



**Reports in Advance of  
Cruising Club of America Meeting of Members  
September 29, 2023 15:30 – 17:30 Lunenburg School of Art, Spinnaker Room**

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|---|--------------------|
| <b>1. Call meeting to order</b><br>No Report Submitted  | Chris Otorowski    |
| <b>2. Quorum</b><br>No Report Submitted   | Molly P. Barnes    |
| <b>3. Commodore's Welcome</b><br>No Report Submitted  | Chris Otorowski    |
| <b>4. Approval of Minutes</b><br>Minutes from Annual Meeting of Members 3/4/2023 can be found <a href="https://cruisingclub.org/event/fall-meeting-2023">here</a> (Under the Membership Matters section of the Fall Meeting page: <a href="https://cruisingclub.org/event/fall-meeting-2023">https://cruisingclub.org/event/fall-meeting-2023</a> ) | Chris Otorowski    |
| <b>5. Report of the Commodore</b><br>Report to be presented at the meeting  | Chris Otorowski    |
| <b>6. Report of the Vice Commodore</b><br>Report to be presented at the meeting   | John R. Gowell     |
| <b>7. Report of the Treasurer</b>   | Kathleen O'Donnell |

The Cruising Club of America (CCA) has two accounts at Key Bank. As of September 21, 2023, the balances were:

\$127,283.39 – Business Checking

\$29,072.83 – Money Market

\$1,566,247.41 - Fidelity

The above balance in checking will be reduced by the Station Allotment checks (which were mailed on September 22, 2023), expenses for this meeting, and shared “profits” from the Safety at Sea Programs paid to NYYC and the Marion Bermuda Race.

We have one outstanding invoice to a sponsor of the 100th anniversary in the amount of \$15,000.

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. 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.

The Quartermaster and I are starting the process of reviewing the list of trophies and the valuations to ensure that the Club has sufficient insurance coverage. I have also asked the Safety at Sea program organizers to provide a list of all equipment purchased by the Club for that program. These “assets” have to be reported to the IRS and should also be noted for insurance purposes. The Club can establish a dollar level below which property owned by The Club would not need to be reported.

I have been working on the budget for 2024 for discussion at this meeting. I thank all the Committee chairs for their responses to my request for anticipated expenses for 2024. After 2020-21 when everything was cancelled, then 2022 with the 100th anniversary, it has been relief this year to see the more typical activity of Club meetings and cruises and the expenses that the Club would normally incur.

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 that I continue to do. None of these are particularly interesting or worth noting! Full Steam Ahead.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly P. Barnes, Secretary

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

Douglas D. Adkins

The Role of Historian of the Cruising Club is, nominally, self-created. There is no defined set of tasks other than the preparation of the Historian’s Log entry in the *Yearbook*. However, the contributions and responsibilities are shaped by the urgings of the Flags, the examples of reporting provided by past Historians, the expressed interests of the members, the requests made for historical research by both members and the wider yachting community, and the imagination of the Historian. Sometimes, when the Historian’s imagination lags or the traditional contributions are wanting, other members step up and take on a task. Those contributions and suggestions are always gratefully received.

In addition to the Historian’s Log, an entry in the monthly on-line column *Waypoints* has become common. Under the banner “Lore from the Lazarette... a look back” topics of historic interest ranging from short snippets regarding our founders and notable club forebearers to comments on CCA racing histories and other exploits have been featured. Even vexillology has been included. Further, since its introduction under the leadership of Jack Towle, the *Gam* has featured a four-page column under the banner “History of the CCA, Tracing our History.” This Historian has used this avenue to publish the Historian’s Remarks at the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration last year in Newport, and to, somewhat self-indulgently, expound on the virtues of the Concordia Yawl and its notable record of racing and cruising successes under the ownership of CCA members over the years. Without guidelines, the Historian can accommodate his or her own topical choices.

Issues of historical research sometimes also arise. These may come in the form of contributions from members prompted by the discovering of materials relating to past CCA members. They may also stem from requests for information regarding CCA members such as a recent inquiry regarding Charter Member George Bonnell’s Lawley-built motor yacht *Old Glory* submitted by an English restorer seeking details and photographs. It is important to try to respond, if possible, and help direct historical research with facts or references, pointing to other sources of information.

However, it is not all beer and skittles for the Historian. Danger lurks in the form of errors and omissions. When the Single-handed TransPac Race is described as finishing in Maui rather than in Hanalei Bay on Kauai, the Historian hears about it. When notable CCA sailors are not mentioned in connection with an article regarding an event, that omission may or may not be pointed out by the sailor left out, but when it becomes known it is painful to this writer. The objective is to cast as wide a wide net and to recognize as many members as is possible. Sometimes the Historian has fallen short.

The task of bolstering the historic records of the Stations and Posts remains undone. The disparate devotion of the historians leaves a patchwork with some stations and posts turning to the task of recording their histories with enthusiasm and others showing little interest. It is a job that will require greater urging from the Historian and the Flags.

Respectfully submitted,  
Douglas Adkins, Historian

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

Jeffery S. Wisch M.D.

The Fleet Surgeon continues in his advisory role to the Bermuda Race Organizing Committee and is responsible for organizing medical coverage for the race. Dr. Barbara Masser and her Emergency Department Group at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston will continue to provide this service.

The Fleet Surgeon contributed to the Medical Section for the new Viking Route Cruise Guide, written by Bill Strassberg and continues to update the Fleet Surgeon Memo in the CCA Yearbook and Website. Additionally, he participates on the Safety and Seamanship Committee in an advisory role.

As part of a collaborative effort with NYYC (David Tunick), we are planning to have our first Offshore Emergency Medical Wilderness course. This will take place November 10-12 at NYYC 44<sup>th</sup> St. NY. The course is being coordinated by David and myself.

Unfortunately, we are seeing a surge in cases with new variants and as one expert stated, "This isn't Covid's final act." I organized remarks for the recent Board of Governors meeting and advised the Majorca Cruise participants. Members should exercise precautions including masking when in crowded indoor spaces, have a low threshold to test if one has symptoms and isolate per CDC guidelines. The new Covid 19 vaccine has been approved and is available. It is felt to be more effective against current variants of concern. The Fleet Surgeon will continue to monitor the Covid situation however we are in a much better place now than in the past regarding our immunity and ability to respond to Covid 19.

Also, a reminder that this is the first year that an RSV Vaccine has been approved for people over the age of 60 and don't forget Flu Vaccinations.

Respectively submitted,  
Jeffrey S. Wisch, M.D., Fleet Surgeon

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

Paul Hamilton

There have been no reports of improper flag etiquette.  
Team 1 Newport reports and royalties are up to date.  
Nothing further to report.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul J. Hamilton, Fleet Captain

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

### **a. Bermuda Somers Kempe**

The Bermuda Station held their Fall meeting recently on September 1st at the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. It was a well-attended luncheon and topics discussed included the upcoming BROCC Fall meeting in November, the 2024 Newport Bermuda Race 2024, and also receiving reports from members who have spent their time cruising the Caribbean and beyond since the beginning of the calendar year.

Plans are being made for a dinner to be held at the RBYC with spouses during the BROCC Meeting in November. It was also resolved that the Bermuda Station would also organize and host a post-Newport Bermuda Race cruise. More details will be forthcoming in the near future, but based on feedback from the previous cruise, it will be one that members will not want to miss.

Respectfully submitted,  
Somers Kempe, Rear Commodore Bermuda Station

### **b. Bras D'Or Ernest Hamilton**

Due to weather and personal circumstances, post-pandemic, on-water Station activities have been muted in 2023. After a very successful spring dinner-meeting at the RNSYS 'Saraguay House', with some 45 attendees, we had two ship tours: the sail training vessel, HMCS Oriole; and the CCGS Capt. Jacques Cartier. Mid-week dates, that had to be amended, meant that the attendance was unfortunately small. About 5 boats were present at a June Raft-Up in Scotch Cove, Mahone Bay. The Cape Sable Station Summer Cruise had only three yachts in attendance; and the September Raft-Up was cancelled due to Hurricane Lee. Individual members were, of course, involved in various cruising adventures.

A sad note regarding the Cape Sable Cruise was the passing of CCA member Doug Hickman, aboard his yacht, crossing the Bay of Fundy on the way to the first rendezvous. There will be more on this in Final Voyages.

The Station is very much looking forward to hosting the CCA Fall Meeting in Lunenburg. A sizable contingent of member yachts is expected; and they will be available to take attending members sailing on Saturday, September 30.

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

### **c. Boston Carter S. Bacon**

The Station hosted two lunches at the India Wharf Rats clubhouse in downtown Boston in February and May. The lunches were well attended with 35 people at each. Since the purpose was purely social no programs were included other than brief reports from officers who were in attendance, including reports from the Safety Officer, Brian Guck, and from the RC dealing mainly with plans for the summer Cruise. Lunches have been planned for October 25 and December 20. Dates for winter lunches will be announced later in the fall.c

On July 23 – 28, the Station sponsored a cruise from Gloucester, Mass., to Boothbay Harbor, Maine, with rendezvous in Gloucester (dinner at the Gloucester Maritime Museum), Falmouth Foreside (dinner at the Portland Y. C.), Harpswell (dinner at the Safe Harbor Great Island boatyard), Edgecomb (BYO cocktails

hosted by Gale and Charlie Willauer at their Ovens Mouth property), and Boothbay Harbor (dinner at the Boothbay Harbor Y.C.). The cruise included 80 participants aboard 23 boats.

On October 11, the Station will hold its Annual meeting at the Union Club in downtown Boston, where it is expected that Nick Orem will be elected as the new Boston Station RC. The program will consist of introductions of the 15 Boston Station members elected during 2023. All but two (who will be in far-off waters aboard their boats) will be in attendance. Each new member will be introduced by his or her proposer or seconder and will then speak briefly.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carter Bacon, Rear Commodore Boston Station

**d. Buzzard's Bay** Raymond J. Collum

The Buzzards Bay Post finished up its winter luncheon schedule in March at the Beverly Yacht Club in Marion, MA. Past Commodore Sheila McCurdy did a reprise of her outstanding presentation given during the CCA Centennial celebration in Newport this past summer. Her presentation "Characters of the CCA" was well received and enjoyed by all. 32 members and guests were in attendance. It was noted that Sheila is finishing up her "History of the CCA" and we should see it later in 2023. One more luncheon is being planned before the summer season is upon us.

Another highlight of the luncheon was Past Rear Commodore Bill Cook's presentation of a 50 year pin to Kin Howland. Though Bill mentioned it was five years late, Kin was very gracious in his acceptance and showed his appreciation by sharing one of his wonderful stories.

The summer Follow the Wave rendezvous' were to begin with the 3rd annual Narraganset and Buzzards Bay Post's rendezvous at 3rd Beach in Middletown, RI, on June 3, 2023. In addition to the typical raft-up party, we had planned to do a man-overboard demonstration with the new CCA MOB volunteer OSCAR. Due to the forecast of severe weather, the rendezvous had to be cancelled. Our second rendezvous of the summer was scheduled for July 16th at CCA members Jen and Peter Francis at their home in Marion which offers plenty of room to anchor and is a great jumping off spot on the way to the Cape Cod Canal and Maine. Its timing was in support of CCA and NAS members departing from points south and headed to Maine for the summer cruise. Sadly, as with the 3rd Beach rendezvous, it too had to be cancelled due to severe weather. We skipped August as most members will have gone to Maine or other points north. Our final rendezvous of the season will be on September 30th at Great Hill in Marion. CCA Peter Stone will be hosting. We are hoping for better weather.

The winter luncheon schedule will begin in November at the Beverly Yacht Club in Marion, MA

Respectfully submitted,  
Ray Cullum, Post Captain Buzzard's Bay

**e. Gulf of Maine** Peter Driscoll

The main event this summer was the 2023 Boston Station Maine Cruise. We dusted off plans made in 2020, before the virus quashed everything, refreshed everything with the Boston Station planning committee and put on a proper cruise. The focus was to be accessible to the whole station, young and old, and draw them into the cruising grounds of Maine.

Our opening event was at Maritime Gloucester with the schooner Adventure as our backdrop, a welcome with chowder. After a lay day, we dined well at the Portland Yacht Club. A quiet day at the Basin was followed by a party at Safe Harbor Great Island, Casco Bay. We made our way to the Sheepscot River and into the Oven Mouth for cocktails, first in a downpour, then, quickly, sunshine at the Willauer's summer place. Our final dinner was held at the gracious Boothbay Harbor Yacht Club. As usual, great camaraderie was developed and good cheer.

We thank our Post Captain, Peter Driscoll, Rear Commadore Carter Bacon, all the committee and the support and participation of our Flag Officers!

Our next events will be perhaps a boatyard tour (plans pending) and our annual early December luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles Tarbell, Post Secretary

**f. Narragansett Bay** Dick Waterman

The Narragansett Bay Post has been active this spring and summer. In March we had a lunch at the IYRS School of Marine Technology in Newport. We enjoyed lunch in the library and had the opportunity to see the CCA trophy collection housed at the library. In April we elected a new Secretary/treasurer, Ned Jones, for the Post. We also combined the secretary and treasurer into one position. Welcome Ned! In June a number of members participated in the dedication of the CCA dock in Mystic Seaport.

As we moved into summer the weather worked against us. We needed to cancel two on the water gams in June and July due to poor weather conditions. In August we finally had a great Gam in Dutch Harbor on Jamestown Island. About 12 boats convened and enjoyed a lovely evening. Ed Kane on Bolero kindly hosted a BYOB gathering and everyone had a great time. As we move into the fall and winter, we have a number of dinner and events planned to keep everyone connected.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dick Waterman, Post Captain Narragansett Bay

**g. Chesapeake** Bev Crump

The Chesapeake Station experienced a successful Spring and Summer 2023. Since our last report the Station has been engaged in numerous activities.

- The Station continued its monthly luncheons at the Annapolis Yacht Club. Highlights included talks by Kathy Parks of the AYC Foundation and Jahn Tihansky on his participation in the Ultimate Florida Challenge, a circumnavigation of Florida in small boats.
- Our Spring Cruise started with a Rum Keg Party in Annapolis at the home of Will Crump on May 24, and was followed by a dinner at Pirates Cove in Galesville and anchorages in the Choptank River on the following two days.
- Our June lunch at the Gibson Island Club on June 13 was graciously hosted by Charlie Hodges, Murray Leigh and Will Passano. It was a wonderful opportunity to return to a Club that has been such a long-standing part of the Chesapeake Station and CCA.
- Six of our members participated in the 2023 Annapolis Newport Race in June: Richard Born, Windborn, J120, Glenn Doncaster, Nanuq, Arcona 465, Jeff McCarron, Sonrisa, Xp 44, Tony Parker, Reindeer, Morris 47, Will Passano, Polaris, Sydney 47 and James Praley, Shinnecock, J 120. They faced heavy conditions in the Chesapeake and challenging conditions in the ocean.

- In the Marblehead-Halifax Race, CHE Members Will Passano in POLARIS, his Sydney 47 was the seventh boat to finish and corrected to 2<sup>nd</sup> in ORR Class 2 and Glen Doncaster, Nanuq, in his new Arcona 465 was the 32<sup>nd</sup> boat to finish and corrected to 6<sup>th</sup> in OR.
- Many of our members took the opportunity to take summer cruises north from the Chesapeake including John Wright Dress Blue, Bill White, Ellie B, John Devlin, Gratitude, Roel Hoekstra on Akele, Fred Kirsch, Iiwi, Mark Myers, Tonic, Chace Anderson, Bonnie Rye, and Bev and Susan Crump, Rappahannock, who provided reports for our monthly newsletter.
- A busy Fall is planned with monthly luncheons at AYC, a Fall Cruise starting on October 17, our Annual Meeting at Tred Avon Yacht Club in Oxford on October 22, and the Holiday luncheon at AYC on December 12.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bev Crump, Rear Commodore Chesapeake Station

**h. Essex                      Tom Wadlow**

Since the last update in March, the Essex Station has held 4 of its popular well-attended lunches and a Spring Dinner at Essex Yacht Club in April where Sheila McCurdy spoke regarding notable CCA historical members, many of whom were from the Essex Station. Our Spring cruise in early June was to the Mystic Seaport where we stayed at the new CCA docks and had a private tour of Alexis Rockman – Oceanus exhibit. A number of Essex Station members attended the dedication of the new docks a few weeks later.

Meetings and lunches are paused during the summer but the lunches resume on Sept 19 at Pilot’s Point Marina in Westbrook. On Sept 22 – 24 the station has its Fall Cruise which this year is going to Long Island and Shelter Island. Members from other stations are always welcome at our lunches, cruises and other events.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Wadlow, Rear Commodore Essex Station

**i. Florida                      Atle Moe**

The Florida CCA station is pretty much dormant from late Spring to Fall because the members tend to reside out of state during this time. Florida CCA luncheons and other gatherings will pick up again in the Fall. The annual Florida station meeting is in Fort Lauderdale Friday 19 January and Saturday 20 January 2024.

No special announcements from our station.

Respectfully submitted,  
Atle Moe, Rear Commodore Florida Station

**j. Great Lakes              Peter Balasubramanian**

No Report Submitted

**k. New York                  Peter Becker**

The NY Station of the CCA is in good health and spirit.

The NY Station had a fantastic conversation with Gary Jobson on April 1, 2023, held at Stamford Yacht Club. The station membership enjoyed Gary’s presentation of the CCA 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary video as well as

other video productions produced by Gary. Gary is a great reminder of the extraordinary talent of the CCA membership.

The annual clambake at David Tunick's residence in Stamford went off as scheduled on June 3, 2023. This event is cross-burpee with the North American Station of the Royal Scandinavian Yacht Clubs and Nyländska Jaktklubben and is a sought-after "fixture" on the CCA-NY Station calendar.

The station's Cruise Chair, Scott Kraft, after patiently waiting for the COVID-19 years to clear organized the station's first GAM in something like 17 years! The event was a huge success with everything falling nicely into place. The sun finally came out, a dry breeze came in off the water and 26 members of New York and Essex stations joined the GAM and potluck gathering on August 26, at Noroton Yacht Club. It was particularly enjoyable to get together with many of our long-time members as well as to get to know some of the more recent members. Including the Essex station was a brilliant move on Scott's part and something we will look to repeat.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Becker, Rear Commodore New York Station

### **l. Pacific Northwest     David Utley**

The Pacific Northwest Station has been quiet for the summer months as most members are off cruising. However, we held our Fall cruise beginning Sept. 6th. In Secret Cove BC with 17 boats. The cruise then continued to Pender Harbor for our rum barrel and chowder night. The next two days allowed members to find their way to Princess Louisa Inlet. Timing had to be spot on to traverse Malibu Rapids at slack water. Two days were spent in the inlet with beautiful Chatterbox Falls as the backdrop.

Our Station lunch meetings will begin on Oct. 4th. at The Seattle Yacht Club, followed by our annual dinner on Nov. 19th and we end the year with a lunch meeting on Dec.6th.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Utley, Rear Commodore Pacific Northwest Station

### **m. San Francisco     Richard Schaper**

Immediate past Rear Commodore Jim Quanci won the single-handed Transpac to Hanalei Bay in Green Buffalo. Some our members raced the crewed Transpac from Los Angeles to Honolulu including multi-talented Michael Moradzadeh who skippered Oaxaca, Rebecca Hinden and Julia Paxton crewed on Velvet Hammer and Ashley Perrin who captained Favonius. Insurance issues foiled Jim Antrim and Cree Partridge from sailing the brand-new Antrim 40 Glass Slipper. Synthia Petroka was in Hanalei on the chase boat that welcomed Jim Quanci and then finisher after finisher in SSS Singlehanded Transpac.

Anders Swahn cruised Wolfhound from her home port of Wilhelmshaven, Germany across the North Sea to Sweden and returned via the Kiel Canal; Liz Baylis and Todd Hedin sailed Acquaviva up the East Coast and are now in New England; and Jeanne Socrates sailed Nereida from Mexico to the South Pacific and she is now in the Tuamotus. Also in the South Pacific are Banu Oney (Denize III); Sylvia Seaberg (Cinnabar); and Lin Pardey (Sahula).

Sally Honey was inducted into the National Sailors Hall of Fame. Mary Crowley was keynote plenary speaker at the OCEANS 2023 conference in Limerick, Ireland, and earlier this year received the inaugural Diana Russell Award.



Our October meeting will take place at the California Maritime Academy aboard their Golden Bear training ship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Schaper, Rear Commodore San Francisco Station

**n. Southern California Steve Calhoun**

Our station continues to be very active with excellent attendance at all events. Unfortunately, our most recent event, scheduled for Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, had to be cancelled due to a very unusual hurricane weather system moving through Southern California. We had over 60 RSVP's and were looking forward to a fun end of summer party. That event will not be rescheduled, but our station has 2 other events planned for the rest of this calendar year.

Our membership continues to propose quality candidates for membership in the Cruising Club of America. Most recently, we had one candidate approved by the governing board on September 6. Overall, our station membership numbers around 100, and that has been the case for the recent past.

Lastly, the bi-annual Transpacific Yacht Race from Los Angeles to Honolulu was held this summer with strong participation by CCA members. Of note is that for the race in 2025, station member Bill Guilfoyle will be the Transpacific Yacht Club Commodore, and in 2027, station member Alan Andrews will assume that role as well. Our station members continue to take leadership roles in the Transpacific Yacht Club as we have for over 75 years.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Calhoun, Rear Commodore Southern California

**13. Committee Reports for this Meeting**

**a. Archives Mark Grosby**

Over the course of the summer, a cloud-based repository for the archives has been established. The yearbooks are currently being processed to remove club member personal information for the unrestricted access side of the portal. It is anticipated that the yearbooks in a searchable format will be available by the end of the year. I am hopeful that the 2011 to 2018 issues of Voyages and an archive of cruise guides will be added in October. Access information will be made available when the material is posted

Any current or former officers with materials for the archives, please contact me for instructions on how to transfer your files. PDF format is preferred.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Grosby, Archives Committee Chair

**b. Awards Steve James**

The Committee's 2022 presentation of awards continues at our Fall Meeting in Lunenburg. Kirsten Neuschafer plans to join us to receive The Rod Stephens Trophy for Outstanding Seamanship.



As of the submission of this report, we have just started defining a new major role on the organizing committee. This role will be the “Race start show coordinator” reporting to the chair. The new role will:

1. Be the BROCC point of contact for the professional event manager and the Fort Adams Trust.
2. Coordinate with/support the media team and media company as needed.
3. Responsible for identifying the roles and number of volunteers we will need to run the Fort Adams event. Develop job descriptions for the roles. Help recruit volunteers.
4. Collect data and information from the execution of this first event so that BROCC can make decisions for future races.

We urgently need to fill this role. Anyone interested should contact the chair, Mark Lenci.

Media and Sponsorship: Social media is active as we welcome each new entry to the 2024 race. We have released two competitor bulletins and several reminder email blasts. Until late winter, early spring media activities will focus on driving race participation. In the early spring, media activities along with partners such as Discover Newport will begin messaging about the Starting Line Live Show at Fort Adams.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Lenci, Chair 2024 Newport Bermuda Race

**e. Bonnell Cove Foundation      Joyce Lhamon**

I would like to thank all Bonnell Cove Foundation donors and board members for their contributions in funds, time and effort to help make BCF a successful foundation. I am pleased to report that BCF has gotten significant attention among non-profits who support our mission. We have received 15 grant applications this fall for \$140,000. Grants are received from across the USA and abroad. Many of these organizations have now recovered from the pandemic shutdown and are increasing activity to pre-2020 levels. Several are first time applicants, and some are familiar to CCA members. Bonnell Cove carefully fetes each application and only awards grants to organizations deemed capable of accomplishing their projects. Expanding activity has necessitated more funding, causing applicants to need your help and support more than ever. We are grateful for past donations and hope you will continue to support our efforts.

The BCF board is in the process of reviewing and clarifying issues of policy and governance in the foundation which will be an ongoing project this year.

Thank you, for joining the generous group of fellow CCA donors.

Please note that this report will be updated after the BCF Board meeting on Friday, September 29 2023 to include the results of the fall application process.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joyce Lhamon, President BCF

**f. Charts and Guides      Doug Bruce & Wilson Fitt**

The Guides Committee was very busy this past year launching two books, the new Viking Route Guide and a 2023 edition of the Cruising Guide to Newfoundland while also expanding the online Maine Guide launched in 2022.

Current sales data for the printed guides is expected to be available by late September.

*The Viking Route Guide*, introduced in May this year, received several glowing reviews and is enjoying considerable publicity thanks to John Burnham – especially his attention-getting placements in the popular *Scuttlebutt Sailing News*. Lead Editor Bill Strassberg and his team of mostly CCA-member co-editors deserve a round of applause for their cohesive and comprehensive book (280 pages) of up-to-date information on this unique and increasingly popular passage across the North Atlantic. The advent of the CCA's first "international" guide has led to the listing of all our guides on the Royal Cruising Club Pilotage Foundation's publications website and the website of IMRAY, the leading distributor of cruising guides in the UK and Europe.

The 2023 edition of the *CCA Cruising Guide to Newfoundland* is a significant update with many new harbors and fresh information for nearly all the roughly 300 harbors covered. This edition also includes a current Navionics chart for most harbors. Lead Editors Doug & Dale Bruce have thanked a long list of contributors, including many CCA and Royal Newfoundland YC members. Bill Barton, who also made many editorial and pictorial additions to this edition, will become Lead Editor starting this fall.

The CCA's first online guide, the *CCA Cruising Guide to Maine*, enjoyed a remarkably successful year two, with the number of users reported by Google Analytics more than doubling last year's 5,000+ users during the peak summer sailing season. Over the winter Lead Editors Tom & Jane Babbitt worked diligently to include several new harbors and anchorages while adding suggested itineraries including a notable one by Sandy Andrews highlighting hiking options along the coast. The guide was again supported this summer by a strong social media campaign (thanks to Kate Somers, our website creator), an advert in *Scuttlebutt*, and mailed and personal appeals to many New England area yacht clubs to include a mention about our guide on their websites, plus a tireless effort by Tom and Jane to place posters about the guide in most marinas and yacht clubs along the coast. They also introduced themselves and our guide to many Maine sailors personally while cruising for several weeks. All this hard work is resulting in increased awareness for the CCA and several enthusiastic testimonials from our loyal users. Our mailing list of regular users has grown from about a thousand last year to over 1,400 this year. All this suggests a healthy future for online guides both for existing areas (Atlantic Canada) and new areas – especially our stations around the US, Canada and Bermuda.

*The Labrador Guide* is currently being updated by Lead Editor James Watson and is expected to be ready for launch in early 2024. We hope to announce a new Lead Editor for the *Gulf of St Lawrence Guide* at the Guides Committee Fall Meeting to be held via Zoom in mid-October (date TBD).

The Chart Loaning Service has been suspended (due to a lack of requests) while the club investigates the creation of an online Cruising Information Service. Bill Bowers is leading this effort and will report his findings and recommendations at the aforementioned Guides Committee Meeting in October.

Doug Bruce will be stepping down from his position as Committee Co-Chair -- turning the reins over to Wilson Fitt who has been Co-Chair for nearly two years. Doug will remain on the Committee to help smooth the transition and give advice ad nauseum.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Bruce & Wilson Fitt, Co-Chairs

**g. Communications**

**James Phyfe**

The Communications Committee has been active on several fronts since the Annual Meeting in New York where an updated Committee mission statement was approved. The “About Us” page on [cruisingclub.org](http://cruisingclub.org) was updated to reflect revisions to the Club Mission Statement approved in March.

The Club also saw significant publicity surrounding the awarding of our medals, including the Bluewater Medal to Kenichi Horie of Japan.

Chuck Hawley has been leading a review of all articles posted to the website with participation of 15 or so other CCA members. Pat Montgomery is working on a style guide and put together an interesting compendium of marketing practices at some of our closest sister clubs.

Doug Bruce, Wilson Fitt and other members of the Charts and Guide Committee published a widely acclaimed Guide to the Viking Route, edited by SASC Chairman Bill Strassberg. That committee has also been discussing the possible launch of a virtual Cruising Information Service that would replace the chart loaning service that has seen less and less utilization as technology has put paper charts out of favor. The CCA Cruising Guide to Maine and Guide to the Viking Route were featured in two advertisements in *Sailing Scuttlebutt* in April and August respectively.

As elsewhere reported separately, Waypoints and Gam have been publishing on schedule, and the editors of our various communications channels have been meeting monthly to discuss priorities and challenges.

Lastly, the Committee as a whole has been working on taking the elements of our newly adopted mission statement and turning them into a Communications Strategy, which will be the subject of our upcoming meeting in Lunenburg.

Bruce Johnston (PNW) will be attending Fall Meeting and will serve as the CCA delegate to the International Council of Yacht Clubs at its next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
James Phyfe, Chair Communications Committee

(Communications Report continued on next page)

The following addition was submitted by Chuck Hawley:

1. Overview

- a. My role 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.
- b. This report is identical to the report given to the S&SC Committee.

2. Progress against objectives for 2023

- a. A quick summary of the number of safety articles published on the CCA website is as follows:

<i>Article Category</i>	<b>4/15/22</b>	<b>8/1/22</b>	<b>9/24/22</b>	<b>4/28/23</b>	<b>8/31/23</b>
Safety Moment Total	38	53	65	71	73
Feature Article Total	61	62	62	62	63
Voyages Total	10	11	11	12	12
School of Hard Rocks Total	10	10	11	20	21
White Paper Total	5	5	5	5	5
Travelog Total	1	1	1	1	1
Link of Interest Total	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>176</b>

- b. Therefore, in the last 13 months, we’ve added 33 articles, primarily in Safety Moments (20) and School of Hard Rocks (11).

c. We have also undertaken an effort to analyze the quality of the 173 articles which were on the website as of April 15 of this year. Using a team of 15 volunteers, the goal has been to have three editors read every article once, and to identify if those articles had any issues (pagination, dated information, lack of images, etc.)

- i. As of 9/5/23, all 173 articles had been read once. More than half of them are currently marked “Keep As Is”, while the others generally have minor typography or design issues.
- ii. Each of the articles NOT marked as Keep As Is will be read a second time to see if there is consistency in the actions.
- iii. Over time, we’ll develop rules for how to update or archive the stories that our editors suggest could use some changes.

3. Plans for 2024

- a. Finish S&SC article analysis and work on editing changes, etc. to bring up the quality.
- b. Continue working with SAIL magazine and their publication of School of Hard Rocks stories.
- c. Continue to use Social Media to publish our short format articles to promote the information that the CCA provides to the marine industry. Roel will have more specifics on this strategy.

**h. Environment of the Sea      Rowena Carlson**

Environment of the Sea Committee has continued to publish Environmental Moments in the monthly Waypoints. We hosted a Zoom presentation by Carl Nettleton of OpenOceans Global who gave a great presentation on the political side of the world ocean plastics issue. We also published a short article in the GAM about the issue of recycling plastic shrink wrap boat covers and the highlights of Mary Crowley's (SAF) Ocean Voyages Institute work removing ghost nets from the North Pacific Gyre. Meetings of the committee have been on hiatus while the Chair is out cruising for 4 months. Meetings should resume in October.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rowena Carlson, Chair Environment of the Sea Committee

**i. Events                                  Anne Kolker**

The Events committee has been in communication with the Bras D'Or station helping to publicize and organize the fall meeting. We look forward to a great meeting in the beauty of a world heritage site.

The various cruise committees are working hard on getting the upcoming cruises organized.

The Annual Meeting will take place as always at the New York Yacht club on February 29 and March 1 2024.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Kolker, Events Chair

**j. Financial Affairs                      Chace Anderson**

Due to summer schedules, the Financial Affairs Committee did not meet over the summer.

The FAC has two issues to bring before the Board of Governors:

1) Changing Fiscal Year

The first is the need to change 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.

This change was approved by the Financial Affairs Committee at its last meeting, Jun 6th, 2023, for three reasons:

- It will improve the budgeting process, by moving much of the preparation work into the fall and out of the busy summer months.
- It will align CCA's fiscal year with the BRF.
- It aligns CCA Finance more with typical conventions in the business and not-for profit world.

This recommended change will be voted on by the membership at the September 29, 2023 meeting.

2) 2023 Financials and Budgeting Process

While the Financial Affairs Committee has not yet reviewed 2024 Budgeted Financials, we are informed by the Treasurer that the process is well underway and proceeding more smoothly than in prior year and will be complete and approved by the Committee by year end.

Regarding 2023 financial performance, there are several meaningful variances from budget:

- Costs shown in 2023 which were incurred in 2022 – particularly the 2022 100th Anniversary in Newport (\$89K),
- Insurance premium increases,
- Slight decline in membership revenues,
- Increase in awards expenses,
- Excess inventory of 100th Anniversary books – “Adventurous Use of the Sea” (\$54K)

Other issues on our agenda:

- Change in banking relationships to make it easier to transact ongoing business.
- The securing of a “corporate” credit card for routine (and typically timely) expenses,
- Identification of an accounting firm or equivalent to review our financial accounts.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chace Anderson, Chair

#### **k. Gam**

**Phil Dickey**

We published in June the Spring 2023 edition that contained, for the first time, a design column, exploring the question of whether foiling boats can be designed for amateur sailors to sail in races like our Bermuda Race. We thank member-designers German Frers and Jim Antrim (SAF) for their thoughtful analyses. In the Fall 2023 edition, Mark Ellis (ESS) will help us with a second design column, exploring trends in sailboat design and stability.

The GAM is the CCA publication which presents the most comprehensive and granular description of the activities of the members and their Stations and Posts. We thank the Station and Post historians and the other members who submit the reports. The GAM issues are archived, and all past editions can be accessed through the CCA website.

The GAM is the CCA’s source for biographies of new members. Thanks to writers Dorothy Wadlow (ESS) and Dianne Embree (ESS), we have been able to publish the biographies in the first GAM that new members receive after their elections.

We publish the GAM on glossy paper with professional layout and artistic input. Since our content contributors and editorial staff are nonpaid volunteers, we can still publish our niche product, despite rising paper and postal costs, at a price similar to that of a newsstand magazine.

Respectfully submitted,  
Phil Dickey, GAM Editor-in-Chief and Committee Chair

#### **l. Guest Moorings**

**Liz Baylis**

Liz apologized for the lack of a report, noting that her computer died and that she is in the midst of de-commissioning their boat after an extended time on board. Even so, she was happy to share that the Guest Mooring Committee is clicking along - adding new moorings and updating current ones. All good!



**m. Investment****Thomas C. Post**

2023 remains a good year for stocks 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 **8/31/23**:

<b>Fund</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>1 Year</b>	<b>3 years</b>	<b>5 years</b>	<b>10 years</b>
CCA Account	14.17%	12.61%	7.34%	7.84%	8.38%
Bonnell Cove Account	9.26%	8.41%	6.73%	6.39%	7.42%
65/35 Benchmark *	12.48%	9.77%	5.28%	7.78%	9.02%
S&P 500	18.73%	15.94%	10.52%	11.12%	12.81%
Dow Jones US Total Stock Market	18.07%	14.75%	9.69%	10.12%	12.14%
MSCI ACWI ex USA (International Stocks)	8.93%	12.09%	4.15%	3.50%	4.54%
Bloomberg Agg Bond Index	1.37%	-1.19%	-4.41%	0.49%	1.48%

\* 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.

We also began to invest the endowment account for the Bermuda Race Foundation which has gone up 5.51% since we started investing it in March of 2023. It too has a very low-cost structure (0.05%).

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

**n. Long-Range Planning** **Tim Surgenor**

Since its initial interim report at the Fall Meeting in 2022 in Newport, RI., the Long-Range Planning Committee has continued to work to develop a better understanding of the current level of member engagement with The Club. We have looked in detail at member participation in "adventurous use of the sea" and levels of volunteering on station and club committees. We also designed and implemented a survey of CCA members which was conducted in August. 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. We are actively reviewing the results of the member survey now and are planning to provide a second interim report at the Fall Meeting in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia later this month. Although the main message from the Long-Range Planning Committee is "steady as she goes," there are a number of draft recommendations in development.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Surgenor, Chair

## **o. Membership**

**Ernest Godshalk**

Thanks to 100 Proposers, Seconders and Letter Writers, and the efforts of the Station Membership Committees in seven Stations, the Club Membership Committee recommended 20 qualified candidates (see \* below) who were elected by the Governing Board at its meeting on September 5. Of the 20, two are women; six are Next Watch (<55); the average age is 59+ 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 approximately unchanged since the Annual Meeting. We have (only) slightly increased the number of women and younger members. The average age of the membership continues to increase modestly (71.7 years). Just under 10% are Next Watch.

The next election of new members will be at the Governing Board meeting in February. The Proposal schedule is on the website: <https://cruisingclub.org/membership>

In late September, we expect to launch an easier-to-use front end to the Member Proposal System. This will feature a new Nominate a Candidate button on the “Propose a Member” page of the website. The Membership Committee urges all members to propose qualified candidates. Go to the website and click on the new Nominate a Candidate button!

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 16 members in six Stations; this is in compliance with the Governing Board’s authorization. Candidates are recommended by a Station Membership Committee chair.

Resignations were submitted by two members in two Stations since the Annual Meeting. Stated reasons included health issues and lack of engagement with the Club. Eight members were dropped from the rolls in 2023 due to dues delinquency.

Continued on next page



**q. Nominating**

**Bob Medland**

The Nominating Committee, through its meetings and discussions, is on course to report to the Secretary the nominations for Commodore, Vice Commodore, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, and for Governors whose terms of office expire at the Annual Meeting on March 1, 2024. The report is due on or before the prescribed date of not later than sixty days preceding the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Medland, Chair

**r. Quartermaster**

**Steve Prime**

Trophies shipped to and from Bermuda are now inscribed and back in the trophy case.

After considerable problems and service calls for the security system, we have discovered the problem (the internet supplier) and have worked out a credit from the service provider to offset the cost of the service calls from the IYRS required IT contractor.

Quartermaster seeks approval to add signage to the trophy case to separate it from a new exhibit IYRS has compiled on the walls and the exhibit cases located around the CCA trophy case. Estimate is \$600.00 from MAC Design of Newport.

Working on name plates for new items added to the trophy that are not part of the N2B awards.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Prime, Quartermaster

**s. Safety and Seamanship**

**Bill Strassberg**

Communications and Website: Michael Moradzadeh (SAF) continues to update and organize the CCA and Safety and Seamanship website. Our collection of Safety and Seamanship articles is being groomed by Chuck Hawley (SAF) for better presentability and relevance and these will be more effectively highlighted on the front page. Several hundred website visits a day occur when an article is posted to social media. Plan for articles to be better displayed on the front page.

Chuck Hawley is liaison between the Safety and Seamanship Committee (S&SC) 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. In the last 13 months, 33 articles, primarily in Safety Moments (20) and School of Hard Rocks (11) have been published on the website. There is also an effort to analyze the quality of the 173 articles that were on the website as of April 15 of this year. Using a team of 15 volunteers, as of 9/5/23, all articles had been read once. Plans for 2024 are to finish S&SC article analysis. Continue working with SAIL magazine and their publication of School of Hard Rocks stories. Use Social Media to publish short format articles to promote the information that the CCA provides to the public.

Safety for Cruising Couples: Under the guidance of Moe Roddy (SAF), the CCA's Safety for Cruising Couples (SfCC) course is up and running with a new look and improved content, assisted by Chuck Hawley who adeptly manages content and design. This past spring and summer has been busy with seminars presented by CCA members at multiple yacht clubs covering the East Coast, West Coast, and Great Lakes. Participant quotes: *Jim Lussier, Cruising Committee Chairman StFYC: "The class did a great job helping skippers understand how important it is to involve the first mate in operation of the boat" ...Participant from*



Honors). Only problem is that there is no such trophy, at least today. It disappeared sometime along the way when the collection was less managed. Among other things, trophies were allowed to go with the recipient for 18 months of the 24-month NBR cycle, presumably to then be returned. What could possibly go wrong?? Issues one can imagine forced the current policy of awarding in Bermuda but not taken home. Recipient instead takes home only a Keeper. Anyway, somehow along the way, the original trophy disappeared, no trace. We have been approached about a possible replacement in honor of an appropriate significant CCA NBR participant and are exploring the opportunity.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert S. Darbee, Trophies Chair

**v. Voyages** **Ami and Bob Green**

David Curtin, our Final Voyages editor, remains steadfast in tracking down the obituaries of our deceased members. His help is invaluable, and we are appreciative of his work.

October 16, 2023, is the deadline for submissions; our doors are open and ready to receive your stories. An online interview with Kirsten Neuschäfer, the recent winner of CCA's Rod Stephens Seamanship Trophy, was a unique experience. Currently, we have two excellent book reviews and several promised manuscripts.

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 port captains; 15 sent to Chris Otorowski; 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 will also receive a copy. All good press for CCA.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ami and Bob Green, Voyages co-editors

**w. 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 few months 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 opened the Waypoints email) for July was 63.9%, August was 73.1%, and September was 66.7%. This appears to continue the positive trendline relative to our monthly average open rate in 2021 of 54% and in 2022 of 69%. The Communications Committee is working to use this platform data to better understand member preferences and tailor content accordingly.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Julie Kallfelz, Editor

## x. Website

**Michael Moradzadeh**

Overview: The CCA “Website” is actually several sites. There is, of course, the main site at CruisingClub.org that handles all our membership and calendaring functions as well as housing our collection of Safety and Seamanship articles. In addition, we have SAS.cruisingclub.org for our SAS course registrations.

BonnellCove.org for, well, the Bonnell Cove Foundation. Separately, the membership committee has a site to handle membership proposals.

2023

Several hundred website visits a day occur, generally driven by members using the roster function or registering for events. When an article is posted to social media, we get a bump of interest there, which is positive.

New Features for 2023

- Instant Event Signup Creator – Signup forms are challenging using “Drupal Commerce” because of there being many settings. A customized form lets stations generate a signup form for collecting fees and participant names with just one or two clicks. Heavily used by BOS.
- Station/Post Newsletter – A modification to the Simplenews module extracts a mailing list for a given station or post and sends a given message to them. This makes use of the Mailchimp mailing engine that we also use for Waypoints, which allows us to check delivery problems.

In Process for 2023

- Forum. Several requests (member buy/sell, cruise destination advice, etc.) can be addressed by enabling the forum software that is embedded in the site’s content management system.
- Search Engine Optimization. This is a constantly moving target. What was good in 2020 does not measure up for 2024. Our web consultant is helping with that.
- Upgrade to Drupal 10. The site currently is running on version 9.5. This will become unsupported in a few months, so we need to upgrade. Of course, nothing is simple. Our site has about eight custom modules that I wrote, and these also need to be upgraded. Work is being done by our consultant’s engineer, Evgeny, in Ukraine.

Articles: Our collection of Safety and Seamanship articles is being groomed by Chuck Hawley for better presentability and relevance. I am working with our web designer to more effectively highlight this material on the front page. Separately, I’ve created a script that strips weird word processing artifacts out of the content, which will get applied to make these perfect.

Going Forward

- Complete the site upgrade.
- Move articles display to front page
- Re-enable Google Analytics (disabled due to Google change)
- Modify roster database to incorporate user accounts more directly
- Create Forum

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Moradzadeh, Webmaster

## y. Yearbook

**Barbara Watson**

From mid-January, members, RCs and all other contributors were encouraged to update content by the end of February. The member-driven material (Membership, Surviving Spouses, Fleet and Fleet pictorial) was

made available by the Webmaster shortly after the Annual Meeting. The Yearbook 2023 was signed off by the editor on March 28th and received by members from May 8th.

The 2023 Yearbook came within budget. This included shipment of remaining books to TeamOne, Newport. TeamOne set up a link for members, whose books had been returned, to reorder and pay for their copy, this worked well.

Grateful thanks to Webmaster Michael Moradzedah, Larry Somers, Historian Doug Adkins, Awards Steve James, Bob Darbee, Dallas Murphy and Proof Reader extraordinaire Trish Schibli.

By November 2023, the estimate will be received from the Printer and budget permitting, the Yearbook will continue as is for 2024.

The Webmaster has now made the 1928, 1929, 2022 and 2023 Yearbooks available, to logged in members, on the website under Publications. Commodore Chris Otorowski scanned them all, so more editions will be added.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Watson, Editor