Purpose

The Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA) is an association of yacht clubs, boating clubs, and marine associations located throughout the Chesapeake Bay and Delaware Bay regions and the District of Columbia. It is composed of dedicated volunteers who communicate, inform, and work with legislatures and others to ensure members’ voices in each of the five states and District of Columbia are heard. Its purpose is to represent the interest of recreational boating at the national, state, and local levels of government, and to promote boating safety and education of its members and the general public.

For more information visit the CBYCA web page at www.cbyca.org or contact: Commodore@CBYCA.org

Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association does not distribute its mailing list.

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2019 Meeting Schedule

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETINGS

January 26, 2019    9:30 am    Middle River Yacht Club
February 16, 2019   9:30 am    Bush River Yacht Club
March 16, 2019      9:30 am    Capitol Yacht Club
April 20, 2019      9:30 am    Red Eye Yacht Club
May 18, 2019        10:00 am   Pleasant Yacht Club
August 24, 2019     9:30 am    Bodkin Yacht Club
September 14, 2019  10:00 am   Miles River Yacht Club
October 19, 2019    10:00 am   Delaware River Yacht Club
November 16, 2019   10:00 am   Baltimore Yacht Club

DELEGATES MEETINGS*

February 16, 2019   10:00 am   Bush River Yacht Club
April 20, 2019      10:00 am   Red Eye Yacht Club (Book Distribution)
August 24, 2019     10:00 am   Bodkin Yacht Club (Club Cruise)
November 16, 2019   10:00 am   Baltimore Yacht Club (Change of Watch)

*Lunch will be offered for a nominal cost.
2020 Elected Slate of Officers and Nominating Committee

As required by the CBYCA by laws, the following names were presented to the Delegates by the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association 2019 Nominating Committee chaired by P/C Gene Schenck.

The election was held at the August 2019 meeting at Bodkin Yacht Club.

**Board of Governors**

Commodore Kyle Gray, Middle River YC

Vice Commodore Dan Killeen, Maryland YC

Rear Commodore Donna Ferron, Blue Marsh Sailing Association

Qualifications Officer Tom Yanni, Middle River YC

Secretary Stephanie Gaff, Red Eye YC

Treasurer Penny Rhine, Miles River YC

Publicity Director Donna Ferron, Blue Marsh Sailing Association

Immediate Past Commodore Mike Gaff, Red Eye YC

**Directors of State Legislation**

Director, MD State Legislation Dave Thomas, Fells Point YC

Director, VA State Legislation Tim Abel, Prince William YC

Director, PA/DE State Legislation Chris Schenck, Susquehanna YC

Director, NJ State Legislation Dot Noderer, Delaware River YC

Director, DC Legislation Howard Gasaway, Sr., Chesapeake Cruisers Association

**National Boating Federation**

Legislative Director, P/C Earl Waesche, Virginia YC
2020 slate of officers continued:

**District Representatives**

A - New Jersey Nick Noderer, Delaware River YC

B - Philadelphia Area James Morrissey, Anchor YC

C - Pennsylvania/Upper Bay Tom Costello, Maryland YC

D - North Baltimore Dick Bruns, Baltimore YC

E - Baltimore & South Mike Bruns, Baltimore YC

F - Eastern Shore North Donna Ferron, Blue Marsh Sailing Association

G - Eastern Shore South Dennis Webster, Wicomico YC

H - Annapolis Area Dan Killeen, Maryland YC

I - Solomons/South Maryland Ransey Adkins, Chesapeake YC

J - Washington DC Area Harlie Spencer, District YC

K - VA/Mid Potomac River Joe Livingston, Occoquan YC

L - VA/S of 301 Bridge -- vacant

**2019-2020 Nominating Committee**

Nominating Committee Chair IP/C Mike Gaff, Red Eye YC

Tom Kenavan 2019-2020, Aquia Harbour YC P/C
Bob Parsons 2019-2020, Bush River YC P/C
Fred Levitan 2019-2020, Middle River YC
Joe Vislocky 2020-2021, Baltimore YC
Eric Boyd 2020-2021, Pleasant YC
Ray Haber 2020-2021, Bodkin YC
This summer sure has flown by. So many great things has happened with CBYCA this year because of great people wanting to make this organization successful.

A huge Thank You to the organizers of the first of, hopefully, many “Commodores’ Summit”. I have heard nothing but how great an idea this is. I hope to see many smiling eager faces there on Saturday, October 12 at Maryland Yacht Club.

I’d like to thank Bodkin Yacht Club for hosting our Board/Delegate Meeting on August 24. Thank you to Commodore George Stromberg and all the members for your hospitality. In addition, I’d like to thank Queen Dulayne Sterling for coming out and speaking to our Delegates. You did an amazing job as always. Keep up the good work and I look forward to getting to know you better this year.

Finally, don’t forget our next Board Meeting is September 14 at Miles River Yacht Club. I hope to see all my Board Members there and maybe hang around town to enjoy the sights afterwards.
Vice Commodore’s Message
Kyle Gray

What? September? Already?! Well then let’s make the best of it! Every weekend I look forward to getting on my boat and enjoying the beautiful waterways of the Chesapeake Bay and this month will be no different. Waking in the morning when the air is crisp, the waters are calm and the fish are jumping brings a smile to my face every time. I hope to see you out there!

Ball Update: I have been working diligently on the CBYCA Ball scheduled for December 14th at Aberdeen Proving Ground’s Officers Club aka Top of the Bay. I am really excited about this venue because I have some special things in store for our guests unlike no other. As we all know our Black Tie Affairs have been getting more expensive year after year and as the incoming Commodore for CBYCA I am making it a mission to find ways to lower costs which we can pass on to our comrades while keeping an open bar, live entertainment and fabulous gifts for all those who attend.

Until next time... Happy Boating!

SAVE THE DATE
12 OCTOBER 2019
THE CHESAPEAKE BAY YACHT CLUBS ASSOCIATION

First Annual Commodores’ Summit
ATTENTION ALL DELEGATES AND DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES.....
The 1st Annual CBYCA Commodores’ Summit is fast approaching – 12 October.

Get the word out to your club.

Trust me; you do not want to be on the wrong end of not informing your Commodore that their peers are meeting and they find out after it’s over.

If you’re unsure what to tell them, here is a description:
• It’s called the 1st Annual CBYCA Commodores’ Summit™
• CBYCA is the sole sponsor of the Summit
• This is the FIRST of what we hope will be an ongoing annual event
• The date is 12 October 2019
• The location is the Maryland Yacht Club in Pasadena, MD
• From 0800-1600 w/ food and beverages provided
• As far as we know, this is the first time anyone has tried to accomplish this.
• This First Summit will be by invitation only
• Invites will only be sent to the Commodore of a member club
• The invite will request the following individuals attend:
  2019 Commodore
  2019 Vice Commodore
  2020 Commodore (potentially same as 2019 Vice Commodore)
  2020 Treasurer
• In cases where clubs are professionally managed, the Club Manager may attend, but cannot use the Summit as a sales platform. Doing so, will bring about a request to leave the venue.
• An RSVP is REQUIRED for attendance
• Space is restricted by fire code, so we will use a First Come – First Serve model
• There was a survey sent to the Commodores during the summer. Survey results will be reviewed and discussed early in the meeting.
Rear Commodore’s Report continued:

During the meeting, there will be breakout/working sessions where Commodores can talk with Commodores; Treasurers can talk to Treasurers or by Subject; those interested in club financials (taxes, IRS, build versus buy), Operations, Policy/Bylaws/Procedures, Maintenance.

Send your questions to: summit@cbyca.org

Safety and Education Committee
Tom Costello

As this summer comes to a close (based on pool closures and the appearance of school buses in the morning), there is still a fair amount of boating left in 2019. While we all like to poke fun across the helm between Power and Sail captains, it is quite easy to underestimate the work (and fun) we each have in our chosen vessels. It is also shocking to me how few captains have actually REALLY experienced both vessels. I’m reminded that we all think we completely understand what a wedding is like... until it is our turn to stand at the front... and then we experience it in a completely different way. Boating is certainly no different. And in the spirit of that learning, I’m going to offer a fun little game I call “Boat A Mile In My Boat Shoes” to carry us into Boat Show season.

As a power boater, I challenge you to find a sailing couple and take them out for a ride... and when you get back to the dock, immediately swap vessels and go out for another ride. If you can get your Club organized and have multiple couples doing this on the same day, I can guarantee a group dinner following the rides will be a real hoot!! Handing out a few goofy awards will add to the hilarity.

Apart from the fun and comradery, this will be a lifetime learning experience for everyone involved. You’ll have a better sense of how close is “too close” when passing a sailboat, and how driving a powerboat isn’t just point-and-gas, either.

If/when you get the time to give this game a whirl, be sure to put pictures on the CBYCA Facebook page so we can all enjoy!!

Stay safe on the water and the docks!!
URGENT: Amtrak Bridge at Bush River Rumors

(Editor: The following is from CBYCA Safety and Education Chair Tom Costello)

I received a phone call from Henry Bahr at Bush River Yacht Club concerning the operations and/or permanent closure of the Amtrak bridge at Bush River and rumors that have floated back to their club.

Rather than try to outline and refute all of the rumors that have been swirling (some of which have come out at various club and association meetings) I want to just state what is true!

The Amtrak bridge crosses navigable water, and is therefore controlled by the USCG, not Amtrak. As such, there is a statute that outlines the manner in which the bridge is used, who is on point for scheduling, who is notified, etc.

Henry indicated he had contacted both Amtrak and the USCG in the past 24 hours to ensure there are no imminent changes to the agreement and statute... and there are none. The bridge can be opened for access to Bush River and the Bush River Yacht Club by making prior arrangements thru Bush River Yacht Club to coordinate the opening. The statute spells out those requirements, and Henry Bahr is that point of contact at Bush River Yacht Club.

Henry assured me that any rumors as to the reduced access and/or impact on Bush River Yacht Club are not true. They are open for business and doing well!

I felt it important to get this information out to all member clubs as quickly as possible. And we wish Bush River Yacht Club continued success into the future!!

For reference, the following is from the Code of Federal Regulations:

CFR Title 33 - Navigation and Navigable Waters

Volume: 1
Date: 2017-07-01
Original Date: 2017-07-01
Title: PART 117 - DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS
§117.547 Bush River.

The draw of the Amtrak Bridge, mile 6.8 at Perryman, shall operate as follows:
URGENT: Amtrak Bridge at Bush River Rumors (Continued)

(a) Shall open twice a day from May 1 through October 31, on Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays that fall on a Friday or a Monday, when a proper request has been received.

(b) Request for an opening is given to the Amtrak Assistant Division Engineer at 410-642-1588 and or email at BridgeOpeningRequest@Amtrak.com by an authorized representative of the Bush River Yacht Club no later than noon on the Friday just preceding the day of opening or, if that Friday is a Federal holiday, no later than noon on the preceding Thursday.

(c) Amtrak determines the times for openings and shall schedule the times:

1. During daylight hours, six to ten hours apart; and

2. One opening before noon and one after noon.

3. In emergent situations after notification is given to the numbers indicated in paragraph (b) of this section it can take up to six hours for the bridge to open.

(d) Amtrak shall notify a representative of the Bush River Yacht Club of the times of all openings for the weekend (or extended weekend) in question no later than 6 p.m., on the Friday just preceding the weekend or, if that Friday is a Federal holiday, no later than 6 p.m., on the preceding Thursday.

(e) Each opening shall be of sufficient duration to pass waiting vessels.

(f) At all other times the draw need not open for the passage of vessels.

Family and Friends, all we have to offer is our love and to remind those in need that they are not alone. Extend a hand to hold and help and pray that coming days will be brighter.

GET WELL WISHES AND A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:

First Lady Stephanie Gaff, wife of Commodore Mike Gaff of the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Assoc. who broke her wrist skating at Princess Katy’s fund raiser. Her surgery on August 23 went well and she is recovering at home. “Get Well” and “Thinking of You” cards can be sent to her at 657 Kingston Road, Middle River, MD 21220. If you wish to call, her number is 443-682-1541.

Mary Bruns, wife of Dick Bruns, CBYCA’s District D Representative and P/C Baltimore YC, was rushed to the hospital in a diabetic coma. Doctors have managed to get her blood sugar under control. Well Wishes and Thinking of You Cards can be sent to Mary at 3307 E. Northern Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21206.

Also continue to keep Past Commodore Jim Wilson of the Veterans Yacht Club and P/C Bob Davis of the Chesapeake Commodores Club in your hearts and prayers.

BEREAVEMENT:

If I have missed extending condolences or well wishes to any member of the organization or their family, please accept my apology. You can assist by sending health and welfare of our organizational members and their families to me at Chaplain@cyca.org, PC10@cbyca.org, or pamlbutler@verizon.net (PREFERRED E-MAIL). Only with your assistance am I able to keep the membership informed.

Thank you and bless you.
As of now, the New Jersey legislature is on summer break, however Bordentown Yacht Club of New Jersey is keeping the heat on regarding ELCON. Bordentown is about 2 miles across the Delaware River. They are opposed to the building of the ELCON plant.

Governor Murphy, New Jersey’s Governor has appealed to the Pa DEP and expressed his concern regarding the plant. He enclosed criteria citing the levels of nitrogen oxide and sulphur dioxide that are significantly raised in the area at this time. A copy of this letter will be at the meeting on Saturday along with an article from the Bucks County (Pa) Courier Times.

The DEP issued a draft decision to reject the building of the hazardous waste facility. ELCON states they are forging ahead with their plans and will fight the decision if they are denied and will work to correct any violations.

Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association has also written letters to the Governors of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. In addition, a letter was also sent to Pa DEP.
Pennsylvania and Delaware Legislative Reports
Chris Schenck

Pennsylvania

While there are many bills presently under consideration by our Pennsylvania General Assembly, no progress has been made since July. Emails will be sent to club delegates and commodores when legislation which could affect club members has been signed into law.

Delaware

HB 244 was introduced June 20th. This bill amends Title 6 of the Delaware Code relating to marinas and fuels.

This bill will allow marinas in Sussex County to sell gasoline that does not contain ethanol. Sussex County comfortably meets the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ground level ozone, and removing ethanol from marine fuel will have no significant impact on ambient ozone levels. The State of Maryland now allows the sale of non-ethanol gasoline in certain counties that are adjacent to Sussex County, and Delaware businesses are losing sales to their Maryland counterparts. While a committee hearing should have taken place within twelve legislative days after introduction in House Economic Development/Banking/Insurance & Commerce, it appears that no progress has been made.

Maybe your legislators need your encouragement!
Committee Approves Coast Guard Authorization Through 2021: The U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation recently approved the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2019 (S. 2297), authorizing appropriations for Coast Guard operations and programs through Fiscal Year 2021. This bill would authorize funding for this critical component of our national security. The legislation would guarantee that Coast Guard men and women continue to receive their pay in the event of a government shutdown. The Coast Guard is the only unit of the Armed Services that has a lapse of appropriations during a government shutdown, but this legislation will ensure that does not happen, should the government shutdown again.

Also, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a companion bill in July, but the Senate bill includes a provision that would mandate the wear of engine cut-off devises for boats under 26 feet while under way, an important safety feature that NBF strongly supports. The bill now heads to the full Senate for consideration and vote.

Consumer Protection and Fuel Transparency Act of 2019, H.R.1024: This bill requires information to be provided to the public about the risks associated with the improper use of fuels in certain vehicles, engines, and equipment. The bill defines E15 as gasoline containing 15% ethanol.

Specifically, the bill directs the Environmental Protection Agency to revise labelling requirements for fuel pumps that dispense E15 fuel across the country, including by requiring the labels of such pumps to include additional details. The labels must include warning information about vehicles, engines, and equipment, including: boats, lawn mowers, chain saws, motorcycles, snowmobiles and pre-2001 model year vehicles that are prohibited from using E15. In addition, the EPA must implement a public education campaign concerning the risks associated with the improper use of E15 fuel in such vehicles, engines and equipment.

Congressman Scott Austin (R-GA-8) introduced H.R. 1024 in early 2019. Congressman Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN-03) also expressed his concerns about the increasing availability of E15 across the country and is considering cosponsoring the bill.

Recreation Not Red Tape Act, H.R. 3458: To promote innovative approaches to outdoor recreation on Federal land and to increase opportunities for collaboration with non-Federal partners. Most of Congress believes that outdoor recreation and the industry that outdoor recreation supports are vital to the economy of the United States. Also, access to outdoor recreation on Federal lands and waters is important to the health and wellness of all people of the United States, especially young people.

NBF hopes this important legislation passes, as access to Federal land and waterways is most important to the recreational boaters nationwide.