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# Under the Rock

Winter 2022

## The Newsletter of the Marblehead Yacht Club

## Happy Holidays from MYC

## Commodore's Comments

Ahoy, Ahoy!

It's with great pleasure I write to you as the new Commodore of the Marblehead Yacht Club. Thank you to the Board of Directors for their faith in my ability to steward this wonderful organization, as well as to our outgoing Commodore Jane Clayton whose shoes will be hard to fill.

As with all things, change is inevitable and this year we are faced with several new challenges brought on by change. First, our Club Manager and Dock Master, Bill Kilham, made the decision in August that after 10 years of service to the MYC it was time to step back and spend more time with his family. Bill is not leaving us entirely, he has promised to continue driving a launch for us, but sadly all his other duties . managing the clubhouse and the waterfront operations, will fall to Bill's replacement.

As for Bill's replacement, after forming a search committee in August that solicited and interviewed many potential candidates throughout the Fall, I'm pleased to report that the Board has approved the Search Committee's recommendation to offer the position to Michael Mentuck. We are still in negotiations to finalize the details of the offer, but I can report that both sides are excited about the prospects and anticipate a positive outcome. Many of you who use the waterfront have met Michael as he drove for us this summer and held the position of Assistant Dockmaster under Bill this fall. Michael came to us highly recommended and has the required experience (particularly in Marine mechanics) that we so value at the MYC.

As soon as we complete the particulars (we hope in the next few days) we'll have a formal announcement and introduction of Michael Mentuck to the membership.

I'd like to especially thank my fellow members of the Ad Hoc Search Committee (Marcel Nyffenegger, Jim Regis, and Michael Perez) for all their time, effort, advice, and counsel during this process.

You'll see some other changes in the operation at the MYC this year as well, membership renewals and communications by the Club will increasingly take place via electronic means (instead of the postal service) so please make sure that we have an accurate email for you and that you check your in-box frequently for important updates, program and entertainment information, schedules of events, and changes to operations. This information will also be on the MYC website (MarbleheadYC.org) and our Facebook page.

As always some of our plans may take some time getting used to, so please bear with us as the implementation takes place.

Finally, I'm looking forward to a fun filled new season at the Marblehead Yacht Club and working with Vice Commodore Marcel Nyffenegger, our New Rear Commodore David Weber, Treasurer Jim Regis, our new recording Secretary Patti O'Neil and the rest of the Board of Directors this season.

Happy Holidays and we hope we'll see you in the New Year!

David Williams

## Manager's Minit

I'm happy to report that just about everything is buttoned up for the off season: launches, deck, clubhouse, plumbing, dockmaster/manager (so much buttoning!). With each and every "last time I have to do this" I encounter, there's a little bit of sadness, as I have been very lucky these past years to have worked at such a great spot. I feel confident that whoever takes over for me will encounter the same kindness, patience and goodwill that I have enjoyed each and every year here at the MYC. This place is truly the "friendliest yacht club in Marblehead", and not just because it says so on our website. I look forward to seeing everyone next year as I move to the position of MYC launch driver (if you'll have me). I've got all winter to work on my hat upgrade!

As always, please check the MYC Website for the upcoming winter events programs, as the Program Committee has lined up some really interesting speakers this season.

I wish everyone a safe, uneventful winter with very little shoveling of the white stuff and of course, thanks again for the many years of support I've enjoyed here at the Marblehead Yacht Club.

See you on the launch,

Bill

## Outgoing Commodore's Remarks

Welcome 2023, Congratulations and gratitude to the new MYC Flag officers and board members!

2022 was simply a great year for the MYC. We had amazing weather with lots of sunny warm/hot days, gentle breezes for sailing and I heard there were lots of fish to be had. We had very successful social events and even had the most perfect full moonrise over the neck for our popular wine tasting event. Truly a magical evening. The launches ran like clockwork, efficient, friendly, and always professionally. Our new catering service was a huge success with plentiful yummy food, friendly service, and an extended season!

I am so grateful to the 2022 Flag officers and board for their support and time. Bill Kilham…Ugh! We are going to miss your leadership and skills even more than we really know, but are so happy we will still have you for your hilarious banter and unique perspective on any given situation. You are truly one of a kind. Tom Despres, thank you for never sounding annoyed when I called you with multiple questions about pretty much everything, such patience! The institutional and historic knowledge is invaluable to the continuity and traditions of the MYC.

I would also like to say thank you to Alan and Marie Petersen and the various committees who get stuff done! The History Committee has literally written a book! Get yours! The Finance Committee (so boring 😉) so hard working and smart created a budget that is comprehensive and forward thinking.

Please, please, please sign up for a 2023 committee, Volunteerism is the life blood of the MYC and is truly what makes it special. One final plea for current emails as we continue on the journey to paperless billing and communications!

Thanks to Bill Keyes for your guidance and support, you handed off a club in great shape. I know David Williams and the new Flag Officers will maintain a steady hand on the helm.

I am grateful to the membership for their support of me personally. We are so fortunate to have such an amazing membership.

Can't wait to see you all next summer on the deck, launch, or cruising through the harbor!

## MYC 2022 Annual Meeting

The following are the highlights of the MYC Annual Meeting held on November 20, 2022. The complete minutes of the meeting are available here.

Commodore Jane Clayton called the meeting to order thanking the staff, volunteers and members for making the successful 2022 season possible.

**New Business**
The two items under new business position the Club to move into next season: approval of the 2023 budget and the election of officers and directors.

Budget:
The proposed Operating Budget was approved by the members with a dues increase of $125 for Active Members and $62.50 for Associate Members.
A Capital Budget was not presented as there are no planned capital expenditures planned for 2023.

Election of Officers and Board of Directors:
The slate of officers and directors recommended by the Nominating Committee was approved. Officers and Directors for 2023 are:

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|---|---|
| David Williams | Commodore |
| Marcel Nyffenegger | Vice Commodore |
| David Weber | Rear Commodore |
| Patricia O'Neil | Secretary |
| James Regis | Treasurer |
| Jane Clayton | Board Member |
| Bill Keyes | Board Member |
| John Murray | Board Member |
| Paul Williams | Board Member |
| Sam Bennett | Board Member |

## MYC Merchandise Available Online.

Marblehead Yacht Club merchandise can now be ordered through the MYC website. Click MYC Online Store to view our selection of great gear and how to place your order.

## MYC History Book Coming Soon !

By now everyone should know that the MYC History Committee has been working on the MYC History book for the past 3 years. Well, after lots of researching, writing and editing (and rewriting) the Book is nearly complete. We hope all members will order a book to learn about our club's interesting history. Did you know that the Club was started by some nefarious characters who had run-ins with the law? Did you know which MYC member was the first distributor of Anheuser-Busch beer in Massachusetts? Did you know that the MYC was on the verge of closing several times? Did you know what role an MYC member played in the *USS Constitution* visit in 1997? Well, all this will be revealed (and much more) when you purchase and read the book.

We are finalizing the book now and it will be sent to the printers in early February. It will be softcover and loaded with stories, photos and history of the MYC and the Shipyard neighborhood. **The MYC History book is available NOW for Pre-Order via this newsletter under "MYC Merchandise" or via MYC website (marbleheadyc.org) - Click on "SHOP" in the menu to access the MYC Online Store**
**Don't Delay - Pre-Order your copy *TODAY* - and lock in the Discounted price ... Then Pay when the book comes in !**

## Gratuity Fund

Thank you to all who contributed generously to the Launch Driver Gratuity Fund. Total contributions were over $20,000 which is distributed to the waterfront staff just before the holidays.

Sincerely,
MYC Flag Officers & Board of Directors

## MYC Winter Programs

The MYC Winter Program 2023 Schedule is finalized, and we hope you can join these interesting talks. The Winter Programs are a way to stay involved in the Club during the offseason and learn about something new. This year, all the talks will be at the MYC Cliff Room and start at 7pm. Details of each session are posted on the MYC Website and the schedule is as follows:

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|---|---|
| January 25, 2023 | ***Boat and Seascape Photography Tips***<br>Bruce Durkee |
| February 15, 2023 | ***Marblehead Myths Legends and Lore***<br>Pam Peterson |
| March 15, 2023 | ***Marblehead Yacht Club and Shipyard History***<br>John Murray |
| April 5, 2023 | ***A Special Journey, The Triangle Loop***<br>Peter Evans |
| April 26, 2023 | ***Getting the Most Out Of Your Sails, Tips on Sail Trim***<br>Stan Schreyer |

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