



**Reports in Advance of  
The Cruising Club of America Annual Meeting of Members  
New York Yacht Club  
Saturday, March 1, 2024 15:15**

- 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 9/29/2023 can be found [here](https://cruisingclub.org/event/2024/meeting_materials)  
([https://cruisingclub.org/event/2024/meeting\\_materials](https://cruisingclub.org/event/2024/meeting_materials))
- 5. Report of the Commodore** Chris Otorowski  
Report to be presented at the meeting
- 6. Report of the Vice Commodore** Jay Gowell  
Report to be presented at the meeting
- 7. Report of the Treasurer** Kathleen O'Donnell  
The Cruising Club of America has two accounts at Key Bank, a new account at Bank of America and an investment account at Fidelity. As of February 19, 2024, the balances were:  
\$ 120,944.96 KeyBank Business Checking  
\$ 264,824.00 KeyBank Money Market  
\$ 20,000.00 Bank of America  
\$1,757,314.80 Fidelity

For comparison, last year:

\$ 132,957.43 KeyBank Business Checking  
\$ 153,449.58 KeyBank Money Market  
\$1,466,921.10 Fidelity

The 2024 budget was approved by the Board of Governors on February 16th. The Financial Affairs Committee achieved a balanced budget (with a very slight deficit of \$695) through the decision to increase the dues to \$250 and to take a one-time draw of \$30,000 from the Club's investment account. Going forward, we hope to reduce expenses such as the processing costs for credit cards (\$13,000 last year) by encouraging the use of ACH payments. Additional savings may be achieved by switching to "print on demand" for some

of the Club's publications to reduce printing and storage costs. (Publication expenses account for almost 50% of the dues.)

The dues collection procedure implemented in 2023 has been very successful in reducing delinquencies. As of February 18, 2024, 92% of the members had paid their dues and payments continue to be received.

The Club changed its fiscal year from November 1 to October 31 to a calendar year. We will be filing a return for the "stub" tax year from November 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 and then a separate return for the calendar year.

We are in the process of moving the Club's accounts to Bank of America which is better able to handle wire transfers and other transactions than KeyBank.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen M. O'Donnell

## **8. Report of the Secretary**

Molly P. Barnes

While my primary role as Secretary has been to record the proceedings of the meetings of the Club's members and the Governing Board, there have been additional communication and support tasks that include working with the other Flag officers to develop agendas; maintaining the roster of members including accepting resignations and helping members switch stations; writing letters of introduction for members visiting other clubs; responding to membership inquiries; assisting the dues collection team; and managing the mail that is sent to the CCA address at IYRS.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with the club's many volunteers and to get to know members from many different stations. It has been a true honor to serve the CCA and I hope that I have helped develop just a few more systems to make the jobs of the various volunteers a little bit easier going forward.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly P. Barnes,

## **9. Report of the Historian**

Douglas D. Adkins

The tasks of the Historian are both programmatic and unexpected. Those that are prescribed begin with The Historian's Log, an entry in every Yearbook since 1932 on the tenth anniversary of the Club. W. P. Stephens was appointed the Club's first Historian in 1927 and concluded that there was enough history to report. Nine Historians have followed. Generally, providing a summary of the year in the Historian's Log seemed enough for many years but the Club's third Historian Jack Parkinson began to expand the expectations with the publishing of "Nowhere is Too Far", the superb 1960 detailing the History of The Cruising Club. It set a very high bar. Other Historians supported the Cruising Club News and Jack Towel established yet another standard with his inauguration of "History of the CCA" columns which have appeared twice yearly in The Gam since 2009, generally running to four pages. These duties have become standard. With the inauguration of *Waypoints* as the CCA monthly electronic newsletter, a column from the Historian titled "Lore from the Lazarette" has emerged and appears often but not every month. This Historian is grateful for the encouragement and occasional forbearance of Editor Julie Kallfelz of *Waypoints* and the contributions of Commodore Otorowski with his submissions for The Gam. Those are the programmatic elements.

Occasionally, other tasks arise. There are questions, historical documents which emerge and unusual publications which are offered. Questions regarding forebearers and their boats arise. The Historian is asked

to direct traffic to make sure that such materials or inquiries are handled and correctly directed. It sometimes takes imagination to find the right fit. As electronic records such as scanned Yearbooks and the Cruising Club News expand, as they have in the past few years, the Historian's job is made easier, and this Historian is very grateful for those efforts.

Some Stations like PNW have active Historians but most do not. If there is a target of opportunity it is to expand that activity in a systematic way. Nevertheless the Station and Post entries in The Gam assure that the record is not lost. Possibly that is enough for the time being.

Respectfully submitted,  
Douglas Adkins

#### **10. Report of Fleet Surgeon**

Jeffery S. Wisch M.D.

The Covid 19 Task Force has not had any additional meetings since the last report. Covid 19 however remains a problem. The last recommendations, that the Stations monitor Covid 19 activity and follow CDC and local guidelines when considering events, are unchanged. The Fleet Surgeon has when consulted offered advice regarding the SAS seminars and some Station events.

The Fleet Surgeon contributed to the Medical Section for the new Viking Route Cruise Guide, written by Dr. Bill Strassberg. The guide is an excellent resource and is published. The Fleet Surgeon Memo in the CCA Yearbook and Website continue to be updated. Additionally, the Fleet Surgeon participates on the Safety and Seamanship Committee in an advisory role.

The Fleet Surgeon continues in his advisory role to the Bermuda Race Organizing Committee and is responsible for organizing medical coverage for the race and will be assisting in coordinating emergency procedures with Dr Barbara Masser, race physician and the USCG along with the assistance of John Brooks. Dr. Barbara Masser and her Emergency Department Group at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston will continue to provide medical coverage for the 2024 race.

A crossed burgee Emergency Medical Offshore Wilderness Course was organized with David Tunick and took place November 10-12 with the NYYC at 44<sup>th</sup> street. There were 23 participants including 3 physicians, me included. The course received very favorable reviews.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffrey S. Wisch, M.D.

#### **11. Report of Fleet Captain**

Paul Hamilton

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul J. Hamilton

#### **12. Reports of the Rear Commodores and Post Captains:**

##### **a. Bermuda**

Somers Kempe

Upcoming events include of course the support of the Newport Bermuda Race, and also the usual station hosted CCA cocktail party for members. If you are participating in the race, be sure to RSVP your attendance at this gathering of members when it is announced.

Since the Fall of 2023, the Bermuda Station has been working on organizing a post Newport Bermuda Race Cruise. This cruise is modeled upon very successful similar cruises and promise to be a good time for those that chose to stay a little longer following the 2024 race. The cruise kicks off on the Sunday immediately following the race prize giving held on the Saturday evening. Highlights include sailing down the south shore of the island (a side of the island that no Bermuda Racer should have previously seen!) also include exploration on shore at the Spittal Pond, Town of St. Georges, and Nonsuch Island. The finale will be a raft up in Castle Harbour watching the July 4th fireworks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Somers Kempe

**b. Bras D'Or**

William B. Greenwood III

The Bras d'Or Station enjoyed a full year of activity with the highlight of hosting the CCA membership's Fall Meetings in Lunenburg in September. Gratitude goes to Gretchen McCurdy and her committee for leading the charge for this well received venue and program. Many of the delegates had the opportunity of sailing on Nova Scotia's sailing ambassador the "Bluenose II" and visiting this historic town. A number of local members were able to join the meetings by their boat at the waterfront marina.

Our AGM was held at the Royal NS Yacht Squadron on November 16<sup>th</sup>. 2023 at which time the writer was elected as the new RC for the station. Other new committee members included John Harries as our sec/tres with Judy Robertson assuming the position of Safety Officer. Grant Gordon has taken on the cruise program and is in the planning stages for the summer cruise. Phil Wash will organize the raft-ups for the coming season. The Station also welcomed four new members at our AGM and am pleased to report that three of these members are residents of Newfoundland –a first for the Bras d'Or Station. RC Bill Greenwood thanked Ernest Hamilton for his leadership and commitment to the Station over the past two years. Bernard Prevost will be the incoming Governor from the Bras d'Or Sation.

Our winter hike and dinner weekend occurred on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 at the stately Blomindon Inn in Wolfville NS. This has become an annual event organized by Wilson Fitt that challenges only the hearty for the afternoon hike over the top of Blomindon mountain. The hike is followed by an informal gathering at Peter and Barbara's beautiful home on the shores of the Minas Basin. A formal dinner follows at the Inn.

The annual spring meeting of the Station will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March at which time the calendar of events will be finalized. The station's membership has been invited to the RNSYS Annual Cruise dinner on March 25<sup>th</sup> along with the OCC local members. The writer will extend greetings from the CCA to both organizations.

Planning is now under way for a CCA cruise to the Bars d'Or lakes in 2027. Our station member David Stanfield has agreed to co-chair this event with Peter Rugg and promises to be well received for a beautiful place to go sailing!

Respectfully submitted  
William Greenwood

**c. Boston**

Nick Orem

The Boston Station had our Annual Meeting and New Member Dinner on October 11, 2023 at the Union Club in Boston. Carter Bacon completed his term as Rear Commodore and Nick Orem was elected as the new Rear Commodore. The meeting was attended by 79 members and their guests including 13 new

members, each of whom was introduced by his/her proposer or seconder before telling the assembled crowd about themselves.

Two weeks later on October 25<sup>th</sup> we had the first Rats Lunch of the season at the India Wharf Rats Club, which was established in 1886 and graciously allows the Boston Station to have lunches at the club several times a year. Our Christmas Rats Lunch was held on December 20<sup>th</sup>, with a sellout crowd of 40 members and guests. Bink Bacon told a good story about a dog and a \$20 bill, the details of which can't be repeated here. Roger Block and Amy Jordan, organizers of the 2024 Down East Cruise talked about the plan to sail from Camden, ME to St Andrews, NB in August 2024.

On January 24, 2024 we had our third Rats Lunch with a good turnout of about 30 people. Then on February 14, 2024 we had a talk by bestselling author Michael Tougias about his book Ten Hours Until Dawn, which tells the story of the pilot boat *Can Do*, which set out with five men aboard during the height of the Blizzard of '78 to assist the Coast Guard in the rescue of a tanker crew. The talk will be held in the historic Dalton House in Newburyport, MA and will be followed by dinner.

In late March on a date as yet undetermined, the Boston Station will try a new format for introducing new members to the club. New members will be introduced to station and club officers via Zoom with the intent of helping new members to quickly become involved in club activities.

On April 3, 2024 we will visit Boston Boatworks, in Charlestown, MA to see two boats that are being built for Barton & Gray Mariners Club. After the Boston Boatworks visit we will decamp to Brewers Fork for drinks and conversation before everybody heads home.

The final event of the spring season will also be our final Rats Lunch of the season on April 17, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nick Orem

**d. Buzzard's Bay**

Raymond J. Cullum

After a less than spectacular summer rendezvous season, three rendezvous planned, three rendezvous cancelled due to severe inclement weather conditions, the Post members were ready to start the winter luncheons.

The luncheons are being held at the Beverly Yacht Club in Marion, MA. The luncheon dates are as follows: November 17, 2023, February 9, March 15 and April 19, 2024

In November, 48 members were in attendance for the first luncheon of the season. Post Captain Ray Cullum introduced 12 Past Rear Commodores and Post Captains including Vice Commodore Jay Gowell. CCA Member Randy Peffer gave a fabulous presentation based on his newest book, "Windward Passage: A Maxi Yacht in Her Sixth Decade." Randy spoke about his experience researching and writing the history of Windward Passage, considered a crown jewel among ocean racers and unquestionably one of the most famous, if not THE most famous Maxi ocean racing yacht of the 20th Century. All enjoyed a delicious lunch of fish chowder and chicken Caesar salad ending with BYC kitchen baked cookies.

The February luncheon attracted 42 members. Jack Gierhart shared his photo journal of a one-month adventure to Antarctica on Skip Novak's expedition boat Pelagic Australis. The initial intrigue of the trip was the sail from Tierra del Fuego across the Drake Passage to the Antarctic Peninsula. But that became just the on and off ramp for an exploration of the western Antarctic Peninsula and archipelago by sea and ski,

including a 3-day expedition to the summit of Mt Baxter. A month aboard the 74' Pelagic Australis with 13 strangers that became lifelong friends. It was an enthralling presentation.

The March 15<sup>th</sup> luncheon will feature a presentation by Captain Bob Glover, Head of Line Acquisition and Development of R&W Ropes/Rigging Solutions. Bob's presentation will focus on the development of line over the years, where we are today with the advancement in line technology and what to look for in the future. He will also give examples of line uses and recommendations.

The April 19<sup>th</sup> luncheon will feature a presentation by Steve Denette, a popular YouTube video blogger telling the story of his seven-year build from scratch a 38' Atkin's designed ketch from cutting down the trees to launching the boat with the help of CCA member Ed Van Keuren. The name of his video blog is "Acorn to Arabella"

Planning is in the works for the summer Follow the Wave rendezvous schedule starting with the annual combined Post rendezvous with the Narragansett Bay Post. The tentative date for the rendezvous is June 15/16, 2024 at 3<sup>rd</sup> Beach, Sakonnet River, Middletown, RI.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ray Cullum

**e. Gulf of Maine**

Peter Driscoll

A two year review of the activities of the CCA Gulf of Maine Post:

Transitioning back to normal activities in early 2022, we moved from Friday's at Five Zoom meetings organized by our immediate past Post Captain Dale and Doug Bruce in January through April. These were a lifesaver, keeping our Post together.

We managed a Ski Gam at former Post Captain Maggie Salter and Al Hickey's at the Sunday River Resort. Later, in May, Post Captain Peter & Anne Driscoll hosted a potluck dinner at their home in York Harbor, Maine.

There were three Fenders Over the Side gatherings: June in Casco Bay, July at Pulpit Harbor and August at Gilkey Harbor, Penobscot Bay.

Autumn brought us to a luncheon and tour of a replica of Maine's first ship, Virginia, in Bath, Maine. We were able to resume our December luncheon in Damariscotta with member David Conover presenting on cruises to Greenland.

The year 2023 returned us to our winter potluck in Rockport, featuring our new rum keg. A GMP Facebook page was opened. Another Ski Gam was held again at Sunday River. In May, we toured the rebuilt Lyman Morse Boatyard followed by lunch at Barren's onsite.

The main event of the year was our long planned GMP/ BOS Maine coast cruise. Designed as a feeder to Downeast, we held an opening event at Maritime Gloucester (MA) before proceeding to the Portland Yacht Club, Safe Harbor Great Island, a private cocktail party at Gale and Charlie Willauer's summer house and, finally, a closing dinner at the Boothbay Harbor Yacht Club.

December's luncheon at Damariscotta featured a presentation by member Brian Harris on the Globe 40 ocean race finished earlier in the year.

In 2024, we have another potluck dinner in February, a tour of Portland Yacht Services in May and the CCA Downeast Maine Cruise in August.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles Tarbell (Gulf of Maine Post Secretary)

**f. Narragansett Bay**

Ned Jones

The Narragansett Bay Post (NBP) has been active this fall and winter with several activities and we look forward to getting back on the water later this spring and summer. Since the Fall meeting, the NBP has had the following activities:

- Saturday, December 16, Chris and Shawn Otorowski opened their home in Newport to host a holiday potluck dinner. This was the third year in a row the Otorowski's hosted this event, and it has become a "must do" part of the holiday season! The event was well attended with 50 people on the RSVP list! A great way to warm up and catch up with many CCA friends.
- On January 27, 67 members and guests enjoyed cocktails and dinner at the Conanicut Yacht Club (CYC) in Jamestown, Rhode Island. We enjoyed a presentation by Christian McBurney on his latest book, *Machine Guns in Narragansett Bay – The Coast Guard's War on Rumrunners*. This was a fascinating talk on a piece of American history that is frequently forgotten. This January dinner event will likely become an annual event for the NBP which will also serve as the Post's annual meeting.

At the CYC dinner, the Post elected Ned Jones, Post Captain and Annie Lannigan, Secretary/Treasurer. Please welcome Ned and Annie in their new roles!

As we turn our attention to the spring and summer, we plan on hosting a lunch or pot luck dinner gathering and then as the weather warm's we are planning on informal on-the-water Gams in and around Narragansett Bay. In June, the NBP and the Buzzards Bay Post co-host a Gam at Third Beach. Also in June, many members of the NBP will be racing in the Bermuda Race and volunteering as part of the BROOC. In July, we are planning a Gam in Narragansett Bay. We hope to get boats that return from Bermuda and others making their way north to participate in the Maine Cruise in early August. Announcements of the dates and locations for all our events will be posted on the website.

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,  
Ned Jones

**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 several matters to report.

- A contingent of 14 CHE members and guests attended the 2023 Fall Meeting in Lunenburg NS in September and enjoyed the Canadian hospitality.
- CHE Hosted a Fall Cruise in October. with a rum keg cocktail buffet, at the home of Tony and Claire Parker off Lake Ogleton in Annapolis attended by 12 boats and about 85 members and guests. Additional Cruise stops included anchorages at Dun Cove, LaTrappe Creek and Oxford.
- CHE held its annual at Tred Avon Yacht Club in Oxford on October 23. At which the currently serving Station officers were reelected to serve for another year: Bev Crump -Rear Commodore; John Devlin – Fleet Captain; Drew Kellog- Secretary -Treasurer.

- To close out 2023, the Chesapeake Station celebrated the holidays with its annual Holiday Luncheon at the Annapolis Yacht Club attended by 95 members, spouses, friends and guests. The highlight of the event was a presentation by Station member Gary Jobson of personal highlights of his sailing experiences and a preview of his new book on 50 extraordinary characters in sailing. We were fortunate to have Gary, our own Station Member, there to make it special for all of CHE.
- For 2024 the Station has a full Schedule.
  - CHE monthly luncheons at the Annapolis Yacht Club on the second Tuesday of each month, except in April that the CHE lunch will be at the Corinthian Yacht Club of Philadelphia. All CCA Members are welcome.
  - CHE is also planning a Spring Cruise in May 15-19 starting in Annapolis.
  - CHE will be hosting the CCA Fall Meeting at the Annapolis Yacht Club October 16 and 17. John Devlin is serving as our Station coordinator.
  - Following the Annual meeting CHE will host our Fall Cruise October 18-23.
  - The CHE Annual Meeting will be at AYC December 10, 2024, just prior to our Holiday Luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bev Crump

#### **h. Essex**

Tom Wadlow

The Essex Station activities since the Sept meeting in Lunenburg include:

- October luncheon at Pilots Point Marina in Westbrook
- November luncheon at Pilots Point Marina in Westbrook
- The Station Annual meeting and dinner was held at the Essex Corinthian Yacht Club. This gathering had a record attendance of 64 including the Vice Commodore, Jay Gowell.
- December luncheon. This well attended luncheon at Pilots Point Marina in Westbrook is known as our Festive Luncheon and attendance included the Commodore, Chris Otorowski and his wife Shawn
- January Luncheon at Pilots Point Marina in Westbrook

Highlights and accomplishments of the Essex Station over the last two years include:

- The Essex Station ran the meetings at the 100th anniversary celebration in Newport. Brin and Joy Ford and Mindy Gunther put in exceptional effort.
- Voyages has been published by Ami and Bob Green
- The Gam is published by Phil Dickey
- Frank Bohlen received the Commodore's award for his many years of weather presentations and the presentations continue.
- Dick Holliday has been on the BROCC committee for approaching 15 years
- Bios for new members are written by Dianne Embree and Dorothy Wadlow
- Luncheons include a safety moment and often have considerable discussion as a result. Safety moments for the website have been submitted and published by 3 station members.
- Seven station members are preparing their yachts for the 2024 Bermuda Race.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Wadlow



**i. Florida**

Atle Moe

The main activity we have had since the Fall meeting was our annual Florida meeting January 19 and 20. Dinner was held at Coral Ridge YC on Friday January 19 and the traditional rum keg party on Saturday January 20 at Charles Starke's condo building overlooking the Port Everglades inlet (Fort Lauderdale) with one cruise ship after another going by.

Some of the CCA members then joined us for a week cruise onboard the cruise Ship Celebrity Ascent thru the western Caribbean.

Also want to mention the lunch meetings taking place in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Vero Beach, and St. Petersburg during the winter months. All well attended.

We are starting to see some new members joining the Florida station after a few years of very few new members. A good trend that we plan to build on.

Respectfully submitted,  
Atle Moe

**j. Great Lakes**

Peter Balasubramanian

**k. New York**

Peter Becker

The NY Station of the CCA is in good health and spirit. The Station is pleased to have added six new members in the last year.

The NY Station had an amazing afternoon on Saturday, January 27 at Stamford Yacht Club with CCA member Joe Harris presenting his round-the-world exploits which included his 2015 solo record attempt and the 2022/23 Globe40 race.

As a special bonus, we dialed in via a live Zoom call with Cole Brauer less than a day after she rounded Cape Horn. At age 29 she is sailing single-handed on her Class 40 in the [Global Solo Challenge](#) race and is currently in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The Zoom call, projected on the big screen, absolutely captivated the 45-strong CCA audience. Joe and Cole were both energetic and, clear to all, both were enjoying the conversation between the two Cape Horners. A recording of the conversation can be found [here](#).

Next up for the station, is an inspiring afternoon with one of our station's royalty, the Kuhner family, on March, 23 at Noroton Yacht Club. The new CCA member and author of the CCA's book *Adventurous Use of the Sea*, Tim Murphy will get right into the conversation between the two generations and explore the story of what Scott and Kitty had in their mind when they put everything aside to sail around the world with their young two boys Alex and Spencer. We will hear from the boys how their lives were molded and created as a result.

As a side note, the station has adopted a new meeting format, shifting from evening dinner events to a Saturday luncheon format. The change has been met with strong approval and is appreciated for eliminating the late-night travel home.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Becker

## **I. Pacific Northwest**

Douglas Adkins

The Pacific Northwest Station has conducted four Cruises during the past two years. In May of 2022 we ventured to Barkley Sound on the outside of Vancouver Island in rainy but uncrowded conditions, finishing in Ucluelet. In the fall we cruised to the American San Juans and then north into the Gulf Islands with a final gathering in Winter Cove. The 2023 season's Spring Cruise began in Seattle at Bell Harbor, continued on to Port Madison with a wonderful cocktail party at Commodore and Shawn Otorowski's lovely shoreside home and then ventured south to the Port of Tacoma and its interesting museums. We finished up in charming Gig Harbor. The Fall cruise took the station back to Canada with visits in Garden Bay and then on to iconic, pristine Princess Louisa Inlet. The cruises were ably organized by Cruise Chairman Joe Golberg.

The Station holds luncheons at the Seattle Yacht Club and they include Zoom presentations to allow members to join in remotely. Recent addresses have included topics such as sailing in Turkey by members Bill and Cathy Cuffel, the work of the Puget Sound Pilots by Adam Seaman and a wonderful combined family talk at our Annual Dinner in November given by Tor and Jessica Bjorkland and their two young sons on their restoration of their William Garden designed *Discovery* and cruising as a family.

Under the leadership of John Robinson Safety for Cruising Couples seminars continue at various venues in the Northwest with a Bellingham session planned for 2024. Mary Alice O'Neill serves as a Governor and the station is represented on many committees.

The Station has a system of rotating Flags and a new Watch was elected in December with Douglas Adkins serving as Rear Commodore, Susan Stillman as Membership Chair and Roddy Hearne as Secretary/Treasurer. Station dues of \$40 are collected and the Station routinely contributes to The Bonnell Cove Foundation in memory of members who have sailed their Final Voyage. Membership in the Station totals 121 with 18 Surviving Spouses.

All Cruising Club members are invited to join us for our luncheons every other month except during the summer on the first Wednesday of the month at the Seattle Yacht Club and are always welcome on our cruises.

Respectfully submitted,  
Douglas Adkins

## **m. San Francisco**

Chuck Hawley

Led by Rear Commodore Chuck Hawley, Secretary Richard Schaper and Treasurer Synthia Petroka, the 100-member strong SAF Station is active and is engaged in cruising and racing on its home waters of San Francisco Bay, as well as over blue waters to Hawaii, the South Pacific, North Atlantic and around the world. Currently, these SAF members are at sea: Ronnie Simpson holds third place in the Global Solo Challenge, a single-handed, non-stop, around the world race via the three great capes of Good Hope, Cape Leeuwin and Cape Horn from A Coruña, Spain; Blue-water Medal winner, Jeanne Socrates, is solo sailing from British Columbia to Australia; Banu Oney is sailing from New Zealand to Australia; and Sylvia Seaberg is cruising the Lau Group in Fiji.

The SAF Station continues its program of monthly meetings at yacht clubs on San Francisco Bay and elsewhere. The station meets every month from September to May with summer months dedicated to cruising. SAF members have their various yachts positioned in the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, Europe, and the South Pacific and, with other SAF members bound for those locations, there are no meetings during the summer months.

SAF members were recognized during 2023. At the 2023 CCA Spring Meeting, Mary Crowley was awarded the first ever CCA Diana Russell Award for Mary's continuing environmental projects to clean plastic debris from the North Pacific Gyre. From Vava'u, Tonga, on September 21<sup>st</sup>, Jeanne Socrates joined a live video link to Les Sables d'Olonne, France, for a Cape Horn Hall of Fame event where she was inducted into the Cape Horn Hall of Fame. Sally Lindsay Honey was elected to the National Sailors Hall of Fame and was inducted at a ceremony at the Balboa Yacht Club, Newport Beach, California on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chuck Hawley

**n. Southern California**

James A. Eddy

We finished 2023 with a luncheon at San Diego Yacht Club in October and our Annual Meeting on 11/29/23 at the festively decorated Newport Harbor Yacht Club. The CCA Commodore and his wife joined us for a wonderful party celebrating the year's activities and outgoing R/C Steve Calhoun who did such an outstanding job for 2 terms.

Our station is hosting the 2024 CCA National/International Cruise in the Sea of Cortez, Mexico in early May. Please join us. There is still room to join in on this amazing adventure. Please see all the information on the CCA website.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Eddy III

**13. Committee Reports for this meeting**

**a. Archives**

Mark Grosby

I am sorry to announce that our long-term contact and booster, Paul O'Pecko has retired from Mystic Seaport Museum. Mary Anne Stets is our new contact person.

I have been slowly learning and building a Dropbox repository for digital archives. Beta portals have been established to allow for the uploading of Voyages, backup files of the cruising guides, Centennial meeting media, and the Florida Station. This starts the process of collecting the files. Now the club needs to define what needs to be saved and in what format.

Anyone wishing to share any pictures or video from the annual meeting, please use the [this link](#) to upload. (Alternatively, the address is <https://www.dropbox.com/request/flUTfY3CnRZ9YoRs7Rn6>)

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Grosby

**b. Awards**

Steve James

The Committee has been very busy contacting, coordinating, and preparing the Awardees for the presentation of their awards at the upcoming Spring Meeting. All awardees will be attending including Kirsten Neuschäfer from South Africa and Max Campbell coming from New Zealand. We have a selection of awardees that are very deserving again this year. However, the disappointment of not having a Stephens Seamanship Trophy being awarded is not to be ignored. The Committee agreed that it was more advantageous for the Club to withhold the award than it was to diminish its international luster by putting a less than noteworthy candidate forward. The coming Awards Presentation at the NYYC promises to be another grand event.

The press releases that the Committee has generated with the assistance of our press agent, John Burnham, have been received very well in advance of the presentations. More releases will be distributed in early March. Both print and digital coverage will continue.

The committee has put forward a motion that we feel will bring our always fantastic Blue Water Medalists closer to our community and thereby allow The Club and the Medalists to reflect brightly on each other for a longer period. The idea is to make them Honorary Members and enable them to participate with us in the future. The Board will be asked to approve of this suggestion.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen W. James

**c. Bermuda Race Foundation**

Brad Willauer

Thanks to extensive efforts by The Bermuda Race Foundation's Secretary Vice Commodore Jay Gowell and Treasurer Jeff Eberle, the Foundation has received several gifts to enlarge its treasury from individuals using credit cards, checks, gifts of securities and Donor Advised Funds. The Bermuda Race Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) public charity. Our sincere thanks to the many individuals who made gifts to the foundation since we met in September.

It is important to remember our mission is to promote national and international amateur sports competition, to serve as the Organizing Authority of the Newport Bermuda Race, to provide vessel safety inspections, educational services and training for offshore sailing and safety at sea. In addition to organizing and conducting Safety at Sea training under the auspices of US Sailing and World Sailing, through the volunteers on its Bermuda Race Organizing Committee (BROC), the Foundation screens potential vessel and crew participants, conducts pre-race vessel safety inspections, organizes and runs all aspects of the race, and to repeat, is the Organizing Authority for the Newport Bermuda Race.

We are pleased that entries just passed 160 for the 2024 Newport Bermuda Race which this year will start in the harbor at Newport so the public will see all the action. We extend our sincere thanks to the Bermuda Race Organizing Committee (BROC), ably chaired by Andrew Kallfelz, - with more than 40 volunteers.

As always, I have written personal thank you notes to each donor.

Respectfully submitted,  
W. Bradford Willauer

**d. Bermuda Race Organizing Committee**

Andrew Kallfelz

The BROC is pleased to report that preparations for the 53<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Newport Bermuda Race on Friday 21 June are well underway and in hand. As of 17 Feb, there are 167 boats entered in the race. The race is operating financially on plan. Entries close on April 7, and we expect by that time to have an entered fleet of 175 – 200 boats.

Significant changes for this cycle include:

- A new starting area off Fort Adams. At the Fort Adams north lawn, we will be hosting a Starting Line Live Show event for in person spectators, as well as a multi-camera, professionally produced live stream for viewers around the world.
- A new cloud-based race management software platform integrating entry, race operations, fleet communications, tracking, leaderboards, scoring, and results.
- New scoring model. First race to use Forecast Time Correction Factor (F-TCF / weather forecast) scoring.

- BRF has contracted with a documentary production company who will be documenting the race this year (covering 10 – 15 teams) and producing a multi-episode series for global cable network distribution in the fall of 2024.

Risk factors:

- The cost to produce the Starting Line Live Show event at Fort Adams is significant and not entirely covered by new sponsorship funds. The return on this investment hopefully realized in future race cycles hinges on a well-attended Ft Adams event and successful live-stream. Both will be heavily impacted by the weather.
- New starting line will be unfamiliar to participants and spectator craft, and a light air start will present new challenges to the RC and the fleet tacking out of the bay.

The BROCC is composed of nearly 60 dedicated, talented, and generous volunteers from the CCA and the RBYC. BROCC roster can be found [here](https://bermudarace.com/race/organizing-committee/). [<https://bermudarace.com/race/organizing-committee/>]

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrew Kallfelz

**e. Bonnell Cove Foundation**

Bob Medland

The Bonnell Cove Foundation was organized in 1989 by the CCA to oversee research and educational activities previously conducted by the Club. The initial funding of the Foundation came from its sale of a tract of waterfront land in Block Island, Rhode Island to the Block Island Conservancy for conservation purposes. The land was bequeathed to the Club in 1959 by George P. P. Bonnell, a charter member and former Commodore of the Club.

The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that makes grants each year to other charitable organizations with a particular emphasis in areas of safety at sea and maritime environmental protection. Each year there are two grant cycles for grants received on or before February 1 and September 1. The Officers and Board of Directors are most appreciative of the organizations submitting grant requests and those individuals who encourage the nonprofits to apply for grants.

As of February 1, 2024, eighteen grant applications have been received for consideration at the February 29, 2024, meeting of the Board.

Also, the Officers and the Board are most grateful to the 172 individuals who generously contributed \$44,625 to the Bonnell Cove Foundation in 2023. As a result of these contributions together with investment income the Foundation was able to grant \$96,919 to 18 charitable organizations during 2023.

During 2023, the Officers and Board of the Foundation met two times to receive grant applications and award grants. The Board met three times to review and update the bylaws of the Foundation. At the Board meeting of September 29, 2023, there was a change of watch as Joyce Lhamon stepped down as President of the Foundation to be succeeded by Bob Medland. We are fortunate to have Joyce continue to serve on the Board and are grateful for her years of enthusiastic and capable leadership.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Medland

**f. Charts and Guides**

Wilson Fitt

The Charts and Guides Committee has been very busy and the CCA's print and online cruising guides continue to provide positive exposure for the Club in direct support of its mission to "promote cruising ... by

amateurs” and “gather and keep on file all information that may be of assistance to members in cruising.” Our four well-respected print guides covering Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Labrador, and the Gulf of St. Lawrence are printed and distributed by Paradise Cay Publications and sold by retail and online booksellers throughout North America, the UK and Europe.

In 2023, the CCA also published the unique *Essential Passage Guide to The Viking Route*, edited by Bill Strassburg (BOS/GMP). This new volume provides essential information about planning, pilotage, ice navigation, cold water safety, and equipment for sailors making the passages between Europe, the Faroes, Iceland, Greenland and North America. It has been very well received and has shown strong early sales.

Discussions have started about the technical and commercial potential of digital versions of the printed guides.

Cruising guide sales were steady during 2023 at approximately 670 books, and royalty payments to the Club totaled \$8,685. A new edition of the Labrador Guide is planned for 2024 and the Gulf of St. Lawrence guide will be updated in 2025.

The highly successful online Cruising Guide to Maine <https://guides.cruisingclub.org/>, launched in May, 2022 under the leadership of Doug Bruce (BOS/GMP) and now Jane and Tom Babbitt (BOS/GMP), has provided great exposure to the CCA in addition to making indispensable cruising advice readily available. In 2023 the site had approximately 17,000 users, up 140% from the year before, and 58,000 page views, up 400% (!) compared to the same May to December period in 2022. For the full year 2023, the site served over 21,000 users. The Maine Guide is continuously updated with input from a sub-committee of about thirty-five CCA members.

The online guide coverage is being extended to include the adjacent New Brunswick cruising waters of Passamaquoddy Bay and the St. John River. Also, Dick Waterman (BOS/NBP) has begun gathering information for a new online guide to Southern New England that will cover Narragansett Bay to Cape Ann. This is expected to be ready for the 2025 season.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wilson Fitt (BDO)

#### **g. Communications**

James Phyfe

At the Fall Meeting in Lunenburg, the Communications Committee reviewed a draft Communications Strategy document which will supplement the Committee’s Mission Statement.

Over the past two years, the Committee has:

- created a new Communications Committee Mission Statement;
- developed a Communications Strategy;
- outlined best practices for CCA communications in the form of a Statement of Communications Policy;
- continued public outreach with consultant John Burnham;
- engaged Kate Somers to increase the Club’s social media presence;
- shifted Club messaging from primarily safety topics to seamanship oriented articles;
- published many new *School of Hard Rocks* and *Safety Moments* under the leadership of Chuck Hawley;
- published monthly *Waypoints* newsletters edited by Julie Kallfelz;
- published semi-annual *Gam* print newsletters edited by Phil Dickey;
- published annual *Voyages* issues compiled by Bob and Ami Green;
- produced the annual Yearbook through the efforts of Barbara Watson;

- continued development and updating of [cruisingclub.org](http://cruisingclub.org) under the leadership of Michael Moradzadeh;
- instituted Committee Introductions in *Waypoints*;
- and developed relationships with *SAIL* and *Cruising World* magazines to highlight CCA content in their email newsletters.

At the Annual Meeting in New York, Julie Kallfelz will assume Chairmanship of the Communications Committee and Elizabeth Gowell will take over as editor of *Waypoints*. I am incredibly appreciative for the contributions of all members of the Committee over the past two years and eagerly anticipate future accomplishments.

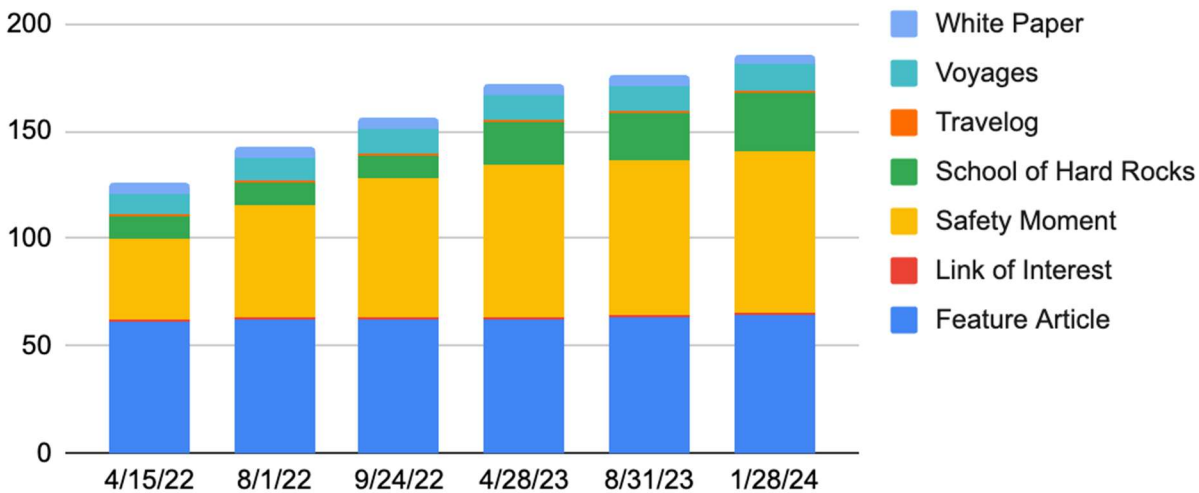
Respectfully Submitted,  
James Phyfe

From Chuck Hawley, Liaison Communications Committee & Safety and Seamanship Committee:

The number of Safety and Seamanship articles on the CCA website is slowly rising due to member submissions. Over the last 21 months, the total number of articles has grown by 47%, primarily driven by Safety Moments (100%) and School of Hard Rocks (170%).

	4/15/22	8/1/22	9/24/22	4/28/23	8/31/23	1/28/24
<i>Article Category</i>	# of Articles	# of Articles	# of Articles	# of Articles	# of Articles	# of Articles
Feature Article	61	62	62	62	63	64
Link of Interest	1	1	1	1	1	1
Safety Moment	38	53	65	71	73	76
School of Hard Rocks	10	10	11	20	21	27
Travelog	1	1	1	1	1	1
Voyages	10	11	11	12	12	12
White Paper	5	5	5	5	5	5
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>186</b>

## Growth of Articles on CCA.org



One Safety Moment and one School of Hard Rocks article has been published each month in Waypoints thanks to the teamwork of Michael Moradzadeh and Julie Kellfelz.

The 2023 project of reviewing all articles online to analyze whether they met loosely defined criteria was completed with the following results:

- 64% No action required.
- 23% Needs to be updated.
- 5% Shorten for readability.
- 5% Not Safety and Seamanship related.
- 3% Edit or reformat.

A plan for updating the articles is yet to be developed, but it's anticipated that the original authors, if they are willing, should be consulted as a first step.

As a challenge to both the Safety and Seamanship and Communications Committees, we need to decide if we are going to continue to be reactive with regards to article topics, or proactive by pursuing specific articles to round out our "library" of cruising and seamanship content. Currently, we don't assign topics to authors, and as a result it's difficult to know if a topic will be covered when one searches the library.

Finally, we've had to remove a small number of posted articles when they have been found to include inaccuracies. Those authors were contacted, corrections were made, and the articles were reposted on the site. However, this does raise the question of how much scrutiny we should submit the articles to prior to publishing.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Chuck Hawley



**h. Environment of the Sea**

Rowena Carlson

We are continuing the theme of “What can we do”? The committee is currently focusing on the issue of single use plastics. We are working on reduction of use of single use plastics and removal of plastics from our oceans and beaches. The most recent issue is the confusion about “compostable”, “biodegradable” and “bioplastics” since it was found that some boaters thought items marked as such could be disposed of in the ocean. We continue to submit “Environmental Moments” to Waypoints and produce articles for the GAM. More speakers on ocean environmental topics are in the works. We are proud to have Kirsten Neuschäfer as our speaker at the February 2024 National meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rowena Carlson

**i. Events**

Anne Kolker

The 2023 Fall meeting in Lunenburg Nova Scotia was a success and lots of fun. The first night party on the docks included music and a chance to meet Kirsten Neuschafer as we wandered on board the Bluenose II. Meetings culminated with a buffet dinner and a great presentation by Kirsten with slides from her Golden Globe race.

We have been planning the 2024 Annual meeting Feb 29/March 1. The sign ups indicate that we are finally ready to be together again. Kirsten Neuschafer will again join us for another award along with other very impressive sailors. The plans for the fall meeting in Annapolis are well underway. The 2025 location will be Bellingham, Washington. Dates TBD. Cruises are planned through 2025. The past 2 years have been a big switch from virtual meetings which were challenging, back to meetings in person. Looking forward to more chances to get together on the water and on land.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Kolker

**j. Financial Affairs Committee**

Chace Anderson

The Financial Affairs Committee has met twice this past fall and winter. Thanks to all the FAC members who have worked diligently on our various issues. Items of note:

At the Board of Governor’s meeting, September 30, 2023, we approved changing the Club’s fiscal year from the twelve months ending October 31, to the comparable period ending December 31, in other words, consistent with the calendar. We believe this will make periodic and budget comparisons more meaningful going forward. It also aligns CCA’s fiscal year with the BRF.

Preparation of CCA 2024 Budget has been something of a moving target largely due to two factors:

- The integration of updated /new information into the budget as time has gone on, and
- New items/requests to be added to the budget after “due” dates.

Particularly sticky issues have been:

- Forecasting membership dues – multiple categories, some pre-pays, etc.,
- Quantifying social activity costs, in particular our Annual Meeting in New York – two variables here...number of participants and estimated cost per person.
- Safety at Sea...one of our only “money-makers” in the club, but constantly evolving with new programs.
- Books...we have quite a few unsold copies of “Adventurous Use of the Sea,” in inventory, without a clear path to realizing their economic potential. And we have our second 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book on the way.

Other issues we have been working on include:

- Changing our financial service provider from Key Bank to Bank of America,
- Upgrading our accounting firm,
- New payment mechanisms...with the objective of getting away from the 3% charge for using credit cards,
- An unanticipated IRS penalty of \$20,000. Thanks to the hard work and persistence of our treasurer, Kathleen O'Donnell, we believe this penalty will be waived,
- The Flag Officer Stipend...the amount budgeted for "over and above" Commodore expenses, e.g., visiting all CCA Stations during his or her tenure,
- The use of our Capital Assets at Fidelity, and whether or not we should implement an annual spending rule. We decided against creating a hard rule but will continue to use our "endowment" for special needs, if and when they arise, subject to a cap.

Lastly, I am pleased to report several Committee changes. John Devlin of the Chesapeake Station and Nick Orem, RC of CCA Boston have joined the Committee adding additional strength in financial management and governance. Peter Griffin, who has been a member of the Financial Affairs Committee during my entire tenure as Chair, will succeed me. He brings to the table deep financial expertise and a thorough understanding of the Club's financial affairs. No doubt he will take the Committee's deliberations to the next level.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chace Anderson

**k. GAM**

Phil Dickey

The GAM continues with Editor-in-Chief Phil Dickey in the midportion of his third year in that position. We have streamlined the submission process and now new member biographies appear in the first issue they receive. Many thanks go to biography writers Dianne Embree and Dorothy Wadlow and to Membership Chair Ernie Godshalk for their efforts in achieving the shortening of the timeline. The GAM featured its first Yacht Design article in the Spring 2023 Issue, with insightful contributions from members Jim Antrim and German Frers, and we will have another one for Spring 2024.

Despite a change in personnel in the art department at our publisher, we were able to move up the publication date for the Fall issue by three weeks. We will continue efforts to improve the time from submission deadline to publication by encouraging our Historians and other authors to improve their conformity with the deadlines.

Respectfully submitted,  
Phil Dickey

**l. Guest Moorings**

Liz Baylis

Updates are being made to the information for the current guest mooring listings, working with the webmaster and editor, on the web page and in the yearbook. Some modest success was made to get more moorings and docks added to the list by reaching out to the membership via Waypoints. We will continue to use this technique. 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

**m. Investment**

Tom Post

2023 was a good year for both the stock and bond markets. Our long-term returns remain very good. Here is a synopsis of results through 1/31/24:

Fund	YTD	1 Year	3 years	5 years	10 years
CCA Account	1.09%	15.90%	7.53%	10.18%	8.42%
Bonnell Cove Account	0.27%	10.16%	5.96%	8.42%	7.36%
Bermuda Race Foundation Endowment	0.80%	14.50%	N/A	N/A	N/A
65/35 Benchmark *	1.00%	14.06%	6.04%	9.83%	8.94%
S&P 500	1.68%	20.82%	10.99%	14.30%	12.62%
Dow Jones US Total Stock Market	1.11%	19.14%	8.94%	13.41%	11.87%
MSCI ACWI ex USA (International Stocks)	-0.99%	6.06%	1.30%	5.49%	4.38%
Bloomberg Agg Bond Index	-0.27%	2.10%	-3.17%	0.83%	1.63%

\* 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. For the Bermuda Race Foundation Endowment portfolio, the expenses are 0.04% annually.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas C. Post

**n. Long Range Planning**

Tim Surgenor

At the Fall meeting in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia the Long Range Planning Committee presented results from a survey of CCA members which was conducted in August of 2023. Approximately 700 members responded to the survey for a 51% response rate, with many fellow members providing thoughtful written comments – reflecting the breadth of our amazing community of sailors. In addition to survey feedback we have compiled recent trends in membership, data on member participation in “adventurous use of the sea” activities, and levels of volunteering on station and club committees. The LRP committee is now focusing on pulling together a report and set of recommendations to The Club.

Although the main message from the Long Range Planning Committee is “steady as she goes”, there are three core goals proposed in the draft report along with recommendations supporting each one:

Goal #1: Continue to focus on building an active and engaged community of accomplished offshore sailors committed to adventurous use of the sea.

Goal #2: While maintaining high standards, return to a pattern of slow membership growth including increasing the percentage of women and young members.

Goal #3: Increase efforts to make members of the blue water sailing community aware of the CCA, what its activities are and the level of seamanship required for membership.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Surgenor

**o. Membership**

Ernest Godshalk

Activities since the Fall Meeting in September:

Thanks to 100 Proposers, Seconders and Letter Writers, and the efforts of the Station Membership Committees in seven Stations, the Club Membership Committee recommended 22 qualified candidates who were elected by the Governing Board at its meeting on February 16. Of the 22, four are female; five are Next Watch (<55); the average age is 63 years. The number of candidates has apparently not recovered 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!

The number of proposals for new members was insufficient to exceed the number of deaths, dues delinquents dropped, and resignations; total membership is little changed since the Fall Meeting. We have (only) slightly increased the number of women and younger members. The average age of the membership continues to increase modestly (72.2 years). About 9% are Next Watch.

The Committee thanked Doug Jorgenson (SOC), Doug Adkins (PNW) and Bill Read (CHE) for their long service on the Committee and welcomed Bruce Stuart, Susan Stillman and Dorothy Goldweitz as their successors.

Highlights and accomplishments over the past two years:

- Recommended ~100 candidates who were then elected by the Governing Board.
- Expanded a warm, informative welcome to new members
- Wrote interesting new member biographies, published in GAM and on the website
- Improved the Proposal System to make it easier to propose candidates
- Commenced providing the Governing Board with commentary on candidates for election, and in advance of the Governing Board meeting
- Systematized and communicated the Seafarer and resignations processes, as approved by the Governing Board.
- Deliberated challenging membership-related topics, e.g., persuaded the Governing Board to be willing to elect candidates with only powerboat experience, if exceptional
- Persuaded the Governing Board to make various changes to the Bylaws and our processes, and
- Promoted diversity in our membership, with only modest success.

Special announcements for future events.

- James Phyfe will become Membership Committee chair on March 1.
- The next election of new members will be at the Governing Board meeting in October. The Proposal schedule is on the website: <https://cruisingclub.org/membership>

Respectfully submitted,  
Ernie Godshalk

**p. Next Watch**

Jesse Terry

Next Watch is a club-wide effort to build the next generation of active, engaged CCA members. NW activities are oriented toward ensuring the club is addressing the needs of younger members as well as helping to maintain and enhance CCA's reputation among potential members as an important organization for top-tier sailors.

Jesse Terry (NY) took over as Next Watch Captain from Alli Bell (SOF) and he intends to maintain her very positive momentum and collaboration with NW leaders. Jesse has connected with the majority of NW Station Chairs to discuss the 2024 activities, not the least of which are connecting at the Annual Meeting and again in Bermuda in June. NW continues to be focused on connecting younger members, being an active resource for the next generation and expanding the adventurous use of the sea by the Next Watch.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jesse Terry

**q. 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 1st.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Prime, Quartermaster

**r. Safety and Seamanship**

Bill Strassberg

Major committee activities since the September 2023 meeting include:

A working group of Safety and Seamanship Committee (S&SC) members convened to review and consider revision of the CCA statement on life jackets. Chaired by Brian Guck, the working committee included Sheila McCurdy, Rich DuMoulin, Ernie Godshalk, Chuck Hawley, Stan Honey, Ralph Naranjo, Dick York, Eric Thompson, and William Strassberg. After multiple meetings, a revised statement was created that focused on life jacket use and weather and sea conditions, with an emphasis on the use of tethers. A formal roll-out of the statement is underway. The recommendation reflects hard work by recognized experts and is a great opportunity to publicize the CCA in the spirit of our S&SC Mission Statement: *"Make yachting safer by researching and promoting best safety practices and seamanship skills, capitalizing on the knowledge and blue water experience of CCA members."*

A new subcommittee has been formed to coordinate outreach of our educational programs. The Education and Safety Skills subcommittee is chaired by Steve Berlack. Members include Chuck Hawley, Anne Kolker, Jim Woodward, Galen Todd, Moe Roddy, Brian Guck, Doug Bruce, Ann Noble-Kiley, and William Strassberg. Subcommittee goals are to:

- Support and promote our educational programs and increase efficiencies by marketing and publicizing them as a group, and coordinate this effort with the Communications Committee.
- Target appropriate audiences for each program and assist program operators to grow and promote individual programs utilizing synergies between programs.
- Provide a feedback loop to programs to assist growth and improvement.
- Partner with like-minded organizations with similar goals.

Advantages of a dedicated and forward-facing Education and Safety Skills website are being considered.

The Safety for Cruising Couples (SCC) program continues to grow under the leadership of Moe Roddy. The SCC Advisory Committee includes Sheila McCurdy, Brian Duchin, Judy Robertson, Jim Woodward, and Chuck Hawley. Numerous courses are scheduled over the next six months; feedback about course content is uniformly positive and the course book is popular. The Practice on Your Own Boat program, under the leadership of Galen Todd is formulating an outreach plan with the Education and Safety Skills subcommittee.

The Offshore Communications Guide has been renewed by Mark Lenci and team. It is 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 are reviewed and the VHF section is expanded. Please see attached.

Chuck Hawley is the liaison between the Safety and Seamanship Committee and the Communications Committee. Chuck has facilitated an impressive increase in the number of articles published on the CCA website in our Safety and Seamanship section, particularly short form articles of Safety Moments and the School of Hard Rocks. Chuck has undertaken and completed a thorough review of all postings.

The SAS training team, under the leadership of Ann Noble-Kiley, continues to provide outstanding sessions at their Roger Williams University base. Training continues to be modified based on new information, lessons learned and new equipment.

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

**s. Technical**

Jim Binch

Although the Technical Committee has not met since our last annual meeting, it is more than fair to say that its members have been deeply engaged in matters directly affecting the Club and the Newport Bermuda Race in particular.

At the meeting held during our Centennial celebrations in Newport, there was considerable discussion surrounding one of the more frustrating aspects of ocean races today, namely the inability for the skipper or his/her crew to know, at the time of departure, by how much time they owed or were owed to beat fellow competitors to secure a position on the podium, be it for class honors, or fleet honors. The Club and the Newport Bermuda Race Technical Committee have long supported use of the Offshore Racing Rule (ORR rule) and its rule owner, the Offshore Racing Association. Along with support of this rule, we have also supported the use of Performance Curve Scoring, which uses after-the-fact deduced wind speeds combined with the yacht's VPP to derive a corrected finishing time. In terms of accuracy, and fairness, this method of scoring had, until now, been the best solution.

However, with the increasing accuracy of offshore weather predictions for up to 96 hours, along with detailed 36-hour forecasts for coastal areas, combined with NOAA tide and current forecasts and VPP-based routing software, it has become possible to predict the elapsed times of sailing yachts covering a known offshore course. The question among the committee members was not "should this be developed further?", but how might it best be accomplished.

To that end, committee members acting as individuals in concert with US Sailing, as well as other CCA members, participated directly in the creation of the F-TCF scoring system to be used in this spring's 2024 Newport Bermuda Race. F-TCF stands for "Forecast - Time Correction Factor". In a nutshell, the BROCC Technical Committee (really a sub-set of the CCA Technical Committee in practice) will utilize the latest offshore wind and weather data late the day before the race, along with NOAA Gulf Stream predictions, and run each entrant from start to finish in forecast conditions using Expedition software and the yacht's own ORR polars, to arrive at an expected best possible elapsed time. This will be done for the entire fleet, broken down into their respective divisions and classes, permitting the publishing the next morning of each boat's F-TCF number. Thus, every skipper will know, at the starting line, where they need to be to win within their class. Major contributions to this being possible – one year ahead of the ORC --- were Jim Teeters, Stan Honey, Ray Cullum, Nick Nicholson, John Winder, and the undersigned. A huge thank-you to Andrew Kallfelz and the whole NBR executive for taking this on!

More recently members of the Technical Committee, along with the entire BROCC Technical Committee, have had to weigh in on use of the ISO or STIX stability measure as an alternative to the ORR SI used for acceptance to enter the Newport Bermuda Race. After lengthy discussion with Karl Kirkman, the originator for the use of a stability index following the 1979 Fastnet Race, other naval architects, and comprehensive modeling done by Jim Teeters, it has been concluded that extremely wide, light monohulls with a high vertical center of gravity have a much greater potential to not self-right if capsized than what is calculated in the current ISO stability standard. Accordingly, the BROCC Technical Committee, along with concurrence from the undersigned, Dan Nowlan, Stan Honey and Past Commodore Willauer will accept for entry only those yachts meeting the standards set forth in the Entry Requirements.

As a footnote, I would also like to let the Board and our fellow members know that Past Commodore Sheila McCurdy has done a marvelous job in her role as Chair of the Offshore Racing Association this past year, returning this ORR rule-owning body to financial stability at last, along with a fair contractual long-term relationship with US Sailing, and a growing fleet using ORR Ez, expected to number close to 1,000 certificates this season!

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Binch

**t. Trophy**

Bob Darbee

The CCA Governing Board has approved the creation of a "Trophy Committee" to handle all the physical logistics of our substantial collection in the showcase at IYRS in Newport. Collective value of trophies and support gear (travel cases, showcase which we own) etc. is over \$500K, making this assembly the CCA's largest tangible asset. This committee will oversee the physical aspects of the collection, such as delivering from Newport the Perpetual trophies being awarded at the Annual Dinner. The larger task is shipment to/from Bermuda every 2 years, negotiating passage through Customs and the like. The CCA Awards Committee and Bermuda Race Awards Committees are responsible for determining recognitions and recipients; which duty responsibilities will continue unaffected. This committee is the utility providing support logistics. This activity had previously been a subset of Bermuda Race Awards since time immemorial but with the growth and complexity of today's CCA trophy collection, splitting this activity out became a compelling matter.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Darbee

**u. Voyages**

Amelia and Robert Green

We are pleased to submit this 2024 committee report for *Voyages* Issue 66.

We were thrilled to have Kirsten Neuschäfer, CCA's 2023 Blue Water Medalist, sit for an interview for *Voyages*. The interview joins twelve other articles in Issue 66 that we hope will be enjoyed by our members. Additionally, Don Stabbert (PNW), sent a lovely book review of *Somewhere South Sailing in Polynesia 1977*, by Clay Hutchinson.

Our doors are closing, but the new editor of *Voyages*, Dan Biemesderfer (ESS), will have his open and be ready to receive your stories. The deadline for submissions is October 25, 2024. We encourage all members to consider sharing their stories.

David Curtin (BOS), our *Final Voyages* editor, will remain in his position for Issue 67, 2025. His help is invaluable, and we appreciate his untiring work tracking down our deceased members' obituaries. The deadline for FV is October 31, 2024.

This year's print run totaled 1713 copies. In addition to the membership mailing, 86 copies were sent to yacht clubs with a cover letter from Commodore Otorowski; 115 to the Rear Commodores and Post Captains; 15 were sent to the Commodore; and 50 were sent to Cindy Crofts-Wisch for "miscellaneous" distribution as needed.

We continue to provide 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* will also receive a copy. This is all good press for CCA.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amelia and Robert Green

**v. Waypoints**

Julie Kallfelz

Our monthly, digital newsletter *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 continue to make progress in that area. Based on data provided from our MailChimp platform, the *Waypoints* "open rate" (the percentage of recipients who open the *Waypoints* email) continues to be around 68%, compared to our monthly average open rate in 2021 of 54%. The "click rate" (the percentage of recipients who open *Waypoints* and click on a link) continues to be between 15 and 20%. The Communications Committee is working to use this platform data to better understand member preferences and tailor content accordingly. We are also working to archive *Waypoints* so members can access past issues.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Kallfelz



## w. Website

Michael Moradzadeh

### Generally

The CCA website handles roster, transactions, and articles display among other things. We completed a significant upgrade in 2024 that brought the software up to the current release and, more visibly, highlighted our growing collection of articles. There are a few technical nits from the transition to clean up. Development continues. Anticipated to launch in 2024: Member forum. Better roster automation. Better event registration. Article formatting and content.

### Roster Functions

Very few changes to our roster functions. While I was concerned that the conversion from version 8 to version 10 of our software would create issues, there appear to have been none. For 2024, I intend to make good on the plan to eliminate the distinction between saved email address and login email address, which some members have found confusing and which has caused email newsletters to be missed by some.

### Dues

Thanks to the careful attention of our dues team, we have managed to do a good job collecting our membership dues, with 100% of members paid up, waived, or expelled in 2023Q1. We are on track with 89% collected for 2024 as of this writing.

### Electronic Membership Cards

We re-launched our cards program. This required several hours of tweaking after the site upgrade to get working at all, but the cards are now working and can be remotely updated to reflect membership status and calendar updates, as well as anything else we might want to do from the comfort of our own chair.

### Articles

Thanks mainly to Chuck Hawley's authoring and editing, our treasury of submitted articles continues to grow with engaging and informative posts. Julie K has been collaborating so that new articles get highlighted in Waypoints, and Kate Somers, as well as I, has been posting some selected items to Facebook as well. For 2024, Chuck has been leading a review committee to update and/or prune existing articles. I have developed a script to strip out some of the random formatting that happens when one pastes from Word.

### Messaging

Because the website is the repository of our members' email and mailing addresses, it necessarily has a core role in messaging. Email and mailing lists can be downloaded for use elsewhere. Customized lists for Gam, Yearbook, and Voyages are pre-programmed now! The email list can be dumped into Mailchimp.

A new feature is integral messaging to Stations, Posts, and even Committees! Previously used mainly for dues dunning, the site can access the Mandrill mailing service with an instantly-generated list to send to any of several lists: Members, Members and guests, officers, committees, or members who have not yet paid their current dues. Sending is a bit leisurely, and when several stations use this at once they slow each other down. These are issues we hope to minimize, but they are not fatal.

### Safety at Sea

A subordinate website, [sas.cruisingclub.org](http://sas.cruisingclub.org), is set up to handle the specific needs of CCA's Safety at Sea seminars program. I'm pleased to report that, thanks to the attention of that team, this site has been running and collecting signups and, of course, money with almost no interaction from me!

## Backup

Louis Benanouis of [Bay Design Associates](#) was selected to manage some of our upgrades and has become familiar with our site. The firm relies on skilled and efficient engineers in Ukraine to execute many of the technical elements. In the event I should become unavailable, Louis would be in position to handle a transition.

## Instructions and Tutorials

Responding to a truly impressive array of members finding ways to use the site technology in unexpected and not quite functional ways, I've been expanding the instruction pages found under member links->resources->site use guide. These now include several breakouts and even a couple of videos. The latest is <https://cruisingclub.org/help/events/tutorial>

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Moradzadeh

**x. Yearbook** Barbara Watson

The 2024 yearbook will continue in its traditional blue format.

Contributors were sent text documents to edit this year which may have expedited and simplified the process for them?

Members have been encouraged to update their profiles by the end of February and remove boats they no longer own.

Members are also encouraged to use the Site Use Guide under Member Resources on the Members side of the CCA website, as set up by the Webmaster.

The member-driven material (Membership, Surviving Spouses, Fleet and Fleet pictorial) will be taken from the website after March 7th.

There have been many changes in committees this time around. As always, a huge thanks to the Webmaster Michael Moradzadeh, Awards Steve James, Historian Doug Adkins and to Jay Gowell for proofreading. And to all the contributors.

Yearbooks from 1923 until 1959 are all on the CCA public website under Publications. The Webmaster has added the 2022 and 2023 yearbooks under Publications on the Members side of the website and hopefully the remaining 1960 - 2021 and 2024 Yearbooks will be added to the Membership side in 2024.

The remaining Yearbooks are available to view from the CCA Resources Links List [here](#), or email the editor. [<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/gk38cvohqksemie2gdlg/CCA-Resources-Links-List.xlsx?rlkey=gazrjkhbdzqdfujal6qle6e3t&dl=0>]

A PDF of the 2024 Yearbook will be available after publication by contacting the editor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barbara Watson

**14. Cruises:**

2024

- |                  |                |                             |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| a. Antigua       | March 9-16     | Nick Brown                  |
| b. Guadeloupe    | March 16-22    | Hilary and Andrew Armstrong |
| c. Sea of Cortez | May 3          | Dan Gribble/Gary Davidson   |
| d. Bermuda       | June 30-July 4 | James Watlington            |
| e. Maine         | August 3-14    | Roger Block/Amy Jordan      |

2025

- |                        |             |                    |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| a. Caribbean           | March/April | Cruising Committee |
| b. Newport to Scotland | June 11     | Steve Berlack      |
| c. Scotland            | July 19-31  | Jonathan Brewin    |
| d. Pacific Northwest   | September   | Bruce Johnston     |

**15. Report from Nominating Committee, Bob Medland**

The Nominating Committee submits the following nominations for election:

Officers:

Commodore	John R. Gowell
Vice Commodore	A. Chace Anderson
Secretary	Pat Montgomery
Treasurer	Kathleen M. O'Donnell
Historian	Douglas D. Adkins

Governors (Terms expiring in 2027):

Bras D'Or	Bernard F. D. Prevost
Boston	CDR Catherine Reppert
San Francisco	Sally L. Honey