



The Bristol Yacht Club MAINSHEET

Uncertainty Is the Only Certainty

As I write this message I sincerely wish I could be certain how our Club will operate throughout the 2020 season. Like you, I am anxious to be back on the water, to share a beer or two at the Beach Bar and to enjoy a Friday Night Dinner in our new Clubhouse.

However, the only thing I know with certainty is that “business as usual” is not in the cards at least for the month of May and I expect into June. Beyond that ... who knows.



Our BYC Flag Officers and Executive Committee have thoughtfully put together Club guidelines for these uncertain times, fully recognizing that what applies today may change in the weeks ahead. I know you received these guidelines in an email April 23, but they are important enough that we’ve repeated them in full on page 7 of this issue of *The BYC Mainsheet*. Plus, we’ve used several other pages to highlight what I think are the most critical things to remember when arriving at the Club for the foreseeable future.

As things change, I will stay in touch. And I expect the June issue of our newsletter will bring you updates to these guidelines. Please know our overriding goal is to ensure that you, your family and our staff stay safe and healthy.

Meanwhile, let me know your ideas on how BYC can set its course during these uncertain times.

- Chris Bjerregaard, Commodore



When The BYC Mainsheet asked Past Commodores to tell us about their favorite boats, one offered the above. Learn about the others on page 2.



May 2020



First Love or Current Love ... We All Have a Favorite

We all have a favorite boat. She might be the first small craft that meant independence on the water as a kid. Or she might be a boat that caught our eye on the water one day and “somehow, someday” she’d be ours. And, quite often, it’s the boat that gets us on the water today. The BYC Mainsheet asked some of our Past Commodores to tell us a bit about their favorite boats. Here’s what they had to say.



Bob Hamel

Commodore 2009 - 2011

“I tried to remember how many boats I’ve had over the years going back to when I was 12 years old when I had my first Dyer Dhow, with lapstrake hull, canvas sail and leaking seams. Since then, there have been Sunfish, Beetles, O’Days, a Cape Cod Knockabout, a Cape Dory Typhoon, a Ranger 26, a San Juan 28, a Newport 30, a Pearson 33 and, currently, a Freedom 35, an Eastern 18, and the most recent acquisition, a Sea Sprite 23. I’ve come to realize that my favorite boat is whatever boat I happen to be on. It could be mine, a friend’s or a ferry.”



Ray Renaud

Commodore 1995 - 1997

“It was the summer of 1953 that my father came home with a used 14-foot, Amesbury-style boat, powered by a 6 HP Wizard, and I started exploring the Palmer River. Three Tree Island, Tom’s Island and places north of Route 6 in Rehoboth became my playground. Who needed summer camp? Through the years she was passed down to sisters and grandchildren. Known as ‘Pepe’s Boat’, she was a signal of the season on Sowams Road in Barrington. Pepe passed in 2001 and that summer we launched his boat and it sunk. The family tried all summer to find the leaks, but finally decided she wanted to be a memory. Each member of my family took a piece. Hanging above the photo (see left) is my piece of ‘Pepe’s Boat’ -- the splash guard off the deck.”



Anne Quigley

Commodore 1999 - 2001

“The boat that has meant the most to me is *Fysterious*, a Pearson 26 that my parents (fellow Past Commodore Jim Dollins and his wife, Julie) bought when I was twelve. Growing up, we took the boat for family vacations to Block Island, Cuttyhunk and many more places on the Bay. We also spent many Sundays at Prudence Island on *Fysterious* with family and friends. To this day, we race the boat as a family (including my husband, Mark) on Wednesday nights at BYC. We have been sailing on this boat for more than 40 years, and that has resulted in lots of good memories!”

Top photo: Bob Hamel relaxing at the helm near the Newport Bridge. Middle photo: Noted Providence Journal photographer Richard Benjamin focused on Pepe’s Boat in a piece he captioned “Summer Boats.” It hangs over Ray Renaud’s fireplace. Bottom photo: *Fysterious* in all her glory -- the “boat love” of not only Anne Quigley but also her father, Past Commodore Jim Dollins.

Continued on page 3.



*First Love or Current Love ...
continued from page 2.*

Bill Mayer

Commodore 1973 - 1975

"I have the dubious distinction of currently being the oldest Past Commodore both in age and time of service. I started with a Herreshoff 12.5, followed by one of the early Tritons, then an Alberg 35, and finally *Citation*, a Hinckley Bermuda 40, which we campaigned for over 30 years. What great experiences in life ... what adventures!" Bill also reminisced that "in the early '70s, Wednesday night BYC racing featured a post-race meal cooked by the Commodore's wife, who had a budget of just \$3 per dinner."

Herb Browne

Commodore 1977-1979

"I learned to sail and race on a Beetle Cat, long ago at the Edgewood Yacht Club. It had to be in the early 40s. I will always have a soft spot in my heart for those trying but memorable days. In the past 25 years or so, the boat that I most enjoyed racing was a Sea Sprite 23. I was fortunate to have my son, Rob, and his close friend, Carter, on board, which allowed me to concentrate solely on driving the boat. The boat I now own is a Pilot 35. I plan on simply sailing to enjoy this boat, with my wife, Christine, and Rob and his family, so that we may just enjoy the wonderful waters that surround our little town."

Bruce Cox

Commodore 2001 - 2003

"Anyone who knows me knows the Pearson 36 is in my veins. I first laid eyes on her when I saw the plan with my father as shown to us by the designer Bill Shaw. That summer I sailed with Bill on the NYYC cruise in his prototype, *Mahi*



Top photo: Herb and Christine Browne are thrilled with their new purchase, a Hinckley Pilot 35. Lower photo, left: Phoenix, a Pearson 36, a model that's been Bruce Cox's boat of choice since day one. Lower photo, right: Endeavor was the perfect boat for Jim and Julie Dollins to learn to sail on.

Mahi, just before I went off to college in 1972. In spring 1973, my father bought Hull #1. Mariah and I bought *Phoenix*, Hull #55, in September 1994. We race on Wednesday nights at BYC and with the Off Soundings Club, and love cruising the Vineyard."

Jim Dollins

Commodore 1987 - 1989

"We acquired *Endeavor* in 1970 and learned to sail on her. We enjoyed sailing her for the following six years. *Endeavor* is a Herreshoff 15, a 24-foot, gaff-rigged sloop built in 1910 at the Herreshoff boatyard on Hope Street, here in Bristol. She was a true pleasure to sail. However, our daughters, Marcia Turenne and Anne Quigley, expressed a desire to have a boat with 'a proper head', thus we sadly sold her. That said, we have enjoyed sailing, cruising and racing our current sailboat, *Fysterious*, since 1976."



Current BYC Guidelines



Social Distancing At All Times

Our Adirondack chairs are ready for use but only when you keep six feet between each one ... and at all other times while on Club property.



Clean Hands

Find disinfectant in each bathroom (wipe up after use, please), at the end of the dock, at the Dockhouse, in each launch and in the "loaner" dinghy.

And there's a new sink (plus, soap and towels) by the Dockhouse.



Closed for Awhile

For the time being, the Dockhouse is open to staff only. All docks are accessible per usual Club rules.



Masks On

Everyone on BYC property should wear a mask. This is particularly important when on the Club launch. (Masks with sailboat pictures optional!!)



Launch Starts Running

May 9

Hours
May 9 thru May 21
9:30 am to 5:30 pm



About the Launch

Only two people per vessel on the launch. Pick up/drop off remaining crew at the dock. Thanks for not asking for multiple trips to get your crew.

Wait for launch driver's okay before boarding.

Launch requires masks and social distancing.

Use your dinghy if at all possible.

Current BYC Guidelines



Dinghies Dominate

To avoid launch crowding and reduce wait times, please use your dinghy as much as possible.

No reserved dinghy dock space? Short-term tie up is available at the new U-shaped dock near the launch ramp.

During May, space to pull out additional dinghies may be available on the dinghy docks. Ask Dockmaster Pete Turenne for help. If you'd like to "lend out" your dinghy dock space during May, call Pete Turenne at 401-862-3151. It is appreciated!

No dinghy? BYC has a rowing dinghy "loaner." Ask the dock crew to borrow it. It must be rowed or towed back immediately for others to use.



Sign In to Ensure Contact Tracing

Should contact tracing become necessary, our sign-in sheets will be critical. Please take a minute to sign yourself in (and your family and guests) every time you arrive at BYC. Sign-in sheets are posted on the kitchen door of the Clubhouse and at the Dockhouse. Alternatives: Text or email steward@bristolyc.com. Or leave a message at 401-253-2922. Note names of all members in your party.



Current BYC Guidelines



What's Open

Our docks and bathrooms are open.
Our Clubhouse, Dockhouse, Beach Bar and Ship's Store are closed.

BYC Cruises 2020

Cancelled: Memorial Weekend Cruise

Cancelled: Gaspee Days Cruise

TBD: Summer Cruise to Buzzards Bay

See page 7 for the complete text of the Current BYC Guidelines issued by our Commodore on April 23.



BYC Guidelines Effective as of April 23, 2020

These guidelines, sent to members via email on April 23, are in place for the health and safety of our members, their guests and our staff. They will be updated on a regular basis as the situation warrants. Thank you for your cooperation.

- Chris Bjerregaard, Commodore

General Guidelines

- Remain home if you are sick.
- Refer to State of RI guidelines regarding need for non-state residents to quarantine after crossing state lines. As a Club, our position is that each member should consult these guidelines and make a personal decision as to how best to protect their health and that of fellow Club members and staff.
 - RI DPH Guidelines: [Link here.](#)
 - MA DPH Guidelines: [Link here.](#)

Arriving on BYC Property

- Everyone arriving on BYC property must sign in to enable contact tracing should it be needed. As of May 1, sign-in sheets are located at the kitchen door of the Clubhouse and at the Dockhouse. You can also text to or email to steward@bristolyc.com, or call 401-253-2922. Leave names of everyone in your party.
 - Should you become sick with or test positive for Covid-19 after being on Club property please alert our Chief Steward ASAP so we can use these sign-in sheets to interface with the State's contact tracing initiative.
- Face masks must be worn by everyone whenever on the property, including on the docks and launches. Members/guests are to provide their own masks.
- Social distancing – six feet apart at minimum – is the norm.
- Wash hands and use disinfectant regularly.
 - Disinfectant is available in several places at the Club including on the docks and in the launches.
 - A new sink, with soap and towels, is adjacent to the Dockhouse.

Facilities, Events, Etc.

- The Clubhouse and Beach Bar are closed.
- The Ship's Store is closed.
- The Dockhouse is open to staff only.
- The docks and outside bathrooms are open.
- Social events are cancelled until further notice.
- Cruises: Memorial Day Weekend and Gaspee Day Weekend cruises are cancelled. Summer cruise TBD.

- EBSF is accepting registrations. Any needed program modifications to be announced ASAP.
- Racing is accepting registrations. Any needed program modifications to be announced ASAP.

Launch Service

- Launch service begins Saturday, May 9. Hours are 9:30 am to 5:30 pm thru May 21. As of May 22, hours are 8:30 am to 9 pm, and Friday and Saturday until 10 pm, allowing time in the morning for a thorough cleaning of the launch.
 - Emergency launch service is available prior to May 9; speak with Chris Healey or Pete Turenne.
- Follow launch driver's guidance at all times. Do not board launch until permitted by driver.
- Launch capacity to be limited to ensure social distancing. Wait times may be longer than usual.
- Only two launch passengers per member vessel; bring your vessel to dock for remaining crew. Please do not request multiple trips. (This guideline aligns with the Club rules re: launch use during peak times.)
- Masks are mandatory on launch.
- Avail yourself of the sink at the Dockhouse and disinfectant before boarding the launch.
- Wipe off cart handles with disinfectant after use.

Dinghy Use

- To relieve launch service, all members are encouraged to use their dinghy as often as possible.
- Members without dinghy dock space may tie up at the new U-shaped dock adjacent to the boat ramp.
- Temporary dinghy dock space may be available. To borrow a space, speak with a fellow member or discuss with the Dockmaster. (Members with dinghy dock spaces are asked to offer them for temporary use. Please contact Pete Turenne.)
- BYC rowing dinghy is available for member use.
 - Do not tie this dinghy to your mooring. Please row it or tow it back to the Club immediately upon arriving at your vessel.
 - Disinfect the dinghy before and after use, wiping down oars and contact surfaces.

Contacts

- Chief Steward Chris Healey: steward@bristolyc.com; 401-253-2922
- Dockmaster Pete Turenne: dockmaster@bristolyc.com; 401-862-3151



Meet Some of Our Newest BYC Members

An annual BYC Commissioning tradition is to offer a special welcome to our newest members and to present them with a Club burgee. This year we're not quite sure when we can have our Commissioning celebration but that doesn't mean we can't give a hearty BYC welcome to members who've joined us since Commissioning a year ago. We introduced some last month. Below are more new colleagues.



Senior Member Fred Acciardo

of Barrington owns *Resilient*, a 1973 Olympic Carter 33, purchased 12 years ago. He's raced for many years on various boats and notes that he really enjoys the upper Bay area with Potters Cove and Smith Cove two of his favorite spots.

Why BYC? Fred notes he joined BYC because of its "great location, dedicated group of boating enthusiasts and the warm welcome from the membership." Plus, he adds that EBSF has the "best sailing instruction for today's youth."



James Turenne is not new to BYC as he's been an Intermediate Member for many years. This year we are happy to welcome him as a Senior Member. He's also comfortable

at BYC as he's been a dock hand and launch driver. While he doesn't own his own boat, you'll find him on *Bay Streaker*, his family's Bristol 27, as well as racing on *Ragtime* on Wednesday evenings and longer distance races on *Cetacean*.

Why BYC? Jim says: "I grew up sailing at BYC. My grandparents, Jim and Julie Dollins, parents, Marcia and Louis Turenne, and aunt and uncle, Anne and Mark Quigley, are all members. (Two are former commodores -- Jim Dollins and Anne Quigley.) Also, Dockmaster Pete Turenne is my brother. And I love spending as much time as possible on the water."

Senior Members Adam and Sarah Krajewski own *Levity*, a 32-foot Catalina they purchased four years ago. Since then, these Sharon, MA, residents have added to their family and enjoy cruising the Bay with Amelia (pictured) and her baby sister, Adeline.



Why BYC? Adam notes that they spent the past two seasons with a mooring at Bristol Marine looking enviously at BYC and have now decided to "make the short trip across the fence because we wanted to be part of a sailing community."

Senior Members Doug and Julie Laroche have a 14-foot Phantom sport sailboat. Both Doug and Julie, who are Bristol residents, have been learning to sail at EBSF and are impressed with the willingness of the instructors to share their knowledge. Says Doug: "The overall atmosphere convinced us this was the place to be."



Why BYC? Doug tells us: "Julie and I are novices, still learning to sail. We have four children who are also eager to learn. I have

Continued on page 9.



*Meet Our Newest Members ...
continued from page 8.*

spent a fair amount of time tooling around the harbor on my Phantom and we're looking to get involved in Wednesday night races. We're also looking to purchase a sailboat (racing/ cruising) in the next year or so - perhaps something along the lines of a Sea Sprite. Honestly, we're so new to it all that we're just still looking around."

Senior Members Becky and Randy Johnson live in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, during most of the year,

coming north in the spring to enjoy their townhouse in Portsmouth overlooking the Sakonnet River. A year ago they purchased *Explorer*, a NorthCoast 235, with their friends and fellow members Peter and Marilyn Brown.



Why BYC? The Johnsons say they've always felt at home whenever they visited the Club with friends and recognized members as a "great group of folks." They note: "We are looking forward to many new friendships and being part of a fun, local group we can share boating experiences with."



Have you ever wondered how a particular boat acquired its name? Peter Canzone (Commodore 2007-2009) gives us the answer.

IT'S ONLY A NAME ...

Boat:
Chillaxin' -
a 36-foot Hunter
Owners:
Carlton and
Kathlen Tucker



Why the name *Chillaxin'*?

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

"*Chillaxin'* is a boat that we use for cruising around the Bay rather than racing. I grew up learning to sail on Long Island Sound racing Blue Jays and Lightnings, and then crewing on Etchell 22s, S boats and larger ones on the regular big boat racing series around Long Island Sound.

"We purchased this boat in 2013 when my son, Michael, was entering his senior year in high school. He is perhaps the best sailor in our family. He learned to sail both at the Roger Williams summer sailing program and the Bristol Yacht Club youth sailing program.

"When we purchased the boat we let him choose the boat's name. He always liked the idea of 'chilling' and 'relaxing' (partly his personality), and the idea that when sailing these words describe how it should be. Thus, he cleverly combined the two words into *Chillaxin'*. What is equally interesting is that he designed the boat lettering using the famous Coca Cola font for the *Chillaxin'* script.

"My wife and my daughter have been more inclined toward the 'chilling' and 'relaxing' idea of cruising rather than racing. Thus, *Chillaxin'* fits their temperament and what our family has found in cruising Narragansett Bay or even to the islands."

*Now you know how the name *Chillaxin'* was chosen for the Tuckers' boat. If you have a boat name you would like to submit, please email Peter at americanart1@aol.com.*



RACING BY THE RULES

Barging – The dictionary definition is “To intrude or interrupt rudely or awkwardly.” But what about the Racing Rules of Sailing definition? That’s what we’re discussing this month.

-- Mark Rotsky

Even though you will not find the term anywhere in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), **barging** has long been a part of racing life. Here’s how it happens:

As a race is about to start, Boats A and B are approaching the far-right, favored side of the starting line on a starboard tack with Boat A overlapped to leeward of Boat B.

If Boat A heads up to windward, even above her close-hauled course, Boat B must keep clear.

If the end of the starting line with the RC Boat at it gets in the way of Boat B and there is no room for her to get by without being driven into the RC Boat by Boat A or hitting Boat A, then Boat B must turn away before getting caught between Boat A and the RC boat with no way to escape.

If she does not anticipate this and turns away by either tacking or ducking behind Boat A before the starting line, then Boat A, if impeded by Boat B while turning up or forced away to avoid a collision by Rule 14 (Avoiding Contact), will have grounds to protest Boat B.

So where is this rule in the RRS? Actually a number of rules must be addressed together.

First, as you recall from last month’s column, when boats are on the same tack and overlapped, Rule 11 states that the *windward boat* must keep clear of the *leeward boat*. But Rule 17 states that if the overlap was established by the *leeward boat* overtaking the *windward boat* from clear astern, the *leeward boat* can only sail up to but not above her proper course.

With just these rules, if Boat A established the overlap from clear astern, she may not be able to close the gap between Boat B and the RC Boat unless her *proper course* took her right next to the RC boat.

HOWEVER, the last line in the RRS definition of *proper course* states: “A boat has no *proper course* before her starting signal.” Therefore, Boat A is not restricted, regardless of how the overlap was established, from forcing Boat B up as far as head to wind until the starting signal has sounded regardless as to how the overlap was established. If the RC

Boat is in that space, Boat B must get out of there.

The second consideration comes from RRS Section C which provides various Rules at Marks and Obstructions where *outside boats* must allow *inside boats* (when rounding a mark) mark-room to pass marks safely. However, the Preamble to Section C states that rules in this section do not apply to starting marks surrounded by navigable water. So again, Boat A as the *outside boat* in this case, has no restriction from this Section to heading Boat B up as far as head to wind at the starting mark (RC Boat).

In conclusion, it is up to Boat B to anticipate whether she can pass between Boat A and the RC Boat, and if Boat A can and will head her up BEFORE she gets into trouble. If Boat B tries to force the issue and gets caught in the wrong between the boats while overlapped, she is **barging**.

So understand these Rules and don’t be rude. (Except, of course, if you’re BYC Members Bob or Deb Rude. But they never barge!)

Even though you will not find the term anywhere in the Racing Rules of Sailing, **barging** has long been a part of racing life.



Commodore's Corner

We'll Be OK

On Saturday, April 25, I made my first circuit of Hog Island in 2020. By kayak. I had been looking for a weather window for a paddle and Saturday had been looking good for a few days. After a week of working from home and dealing with Covid-related issues, I was psyched to get out on the water. I left BYC around 8 am ... 50 degrees, not a cloud in the sky or a hint of wind.

I like kayaking every bit as much as sailing. It's simple, quiet and great exercise. It gives me time to think and check out the wildlife. A few of the winter ducks are still here: buffleheads, loons and mergansers. I saw tree swallows, oyster catchers and an unidentified sandpiper. No terns yet. The only fish I saw were in the talons of the ospreys.

I was back at the BYC by 10 am with my faith in the universe restored. We are going to be OK.

- Chris Bjerregaard, Commodore

Weeknight Racing 2020

BYC's priority is the health and safety of our staff, members and visitors above all else, but with policies and procedures in place we can safely host racing events when the Governor allows activities.

We believe the State and local policies will start the gradual reopening of recreational activities in RI in the coming weeks and months and we want to be

RACE Committee

prepared to start racing when this happens. As you plan for the season,

we encourage skippers to be creative and make prudent decisions based on personal circumstances. Some ideas to consider are sailing with fewer crew or limiting exposure to family and roommates if situations warrant.

Official changes to the Sailing Instructions and schedule modifications to accommodate race execution and compliance with regulations will be posted and disseminated.

Registration for 2020 BYC racing is open. Go to the racing registration links at www.bristolyc.com to sign up.

Our annual Skippers' Meeting is on for May 13, 6:30 pm – just a Zoom format vs. a get together. A notice to competitors with details will be posted on the regatta website and published in the BYC Monday email on May 11.

- Nick Cromwell, Race Committee Chair

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WHEN THE SUN IS OVER THE YARDARM

Submitted by: Kathy Smith and Bill Durgin

Boat: *Tonka*, a 28-foot Legacy



Bill Durgin has practiced his Rum and Coke mixology for more than 40 years!

Kathy tells us: "There is only one drink served on *Tonka* and that is The Bill Durgin Rum and Coke. For 41 years it's been the mainstay on *Tonka* ... after racing on our J-24 *Tonka*, after racing or cruising on our J/30 *Tonka*, and now, because we're old, after putt-putting around on our Legacy 28 *Tonka*! Here's the recipe, though it is very basic. For the first 30 years it was Coca-Cola but, alas, it's now Diet Pepsi!"

The Bill Durgin Rum and Coke

- Mount Gay Rum
- Coca-Cola or Diet Pepsi
- Squeeze of Lime
- Plenty of Ice

Mix in whatever proportions the spirit moves you!

You've set the anchor or picked up the mooring ... we all know what's next. The BYC Mainsheet wants to share your favorite ship-board cocktail. Just email bymainsheet@gmail.com with your fave and a photo. As a thank you, we'll send you a BYC car decal.



The BYC Social Committee has planned a 2020 Pirate Dinghy Parade for June 20. Hopefully, we'll get to see Sweet Pea and Kathy dressed for the occasion. But, given Covid-19 restrictions, it may be cancelled. Stay tuned to Club communications for updates.

The crew: *Sweet Pea*, a 3-year-old cattle dog mix

Sweet Pea's captains: *Kathy and Mark Rotsky*

Their boat: *Nemesis*, a J/30

A chat with Sweet Pea: "Hi, I'm Sweet Pea! I've seen a lot of you on the launch. I love to go out on my boat sailing. I was dressed up as a pirate dog in this picture for the Pirate Dinghy Parade last summer. My mom was dressed up, too, because she was the pirate in charge that day."

"Mom brought me home with her from Mexico, which was quite a surprise to my new father, Mark. I've done my best to woo him and I think he does love me, although he still will not tell me so. I hope to see you this coming summer on the water."

BYC PETS