

# *Yacht Clubs of Maryland's Bay Breeze January 2022*

*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 Tom Stevens who will guide you through the process**

**YCM 2021- 2022 Officers and Board Members**

**Commodore – George Stromberg (Bodkin YC )**

**Vice Commodore – Tom Stevens (Crescent YC )**

**Rear Commodore – Ted Wooden (Middle River YC )**

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

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

**Secretary – Rickey Pope (Eastern YC )**

**IPC Board Member & Supply Officer – Mike Gaff (Red Eye YC )**

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

**Board Member – Bret Kulikowski (Middle River YC)**

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

**Protocol Officer – Joe Hellner ( Belvedere YC )**

**Board Member & Chaplain – Anna Davis (White Rocks YC)**



## YCM Committees

### Audit Committee

- Kate Cramblett (PC Miles River YC ) - Chair

### By-Law Committee

- Secretary Rickey Pope (IPC Eastern YC) - Chair
- Treasurer Faye Broseker (PC Riverside YC)
- R/C Ted Wooden (PC Middle River YC)
- Commodore George Stromberg (PC Bodkin YC)

### Finance Committee

- Commodore George Stromberg (PC Bodkin YC) – Chair
- Vice Commodore Tom Stevens (PC Crescent YC)
- Treasurer Faye Broseker (PC Riverside YC)
- Cheryl Blakey (PC Wellwood YC)
- Dick Bruns (PC Baltimore YC)

### Nominating Committee

- Mike Gaff (PC Red Eye YC, IPC YCM Commodore) - Chair
- Janet Yodris (PC Key YC, PC YCM)



## COMMODORE'S REPORT

**George Stromberg**

**bodkincrabber@gmail.com**

Greetings to All in our YCM Member Clubs. I hope this finds everyone healthy. Once again, we find ourselves saddled with decisions being made to navigate our way through this Pandemic. Balls are being cancelled or postponed and events that help Clubs raise money as well. All of us are pretty much in the same boat. In times like these we must go the extra mile to not only support our own Clubs and its Officers and Board but we need to reach out to all of our Sister Clubs and support them as well.

Last year the Boating Industry boomed resulting from folk's desire to be outdoors. The Marinas that we called in the past on a Wednesday to get a slip for the weekend were many times full. All Fleet Captains should be aware of this and prepare their Club Float Plans early so that they can call Marinas as soon as possible to secure slips.

With this continuing pandemic we also have different health and safety rules due to different jurisdictions. To add to it some Clubs put pressure on their Officers and Boards to close to non-members or close altogether. We must be respectful of these different rules and remember that when it's all said and done, we are one Yacht Club Community.

***You can never cross the ocean unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore – Christopher Columbus*** Stay safe,

George Stromberg

Commodore, YCM



**Yacht Clubs of Maryland  
Collective Report of Comments, Concerns and Suggestions Provided by  
Member Clubs Participating in the Zoom Meeting of December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to  
Discuss the Queen of the Chesapeake Program/Pageant**

On December 16th, 2021, Commodore YCM, conducted a Zoom meeting to discuss Comments, Concerns, and Suggestions to the Queen of the Chesapeake Committee regarding the new Queen of the Chesapeake Program/Pageant.

All YCM member clubs were invited to participate in this meeting. Eleven member clubs participated. The Clubs were invited to also submit their comments, concerns, and recommendations in writing. They are provided later in this document.

Five common themes surfaced during the Zoom discussions:

1. Equal representation by clubs on the Queen's Committee.
2. A Past Queen of the Chesapeake to serve as an advocate for the Princesses.
3. Code of Conduct
4. Complete transparency between the Queen's Committee and the yacht club community.
5. ***"Its all about the young ladies participating."***

Although not all member clubs participated, we feel the discussion was useful and provided an open dialogue for Clubs to share their perspective with others.

On January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 YCM Commodore and Bridge Officers met with the QOTC Committee. We look forward to the Queen of the Chesapeake Committee response. YCM stands ready to share the QOTC response with Member Clubs.

It is the sincere hope of YCM this information is used to preserve the long-standing tradition of the QOTC Program/Pageant in a way acceptable to all member clubs.

*George Stromberg*  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Commodore George Stromberg  
Yacht Clubs of Maryland



## Vice Commodore's Report

**Tom Stevens**

**YCM.Vice@gmail.com**

Please note there is a NEW Email Address for Vice Commodore.....

YCM.Vice@gmail.com

Happy New Year to everyone! Mrs. Clause and I would like to thank everyone that attended this years Day at the Races. It was a wonderful day full of winners and Christmas Cheer!

Just a reminder, The Fleet Captains Meeting is January 23<sup>rd</sup> at Bodkin Yacht Club. The meeting will begin at 12:00Pm. All officers are invited to attend. Meet new Commodores and Fleet Captains. It will be a Day of Comradery, friendship and an all-around great time. Please RSVP to Commodore George for a accurate head count, and to comply with COVID restrictions.

We will be back in the water sooner than we think! Only about 4 months!!!!

Until then,  
Stay Warm, Safe, Happy and Healthy  
V/C Tom Stevens  
410-303-8339



**Rear Commodore's Report**  
**Ted Wooden**  
**YCM.rear@gmail.com**

**Please note the new YCM Rear Commodore email address.**

Ahoy Yacht Club Members, I hope everyone had a great holiday. I know I had a great time spending it with some of our membership at Laurel Racetrack for our annual Christmas party. From the looks of the pictures everyone had just as much fun as I did.

I have been working on the Ships Log a lot over the past 3 weeks. I have sent out everyone's club page to update the information on it. I have received some back and I have heard from some that they can not edit it. If you cannot edit it please just send me the information so I can have it edited. I hope to have everyone's updated information no later then the Fleet Captains Orientation meeting.

Speaking about the Fleet Captain's orientation meeting it is fast approaching. I have got some rsvp's but not many. As of right now the orientation is still on. With the uptick in covid cases we have been insured that we can have 8 people from each club and still practice social distancing. Bodkin yacht club will let us know if the county tells them we can not have it no later then the 13<sup>th</sup> of January. I look forward to meeting everyone at Bodkin Yacht Club.

We only have about 11 more weekends till boating season!!!

Yours in service,  
Ted Wooden  
Rear Commodore Yacht Clubs of Maryland  
443-277-8005



## **Legislative Affairs Officer's Report**

**Scott Gundaker**

**scottgundaker@gmail.com**

The Chesapeake Bay's three largest rivers — the Susquehanna, Potomac and James — are showing long-term reductions in nutrient pollution, according to data recently released by the U.S. Geological Survey.

The trends are particularly notable in the Susquehanna, where USGS monitoring has shown steady improvements in recent years — despite concerns about the impact of Conowingo Dam and complaints that Pennsylvania, which holds most of the river's watershed, is not doing enough to help the Bay. USGS scientists say they are working to better understand the reasons for that trend.

Water quality monitoring by the U.S. Geological Survey shows long-term reductions in nutrient pollution in the Susquehanna River, shown here near Wrightsville, PA. Long-term nutrient loads in the Potomac and James rivers are trending downward, too. (Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program)

Whatever the explanation, they say the results show significant long-term improvements since 1985 in the three rivers that deliver the majority of water-fouling nutrients — nitrogen and phosphorus — to the Chesapeake.

The monitoring also shows downward short-term trends, covering the last 10 years, for nitrogen in all three rivers. The Susquehanna and James show improving short-term phosphorus trends, while the Potomac showed no short-term improvement for that nutrient.

“It is a very positive story if you just look at the trend results we are seeing for the Susquehanna, Potomac and James,” said Doug Moyer, a USGS hydrologist. “Those have big deliveries to the Bay, and those are the main tributaries.”



But the story changes dramatically for most smaller tributaries that are also part of the USGS “river input monitoring” system. Nutrient trends in the Rappahannock, Appomattox, Pamunkey and Mattaponi rivers in Virginia, and the Choptank River in Maryland are generally degrading.

Among smaller rivers that are part of the monitoring system, widespread improvements have only been seen in the Patuxent in Maryland — where nutrient sources are dominated by wastewater treatment plants that have been upgraded.

Moyer said the driving forces for the degrading trends in most of those rivers were uncertain. But, he added, “These are our best data sets. So the patterns have a solid foundation.”

The river monitoring network collects water samples near the fall line of nine major rivers, which provide more than 95% of the freshwater flow to the Chesapeake, to estimate the amount of nutrients and sediment reaching the Bay’s tidal waters. (The fall line generally marks the upper edge of the Bay’s tidal waters. Measuring inputs to the Bay below the fall line is difficult because of the back-and-forth movement of tidal waters.) Altogether, the nine stations in the river input monitoring system reflect what is draining off the land from about three-quarters of the watershed.

All of the sites have collected nutrient and sediment data since at least 1985, but the data alone don’t explain the causes of those trends. USGS scientists are hoping to gain some insights next year when they review information from scores of smaller sample sites farther upstream, most of which have been gathering data for shorter periods of time.

Meanwhile, scientists have been exploring what is happening in the Susquehanna, which delivers half of the freshwater reaching the Bay and is the largest single source of nutrients. The turnaround on the river has been significant: As recently as 2014, for instance, the Susquehanna had mostly degrading trends or no trends. Only the long-term nitrogen trend was slowly improving.



“The Susquehanna, of all the basins, is very complex,” Moyer said, noting that it is by far the largest watershed, with the most farmland and the most forest. It also has several major reservoirs that affect nutrient and sediment movement. “That is why it is very difficult to assign causality to that trend,” Moyer said.

But one likely contributing factor is the filling of the reservoir behind the Conowingo Dam. Scientists say the reservoir is in a state of “dynamic equilibrium,” meaning it no longer serves as an effective long-term trap for sediment and associated nutrients — as was the case for much of the last century — allowing more of the pollutants to spill downstream.

Joel Blomquist, a USGS hydrologist who has been examining the Susquehanna data, said it is possible that the huge river flow associated with Tropical Storm Lee in 2011 washed away enough built-up sediment from the Conowingo reservoir to allow the dam to begin trapping more of the sediment and nutrients flowing downstream.

“This could be a natural cycle of what dynamic equilibrium looks like, with periods of trapping followed by periods of release,” Blomquist said, “[but] there could be other drivers in there, and we just don’t have a technique to tease that out quite yet.”

Any effect from Tropical Storm Lee, he added, would only affect the river’s short-term trend. “The long-term still holds true as an improvement.”

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



## Protocol Matters

**Joe Hellner**

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

### **Protocol Matters**

By P/C Joe Hellner

#### **Yacht Club Uniforms - Black Sweaters**

The traditional yacht club uniform is the mariners' uniform that evolved from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Variations of the uniform are worn around the world by professional and amateur mariners from water taxi captains to merchant mariners and naval personnel. Amateur mariners such as members of the yacht club community often look to naval regulations and traditions because of the naval attention to detail and dedication to wearing uniforms in the best possible ways.

Back in 2015, YCM adopted the Black V Neck Sweater for officers of the Association. Many yacht clubs and the US Navy use the Black V Neck Sweater both indoors and outdoors for wear in lieu of the Service Dress Blue (SDB) coat (the traditional name for the black coat worn in the winter with white shirt, tie, and black pants). Navy Regs state, "The sweater is authorized for daily wear to and from work, in public places and for attending working level meetings/briefings, but is not authorized for ceremonies, high level meetings/briefings, or when conducting business on Capitol Hill"

Consistent with Navy practice, yachting organizations have allowed the Commodore or ranking officer to call for the black sweater in informal situations (e.g. when business casual is acceptable). For major yachting ceremonies, formal occasions, and funerals, the SDB coat is the most proper call. Following these same guidelines, on occasions where the "Salt and Pepper" yachting uniform is worn, the black sweater may be used in lieu of the SDB Jacket.

The sweater is considered a complete uniform alternative and therefore must be worn with the white shirt and tie called for in the SDB uniform. "No tie" is "out of uniform", but yachting organizations may allow ties to be removed in casual situations where the person is not engaged in official business and/or the Commodore or Officer-in-Charge has given approval. If a club or organization has a uniformed Duty Officer or "Officer of the Day", that person is on official business and should never remove their tie.

Rank insignia is depicted on the Black V Neck Sweater by epaulettes that slip onto shoulder straps. Badges, pins, buttons, etc. worn on the jacket are not worn on the sweater. For practical reasons, yachting organizations may authorize one name plate to be worn. The US Navy does this by a patch sewn onto the sweater. The patch will usually contain name, rank, and one of the specialty insignia held by the wearer. Yachting organizations may do the same, but the group must pick a way and do it consistently.

Yachting organizations may also elect to add a burgee on the sweater. Typically, the burgee will be on the left and the nameplate or patch on the right, following the yacht club "right rank" rule and the practical reason to place the name forward when shaking hands in greeting.

Till next time, see you around the Bay!



Chaplain's Report  
Anna Davis  
YCM Chaplain, 2021



## CLUBS OF MARYLAND

### Webmaster

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: [familygaff@gmail.com](mailto:familygaff@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 Commodore 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 with 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.



## 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: [bodkincrabber@gmail.com](mailto:bodkincrabber@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 2021

January 23,2022 at 11:00 AM – GMM will be held prior to the Fleet Captains Meeting at Bodkin Yacht Club.

