

The Bristol Yacht Club **MAINSHEET**



Katie Hughes, daughter of BYC members Chris and Terri Hughes, created this image as the artwork for a custom beer, Four Winds from Pivotal Brewing, which will be available in the Chart Room in August while supplies last.

SEA SPRITE ANNUAL REGATTA

Sea Sprite Regatta organizer and Bristol Yacht Club member, Dom Messerli, ran the tables and finished first at the Annual Sea Sprite Regatta on July 22, with finishes of 2/2 in two races. Member Bob Rude finished second, and Max and Mary Sherman (members in waiting) finished third. The Shermans also won the trophy for the best new skipper(s) finish.

Dave Guinther, Race Committee PRO, and his team had their hands full laying out courses for the fleet of eight boats. Light, shifty winds swinging from northwest to southwest kept his able RC crew of David LeGrand, Bob Yaylaian, Roger Carney and Flip Meyerson on their toes moving marks and adjusting start lines. Thanks, gents, for your patience, and for delivering two windward-leeward-windward courses.

Windward courses provide for close racing throughout the day. Lots of tacking on the upwind legs and jibing on the downwind legs kept skippers and crew on their toes. Teams had to be tactically savvy to stay in the front of the fleet.

Exhausted skippers and crews convened at the Bristol Yacht Club for a festive pizza and beer party after a long day of racing, courtesy of the National Sea Sprite Association.

The next big event for the Sea Sprite fleet will be the annual Race Around Hog Island, scheduled for Saturday, September 9. The Association invites all Sea Sprites to attend this highly anticipated yearly event, or come out in your own boat and watch the action.

Our fleet and the Sea Sprite Association continue to grow. We now have the largest class for the Wednesday night Millard Series. Grab a boat and become part of this growing one-design class. Contact Dom Messerli (Dom.Messerli@me.com) or Bob Rude (goodreader@cox.net) for more information. Or visit SeaSpriteAssociation.com.



Sea Sprite Racers (L to R): Bob Rude, Dom Messerli, and Max and Mary Sherman



August 2023



Eight Bells for Herb Browne

On July 6, Bristol Yacht Club lost a mainstay with the peaceful passing of Herb Browne. Herb was a friend to – well – all of us. His great smile and the twinkle in his eyes were beacons of friendliness.

Herb served as Commodore of the Bristol Yacht Club from 1977 to 1979. He was a passionate sailor and a passionate supporter of sailing. He was also passionate about this Club. When something went well, Herb generously shared compliments. When something did not go well, Herb constructively let you know – often in the form of a letter or note identifying the problem and providing a solution.

Herb's love for sailing and his family is captured in a common vision from last summer of Herb and Chris — his bride of 66 years — sitting in the Adirondack chairs on the bulkhead proudly watching his son Rob and his family — Kristen, Oliver, and Ben — rigging or working on their Hinckley Pilot, *Moon Dancer*. Herb was not physically able to help but was more than willing to provide love and support for his family and sailing. As Chris struggled with health, Herb was by her side until his end, unable to be in those chairs this summer.

Herb had many close friends at this Club. Among them was Joe Kinder. As Ralph Kinder, Joe's son, wrote:

“Herb Browne just loved to sail, and it was always with a twinkle in his eye as he was one of the funniest guys I have ever known. My mother adored Herb and his sense of humor, as did all kids he was around. He was always so supportive of junior sailing, always interested and encouraging us to compete and excel. He raced Sunfish with his pals Tom Breslin and Bob Millard, as well as an H 121/2 with the Cranshaws, Bouchers, and others. He had a Columbia 30 cruising boat and, of course, his Sea Sprite. He even used *The Lowenbrau* - the local beer distribution boat, complete with green and blue logo colors - to blast down to Newport for promotional events now and then. He and Chris were fixtures of the Highlands crowd, often getting into trouble with his cronies: Frank Commette, Doc Breslin, Joe Kinder, Bill Timmis, and many others (mostly sailors who shared his love for the water and boats and the camaraderie of it all.)”

This month's volunteer shout-out goes to – of course – Herb Browne. He will be missed. God bless Herb and his family.

- Joe Whelan, Commodore

Commodore's Corner



EBSF Benefit Gala

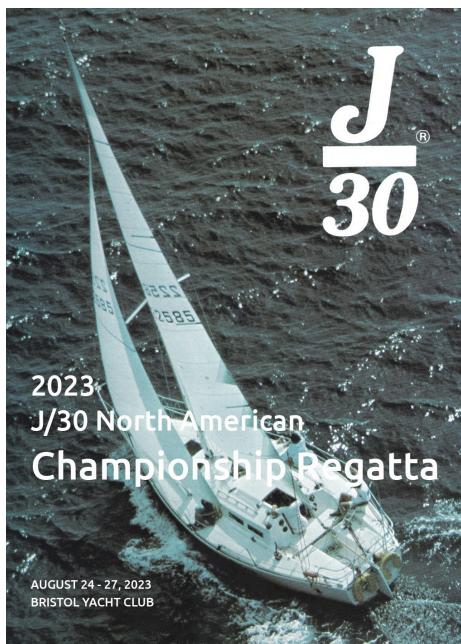


Join us for an evening of dinner and dancing to benefit the East Bay Sailing Foundation (EBSF) on Friday, August 18.

Five Reasons to Attend the EBSF Benefit Gala:

1. Enjoy an open bar, hors d'oeuvres, and dinner
2. Put on your dancing shoes and party dress
3. See your friends. Put together a table with them
4. Bid on fabulous items in the silent auction
5. Support EBSF's mission

[Purchase Your Tickets Here](#)



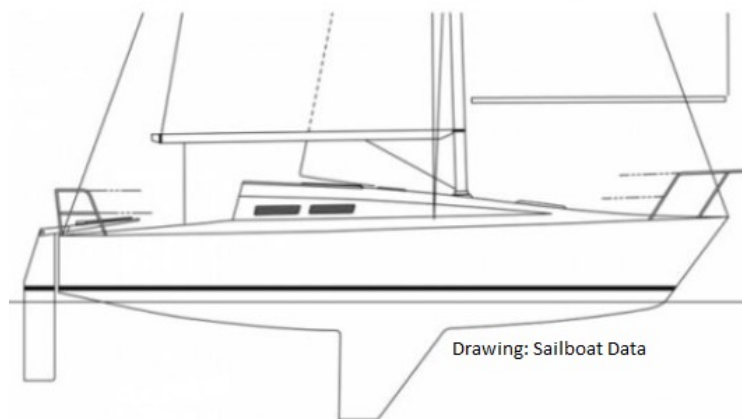
J/30 Regatta Coming August 24-27

Bristol Yacht Club is sponsoring the North American Championship Regatta for J/30 class boat in three weeks. Races will be held in the Ohio Ledge region of Narragansett Bay, west of Colt State Park, starting on Friday, August 25 and ending on Sunday the 27th. Registration and measuring will be done the day before.

J/30s are racer/cruisers built by J/Boats (Newport, RI) beginning in 1979. Some 550 boats were built by 1987, most at Tillotson Pearson Inc. (Warren, RI). Since J/Boats' start by brothers Rod and Bob Johnstone in the mid-1970s, the company has been known for speedy vessels and a dedicated and competitive owner base. Members here at Bristol Yacht Club own 20 of various J/Boat models, and another six, J/22s, are available for charter from East Bay Sailing Foundation.

J/30 owners Mark and Kathy Rotsky are chairing the upcoming event with help from the BYC Race Committee and a group of volunteers. The crew, which started working back in October, has put together a program that includes boat and housing logistics, meals, awards, and a bevy of sponsors, including Comisario Tequila, Mack Boring/Yanmar Motors, North Sails, Ronstan Sailing Hardware, Pivotal Brewing, Blount Foods and J/Boats. Experience helps: the Rotskys also organized a very successful J/30 North American Championship Regatta here at Bristol back in 2008.

So if you see a dozen or so sleek boats with out-of-town hail ports on their transoms, or you spot their crews hanging out at sponsors' booths, give them a warm welcome and cheer them on.



- Joe Jablonowski, Race Committee Member



Bristol-based brewery and J/30 North American Championship Regatta sponsor, Pivotal Brewing, had a created a special beer in honor of the regatta. Four Winds is a Saphir Pilsner (4.4% ABV) with hints of lemon peel, bread dough, and cracked pepper.

This beer will be available in the BYC Chart Room throughout August, while supplies last. Please stop by the Chart Room and try it out!



Vic's Galley Update

Look how far we've come! Six hundred members/guests dined on seven Friday nights, 400 sailors filled their palettes on Wednesday night Millard series, and now our lighter faire Sunday bar served 17 first-time customers on opening day and 40 on day #2. Having survived fire, pestilence, and perseverance, BYC finally has a thriving, expanding, no-reservation food service option for our members. Thank you for being so patient as we progress through our new venture and for your valuable

input. Vic has hired more staff to offer food service for Wednesday night racing, Friday evenings, and Sunday lighter fare. Please check your BYC Monday emails, *Mainsheet*, and website for service updates.

Our goal is to increase social connections among our members - new and old!! - and provide a gathering where racers, Old Salts, road-weary sailors, and visitors cruisers, can enjoy a meal or a grab-and-go option to enjoy later. Whatever your reason for dining at BYC, we're here listening to members' feedback and working hard to create better member experiences. Our Ship Store customers are delighted with the convenient live retail opportunities during many Friday evenings in the Chart Room.

- Jane Guinther, House Committee Chair

Here are the comments from our members:

Three cheers for Vic's Galley! Don and I love getting dinner at the Club after driving down from our home in Vermont. Who wants to cook after a four-hour drive? It also provides a wonderful opportunity to meet many club members, an excellent opportunity for us as out-of-state members.

- Wendelyn Duquette

Vic's Galley has been a huge success for the Yacht Club. We have achieved our primary goal: to create additional opportunities for members to get together on Friday nights without further burdening the House Committee. But the Club has also financially benefited. Historically providing food at the Club was always a break-even proposition at best. Vic's Galley eliminates that issue. In addition in 2022 with limited Friday night events, bar revenues were sometimes mediocre. But so far in 2023, bar revenues on Friday nights have increased approximately 300% over last year. That's good news for all of us as it helps keep membership dues down while paying for the many services we all enjoy at BYC.

- Peter Maloney, BYC Treasurer

How do I know when Vic's Galley is open?

Check the Club calendar on the web site OR look at the top of each weekly email where the opening dates for the coming week are posted.

Steak or Swordfish

Millard Post-Race Dinner

Join us for a special post-race steak or swordfish dinner. Dinner will include salad, corn, potatoes, and something sweet.

Wednesday, August 16 at
around 7:30 pm. \$20 per person.
Sign up by Sunday, August 13

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



BYC Member Amanda Callahan to Represent the USA in the 2023 Pan American Games



On July 7-9 at the Sayville Yacht Club in Blue Point, NY, BYC Member Amanda Callahan, who is the Co-Captain of the BYC Women's Racing Team and Head Sailing Instructor at Roger Williams University, dominated at the Pan American Games US Qualifier Regatta, securing herself a spot on the US Sailing team at the Pan American Games in Chile later this year. As one of only 15 women sailors invited to represent the USA in these games, Amanda will compete in the Sunfish racing event.

Ordering a New BYC Nametag

Did you misplace your BYC nametag? Is the name on the tag misspelled or not how you are known to your friends? Or did you opt out of getting a nametag when they were first offered?

Good news! You can order a nametag directly from the supplier, Jay-el Trophies and Awards at 468 Thames St, Bristol, RI 02809. Drop them an e-mail at jayel@jayeltrophies.com. Let them know you are a member of Bristol Yacht Club and how you would like your name spelled on the nametag. The current price is \$12.00 plus tax. They will let you know when it is ready to pick up at their location.

If you did not opt out of the nametag when you paid your annual dues for 2023, you should have a nametag at the club. They are stored in two notebooks or alphabetically in the second center drawer of the credenza in the lobby of the club (across from the trophy cabinet).

*- Carole Mansur,
Social Committee Chair*

Fall Cruising

Mark your calendars for BYC's two fall cruises - see below. Look for further details on how to sign up in the weekly emails or on the Club's website.

Labor Day Weekend Cruise - September 2 - 4. Destination: Conanicut Marina in Jamestown. Contact: Roland Gendreau

End of Season Weekend Cruise - September 16 - 17. Destination: Edgewood Yacht Club. Contact: Ralph Kinder

Buy Your J/30 Championship T-Shirt



This is the design featured on the J/30 Championship t-shirt.

For a limited time, BYC Members are invited to purchase a custom designed t-shirt. This shirt was created specifically for the J/30 North American Championship Regatta, which is occurring at the Club from August 24 - 27. The shirt features a stunning design by BYC member Susan Maloney of a J/30 close hauled in a race. Shirts are \$22 and orders can be placed through the Ship Store - [here](#).

The deadline to place orders is August 13 after which time no further orders will be accepted.

Sign Up Now Family Carnival Sat., August 19

[Click Here
To Sign Up](#)

Join us at BYC on Sat., Aug. 19 from 11 am - 2 pm for a Family Day Carnival of lawn games, face paintings, a bouncy house, and a cookout. Kids, parents, grandparents, and friends are all welcome to come enjoy a day of fun!

Registration Deadline: Mon., Aug. 14.



Pirate Day Recap

We had beautiful sunny weather and calm winds for our little pirates in the harbor. Some of the Pirate Ships were elaborately decorated dinghies complete with cardboard broadside cannons (!), and some were inflatable rowboats; some pirates were dressed in velvet and some in bathing trunks. But we all had so much fun! The Harbor Patrol showed up once again and had to be chased away by our fearless pirates armed only with pump-action squirt guns! We had hamburgers and hot dogs on the lawn under a tent and enjoyed simple games and, of course, best of all -- our new playground!

- Susie Holloway, Junior Activities Committee Chair





Share Your Love of Boating with a Member of the Brown Medical School DEI Faculty Association. Volunteers Needed.

On Sunday, September 17, the BYC DEI Committee will host the [Brown Medical School JEDI \(Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion\) Faculty Association](#) and their spouse/partners/children at an Open House and Sailing event. The association is comprised of physicians and leaders from all medical specialties. The mission of the association is to provide a place of support and growth for people who are under-represented in medicine faculty.

The day's activities will begin at 10:30 am with an Open House, followed by a sail of approximately 2-3 hours in Bristol Harbor/Narragansett Bay starting at 11:30/12:00. We are soliciting BYC members with sailboats that are willing to participate in the day's activities and share their boats, themselves and their love of sailing with these individuals. Please sign up so that we can welcome a large number of the members of this association and their families. [Please click this link](#) and complete the registration.

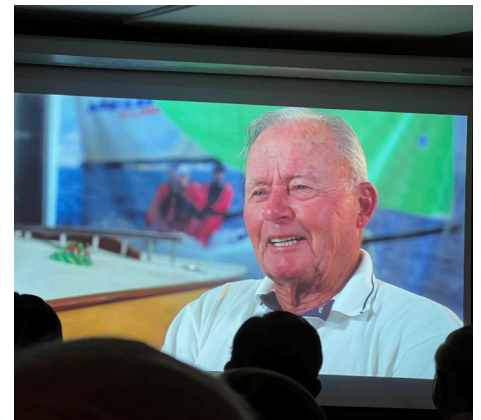
Questions? Contact me via email using the details in the Club Directory.

- Marilyn Dimson-Doyle, DEI Committee Chair

Racing Greats Visit BYC - In Person and on the Screen

On Thursday, July 27, we celebrated the life of Buddy Melges with a screening of his documentary movie, *The Wizard of Zenda*. This was the first significant showing in our area of this new documentary, and we were honored to bring this to the Bristol Yacht Club.

The club had a sold-out evening with people coming from afar to share this movie with our special guest host Gary Jobson. I noticed people greeting Gary that he knew, and they shared a short recap of the time he shared with Buddy and how they were so excited to join us and remember the fantastic life that Buddy lived. I was happy that our club celebrated one of the greatest sailors of our time.



Gary Jobson introduced the movie with a few stories of personal experiences with Buddy and provided an excellent flavor for what we were about to experience while watching the movie. Many junior sailors attended, and Gary spent time with them before and after the movie.

High Noon Vodka Seltzer Tasting

Thursday Aug. 3rd 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Free samples!

Free High Noon swag if you purchase a High Noon from the BYC Bar

I'd like to thank Joe Brito for inviting Gary to join us and Paul Redman and Ray Renaud for sponsoring EBSF Jr. Coaches' tickets.

- Kathy Rotsky, Social Committee



July Recap: Competition

CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP LEFT

Herreshoff C-Class boats on the start line at the Pete Hallock S-Class Invitational on July 15; Sea Sprite Regatta on July 22; MOHOSA racers in Bristol Harbor on July 26; and BYC members Mike Gemperline with crew Abby Cook, and Megan Roach finishing in 3rd Place (1 point behind 2nd!) in the 2023 seven race series J/22 North American Championship Regatta in Kingston, Ontario July 12-16;





July Recap: Friends and Community



CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP LEFT

Midshipmen visiting the Club from Annapolis, MD at a Friday Night Dinner on July 14; Social Committee members and friends getting ready for the Clam Boil dinner on July 8; BYC members Dick Dennis and Tom Sullivan aided by William Martin replace some heavy batteries on *Mandate*; Mark Rotsky briefing the skippers for the Sid Clark Overnight Race; and Commodore Joe Whelan and BYC Member (and VICTORIOUS AWESOME GLOBAL RACER!!!) Charlie Enright with the Ocean Race trophy during Charlie's visit to the Club on July 19.





CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP LEFT

Roger Mortimer and Nancy LeClair with bartender Kim Bottomly enjoying Sunday Snacks at Vic's Galley; Glen and Marsha Petaja's grandkids on the annual cruise; annual cruise participants in Stonington, CT on July 16; EBFS Campers having summer fun on the lawn; and the Neptune Coffee Bar Crew.

July Recap: Fun





Above and Beyond



The dream clean team: Rosemary Alden, Marti Schwartz, Wendy Quinn, Jane Guinther, and Robin Crocker.

There are a lot of people who pitch in to ensure that all the services and experiences we enjoy at the Club come off without a hitch.

This point was driven home for me in particular this month when I learned that some volunteers step up and clean the bathrooms when the need arises. Now that is dedication!

So to everyone who helps - from bathroom cleaners and party throwers, to race helpers and cruise organizers (and many others), THANK YOU. I raise my symbolic toilet brush in gratitude and wonder!!!!

- Barbara Petrocelli, Member-at-Large

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