



**Reports in Advance of
Cruising Club of America Meeting of Members
March 4, 2023 15:15-17:15 hours New York Yacht Club**

- 1. Call meeting to order** Chris Otorowski
No Report Submitted
- 2. Quorum** Molly P. Barnes
No Report Submitted
- 3. Commodore's Welcome** Chris Otorowski
No Report Submitted
- 4. Approval of Minutes** Chris Otorowski
Minutes from Fall Meeting of Members 9/3/2022 can be found [here](https://cruisingclub.org/2023-meeting) (https://cruisingclub.org/2023-meeting)
- 5. Report of the Commodore** Chris Otorowski
Report to be presented at the meeting
- 6. Report of the Vice Commodore** John R. Gowell
Report to be presented at the meeting
- 7. Report of the Treasurer** Kathleen O'Donnell
The Cruising Club of America (CCA) has two accounts at Key Bank. As of March 1, 2023, the balances were:
 - \$132,957.43 – Business Checking
 - \$153,449.58 – Money Market
 - \$1,466,921.10– Fidelity

The budget presented to the Board of Governors reflects increased costs for insurance, publications, and events. Thanks go to Events Chair Anne Kolker and member Joseph Hoopes for negotiating with the New York Yacht Club to keep Annual Meeting costs in line. Please note, however, that labor costs are higher in general but also attributable to the shift to a Saturday meeting.

We have adopted a new dues collection procedure which, I am pleased to say, has significantly decreased the number of “delinquent members.” Nick Kennedy reports that as of February 24, 2023, 91% of the members have paid their dues. Last year, at this time, we had 402 members showing as unpaid compared to 125 unpaid this year.

All outstanding invoices have been paid for the 100th Anniversary. In December, the Club received \$2,835.95 in royalties from Team One with \$1,486.64 of that total from the sales of 100th Anniversary regalia. We just received a check for \$1,100 for 2021 royalties bringing us current with Team One.

The Financial Affairs Committee has recommended that the Club vote to change the commencement of its fiscal year from November 1 to January 1. This change must be approved by the IRS and requires submission of a clerk's certificate with a vote to change the year. Once approved, the Club would then file a return for the "stub" tax year from November to December 31, and a separate return for the calendar year. Ideally, the Financial Affairs Committee will recommend an amendment to the club's bylaws for endorsement by the Governing Board in June. That amendment would then be brought to a vote by the membership at the annual meeting in September.

I met with our bookkeepers on Friday, February 17th to review the protocols for payments and reports. With the assistance of the Financial Affairs Committee, we will be revising the books to align those records with the budget categories. Once these changes are made, the reporting of actuals v. financials should be more accurate. I will be asking for estimates for audited financials, which are overdue.

There are several issues pointed out by the bookkeeping staff, notably the necessity to report to the IRS all "assets" held by the Club. I will be preparing a resolution for the Financial Affairs Committee that will address how the Club defines those assets, a so-called "diminimus rule".

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen M. O'Donnell, Treasurer

8. Report of the Secretary

Molly P. Barnes

While my primary role as Secretary is to record the proceedings of the meetings of the Club's members and the Governing Board, there are additional communication and support tasks.

Outside of sending notices of meetings and recording the minutes, most of my time has been spent working with other CCA leaders to update the processes associated with dues collection, resignation from the club, the passing of a member and the associated recognition, inclusion of surviving spouses, and the role/responsibility of the incredibly important Rear Commodores and Post Captains.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly P. Barnes, Secretary

9. Report of the Historian

Douglas D. Adkins

With John Rousmaniere's retirement after distinguished service, this Historian began his work. The initial urgent demand was for an Historian's Log report for the 2022 Yearbook and that report was completed along with a summary of annual highlights for the twenty-five years since the 75th Anniversary Yearbook thus completing the record of 100 years. The spring issue of the GAM included the article "Tracing our History XXV" and provided an account of the nine historians since our founding in 1922. The website monthly newsletter *Waypoints* requested the Historian's attention and a column entitled "Lore from the Lazarette" was inaugurated and focused on historical events relating to the Club's earliest years as a nod to our Centennial. Initial articles included pieces on Herb Stone, George Bonnell, Bill Nutting and other charter members as well as articles about early yearbooks, CCA flag signals and other topics related to our early history. Later columns focused on The Blue Water Ball celebrating our 75th Anniversary, the triumphs of the Cal-40, the CCA Measurement Rule and inflection points in the history of rating rules, and the history of the Blue Water Medal.

The Historian was asked to deliver a luncheon address on the opening day of the Centennial Celebration in Newport. It was a formal speech of 35 minutes without visuals but, instead, with observations regarding the

Cruising Club's development and evolving character. It served as the basis for the Fall Gam "Tracing our History XXVI" section.

The work of coordinating the efforts of the Station Historians remains largely undone. The single initiative was a request of the Historians for Sea Chanty submissions, and it was met with a narrow but enthusiastic response. Two chancies were presented at the Centennial Celebration. The job of this Historian has been to try to keep up with the demands of writing but turning to better participation and collaboration within the ranks of the Station Historians is on the agenda.

Important work in providing access to our historical materials occurred during the past year and will continue. The Yearbooks for every one of our 100 years have been scanned and are available digitally which is an enormous benefit to research. That task was ramrodded by Commodore Otorowski and the Club with benefit from his efforts forever.

Finally, the efforts of Mark Grosby and the Archives Committee continue to assist in gaining access to the voluminous records of the Club. The volume grows but the tools for search and research are catching up.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Adkins, Historian

10. Report of the Fleet Surgeon

Jeffery S. Wisch M.D.

The Covid 19 Pandemic continued to be the focus of medical safety issues for the CCA as it related to its membership and CCA events. The Covid 19 Task Force continued to follow the evolution of the Pandemic. The Task Force consists of Past Commadore Bob Medland, Commadore Chris Otorowski, Vice Commadore Jay Gowell, Club Secretary Molly Barnes, Bill Strassberg, M.D., Anne Kolker, M.D., Moe Roddy, R.N., Charles Starke, M.D., and Jeffrey Wisch, M.D (Chair). (Please see below for the most recent advisory voted on by the BOG on 2/21/23.) The Committee will continue to monitor the situation and recommend policy as the Covid 19 situation warrants based on recommendations from the CDC and other trusted medical sources.

The Fleet Surgeon provided advice for the SAS sessions and Stations regarding Covid 19 medical safety issues.

The Fleet Surgeon in his role as medical chair to the BROCC has been advising BROCC regarding medical support and safety for the race in collaboration with the NBR medical support lead physician, Dr Barbara Masser (BIDMC, Boston). He also assisted in coordinating pre-race medical communications and procedures with the USCG.

In addition to the above, the Fleet Surgeon has served in an advisory role for the Newfoundland Cruise and the Short-Handed Return Race from Bermuda.

The Fleet Surgeon Memo in the CCA Yearbook and Website was also updated for 2023.

Plans for the previously cancelled (due to Covid concerns) Emergency Offshore Wilderness Medical seminar are underway again and the course will take place as a crossed burgee event with NYCC at the NYCC 44th Street Clubhouse on November 10-12, 2023.

Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to the members of the Covid 19 Task Force for their hard work as well as the Club leadership and the CCA membership for their support.

CCA COVID 19 ADVISORY
FEBRUARY 21, 2023

It has been a long and difficult three years since Covid 19 disrupted our usual activities of daily living. As an organization we have had to make difficult decisions in an effort to keep our members safe. We are grateful to our members and Club leaders for your efforts, counsel and advice.

Considering recent positive progress on Covid 19 indicators, the CCA Governing Board, in consultation with our Covid 19 Task Force, has modified the CCA's Covid 19 policy as follows:

- Vaccinations will no longer be required to attend any CCA Station, Post or Club event. Vaccination however remains the most effective protection against serious illness, hospitalization, and death and the Task Force strongly recommends following CDC guidelines.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>
- Per CDC guidelines it is advised that members wear a mask when indoors, **if** you have a weakened immune system, **if** you are at increased risk for severe disease because of your age or an underlying medical condition, in areas of [substantial or high transmission](#), or when in sustained [close contact](#) with other people.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>
- While not required, voluntary testing for attendees of CCA Station, Post, or Club events, may be recommended at the discretion of the RC or event organizer.
- Individuals who have tested positive, or their close contacts, should follow the [CDC isolation and quarantine guidance](#).
- It should be noted that in the case of regional surges or a new deadly variant, precautions may be reimplemented. Should a state law or local government authority specify have different requirements than the CDC or the CCA, that state law or local government authority should be followed.

Respectively submitted,
Jeffery S. Wisch, M.D., Fleet Surgeon CCA

11. Report of the Fleet Captain

Paul Hamilton

I am pleased to report the following:

Team 1 Newport - The relationship with our supplier Team 1 Newport continues to run smoothly.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul J. Hamilton, Fleet Captain

12. Reports of the Rear Commodores and Post Captains

a. Bermuda Somers Kempe

As is customary, the Bermuda Station met twice in the second half of 2022.

CCA Member's Meeting

A lunch meeting of members was held 14th October 2022 at which reports were given on:

- the inaugural Bermuda Short Handed Return Race
- the CCA Centennial Celebrations

Appointment of Somers Kempe as Rear Commodore and Buddy Rego as New CCA Trustee
At the meeting, it was agreed that Somers Kempe be elected Rear Commodore to tie in with the election of Club officers. Somers was congratulated on his work as Chair of the Newport - Bermuda Organising Committee. The group nominated Buddy Rego, a past commodore of RHADC, and frequent NBR competitor to assume Brian Billings role as Trustee effective March 2023.

CCA Dinner

On the evening of 4th November 2022, the Station held a very successful dinner for 40 members, partners and guests at the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. The highlight was the presentation of Gary Jobson's video "Sailing the World for 100 Years".

Respectfully Submitted,
Somers Kempe, Rear Commodore Bermuda Station

b. Bras D'Or Ernest Hamilton

The Bras d'Or Station year began with the AGM which was held in November 2022. The venue was the Saraguay House of the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron in Halifax. We had a full agenda but, as we are half-way through our two-year terms, there was no change in member responsibilities.

The first event of 2023 was a Station Winter Dinner that was held at the Blomidon Inn in Wolfville, NS, on January 21. We had a superb meal with memorable wines, for which the inn is noted. Twenty-nine attended the dinner after a hike on Cape Blomidon (head of the Bay of Fundy); and Champagne cocktails at the lovely home of our long-standing member, Peter and Barbara Watts.

Our next scheduled event is the Spring Meeting on March 23. It will be held in Halifax. We have separate ship tours planned for April: HMCS Oriole; and CCGS Jacques Cartier. The former is a Royal Canadian Navy sail-training yacht and the latter is an offshore fisheries research vessel. A spring raft-up in mid-June and a summer cruise in August are in the planning stages.

The big event in 2023 for our Station will be to host the 2023 CCA Fall meeting on September 29 in Lunenburg, NS. Members will need to arrive in Nova Scotia by Thursday 28 to be available for the Friday meetings. Hospitality is planned for Thursday and Friday nights as well as on Saturday 30. Lunenburg is a tourist town with a limited number of accommodations so members are encouraged to book their room soon while space is still available. A number of members intend to have their yachts in Lunenburg for hospitality and sailing on Saturday. Particulars are available on the CCA website, including a list of accommodations available. More information and registration details will be available shortly. It is hoped that members will be keen to visit Nova Scotia at this time of year when traditionally the weather is at its best.

Respectfully submitted,
G. Ernest Hamilton, Rear Commodore, Bras d'Or

c. Boston Carter S. Bacon

The Boston Station did not sponsor a cruise during 2022. The Station will be sponsoring a cruise on July 22-28, 2023, starting in Portsmouth New Hampshire and ending at Boothbay, Maine.

On October 19, 2022, the Station officers, together with several past Rear Commodores, national officers and proposers, welcomed 9 new members and their spouses at a new members dinner held at the Union Club in downtown Boston.

During 2023, the Station has hosted three luncheons at the India Wharf Rats Club in downtown Boston and has plans for five more. The Station will host a New Members dinner in November 2023 and is planning an annual meeting dinner for October 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carter Bacon, Rear Commodore Boston Station

d. Buzzard's Bay Raymond J. Collum

The Buzzards Bay Post, kicked off their Winter 2023 Post Luncheons on December 2nd at the Beverly Yacht Club, in Marion MA. The December event was the annual meeting of the Post with the changeover of the Post officers. Post Captain, Paul Busheuff announced the new Post officers; Ray Cullum, Post Captain and Ed Van Keuren, Secretary/Treasurer. After a very nice lunch, Jim and Dee Woodward gave a terrific presentation called "99 Locks" about their two trips on two different boats to all five Great Lakes via the St. Lawrence River.

The February luncheon is being held at Buzzards Bay Yacht Services owned by CCA members Peter Cassidy and Ed Van Keuren in Mattapoisett, MA. There will be a casual luncheon in the shop followed by a talk by Peter and Ed on "Fiberglass Yacht Restoration." The March event will be back at the Beverly Yacht Club in Marion, MA on March 24th.

Planning is in the works for the summer Follow the Wave rendezvous in Narraganset and Buzzards Bay over the summer including a stopover at the home of CCA members Peter and Jen Francis as part of the cruise in company heading north for the Maine cruise.

Respectfully,
Ray Cullum, Post Captain Buzzard's Bay

e. Gulf of Maine Peter Driscoll

f. Narragansett Bay Dick Waterman

The Narragansett Bay Post (NBP) has been active this fall and winter with a number of activities and we look forward to getting back on the water later this spring and summer.

- On November 4, the Post hosted a lunch at the Barrington Yacht Club in Barrington, RI. Ed Kane gave an outstanding presentation on owning the famous yacht *Bolero*. Over 45 members attended the lunch and enjoyed Ed's entertaining talk.
- Saturday, December 17, Chris and Shawn Otorowski opened their home in Newport to host a holiday potluck dinner. This was the second year in a row the Otorowski's hosted this event and it has become a "must do" part of the holiday season!
- On January 21, about 30 of us enjoyed our first potluck dinner in 2023 at Sheila McCurdy's and David Brown's house. The weather cooperated and it was great to get everyone together and hear about recent and planned adventures.

As we turn our attention to the spring and summer we plan on hosting one or two more lunch or pot luck dinner gatherings and then as the weather warm's we are planning on informal Gams in and around Narragansett Bay. One activity we are planning is to perform a "Practice on Your Own Boat" (PYOB) person overboard session during one of the Gams. We look forward to conducting this important activity and having fun with it too.

If any CCA members are traveling through the Narragansett Bay region, be sure to reach out regarding activities and cruising tips or sightseeing in the area while you are here.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Waterman, Post Captain Narragansett Bay

g. Chesapeake **Bev Crump**

The Chesapeake Station of the Cruising Club is in good shape with activities ongoing and members engaged. Since the last report there have been numerous activities.

A large contingent of members and boats, attended the Centennial in Newport in September 2022, including *Nellie Crockett, Bonnie Rye, Gratitude, Ping, Ginger, Rappahannock and Egret.*

The scheduled CHE Fall Cruise started in Newport after the Centennial and proceeded south to the Chesapeake with 8-10 boats.

CHE hosted an impromptu raft up at Dun Cove off the Choptank in October. The Rum Keg and perfect Fall weather insured that all present had a relaxed and festive event. The party was honored by the firing of the Station's new salute cannon in observance of evening colors.

CHE held its annual at Tred Avon Yacht Club in Oxford on October 23. The highlight of event was a presentation about the life of Newbold Smith by Tony Parker, former crew on *Reindeer* and last year's winner of the Newbold Smith Trophy. Newbold was a mythical figure whose life reads like fiction and was the recipient of the CCA Bluewater medal while a Station member. Tony's talk was impressive and was complemented by a gathering of CCA-CHE members who has sailed with Newbold.

At the annual meeting the following were elected officers of the Station: Bev Crump -Rear Commodore; John Devlin – Fleet Captain; Drew Kellogg- Secretary -Treasurer.

To close out 2022, the Chesapeake Station celebrated the holidays with its annual Holiday Luncheon at the Annapolis Yacht Club attended by 105 members, spouses, friends and guests. The highlight of the event was a personal presentation by Station member Gary Jobson of his new film "The Cruising Club of America-Sailing the World for One Hundred Years" which he prepared to celebrate this year's centennial of the CCA. We were fortunate to have Gary, our own Station Member, there to make it special for all of CHE.

For 2023, the Station has a full Schedule. We continue with our monthly luncheons at the Annapolis Yacht Club on the second Tuesday of each month. All CCA Members are welcome and no reservations are needed. CHE is also planning a Spring Cruise in May 24-29 starting in Annapolis and a Fall Cruise October 18-23.

Respectfully,
Bev Crump, Rear Commodore Chesapeake Station

h. Essex **Tom Wadlow**

Since the Fall meeting in Newport, the Essex Station has had 5 of its well-attended lunches at Pilots Point Marina, one of which was our festive holiday lunch. We also had our Annual Meeting in December at which officers were elected. Tom Wadlow became the Rear Commodore and Harold Guidotti is now the Station Secretary.

The Station is proud of its extensive support of Centennial meeting in Newport and of our being the first station to have all member's dues paid for 2023. Our next meeting is a potluck at Masons Island YC on

March 8 that will include a GAM about our favorite harbors and will be moderated by Frank Bohlen. Later in the spring, our spring cruise will be to the new CCA docks at the Mystic Seaport on June 2nd and 3rd. As always, other station members and guests are welcome at our events.

Respectfully,
Tom Wadlow, Rear Commodore Essex Station

i. Florida Atle Moe

- 1) Florida station had our annual meeting January 20 & 21 in St. Petersburg Florida.
- 2) Lunch programs are taking place in St. Petersburg, Vero Beach, Fort Lauderdale, and Miami.
- 3) Next year's annual for the Florida station meeting will take place in Fort Lauderdale January 19 & 20.
- 4) The day after the annual meeting we have a CCA Florida cruise on a cruise ship. Our members are not getting any younger and most members don't have a boat so it ends up being land cruises for most of the members. So, to be more inclusive to members, we are planning to have our 2024 Station Cruise aboard a cruise ship.

Although this is a CCA Florida Station Event, CCA members from any station are welcome, in addition to their guests, partners, and surviving spouses. This will certainly be a wonderful opportunity for our members to share in the camaraderie for which CCA is known.

The cruise is aboard the brand-new Celebrity ship, Ascent, departing from Ft. Lauderdale on Sunday, January 21, 2024. The 7-night journey has stops in Nassau, Cozumel and Grand Cayman. The timing of the cruise was chosen to dovetail with the 2024 Florida Station Annual Meeting which will be taking place in Ft. Lauderdale January 19th and 20th.

We have arranged a cruise package for only \$1,773.97 per person which includes a Veranda Stateroom, Classic Beverage Package, Gratuities, and Wi-fi. There are four restaurants aboard the ship that are included in this package, and we will arrange dinners together for one night in each of these restaurants. The remaining evenings will be open to get together in smaller groups and allow the opportunity to try the other specialty restaurants aboard.

Respectfully,
Atle Moe, Rear Commodore Florida Station

j. Great Lakes Peter Balasubramanian

On November 2 the GLS hosted an in-person dinner meeting in Toronto, the event was well attended and served both a social function and a formal opportunity to introduce new members as well as conduct the election of a new Rear Commodore.

On March 3, the GLS is planning a station meeting to coincide with the CCA annual meeting. The station dinner is an annual event.

We are planning in the Spring/Summer to conduct a POYOB MOB event using the OSCAR dummies, to be held at the RCYC in Toronto (specific date TBD)

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Balasubramanian, Rear Commodore Great Lakes Station

k. New York Peter Becker

Saturday, November 5, 2023, the NY Station held our first dinner meeting since the onset of COVID-19 at the Stamford Yacht Club. The featured presenter was our very own RC David Tunick who recounted his recent solo Transatlantic passage from Spain to Stamford, CT. David is the recipient of the 2023 CCA Far Horizons Award for that accomplished solo passage.

Saturday, January 7, 2023, the NY Station held its annual meeting at the Stamford Yacht Club. Reports were presented by the Treasurer and Membership Committee Chairman attesting to the good financial health of the station and a robust queue of potential new CCA members. This meeting was also the changing of the guard, the Nominating Committee presented Peter Becker as the new RC who was voted into office. All expressed sincere appreciation and thanks to David Tunick who skillfully guided our station for the last three years and through the COVID-19 challenges. David will forever be our foremost Zoom moderator and host.

The evening was regaled by the presentation “The America's Cup, newly discovered truths & untruths” by Steve Tsuchiya, author and Chair of the Selection Committee, America's Cup Hall of Fame. Steve captured the attention of the audience with stories from behind The America’s Cup wall of secrecy of stories of espionage, counterespionage, and "dirty tricks".

The CCA voted in three new members proposed by the New York Station on February 23, 2023

The NY Station has scheduled an event on April 1, 2023, for a conversation with Gary Jobson with the membership, and the presentation of the CCA 100th Anniversary video and other video productions.

The annual clambake at David Tunick’s residence in Stamford is scheduled for June 3, 2023. This event is typically a cross-burgee with the North American Station of the Royal Scandinavian Yacht Clubs and Nyländska Jaktklubben.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Becker, Rear Commodore New York Station

l. Pacific Northwest David Utley

PNW has been holding monthly lunch meetings both in person and with a Zoom link. Our annual dinner was held at The Seattle Yacht Club in November with 65 people attending. At our February lunch meeting we showed the 100th anniversary film, with comments from Commodore Otorowski. The PNW Spring Cruise will be held May 8th-13th. Members from other Stations are encouraged to attend. Our last lunch meeting will be June 7th with no meetings until October.

Respectfully,
Dave Utley, Rear Commodore Pacific Northwest Station

m. San Francisco Richard Schaper

San Francisco Station had another good year of renewed in-person meetings and activities, with exceptional programs and an average monthly attendance of 44.

- Mary Crowley received the First Annual CCA Diana Russell Award.
- Randall Reeves received the Blue Water Medal for his “Figure-8” voyage around the Americas and Antarctica.
- Chuck Hawley received the Nathaniel G. Herreshoff Trophy from U.S. Sailing.

- Stan and Sally Honey’s Cal-40, *Illusion*, trounced the 2022 Newport to Bermuda Race Fleet to take line honors, win the St. David’s Light Trophy and 12 other trophies. Remarkably, *Illusion* and *Carina*, owned and skippered by Rives Pott (ESS) won the Thames Sailing Club Trophy for the Best Performance by a two-yacht team. (The combined age of the two boats is 110 years!)
- Coming out of the pandemic lockdown, a cruise to Benicia is planned for May 4-6.
- CCA members visiting San Francisco are welcome to our meetings which are generally held on the first Wednesday of the month, except for July and August.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Schaper, Rear Commodore San Francisco Station

n. Southern California Steve Calhoun

We begin 2023 with a full agenda of activities throughout the year. That includes our 4 lunches, a summer BBQ, local cruise, and annual meeting in late November / early December. This year, our station is further preoccupied with the continued organization of the CCA International Cruise in the Sea of Cortez in late April / Early May, 2024. Our station will be the leadership for that cruise, and we have 2 very well qualified co-chairmen, Dan Gribble and Gary Davidson. They will be further supported by other members of our station to ensure that the cruise is a success for the Cruising Club of America. Furthermore, our efforts in the cruise organization will include reaching out to the Pacific Northwest (PNW) and San Francisco (SAF) stations, to encourage their members to bring their own yachts to the Sea of Cortez for the cruise. It is a great venue for a cruise, with warm / comfortable weather in the late Spring.

Our station continues to recruit quality new members, to add to the strong membership base we already enjoy. Overall, we have enthusiastic members who enjoy the Cruising Club of America and upholding the traditions of the club.

We look forward to a full year of activity with strong attendance at each event.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steve Calhoun, Rear Commodore Southern California

13. Report of the Nominating Committee Brad Willauer

The Nominating Committee submits the following nominations for election:

OFFICERS:

Commodore:	Christopher L. Otorowski
Vice Commodore:	John R. Gowell
Secretary:	Molly P. Barnes
Treasurer:	Kathleen M. O’Donnell
Historian:	Douglas D. Adkins

GOVERNORS (Terms expiring in 2026):

Gretchen Biemesderfer (ESS)
Spencer Kuhner (NYS)
Mary Alice O’Neill (PNW)
Buddy Rego (BDA)

14. Committee Reports for this Meeting

a. Archives

Mark Grosby

Current Committee Membership:

Mark Grosby, Chair, Mark Ellis, Sheila McCurdy, Frank Bohlen, Elizabeth Bohlen, Timothy Surgenor, Christopher Wick

This list was assembled from prior meetings. If you are not on list the list and wish to join us, please email me: archives@cruisingclub.org

As previously reported, the club has been actively digitizing materials from the archives. We don't have a central digital repository to store and allow access to all of the material. At the direction of the Commodore, we have been charged with proposing a plan to develop a repository.

I have been investigating cloud content collaboration software that provide cloud storage with the following attributes:

- Security of the data by controlling types of access, continuous backup and cyberattack protection.
- Collaboration to allow information to be shared across the club and the public, while maintaining our intellectual property rights and privacy.
- Automation to simplify the classification and security characteristics of files added to the repository. Implementation of Club appropriate file retention policies.
- Publishing tools including global search.

Box.com appears to be the leading supplier of this type of software, but there are many competitors including GoogleDocs, Dropbox, Zoho Docs and eFileCabinet. If any club members have experience using any of these or other CCCSoftware, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Mark Grosby, Archives Committee Chair

b. Awards

Steve James

The delay of the 2021 Awards Presentation until September in Newport at the Centennial Gala was a good decision. Delaying the presentation and enhancing it by bringing in as many Blue Water Medal winners from around the world as possible helped make the celebrations events to remember. The extra costs to the committee during the year have benefited the Club with very high visibility in the yachting press.

Selection of our 2022 Awardees was accomplished simultaneously with the Centennial making for a very compressed year of activity for this committee. Our awardee selection and my decision to move the press releases forward to the first week of January resulted in better coverage by the yachting press and a higher visibility in the yachting community.

Costs for the year will show a one-time increase due to the Centennial but newly approved awards are going to have a continuing impact upon the budget. Seven new awards, The Diana Russel Award and six (6) CCA Newport Bermuda Race awards will require an increased budget for the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen W. James, Awards Committee Chairman

f. Charts and Guides

Doug Bruce & Wilson Fit

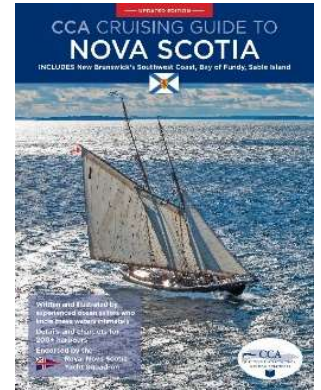
Significant progress has been made on all projects since the Fall Meeting in Newport.

Highlights:

- Atlantic Canada Guides

Committee Co-Chair and Editor of the Nova Scotia Guide, Wilson Fitt, reports that the updated 2022 edition of the Nova Scotia Guide, launched last April, has achieved positive reactions from all quarters and helped overall sales for the four Canadian guides to set records for FY 2022.

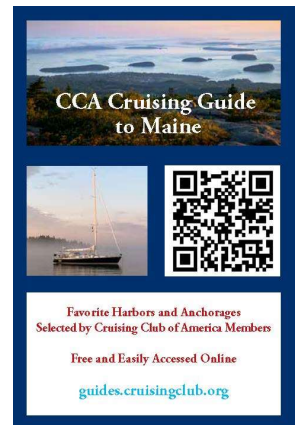
AREA	# Sold	% Inc Yr-Yr
Nova Scotia	371	169 %
Newfoundland	169	112 %
Gulf of St Lawrence	115	160 %
Labrador	75	214 %
Total	730	147 %



Newly updated Newfoundland and Labrador guides will be launched this spring. These attractive, revamped books should encourage continued growth for our printed products. Finding a new editor for the GSL guide continues, and a backup plan is in the works. Strategies for possible digital versions of these guides starting in the summer of 2024 are also under discussion.

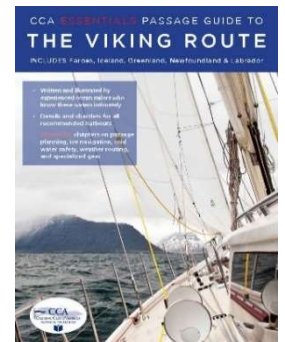
- Digital CCA Cruising Guide to Maine

This was launched last summer with many online and other promotional activities. Results to date have been very gratifying. With tens of thousands of exposures, Google has tracked over 7,000 “users.” Thirty CCA member contributors deserve praise and enormous thanks for their hard work and creativity on this innovative effort. Lead Editors Jane & Tom Babbitt have been diligent over the winter in creating several enhancements: suggested itineraries, additional harbors & anchorages (plus updates for the current list of 66), additional provisioning advice, and a cooperative program with Maine Coast Heritage Trust -- with special thanks to GMP member Schofield (Sandy) Andrews, who created the connection. The Maine guide will be supported again this year with social media, email and public relations outreach.



- Viking Route Guide

After much “heavy lifting” this winter to fine-tune the text and illustrations by Lead Editor Bill Strassberg (with significant help from Jim Woodward), the Viking Route Guide is now in the hands of our graphic designer. We are targeting a late spring launch of this comprehensive treatise. The goal is to present a thorough overview of the many essential considerations a skipper must address before undertaking this challenging route.



- Pacific Cruising Guide

Several CCA members have been working with the Royal Cruising Club Pilotage Foundation’s Lead Editor, Francis Hawkings, to provide updates and photography for a new edition of their popular Pacific Cruising Guide. The book is expected to be completed this fall.

- **Chart Loaning Service**

This service continues to offer these paper relics, but very few members avail themselves of it despite the resumption of worldwide cruising in 2022. Discussions are being held this spring to consider transitioning the service to a more comprehensive online Cruising Information Exchange for club members. Details will be forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Bruce, Committee Co-Chair

g. Communications **James Phyfe**

The Communications Committee has had a productive six months with all printed publications meeting their deadlines and many enhancements made to the website and digital content. (See individual reports below.)

Coming out of the Fall Meeting in Newport, a subcommittee was formed to revisit the Committee's mission statement, which included Chuck Hawley, Michael Moradzadeh, Ernie Godshalk, Julie Kallfelz, Phil Dickey and James Phyfe. Over five meetings spanning several months, this group examined the Communication Committee's role in meeting the Objects of the Club and the processes we use to achieve it. The resulting revised Mission Statement was adopted unanimously by the Committee at a February 10th meeting and subsequently by the Governing Board February 21st.

In addition, the Club renewed its contract with outside media consultant John Burnham and entered a new contract for social medial services with Rising T Media and Marketing (Kate Somers). Working with Steve James (Awards) and Chuck Hawley (Safety and Seamanship), John has enabled the Club to be recognized in several digital and paper publications in the US, Europe and as far as Japan. Kate has resurrected the CCA Instagram page under the guidance of Roel Hoekstra and has greatly increased the following and activity of the Club Facebook page. Lastly, Ami and Bob Green have just produced another fantastic issue of Voyages, the National Geographic[®] of sailing.

The following are reports from the Editors:

Yearbook – Barbara Watson

- The 2023 yearbook will be the traditional blue and regularly size, for which there is a budget.
- The 2022 Newport Bermuda Race results will be included along with the Commodores new Centennial Perpetual Trophies for the best performing CCA Skippers.
- Station information and events return to the inside back cover.
- Members have been encouraged to update their profiles by the end of February.
- The member-driven material (Membership, Surviving Spouses, Fleet and Fleet pictorial) will be taken from the website from March 7th. If all is well on the website, that will be in the Yearbook.
- Many thanks to Michael Moradzedah, Tony Will, Doug Adkins, Steve James, Larry Somers, also Dallas Murphy and Trish Schibli for proofreading.
- Thanks also to all the contributors who have produced their part of the whole.
- The Yearbooks have all been scanned by the Commodore and need somewhere to be saved for easy access?
- Please see an initial CCA Resources spreadsheet (appendix) with links to many.

Waypoints – Julie Kallfelz

Our monthly, digital publication *Waypoints* continues to provide timely information to members on events, topics of interest, and club policy. It also serves as a forum for members to share information and

invite participation in local, regional and global events and endeavors, and is an easy way to engage with each other and with the CCA across platforms.

We continue to solicit input from a broad cross section of members and encourage all members to send content to be included in *Waypoints*. We have worked toward making *Waypoints* content interesting, valuable, and digestible, and data analysis from the past two years shows we're making some progress in that area. Based on data provided from our MailChimp platform, the *Waypoints* "open rate" (the percentage of recipients who opened the *Waypoints* email) has increased 15%, from a monthly average of 54% in 2021 to a monthly average of 69% in 2022. However, the "click rate" (the percentage of recipients who opened and clicked on a link in *Waypoints*, which generally lead to the CCA website) increased only about 2%. The Communications Committee is working to use this platform data to better understand member preferences and tailor content accordingly.

GAM – Phil Dickey

The GAM continues to feature primarily Station Reports, New Member Biographies, and promotional articles for the CCA Cruises. In the Fall Issues of BDA Race years, we lead with Race articles, in 2022 borrowed with permission from John Burnham and the Bermuda Race communications team. In alternate years, we find other interesting topics. In the Spring Issues, we lead with CCA Awards, and in both Fall and Spring Issues, we add feature articles of interest to members and contributions from Committees.

In 2022's Spring and Fall Issues, we were able, for the first time in many years, to include biographies of the most recent classes of new members. When the new members receive their first GAM, they find their biographies. We were able to accomplish this enhancement through collaborative efforts of Ernie Godshalk and Membership, the GAM, and, most importantly, the considerable efforts of Dianne Embree and Dorothy Wadlow, our biography writers.

Social Media – Roel Hoekstra

The club has used social media platforms, particularly Facebook to raise our public profile.

We have hired Kate Somers to help with social media management. She is posting our content to several Facebook pages and groups 2 to 3 times per week.

Repetition and interesting content is the key to getting the social media platforms to recognize us as a reliable source of entertainment and information and therefore share our content with individuals who are most likely to engage with it.

It is working. Our posts are getting lots of views, likes, and comments. Here are a few of the top posts from the past few months:



The Blue Water Medal, our highest honor, is generally awarded annually to "reward meritorious seamanship..."

Published by Buffer on January 3, 2022. Public

Post Impressions ⓘ

15,868

Post reach ⓘ

14,849

Post Engagement ⓘ

790



Where in the world Wednesday. Do you recognize this famous inlet? Known for its artists, this island is general...

Published by Buffer · February 8 at 9:03 AM

Public

Post Impressions ⓘ

1,865

Post reach ⓘ

1,716

Post Engagement ⓘ

197



Founded in 1922, the Cruising Club of America is the oldest cruising club in the United States. To mark the...

Published by Buffer · December 2, 2022

Post Impressions ⓘ

1,105

Post reach ⓘ

1,006

Post Engagement ⓘ

225

On average, we are getting about 500 views for every post and 75 engagements. We have great content, and now we are exposing the public to our content via social media.

One relatively new side effect is that we have people contacting us through FB/Instagram messenger indicating their interest to join our club. But we do not have a process to handle this intake. The membership committee is looking at this issue.

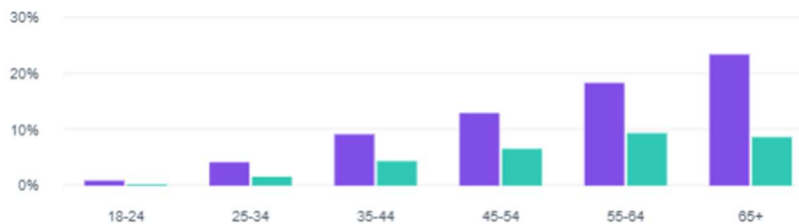
Our audience on FB mirrors our membership in general. It skews older and male.

Audience

Age and Gender

Men 69.20%

Women 30.80%



Our next step is to expand our exposure on Instagram to reach a younger audience.

Voyages –Ami and Bob Green

We are pleased to submit this committee report for the 65th issue of *Voyages*.

David Curtin, our Final Voyages editor, has been an excellent addition to our team.

An increase in submissions might indicate that COVID's impact on sailing has lessened. Among the 17 diverse narratives, we received an unexpected photo essay from Dan Nerney, CCA's official photographer. Two excellent book reviews are in Issue 65.

This year's print run totaled 1,918 copies. In addition to the membership mailing, 77 copies were sent to yacht clubs with a cover letter from Commodore Otorowski; 115 to the Rear Commodores and Post Captains; 15 to Chris Otorowski; and 50 to Cindy Crofts-Wisch for "miscellaneous" distribution as needed.

We continue to send a copy of *Voyages* to *SAIL* magazine and WindCheck, who often pick up articles for publication (with the authors' permission) in return for a favorable mention of the CCA. Elaine Lembo of *Caribbean Compass* contacted us recently and will receive a copy. All good exposure for CCA.

Safety and Seamanship – Chuck Hawley

Please see standalone report elsewhere in this package.

Website – Michael Moradzadeh

Please see standalone report elsewhere in this package.

Appendix 1 – CCA Resources

CCA COMMUNICATIONS			February 2023	
Publication	Period	Condition	Where	Link
The Archives are manuscript collection 303	1921 - 2005	Digitized	Collections Research Center of Mystic Seaport Museum	https://research.mysticseaport.org/coll/coll303/
Cruising Club News	1962-1986	Digitized	Collections Research Center of Mystic Seaport Museum	https://research.mysticseaport.org/item/10999022/
Cruising Guide to Maine Digital	2022	Digitized		https://guides.cruisingclub.org/
CCA Cruise Guides and Planning Guides	2004 - 2019	Digitized		https://cruisingclub.org/mo/cca-cruising-guides
GAM	2002 - to date	Digitized		https://cruisingclub.org/mo/gam
Bluewater Medal	1922-1996	Digitized		https://www.dropbox.com/s/ddqt c701tg3atw9/Blue%20Water%20Medal%201922-1996.pdf?dl=0
Moorings	Current	Digitized	Download expanded Moorings List - from base of the website	https://cruisingclub.org/mo/resources/moorings
Voyages	2019 2020 2021	Digitized		https://cruisingclub.org/voyages
Voyages	2022	Digitized		https://issuu.com/cruisingclub/docs/voyages_2022?fr=sNTUyZjI0Nzc0Ng
Waypoints		?	?	
Yearbooks	1923 - 2022	Digitized	Commodore has them?	
Yearbooks	1923 - 2023	Original books	Commodore, Secretary, Historian, Bill Munroe FLA	
Members may visit the Collection Research Center.			Collections Research Center of Mystic Seaport Museum	https://research.mysticseaport.org/visit/

V/R,
James Phyfe, Chair Communications Committee

- How to ensure the information received from committee heads is formatted in a manner consistent with the Quickbooks chart of account.

Thanks to the hard work of Peter Griffin, the FAC has developed template for station policies and procedures including financial policies. This followed a survey of “best practices” at the station level, which indicated that many of our stations do not have written policies and procedures. We will review this draft on March 4, 2023.

Also, at our meeting on March 4, 2023, we expect to review CCA financial performance for at least the first two months of FY2023, and possibly the first quarter, if the numbers are available.

We continue to search for a new bookkeeper, preferably in, or near to Newport.

Finally, at our March 4, 2023 meeting, we will revisit our committee’s charter developed a year ago, and assess how we are doing against the goals of that charter.

Respectfully,
Chace Anderson, Chair

k. Guest Moorings **Liz Baylis**

Updates have been made to the information for the current guest mooring listings, working with the webmaster and editor, on the web page and in the yearbook. Modest success was made to get more moorings and docks added to the list by reaching out to the membership via Waypoints. More efforts are underway to continue to keep the data up to date and add more listings. The Committee membership remains the same with Liz Baylis as Chair and Tom Babbitt and Ted Clucas as members.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Baylis, Chair

l. Investment **Thomas C. Post**

2023 has gotten off to a good start after a rough year in 2022 for both the stock and bond markets. Our long-term returns still look good.

Here is a synopsis of results through 1/31/23:

Fund	YTD	1 Year	3 years	5 years	10 years
CCA Account	5.32%	-5.72%	6.85%	6.51%	8.28%
Bonnell Cove Account	4.95%	-4.12%	6.52%	5.87%	7.74%
65/35 Benchmark *	5.16%	-8.06%	6.04%	6.90%	8.92%
S&P 500	6.28%	-8.22%	9.88%	9.54%	12.68%
Dow Jones US Total Stock Market	6.97%	-8.42%	9.37%	8.99%	12.19%
MSCI ACWI ex USA (International Stocks)	8.12%	-5.56%	3.80%	1.53%	4.36%
Bloomberg Agg Bond Index	3.08%	-8.36%	-2.35%	0.86%	1.43%

* 65% S&P 500 / 35% Bloomberg Aggregate Periods longer than one year are annualized

We remain close to our allocation targets and don't anticipate making any dramatic changes to the portfolios. We endeavor to keep our costs as low as possible. Expenses for the Bonnell Cove portfolio are 0.05% annually and for the CCA portfolio, they are 0.03% annually.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas C. Post, Chair CCA Investment Committee

m. Long Range Planning Tim Surgenor

The Long Range Planning Committee presented recent membership and other trends at the CCA Fall Meeting in Newport, RI. We have received great feedback and questions based on the data we presented. Importantly, we also received a copy of the 1995 report "Views on a Vision for the CCA" from former Commodore Jim Harvie, who was one of the authors. This report provides an important benchmark for our current work. The committee is currently working in several subgroups to develop components of our final report, which will include an assessment of the club and its current activities, a proposed mission statement for the CCA that we believe will greatly help in our communications and awareness activities, and a set of planning recommendations. We also expect to solicit member feedback through surveys or other tools.

Respectfully,
Tim Surgenor, Chair

n. Membership Ernest Godshalk

Thanks to over 100 Proposers, Seconders and Letter Writers, and the efforts of the Station Membership Committees in eight Stations, the Club Membership Committee recommended 24 qualified candidates (listed below*) who were elected by the Governing Board at its meeting on February 21. Of the 24, one is female; four are Next Watch (<55); the average age is 62 years. The number of candidates is still recovering from the effects of COVID.

Upon their election, the new members received a letter from the Commodore and timely communications from the relevant Proposer, Rear Commodore, Station Membership Committee chair and Next Watch Captain intended to welcome and engage the new members. All members are encouraged to reach out to the new members!

Due to the effects of COVID in recent years – less cruising and socializing, fewer races – the number of proposals for new members was insufficient to offset the number of deaths, dues delinquents, and resignations; total membership is approximately unchanged since a year ago. We have (only) slightly increased the number of women and younger members. The average age of the membership continues to increase modestly (71+). Just over 10% are Next Watch.

The next election of new members will be at the Governing Board meeting on September 5. The Proposal schedule is on the website: <https://cruisingclub.org/membership> The Membership Committee urges all members to propose qualified candidates. Your first call should be to your Station Membership Committee chair.

The Seafarer program, which grants dues waiver to members with serious medical or personal issues that prevent the member from participating in the Club and/or for whom the dues are a financial burden, continues to grow slowly and now includes 14 members in five Stations. Candidates are recommended by a Station Membership Committee chair.

Resignations were submitted by 19 members in seven Stations in the past couple of months. Stated reasons have included health issues (and 3 of those members have been granted Seafarer status), lack of engagement with the Club, the Club's COVID policy (either that the policy is too strict or that, on the contrary, it is not enforced), and cost; two members reconsidered and withdrew their resignations after being contacted.

Two dozen members were dropped from the rolls in 2022 due to dues delinquency, some for multiple years; there were no delinquents at year end.

The Webmaster has communicated to the Surviving Spouses to ascertain whether they wish to remain on our mailing lists, which is likely to reduce our mailing costs and update our records.

*

<u>Station</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Seconder</u>
BDA	Alan Burland	Buddy Rego	Kevin Horsfield
BOS	Elizabeth Bowman	Michael Wiseman	Ed Kane
BOS	David Martz	Bill Barton	Andy Devereaux
BOS	Eric Irwin	Drew Plominski	Matt Gimple
BOS	Eric Pierce	James Phyfe	Nick Nicholson
BOS	Jeffrey Huseman	Ross Dierdorff	Peter Driscoll
BOS	Steven Berson	Skip Pond	Ted Hood
BOS	Tim Murphy	Sheila McCurdy	Brian Harris
CHE	Lewis Blynn	James Watson	Stan Sneath
GLS	David Reese	Arthur English	Andrew Jones
GLS	Ian Gordon	Ben Morris	Jon Burt
GLS	Jon Somes	Peter Griffin	Fred Detwiler
NYS	Jeffrey Feehan	Peter Bauer	HL DeVore
NYS	Jesse Terry	Lars Forsberg	Peter Rugg
NYS	Kelly Shackelford	Ernie Messer	Paul Cambridge
PNW	William Wilson	Bruce Johnston	Tom O'Brien
SAF	Aaron Wangenheim	Brendan Huffman	Fred Huffman
SAF	Jonathan Livingston	Stan Honey	Carl Buchan
SAF	Neil Gibbs	Douglas Finley	Alan olson
SAF	Peter English	Terry Klaus	Robert Hanelt
SAF	Ronald Simpson	Michael Moradzadeh	Rich Wilson
SOC	James Bailey	Jib Kelly	Thomas O'Keefe
SOC	Martin Wilson	Alan Andrews	Gary Davidson
SOC	William Petersen	Brendan Huffman	John Jourdane

o. Next Watch

Alli Bell

In 2022, the Next Watch committee focused on ways to ensure that younger members are feeling engaged and connected to CCA. We held monthly Zooms (with a few exceptions) that highlighted Next Watch members. These included Ashley Perrin, Ginger and Peter Nieman, and Lindsay Gimple, as well as presentations on the Newport Bermuda Race and the upcoming CCA Spring cruise. All are invited to these informal sessions, which include time for networking with members you might not be able to meet regularly otherwise because of time and geography. We also co-hosted a party in Bermuda and different stations are hosting events for Next Watch members to get together and jointly discover ways to make adventurous use of the sea.

In 2023, we will continue these sessions, work on our website, and continue to provide information that will make CCA meetings and events inclusive of members who might have demanding job and family lives. We will also continue to encourage outreach to well-qualified members who happen to be younger.

If you are interested in helping out with Next Watch activities, contact Alli Bell, Next Watch Chair at allison.catelyn@gmail.com.

Respectfully,
Alli Bell, Chair

p. Quartermaster Steve Prime

All trophies are accounted for at the moment. The SDL, all the recently acquired trophies by Commodore Otorowski, and the Annual Meeting perpetual trophies will be on display at the New York Yacht Club along with the awards to be handed out at the dinner on March 4th.

Respectfully,
Steve Prime, Quartermaster

q. Safety and Seamanship Bill Strassberg

Chuck Hawley is the liaison between the Safety and Seamanship Committee and the Communications Committee, with a goal of getting as much of our safety and seamanship content in front of members and non-members as possible. An impressive increase in the number of articles published on the CCA website under Safety and Seamanship is noted, particularly short form articles of Safety Moments and the School of Hard Rocks. Notably, SAIL Magazine has begun publishing one School of Hard Rocks every month in their digital publication.

The Offshore Communications Guide is being renewed by Mark Lenci and team. Emphasis will shift from to a broad review of all means of offshore communications. It will be termed a "Communications Guide" rather than an "offshore" guide, as communication capabilities are advancing, and move the range of what used to be near shore communications out further to sea. The variety of satellite communications will be reviewed and the VHF section will be expanded.

The SAS training team, under the leadership of Ann Noble-Kiley, conducted nine all-day trainings instructing 500 students in 2021-2022. The high number was due to the COVID-109 pandemic, and this year appears to be a more normal year with six days of trainings planned. Training continues to be modified based on new information, lessons learned and new equipment. The recent Morgan of Marietta fatality report prompted a revamp of pool training to include more MOB retrieval equipment.

The CCA Practice On Your Own Boat MOB Rescue Training program has individual training events organized through station Safety Officers and RCs, with the support of the POYOB development team. Currently the following training sessions are being finalized:

- Gulf of Maine Post – Camden YC
- Narragansett Bay Post – Barrington YC
- Narragansett Bay Post and Buzzard Bay Post – Third Beach area
- New York Station – Stamford YC
- Essex Station
- Florida Station
- Great Lakes Station

CCA currently owns 2 OSCAR rescue dummies. Both have been modified to perform appropriately with the LifeSling 2 Overboard Rescue System. Additional OSCARs may be purchased as demand warrants and budget allows.

The Club now has 15 Safety Officers. Each station has a Safety Officer with the exception of Boston which has four and Florida with two, one on each coast. Safety Officers have delivered Safety Moments at Station gatherings and in writing. Several Safety for Cruising Couples programs have been delivered and more are planned for 2023. Safety Officers are involved in the delivery and management of Safety at Sea Hands on Training programs throughout the country, and are working with Station Rear Commodores to organize and run as many Man Overboard training drills as possible: the Practice On Your Own Boat (POYOB) program.

The Safety for Cruising Couples program has been presented at the Chicago Yacht Club, San Francisco Yacht Club (invited back to present it again this April), with plans for the St. Francis Yacht Club. Feedback about the course content is uniformly positive, and the course book is popular. Emphasis this year is to grow the list of CCA member presenters volunteering to become Safety for Cruising Couples “Ambassadors”.

The committee continues its involvements with global safety and offshore related sailing issues, working with participating committee members including Dick York, Stan Honey, and Sally Honey, of US Sailing and World Sailing respectively.

Respectfully submitted,
William Strassberg

r. Technical Jim Binch

While we have not had an in-person meeting since the Centennial gathering, in a near unanimous view, the Committee’ members heartily endorse the Club’s support to the development of a forecast-based Time Correction Factor (FTCF) handicapping system for distance offshore races here in the US, to some degree on an agnostic basis as to which of the two Velocity Prediction Programs (VPP’s) might be utilized by the Organizing Authority for a particular race. Although early in its development, it is understood that both the Marion-Bermuda Race and the TransPac are interested in testing this in 2023. Should this transpire, and work effectively, it would definitely be considered for use in the 2024 Newport-Bermuda Race, under the ORR VPP (as would Marion and TransPac).

For those unfamiliar with these terms, in short this handicapping approach would utilize high resolution offshore weather forecasts for the course in question, each vessel’s VPP data, and a routing program such as Expedition, to calculate the time expected for each yacht to complete the designated course, under either the ORR or ORC rule. A scratch yacht for each class – or the race overall if desired – would then be identified, and all other yachts in this class would then have a time correction factor handicap for this specific race. In other words, when one crossed the starting line, every skipper and crew would know, in advance, by how many minutes or hours they needed to “beat” those with whom it is racing.

Needless to say, this project will need to involve US Sailing, the CCA Technical Committee members, likely several from the TransPac technical committee, as well as the Marion-Bermuda’s technical director, and the ORA. More to come in the months ahead!

We would also like to reach out to the membership and ask for any volunteers to work with Dave Dickerson on the potential updating of the well-regarded book by John Rousmaniere “Desirable and Undesirable Characteristics...”. It has not been determined whether this might be a series of articles on the major topics covered in this amazing book, or an all-new, 21st century version given the enormous change in materials technology, scantling modifications, design evolution, electronics technology, and or course sail design and

rig evolution. Please let Dave or I know if any of those who are reading this report are interested in pitching in!

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Binch, Chair

s. Trophies **Bob Darbee**

- St. David's Lighthouse Trophy at Newport Sailing Hall of Fame

Recently 3 St. David's Lighthouse trophies (Newport Bermuda Race trademark) have been produced by the new supply vendor in the UK and 2 of those installed at the HOF. These replace originals . . . George Coumantaros' 1996 *Boomerang* trophy and the CCA's own trophy (unknown heritage) both previously on loan, now returned to original ports. *Boomerang* trophy back to the Coumantaros family, the CCA's Lighthouse is back on display with the rest of our collection at IYRS. The 3rd is in inventory storage and will be awarded in Bermuda in 2024. (For those curious, the recent vendor price was \$12,500 each.) The cost is historically underwritten by Bermuda Tourism. The winner each Bermuda Race gets to take that Sterling and Gold \$12,500 trophy home permanently.

- The Commodore's Centennial Perpetual Trophies for Best-Performing CCA Skippers

First introduced this year by Commodore Otorowski, initial awarding at the Centennial in September. Will be on display, along with the evening's CCA awards, at the Awards Dinner for viewing by those who have not previously seen. These trophies are for a variety of top Bermuda Race performances by our own members and will regularly be presented at the immediate-following CCA Awards event rather than at Bermuda Prizegiving.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert S. Darbee, Trophies Chair

t. Voyages **Ami and Bob Green**

Report included in the Communications Committee Section

u. Waypoints **Julie Kallfelz**

Report included in the Communications Committee Section

v. Website **Michael Moradzadeh**

The last six months have been about adding and refining extra capabilities for use by our stations and committees. In addition, I have been working with Chuck Hawley on expanding and improving the presentation of our database of articles and have provided ongoing support for YB and commerce and SAS courses, as well as sales of books.

New and updated web tools include:

- Mailing system accessible to all stations, posts, and committees, allows leaders to use bulk mailing tool to reach the most current version of their officer, member, and clubwide mailing lists
- A variant of the system also allows us easily to target those with unpaid dues.
- Self Serve event registration service allows leaders to create their own signups, fully integrated with website.
- Events are also free for leaders to create, though they have to add the registration link manually.
- Photo Gallery has been rebuilt, now that we are holding events that may have photos!

- Sub Page creation is also added. This means that an event or cruise organizer, for example, can create a “mini website” with a set of pages related to their main event, with no interference from webmaster.
- Toolkit listing available tools was circulated to all committee chairs, secretaries, treasurers, and senior officers.

Yearbook/Directory Support

- Debug/Update Existing tools. When we upgraded our server to the latest version of the PHP language, several of our “scripts” that generate the input for the yearbook needed to be revised. This went off fine and should be tested with the InDesign YB template before we go public.
- Members and Leaders have been invited to update their listings
- Surviving Spouses. Have been surveyed. Unless they positively say they want paper mailings, and renew that expression annually, they will not get paper mailings. Where email bounced, or there was no email, paper was sent. Returned mail led to spouse being marked “unknown” and stations queried, leading to many listings updated as deceased. Of the ~300 we started with, about 40 are now known deceased, and only about 40 have asked for paper mailings.

Death and Taxes Dues

- Eight Bells. Per Dave Curtin’s request, expanded both the distribution list and the verbiage automatically sent out when a member’s status is changed to “deceased.” New policy adopted whereby ONLY DAVE does this updating, to allow for stations to notify their membership in a kind manner.
- Dues Management. Last year, we started dues collection late for a number of reasons, and pinged members less frequently than in prior years. This year, we stepped up the reminders using the tools described above so that, as of Jan 31, only a slim minority of dues go unpaid. A “you are overdue” email has gone out, and will be reinforced by a paper mailing, created from a new tool that generates invoice text and sent out using the “click2mail” service.

Layout/Structure/Articles

- Chuck Hawley is working to get his arms around the existing set of S&S articles, to assure they are still relevant, accurate, timely, and representative of the CCA. This is, of course, a perennial issue, but a necessary one if we are remotely going to consider calling ourselves leaders in this field.
- Jim Phye has engaged a paid social media consultant with at least a partial brief to post references to some of our articles.
- In Process is a front-page reorganization to make the articles more visible and accessible, with the “who we are” content somewhat reduced. The theory here is “who we are” is “what we do.”
- Content: “Content is king,” and most of our articles are either safety OR are scary “school of hard rocks” stories. We can extract standalone articles from Voyages to highlight the pleasurable side of cruising. In my opinion, we also need general seamanship articles to round out the collection.

External Commerce Support

Note that for logistical reasons, commerce with non-members is preferentially served from a separate website (sas.cruisingclub.org). From this site, we serve:

- Registration for SAS courses. Now that we are not serving online course codes, this has gone without a hitch that I am aware of.
- Sales of Safety for Cruising Couples Books. Also going smoothly, with some very large sales lately

- Sales of Adventurous Use of the Sea. These are low, and require a certain amount of manual processing to deal with the publisher's somewhat idiosyncratic ordering method.
- Ready for: Practice on your Own Boat and SCC registrations. These programs are being built or revised, but we'll be ready for them.

Plan for 2023

- Complete the Articles Highlighting
- Engage web consultant to enhance Search Engine Optimization
- Implement revised articles classification in collaboration with Chuck/S&S committee
- Re-engineer database storage of email addresses, phone numbers, and mates to make simpler for member updates and roster displays.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Moradzadeh, Webmaster

w. Yearbook **Barbara Watson**
Report included in the Communications Committee Section

13. Cruises

a. Caribbean, March 2023 **Drew & Abby Kellogg**

The Winter Cruise in the British Virgin Islands is ready to set sail on March 11 with 14 boats representing PNW, BOS/GMP & NBP & BUZ, CHE, NYS, SOC and hopefully BDA! Given that many boats are already cruising in the area, we have elected to go "dutch" and not have a "cruise fee" associated with this event. For more information about our exciting itinerary, visit the cruise webpage:
<https://cruisingclub.org/event/winter-cruise-2023-british-virgin-islands>

Respectfully,
Drew Kellogg

b. Mallorca, Sept 2023 **Les Crane and Howie Hodgson**

We think we have finally tied down all our events for the Mallorca Cruise September 9-23. The opening party Sunday will now be at Es Baluard, a museum of modern art. Guests are invited to tour the gallery both on Saturday and Sunday in advance of our 17:30 party on their terrace overlooking the Palma Harbor. We plan a raft up in the Cabrera National Park the following Tuesday afternoon instead of a dock party in Porto Colomb Wednesday. The venue for our closing party will now be the Real Club Nautico in Palma Harbour.

We are now 22 boats, 17 charters and 5 member boats, approximately 120 people. Charters are still available should members wish to join us. Full details are on the club website. We are putting together a boat / participant list which we hope to circulate to participants and post on the web site before the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully,
Les Crane & Howie Hodgson, Co-Chairs

c. Baja, May 2024

Dan Gribble and Gary Davidson

The Southern California station is beginning to plan for an adventurous cruise to the Sea of Cortez May 3-12, 2024.

For those who haven't experienced the wonder of the Sea of Cortez – also known as the Gulf of California – this will be a rare opportunity to explore this unique and beautiful destination located between the Baja California Peninsula and mainland Mexico.

The Sea of Cortez is one of the most biologically diverse bodies of water on the planet as home to whales, dolphins, sea turtles, sharks, rays and over 900 species of fish.

The scenery is stunning with rugged cliffs, sandy beaches and dramatic rock formations. Most of the islands on our itinerary are uninhabited with great protected anchorages and opportunities for adventure including kayaking, snorkeling, hiking, fishing and wildlife watching.

May is a great time to visit the Sea of Cortez. The weather is typically warm and pleasant with temps in the high 70's to 80's, and the water is warm. While the area can experience strong winds, May tends to be a calmer month with more moderate breeze.

We'll begin our cruise in the coastal city of Loreto, and wind our way south over the week to LaPaz, enjoying the rich history and laidback culture of Mexico that both these endpoints offer. We're planning a few parties as well!

Some members may wish to cruise into the Gulf earlier and extend their stay later, joining the cruise along the way. Depending on interest, we may also organize a small repositioning cruise earlier to get the local fleet down the Pacific coast of Baja.

Your Southern California station cruise organizers are looking to rally as many CCA member boats as possible from West Coast stations and we're working with local charter operators to ensure a plentiful fleet of boats are available for charter. More information on charters, travel, flights, hotels and logistics are coming.

In the meantime though, please take a minute to complete the preliminary interest survey on the CCA Events page to help us plan what we anticipate will be a unique cruising adventure.

Dan Gribble & Gary Davidson, Cruise Co-Chairs

cca.socruise2024@gmail.com

d. Sicily and Malta, Sept 7- Sept 21, 2024

Les Crane

We have finally been able to secure some boats for a Malta cruise. The cruise will start in Malta going to Sicily to tour Syracuse, Taormina, Mt Etna returning to Gozo and Valletta, Malta. A good Maltese friend, John de Giorgio and his partner Monique Chambers know the area well and will lead the way. The draft itinerary is on the CCA [Website](#)

Malta Charters will allow us to take their boats to Sicily. The boats vary in age, but the size and numbers look OK. They are giving us a 20% discount off the high season price for the two-week booking. A deposit of 25% is due with booking, the balance 60 days prior to departure. Cancellation up to 60 days before departure. Terms at maltacharters.com. Our contact is Jonathan Gambin, the owner of the company jonathangambin@gmail.com. They had a total of 18 boats, 12 are monohulls greater than 40 ft. Seven of these boats have been booked by persons who had responded to our survey of interest, another three member

boats have signed up – a total of 10 boats and about 50 persons. The list of boats, those chartered, and those available is on the [website](#).

It should be fun. If you would like to join us please complete the [survey](#) of interest and get on to Jonathan.

Respectfully,
Les Crane

e. Scotland, Summer 2025 **Jonathan Brewin**

f. Croatia, TDB **TBD**