



Reports in Advance of
The Cruising Club of America Fall Meeting of Members
Annapolis Yacht Club

1. Call to Order Jay Gowell
2. Quorum Pat Montgomery
3. Commodore's Welcome Jay Gowell
4. Approval of Minutes (Annual Meeting 3/01/2024) Jay Gowell
Link to Minutes:
[https://cruisingclub.org/sites/default/files/pages/Minutes Annual Meeting 3-1-2024 DRAFT 1 %282%29.pdf](https://cruisingclub.org/sites/default/files/pages/Minutes%20Annual%20Meeting%203-1-2024%20DRAFT%201.pdf)
5. Report of the Commodore (Oral Report) Jay Gowell
6. Report of the Vice Commodore Chace Anderson

According to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Cruising Club of America, the duties of the Vice Commodore are as follows:

“The Vice Commodore shall assist the Commodore in the discharge of his or her duties and in his or her absence, act in his or her stead.”

I have performed said duties to the best of my abilities.

Chace Anderson
Vice Commodore

7. Report of the Treasurer Kathleen O'Donnell

I. The Cruising Club of America has two accounts at Bank of America and an investment account at Fidelity. Our accounts at KeyBank have been closed. As of October 8, 2024, the balances were:

- a. \$ 145,0837.39 - Bank of America Checking
- b. \$ 50,347.82 - Bank of America Savings
- c. \$1,998,603.52 – Fidelity

II. The Club changed its fiscal year from November 1 to October 31 to a calendar year. We filed a return for the “stub” tax year from November 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 along with our return for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2023.

III. Highlighting the Club's performance under the approved 2024 budget, I would like to report that the dues collection effort resulted in an amount very close to the budgeted amount.

The three Club cruises – Antigua-Guadeloupe, Sea of Cortez and Downeast Maine were successful and, thanks to the hard efforts of the cruise chairs, produced a slight profit over expenses. The Cruising Guides and the Safety and Seamanship publications also generated income for the Club. Safety at Sea had a banner year, due to the Bermuda Race. On the expense side, the Treasurer’s expenses included tax preparation fees for two returns as well as the request to the IRS for the change in the fiscal year. Awards Committee expenses for maintenance and repair continue to increase with the number of trophies awarded. Publication costs for Voyages was \$15,000 over the budgeted amount. The second of three installments for the History of the CCA was paid for this year. Publication of the History is expected next year.

IV. The Financial Affairs Committee is working with me on the budget for 2025. The Committee intends to present the budget to the Board of Governors for a vote at its December 3, 2024 meeting.

V. As noted above, the Club’s accounts have been moved to Bank of America which has a better process for wire transfers and foreign transactions than KeyBank. After the first of the year, Bank of America expects to be able to set up a direct payment process that will reduce the fees the Club currently pays.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen M. O’Donnell

8. Report of the Secretary

Pat Montgomery

The Secretary’s position is largely an information collection and distribution role. To date: Eight members and two surviving spouses required assistance in updating their contact information. Five members were notified that their membership would be terminated, and three letters of introduction were written on behalf of members travelling abroad. Secretarial duties have been executed for two Governing Board Meetings and are in process for the Fall Meeting 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Montgomery

9. Report of the Historian

Douglas Adkins

The Historian of the Cruising Club of America is just trying to keep up! The prescribed duties of this Historian’s term are a monthly column in the Club’s online newsletter Waypoints dealing with a topic roughly associated with our history, the preparation of The Historian’s Log for the Yearbook, and a twice-yearly submission for The Gam which follows the path set by Jack Towle in his History of the CCA series. Recent topics for Waypoints recently have included an analysis of the total number of members elected to the CCA over its history, the ropes on a full-rigged ship featuring a poem by Past Commodore Thorvald Ross, Baruna and the Newport Bermuda Race, Powerboating in our Past and notable CCA yachts lost at sea. Suggestions for topics are gratefully received.

Occasionally the Historian is asked to check facts or respond to an inquiry regarding a past member. Sometimes a letter of thanks for a gift or a question about information to be archived is fielded. As a Flag Officer, the Historian is sometimes consulted regarding broader Club policy issues. These are pleasant duties with which to be involved.

What remains undone is the coordination of station historians and the systematic compilation of station histories. Some are actively kept while others are not yet started. If this Historian can keep up with other duties that is the next voyage to launch.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Adkins

Historian

10. Report of the Fleet Surgeon

Jeffrey Wisch

The Fleet Surgeon advised the Club leadership, Stations and SAS regarding medical issues as requested and needed. This past summer this included active participation on the Maine Cruise Committee to assist in identifying endemic medical risks which included tickborne disease and Covid 19. Medical emergency resources in the cruise areas were identified and included in the Cruise Guide. Assistance was provided regarding triaging medical emergencies on the cruise as I was in attendance.

The Fleet surgeon continued in his advisory role to the Bermuda Race Organizing Committee and was responsible for organizing medical coverage for the race. Reported medical incidents that occurred during the race were reviewed and reported to the BROCC with commentary and recommendations.

The Fleet Surgeon Medical Memo was reviewed and updated, and the Fleet Surgeon collaborated with the Chair of the Club Cruise Resource Committee to help define the role of the Medical Officer on Club Cruises as well as suggested information to be provided in Club Cruise Guides.

A report was prepared for the Safety and Seamanship Committee regarding medically related safety issues that impact the well-being of crew offshore. This was partially based upon incident reports during the 2024 NBR.

Unfortunately, Covid 19 was active in US and Canadian communities during the Club Maine Cruise this past summer. Separate memos regarding this activity and recommended precautions were provided in the Cruise Guide as well as in Cruise Communications. A Covid outbreak did occur on the cruise and medical issues regarding the safety of our members were discussed with the cruise leadership and cruise participants.

CCA Members should continue to exercise precautions when needed and event planners need to be aware of Covid activity and precautions when planning events as we will continue to see surges based on new variants. Also, a reminder that the new Covid 19 Vaccine is currently available and is recommended by the CDC especially if you are at high risk and/or are 65 and older.

Respectively submitted,

Jeffrey S. Wisch, M.D.

Fleet Surgeon Cruising Club of America

2024 Cruises

2024 was a particularly strong year for CCA cruises:

- Antigua – jointly with NYYC, 25 boats, 130 people from six CCA Stations circumnavigated the island in gorgeous weather.
- Guadeloupe – 12 boats, 58 people from six Stations enjoyed a delightful week in tropical “France.”
- Sea of Cortez – Twelve boats, 63 people from four Stations, had great weather and swimming, sightings of marine mammals and manta rays, and outstanding Mexican food and hospitality.
- Bermuda – Five boats, 20 people from three Stations enjoyed a very low-stress cruise – quite a contrast to the Newport Bermuda Race - in some of the most beautiful waters imaginable.
- Down East – 27 boats, 130 people from ten Stations/Posts and a large “mothership” cruised for 12 days from Camden, Maine to St. Andrews, New Brunswick. Neither a hurricane nor COVID was able to diminish the beauty and hospitality of the Maine and Canadian coasts and great cruise leadership.
- Chesapeake – Anticipate 33 boats, 97 people from 12 Stations and Posts for 5 days. October means warm water, migrating birds, and delicious crab dishes of fall types. A Chesapeake Station cruise following the Fall Meeting with all Stations invited.

Future cruises announced or planned

We plan to maintain the CCA tradition of exciting cruises in attractive locations around the world. Details may be found on the website as they are confirmed.

- Transatlantic Cruise in Company (2025) – Participants will depart on their own schedules from Newport and nearby ports, bound for Kinsale, Ireland, most via the northerly route, to arrive in advance of the Western Isles Cruise. Seventeen boats have expressed interest.
- Western Isles (2025) – Having sailed my boat in the 2010 version of this cruise, I can attest that the Western Isles of Scotland provide some of the best cruising (if not the best weather) anywhere in the world. This will be a large cruise with several of The CCA’s long-time partner clubs. Charter boats are available.

Registration is open and is showing strong interest.

- PNW (2025, just prior to the Fall Meeting in Bellingham, WA) – The San Juan Islands are fabulous cruising grounds as I can attest from personal experience cruising with PNW RC Doug Adkins aboard Coriolis.
- US or “Spanish” Virgin Islands (2026 or 2027) – Each one of the easiest and most reliable cruising areas, the USVIs or water around Puerto Rico will offer members and their families and guests a relaxed cruise not far from home.
- Grenadines (2026 or 2027) – A bit more adventurous than the Virgin Islands, the Windward Islands offer a bit more blue water sailing and exotic destinations.
- Bermuda (2026) – As demonstrated in 2024, Bermuda is a wonderful and largely undiscovered, perfect cruising area with outstanding local hospitality.
- New England (2026) – Much closer to home for New England members, but an outstanding cruising area including Newport, Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket.

- Bras D'Or (2027) – The place of The CCA's conception, the Bras D'Or Lakes offer extensive cruising in protected and almost-fresh water.

Other possible destinations – The World Is Our Oyster

S Pacific, Whitsunday Islands, Croatia, Ireland, Sardinia/Corsica, Exumas, Thousand Islands, Alaska, Georgian Bay (Lake Michigan), S coast of England, Brittany/Normandy, N coast of Spain, Canaries, Apostle Islands, canals of England or France, Brazil/Uruguay, Greece (Adriatic), Portugal, French Riviera.

Needed: cruise committee members

CCA cruises are one of the most important and valued benefits of CCA membership but they can exist only if members volunteer to help run them. As co-chair of the 2019 Stockholm Archipelago Cruise, I can tell you that it is a fun and rewarding role. Yes, it does require some knowledge of the cruise area, and devotion of considerable time. But it is also very satisfying to enable 100+ fellow members, spouses, and friends to enjoy an area that you know well.

If you are familiar with one or more of the areas we are considering, please let Jay, Chace, or me know. We have assembled a Cruise Resources Committee of past cruise chairs and an extensive Cruise Planning Guide to help you.

12. Report of the Rear Commodores

a. Bermuda

Somers Kempe

It has been a good summer for the Bermuda Station and its members. Apart from the brief visit by a hurricane in August, much of the summer has been perfect boating weather and allowed members to enjoy the crystal-clear waters surrounding the island.

Another successful Newport to Bermuda Race was held to start the season, and the local station assisted in welcoming the visiting yachts to the island which was topped off with another very successful CCA member cocktail party at Buddy & Jenny Rego's house along the shoreline in Warwick parish. Although it was a very dark and stormy evening, that didn't dampen anyone's spirits; it just ensured that no foul weather gear was left behind with the hosts.

Several Bermuda Station members will be attending this year's meeting in Annapolis, I encourage you to reach out to them and talk about "all things" boating.

b. Bras D'Or

William Greenwood III

The Bras d'Or Station members were together on the water on three occasions throughout the summer months including two raft-ups and one cruise. This is typically the venue for our station during the sailing season in Nova Scotia. Our first raft-up of the season with twelve boats, organized by our raft-up chairman Phil Wash, was held in June in Scott Cove, one of the Station's favorite anchorages in the Dovers. The anchorage affords a unique setting with good protection from most quadrants and surrounded by unpopulated crown lands. The mandatory Rum Barrel was of course on standby at 1300 hours for all of our raft-ups.

Our annual summer cruise, chaired by Grant Gordan, commenced in Cub Basin - a close cousin to Rogues Roost. The cruise included anchorages in Princess Inlet in Mahone Bay with a dinner hosted and organized by Gretchen and Kit McCurdy at the Lunenburg Yacht Club. A number of our senior members were able to attend. The next anchorage was in the beautiful LaHave River at Tiny Island followed by a station dinner at the LaHave River Yacht Club in West LaHave. Rear Commodore Greenwood met their Commodore, Tanya Siepiela and presented her with a CCA burgee as an appreciation for their hospitality. Several of our members went on to explore the False LaHave Islands at the mouth of the LaHave River which concluded the summer cruise. Our fall raft up of the season was held Gifford/Rous Island in Mahone Bay with seven boats and beautiful early fall weather.

A special mention and congratulations go to our member and skipper Will Apold, who aboard his yacht "Dragan Fire" won the trophy for the best corrected time of a CCA Station in this year's Newport to Bermuda Race. Will also placed second in class. Nicely done Will and crew. Our station looks forward to our annual meeting later in the fall.

Respectfully submitted
William Greenwood III, RC, Bras d'Or Station

c. Boston

Nick Orem

The Boston Station concluded the winter 2023-24 Rats Lunch series with lunch on April 17, 2024 at the India Wharf Rats Club. Thank you to Bink Bacon for making the arrangements. We had a good turnout of about 25 members and guests.

Next up was the Newport Bermuda Race at which the Boston Station was well represented. Of 162 entries, nearly 10% (15 boats) were skippered by Boston Station members and about 50 Boston Station members participated as either skipper or crew.

The Down East Cruise took place on Boston Station turf in August. Station members Roger Block and Amy Jordon did a remarkable job of organizing the cruise, which began in Camden, ME on August 3rd and concluded in St Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada on August 14th. Again the Boston Station was well represented with 21 of the 36 boats signed up for the cruise.

Upcoming events:

10/23/24 Lunch at the India Wharf Rats Club

11/13/24 Annual Meeting and New Member Dinner at the Union Club, Boston

12/18/24 Christmas lunch at the India Wharf Rats Club

2/19/25 Lunch at the India Wharf Rats Club

4/16/25 Lunch at the India Wharf Rats Club

6/21/25 Massachusetts Bay Cruise begins in Provincetown

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Orem, Rear Commodore

d. Buzzards Bay

Raymond J. Cullum

The Buzzards Bay Post continued throughout the offseason with monthly luncheons including a variety of interesting and educational speakers.

We had our final winter luncheon on April 19, 2024, with a presentation by CCA member Finn Perry who gave an enthralling accounting of his years of high latitude sailing. His adventures throughout the North Atlantic either stimulated enthusiasm to follow in his footsteps or convinced you to stay in more southern latitudes. It was a fantastic presentation by Finn. The meeting was attended by forty-two Buzzards Bay Post/Boston Station members including seven past Rear Commodores.

Our summer cruising began with our annual combined GAM with the Narragansett Bay Post at 3rd Beach on the Sakonnet River in Middletown, Rhode Island. The beginning of June always seems to be a challenging time from a weather perspective, and this year's GAM on June 8th was no exception. Skippers and crews saw 20 kts breezes and brisk temperatures. Ed and Marty Kane as in years past hosted all on Bolero with a full rum keg. I can't think of a better boat to host this group than Bolero. Ed and Marty were outstanding hosts. Unfortunately, Sunday found the weather unchanged with both wind and rain given all an early season shakedown test sail home.

The summer saw many Post members taking advantage of this year's Newport Bermuda Race and the Down East Cruise to Maine. These two events filled much of the summer cruising for Post members. The next and final GAM will be on October 12th at Bassetts Island, in Pocasset, MA. Bob and Joyce Wallace will again host at their home on Bassetts. As in the past we expect a good end of season turnout as all look forward to Bob's oysters, a pot of chowder and of course a full rum keg.

The Buzzards Bay Posts offseason program will begin in November with a luncheon at the Beverly Yacht Club in Marion, MA.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Cullum, Post Captain

e. Gulf of Maine

Peter Driscoll

The Gulf of Maine Post has 143 members who receive email announcements regarding events and another unknown number of "Friends of GMP" who keep their yachts in Maine seasonally or have other reasons to be involved in GMP events.

The GMP began the year with a potluck dinner at the home of former Post captain Maggie Salter and Al Hickey at their island home in Caso Bay. Thirty-four members and guests enjoyed each other's plentiful offerings and company. Both the large CCA burgee and the Rum keg were present!

On April 6, 2024 Maggie Salter and Dale Bruce organized a presentation by Sean Kelly of Prock Marine on the rebuilding of the shoreline infrastructure after the winter storms, which was held at the Farmstead Event Center in Rockport, Maine, attended by 50 plus members and guests (the GMP opened it up to the public) and was followed by lunch at the Flatbread pizza next door.

On May 11, 2024 the GMP held an event at members Phin and Joanna Sprague's Portland Yacht services beginning at 11 am, followed by a bring or buy your lunch at picnic tables by the harbor. We were treated to small model boat sailing during lunch. We had about 20 people attending.

The BIG EVENT of the season was the Boston station cruise from Camden to Campobello and St. Andrews, Canada. The cruise was expertly organized by Roger Block and Amy Jordan with assistance from the GMP officers. This cruise included up to 32 yachts and close to 100 members and guests at its high point, including the “mother ship” ARABELLA with 9 or more cabins filled.

The GMP attempted 3 Fenders over the side GAMS, but with almost no success. There was no attendance at the first GAM at Great Island Boatyard in Harpswell. The second GAM, at Pulpit Harbor was attended ONLY by the CCA Commodore, Jay Gowell and his wife Elizabeth on MOONSTONE. The third GAM, moved from Swans Island Yacht Club back to Great Island Boatyard had no attendance. The incoming GMP officers are going to have to survey the membership about the viability of Fenders over the side GAMS.

Upcoming events: On Friday, October 25th the GMP is organizing a visit to the Bigelow Labs in East Boothbay, beginning at 11 am and followed by a catered lunch. Anyone interested can visit Coastal Gardens (also in Boothbay) after lunch.

The GMP will conclude the calendar year with lunch and presentation at the Damariscotta River Grill on December 7th (Pearl Harbor Day). The presenter will be Peter S. Plumb on a sailing trip in Disko Bay, Greenland in 2022. Last year we had 62 people in attendance. Respectfully submitted, Peter E. Driscoll, GMP Post captain

f. Narraganset Bay

Ned Jones

The Narraganset Bay Post membership enjoyed several interesting and fun events this spring starting off with a dinner and an evening with CCA member and author Tim Murphy presenting “Sailing into the Great American Songbook: How Boats Shaped the Popular Music of David Crosby and Jimmy Buffett.” The May 18 event held at Conanicut Yacht Club in Jamestown RI had a great turnout for the lively and entertaining presentation of both a delicious dinner and Tim Murphy’s fantastic storytelling style. The engaged crowd even broke out into song while accompanying the forever famous music that we all know and love.

Together with the Buzzards Bay Post on June 8, many hearty souls gathered at Third Beach anchorage in Middletown RI for an early season Gam. We were reminded of the time of year while sailing on Saturday in brisk 20 kt breeze and chilly temps. The trip was well worth it as several boats from both stations either anchored or used the just-commissioned moorings. Ed and Marty Kane hosted all the merrymakers aboard Bolero for an informal Rum Keg and Scuttlebutt exchange. We are so fortunate to have Bolero in our Post as She is such a fantastic platform for gathering. Departures on Sunday were back into the breeze and rain, a proper shakedown for the upcoming season.

We are fortunate in our Post to have a deep and varied membership that finds our sailors and mariners undertaking many different types of cruises and races throughout the heart of season. Lots of NBP post sailors raced to Bermuda. Many Post members were reported participating in the Down East Maine Cruise in August. Countless informal get togethers from Dutch Harbor, to Edgartown, to Block Island. Our burgee is widely seen throughout the region. I have particularly enjoyed the tradition of meeting new CCA folks when spotting the burgee and introducing myself.

Looking ahead to the fall, we hope to organize another speaker event, and perhaps a cocktail party and an interesting lunch with tour. Stand by for more details.

Ned Jones –
Post Captain

g. Chesapeake

Bev Crump

The Chesapeake Station experienced a successful Spring and Summer 2024. 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 a June preview by Gary Jebson on the 2024 Olympics and the 2024 America's Cup trials and a September update on both topics.
- Our Spring Cruise was well attended by 13 boats and started with a raft up in Harness Creek in Annapolis followed by a Rum Keg Party at the Gibson Island Club on May 24. The fleet then proceeded to an anchorage at Langford Creek off the Choptank and concluded with a very delightful dinner at the Chester Yacht and Country Club in Chestertown.
- Seven of our members participated in the 2024 Newport Bermuda Race in June: Richard Born, Windborn, J120, Michael Cone, Actea, Bermuda 40, Glenn Doncaster, Nanuq, Arcona 465, Roel Hoekstra/Jeff McCarron, Sonrisa, Xp 44, Tony Parker, Reindeer, Morris 47, Will Passano, Polaris, Sydney 47 and James Praley, Shinnecock, J 120, and Jahn Tihansky, Kodiak, Navy Sailing. Congratulations all and especially to Will Passano for his 1st place finish in Class 6 in Polaris.
- Many CHE members took the opportunity to take summer cruises north from the Chesapeake including, Chace Anderson, Bonnie Rye, and John Devlin, Gratitude and Tony Parker, Reindeer, who participated in the Maine Down East Cruise, .
- A busy Fall is planned with monthly luncheons at AYC, hosting the National Fall Meeting, a Fall Cruise with record attendance expected starting on October 18, and our Annual Meeting at Annapolis Yacht Club on December 10th.

Bev Crump

Rear Commodore, Chesapeake Station

h. Essex

Tom Wadlow

Since the Annual Meeting in March the Essex Station has had 5 of our well attended lunches at Pilots Point Marina, a potluck dinner with a presentation and lively discussion on sleep deprivation and shorthanded ocean racing led by Clay Burkhalter and our Spring dinner with a fascinating presentation:

History of Trade with Bermuda and the South during the Civil War by Catherine Deichmann. We had no meetings in July and August.

We have also had both our spring and fall cruises which had 6 and 5 boats respectively. The spring cruise was to Shelter Island and the fall cruise was to Narragansett Bay. The fall cruise included a guided tour of the Herreshoff Museum in Bristol.

The station had 6 boats in the Bermuda Race and one of them, Rives Potts' Carina won overall. Another, Dan Biemesderfer's Shearwater suffered the loss of the 4 lower shrouds but was able avoid losing the mast and motor sailed to Bermuda. Keeping the mast up was quite the feat of seamanship and has been the subject of much discussion since.

The station has grown in membership in the last 2 years, from 83 to 87, including our 7 candidates that are up for approval at the governors meeting. Perhaps more importantly we have set attendance records at several of our events in the last year. As always, we encourage members from other stations to attend our events.

i. Florida

Atle Moe

The CCA Florida station does not have many activities during the summer months. However, Fall is here and lunch gatherings are taking place in Miami, St. Petersburg, & Vero Beach all winter.

The annual CCA Florida Station meeting will take place in St. Petersburg Friday January 17 (cocktail party) & Saturday January 18 (dinner and change of guard). Our incoming slate of Rear Commodore, Secretary, Treasurer and Historian will be elected at the annual meeting in January.

Regards,
Atle Moe

j. Great Lakes

Peter Balasubramanian

k. New York

Peter Becker

As of October 2024, the New York Station of the CCA is in good health and spirit. On March 23 we gathered at Stamford Yacht Club to be amazed and completely captivated by the reveal of the "lost secrets of the Kuhner family". Tim Murphy, the author of Adventurous Use of the Sea, skillfully explored some of the yet-to-be-revealed stories from both Kuhner generations, Scott, Kitty, Alex, and Spencer. The Kuhner family is no stranger to presenting their round-the-world endeavors, but this was a first. Spencer commented that this was the first time the two generations had sat down and discussed their experiences with each other. Co-author, Sheila McCurdy along with 31 CCA members were in attendance. The event format was a Saturday luncheon which was widely supported as opposed to an evening dinner.

On Saturday, October 21st Station Cruise Chair, Scott Kraft brought together the first GAM (raft up) since 2016 with 14 boats and 36 members and guests of the NYS gathered in Oyster Bay. The GAM was attended by a diverse group of CCA members and boats ranging from skiffs to Lars Forsberg's classic yacht Spirit and David Tunick's Night Watch. NYS legend circumnavigator Scott Kuhner and his sons Spencer and Alex held court aboard their Valiant 40 Tamure.

The GAM was the first introduction of a new twist on the traditional CCA run barrel. The station will take on the challenge of aging our own rum in 5L oak casts. A prototype barrel with aged rum was freely sampled. The station is currently working on a cruise of the Caribbean Islands via a rum-tasting event.

Respectfully submitted
Peter Becker, RC

The Pacific Northwest Station remains active and strong. Members number 126 and surviving spouses total 17. The Station Flags through 2025 are:

Rear Commodore- Douglas Adkins
Membership Chair- Susan Stillman
Secretary/Treasurer- Roddy Hearne
Quartermaster- Douglas Cole

Succession through the chairs normally follows every two years in our station.

We have traditionally met every month for lunch during the non-sailing season of October through June but have decided to meet less frequently for several reasons. Because of the ability for members to attend remotely and because our presentations are recorded, the number of attendees in the room has declined. That combined with a significant increase in the room charge at the Seattle Yacht Club has prompted us to meet less frequently. We will try the new schedule for a year or so and then re-evaluate the frequency.

The Station remains active in Safety for Cruising Couples Seminars and three have been successfully held this year in Bellingham, Seattle and Tacoma. It is an important way to assist the broader yachting community and heighten the awareness of the Cruising Club and we plan to continue to work with local yacht clubs to sponsor them.

Under the guidance of Cruise Chairman Roger Werner, two interesting and enjoyable cruises have been completed. The Spring Cruise took the Station first to the Port of Everett for several days, many then stopped in Coupeville on Whidbey Island overnight and the cruise concluded in LaConner with a Rum Barrel the first night and a lovely fleet dinner the next. The Fall Cruise took the Station to Canada with two nights on Daphne Isle as guests of Kaspar and Trisha Schibli. It is our fifth visit to this magical one-acre island in Brentwood Bay and we are very lucky for the hospitality. A salmon barbeque and the rum barrel filled our two nights together. The cruise then followed to Sidney Spit for a host-boat floating cocktail party and the next morning Cruise Chairman Werner inaugurated "Pancakes and Bloody Marys" on the beach. It was a big hit. We continued the cruise at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club in Cadboro Bay with a very pleasant tent dinner with the Club's Racing Fleet. Finally, a stop for many yachts at the Center for Wooden Boatbuilding in Port Townsend completed this very successful cruise.

Major planning is underway for the 2025 Fall Meeting to be held September 18-20 at Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine near the Canada Border north of Bellingham. Planning is being chaired by Bruce Johnston. The meeting will be preceded by the PNW Station Cruise which will begin in Bellingham on September 10th and conclude on the 17th. Stops are planned at Sucia Island, Garrison Bay on San Juan Island and West Sound on Orcas. We are hopeful that members coming for the Fall Meeting will join in the Station's Cruise and charter boat information is being assembled to assist those looking to enjoy early fall in the San Juans with us. Event details are posted on the CCA Website and will be shared at the Fall Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Adkins
PNW Rear Commodore

SAF OFFICERS:

Rear Commodore – Chuck Hawley
 Secretary – Richard Schaper
 Treasure – Synthia Petroka

THE STATION:

The San Francisco Station has 98 active members around the globe from Germany to Australia. The SAF station meets monthly, except for July and August when members are away cruising. The meetings are held at various yacht clubs around Northern California to support these yacht clubs and to reach out to cruisers who could be potential members. The December meeting is a holiday and awards dinner that is annually rotated between the two premier yacht clubs on San Francisco Bay, the San Francisco Yacht Club and the St. Francis Yacht Club.

CRUISING:

SAF members cruised on the East, West and North Coasts of North America this year as well as in Europe and the South Pacific. Our Blue-water Medalist for his “Figure-8” voyage around the Americas and Antarctica, Randall Reeves, is on a voyage to “Leave the Americas to Starboard” in his yacht Moli. This voyage has three segments: San Francisco Bay to Homer, Alaska, which he completed in 2023; Homer, Alaska to the Canadian Maritimes via the Northwest Passage, which he has transited in August/September of this year; and, in 2025, Randall plans to sail from the east coast of Canada to and around Cape Horn and then up the West Coasts of South and North America back to San Francisco Bay. Another of our Blue-water Medalists, Jeanne Socrates, is currently in Fiji, on her way to Australia, after calling into New Zealand and Tonga in her yacht Nereida.

Ashley Perrin and her husband Merfyn Owen returned to their yacht, Santana, which wintered in St. Peter’s Marina in Cape Breton, and completed their six-year cruise where they circumnavigated Newfoundland by way of Greenland and the Canadian Maritimes and, for which, Ashley and Merf were awarded the Cruising Club of America’s Royal Cruising Club Trophy for 2023, and the SAF Station Cruisers of the Year for 2023

RACING:

On the 2,100 nautical mile Pacific Cup Yacht Race from San Francisco Bay to Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii. SAF members were well represented:

1. Michael Moradzadeh was the Principal Race Officer.
2. Dave MacEwen’s Lucky Duck was 2nd (of 62 yachts) and 1st in Class.
3. Glass Slipper, an Antrim 40, skippered by her owner/builder, Cree Partridge, and crewed by her designer, Jim Antrim, came in 4th in Class and 8th overall.
4. Aaron Wangenheim skippered his Santa Cruz 52, City Lights, to 4th in Class and 13th overall.
5. In the highly competitive Weems & Plath PHRF 1 Class:
 - a. Rodney Pimentel was 1st in Class and 15th overall, in his Cal 40 Azure.
 - b. Michael Johnson was 3rd in Class and 20th overall in his Jeanneau 349 Vera Cruz.
 - c. Jim Quanci was 4th in Class and 26th overall in his Cal 40 Green Buffalo; and
 - d. Bob Horton was 6th in Class and 39th overall in his Cal 40 Highlander.

We met for lunch at Long Beach Yacht Club in March with Brendan Huffman sharing his adventures of preparing and racing in the Singlehanded Transpac last summer. Our station hosted the 2024 CCA International Cruise in the Sea of Cortez, Mexico in early May. A wonderful time was had by all with both the current Commodore Gowell and past Commodore Otorowski in attendance. We had to improvise the CCA Rum Punch in a bucket at the mid-cruise party as the Rum Keg dried out on the trip south and would not hold any liquid. In May, our lunch at the Orange Coast College School of Sailing & Seamanship.

Seamanship featured a tour of a gorgeous Little Harbor 62 with many miles under her keel. To end the summer season, we had a BBQ at the Newport Harbor Yacht Club and heard recaps of the Bermuda Race and Pacific Cup. We will have a lunch at San Diego Yacht Club in October the week after the Fall meeting in Annapolis.

Jim Eddy III
SOC RC

13. Committee Reports

a. Archives

Mark Grosby

The Archives Committee has no Report for Fall Meeting.

b. Awards

Steve James

This Committee continues to have remote, irregular meetings as needed and arranged by the Chair. Our primary discussions center around nominating and selecting awardees for 2024 to be presented in New York at the March 2025 meeting. These discussions have yielded another group of world class sailors whose names will be announced in the board meeting at the Annapolis Fall Meeting 2024 by verbal addendum to this report.

The budget has been discussed with the Treasurer and adjusted for the anticipated many Parkinson and Transoceanic awards that will be earned by members crossing to Scotland next year. Additionally, the treasury is aware there will be a one-time cost added by the Blue Water Medal Honorary Members in 2025. Smaller annual costs will be added in future years.

At the closing dinner tonight, we will recognize the new inductees for the Newport Bermuda Race Roll of Honor and present the CCA Commodore's Trophy for this year's NBR.

Respectfully Submitted

Stephen W. James

Awards Committee Chair

c. Bermuda Race Foundation

Brad Willauer

Report to the Fall Meeting of the CCA, October 2024

The Foundation has received several gifts to enlarge its's 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 March.

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 for 2024 Newport Bermuda Race were about 165 which started in the harbor at Newport seen by about 5000 spectators. We extend our sincere thanks to the Bermuda Race Organizing Committee (BROC), which was ably chaired by Andrew Kallfelz, - with more than 40 volunteers in Newport and Bermuda.

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

Respectfully,

W. Bradford Willauer, President

d. BROC

Andrew Kallfelz

The BROC is pleased to report that the 53rd edition of the Newport Bermuda Race was a notable success, and that the Committee is organized, and preparation has begun for the 54th race to start on June 19, 2026.

Highlights of 2024 race:

- 186 boats entered the race. 26 boats withdrew before the start. 160 started. 15 retired (2 abandoned ship, 1 DNF). 145 boats finished.
- Fleet size was below expectation by approx. 25 boats. Insurance access is a major concern generally, and particularly for CAN and DH vessels.
- Race conditions were not extreme but consistently rough and the number of lost vessels, retirements, and significant incidents are concerning.
- In cooperation with CCA and US Sailing, BROC is conducting three post-race inquiries. Reports / recommendations are expected late Q4 or early Q1.
 - Abandonment and Rescue at Sea, lessons learned
 - Steering and Structural Failures
 - Satellite Communication Failures
- Small net profit on P/L basis.

Significant initiatives for the 2024 race:

1. A new starting area off Fort Adams (“Proof of concept”)
 - Starting Line set in narrowest passage in NB with compressed starting sequence.
 - Starting Line Party for in person spectators on Ft. Adams north lawn.
 - Starting Line Live Show professionally produced and streamed to viewers around the world.

Risk factors: Competitor blow-back due to change and more compressed starting conditions, increased potential for fouls or collisions. The cost to produce the Starting Line Party and Live Show event at Fort Adams is significant and may not be 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. All risks will be heavily impacted by the weather.

Outcome: Concept proven!

- The new starting area in front of the crowd was well received by competitors. Despite lighter than ideal breeze, the starting sequence worked safely and effectively.
- Crowd size at Ft. Adams party estimated between 4,000 and 5,000 exceeded plans.
- Online viewership of the Live Show: 10,000, (28,000 total, and >100K including the recap video)
- We planned to ‘invest’ to deliver this first ever POC event. Breaking even was a major success!

2. A new cloud-based race management software platform integrating entry, race operations, fleet communications, tracking, leaderboards, scoring, protests/hearings, and results. Outcome: Substantially streamlined pre-race administration, race execution, and post-race activities and delivery of results. Well received by competitors and BROC volunteers. Expect to continue with ‘Nautical Cloud’ for the 2026 cycle.

3. New scoring model. First race to use Forecast Time Correction Factor (F-TCF / weather forecast) scoring.

Outcome: Successful administration of this new system (thanks to Jim Teeters and US Sailing) was well received by competitors. Appears to have a positive impact on the perception of race fairness. This scoring model is now being adopted by other offshore races. It is expected that BROC will continue with F-TCF for the 2026 race.

4. BRF contracted with 636 productions to document the race this year (covering ~10 teams) to produce a multi-episode series for global cable network distribution.

Outcome: 636 is on track to begin marketing their production to potential media partners starting Q4/Q1 and hopes the series will be aired in late 2025. (No cost to BROC/BRF) We hope that awareness resulting from the documentary will increase NBR participation over the next few race cycles.

Race planning for the 2026 Race:

Early Strategic Focus

- BROC roster for 2026 is largely confirmed with a focus on succession planning.
- Messaging / marketing theme: “Celebrating 100 years of CCA/ RBYC Race Partnership”
- Start at Fort Adams was a major success for the race. Continue and refine both shore party and Streaming event.
- Engage BTA in Newport / Starting Event opportunities
- Upshift the Bermuda experience for competitors (docking/welcome, celebratory spirit, events)
- Engage early with NC to further streamline entry, registration / online administration.
- Continue leadership in Rating / Scoring innovation for offshore events
- Prioritize and action top suggestions / dissatisfiers from 2024 competitor surveys

The BROC is composed of nearly 60 dedicated, talented, and generous volunteers from the CCA and the RBYC. BROC roster can be found here:

<https://bermudarace.com/race/organizing-committee/>

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the BROC.

Andrew Kallfelz, Chair

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.

At the Board Meeting on February 29, 2024, in New York, the Board considered nineteen grant applications totaling approximately \$139,000. Ten of these applications totaling about \$51,000 were approved. In preparation for our meeting on October 16 in Annapolis, the Board has received eighteen grant applications totaling roughly \$161,000.

Each month Bonnell Cove Foundation has had an article in the WAYPOINTS highlighting the activities of one or more of recent grant recipient organizations. These organizations can be found on the Bonnell Cove Foundation website: www.bonnellcove.org .

CCA Members are requested to keep an eye out for qualifying not-for-profit organizations in their region and suggest these organizations submit a grant application to the Secretary, Bonnell Cove Foundation, 1 Scott Lane, Mystic, CT 06355. The Grant Application process and the Proposal Deadlines can be found on the Bonnell Cove Foundation website: www.bonnellcove.org or <https://cruisingclub.org> under the “About US’ tab.

The Officers, Board, and recipients are most grateful to donors who generously support the Bonnell Cove Foundation. Your continued contributions will enable the Foundation to pursue its goal of supporting charitable organizations working to keep our pastime safer and protect the health of waters we enjoy so much, www.bonnellcove.org/donate .

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Medland, President
Bonnell Cove Foundation

f. Charts and Guides

Wilson Fitt

Since the 2024 Annual meeting, the Charts and Guides Committee has met twice with lively and far-ranging discussions about the status and future of the guides.

The CCA publishes four printed cruising guides that cover the east coast of Canada including Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, the Gulf of St Lawrence, and Labrador. A fifth volume, the newest, covers the “Viking Route” between Europe, Iceland, Greenland and Canada. The print volumes are revised and updated every four or five years with new editions of the guides to Labrador and Gulf of St. Lawrence planned for 2025. Annual updates are posted to

the CCA website. These guides are printed on demand and distributed by Paradise Cay Publishing, so the CCA does not hold any stock or carry the burden of commercial transactions. Sales have been steady at around 700 volumes per year, the net proceeds of which cover all guide expenses with a modest surplus. The Committee is actively exploring the options for creating e-book editions of the printed guides.

The highly successful online CCA Cruising Guide to Maine is continually updating and expanding its scope with new harbors and excellent articles about cruise planning, seamanship, wildlife and other topics of interest to sailors. The website had over 20,000 users in 2023, and indications are that 2024 will be meaningfully higher. The on-line guide provides very broad and positive exposure to the CCA across a broad swath of the yachting community.

Respectfully submitted,
Wilson Fitt

g. Communications

Julie Kallfelz

The Communications Committee continues to support the great work of all of our volunteer editors and creators. We have focused on maintaining the quality of our internal and external-facing communications, promoting consistent branding and messaging, meeting members' needs and preferences around how they consume information, managing cost, and building sustainable processes that member-volunteers can continue to lead. The committee is doing a lot of good work, as individual reports attest.

One topic that has been the focal point for much member feedback is the need for a "CCA tool kit" of graphics, logos, fonts, colors, templates, etc. In response, we have developed a draft CCA Brand Kit that contains all of these files and guidelines for using them. The committee will continue to gather feedback on the draft kit and will publish the final version in an easy-to-access location by the 1 January 2025.

h. Environment of the Sea

Rowena Carlson

We continue to submit "Environmental Moments" to Waypoints, produce articles for the GAM and enlist speakers on ocean environmental topics. Dr. David L. Porter of JHU Applied Physics Laboratory will speak at our Fall meeting on the latest in oceanographic data collection for a range of environmental projects.

Rowena Carlson
Chair Environment of the Sea Committee

i. Events

Deanna Polizzo

It has been a busy year for Events thus far with the Bermuda Race, Short-handed Return Race, 4 club cruises, station cruises, raft-ups, and other station events. Two new, events intended to raise awareness and drive membership were added this summer bookending the Bermuda Race, both were successful. Events is working with the Cruising Committee on several cruises for 2025 and 2026 including the Transatlantic Cruise in Company coming up in June before the Western Isles Cruise, as well as cruises surrounding the Fall Meetings. Fall

meetings are assigned through 2027 with the following stations: PNW, SOC and GLS, respectively.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Annual Meeting held March 6-8, 2025, at New York Yacht Club in New York City.

Respectfully submitted,
Deanna Polizzo

j. Financial Affairs

Peter Griffin

The Financial Affairs Committee (FAC) has held two meetings, via Zoom, since the CCA Annual Meeting. The FAC has been working in coordination with the Treasurer, K. O'Donnell to continue to improve the budget process and monitoring the 2024 financial results. The FAC has been focusing on revenue enhancements and costs as prices for most everything has risen substantially in the past couple of years. Potential advertising/sponsorship opportunities, possible ACH payments for dues to save on credit card fees, publication savings, membership dues and other items are being reviewed.

Currently reviewing the 2025 budget submissions from the various committee chairs and to have a first pass of the budget to present to the BoG at the Fall Meeting. We will continue to fine tune the budget and to present a final budget for approval at the December BoG meeting.
Peter Griffin
Chair FAC

k. Gam

Phil Dickey

The GAM is in its 21st year, and we continue to accomplish our two most important missions: to report and archive in detail the activities of the Stations, Posts, and their members, and to create and archive biographies of new members. We reach out biannually to 14 historians and others who produce the Station and Post reports, and they in turn reach out to their members to identify those who have made significant cruises or have done something otherwise noteworthy. This outreach creates relationships between the GAM staff and the historians, and, in turn, between the historians and their members. Within a few weeks, every member who has done something interesting can read about him- or herself in the GAM! The result is not only to create detailed annals for future historians, but also to create much of the glue which holds our CCA together. Publication in the GAM generates positive reinforcement for the members for contributing to the sport, and it inspires them to push boundaries and take on more adventures. New member biographies generate additional cohesion, familiarizing us with the accomplishments of our new colleagues and showing them that the CCA values sailing excellence.

We accomplish our missions at a cost of only \$10 an issue (plus postage). We can do it cheaply because our contributors and editors donate our time—many give a lot of it. So far, we have done it without selling advertisements and without making long-term commitments to publishers. As a result, the GAM is purely ours, and we can develop her in any way that benefits the CCA.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Dickey

l. Guest Moorings

Liz Baylis

Updates are being made to the information for the current guest mooring listings as new information is received, working with the webmaster and yearbook editor, on the web page and in the yearbook. The bulk of this work is done prior to the annual publishing of 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. Discussions are underway with leadership to determine if there are better ways to increase the number of guest moorings and perhaps the information available in the guest moorings listings. There are also some discussions regarding the liability of the club with regards to the guest mooring listings. The Committee membership remains the same with Liz Baylis as Chair and Tom Babbitt and Ted Clucas as members.

m. Investment

Tom Post

Report from the CCA Investment Committee to the 2024 Fall Meeting

2024 has been a good year for both the stock and bond markets. Our long-term returns remain very good.

Here is a synopsis of results through 8/31/24:

Fund	YTD	1 Year	3 years	5 years	10 years
CCA Account	15.53%	22.19%	7.34%	11.73%	9.01%
Bonnell Cove Endowment	12.39%	18.60%	5.34%	9.78%	7.80%
Bermuda Race Foundation Endowment	12.9%	19.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A
65/35 Benchmark *	13.66%	20.01%	5.43%	10.52%	9.18%
S&P 500	19.53%	27.14%	9.38%	15.92%	12.98%
Dow Jones US Total Stock Market	18.18%	26.17%	7.69%	15.08%	12.28%
MSCI ACWI ex USA (International Stocks)	11.37%	18.41%	2.28%	7.74%	4.59%
Bloomberg Agg Bond Index	3.07%	7.30%	-2.11%	-0.04%	1.64%
* 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
CCA Investment Committee Chairman

n. InterClub Relations

Chris Otorowski

o. Long Range Planning

Tim Surgenor

The Long-Range Planning Committee presented its final report at the Annual Meeting at the New York Yacht Club in March 2024. A final report was posted on the CCA website in June of 2024 and includes data through the 2024 Blue Book. Of the topics covered in the report, the most significant is the recent decline in CCA membership that started in 2019/2020 and has continued through 2024. We are working with the membership committee and CCA leadership to provide background data and ideas for increasing new member activity while maintaining the Club's high standard for membership qualifications. As a follow up to the Long-Range Planning Committee's member survey, which was conducted in August of 2023,

the Club has initiated a “Interests Survey” to help collect information on how members may want to help to Club.

p. Membership

James Phyfe III

The Membership Committee recently elected 31 candidates to membership ranging in age from 37 to 75, with eight being eligible for Next Watch (under < 55 yr. old) and an average age of 59. Three are women.

The Committee continues to discuss a wide variety of subjects from consistently applying the membership standards to changes in process and procedures. Effective next year, we will begin accepting new member proposals three times a year, those dates being January 2nd, April 21st and October 6th, 2025.

Finally, the CCA Webmaster, with encouragement from the Commodore and myself, has launched a new mechanism to track members’ volunteering interests via the website. This was distributed in the form of a survey that can be updated as desired on members’ profile pages. The results are searchable by station and interest topic. This should be a great benefit to future Club leaders with volunteer positions to fill.

q. Next Watch

Jesse Terry

Since Spring, Next Watch has mainly been focused on staying connected during different parts of the season. We had video calls going into the season highlighting the Bermuda race and PacCup activity. Our next call is Oct 29th to catch up on the season. Unfortunately, not much to report otherwise.

Jesse Terry
Next Watch Chair

r. Nominating
Oral Report

Bob Medland

s. Quartermaster

Steve Prime

t. Safety and Seamanship

William Strassberg

The Life Jacket and Tether group has disseminated the CCA statement within the CCA via internal CCA Communication Channels. The statement has been discussed at regional station and post meetings, at club events and cruises by incorporating the recommendation into CCA Cruise Books, and in CCA publications such as Waypoints the Gam. There is ongoing discussion about outreach to the general public. The recommendation reflects hard work by (our) 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.”* Bruan Guck and Nancy Cook continue as group leaders.

The Education and Safety Skills subcommittee, chaired by Steve Berlack, was formed to coordinate outreach of our educational programs. The subcommittee continues the thought processes of how to best plan and implement an expanding outreach program. Committee

members include Chuck Hawley, Anne Kolker, Jim Woodward, Galen Todd, Moe Roddy, Brian Guck, Doug Bruce, Ann Noble-Kiley, and William Strassberg.

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 have been held and more are scheduled. “Dummy radios” have been purchased to facilitate the learning process. Course feedback is uniformly positive, and the course book is popular. Safety officers (SOs) have been active in their regions with a unique blend of written and spoken Safety Moments, MOB drills, technical talks/insights, safety at sea training programs and other related activities. Safety officer director Brian Guck notes that SOs live in very different geographies; hence their programs are tailored to their specific areas.

Chuck Hawley is the liaison between the Safety and Seamanship Committee and the Communications Committee. Chuck continues to improve and organize Safety and Seamanship website content.

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 available.

The Practice on Your Own Boat program, under the leadership of Galen Todd is implementing a barbell approach to training, designing a carefully scripted self-directed program alongside the instructor-based program. The OSCAR training dummies have been used as “extra credit” demonstrations in Safety for Cruising Couples courses. At least one POYOB event is planned for Narragansett Bay in Spring, 2025. I am bringing an OSCAR dummy to Annapolis for use in a demo event and am directing energies to grow our program.

The Offshore Communications Guide has been renewed by Mark Lenci and team. It continually updates communication capabilities, real-time, as they develop.

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
Chair, CCA Safety and Seamanship Committee

u. Technical

Jim Binch

Whilst we’ve not had an in-person meeting since our Annual Meeting in March, many of our individual Committee members have been deeply engaged in technical matters of keen interest to the Club.

Most noteworthy are the investigations being carried out under the direction of US Sailing concerning the two catastrophic water ingress events of this year’s Newport Bermuda Race. Dick York (NY Station) is leading the safety and seamanship review, while Chris Tutmark, Chief Measurer for US Sailing, is heading the steering and

structural review. We are aware at this time of the probable cause of Alliance's ingress, notably a collision with a semi-submerged container that irreparably damaged her rudder stock and surrounding structure. The Swede 41 Gunga Din's water ingress was also unstoppable in the region around her rudder. There ultimately will be a report issued concerning these two events. As if this were not enough, Carter Bacon lost his beloved Solution on the return trip from Bermuda when she encountered steep head and cross seas in the Gulf Stream, likely springing several seams ultimately contributing to her loss. As most of us have read, Solution's engine ceased operating due to fuel flow blockage rendering her unable to maneuver under power to retrieve a high capacity pump dropped by the US Coast Guard. However, with the inability to stem the ingress, it is likely she still would not have been able to make it to safety. Our hearts go out to each of these owners, and their families.

A huge nod to our Safety-At-Sea program and to all on our Safety & Seamanship Committee ---- it is abundantly clear that the training these crews received, played an enormous part in the successful rescue of each and every person!

The next area of keen interest to our Committee was the success, or potential disappointment, in the first use of F-TCF {Forecast – Time Correction Factor} scoring for this past summer's Newport Bermuda Race. As you may remember, the Committee heartily endorsed the development of this idea as brought forward by Stan Honey at our meeting in Newport during the Centennial celebration meetings. This was the first full long-distance race anywhere in the world to use the combination of weather and current forecast data combined with a yacht's polar data and computerized routing software to produce specific expected times to finish for each individual yacht in the race. With this data, yacht-specific time allowances become known to all yachts prior to the start. Post-script ---- nearly 90% of the participants either liked the new scoring system or found it as good as anything used previously. A WIN – and thanks to Stan Honey and Jim Teeters, as well as US Sailing's support, for making this happen.

Lastly, I am pleased to let everyone know that under Sheila McCurdy's steady hand as Chair of the Offshore Racing Association, owner of the ORR rule and its underlying VPP, it is now on sound financial footing, with no debt whatsoever, and is able to continue evolving not only the underlying VPP but also support both the ORR Ez fleets as well as the major races run under the ORR rule. Having our own Jim Teeters back as Technical Director of US Sailing's Offshore Office has also helped enormously in improving certificate efficiency and responsiveness to the customer base. Combined certificate issuances in 2024 reached nearly 1,000 yachts in the USA.

The Committee expects to convene a Zoom meeting in mid-January to review the findings from the US Sailing-led reviews to ascertain what guidance might be provided to the NBR Technical Committee well in advance of the 2026 race.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of our committee members,
Jim Binch, Chair

v. Trophy

Robert Darbee

The CCA trophy collection is the one tangible asset of this club. Thus, much of our work involves movement of trophy items on the NYC-Newport rumblin' line with an intermediate way station in Mamaroneck (30 miles east of Manhattan) close to our principal and longtime trophy servicer Tomart. This activity is always at peak in Bermuda Race years.

Thus, in this "Bermuda year" the 'local team' of the CCA Trophy Committee (Quartermaster Steve Prime, Deputy NBR Awards Chair Carter Holliday and this NBR Awards Chair) have been heavily involved in moving the Perpetual race trophies from Newport, combining with newly-minted Keepers, shipping all to Bermuda for Prizegiving which was live-streamed (<https://www.youtube.com/live/sINqVmKvPwY>), 110 items awarded and then organizing the return. Currently the CCA's NBR Perpetual Trophies are in Mamaroneck for engraving - both 2024 AND 2022 as engraving was postponed in '22 to get all back to the Newport showcase in time for the CCA Centennial.

After 6 years on the job, Quartermaster Steve Prime has asked for relief which matter we are addressing. Steve has done a superb job as our guy "on the scene" near the Newport IYRS trophy home for which we give a grateful "Thanks and Well Done!"

While still engrossed in the full return of Bermuda trophies to Newport we've also been organizing an outbound shipment for presentation in Annapolis. This includes Member plaques for 5 new inductions to the Bermuda Race Roll of Honour and presentation of the Commodore's Centennial trophies originated by Commodore Otorowski in '22 for "outstanding Bermuda Race performance by CCA members" in 6 categories. While open awards available to all Bermuda Race participants are made at the conclusion of festivities in the Onion patch, these are CCA-only recipients and will be presented here in Annapolis. Recipient names in both categories have been published in "Waypoints."
Bob Darbee
CCA Trophy Chair

w. Voyages

Dan Biemesderfer

Voyages is undergoing a transition in the editorship as I have taken over from Ami Green. Ami and I have been collaborating closely for me to "get up to speed" which is going very well. One of my first goals was to reach out to the Voyages team that's responsible for making our publication great. David Curtin will remain as the editor of Final Voyages. In addition, we have a talented group of editorial advisors who have agreed to continue to help as needed. Members of our professional team have also remained in place. These include our proofreader Virginia Wright and our design and layout team of Claire MacMaster (Barefoot Art Graphic Design), Tara Law (artist) and Hillary Steinau (Camden Design Group).

Throughout the summer, articles and commitments to write articles have been coming in to me. In addition, three book reviews are being written. The next several months will be a busy time for the Voyages team with a publication target of late winter of 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Biemesderfer, Editor Voyages

x. Waypoints

Elizabeth Gowell

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 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. We are fortunate to have several authors who contribute regular columns on history and safety, as well as committee and cruise chairs who provide regular updates.

Based on data provided from our MailChimp platform, the Waypoints “open rate” (the percentage of recipients who open the Waypoints email) is around 65%. The “click rate” (the percentage of recipients who open Waypoints and click on a link) is between 10 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,
Elizabeth Gowell

y. Web

Michael Moradzadeh

Summary:

Year to date has largely been a matter of maintenance and supporting ongoing efforts. A new platform has been launched to support cruise registrations.

- **New Cruise Platform.** After multiple years of creating custom signup forms for CCA cruises, often confusing to our participants as they varied from year to year, a new site has been launched at <https://cruisingclub.com>. This site contains some modest custom code and reflects a consistent approach to registration and reports. My thanks to the early adopters who helped work through the details.
- **Articles** visiting has somewhat dropped off. I’m seeing about 200-250 visits per recently posted article, with about 800 visits to the main articles landing page, over the last 90 days. Chuck is leading an effort to clean up our existing content, and maybe recategorize it, at which point a major push might make sense.
- **Club Process Support.** No material changes underway for dues, directory, and calendar. Ongoing discussions with Yearbook to support any new directions. Will be adding support for segmenting Station rosters and dues for Stations for those stations who want it.
- **Mailing System.** In addition to the Mailchimp system that we use for the “Waypoints” newsletter, there is built into the website a mailing utility for messaging a station, post, or committee. This uses the same underlying platform as Mailchimp, but recipients are determined directly by the website.
- **Electronic Membership Card.** The “automatic log in” link on the back of the cards had stopped working after our recent website upgrade. It’s fixed now!

z. Yearbook

Barbara Watson

Mid-January, members, RCs and all other contributors were encouraged to update content by Mid-February. The member-driven material (Membership, Surviving Spouses, Fleet and Fleet pictorial) was made available by the Webmaster shortly after the Annual Meeting. Grateful thanks to Webmaster Michael Moradzadeh, Awards Steve James and all contributors. The Yearbook 2024 was signed off by the editor March 14th and received by members from early May. The 2024 Yearbook did not come within budget largely due to much increased mailing costs. This included shipment of the remaining books to TeamOne, Newport. TeamOne set up a link for members whose books had been returned, to reorder and pay for their copy, or wish extra copies.

I am grateful to the Commodore for finding a new Editor for 2026. We will both work on the 2025 Edition.

Barbara Watson
CCA Yearbook Editor 2024