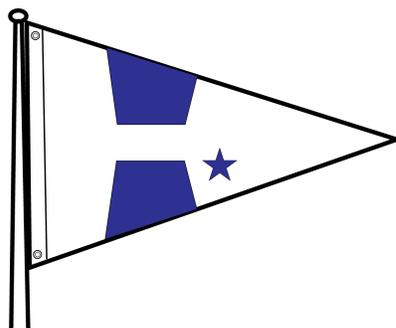


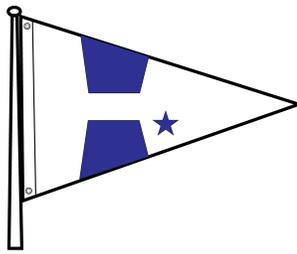
April , 2022

OVER *the* WAVES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Wickford Yacht Club



Wickford Yacht Club



Commodore's Corner

Spring is here!

Our first social event of the year, March Madness/St Patty's Day, was a great success. The event was well attended. There was no shortage of pizza, the Zeppole was a pleasant surprise, and everyone had a great time. This marked the first significant event for our club since we lifted the restriction on indoor group gatherings that was put in place last fall in response to the surge in COVID-19 cases. Many thanks to Carrie Mitchell, Joe Kolb, and their team of volunteers for making this event a success.

While on the topic of volunteers, we now have a list that shows the Committees where members prefer to volunteer their time. Each year we ask the membership for their preferences. This year's response was outstanding. The list is now in the hands of the Committee Chairs where I am confident it will be put to good use. For those of you thinking about volunteering, there is still time. In the end, we are a club that relies on our volunteers. The spirit and vitality of our club depends on it.

I am pleased to report that 2022 started strong with member applications. To date, the Board has approved four family memberships. If you haven't had a chance, please review this year's editions of ***Over the Waves*** for the great bios on our new members. Note too, that the number of children coming on board is increasing. That's great for our club. Finding the right activities that allow them to feel they are part of our club is important. Any volunteers?

See you around the club!

Neil Bergh

Commodore

Flashback 15 years ago

2007 was my Commodore Year... from **Chuck Allen**

Bruce Ferguson and Dick Carpenter recruited me. They were old sailing mates and friends from way back in our "Mischief" days in the Twenty Hundred Club Regattas. We racked up a bunch of hardware along the way.

2007 was the year we brought the internet to WYC*, even while Damon was fighting me as house chair ("we don't need that"). Afterward, he was like "this is kind of cool-good call!"

Our yacht cruise went out Provincetown, via: Cutty, Onset... huge turnout, as it was a longer adventure for most. Some continued North afterward.

Key Saying: **Time the canal correctly!**

Best part was that we did all our scouting by **flying** to all the locations on Bruce's plane! This was fun and efficient.

The Commodore's Ball was Hawaiian themed.

The Commodore's parting gift to the Board was WYC scarves and a 2008 pocket memo book (KP note: *Pete Pizzaruso was Treasurer...still his favorite neck wrap and KP has refilled the note pad part several times*)



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2007 Board Members

Chuck Allen Commodore
Dick Breault
Barry DuFault
John Wilson
Win Brown

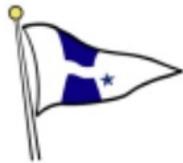
Harvey Liberman-Past Commodore
Damon Rivard/Paul Robinson-House
*Nelson Weiderman was the HTML guy



Grand entrance to the Commodore's Ball. Full lobster boil, dug into the parking lot by EJ Ryan



Commodore's Cocktail Party in Provincetown, MA after playing some soccer with 'the kids'.
L-R / Front row: Michael Fletcher, Becky Allen, Kelsey Brown
Back row: Hayden Vassallo, Matt Browne, Brad Brown, Jack Wilson, Commodore Chuck Allen, Stephen Fletcher, Cate Brown, Allison Browne Piasick



Save The Date!

2022 Commodore's Event

Saturday, June 18

Join the celebration to honor Commodore Neil Bergh
and his Norwegian heritage.

Rear Commodore's Report



Hi All,

The Member's Area planning committee met in mid-March to talk about big picture goals for the space. Our goal was to develop a list of changes we feel are most important to make the space better, more attractive and more accessible to more of our members. From this list we will get preliminary cost estimates, which will allow us to bring our ideas to the Membership with an understanding of the price tag for each and determine the Club's priorities moving forward. Ideas discussed included:

- Addressing the not-to-code interior staircase. I have done some preliminary design work on this and feel confident we have the space to put in a proper staircase that will meet code requirements.
- Improving the coat closet. If we redo the stairs, the coat closet will need to be reconfigured.
- Exploring the feasibility of an elevator. There was a big desire among membership to include a lift when the exterior stairs were rebuilt with the pavilion project, but there was no way to do it with the available space. We have determined a potential spot for an internal elevator.
- Open up the Members room, incorporating the office/library space and some of the kitchen space. Some engineering has been done already on the feasibility of opening up the partition wall.
- Make the kitchen more of a "wet bar"-retaining a fridge (undercounter), sink and microwave, but reducing its footprint (likely along the shared wall with the bathroom) so that most of the current kitchen can be incorporated into the main room.
- Moving/improving the Member Lockers. If we open up the room we will need to move these to another location, possibly to the reconfigured coat closet on the first floor. We would also like to look at refreshing them, as I think we can do better than the middle school hallway look!
- Refreshing the head. Though there may be some members who might miss the side-by-side toilets, I think we can do better layout wise! Some ideas we are looking at are making this a wheelchair accessible bathroom or incorporating a stall for added privacy and maybe a urinal.

These are all preliminary ideas, which will develop as we dig into the project deeper. Again, I would love to hear from all of you (thank you to those who have already reached out) about what is important to you for this space. Once we have a good sense of the various part we are interested in, we will get estimates and hold a meeting early this summer to present our ideas to the Membership. We will then vote on what to do (if anything) at the Budget meeting in the fall (or possibly at a special meeting before) with a plan to start the project in 2023.

Ezra Smith
Rear Commodore

Fleet Captain's Update



Let's have a tip of the cap to our 2022 WYC Summer Cruise Port Captains:

Suzanne and John Thoms (Coecles Harbor), Carl Bowen (Mystic) and Rex Brewer (Watch Hill). Thanks to them, we have festive food and drinks lined up at each of our ports of call.

At Block Island, the beach party will happen. Official permission for various sites has been not been forthcoming, but WYC remains undaunted. If we had a Port Captain for Block Island, we might make some real progress. The application deadline has been extended; you can still volunteer! And you will be in line to receive an official Port Captain gift of appreciation.

The cruise list continues to grow. Captains have signed up 18 boats thus far, amassing a crew that is over 40 strong. The mainland ports of call make it easy for folks to transition on or off your boat as the cruise progresses, so there may be opportunities for shipmates who would like to cruise for a leg or two, but not the whole trip. (And if you discover onboard incompatibilities, well, since keelhauling has gone out fashion, there is always Uber...)

Please continue to let me know if you are planning to join, or even considering it, so that we can estimate numbers appropriately. The cruise packet, replete with navigation tips, marina contact info, and cruise participant contact info, will be assembled in the next few weeks.

For the dinghy docks, the Board is aiming to rewrite that pesky law of physics about two objects not occupying the same space at the same time. The goal is to create more space for each dinghy AND create more spaces, with the same dock footage. Stay tuned for updates once our consultation with a quantum physicist has been completed. There will be no tampering with the speed of light. Bottom line: there may be slight upward movement on the wait list, but only slight.

The Spring Cruise preparations are under way. Plan for June 4-5. Destinations are still being reviewed, so if you have strong preferences, or connections that would improve our welcome, please pass them along to me.

As the weather warms, don't let those boat projects linger. Let's get in the water and get out there. We are looking forward to a fantastic season!

Your Fleet Captain,
Dave Lindquist

Sailing Activities Report



REPEAT ANNOUNCEMENT

Wickford Regatta 2022 - Volunteers Needed

Wickford Regatta 2022 will be held over the June 11-12 weekend. Many of last year's team have signed on again but we still need some more help. WYC always does a great job and the volunteers make it happen. A good time is had by all and there is a great party on Saturday night. Contact Skip Whyte if you are interested.

skip@1stplacesailing.com 401-481-2997.



Wickford Sailing Association



Staffing Nearly Complete!

The WSA staff has come together nicely with the addition of Caoimhe (pronounced Queeva) Sheehan who is Irish and will be bringing 4 years of instructing experience with her. Caoimhe will join Head Instructor Rodrigo Benvenuto from Argentina to lead our instructional staff.

We have three instructors returning from last summer. Dmitriy Ovren, who hails from Florida but summers in Newport is a Level 2 Instructor. David Berson is a graduate of the WSA program and was a Junior Instructor last year. He is currently a senior on the NK Sailing Team. Will Hanney was also a Junior Instructor last year.

Finally, we are happy to have added Molly Coghlin to the team. Molly was the top skipper on the NK team last year and is currently at UC Santa Barbara where she is one of the starting skippers on their women's team. David, Will and Molly will all be completing their Level 1 certification this spring.

We will be adding some Junior Instructors to the team in the next few weeks.

Summer Registrations Near Capacity

At this writing, 14 classes are full, many with waiting lists. Three more classes have less than 3 openings. That translates into registrations for 143 of 170 class spots. WSA is getting ready to ROCK!





PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ELEGANT
EVENING BENEFITING THE
WICKFORD SAILING ASSOCIATION

Sail into Summer Starlight Gala

SATURDAY, MAY 14

6 O'CLOCK 'TIL LATE

WICKFORD YACHT CLUB, NORTH KINGSTOWN, RHODE ISLAND

DRINKS, HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES, AND SILENT AUCTION

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GREY SAIL BREWING OF RHODE ISLAND

TICKETS PRICED AT SIXTY DOLLARS PER GUEST

REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 1

Social Update



As of this writing, we've just completed a wonderful reopening of the Wickford Yacht Club with our first social event of the year which was the St Patrick's Day/March Madness event. With registrations about double what we expected, I think it is fair to say that the desire to simply get out and reengage with fellow club members, was a palpable sentiment. We had great weather as well as the good fortune of having Providence College play during our event. Most importantly, we were blessed to have lots of great volunteers for the set-up the day before, bar tending, and clean-up. Additionally, we were very fortunate to have fantastic chairpersons. Thank you, Carrie and Joe Kolb, for organizing the details of this event, and for setting the tone for the other events later in our calendar.

Our next event will be the Commodores Reception on April 23, and then a fundraiser for the WSA called "Sail into Summer - WSA Starlight Gala" to be held on May 14th. Much more detail on those events to follow soon.

Verification of vaccination went very well at our last event. The intent is to make this as easy as possible. You may show your vaccination card, but an even easier way is simply taking a photo of the vaccination card with your phone. Although the proof of vaccination requirement will eventually go away, for now, it is required. Through your understanding and compliance, we appreciate that you've made this requirement an easy one. Thank you!

Remember, should you have an input, or wish to help with an event, please feel free to contact me at any time. Chairing and event, or assisting with set-up, bartending, etc, is a great way to meet and engage fellow club members. I will continue to be the point of contact for anything related to WYC event registration, or on-line payments. Still looking for volunteers for Commissioning Day event (May 28). Please note that no prior experience is necessary.

Fair Winds, and Following Seas!

Randy Wietman, Social Chair



Meet the Members



Meet the Wolpensinger Family

Charlie, Leigh, Ben & Faye! Leigh and I grew up on Long Island, NY, Leigh from Oyster Bay and I, from Babylon.

We spent a few years in Hastings-On-Hudson, NY prior to relocating to North Kingstown 11 years ago. We love Rhode Island and our community. I work in Environmental and Occupational Health in the pharmaceutical industry and Leigh is a 4th grade teacher. Our children Ben (8) and Faye (6) attend Stony Lane Elementary. Ben loves to play baseball and video games and Faye loves her stuffed animal Fluffy and loves to learn about Outer Space.



In the summer of 2021 Ben and Faye attended the minnow sailing instruction program with the Wickford Sailing Association and both had wonderful experiences. They are very eager to participate in the upcoming sailing programs this summer.

Growing up in a boating family and sailing for many years within the Long Island Sound, I have a fondness for the water and wish to pass down this experience to our children.

Last autumn we were fortunate to have procured one of the retired WSA 420 's, it has been a great family project restoring it back to sailing condition. Thank you Skip!

We are looking forward to the warmer weather and meeting everyone down at the club!

Meet the Members



Meet Rob Zimmer and Laurie Clark

After eyeing Wickford for some years, in 2019 we became stewards of the Narragansett House and its barn on Main Street. (What child doesn't want--when grown to an adult someday--to have their own old barn?)

Laurie grew up in the Midwest and California, and Rob in Massachusetts. Life here in Rhode Island has been wonderful, and North Kingstown very welcoming. We ain't leaving.

Together with the Massenets (WYC members already) we bought a little old Catboat and have been reconditioning it, in the barn of course. And someday Laurie and I, who did not grow up sailing, will actually know what we're doing with this fine little boat.

We look forward to the WYC community and seeing people at Friday happy hour, among other events. We are grateful to our sponsors, Dan & Mimi Dyer, and Sue Smith & Scot Jones. And dear sponsors, we'll do our best to not bring regret upon your sponsorship.



Meet the Members



Welcome Kim, Michael and Mike Cavros

Kim was raised on Long Island's north shore in Huntington, NY, and learned to sail in her teens. After graduating from Suny at Albany and working as an accountant for a few years, she moved to Newport, joined the marine industry (Little Harbor Custom Yachts) and pursued her love of sailing. Michael grew up in Wilbraham, MA (The home of Friendly Ice Cream, where he worked throughout high school and college). He studied Electrical Engineering at Western New England College and moved to Newport after accepting a job at NUWC as a civilian engineer.

We met at the Officer's Club in Newport, and after a few downtown apartments together, eventually bought a house on Spring Street. When Kim got a marine finance job in the Blackstone Valley, the commute was a bit too far and so we traded Newport for Scituate, RI. After our son, Mike was born in 2005, Kim left the marine industry to be a stay-at-home mom.

In 2017, we decided to downsize, shorten Michael's work commute, and improve the quality of Mike's school system. We bought a waterfront townhome at Cedarhurst (aka, "The Projects") and it was an easier decision for us as we already had a ski condo in Waterville Valley where we spend as much time as possible once the white stuff begins to fall.

Currently, our son Mike is a Sophomore at North Kingstown High School and plays lacrosse. For the last few years, he has worked at a bike shop in Newport and as a ski instructor in Waterville Valley.

Moving to North Kingstown is one of the best decisions we ever made. We have met so many great people, as well as reconnecting with old friends like Rex Brewer. Rex gets Michael back out on the bicycle and Kim crews for *Peregrine* on Tuesday nights.

We are fortunate enough to have many friends and neighbors at the WYC and since moving here in 2017, we have been told many times that "we need to join." Our excuse has always been "but we don't have a boat." That changed last summer when Kim purchased a Catalina Capri 16.5 (named "**Poppy**" after her dad). In the summer, we can be seen paddling to the club on paddle boards or kayaks since it is a bit quicker than driving our convertible (although Michael does like it) if there is traffic.



2022 Events Calendar

January 01	NY's Day Brunch
February 19	Craft Beer/Wine Festival
March 19	March Madness/ St Patrick's Day
March 25	Annual Meeting/Passing of the Flags
April 23	Commodores Reception
May 14	Sail into Summer – WSA Starlight Gala
May 28	Commissioning Day
June 18	Commodores Ball
July 16	Cheeseburgers in Paradise
August 20	Lobsterfest
September 24	Fall Fling/Cocktails on the Deck
October 22	Oktoberfest
October 30	Halloween Kids Trick-or-Treat
November 12	Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner
December 10	Holiday Party
December 31	New Year's Eve Party



WYC Board of Governors

Commodore	Neil Bergh
Vice Commodore	Ezra Smith
Rear Commodore	Rex Brewer
Fleet Captain	David Lindquist
Member-at-Large	Agu Suvari
Secretary	Rich O'Brien
Treasurer	Ben Rice
House Chair	Jim Hutchins
Past Commodore	Bob Kern

WYC Committee Chairs

Awards	Anne Cunic
Social	Randy Wietman
Club Rental	Agu Suvari
Communications	Rich O'Brien
Sunshine	Pinkie Sweet-Holland
OTW Editor	Erin Spear
Website	Kyle Wilson
Yearbook	Kathy Brown
Finance	Ezra Smith
Frostbiting	Chuck Allen
Membership	Karen Pizzaruso
NBYA Rep.	Doug Nannig
Nominating	Bob Kern
Race	Rex Brewer
Regatta Activities	Skip Whyte
WSA Grants	Mark Callahan
Seminars	Yarrow Thorne
WSA	Skip Whyte

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