



DECEMBER 2014

UNDER THE ROCK

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MARBLEHEAD YACHT CLUB

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Coming Events

The 2015 Season

Seasons Greetings

MARBLEHEAD'S OLDEST YACHT CLUB

MARBLEHEAD YACHT CLUB - 4 CLIFF STREET - MARBLEHEAD, MA 01945
781-631-9771 - WWW.MARBLEHEADYC.ORG

Outgoing Commodore's Parting Message

To MYC Members,

It has been a privilege to serve the membership of the Marblehead Yacht Club. I didn't think it possible to gain even more respect for all of the hard work that has gone on in the past and continues today by the volunteer spirit of our members, but I have. In the past year the Club has taken on a host of major projects:

- ▶ The rear of the club house has been restored from the second floor up,
- ▶ The Galley sinks were upgraded and the sill and floor are being repaired,
- ▶ The Furnace is being replaced making room to improve that space,
- ▶ Two Launches have undergone major deck and engine restorations and
- ▶ The gangway has undergone restoration.

All the while, the Club operated as usual with no major interruptions in launch or club house services. This is pretty remarkable and is chiefly through the efforts of Club Manager Bill Kilham and his staff and dedicated member volunteers.

Over the past year I referred to a little snippet from the Club's 1935 Articles of Organization as a guiding principle: ***"To promote yachting of every kind... and provide for the social advancement and entertainment of its members"***. Through collective efforts we have managed to hold the Meet and Greet, The Opening Day Cookout, The Sumer Solstice, The Ice Cream Social, the 4th of July Cookout, A special presentation by Michael Tougias, the Chowder Party, and let's not forget the two boating events, the Chase Race and the Boston Harbor Regatta. Many of you who made all of this possible will simply consider it "all in a days work" but you should take a moment to appreciate all that was accomplished with your help this year. Thank you for making my job easy.

It was a luxury to have four Past Commodores, Kevin Neumann, Dick Steadman, Doug Burgess and Jay Michaud, available with so much knowledge at hand. Chris Booth and Brian Schanning have been instrumental with the financial and procedural goings on as well as Doug who recorded all of those goings on. I am grateful for the contributions of exiting Board members Dick and Jay, and Chuck Nyren and wish them the best in future endeavors. And let us not forget the losses within our membership family this year. My deepest sympathies to those of you who have recently lost friends and family.

Looking forward, the business of the club will be in the hands of a strong and devoted group of officers and Board. There is no doubt that Commodore Tom Despres, Vice Commodore Marion McCauley, Rear Commodore Allen Petersen, new Board members Carlos Calixto and Bert Williams, and the rest of the Directors will easily manage the duties that make this Club the special place we've come to appreciate and feel welcome relaxing on ~~it's~~ its deck. I wish you all a peaceful holiday season and I look forward to seeing you on the deck or on the water in 2015.

Best Regards,



Bill Betters

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Greetings.

December is an unlikely time to think about Marblehead Yacht Club but planning for next season is underway. This issue of Under the Rock looks back at the 2014 season with a recap of the Annual Meeting and looks forward to 2015. Before getting into goals for next year we all owe a debt of gratitude and thanks to Bill Betters, outgoing Commodore. On Bill's watch we enjoyed a great season with the reintroduction of the Chase Race and the MYC cruise as well as 8 member events at the Club. Always self-effacing, Bill would credit the committees who put these things together but they all happened with Bill's hand at the helm.

As the recap of the Annual Meeting illustrates, the Club is in great shape as we continue the program of capital improvements to the launches and clubhouse. I feel very fortunate to inherit this role with these established programs. At the annual meeting I outlined three goals for next year.

- Stay the course of keeping the Club and member costs in line. Continue our cycle of capital investments to improve our facilities including the launches, waterfront and clubhouse. We are all anxious to see improvements as soon as possible but we need to maintain the budget and great value that MYC provides.
- Increase membership. MYC is the best deal in town and there is no reason to keep it a secret. Increasing membership is key to keeping the dues in line. Plans are underway to promote the Club with a membership drive but the best opportunity is word of mouth. Many of us have mooring "neighbors" who just haven't seen the light. Talk it up.
- Build member involvement. The Club needs involvement by all of us. There are two sides to this. Committees need the participation of members to share the planning and work well. At the same time those of us who are committee chairs need to reach out to include as many as possible. We aren't a Club unless committees involve members and members are involved in committees. Please contact me or any of the board members if you would like to learn more about getting involved at MYC.

Before moving on to next year, special thanks go to our Club Manager Bill Kilham and the waterfront staff for the smooth running waterfront we all enjoyed this season.

Happy holidays everyone and looking forward to the 2015 season.

Sincerely,

Tom Despres, Commodore

MYC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MYC 2015 Officers and Directors

Officers

Commodore	Tom Despres	781-631-8158
Vice Commodore	Marion McCauley	781-631-7569
Rear Commodore	Alan Petersen	781-631-1362
Secretary	Doug Burgess	781-596-3874
Treasurer	Chris Booth	781-631-5132

Directors

Bill Betters	781-631-1013
Carlos Calixto	617-757-5310
Kevin Neumann	781-631-3139
Brian Schanning	781-631-2417
Bert Williams	978-369-7601

Staff

Dock Master/Club Manager	Bill Kilham	781-631-9771
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MYC Board Meetings

Change of Meeting Date

Meetings of the Marblehead Yacht Club Officers and Directors are held monthly in the Cliff Room at 7:30 on the third Tuesday of each month. MYC is a volunteer club and these meetings are open to club members with all invited to attend and participate.

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Notices and Callouts

Gratuity Fund

As we prepare for the holiday season and look back at the successful year at MYC, there is still an opportunity to contribute to the MYC Gratuity fund and recognize the excellent performance of our waterfront staff. Our members have always been generous in this regard and if you have forgotten to respond, please take a moment to write a check to the "MYC Gratuity Fund" and mail it to Marblehead Yacht Club, P.O. Box 943, Marblehead MA 01945.

MYC Store

Just in time for the holidays there is a supply of MYC logo clothing including jackets, polo shirts and long sleeve tee shirts. Contact Marion McCauley at marionmccauley@gmail.com if you want to purchase items or to check on available sizes.

Special Meeting October 16

The proposed changes to the MYC Constitution and Bylaws were approved as proposed with minor edits. The changes are incorporated in the MYC Constitution and Bylaws which are posted on the website and a copy is on file in the Cliff Room.

Membership Drive

It isn't a news flash to any of us but Marblehead Yacht Club is a great club with a value well beyond our modest fees. If you are a boat owner in Marblehead Harbor, what is not to like about a low cost club with excellent launch service, a low key atmosphere and a great waterfront deck. We need to tell our story and get the word out. To build awareness fellow Marblehead boaters will receive a postcard in early January telling our story with an invitation to learn more about MYC. This is a first attempt at a membership initiative thanks to new board member Bert Williams. There will be much more to follow. If you would like to help tell our story please contact Bert to lend a hand.

Annual Meeting Summary, November 16

The annual meeting was well attended and the following highlights the actions taken.

Budget. The proposed operating and capital budgets were approved as presented. The capital budget includes funding to continue the program of refurbishing the launches and a provision for galley repairs. The combined budgets do not require an increase in membership dues.

The intent of the proposed bylaw change was approved by simply stating that Section 2.9 of the Bylaws is deleted.

The slate of officers proposed by the nominating committee was approved. New members of the Board of Directors are Carlos Calixto and Bert Williams each elected to a one year term. Outgoing Commodore Bill Betters was elected to a three year term as a Director. Officers for the 2015 season are Tom Despres, Commodore, Marion McCauley, Vice Commodore, Alan Petersen, Rear Commodore, Chris Booth, Treasurer, and Doug Burgess, Secretary. Outgoing board member and past commodore Dick Steadman was recognized for his long service to the Club.

The Club Manager's and Committee Reports provided a summary of the season and outlined anticipated plans for the 2015 season.

Club Manager Bill Kilham highlighted actions underway and planned for the winter months.

The new furnace installation is underway and will be completed in the next few weeks.

Improvements to provide early hour access to lockers and rest rooms will be completed in the off-season.

Launches 1 and 2 are scheduled for the work approved in the capital budget. Launch number 1 is slated for deck repair and new paint in the cockpit and topsides. Launch 2 is scheduled for a total engine rebuild or possible engine replacement. The transmission of launch 3 will be rebuilt as part of our bi-annual maintenance program.

Addressing the structural issues with the sills and floor in the galley area is on the agenda with the Harbormaster for the winter months.

Committee Chair Doug Burgess summarized the work completed by the Bylaws Committee, consisting of Doug, Ernie Greer, and Brian Schanning in completing the request of the Club members to update the Constitution and Bylaws. The task was completed with the approval of the proposed changes at the Special Meeting on October 16th and at the Annual Meeting. The Bylaws Committee is now disbanded.

Annual Meeting Summary, Continued

Communications Committee Chair Tom Despres acknowledged the work of the Committee notably Webmaster Stu Newman. The Club newsletter, Under the Rock, was published four times during the season and increasingly email and the Club website are used to communicate Club events and notices.

Bill Betters, Entertainment Committee Chair, cited the terrific work by the entertainment committee this season. The committee organized 8 separate events enjoyed by the membership.

Paul McCauley, Finance Committee Chair cited the work of the committee in monitoring the expenses throughout the season and the development of the 2015 budget approved at the Annual Meeting.

Fleet Committee Chair Chuck Nyren: The MYC Cruise to Spectacle Island in Boston Harbor was a success and it was agreed that plans for a 2015 cruise would begin during the winter months.

Committee Chair Marion McCauley summarized the work completed on the clubhouse this year.

A third sink was installed in the Galley as required by the Health Department.

In cooperation with the Harbormaster a new third floor window and second floor sliders were installed as well as new siding on the south side of the building.

The Club was successful in negotiating with the town to subsidize the installation of the new heating system. This is underway with labor contributed by Dick Steadman and Steve Waldman.

Cost effective improvements to WIFI, television and phone service were completed.

One of the Lavender Room bathrooms was updated with removal of wallpaper, repair and repainting.

Membership Committee Chair Marion McCauley reported the activities of the membership committee. We ended the 2014 season with 325 members including 18 new Full (Boating) members and 6 new Associate (Social) members. Net membership numbers were down by 24 from 2013.

Race Committee Chair Tom Anderson provided a review of the Chase Race held on July 20th. The race was well received with non MYC participants as well as Club members totaling fifteen boats. Preliminary approval for inclusion in the Mass Bay Sailing Pursuit Championship in 2015 has been received.

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Annual Meeting Summary, Continued

Waterfront Committee Chair Tom Despres highlighted the successful work completed last winter, including the repair and repainting of launch 1 and the rebuilding of the engine on launch 2. The program of refurbishing the launches will continue this season. Other waterfront items of note:

Dinghy Rings: There is more demand for dinghy rings than capacity at the Club. The dinghy area is overcrowded and the focus is to accommodate the existing permit holders.

Concrete Pier: The major structural support at the head of the gangway is deteriorating and negotiations with the town to subsidize the repair need to be approached.

The meeting concluded with the following presentations:

Alan Petersen was recognized for his 50 years of continuous MYC membership. With the presentation of an MYC lamp he joins a very select group.

Bill Betters was presented with an MYC chair in appreciation for his service as Commodore in 2014.

The meeting was adjourned and followed by a social hour.

Passages

Sadly several long time members who contributed greatly to the spirit and success of Marblehead Yacht Club were lost in 2014.

Charles Newhall was a long time-member of the Club and past Commodore. Charles along with brothers Jim and John Newhall are part of a long tradition of family members serving the Club.

Newt Clemson was an active sailor in Marblehead waters. Since joining MYC Newt was a force in promoting our Club racing activity and a key member of the Entertainment Committee.

Barbara Capellotti was a long time member of the Entertainment Committee and always a gracious presence at "her" table on the deck.