

Yacht Clubs of Maryland's Bay Breeze September 2022

Please Distribute to Your Members

Visit us at: 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
- Bill Tabilio (PC Galloway YC)

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)
- Joe Broseker (PC Chesapeake Commodores Club)



COMMODORE'S REPORT

George Stromberg

bodkinrabber@gmail.com

George Stromberg

Commodore

Yacht Clubs of Maryland

Commodores Report

Hello to all out there in our YCM Member Clubs. Well, my year here as Commodore at Yacht Clubs of Maryland is about over. It was a year filled with challenges and surprises to say the least. As Commodore this past year I am very proud of what our organization has accomplished in our mission statement to provide a means for close and frequent interaction and mutual support among our Member Yacht Clubs. We kept Member Clubs informed of Balls, Openings, Events at Member Clubs and Communications that were necessary for the good and betterment of all involved. To all who had a part in this success this year I offer a huge thank you. Mission accomplished and job well done. To our Member Clubs who supported YCM Events this year we thank you. To all the Commodores of our Member Clubs I offer my personal thanks for your support of YCM so that we may accomplish our mission goal of supporting you. Thank You. The Golf Outing, Fleet Captains Dinner and Meeting, Commodores Day Out, Christmas Party at Laurel Race Track and The Second Annual YCM Summer Cruise were all a huge success Thanks for your valued participation. To the Officers, Bridge and Board of YCM thanks for being attentive to your duties and making this a successful year. To our most valued and trusted resource, our Past Commodores, where the Commodore can always turn, my sincere thanks. You made my job this year a lot easier. Last but not least I want to thank my best friend, my sounding board, my go-to person for all the office skills that I do not always have and she does. My very own First Soft Crab C.J. She has been my rock and constant partner in two journeys Up The line. Thanks Babe.

In conclusion I want to say being Commodore of Yacht Clubs of Maryland this year has been an honor and a privilege. As every Past Commodore knows going up the line isn't always an easy Journey but it's a journey worth taking. To the class of 2023 Commodores, I challenge you to think about giving back to your Yacht Club Community and consider going up the line at Yacht Clubs of Maryland. You're going to love the way it makes you feel.

Leadership is about vision and responsibility not power. Seth Berkley

George Stromberg
Commodore, Yacht Clubs of Maryland 2022



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

Hello Everyone,

Well, another year has passed and I am so looking forward to becoming Commodore of Yacht Clubs of Maryland. The ball season has already begun with North Points Mini Ball! A great time was had by all.

September 23rd we will be hosting a incoming Commodore and 1st Lady/Gent Meet and Greet. It will be held at CYC beginning at 7pm. You should have received a invitation by email. If you have not RSVP'd to this event please let me know. We will have a charm exchange for those of you that would like to participate. There will be some dinner and few fun games too.

September 28th At CYC we will be having our Change of Watch Dinner and Ceremony. Please make sure to RSVP to this for Dinner reservations as well.

On October 10th at Rocky Point Golf Course we will be having our annual YCM Golf Outing. Please make sure to reach out to R/C Ted Wooden to sponsor a hole and to sign up to play.

There are flyers attached for more information. You can also find them on Facebook under Yacht Clubs of Maryland.

Rachel and I look forward to seeing you all around the bay and representing YCM with Pride.

Until then,
Stay 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 YCM members, here we are halfway thru September. I hope you are spending as much time as you can out on your boats before putting to rest for the winter (BOO). Here we are just a few days away from the YCM change of watch September 28th 7 pm at Crescent Yacht Club I hope to see many of you there.

The golf outing that is going to be held on October 10,2022 at Rocky Point golf course. For this to be a successful event we need each yacht club to sponsor a hole and to put together a foursome to play. This year there are going to be some changes in the way we play four of the holes that I feel everyone will enjoy. Please get one or even two foursomes from your club even if you or your club members do not play golf you will still have a great time and enjoy great food. This event is all about fun not who is the best golfer. Last year I saw people show up with no experience or clubs and had a great time. They shared their partners clubs had the bar as far as they could (about ten feet) then went down and putted in the ball and their team got a great score.

I have met with our Golf Pro to set up what holes we will be having our special games at. I can tell you he has agreed that they sound like they are going to be a lot of fun. I will have signs posted at the special holes with instruction on how to play these holes.

Hole #2 will be a ladies hole all ladies will tee off from the ladies tee. If you look like a lady, you can also tee off at the lady's tee. With that being said, there will be a dress at the hole that can assist you to look like a lady so you can tee off from the lady's tee. The only catch is that there must be a picture taken to prove you look like a lady. (for clarification these pictures might show up at a later date).

Hole #15 will have a set of corn hole boards set up at the tee off location. Each player will get one corn bag to throw into the hole. Every corn bag in the hole will take off a stroke from the team's score.

Hole # 14 will have a two-foot-long string tied to the flag in the cup. If you ball in with in the strings length it will be considered to be in the cup.

Hole #1 will be a one club hole. What ever club you tee off with you must use for the entire hole. This will be one you must think thru before starting the hole.

Hole #5 will be the longest drive hole this will be the longest drive for everyone. This will be for a trophy.

Hole # 7 & 11 will be the closest to the pin hole. This will be to see who can get closest to the pin for a trophy.

Again, I hope all of the changes will make this outing a lot of fun for everyone. I have attached the flyer with all the information on how to register for this event. We also need people and clubs to step up and sponsor a hole to help make this event as successful as possible.

R/C Ted Wooden Jr
Yacht Clubs of Maryland.



Officer's Report

Scott Gundaker
scottgundaker@gmail.com

Legislative Affairs Officer, YCM

Scott Gundaker
(610) 247-8730

No Report



Protocol Matters

Joe Hellner

mi-ti-bear@comcast.net

Protocol Matters

By Joe Hellner

We are again into that time of year where many clubs hold a Commodores Ball or formal dinner, which often include a Change of Watch ceremony. The “Change of Watch” is when new officers and board members are sworn in and assume their duties. For practical reasons, the swearing in is usually done at a club meeting, but may be repeated for ceremony at a Commodores Ball or a Change of Watch (COW) Dinner. YCM holds an event called Commodore’s Night Out to honor the Commodore and Bridge in a way intended as a fun change of pace from the more formal club events.

For many clubs around the Chesapeake Bay and throughout the country, these events are held so that club members and friends can come together to celebrate another good year, renew commitment to the continued success of the club, and recognize members who volunteered to lead and represent the club as officers and board members. A formal ceremony is conducted to mark the occasion, to thank the outgoing Commodore, officers, and board, and recognize the incoming Commodore, officers and board.

The sacrifices and support of the officers’ mates equally are recognized. Traditionally in our area, the Commodore’s Mate wears white to a Ball or formal COW Dinner and, if a woman, is given the title First Lady. First Gentleman is an appropriate title for a man. Yacht Clubs seeking a more nautical title may wish to use “First Captain” or “First Mate”. Nautical titles can be used for a man or woman. YCM honors Maryland traditions by using the terms “First Crab” or First Soft Crab”.

Club members are encouraged to bring friends and family. Representatives from other clubs and organizations are invited and formally recognized to affirm bonds and strengthen friendships. In our area, the Queen of the Chesapeake often will attend and speak as an ambassador of the all the clubs together. Club princesses often will attend representing the next generation and belief in a bright future for our clubs, families, and friends.

For working clubs with little or no paid staff, the Commodores Ball or COW Dinner is one of the few occasions where all members can sit back and enjoy themselves while someone else does the work. The cost per person is typical of a catered formal event with clubs trying to keep costs as low as possible to encourage maximum participation. Recently, clubs have been trying cash bars, alternative locales, and switching from Balls to COW Dinners in response to cost concerns by members and guests.

In general, attire is pretty much what you might wear to an evening wedding reception with the addition, as appropriate, of many folks wearing yacht club uniforms. Tuxes are fine but are not required. Representing officials at a Commodores Ball should be in the formal uniform of the club or organization they are representing. For all other persons who do not otherwise have an official role at the Ball, a uniform is optional but encouraged in the spirit of the occasion. A properly worn uniform shows respect to the host club and pride in your own club or organization.



Attire, especially uniforms, should be worn properly and completely until the end of the Ball. After the ceremonies, the host club Commodore may relax the dress by making an appropriate announcement but, until such an announcement is made, please don't loosen or remove neckties and/or unbutton/remove jackets.

Till next time, see you around the Bay!



Chaplain's Report
Anna Davis
YCM Chaplain, 2021

No Report



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

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.

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

Change of watch September 28th at 7:00pm Crescent Yacht Club

