



MAINSHEET

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISTOL YACHT CLUB

FEBRUARY 2024

TGIF Kicks off with the 3rd Annual Beer Tasting Event



L-R: Nancy Barron, Jim Chase and Jane Guinther.



With so many choices, it's hard to pick a favorite!

Friday, January 26th kicked off the 2024 TGIF winter series. Thanks to the House Committee, 80-plus members attended the “no reservations required” gathering and enjoyed 15 beers from 8 local RI Breweries and Craft Collective, accompanied by a terrific selection of Hors d’oeuvres prepared by the House Committee. 2024 marked the third year of what has become an annual event. Those attending (and tasting!) were encouraged to complete the survey, which will guide new beer selections on offer in the Chart Room for the Summer Sailing season just around the corner. The Social and House Committees have scheduled more “no reservation required” winter events, so plan to come on in and bring a friend for winter fun surrounded by the warmth of your BYC community! Be sure to check your weekly emails, the *Mainsheet*, and the BYC website for upcoming events.



L-R: Ben Terry (Proclamation Ale Company), Steve Barron, Rich Koeppen (Craft Collective) Jim Chase, Chris Hughes, Todd Nicholson (Pivotal Brewing).

Thanks to Steve Barron, Chris and Terri Hughes and Jane Guinther for photos and text

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

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



15 Beers from 8 Local Breweries and Craft Collective were on offer.

The next Social Event is Trivia Night
Saturday, February 3
 No reservations are required
 \$5.00 donation per person
 Start Time is 7 PM Chart Room opens at 5 PM



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EBSF NEWS

EBSF Adult Sailing Lessons Registration Opens January 31



Registration opens January 31 for the adult beginner, intermediate, and cruising classes. The beginner class is a hands-on introduction to sailing, with no experience necessary. The intermediate class is for those who grasp sailing fundamentals and

heavily focuses on sail trim. If you want to strengthen your skills in big boat cruising, then the cruising class is the program for you.

Last year, our classes sold out within a month. Given the number of inquiries about the program and the number of people who have already said they will sign up, we expect these classes to sell out again rapidly.

Meanwhile, youth sailing classes have been open since January 1. Don't wait till it's too late to reserve your slot for yourself, your kids, or your grandkids for a summer of sailing and fun!



Registration is available on the East Bay Sailing website under adult sailing or junior sailing via the following links:

<https://www.eastbaysailingfoundation.org/adult-sailing>

<https://www.eastbaysailingfoundation.org>

-Peter Maloney, Treasurer



COMMODORE'S CORNER PAUL REDMAN

We've Turned the Corner...

(Fingers Crossed!)

So far this winter, Rhode Island has experienced relatively mild temperatures. That's quite enough snowbirds, I can hear you snickering :) But we have had more than our share of high winds, flood tides, and torrential rains. It's been a little scary at times, but so far, the club has come through it just fine. That sound you may be hearing is me knocking on wood!

Last year, our waterfront committee proactively began working on a resiliency plan covering storm preparedness and recovery. They have recommended working with the House and Grounds committees to expand the plan's scope. I love the idea. You can expect to hear more on this soon.

Two months back, Bristol Marine asked if we would consider providing launch services to their customers. Since then, our Waterfront Committee has completed comprehensive financial benefits and operational analysis, which, if agreed upon by Bristol Marine, our Executive Committee, and Membership, could increase revenue while improving launch service to our members.

We will be meet with Bristol Marine shortly to discuss the initial proposal. If we can reach an agreement with them in principle, the Executive Committee will vote on the matter. If the Executive Committee votes in favor, we will schedule a special membership meeting where it will be brought to a vote and either approved or rejected. Our membership will have the final word on this. We will keep you updated as the discussions with Bristol Marine proceed.

Some years ago, while I was the Membership Chair, Dick Dennis and Linda Burns attended a social event as part of the Membership application process. Dick asked me, "What does it take to be a good member?" My reply was simple. "Show up". Since that time, Dick and Linda have served as a model for showing up. Often, he reminds me with a chuckle. "See, we are showing up!"

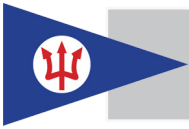
There will be a several opportunities for you to show up during the next month. There is no better way to thank our hard-working Committee chairs and members than simply showing up. Keep an eye on the *Mainsheet* and weekly mailing for upcoming events, and do the best you can to show up!

Sunset on February 1 in Rhode Island will occur at 5 PM!
Whoo-hoo, I call that progress!

-Paul Redman, Commodore

The BYC Mainsheet is published monthly.

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



Winter Updates from BYC

House Committee Asked the Members...

In the cold days of winter, it's nice to remember big dinners at Gramma's. It was a time to look forward to when you entered a house full of the warm scents of food and the company of family and friends. Time to spend with the people you had something in common with but weren't necessarily the same as yourself.

The dinner was delicious, often similar in its offerings, and the family guests had to set the table. However, it supplied the fuel for members to talk, tease, gossip, argue, and opine around the table. Sometimes it turned into a sneaky plot to try and get away before you were tapped for cleanup. Often these were the best times.

A review of the long list of solicited member comments about Vics Galley indicates that the membership is definitely interested in continuing a food service at the Club. There were more ideas than a small article can do justice. Most felt we should have Vic's dinners twice a month winter, so that is our winter plan.

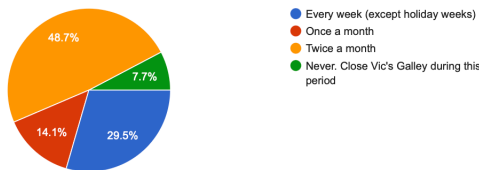
Reviewing the comments from the social side recognized that, although plentiful, our members' comments came down to the following points: love the tasty food, more variety is desired, enjoy the pleasant staff and please decrease serving time.

Kitchen space here is limited and Vic's transports his meals to the Clubhouse after partially preparing them in his own kitchen. There is not the level of "on demand" dishes to supply more than a general compliment of tasty foods daily. And, of course, the bane of any new food endeavor is how balance the unknown attendance against service of the moment. There were many good suggestions and compliments on how to improve the food service offered, including "fantastic ice breaker, random seating creates new friendships", "wait staff is pleasant", "need to coordinate service time better", "Have a sign in sheet with time slots at the door", and "menus at the front table so people can put orders in then."

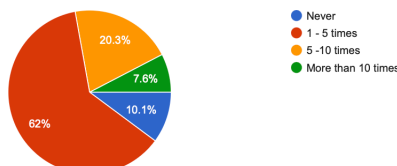
The House Committee is working on how to implement many of these, and, like Gramma, Vic's Galley will take the changes to heart; unlike Gramma he won't make us help with the dishes.

-Leslee Lipman, House Committee

Survey results when asked: Between Mid October and Early May 2024, how often should Vic's Galley be open?



Survey results when asked: How often do you think you would purchase dinner from Vic's Galley between Mid October and Early May 2024?



Thank You BYC Frostbite Community!

Response to January's request for donations and contributions to support BYC frostbiting and youth sailing ("Zim Sailing Donates ILCA/Laser Hull to EBSF") was quick, complete, and much appreciated.

This like-new hull was on the starting line Saturday, January 12 along with 12 other Lasers. John Bell's loan of a complete Laser rig, coupled with a few newly purchased items and a bit of "control line tuning for frostbiting", enabled a quick entry into the BYC Frostbite Winter Series.

According to Frostbite Fleet Co-Captain Dave Gunther, "We were confident of rounding up the used equipment needed to replace John's loaner parts. The amount of donated hardware from our commercial friends and frostbiters, coupled with financial donations from frostbiters who wanted to help get this done right, was pretty sweet.

Wrapping all this up in a month, even better."

A special shoutout to the "Friends of BYC Frostbite" whose donations made this project possible:



Zim Sailing - ILCA hull, lower mast section, control line cleats, main-sheet block, hiking strap and dolly

Intensity Sails -full rig and radial rig sails

Ronstan International - tiller extension, Cunningham & outhaul blocks, vang blocks and cleats

Peter Seidenberg - boom, centerboard, rudder and tiller

David Crawley - mainsheet and traveler

Shaun Hogan - wind indicator

Many frostbiters purchased one or more \$36 "shares" in hull number 211772, amounting to hundreds of dollars for lines, accessories, and a boom vang.



Thank you all for these gracious donations which enabled East Bay Sailing Foundation to add this hull to its charter fleet for frostbiting and youth regattas without any financial burden.

Photos Top: URI student Harrison Schmidt aboard "72" for its first race on January 27th. Bottom: "21172 during pre-start maneuvering in the first race of her BYC Frostbite career.

-Photos and article courtesy of Dave Gunther

You are Invited to the BYC's Winter 2024 TGIF Dinner/Lecture Series

Make your plans now to attend BYC's Winter 2024 TGIF Dinner/Lecture events. We've invited four fascinating and varied speakers to visit our Clubhouse and share some interesting and entertaining presentations with the BYC membership. Each evening will include a catered buffet dinner, provided by Chef Vic, followed by a presentation and discussion. The Chart Room will open at 5 PM, dinner will be served at 6 PM, and the presentation will begin at 7 PM. Prior-registration is not required. Members interested in attending the presentation but who do not wish to purchase dinner are welcome to attend at no charge. If you have any questions regarding this dinner/lecture series or specific presentations, please contact House Committee Chair Steve Barron at: sbarron0724@yahoo.com.

Protecting the World's Oceans

Friday, Feb. 9 - Presented by Emily Conklin,
Program Director for Sailors for the Sea

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Adventurous Use of the Sea

Friday, Mar. 1 - Presented by Tim Murphy

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Preserving and Restoring Key Coastal Habitats in Rhode Island

Friday, Mar. 22 - Presented by John F. O'Brien,
Partnership Specialist with The Rhode Island Chapter of the Nature Conservancy

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Gales, Storms and Hurricanes: Historic Weather Events in Bristol

Friday, April 26 - Presented by Catherine Zipf,
Executive Director of The Bristol Historical and Preservation Society

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-Barbara Petrocelli, Fleet Captain

Protecting the World's Oceans

Friday, Feb. 9 - Presented by Emily Conklin,
Program Director for Sailors for the Sea

After highlighting some of the key challenges facing our oceans today, Emily will address how we as individual boaters can take steps to restore our oceans' health – from preventing pollution and adopting eco-friendly products, to reducing our carbon footprint and protecting marine ecosystems and species. Emily will also briefly outline ways that yacht clubs, regattas, and junior sailing programs can make incremental changes to keep our oceans healthy today and in the future.



Adventurous Use of the Sea

Friday, Mar. 1, Speaker: Tim Murphy

The perfect boat—among sailors, it's the most satisfying debate that never ends. In *Adventurous Use of the Sea*, Tim Murphy explores the relationships between sailors and their boats through 18 gripping voyages. Transoceanic, high-latitude, social, solo: each voyage pursued its own goal, and each one was indelibly shaped by the boat it was sailed in. Again and again, we'll notice that relationships between sailors and boats can run as deep as those between lovers, and sometimes deeper." This presentation will explore some of these relationships from the last hundred years, relationships that shaped the boats we sail today.

Preserving and Restoring Key Coastal Habitats in Rhode Island

Friday, Mar. 22 – Presented by John F. O'Brien,
Partnership Specialist with The Rhode Island Chapter of the Nature Conservancy

Coastal streams and wetlands are essential habitats, providing vital reproductive, nursery, and feeding spaces for many fish species which are native to coastal Rhode Island and Narragansett Bay. This presentation will describe the vital restoration work that The Nature Conservancy is driving in greater Rhode Island to improve spawning habitat for migratory species of fish including river herring, American shad, and American eel. The speaker, John O'Brien, will also review the historical condition of our streams, how they have changed, and what we are doing to improve fish passage to historic spawning grounds. Mr. O'Brien will conclude by outlining some of the challenges facing these forage species, as well as their importance as they contribute to supporting sustainable populations of important recreational and commercial species of fish in Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island Sound, and the western North Atlantic.



Gales, Storms and Hurricanes: Historic Weather Events in Bristol

Friday, April 26 – Presented by Catherine Zipf, Executive Director of The Bristol Historical and Preservation Society

Today, with major weather-related events becoming more common, we are used to watching forecasts and taking precautions to ensure the safety of our communities. But in the past, Bristol has faced numerous storms, from the Gale of 1815 to the Hurricane of 1938, without benefit of advance knowledge or modern-day protections. Catherine Zipf will discuss several of these weather events and their impact on Bristol's infrastructure and cultural memory.

For Event Information and Calendar events visit:
<https://www.bristolyc.com/calendar>



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. Owned by Paul and Loren Redman, **Hopscotch** has an interesting history despite the fact it is not the Commodore's current boat!

Why the name **Hopscotch**?

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

It was during the winter of 1996 when Loren shared some exciting news with me. There was a baby on the way! Loren immediately started thinking about where to furnish a nursery in our home. On the other hand, I began to think about how on earth we could continue cruising on a rather tender and sparsely furnished Pearson 30.



We immediately went to the bookstore, and in addition to picking up a "What to Expect when Expecting" book, I purchased every book I could find on sailing with an infant. A key takeaway from the sailing books was to match your sailing trip duration to your child's age. Our newborn would be seven months old come summer, so, rounding up, we would be looking at an hour max that first year. Unless your name is Charlie Enright, you can't go very far in an hour in a sailboat. Any cruising we would do would require multiple "hops" before we could get to most places we loved to visit.

Another takeaway was the need for a new boat. It was a short search. We learned of a Tartan 33 for sale in Portsmouth. It was stored inside of what was then Bend Boat Basin and shone like a new penny with 11 coats of varnish on the toe rails and a shiny white hull. The boat had a fractional rig, oversized winches, windless, hot water, refrigeration, and a couple of berths suitable for an infant. Our doubts on whether to purchase the boat were erased when we looked at the transom and saw the name **Hopscotch**, which perfectly described the type of sailing we would be doing for the next few years.

Baby Jeffrey was born in October 1996, and following the plan, we "hopped" to Potter Cove and back on numerous occasions during that first summer. In year two, it was on to Dutch Harbor and Newport. By year three, we were on to Cuttyhunk and beyond.

Loren and I have had a couple of boats since our beloved Tartan 33. Our current Scout 22, purchased last summer, doesn't yet have a name, but when we call the launch and say, "Hopscotch for a Pickup," the launch knows where to go.

Now you know the history of Hopscotch. If you have a name you would like to submit, please email Peter Canzone at: americanart1@aol.com

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