

# *Yacht Clubs of Maryland's Bay Breeze October 2020*



*Please Distribute to Your Members*

**Visit us at: [www.yachtclubsofmaryland.com](http://www.yachtclubsofmaryland.com)**

**If your club is not already a member of Yacht Clubs of Maryland, we would love to have you join us.  
To join, please contact R/C George Stromberg who will guide you through the process**

## **YCM 2020-2021 Officers and Board Members**

**Commodore-Mike Gaff (Red Eye YC)**

**Vice Commodore-George Stromberg (Bodkin YC)**

**Rear Commodore-Tom Stevens (Crescent YC)**

**Legislative Affairs Officer-Scott Gundaker (Wellwood YC)**

**Treasurer- Faye Broseker (Riverside YC)**

**Secretary-Mike Bruns (Baltimore YC)**

**IPC Board Member-Wayne A. Pencek (Golden Anchor YC)**

**Board Member-Kate Cramblett (Miles River YC)**

**Board Member-Ted Wooden (Middle River YC)**

**Board Member-Janet Yodris- (Key YC)**

**Board Member-Joe Broseker (Chesapeake Commodores Club)**

**Supply Officer-Joe Hellner (Belvedere)**

**Chaplain-Anna Davis (White Rocks)**

## **YCM Board Meeting**

**October 28<sup>th</sup> – Board Mtg – ON-LINE**

***Enjoy Fall Boating on the Beautiful Chesapeake***

## YCM Committees

### Audit Committee

- Debbie Penczek (PC Golden Anchor YC) Chairperson
- Ron Peffer (PC Eastern YC)

### By-Law Committee

- Joe Hellner (PC Belvedere YC) Chairperson
- Cheryl Blakey (PC Wellwood YC)
- Phil Hock (PC Baltimore YC)

### Finance Committee

- Wayne Penczek (PC Golden Anchor YC, IPC YCM)
- Barry Scott (PC Otter Point YC, YCM Commodore)
- Faye Broseker (PC Riverside YC, YCM Treasurer)
- Ryan Peters (PC Crescent YC, PC YCM)
- Larry Korpanty (PC Maryland YC)

### Nominating Committee

- Wayne A Penczek (P/C Golden Anchor YC, IPC YCM)
- Janet Yodris (PC Key YC, PC YCM)
- Joe Broseker (PC 3C's)



## COMMODORE'S REPORT

**Michael Gaff**

**mikegaff@yahoo.com**

I cannot believe it, but I feel a small sense of normalcy. On October 3rd I was honored to attend the first Ball of the season for Sue Haven Yacht Club. I'd like to congratulate Commodore Bill Adams and First Lady Tina. I look forward to getting to know you even better this year. In addition, I'd like to thank IPC Mark Maust on doing such a wonderful job during the global pandemic.

On Saturday, October 10th I was thrilled to attend Red Eye Yacht Club's 57th Annual Ball. This Ball was especially sentimental for me because not only was I able to present a good friend and fellow King, IPC Randy Hamilton with his silver buttons; but I was ecstatic to celebrate my wife's installment as Red Eye's 6th Female Commodore. Not only does she do her very best to help and support me while taking on the duties of Commodore of our home club, but does it all while being a warrior; struggling with her own serious health issues.

I'm looking forward to celebrating with more Clubs and their new Bridges in the future. Please send your Ball information to VC George Stromberg so that he can compile an accurate list as well as send your flyers to our webmaster, First Soft Crab Stephanie to be posted on our website. In addition, please feel free to send event flyers as well so they can be communicated.

**Thank you,**  
**Michael Gaff**  
**(443) 682-1785**



## Vice Commodore's Report

**George Stromberg**

**bodkinrabber@gmail.com**

Hello to All in our Yacht Club Community. As I assume the duties of my new position of Vice Commodore of YCM I still have one bit of Rear Commodore Business to finish. As you know the Annual Golf Outing had to be rescheduled due to bad weather.

***The new date is Thursday Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>. Sign in 8:30 AM with shotgun Start at 9:00 AM.***

As stated before, this event is a huge part of our fund raising so we can properly support our Member Clubs. The turnout for the first date was great and we are hoping the reschedule will be the same. We would like you to reconfirm your Team's players as soon as possible. In the event we do not hear from you we will assume you are attending. We appreciate your patience on this and sincerely appreciate your continued support.

Next up are the Balls: Please send your ball info and flyers to us as soon as possible. My email is bodkinrabber@gmail.com. Mobile : (410) 746 8581. I recently attended Red Eye Yacht Club's Ball honoring Commodore Stephanie Gaff and First Dude Mike along with the rest of the newly installed Officers. It was a wonderful evening with great food and a program that honored Veterans, The Armed Forces, POW's and First Responders. Looking forward to more Balls being open to all Clubs to attend. 2020 has been a very challenging year for us all. The Officers of our Member Clubs have met the challenge head on and kudos to all. Let's continue to do all we can as a community to salvage the events left this year and support them 100%.

In closing just remember this.

***A failure is not soon forgotten, while a success is fleeting for the moment.  
One is bitter the other is sweet. Let's all go for the sweet taste of success.***

**Thank you  
George Stromberg  
(410) 746-8581**



## Rear Commodore's Report

**Tom Stevens**

**CaptainTomandRachel@gmail.com**

Ahoy!

I would like to begin by saying that I am honored to be able to serve as the Rear Commodore for Yacht Clubs of Maryland.

I look forward to hitting the ground running and planning for the annual Fleet Captains luncheon/meeting, which will be held on Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Save that date on your calendars. This event provides a great opportunity for the newly elected, and appointed, Fleet Captains and their spouses together together for some fun and an exchange of information. This will be a chance to meet with and spend some time with those men and women who will be sharing your experience going up the line with for the next 4 years. We also encourage your Commodore, and spouse, to accompany you. We will distribute more information as the details come together.

I will also be working on the Ship's Log for spring 2021 distribution. If you haven't seen one, this book is a wealth of information for the Yacht Club Community. In the near future, I will be sending each Commodore and Fleet Captain information to review and to make any necessary changes.

We will also be distributing the 2020 Ball Schedule and Opening Weekend schedule. In these crazy times, we will do our best to have updated information for each Club. Please keep us in the loop regarding your Club's opening's plans.

**Stay Safe and Healthy,**  
**Tom Stevens, Rear Commodore**  
**(410) 303-8339**



## Legislative Affairs Officer's Report

Scott Gundaker

scottgundaker@gmail.com

- BAY BULLETIN: OCTOBER 2020
  - FIREFIGHTING FOAM CONCERNS IN SEVERN RIVER HEADWATERS
- 



*This UFO (unidentified floating object) in Bear Branch turned out to be firefighting foam from a nearby training center. Photo: Severn River Association/Facebook*

**BAY BULLETIN**

# FIREFIGHTING FOAM CONCERNS IN SEVERN RIVER HEADWATERS

October 13, 2020

Severn River advocates called it a UFO: unidentified floating object. And it does look a bit alien: a giant froth of foam bubbling up from a waterway that feeds into the river.

The bubbly substance spotted October 7 was coming down Bear Branch in Millersville, headed towards the river, according to the Severn River Association. It looked similar to firefighting foam, a chemical concentration usually mixed with water to fight liquid fires, like those on gasoline truck or at a marina. The foam contains PFAs, chemicals that can pollute waterways and are suspected carcinogens.

The Severn River Association (SRA) was out the day after the recent “UFO” was spotted, and SRA Executive Director Tom Guay says they didn’t see anymore foam or bubbles. “Hopefully this thing will dissolve by the time it hits the Severn River,” says Guay.



*This Anne Arundel County Bureau of Watershed Protection and Restoration photo shows the foam in Bear Run shortly after the discharge on Sept. 24. Facebook photo.*

Interestingly, the only known discharge of firefighting foam happened back on the morning of September 24, at the Anne Arundel County Fire Training Facility just across from the stream. A watershed volunteer called in a complaint to the fire department, and the county's Bureau of Watershed Protection warned everyone to stay away and avoid contact with the dangerous material.

According to Anne Arundel County Fire Department spokesman Capt. Russ Davies, the foam used was the EPA-approved "Universal Gold 1/3 AR-AFF," and the department mixed 150 gallons of concentrate with 4,000 gallons of water. Davies doesn't believe all of it ended up in the stream.

So could a firefighting foam spill on September 24 really cause foam to pop up in the stream almost two weeks later? The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) says yes:

"It is reasonable to conclude that there may have been points downstream where conditions might not have been present at the time of the spill for foaming to occur but changes in conditions might have later created the right proportions for foaming to occur," MDE spokesman Jay Apperson tells *Bay Bulletin*. Apperson notes that when MDE first responded on September 24, they conducted water quality sampling for pH, dissolved oxygen at three locations (one upstream, two downstream) and all results were normal.

Even so, Davies says, "We are working with Anne Arundel County Bureau of Watershed Protection and Restoration on best practices."

Davies says no firefighting foam has been used at the fire training facility since September 24. "There has been an order that there wouldn't be any foam put out from the training academy going forward," he tells *Bay Bulletin*. In the meantime, the department is working on an alternative site for training with foam.

Meanwhile, a bill was introduced in the Maryland Legislature this past session to ban the use of "Class B firefighting foam that contains intentionally- added PFAS chemicals for certain testing or training purpose." The states of California, Washington, Colorado and New Hampshire have recently banned the substance and several other states are considering it

*Meg Walburn Viviano*

**Thank You**  
**Scott Gundaker**  
**Legislative Affairs Officer, YCM**  
**(610) 247-8730**



## Protocol Matters

**Joe Hellner**

**mi-ti-bear@comcast.net**

We are now at a time of year where yacht club uniforms start to change. What uniform is worn depends on traditions of your club and those of the area in which your club is located. Local weather and climate often play a role as do the circumstance for which the uniform is being worn.

In most clubs, the Commodore makes the decision as to what uniform is worn for a specific occasion or event, with deference to club rules, traditions, and practices. If the Commodore will not be present, the next most senior club officer makes the call.

The general traditions followed by yacht clubs in the Chesapeake Bay region are:

- a. **Summer Season (Memorial Day to Labor Day):** All Whites all the time, except for funerals, memorials, weddings, and other very formal or solemn occasions where Salt and Pepper is worn instead. During this period, shorts may be worn with whites but only for the most informal circumstances.
- b. **Late Summer Season (Labor Day to Sept 30<sup>th</sup>):** Whites or Salt & Pepper
- c. **Fall Season (October):** Salt and Pepper or All Black
- d. **Winter Season (Nov 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>):** All Black all the time.
- e. **Spring Season (April):** Salt and Pepper or All Black
- f. **Early Summer Season (May 1<sup>st</sup> to Labor Day):** Whites or Salt and Pepper

The above pattern follows along with the boating season, weather, and daylight hours in our area. Although many people in our area boat well into the colder months, what most folks see as the “boating season” around the Chesapeake Bay, for practical reasons, runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>. These dates make sense for clubs in our area to declare it is the winter season and adopt the winter uniform, with November dedicated to Winterizing and March dedicated to Spring Commissioning.

The wearing of whites in summer is consistent with yacht club and non-yacht club traditions around the country that have, for many generations, used Memorial Day and Labor Day to define a special time of the year. If we lived in Michigan or New England, that would be it, but the summer boating season around the Chesapeake Bay, along with plenty of sun and heat, to our delight, runs much longer so we in the yacht club community allow the wearing of all whites from May 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept 30<sup>th</sup> or the seasonal uniform of Salt and Pepper, when appropriate.

Till next time, see you around the Bay!

**Thank you**  
**Joe Hellner**



[Scuttlebutt and Spindrift](#)

[mi-ti-bear@comcast.net](mailto:mi-ti-bear@comcast.net)

**No report**

**Arrrrghhh!**

**Salty Sam the Sea Dog**



## Chaplain's Report

Anna Davis

### YCM Baybreeze Chaplain Report

#### Get Well Wishes To:

YCM First Lady and current Commodore of Red Eye YC Stephanie Gaff has been a bit under the weather lately. Thinking of you and get well wishes can be sent to her at 657 Kingston Road, Middle River, MD 21220

CBYCA 1989 P/C and member of Veterans' Yacht Club Assn Fred Levitan is dealing with the return of prostate cancer. Thinking of you cards and notes may be sent to him at: 15 Glenamoy Road, #202, Timonium, MD 21093.

I am also aware of several of our fellow yacht club members or their family members who are dealing with various health issues, but do not want it to be known by all. Please keep Stephanie, Fred and all the others in your thoughts and prayers especially during these difficult days.

Take the time to reach out to someone you know who is alone either with a phone call, a card, a text or an email Both of you will feel better because of it.

Remember, if you or a loved one is ill or has passed away and you would like your yacht club family to know, please email me at sealuv88@yahoo.com or call 410-440-2801. Take Care and Be Safe,

#### **Dates to Remember**

**October 31 – Halloween** – Sadly this year with COVID 19 restrictions, many young people will not be able to enjoy Trick or Treating.

**November 1 – Daylight Savings Time Ends** – Turn your clicks back an hour. Get an extra hour of sleep.

**November 3 – Election Day** – Time to exercise your right to VOTE. Yes, the biggie is the Presidential Race, but there are other issues that need your vote. Take time to read the "OFFICIAL SPECIMEN BALLOT" you received in the mail.

**November 11 – Veterans' Day** Take the time to thank a Veteran either with a phone call, a card or a note; a prayer for those who have passed away. We are a free country and enjoy many freedoms because of them.

**November 26 - Thanksgiving Day** Enjoy the turkey, family and friends. Remember all the good things in your life.

#### **Thought for the Month ENOUGH FOR TODAY**

So do not worry about tomorrow,  
For tomorrow will bring worries of its own.  
Today's trouble is enough for today.

~~*Marianst Mission*

**2020 YCM Chaplain,  
Anna M. Davis**

## 2020 RAFFLE UPDATE WITH WINNERS

Thank you to all the Clubs and Individuals who either sold or bought tickets through this crazy pandemic. We had a few winners and we made a profit. Congratulations to the following winners:

Charlotte Wilson  
John Polek  
Kate Cramblett

Al Miller  
Karen Davis  
Pat Meredith

Bill Ortman  
Greg Reed  
Suzanne Sandler

Once I receive the checks from the Treasurer, I will forward them to the winners. Thank you again. Please be safe and have a Great Holiday Season.

**Karen Davis**  
**2020 YCM Raffle Chairman**

### **A Message from 2012 Queen of the Chesapeake, Lily Vogelsong** **Christmas 2020**

*“So Christmas shopping is going to be weird this year. Instead of boosting Amazon’s profits, you could ask friends and family for a voucher for a local business that might be struggling. Bookstores, restaurants, salons, cinemas, craft stores, arts venues- whatever you are into. Hopefully, we can help them still be here next year.”*

**Lily Vogelsong**  
**2012 Queen of the Chesapeake**



# YACHT CLUBS OF MARYLAND

## Webmaster

familygaff@gmail.com

**YCM Website** <http://www.yachtclubsofmaryland.com>

Please visit YCM's website for current information and news about YCM and our member clubs around the bay. You can find upcoming events, balls, opening day schedules, and more. Please remember to submit your flyers to: [ycmvicecommodore@gmail.com](mailto:ycmvicecommodore@gmail.com)

We have a wonderful webpage and I try to keep it updated with information as soon as I receive it. The big thing right now is Commodores Balls. With the current health crisis I know a lot of Clubs are still trying to make a decision on what is going to happen and how to handle things will all the restrictions. Once your Club has made a decision, if you could please contact me so that I can update the website.

Additionally, any events or flyers that you would like posted for other Clubs to see, please email them to me at [familygaff@gmail.com](mailto:familygaff@gmail.com). I am trying to keep the Calendar and flyers up to date as much as possible.

If you have any pictures you would like to share from some of your cruises, raft-ups, or events please feel free to share and I will create an album to post them in.

Looking to the future, please take an opportunity to check out the Opening schedule. If your date looks wrong, please let me know and I will make the necessary adjustment.

If there are any suggestions you have about the webpage, maybe something you'd like to see, please feel free to contact me and I will do my best to accommodate you.

**Stephanie Gaff**

**(443) 682-1541**

**[familygaff@gmail.com](mailto:familygaff@gmail.com)**



# Classified Ads

Place your classified ads in the Baybreeze and reach all of our member clubs.

The cost is \$2.00 per month for personal ads, and \$3.00 per month for business- and business-related ads (4 lines or less) \$10.00 if you include pictures. We will soon have pricing for quarter page, half page and full-page ads.

Send you ads to: [ycmvicecommodore@gmail.com](mailto:ycmvicecommodore@gmail.com)

## Show some YCM pride!

Available now, **YCM Member Burgees and YCM Delegates Flags for only \$20.**  
Please contact Joe Hellner at [mi-ti-bear@comcast.net](mailto:mi-ti-bear@comcast.net)

**YCM Burgee:** Can be flown by any member of a club that belongs to YCM. It is not to fly in place of the club burgee at the bow but may be flown on a portside hoist or attachment point or a separate rail mount flag post aft of the bow post.

**YCM Delegates Flag:** Can be flown by any Current Club Delegate to YCM. Flown as a club office on the Starboard side or on the port side under the club burgee for which the person is a delegate. As a current office, is flown above the P/C Flag and below any higher-ranking current club office.



## ***What Yacht Clubs of Maryland provides for its member Clubs;***

**Below is a summary:**

**1. Legislative and Regulatory Representation:** Because we are focused only on Maryland and rely on directly affected local volunteers, we are usually ahead of other organizations in knowing and acting on issues of concern to Maryland yacht clubs and their members. If you have been following our publications or getting meeting reports from your representatives, you know that the 2015 legislation session held no significant problems for clubs and boaters. Other years have been a different story. Recent efforts have included, YCM submitting written testimony in opposition to the Boating Fees Bill (HB 1307) and the Luxury Tax Bill (HB 1345), contacted legislators, and had YCM reps attend the hearings on behalf of the clubs. At one of the hearings, with Cheryl Blakey and Joe Hellner (attending on behalf of YCM) noted committee members hitting points right off our written testimony. We worked collaboratively with CBYCA and kept them in the loop. We also investigated and then contacted officials and other organizations on the large gathering permit bill, which, once amended in response to feedback from the marine trades, YCM, and boating groups, had no effect on normal yacht club activities. Throughout the year, coordinated by our Legislative Director, volunteers looked into waterway and boating issues brought to us by our members. We also dug to find useful Maryland boating and waterway information so our members wouldn't have to. In 2015, YCM P/C Joe Hellner was appointed by the DNR Secretary to the Maryland Boat Act Advisory Committee as a representative from the yacht club community.

### **2. Support of Maryland yacht club interaction, communication, and promotion of activities of mutual interest.**

- a. Hold the **Annual Fleet Captains Meeting** to allow these (usually new ) officers to meet and discuss plans for the upcoming season, collect information about club activities, and collect and publish that information back to the Fleet Captains and member clubs. These folks form the foundation for our clubs futures and will be working with each other for the next four years. This is the venue that the Rear Commodore uses to introduce the Fleet Captains to the Ship's Log and passes out prior year information that will need to be updated.
- b. **Maintain the YCM web site**, which serves as the Maryland yacht club community bulletin board and is full of information and event news and links. By working with the webmaster, **all clubs are welcome to use** the website. The past three YCM Monthly Newsletters are always available by link from the website.
- c. **Publish a Monthly Newsletter** covering news of interest, protocol tips, and upcoming activities. By working with the Newsletter Editor, **this forum is open to all members**. The newsletter is emailed to member club representatives and commodores to pass on to members and a paper copy sent the club address. Those who would like to get the newsletter directly are welcome to contact the Editor.
- d. Meet Monthly with alternating Board and General Membership Meetings as a **"Local Community Association" to discuss and work on issues of interests to the members**. Each club designates a Representative and Alternate to attend the meetings and provide communication between their club, the YCM, and fellow member clubs around the Bay. These meetings are open to all and lively frank discussion is the norm.
- e. **Annual SHIP'S LOG**: Published each year at the start of boating season contains information provided by each member club intended to be useful to the average club member who wants to know more about other yacht clubs, what they have, and how to visit them. This publication also serves as the annual yearbook capturing people and events of our local yachting community. This is not an ad book as it is intended to and be an informational Service to the Member Clubs. Due to funding limits, printed copies given to each club are limited. The pdf file of SHIP's LOG is available to any member who would like to download the file for club or personal use.
- f. **Skunk Flag of the Bay Award**: Recognizes at least one, sometimes several, members of the yacht club community each year for getting out there and doing something with their boats or with their clubs, leading to outstanding humorous and amusing mishaps and adventures. The Awards are given by YCM's own

Salty Sam the Sea Dog, who always notes that "Those who don't make mistakes must not be doing anything". Salty also serves as gossip columnist.

g. Regular Email Notification: Each year the YCM Vice Commodore maintains an email distribution list to provide breaking news or information of immediate interest to the members. Examples include "All Hands" notices, flyers from member clubs, Opening and Ball schedules and updates, Sick and Welfare Notices, and Funeral Information. Chances are your officers or club first "heard about it" from us.

h. Protocol Guidance: Each year, YCM receives and responds numerous questions about why and how we do things in the traditional ways followed by yacht clubs, especially the local practices that evolved in Maryland over many generations. YCM appoints a qualified volunteer called "Captain Protocol" to do the research, be the keeper of the knowledge, and find ways to help the member clubs. Often questions become the genesis for regular articles in the newsletter. Recently, "Captain Protocol" provided Pleasant YC with the details of conducting an Opening Day Ceremony as practiced by Maryland clubs around the Northern Chesapeake Bay and distributed a one page guide to placement of buttons, pins, and nameplates on yacht club uniforms.

**3. Organize and Lead the Annual Yacht Club Golf Tournament** to get together in a different type of activity that is popular among many club members in addition to their boating hobby. This event is darn hard to do so great credit goes to the Chairpersons and army of volunteers who create this special opportunity for the golfers and would be golfers in our clubs.

**4. Organize and Lead the Annual Christmas and Holiday Party** open to members and friends of all Maryland Clubs. This event is held at Laurel Park as a unique event, different from regular club activities, which celebrates Maryland's proud heritage of Thoroughbred Horse Racing while providing a centrally located venue where a large number of folks from all the clubs together can gather to celebrate the holiday season.

**5. General Support of Member Clubs:**

a. Our goal is be there when Clubs are stuck on something. One area that has been well received has been our pursuit and stocking of hard to find silver buttons for club Past Commodores, especially since local tailors and on line companies willing to carry these items are few. We were able to find the company that makes buttons, which provides us with wholesale bulk orders of all the types. We also keep a stock of silver hat braids and hat buttons.

b. **Harnessing the power of many:** YCM is the place to come if a member club has an idea or a problem that can be acted upon by finding and pulling together people of like mind and who have the passion and interest to pursue it.

***Not bad for only a \$60.00 annual membership fee and a group of volunteers trying to help their fellow Maryland yacht club friends***



## **YCM Meeting Schedule**

February 26th - Board Meeting - North Point Yacht Club

September 30th - Membership Mtg & Change of Watch - Red Eye Yacht Club

**October 28<sup>th</sup> – Board Mtg – ON-LINE**

November 25<sup>th</sup> – Membership Mtg – TBD

December 19<sup>th</sup> – Holiday Party at Laurel Park -TBD





**GENTLE REMINDER:**

# **YACHT CLUBS OF MARYLAND ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

***NEW DATE FOR THE GOLF OUTING:***

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

**PLEASE RECONFIRM YOUR TEAM ATTENDANCE  
WITH GEORGE STROMBERG,  
[bodkincrabber@gmail.com](mailto:bodkincrabber@gmail.com)  
OR (410) 746-8581 Mobile**

**\$90 Per Golfer / GREAT PRIZES**

**WE STILL HAVE ROOM FOR YOUR TEAM OR  
SINGLES TO JOIN US FOR A GREAT DAY OF FUN,  
COMARADERIE AND GOLF!**