

# The Bristol Yacht Club MAINSHEET



*The 2023 boating season officially came to a close on Sunday, October 15 at the Club's Annual Decommissioning Ceremony (Photo: Rosario Dwyer)*

## Looking Forward to BYC's Bright Future

### *Commodore's Corner*

The fall is fully upon us. It is a time of year when we hunker down at home, focus more closely on the things immediately around us, prepare for the winter, and begin to think about the year ahead. It is the beginning of a cycle of renewal. The same is true at the Bristol Yacht Club.

On November 19, at the annual meeting, we will elect a new Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee did a spectacular job – and the new Executive Committee is filled with great talent and positive energy. This is my last Mainsheet article, and I leave you with my simple hopes for the Bristol Yacht Club as it rolls forward for its next 150 years.



First, I hope membership at BYC remains reasonably priced so it continues to be broadly accessible across the economic spectrum. We are not a snobby club, and that makes us great.

Second, I hope BYC continues to honor its longstanding tradition of being a leader in supporting sailing on Bristol Harbor, Narragansett Bay, and in the United States. I hope it continues to host regattas, promote events, and promote sailing in general. These events make BYC great.

Third, I hope it continues to support youth sailing and to recognize the absolute critical import of doing so for the future of the Club. We are a leader among clubs with an excellent youth program that should be embraced, nurtured, and kept as a star on our burgee. Kids make us great.

Fourth, I hope we are not afraid of change while at the same time we preserve tradition. These twin goals are compatible. We embody that compatibility – we started as a rowing club, and we have great traditions.

My last volunteer shout-out goes to your next Commodore, Paul Redman. Paul is smart, dedicated, and -- most importantly -- good fun. Thank you, Paul!

- Joe Whelan, Commodore



**NOVEMBER 2023**





# Saying Thank You to Our BYC Staff

As we move into the Holiday Season, please express your thanks to our BYC staff for their many contributions this season by contributing to the 2023 Staff Holiday Fund. Prior to December 15, you can donate on-line using [this link](#) or send your check, payable to BYC, to 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 Hands:**

Trent Senn  
5 Touisset Road  
Warren, RI 02885





## December TGIF with Charlie Enright at Bristol Yacht Club

Sun. Dec. 3, 4:00-7:00 PM

Please join us as Charlie Enright shares the stories of 11th Hour Racing - the Ocean Race. We are proud of his team's accomplishment, endurance and mission to educate fans and followers along the way, while challenging them to do their part in regards to ocean health and environmental issues. Appetizers will be served and the Chart Room will be open. The program will begin at 5:00 PM program. There is no cost to attend this event, but prior registration is required as seating is limited.



[REGISTER HERE](#)

Charlie will also be speaking on November 2nd at the Graduate School of Oceanography at University of Rhode Island - an exciting FREE event planned: the Charles and Marie Fish Lecture, which this year features Charlie Enright — skipper of The Ocean Race-winning 11th Hour Racing Team. Enright will discuss his incredible racing experiences and will be joined by GSO scientists for a fascinating conversation on what The Ocean Race revealed about the health of our blue planet. For more information please click here: [Eventbrite](#)

## November and December Chart Room Hours

As we look forward to the holidays, here are the hours when the Chart Room will be open in November and December. In general, the Chart Room will be open most Saturdays from 3:00 - 7:00 PM and on Friday nights when Vic's Galley is open or when some other special event is happening at the Club. Specific details are provided below.

### Friday Hours:

- **Friday, Nov. 3** - Vic's Galley serving a buffet dinner from 5:30 to 6:30 PM. The menu will include baked scrod and Portuguese pork loin with vegetables, salad, potatoes, and dessert for \$22 per person. No reservation is required
- **Friday, Nov. 10** - Vic's Galley serving a buffet dinner from 5:30 to 6:30 PM. The menu is TBD. No reservation is required
- **Friday, Nov. 17** - This is BYC's annual Holiday Boatique. Hearty appetizers will be served. Prior registration is required. [Click here to RSVP.](#)
- **November 24 to January 19** - The Chart Room will be closed on all Fridays.
- **Friday, January 26** - TGIF beer tasting. More details to follow

### Saturday Hours:

- The Chart Room will be open all Saturdays from 3:00 to 7:00 PM, except on November 25, December 23, and December 30.

## Looking for something fun to do on these long winter nights?



Join us for Trivia Night on Saturday, November 4 at 7:00 PM at the BYC Clubhouse.

You can play on your own, as a couple, or bring a group! Feel free to bring snacks or dinner for your team!

The Chartroom will be open at 5:00 PM.

No Registration Required - \$5.00 donation

## Come Celebrate and Shop at the BYC Holiday “Boatique”

On Friday, November 17 at 5:00 PM, join us for a festive Holiday “Boatique” of crafts by our member artisans for you to purchase in time for the holidays.

Live music by Two for the Rhode. Enjoy a complimentary glass of prosecco and hearty catered hors d'oeuvres.

The registration deadline is Wednesday, November 15 at 5:00 PM.

[Register Here](#)







# Reviewing our 2023 Financial Results and Our 2024 Budget

**Summary: 2023 was great, back to normal in 2024 with modest fee increases**

## 2023 Recap:

The Club's fiscal year ends September 30, and financially, the Club had a very good year, finishing \$65,000 over budget. There were a number of factors that contributed to that (some of which will not be repeated in 2024), including:

- Insurance - \$34,000 savings
  - \$13,000 due to switch to quarterly installments, with only 3 installments falling in 2023
  - \$21,000 savings on competitive pricing
- Member dues - \$6,000 over budget
- Initiation fees - \$5,000 over budget
- Bar revenues - \$129K actual vs. \$108K budget
- Lower than normal dock and launch repairs - \$17,000, offset by \$4K of additional mooring costs
- Higher interest income due to Federal Reserve - \$11,000 over budget

All of the excess income for 2023 will be added to our capital reserves, which are still recovering from the years of fire and COVID-19.

## 2024 The Year Ahead:

A recent headline in *The New York Times* read "Inflation Holds Steady," noting that "the path to fully wrangling inflation remains long and bumpy." Unfortunately, the Bristol Yacht Club is not exempt from expense increases. One of the challenges for the Club is to keep our income in line with our expenses, and because most of our income comes from the membership, that requires some dues and fee increases.

- Insurance
  - 4 quarterly installments in 2024 vs 3 in 2023
  - Insurance industry is forecasting hefty premium increases due to increasing losses over the past year
- Inflation in general – with \$700,000 of operating expenses, inflation of 4% increases total expenses by \$28,000, 5% by \$35,000
- Waterfront repairs in 2024 expected to return to historic norms

Power-washing the heads, staying way late after House and Social events to clean the kitchen and take the trash down to the dumpster – the conclusion of the Board was that we are asking too much of our volunteers, especially as the number of House and Social events has grown significantly, and accordingly we are budgeting for additional staff expense of \$5,500 to take on some of these chores.

In the interests of full disclosure, there were a few line items where we budgeted a bit conservatively, such as initiation fees and bar revenues. On initiation fees, we have to make an assumption as to the number of members likely to resign – when we missed that number by quite a bit two years ago, there was a bit of consternation and eventually a vote to increase our membership by 15 members. Vic's Galley has been a huge success, helping to boost bar sales to \$30,000 over the prior year. While we expect Vic's to be equally successful in 2024, there's some risk that it's no longer the shiny new thing and attendance drops off.





As the headline at the top of this article indicated, we are planning some modest dues and fee increases for 2024 (generally 5% or less), as follows:

Senior dues	up \$ 50 to \$ 1150
Initiation Fee	up \$100 to \$2400
Launch	up \$ 15 to \$ 340
Storage fees	generally up in the range of 5%

On the capital expenditures front, we are continuing to fund our dock replacement project to the tune of \$45,000 per year; while most members don't realize this, the Club did not replace the roof after the 2018 fire, so we are potentially looking at a \$35,000 replacement (the plan is to wait for the next significant wind storm that does damage and then replace the roof). After years of requests by the Steward, we will finally redo the bottom of *Neptune* and Awlgrip the hull. Looking out a year, we'll most likely need to rebuild Neptune's engine (it happens every 10,000 hours or so) and replace the transmission to the tune of \$29,000.

- Peter Maloney, Treasurer



You can link to our Financials [here](#).

Questions or Comments? The Executive Committee is hoping to avoid an overly long Annual Meeting and is strongly suggesting that each speaker's time be limited. To expedite matters, I'd be happy to answer any questions you have in advance, and post answers or any comments of general interest on our website. Send me an e-mail at [petemaloney@gmail.com](mailto:petemaloney@gmail.com).

## BYC's Nomination Slate for the 2023 - 2025 Term

In accordance with the Club's Bylaws, the BYC Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the slate for the 2023-2025 Executive Committee and Audit Committee. The Executive Committee is comprised of members serving as our Flag Officers, Administrative Officers, and Committee Chairs and will serve for two years. The slate below will be presented to the general membership at the Annual Meeting on November 19. If you have any questions, please contact the Nominating Committee co-chairs Ruth Souto and Chris Bjerregaard.

### FLAG OFFICERS

Commodore.....Paul Redman  
Vice Commodore.....Bob Millard  
Rear Commodore.....Carole Mansur  
Fleet Captain.....Barbara Petrocelli  
Past Commodore.....Joe Whelan

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Secretary.....Roland Gendreau  
Treasurer.....Peter Maloney

### AUDIT COMMITTEE

Ken Martin

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Grounds Committee.....Charlie Payne  
House Committee.....Steve Barron  
Instructional Committee.....Susan Grandpierre  
Junior Activities Committee.....Rachel Braun  
Membership Committee.....Lee Dawson  
Race Committee.....Bob McLaughlin  
Social Committee.....Donna Bettencourt-  
Glavin  
Waterfront Committee.....Brian Fitzgerald  
Member At Large.....Mary Beth Taylor  
Member At Large.....Chris Brito





# October Highlights

## Float Haul Day



## Commodore's Ball

On Saturday October 14, a happy group of BYC members dressed up in their fanciest evening attire and came together for a sparkling evening of dinner and dancing. Commodore Joe Whelan addressed the group with a message of thanks for the opportunity to serve the Club over many years and for the many fellow Executive Committee members and volunteers whose countless hours of effort make the Club the special place it is. And then everyone got up to dance!! Many thanks to the Social Committee for organizing this great evening.

*Clockwise from left to right: Julie Englund, Brian McFarland, Carol McFarland, Bill Toohey, and Brian Fitzgerald; Commodore Joe Whelan with his wife Cathleen and daughters May, Maggie and Niamh; happy members dancing; and live music provided by the Boston-based band, BC & Company.*







## 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:** *Billy Bones* is a 40 foot Bristol yawl

**Owners:** Nancy Baur and Ian Clarke

Why the name *Billy Bones*? The answer is best described in Nancy's own words:

What's in a name? Names can be significant, soulful, meaningful or whimsical. Naming anything can be a stressful experience - unless your Ian and me. Yep, that the truth.

We don't have children. All our dogs are rescues and came with names. Our previous boat name was gifted to us by friends and was it meaningful. Did we intentionally look for a boat with a great name? Not at all!

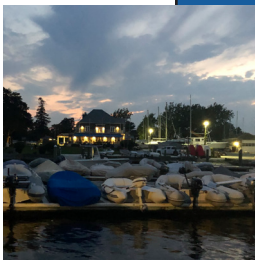
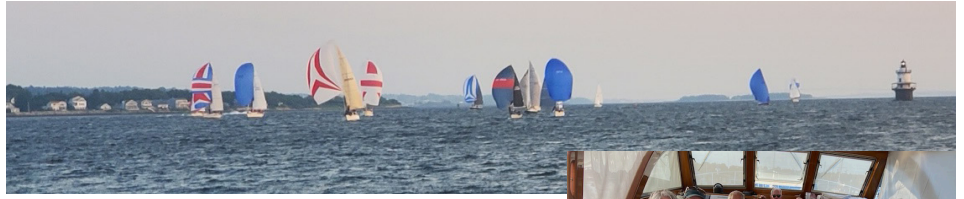
Our boat search was an extremely varied and often spontaneous journey. That journey led us to a boat that was not yet listed for sale. She is a lovely Bristol 40 yawl named *Billy Bones*. A man. A pirate. An alcoholic. A fictional character. Yet both this boat and its name called to us.

*Billy Bones* was the catalyst in *Treasure Island* for the entire adventure story and we see *Billy Bones* as the catalyst for us to explore and adventure all that this area has to offer. Will we find treasure? We are confident that we will find adventure, good friends and make memories which are the greatest treasures that life has to offer.



So...Now you know how the name *Billy Bones* was chosen for Ian and Nancy's boat. If you have a name you would like to submit, please email me, Peter Canzone, at [americanart1@aol.com](mailto:americanart1@aol.com).





You are invited to the

# Bristol Yacht Club Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 19,  
4:00 - 7:00 PM

No RSVP is required.





## BYC Guest Speaker Shells Out the Facts on Oyster Farming in Narragansett Bay



On Friday, October 27, Kyle Hess, founder of the Hog Island-based oyster farm Butter & Brine Oysters, delivered a fascinating presentation about oyster farming in Narragansett Bay to a full house of BYC members. Kyle's family bought Hog Island in 1895 and later sold off small lots on the north end of the Island during the Depression to pay their taxes. Kyle gave a history and timeline of oyster farming in Narragansett Bay. At one time 20% of the Bay floor was used for oyster farming and in some places massive mounds of oyster shells that were to be crushed and used for lime in fertilizers and mortar could be seen in the area.



Butter & Brine Oyster Company is one of Rhode Island's first aquaculture operations to primarily use floating gear. Suspending the oysters in the top foot of the bay gives them access to the most nutrient-rich water that they can get. It also exposes them to more water flow, and getting knocked around by the current helps develop the oysters' deep cups, thick shells — and, in turn, their meats.







## Decommissioning

*(Left) Club Flag Officers and Committee Heads (L to R) Rosemary Alden, Jane Guinther, Ralph Kinder, Paul Redman, Joe Whelan, Chris Bjerregaard, Carole Mansur, Peter Maloney, Barbara Petrocelli, Glen Petaja, Bob Hamel and Jim Dollins.*

*(Below) A lively crowd in the Chart Room.*

*(Below Left) Members standing at attention as the Club's flags are ceremoniously lowered for a final time in the season.*



*(Left) Team Levesque , getting in a late summer family sail or perhaps tuning up for a BYC Frostbite?*

*(Above) Chris Healey and Patrick Maher are staying on top of BYC dockout logistics.*





“I can no other answer  
make, but, thanks, And  
thanks, and ever thanks.”

- William Shakespeare

Thank you to the entire BYC staff who  
made 2023 yet another outstanding season  
at Bristol Yacht Club. You folks are the best!!

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