



Under The Rock

March 2017

The Newsletter of the Marblehead Yacht Club

Commodore's Comments

Happy Spring 2017 to all of our MYC families and friends. Mother Nature has fooled us a little bit in providing a very mild and calm Winter, then roaring back with a wet and cold March. We are all looking forward to a warmer and dryer April as we plan to unwrap our own boats and organize the many clean-up activities needed to open up our clubhouse and waterfront for the upcoming season.

Our Club Manager and Dockmaster, Bill Kilham, has been steadily working to prepare the launches and waterfront facilities. For Bill, there never seems to be an off-season for maintenance and improvements! The Galley has upgraded its facilities with a new commercial stove/oven to improve food service operations for Kim Diamond and her staff. The launch driver staff appears to be lined up and ready for opening day, with a majority of our drivers happily returning. The Entertainment Committee has a full, expanded slate of planned activities for an exciting 2017 season for both our boating and associate members to enjoy.

I want to emphasize that our Club continues to be one of the friendliest waterfront facilities on Marblehead Harbor. By volunteering and getting involved in our many projects and activities, we strive to continue and strengthen a feeling of community and friendship among our members. Please consider getting involved.

See you all on the Deck!

Alan

Club Manager's Comments

Happy Spring to All!

This past winter season at the clubhouse has been delightfully uneventful. Unlike previous years, there have been no major undertakings in terms of carpentry or mechanical systems. The Program Committee provided us with some excellent opportunities and the Boatwise Launch Driver class has given us a new member of the MYC Waterfront staff.

We have made some minor changes in the lighting on the deck that should improve late-night dining as well as gangway safety. The new Harbormaster has dropped by for a tour and found our clubhouse and deck to be "really nice" (but we knew that already). Small improvements continue in the galley areas to help our dining program and the new Commodore's Clock in the Cliff Room should be a welcome addition to that space.

With April upon us, we have a robust list of folks lined up for work assessment tasks and as usual, we will no doubt be in fine shape for the upcoming Meet and Greet (save me a few deviled eggs!). As always, please feel free to contact me with any concerns that you, the most important part of this organization, may have regarding the MYC and our ongoing efforts to remain the "best little club around".

See you on the Dock.

Bill

Call for New MYC Committee Members

There are several openings for new Committee Member Volunteers for the 2017 Season. Both those who have recently joined the Club and long-term members and spousal members are welcome to join.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee meets monthly on the third Monday of the month at 7:30pm in the Cliff Room to review, audit and make recommendations concerning Club finances, preparation of Annual Budget and monthly reports to the Board of Directors. Committee members are appointed and report directly to the Board.

Entertainment Committee

The Entertainment Committee Kickoff Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 7pm in the Cliff Room. This committee is a very active, fun group and we are always looking for new members to help plan and assist with our social activities for the season.

Come join us! If unable to attend and you would like to join, please contact Ellen McGrail or Commodore Alan Petersen.

Waterfront Committee

Vice Commodore Paul Mervis is looking for energetic Club members who are interested in becoming part of the MYC Waterfront Committee. We have a few projects and duties that require able-bodied members to get our waterfront operational for the season, as well as providing assistance if storms should dare to slow our boating season down. Please contact Paul Mervis at 781.953.3922.

Membership Committee

This Committee meets as needed to recommend programs to promote MYC membership and present monthly reports to the Board of Directors, prepare communications to accept and welcome new members and provide administrative support to the Club Manager for renewing members seasonally. This Committee interacts with other committees and the Board to build MYC membership and retain current members by programs, services and improvements. Committee members are appointed and report directly to the Board. For more information, contact a member of the Board of Directors, Flag Officer or current Committee member.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee prepares a list of nominations for officers to be elected at the annual meeting. We need two members who are concerned about the future of the Club and with a network of members as potential officer candidates. Please contact Tom Despres at 781.631.8158

Welcome Aboard to our Newest Members

Associate Members

Bernard and Carol Benedetto Marblehead MA

Carole and Jack Davidson Marblehead, MA

Active Members

Matthew and Kelly Burdge Marblehead MA M/V Tantive

Michael and Roberta Connolly Marston Mills, MA S/V Check Ride

William and Jennifer Keyes Marblehead, MA M/V Sea Legs

Reminder to Pay Dues

Remember that payment of 2017 MYC dues is due March 31. Payments should be mailed to Marblehead Yacht Club, P.O. Box 943, 4 Cliff St, Marblehead, MA 01945.

As noted in the Invoice sent out in early February, a late fee of \$50.00 may be assessed for payments received after the due date. For inquiries or questions, send your email to marbleheadyachtclub@gmail.com, or contact Bill Kilham, Club Manager at 781-631-9771.

Parking at MYC During the 2017 Season

The Marblehead Light Department has begun a major construction project at its headquarters at Commercial and Cliff St. which will continue for the entire 2017 boating season, and extending into the Spring of 2018. Parking that has been previously allowed for MYC guests on evenings and weekends in their lot, as well as a section of Commercial St., is now prohibited for the foreseeable future. Our Commodore is coordinating with the Contractor and Light Department to hopefully minimize any inconvenience.

The loss of these parking spaces, especially on summer weekends, will force our members and guests to park further toward Atlantic Avenue to find spaces. Please: Be considerate of our Shipyard neighbors by avoiding crowding any driveways or corners. Cooperation will help minimize any inconvenience.

Safe Boating Basics

Presented by Boatwise Marine Training

Saturday April 30, 2017

8:00am to 5:00pm

This Massachusetts state and nationally approved boating safety course concentrates on the equipment and operating guidelines needed to enjoy boating in a safe and responsible way. All graduates in the 12 through 15 year old age group will be issued a safety certificate allowing them to operate a motorboat without adult supervision, as required by state law. The same is true for 16 and 17 year olds who wish to operate a personal watercraft (Jet Ski, Wave Runner, etc.)

This 9 hour course is for boaters 12 years of age and older. Family participation is encouraged and has proven to be very rewarding. Insurance companies will often lower insurance premiums for graduates of the course.

Register directly with Boatwise at 800-698-7373 or captains@boatwise.com

Space is very limited; don't delay.

MYC Winter Programs

The presentation *Shipwrecks North of Boston* by Cpt. Ray Bates on Thursday April 13th proved to be very popular and is sold out.

A second presentation is possible if there is enough interest. If you are interested in attending a future presentation, please email marbleheadyachtclub@gmail.com.

Spring Work Parties Schedule

It has been a long standing MYC tradition to offer members the opportunity to work off their \$100.00 Work Assessment by volunteering eight hours of labor at the Spring work parties. This year's work sessions will be held on Saturday April 8th, 15th and 22nd.

Members interested in participating should send an email request to marbleheadyachtclub@gmail.com indicating their work skills or contact Bill Kilham (who may have assignments that require a specific expertise). Members will be contacted by a House or Waterfront Committee person to provide confirmation date/time. Those participating will be reimbursed the \$100 work assessment by check within 60 days of completion of work assignment.

MYC Meet and Greet Event

The **FIRST** Social Event of the 2017 Season!
Saturday May 6, 2017
4:30pm to 6:30pm

Watch the Kentucky Derby by the fire while reconnecting with old friends and becoming better acquainted with the MYC Officers and Board for 2017. It's a great way to start the 2017 season after a long winter!

Members are encouraged to bring family and friends to acquaint them with the "friendliest" yacht club on Marblehead Harbor. Information and applications will be available to those interested in joining.

Admission for Members: Bring a light appetizer to share and your choice of alcoholic beverage (maybe a mint-julep?). Soft drinks will be provided! Please feel free to wear your Kentucky Derby finery!

Riverhead Beach Cleanup

Marblehead Yacht Club along with Salem Sound Coast Watch, SUP (stand up paddle board) East Coast Style and the Marblehead Health Department will again be sponsoring a spring beach cleanup along Riverhead Beach. Mark your calendar for Saturday morning May 20th 10:00am to 12:00pm. More details to follow.

The beach cleanup is family oriented and a great way to help keep our harbor beautiful and maintain the sensitive natural habitat of our shoreline. Last year the group collected an amazing pile of trash from what is virtually our back yard.

MYC Racing

Marblehead Yacht Club Clemson Chase Race

The third Clemson Chase Race will start Sunday July 23rd at Noon. The starting area is right outside the mouth of the harbor at Marblehead Channel Entrance Bell. We are encouraging more of our own Club boats to participate in MYC's annual casual race event.

No matter what kind of sailboat you own, or what condition your sails are in, you should come out enjoy a day on the water with other Club members. The pursuit race format makes it low key. The start is easy since each boat has its own start time which eliminates maneuvering with other boats on the starting line. Once you start it is simply a matter of sailing the course and finishing first.

Last year we had 19 boats register, start the race and finish. Afterwards there was a party held in the Lavender Room with refreshments and race awards. So put the race on your calendar and plan to join in on the fun!

The [Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions](#) with links to on-line registration are on the [MYC website](#).

2017 Local Boating Events

These events are happening in our local waters this season and may be of interest for sailors and non-sailors.

Sail Boston with a tall ship parade is taking place June 17-22. They have a great [website](#) with details of the parade and activities. Definitely worth checking out.

This is the year when the **Marblehead Halifax Race** returns to Marblehead. The race starts July 9th but the harbor will start to fill up with visiting boats the week before. Watching the start and checking out the visiting boats is always a great spectator event. Here is the [link for more information](#).

Marblehead High School

Marine Tech Program

In addition to an excellent presentation on diesel mechanics on March 16th John Payne highlighted the MHS Marine Tech program. He has provided the following description of the program which may be of interest to Club members.

Do you have a small marine engine that may need general maintenance, i.e. oil change, tune-up or minor repair issues?

Maybe Marine Tech can help! The Marine Tech program at Marblehead High School has expanded, and we now offer two Marine Tech II classes to our students. Because of this expansion, we can now offer our services beginning in the fall, into the winter and early spring.

We are looking for boats or engines that may require minor repairs and/or general maintenance for our Marine Tech students to work on. PLEASE NOTE you will be required to pay for all parts for the repairs, and a minimal equipment usage fee will be charged. Any usage fees will go back into the Marine Tech program and help defray costs for class materials, i.e. tools, etc.

This is a unique opportunity for both you and our students. Students will provide labor and apply the basic skills they have learned through our program. If you (or someone you know) would like to take advantage of our program, please email me, John Payne, payne.john@marbleheadschoools.org.

We welcome the opportunity to show you what Marine Tech students have learned in just a short period of time, and would appreciate your consideration.

MYC Board of Director Meetings

Meetings of the Marblehead Yacht Club Officers and Directors are held monthly in the Cliff Room at 7:30 on the third Tuesday of each month. MYC is a volunteer Club and these meetings are open to Club members with all invited to attend and participate.

The 2017 Officers and Board of Directors

Officers		
Alan Petersen	Commodore	781-631-1362
Paul Mervis	Vice Commodore	781-631-4567
Jamie Ferreira	Rear Commodore	781-631-0291
Ellen McGrail	Secretary	781-990-3830
Glen Kewley	Treasurer	617-957-4374
Directors		
Bill Betters, Jr.		781-631-1013
Rick Cuzner		781-631-6705
Tom Despres		781-631-8158
David Mackey		978-578-0167
Marion McCauley		781-631-7569
Staff		
Bill Kilham	Dock Master/Club Manager	781-631-9771