SUFFOLK BOAT CLUB

Established 1944



Greetings SBC members! It's hard to believe that May is upon us! And with it, Spring and the 2024 boating season have finally arrived. Many members are sharing their stories of preparing boats for the coming season and some are already in the water. I'm looking forward to all the cruising and fishing adventures that lie ahead for this season.

The club calendar has certainly filled up this season. There are many events planned for all members to take advantage of whether you have a boat or not. For starters, our Commodore's Brunch is just around the corner on Sunday May 5th. This is a wonderful celebration of our Commodores past and present and is steeped in club tradition. Make your plans to be there and join in the raising of the flags and the cannon ceremony. It certainly is something to see.

As the rest of the season unfolds, you'll want to make plans to participate in the meetups we have planned for Zach's Bay on May 25 and the third annual Connetquot River raft-up on June 28-29. For the landlubbers in the crowd, there's our annual July Happy Hour BBQ scheduled for July 10th at the club. Burgers and dogs cooked to order, eating outside or on the deck and watching a mid-summer sunset while enjoying the fellowship of our members. We have also set a date for a Tiki Boat cruise up the Connetquot river on July 24. A sunset cruise with our own Kevin Biscardi as host, serving cocktails and lite fare as you cruise the majestic Connetquot River. No doubt there will be some dancing going on too!! Mark your calendars now and do not miss out on the fun.

Switching gears, I wanted to share an extraordinary exchange I had with our long-time member and past Commodore, Rich Schwinge during the April meeting. Rich took me aside to share with me a club tradition that has all but vanished. As we spoke, Rich presented me with his club lapel patch. One of just a few remaining within our membership. Rich asked that we honor our past members by wearing the patch at club events and by passing this club artifact along to incoming commodores. It was a touching moment and one I will remember for a long time. As you

have heard me say many times, we must honor our past as we move into the future, particularly as we celebrate our 80^{th} year. Thank you Rich! I'm honored.

Another topic near and dear to my heart is the repayment of our outstanding member loans. April was another good month on that front. Because of the engagement and participation of all our members with activities and meetings we were able to make four additional \$500 payments in April. This brings our remaining balance down to just \$4,000. We're making great progress and we could not do it without everyone putting

their hand to an oar and rowing with the Bridge and our directors. Our Trivia night helps a lot too! Looking forward to clearing the debts and using future funds to better the club's appearance.

There is so much to be thankful for and so many great activities planned for the coming months. I encourage everyone to get involved with some of these events and make the most of your membership and the club. It's going to be a great season!!

ELECTED OFFICERS

Russ Kittel *Commodore*

Jim Lorello *Vice Commodore*

Jeanne Riley-Kittel Rear Commodore

Charlie Mazzarese Treasurer

Susan Glover *Recording Secretary*

Kathy Lorello Financial Secretary

Directors
Tom Duggan
Mike Sawaya
Ed Detweiler

Bridge Meeting
May 1, 2024

Member Meeting
May 17, 2024



Here is a quick snapshot of upcoming events for the next few months. Mark your calendars today and make plans to join in the fun!!

May			
May 1	Wednesday	Directors Meeting	7:00 PM
May 5	Sunday	Commodore's Brunch	10:00 AM
May 17	Friday	Membership Meeting	7:00 PM
		Smoked BBQ Sponsored by Jeanne & Russ Kittel	
May 25	Saturday	Zach's Bay Memorial Day Raft-up	9:00 AM
May 29	Wednesday	Trivia Night	7:00 PM
June			
June 5	Wednesday	Directors Meeting	7:00 PM
June 7	Friday	Membership Meeting	7:00 PM
		Steak Dinner BBQ - Sponsor needed	
June 26	Wednesday	Trivia Night	7:00 PM
June 28	Friday	Connetquot River Spring Raft Up	4:00 PM
July - Happy Boating			
July 10	Wednesday	Annual Happy Hour BBQ	7:00
July 24	Wednesday	Tiki Boat Cruise - @ The Wharf, Oakdale	6:00
August - Happy Boating			
TBD	Wednesday	Tiki Boat Cruise - @ The Wharf, Oakdale	6:00





Our Honorary Members Rich Tully, Anita Becker, Marge Felice



Kevin Biscardi has offered an open invitation to join his Tiki Boat Long Island team as they kick off their 2024 season. Come on down to Vanderbilt's Warf in Oakdale and support Kevin and check out his Tiki boat that we will be cruising on in July.



Lots coming up and much to look forward to as the season begins to unwind. As always, your suggestions for additional events to consider are always welcomed.



May Meeting – This month's dinner is being hosted by the Kittel's and Hess's. It will be an old fashioned slow cooked smoked BBQ with crowd favorites including pulled pork, baby back ribs, pulled chicken and all the fixins.

Our June meeting will be the club's traditional steak dinner. We're still looking for sponsors for this meal. If you are interested in being a sponsor (even a

partial sponsor) let the Bridge know and we'll work out the details.



Membership

- Maria and John Sarich were sworn in at the April meeting. We're looking forward to what they will add to our club. Welcome Maria and John!!
- 2. Our roster is currently at 37 members +3 new applicants on our way to a goal of 50.
- New membership applications in review with the board.
 Steve Langenbach
 Kathy & Rob Andersen
 Al Haber



- 4. There are other prospects that have expressed interest in joining. We're waiting on applications.
- 5. Rich Tully was awarded Honorary lifetime membership at the April meeting. Congratulations Rich and thank you for all you've done for the club. We now have three Lifetime Honorary members.
- 6. Guest invitations for the membership to use for prospective members are printed and will be available at all meetings. The invitations are a great way to break the ice when inviting guests.
- 7. Please continue to invite friends and acquaintances to be a part of the club as we celebrate our 80th anniversary year. Feel free to share our web site link to help tell our story to future members.

 https://suffolkboatclub.com The site is always being updated with fresh content.

<u>Fundraising</u> – Our fundraising for 2024 continues to roll on. We're still on or ahead of our plan for 2024. Our new monthly Trivia Night has already raised over \$2,000. Funds coming into the club so far this year exceeded \$10,000 before expenses.

Trivia Night –We had a lot of fun, as usual. If you missed it, you missed a great evening and a lot of laughs. Thanks to everyone for your participation and please continue to invite outside guests & friends to upcoming events, it really helps. And, it's a lot of fun! Just ask anyone who has come out already. Come solo or with a team but make plans to come out for our May Trivia Night on Wednesday the 29th and get into the fun! See you there!!



Mah Jong & Bingo - Working on a schedule for Mah Jong night at the club. More details will be forthcoming.

<u>Loan Payments</u> - Our outstanding loan balance is \$4,000 owed to 7 members. 9 payments were distributed from February through April. Your participation in club events helps us maintain our momentum on repayments. We will do our best to make additional payments in May.

Committee Volunteers

The Bridge has big plans for this year and we need your help to achieve success. We are looking for volunteers for several important roles including:



- 1. Membership Lot's going on with membership. We could use someone to help coordinate and do follow ups
- 2. Fundraising Looking for some fun ideas and ways to raise funds
- 3. Events Open to more special events. We have ideas but need hands to help.
- 4. Fleet Captain
- 5. Flag Officer



Please give some thought to how you can bring your skills and talents to the club and volunteer to put your hands to the oars and row with us into 2024 and beyond.

Wishing you all calm winds and smooth seas,

Russ Kittel, Commodore Suffolk Boat Club https://suffolkboatclub.com

Club Rentals

Please contact Kathy Lorello @ 631-758-0327 if you or a guest is interested in renting the club for a special event.

May Anniversaries

Kathleen & Jeffrey Vollmuth

May Birthdays

Marge Felice, Marge Richmond



Hope your day is the best yet!!

Commodore's Corner

Boating related stories & information Hope you enjoy the content!

Docking Tips

What you need to know about gasoline
Often ignored items that need love