

# *Yacht Clubs of Maryland's Bay Breeze June 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 Ted Wooden 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**

### **Commodore's Message**

Commodore's Report

Greetings to all in our YCM Community. We are coming down the final stretch of Openings for 2022. It's been a blast so far. Love seeing old friends and making new ones as the new Fleet Captains come aboard their respective clubs. Speaking of which there is going to be a Fleet Captains Competition at Bodkins Opening. Be there or be square. It sounds like fun. The competition will be fun and exciting. Heading out this morning to North Point YC and then up to Bush River this afternoon. Sunday it's Eastern YC. Next week at Bodkin it's the last opening. Folks always look forward to Bodkins Opening because it marks the end of the Openings and Officers and PC's get their life back to enjoy their boats on our beautiful Chesapeake Bay until the busy Ball Season begins. Please boat safe and be a sober skipper.

Let's not forget the Queen of the Chesapeake Pageant this Year at Maryland YC. June 24-26. The Pageant will be at 3 PM Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup>. This is a the 75<sup>th</sup> year for the Pageant so let's all support all the competing Clubs Princesses and wish Queen Ellie farewell as she heads off to the University of Southern California and welcome the new Queen of the Chesapeake.

Hope to see many folks at the Second Annual YCM Summer Cruise at North Point Marina July 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. It is going to be a blast.

***"There are three essentials to leadership: humility, clarity and courage"***

**George Stromberg**

**Commodore**

**Yacht Clubs of Maryland**

**(410) 746-5315**



## 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

Ahoy fellow Boaters,

Summer is in full force, and everyone looks to be enjoying their time on and around the bay. With the Opening seasoning coming to an end, it will give us all even more time to be out and about to enjoy everyone's company. Raft offs with fellow boaters are the most fun.

Speaking of fun... Who's ready for the YCM summer Cruise? I know Rachel and I are very excited to attend. We have added something to the line up of events for the weekend. If you would like to participate, the theme of the Cocktail Party will be "Caribbean Night". Grab a straw hat and a Tropical themed shirt. This is **NOT** mandatory, just a little something extra for everyone to enjoy. Remember to bring an appetizer to share and whatever you are drinking. I hear the Key Lime Pie shots will be back again this year... yummy.

In speaking with Lori today over at North Point Marina (as of 6/21) We currently have 42 boats signed up and paid for. If you have not already made your payment, please call Lori ASAP to finalize all the details for your slip. You will not receive a welcome packet from Lori until the final payment has been made.

See you all very soon!

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



## Rear Commodore's Report

Ted Wooden

[YCM.rear@gmail.com](mailto:YCM.rear@gmail.com)

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

Ahoy YCM Members,

Summer is upon us, and I hope that you are enjoying it to the fullest. If you are like me, I had to change up my plans this year on where and how I use my boat due to the outrageous fuel prices. They might have slowed me down, but I will still enjoy the beautiful sights and sounds that the Chesapeake Bay has to offer.

This is the Bay Breeze edition that everyone has been waiting for because it contains details about our annual golf outing at Rocky Point Golf Course. I am trying to change things up a bit while keeping true to the golf outing history. The golf outing will be held on October the 10<sup>th</sup> with registration at 8:00 and "T" time at 9:00 am. It will be a shot gun start right after a short speech from the golf pro and our Commodore. We will have Breakfast food available in the morning before you go out on the course. There will be hot dogs at the turn to help give you a quick pick me up after all the calories you burn on the front half of the course. After everyone is done with their round of golf, we will have a lunch spread at the pavilion to include Pit meats, side dishes, salads, and drinks.

During play there will be 4 special holes where you will be able to better your score.

1. At one hole you will be able to start the hole with a negative score by throwing 4 corn hole bags at a corn hole board. For every bag you get in the hole you take one stroke off that hole.
2. At one hole there will be a 2xl ladies dress that you may put on and that will allow you to "T" off from the lady's pins. This should help lower your score if your drive is not the best part of your game.
3. At one hole there will be a two-foot string tied to the flag in the hole. If you put your ball and it lands within the strings reach you count the ball as if it went in the hole.
4. One Club hole – on this hole you must pick one club that you have to use the entire hole. You cannot switch clubs with anyone else on this hole.

We will have raffles for prizes, Mulligan tickets for sale (these tickets will also double as door prize tickets) we will have a bunch of door prize give aways at the end of the day. Right after the last team checks in we will start giving away all the trophies for the different categories. We will also pass the covenant plaque over to the yacht club with the best score so it can be displayed in their club for the year.

I have placed a flyer in this edition of the bay breeze. Please get as many people as possible to attend this event. The more people that attend the more fun everyone will have.

Yacht Clubs of Maryland  
R/C Ted Wooden  
443-277-8005



**Officer's Report**  
**Scott Gundaker**  
**scottgundaker@gmail.com**

The Chesapeake Bay's condition ticked upward in 2021 but not enough to raise its middling C grade in the latest report card from the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science.

The Bay's overall ecological health garnered a 50% score, up 5 points from 2020, as some things got better and others worse. The nutrient pollution that causes summertime dead zones in the Bay improved, but the water got murkier and contained more algae.

The Bay's condition varied from one end of the estuary to another and even by tributary. As it has for years, the Lower Bay in Virginia had the best health relative to the rest of the estuary. Up the Bay, the Patapsco and Back rivers around Baltimore continued their decades-long run as the sickest tributaries, joined by Maryland's Patuxent River.

At an event in Baltimore's Inner Harbor to release the report card, Bill Dennison, UMCES vice president for science applications, suggested that problems at Baltimore's two wastewater treatment plants were affecting water quality in the Patapsco and Back rivers. The Maryland Department of the Environment and nonprofit Blue Water Baltimore have sued the city over the plants' pollution violations. Dennison predicted the rivers would show dramatic improvements after those facilities are brought back into compliance.

Ecological health scores vary from year to year in the annual report cards that UMCES has been issuing since 2006, largely because of shifting weather patterns. Despite those ups and downs, UMCES concludes that the Bay's general condition over time has improved slightly — gaining just 2 points in a 100-point scale — since the federal-state Bay restoration effort began in earnest in the mid-1980s.

Around the Bay, the James and Elizabeth rivers in Virginia have shown significant long-term improvement, UMCES said. So have the Bush and Gunpowder rivers in Maryland. Even the laggard Patapsco and Back rivers have less nutrient pollution now than they did 45 years ago.

However, one area, the Upper Eastern Shore of Maryland, is trending in the wrong direction, even though its ecological score improved a bit in 2021. The chief culprit is presumed to be nutrients from farm fertilizer running off the land or seeping through groundwater into rivers and streams.

“We still have nitrogen and phosphorus problems in this largely agricultural region,” Dennison said, “so we need to buckle down on our agricultural best management practices.”



The Chesapeake Bay Foundation issued a statement saying the UMCES report card tracks with the environmental group's own *State of the Bay* report, though it characterized the Bay's health as "stagnating" rather than "steady," the term used in the UMCES press release.

Plugs of grasses are planted in sand as part of a living shoreline project on private property along Virginia's Elizabeth River. Rather than hardening the shore's edge with concrete or riprap, living shorelines create natural edges that receive the water's ebb and flow and, over time, can be more resilient in the face of rising sea levels and powerful storms.

### Sterling Rollings

UMCES has expanded its report card in recent years to assess more than water quality conditions in the Bay's 64,000 square mile watershed. The region earned a C+ grade, indicating moderate health in 2021, a notch below the B-minus bestowed in 2020.

But the two regional grades aren't really comparable, UMCES noted. In addition to the usual ecological indicators, the 2020 report card included societal factors such as the walkability of communities and their vulnerability to extreme heat. The 2021 version has added four more indicators of economic vitality and equity: household income, job growth, income inequality and housing affordability.

"We're trying to bring the report card into people's backyards," Dennison said, and to show the connection between healthy communities and a healthy Bay. The expanded ratings include measures of environmental justice, he noted, "so we can be much more inclusive."

The new economic data, broken down by region and even by county, will be available on the [chesapeakebayreportcard.org](http://chesapeakebayreportcard.org) website, UMCES said.

### **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 Joe Hellner

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By Joe Hellner

It is now boating high season, which means time to deck out our boats with colorful nautical and fun things that fly in the breeze, including flags and burgees.

Flags are a traditional way boats communicate. Your flags will tell others in the yachting community a world of information about the boat and people aboard. This can come in handy in all kinds of situations. Suppose you are in a huge marina with hundreds of boats and you need to leave a message for the Fleet Captain of XYZ yacht club to have his group meet your group for dinner. With the proper flags out, finding the right boat is relatively easy. It may take a little pier walking, but any boater who claims they don't walk the piers to check out other boats is either telling a fish story or is an impostor claiming to be a boater.

Never fly anything divisive or negative. As yacht club members, we are dedicated to friendship among all shipmates and guests and the promotion and enjoyment of responsible boating, the yachting community, and our waterways. Our clubs and piers are havens where we can relax, have fun, and leave our troubles behind.

Don't forget to fly office flags from your home club on the starboard side and burgees and flags from other clubs on the port side. If your boat has a mast with a yardarm, your club burgee is flown at the top of the mast just as it is flown from your yacht club mast. Most modern powerboats don't have a mast with a yardarm, so the correct place for your yacht club burgee is at the bow.

If you fly other flags at the bow, it is a good idea to place your club burgee as far forward as possible in the place of honor. Having your club burgee stand out also helps people quickly identify the home club of the boat, which they will associate with the office flags flown on the starboard side.

Sailboats should fly the club burgee at the top of the mast on a stick that is hoisted up with the burgee attached. If a sailboat cannot fly the club burgee this way, it should be flown at the top of the starboard hoist with the club office flags directly below in order of rank.

To place flags in the proper order, in addition to office rank, go by most to least represented. For example, Past Commodore flags always go below office flags because Past Commodore is a personal flag not an office that serves or represents a number of people.





Flags or burgees representing organizations of clubs are flown highest with the largest region covered placed at the top (i.e. international, national, regional, statewide, local). Yachting organizations with individual members such as Blue Gavel come next, following the same order of international to local. After the organizations come clubs and finally individual flags. Office flags on the port side are flown immediately below the organization or club flag to which they belong, except where the office flag has a clear connection with the club or organization.

Finally, CCC members always should have at least two blue flags flying. In addition to a Past Commodore flag on the starboard side, on the port side should be a CCC membership flag with the three C's around the stars.

Till next time, see you around the Bay!



## Chaplain's Report

Anna Davis

YCM Chaplain, 2021

### **06.22 Chaplain BayBreeze Article**

He never looks for praises  
He's never one to boast  
He just goes on quietly working  
For those he loves the most.  
His dreams are seldom spoken  
His wants are very few  
And most of the time his worries  
Will go unspoken too.  
He's there.....A firm foundation  
Through all our storms of life  
A sturdy hand to hold to'  
In times of stress and strife  
A true friend we can turn to  
When times are good or bad.  
One of our greatest blessings.  
The man that we call Dad.

**HAPPY FATHERS' DAY TO ALL FATHERS AND TO ALL  
FATHER FIGURES!!!**

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA*



On July 4, 2022, America will celebrate its 246<sup>th</sup> Birthday.  
However, you plan to spend your 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, please be safe.



## 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: [bodkinrabber@gmail.com](mailto:bodkinrabber@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 2022

Gathering at YCM Summer Cruise July 29th, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. No formal meeting this month.

