the amount of unused storage.

There were suggestions aplenty, and we will rely on our Committees to sort through them. This is the first such survey of member satisfaction and gathering of ideas, and we hope they help the Executive committees stay attuned to member needs. Thanks to members for responding and to the Executive Committee for asking.

— Susan Grandpierre, Member



BCY Social Committee June Event

Set Sail for Disaster at the Murder Mystery Dinner

Kick-off the summer as we "Set Sail for Disaster" aboard a 60 ft. pleasure yacht. You will be the guest of Captain Michael Von Ammon for a fun-filled night. But beware! There is to be a murder and a shipwreck, and you, as guests, will be responsible for rescuing the group and solving the mystery!

You can attend this theater/dinner event as an actor or as an investigator. No acting experience (or talent) is required and you will get lots of help on playing your role. It's going to be a hoot!

Date: Saturday, June 4

Time: 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM

RSVP Deadline: May 25, 5:00 PM

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Many thanks to everyone who helped launch BYC's floats on April 18. Once again our committee members, staff, and volunteers proved that many hands make light work.



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