



MAINSHEET

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BRISTOL YACHT CLUB

OCTOBER 2024

AUTUMN UPDATES AT BRISTOL YACHT CLUB



Pirates Storm BYC!!!

On September 14th, the Club was transformed to a pirate's den and the scene of a murder mystery. After a family-style feast, our members put their sleuthing skills to work to solve the whodunnit!



L to R: Pat Small, Donna Glavin, Holly Knight, Kathy Rotsky, Terri Hughes



The murder victim (Mark Rotsky)
Now to figure out whodunnit...

The costumes were terrific!



One of the many pirates
(Arlene Hartwell)



Commodore Paul Redman and the Social Committee members (L to R: Carole Mansur, Kathy Toohey, Carole McFarland, Paul Redman, Donna Glavin, Terri Hughes, Holly Knight, Kathy Rotsky, and Pat Small)

-Photo Credits: Terri Hughes

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 5	EBSF WORK PARTY
OCTOBER 18	FRIDAY SPEAKER SERIES
OCTOBER 19	FROSTBITE RACING BEGINS
OCTOBER 20	DECOMMISSIONING
NOVEMBER 6	FLOATS AND DOCKS OUT

LOOK FOR REGISTRATION UPDATES AND MORE INFORMATION
ON OUR WEBSITE AND IN UPCOMING EMAILS FROM BYC

JWU Hospitality Students Visit



On Wednesday, September 11, BYC hosted 32 Johnson & Wales students who are part of the Club Management/Immersion course at the school. The students spent 2 hours touring the Club "top to bottom" and asked many questions!

This tour was arranged by former bartender (2001-2004) and current Professor Matt Samel, who has been in the industry for many years, and a professor at J&W for 25 years.

The Club might see a couple of students from this tour in the future as bartenders are needed!

Good luck to the future Club Managers!

-Chris Healey, Chief Steward



TGIF SPEAKER SERIES RETURNS



Join us for the first TGIF speaker event of the Fall. The House Committee plans to host one speaker per month throughout the off-season. Come meet friends and enjoy an interesting lecture and delicious meal on October 18th.

Female Pirates: Myth and Reality

When we think about pirates, we tend to imagine men. However, there were some women who sailed under the Jolly Roger. This talk will explore the myth and reality about the lives of women onboard pirate ships during the golden age of sail. We will examine primary sources that illuminate their lives and challenge the traditional male-dominated narrative.

**Presented by Charlotte Carrington-Farmer
Professor of History, Roger Williams University**

Dr. Carrington-Farmer specializes in early American History and the early modern Atlantic World, and she received her Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge. She has published extensively in the field of early New England history, including biographies of Thomas Morton, Roger Williams, and Mary Williams, and on the export of horses from New England to the West Indies. Her book, *Roger Williams and His World* will be published with Broadview in January. She regularly teaches classes in Atlantic history, including pirate history and she serves on the John Lyman Book Awards Committee for the North American Society for Oceanic History.

Look for more information and Registration/sign-up in upcoming emails and on bristolyc.com



COMMODORE'S CORNER PAUL REDMAN

In many ways this past September was the icing on our summer season cake! It was a very busy month featuring phenomenal weather, excellent attendance during Friday night dinners and social events, a very successful and fun EBSF Fundraising Gala, an enthusiastic and fun Race Awards Dinner, a well-attended DEI event, and one of my favorite events, the Volunteer dinner when we get a chance to thank all of our volunteers who are the underlining reason for our success as a club.

I am so lucky to be surrounded by so many talented and committed leaders, not only within the Executive Committee, but also within each one of our standing and ad hoc committees. They all share one common goal: ensuring our members enjoy the best possible member experience. Thanks to their efforts and the efforts of all our volunteers, it has been a wonderful summer and promises to be a great off-season as well. Thank you!

As we enter fall, much of the Executive Committee's attention is focused on taking a retrospective look at areas where we can improve or where change might be beneficial. Steve Barron, our House Chair, has published a survey on Friday Night Dinners; Susan Grandpierre and Chris Brito have scheduled meetings with key stakeholders focused on better understanding our intermediate member drop-off issue at age 27 and women's sailing. We are planning a meeting with key stakeholders and the insurance committee to review our insurance coverage strategy; all of our Committee Chairs are working with Peter Maloney, reviewing this past year's financial performance while preparing a 2025 budget. All of this is a clear demonstration of leadership in action. I so appreciate their efforts.

I recently attended a meeting at the Beverly Yacht Club. I was disappointed to be the only Commodore among Narragansett Bay Club Commodores to attend. Still, nonetheless, I enjoyed meeting other Commodores, learned a lot, and was happy and proud to have an opportunity to represent our club. Here is some of what I learned. Beverly Yacht Club has more than 400 members. They have one parking spot. Members park their vehicles on jammed packed residential streets. Many spots are restricted to residents only. Upon my arrival at 8:15 am, I parked a block and a half away. I left the meeting feeling very good about our parking situation.

All of the clubs attending the meeting reported a drastic drop-off in their "round the buoy" series. On a good night, 20 to 25 boats are the norm for most clubs. When it was my turn to speak on this, I reported that we have 40+ boats racing each week. I credited this to the fact that racing is part of our club's DNA, along with our outstanding race committee, and, most importantly, we have a champion like Mark Rotsky, who is a force of nature behind the Millard Series.

All of the clubs reported their instructional programs run at an operational loss of 20k to 50k per year. EBSF this year finished slightly in the black, thanks in part to BYC covering EBSF's liability insurance premiums.

During lunch, a casual conversation regarding dues and initiation fees took place. Beverly YC shared that their dues are \$2,100 plus fees; their initiation fee is 8K. Vineyard Haven YC reported their dues to be \$2,800 with an initiation fee of 9K. While I sat there choking on my clam chowder, the Vice Commodore from Edgartown YC mentioned how impressed he was with how reasonable Beverly and Vineyard dues were.

Comparing our Club to clubs on the Cape and Martha's Vineyard isn't exactly comparing apples with apples. They have issues that we don't have, for example, housing costs for their staff. But differences aside, there were many common issues raised. Intermediate members drop off, staffing during the shoulder portions of the seasons, end of life asset replacement and rising insurance costs are among the challenges we all share.

Overall, we compare very favorably in many areas as compared to other clubs, and thanks to all of you, along with a history of sound leadership, I was very proud to participate in this forum.

-Paul Redman, Commodore

The BYC Mainsheet is published monthly.

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



2024 Holiday Boatique

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS AND ARTISTS

This year's Holiday Boatique will be held on December 6th at BYC. We will again feature our Ship's Store fully stocked for holiday shopping. Any members interested in having a table to sell their crafts are welcome to participate. Please contact Steve Barron: sbarron0724@yahoo.com to learn more or sign up.



EBSF NEWS



Gala Fundraiser

This year's Gala was a great success, with 106 guests enjoying delicious passed hors d'oeuvres and a gourmet buffet dinner. Amanda Callahan was our featured guest speaker. She is a BYC member and Head Coach of the Hawks, RWU's varsity sailing team, which last April won the College Sailing (ICSA) Open Race National Championship. She also led Bristol YC women team racers to win the National Women's Invitation Team Race for the Thayer Cup in 2022 and 2023. Amanda told how her sailing career developed at programs very like ours and showed the value they are to developing young sailors and champions alike.

Joe Whelan and Joe Brito led the live auction and fund-the-mission parts of the program, boosting the evening's fun and energy levels to which the audience responded enthusiastically and generously, yielding a net of \$43,000 for the evening.

The EBSF Committee is grateful to our supporters and to our Gala Event Committee for putting on this elegant and sparkling evening: Paul and Sherrie Norton, Cathleen Whelan, June Bjerregaard, Jenn Barry, Stephanie Boutilier, Kristin Browne and Casey Ivatts Henchman.

On to the Fall!

All Mercury sailboats have been hauled and all but two coach boats. All J22 boats will be hauled next week. A Work Party in the BYC yard is scheduled for Saturday, October 5th from 9 am until Noon, and we are looking for volunteers to help with winterizing and covering some of our fleet as well as inventorying sails for off-season repair work. Many hands make light work!!

Sailing Season is not over! An Opti course will be given on Saturdays by Pete Levesque and John Pearce. Richard Feeny will offer a 420 course on Mondays and Wednesdays.

We hope that BYC women and intermediate members took advantage of the meetings held on September 25th and 28th by Susan Grandpierre and Chris Brito. They are working hard to hear ideas for new programs and to tweak old ones. Don't forget that the Truan-cy-Simmons Outreach Fund was formed to encourage more women to get on the water; learn to sail and race; as well as other aspects of seamanship.

Last But Not Least....

Please use the link below to complete a survey created by Emily Augello, EBSF Program Director. This survey is looking for your feedback to help drive the future of Womens Sailing at BYC. [LINK TO SURVEY](#)

-Stephanie Boutilier

DEI SAILING EVENT

Ready to Frostbite?

On Sunday, September 15th the BYC DEI committee hosted the Brown Medical School JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity and inclusion) Faculty Association and their spouse/partners/children at a breakfast and sailing event for the second year. 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 under-represented in medicine faculty.



The day was a great success with numerous friendships forged and several of the faculty have expressed interest in learning to sail. The best way that I can share about this event is from a few emails I received from our member volunteers.



"Thank YOU and the DEI committee for putting together a wonderful event. This is our first year as members at BYC, but we already feel very much at home here, and that's because BYC is about more than boating. The boating is great, but it's also a great community. Linda and I had a wonderful time sailing with Camila and Will Cosmo, exchanged phone numbers, and hope to get together for dinner sometime in the near future." -Andrew Brereton

"We had a great day. Started off sailing from Bristol harbor to Potter's Cove with Adeline at the helm. We picked up a mooring in the cove and had a leisurely lunch there. Then we sailed back to Bristol harbor with Omo at the helm, picked up our home mooring and ended the day with wine & cheese in the cockpit watching the sunset. Both Omo & Adeline thoroughly enjoyed the day, and it definitely sparked their interest in sailing and life on the water. And I really enjoyed getting to know these two accomplished women from Nigeria. We've exchanged contact information and plan to stay in touch." -Paul Tecca

"We had Daniella and Tia Palermo as crew. They are Freedom Power Boat Club members, out of Warwick, but endeavoring to learn to sail. Their positive experience (despite the lack of wind) on American Flyer with Arlene and I has inspired them to want take lessons at BYC next summer. We've exchanged info, and advised they look for the BYC Adult Sailing lessons Email/Flyer in January.



We look forward to their participation next year and who knows, perhaps it could evolve to further sailing and/or BYC membership" -Hardy Hartwell

The BYC DEI committee would like to thank the following BYC members who joined us for the brunch and then took the faculty members out on their boats for an afternoon sail. This event would not have been possible without them:

Steve and Jeri Devin, Paul Tecca, Tom and Lee Dawson, Hardy and Arlene Hartwell, Diana Kryston and Jody Underwood, Marilyn and Alan Dimson-Doyle, Tamara Barney and Tim Harrall, Chris and Stephanie Boutillier, David Guinther, Andy Brereton and Linda Cunningham, Charlie Payne and Joe & Cathleen Wheelan.

If you are interested in more information about being a member of the BYC DEI committee, please reach out to Marilyn Dimson-Doyle.

2024-2025 Season Begins October 19th



"Last year's BYC Frostbite Series drew Aero and Laser sailors from New England, New York and even Washington State", according to Dave Guinther, Fleet Co-Captain. "20 race days are scheduled for 2024-25, and we're expecting another strong turnout. With Mother Nature's blessing, frostbite sailors could get in another 1,000 starts."

Flip Myerson, Fleet Co-Captain and Regatta Chairman for the October 19th "Stuffie Regatta" shared his thoughts on opening day. "One of our goals this year is to increase participation in the Aero Fleet, and what better way than to offer Rhode Island Stuffies to competitors as they de-rig their boats after the last race at BYC here on Bristol Harbor. We'll also be providing sandwiches and beer along with awards supplied by Zim Sailing."

"Stuffie Regatta" fees are included with annual registration or available separately. The BYC Fall Series runs from Saturday, October 19th through December 14th. The Winter Series runs Saturday, January 11th, 2025 through March 22nd. Unofficial races will be held along with an awards presentation on Saturday, March 29th. All races start at 1pm.

The NOR/SI for the Stuffie Regatta along with all race docs can be found on the BYC website [HERE](#). Registration for the BYC Frostbite Series is [HERE](#).

High school students sail free. ALL RACERS must fill out a Waiver of Liability form (NO Waver; NO Racing). Three EBSF Laser charters are available for the season.

Our "Super PRO" Will Pierce will be on the course again this year. If you are interested in volunteering as a safety boat driver, helping with mark set, or have other questions contact the BYC Frostbiting Fleet Captains Dave Guinther: dave.guinther@yahoo.com or Flip Myerson: aero2896@gmail.com.

Grayling

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.

GRAYLING is a 36 ft Bunker and Ellis owned by Steve and Kathy Kloeblen

Why the name GRAYLING?

GRAYLING is a down-east picnic boat which is owned by BYC members Steve and Kathy Kloeblen. She was designed and built 70 years ago by Bunker and Ellis in Southwest Harbor, Maine. The name GRAYLING is a common name for boats down-east and derived from a beautiful freshwater salmon-like fish found in the Arctic and northern climes. Although she is usually moored in Bristol, Steve and Kathy thought it was appropriate to maintain the yacht's original name and hailing port of Southwest Harbor.

The two man firm of Bunker & Ellis built nearly 60 boats over their 40 year partnership, approximately half of the hulls were purposed for lobster fishing and the others kitted out as picnic yachts for the summer residents. The lines and proportions are aesthetically pleasing and easy on the eye. GRAYLING is a well found boat, with oak keel, skeg, and frames. She is planked with cypress with a mahogany cabin-top, fully restored 10 years ago and repowered with a new Yanmar diesel and modern electronics. She cruises comfortably in most seas at a steady 12-13 knots. Steve and Kathy enjoy picnicking on the boat around Narragansett Bay, as well as taking short cruises to the islands and Long Island Sound and some extended voyages down-east. GRAYLING seems happiest when she is steaming down Eggemoggin Reach to rendezvous with her many sister ships who are still plying the waters of Somes Sound and the Arcadian Isles.

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



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