

– Fayerweather Yacht Club – FOGHORN

Fayerweather Yacht Club
51 Brewster Street
Bridgeport, CT 06605
203-576-6796
fayerweatheryachtclub.com

January • 2017
Volume XCVIII, Number 1



Flag Officers

Commodore -
Robert Schley
Vice Commodore -
Patrick Gombos
Rear Commodore -
Johnpatrick O'Brien
Recording Secretary-
Loretta Lazari
Financial Secretary-
Pertrinea Cash
Treasurer -
Gary Conrad

Appointed Officers

Fleet Captain -
Bob Butler
Fleet Chaplain -
Brian Kelly
Fleet Surgeon -
Dr. Robert Nevins

Board of Governors

David Blagys
Tom Bruton
Russell Dunleavy
Chris Gill
Jerome Hogarth
Emily Hyde
Thomas Lee
Michael Roberts
Ben Thrush



From the Helm

Happy New Year,

I cannot believe how fast this past year has gone. It has been a pleasure to serve as your Commodore. Yes there has been some challenges, but I believe that the Club is heading in the right direction. The Nominating Committee has chosen their picks for the Officers and BOG members to serve in 2017. Some are running unopposed and a few have some competition. Included in this newsletter are the BIOs and pictures of the people vying for a position. Voting will take place on Tues, Jan 3rd at the Club. For your convenience, voting hours will be in the afternoon and again in the evening prior to the meeting. Call the Club for exact hours. Please exercise your right and come down and vote.

The Long Range Planning Committee continues to research and recommend the not so long range needs of the Club and will be addressing the long range projects throughout the coming months. The upper 'sun' deck project is moving along. I have been in touch with an architect and detailed plans are being drawn up for presentation. More to follow.

Once again, Fayerweather Yacht Club will be celebrating its 100th birthday is 2019. We are starting preparations for this event now. I have not heard from anyone yet, but I am hopeful that some memorabilia is out there. Please forward anything you have to me, even the smallest bit of 'stuff' is welcome. The Centennial Committee will be meeting in January and anyone with ideas or suggestions should contact me for more information.

Finally, I would like to thank a few people who have been invaluable to myself and the Club this past year. Pat Gombos, our Vice Commodore, has been a dedicated and dependable VC. He has shown leadership and a level headed approach to all that he has taken on. I always had confidence that everything I asked of him got done. Johnpatrick O'Brien, our Rear Commodore, has also done a fantastic job as the 'party' guy. His optimistic and affable approach has been an asset to FYC. The events were well attended and enjoyable. Thank you both.

Loretta Lazaris, Recording Secretary, had taken on a challenging job of documenting the meetings and rose to the occasion. Pertrinae Cash, Financial Secreatry, aided in the new dues collection processes. These are the folks that will not be returning in 2017. I would also like to thank Gary Conrad, Treasurer, for bringing his expertise to the position. Gary has been my "voice of reason" in so many matters.

I want to thank the Board of Governors in its entirety, for keeping myself, and the Club, on track in the decisions that were necessary this past year. The folks who headed and served on the many committees need to be recognized too. They have given a great deal of time and effort to the respective tasks and often go unnoticed.

Lastly, there is one person who has given so much to FYC, our Editor of the Foghorn, Mike Andre. He is stepping down as editor due to the many personal commitments he has.

Computer Payroll Services, Inc.

Thomas J. Gabriel
President

1297 Park Avenue + Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 367-7734 + (203) 335-9375 Fax

PIRELLI • CONTINENTAL • GOODYEAR • MICHELIN



8 TUNXIS HILL ROAD • FAIRFIELD, CT 06825

WWW.DESANTIETIRE.COM

LOUIS PATRICK
PRESIDENT

203.334.2433
F: 203.334.0617

CONTRACTOR PRICES FOR ALL FAYERWEATHER YACHT CLUB MEMBERS
DAVID MARSILLO LIFETIME MEMBER

MARSILLO'S

TELEVISION • APPLIANCES

SUB-ZERO • WOLF • VIKING • THERMADOR

AUDIO • VIDEO • CUSTOM HOME THEATER

2031 BLACK ROCK TPK. • FAIRFIELD, CT • 203.366.7541

PERSONAL SERVICE-PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION-PRICES TO BEAT THE COMPETITION
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1948 - WE CARRY ALL MAJOR BRAND APPLIANCES



Marine Sports Center, Inc.

Larry Palaia

2400 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06605

(203) 335-8646

Calendar of Events

Saturday, Dec 31st
CLUB CLOSED AT 5pm

Tuesday, Jan 3rd
GENERAL MEETING 7pm
VOTING AND ELECTIONS

Sat & Sun, Jan 14th-15th
Launch License Class

Monday, Jan 23rd
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING 7pm

Weekly Events

Thursday Night Dinner
Check website for special menu

Friday Night Happy Hour
-Raw Bar: Lobster Rolls, Chowder,
Lobster Bisque, Chili, Stuffed Clams,
Shrimp, Clams & Oysters on the 1/2 Shell-

ALPINE HEATING SERVICE OF FAIRFIELD

203-367-1200



- Oil & Gas Fired Heat & Hot Water Service
 - Emergency Service
- Comprehensive Service Plans Available
- Most Repairs Completed on First Visit
 - Fully Stocked Service Van
- Servicing of Hydronic, Steam, Hydro-air, and Radiant Systems

Mike Savage
CT. License #395486-S7



McEldowney & Associates

On the Water, in Town and Beyond.

Christi McEldowney • Realtor & FYC Member
2525 Post Road • Southport, Connecticut 06890
Cell 203.520.0248 • VM/Fax 203.659.1604
mceldowney@raveisre.com • www.McEldowney.Raveis.com

From the Helm (cont.)

Over the years Mike has given support to the Club in many ways. He stepped up when we needed an interim caterer, spent years as Sailing Committee Chairman, provides the FYC Raw Bar on Friday nights, and is an invaluable part of the sailing community, just to name a few. THANK YOU, Mike.

That said, I look forward to being your Commodore for 2017, working with the new Bridge and BOG, and having a great year. I am at your service as Commodore of Fayerweather Yacht Club.

That's all for now.

Sincerely,

Bob Schley



From the Vice Commodore

Hello,

I would like to thank everyone who attended Wassailing night on December 17th. Despite the weather, a good time was had by all.

Bourbon tasting on Wednesday December 21st drew a great crowd. I was happy to see some new faces in the bar and so many people having a good time and enthusiastic to try new bourbon and contribute their opinion to broadening our selection. A home run for a first time event! I hope these type of events expand over the next years.

A shout out to all the help and the contributions in helping to decorate the bar and outside patios for everyone to enjoy for the Holidays. A special thanks to Jerry, Bob, Jose, JJ, Emily, Christy, Deb, and Loretta.

As my last report, I would like to take the time to whole heartedly thank everyone for all the help this year. I have personally learned a tremendous amount about the Club while being the Vice Commodore and enjoyed serving everyone. I drew a great amount of knowledge from so many helpful and supportive members, some new and some with years of experience with FYC. Countless conversations about improving the Club were invaluable to me. The morning coffee crew in the Penfield room is also a great resource to have at the Club. It is as important as it is helpful to hear the history and what has worked and what has not worked in the past. Most importantly, I would like to thank Bob Schley, the Commodore, for his support, experience, and knowledge of the Club's operations. I would also like to thank the Board of Governors. Their prompt responses to necessary maintenance on bar and kitchen equipment and other concerns helped ensure there were no interruptions in Club operations for the membership. Thank you also to all the volunteers through the year from helping to prepare for and run events so that everyone can enjoy them, to the often overlooked but very important part, cleaning up the following day! It couldn't be done without you.

Lastly, I would like to thank Mark Berish, Jerry Hogarth, and Bob Meeker for their constant attention and help during the past year. I know first-hand that we all appreciate it. If something is broken and not operating properly, Mark and Jerry are the eyes, ears and hands to make sure equipment and the building is running smooth. Bob Meeker quietly goes about help with any task that needs an extra set of hands whenever he is at the Club.

As always the tradition and the way we keep annual dues and bar pricing down is to have everyone clean up after themselves. The Club is all of ours, so please remember, bring your trays back to the kitchen, glasses to the bar, etc. There are a number of trash cans around the property so please discard rubbish in them. Thank you for everyone's cooperation.

There are hooded sweat shirts and winter hats available in the ships store. You can stop at the bar to get the key to open the sliding glass doors. There are also other items stored in the cabinet below the glass doors.

I need to continue to stress the importance of signing in guests properly. This is one of the most important FYC rules ensuring that we all can continue to have the Club we signed up for. Furthermore, the sign in book is a requirement of the Connecticut State Liquor Commission and is a law that we HAVE to follow. I am asking everyone to please help here. Please fill out each line completely and legibly and with the member's legible signature. There are no exemptions. Members on Wednesday and Sunday sailing race days please police the book for the guest sailors.

Happy New Year! Please come down to vote for the elections on January 3rd. Every vote matters.

Sincerely,

Patrick Gombos

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee, appointed by a combination of the Commodore, B.O.G., and volunteers from the General Membership, were responsible for interviewing potential candidates for the upcoming FYC elections. This process, which began in early November, entailed bi-weekly meetings held at FYC which were open to all current Club members interested in applying for an elected FYC position as Officer or B.O.G. The interview process involved queries concerning current Club involvement, opinions on the existing experience as a Club member, and visions for the Club's future. The Nominating Committee is grateful to all of the FYC members who expressed interest and interviewed for an elected position. In conclusion, the Nominating Committee respectfully submits the following candidates for consideration:



LEARN TO SCUBA DIVE!
BAIT & TACKLE
Complete Line of Diving & Fishing Gear!
Scuba Classes-Dive Equipment
Sales, Service, Travel, Air Fills
Wet/Dry Suits & Local charters
Ice Fishing, Bait & Tackle
Fishing Bait & Licenses
ORBIT MARINE SPORTS
1-800-395-3483
orbitmarine.com 3273 Fairfield Ave., Bpt/Ffld Town Line

Commodore
Vice Commodore
Rear Commodore
Financial Secretary
Treasurer
Recording Secretary
BOGs

Bob Schley
Dave Nemeth
Bob Cote
Christine Ritzo
Garry Conrad
Andrew Cross
Tom Lee
Chris Gill
Mike Cooleen



RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



Liz
Eckert

cell 203.451.4300 | lizeckert@gmail.com | fax 203.256.9966
www.liveinfairfield.com



GREG D'AGOSTINO'S
BEL-AIR
Auto Sales
QUALITY CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES
MILFORD, CT
203-874-0836

Quality Pre-owned vehicles
Full Service Repairs & Body Shop
Visit over 300 vehicles in stock
www.belairautocf.com

USED CARS

BEL-AIR AUTO SALES
Quality Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles
MILFORD 203-874-0836 CT09N
CORNER OF 9 LENOX AVENUE
& US 1 IN DEVON CENTER

Nominating Committee - Slate BIOs

Dave Nemeth - Vice Comodore

It is an honor to be selected by the nominating committee to run from the Slate as Vice Commodore of FYC. I have been coming to FYC for almost thirty years. My Dad, George Nemeth, is a life member who joined the club in the mid-1980s. I personally joined FYC almost 7 years ago, because I wanted my growing family to have the same experiences that I had growing up. My wife, Kristie, is an Auxiliary member and you can usually find us all down on Sat. or Sun. with our son, Evan (nicknamed the Mayor,) and our extended families having lunch. I am a graduate of the Long Shore Sailing School in Westport, but do not currently own a boat, but I do have a kayak in the dink rack! I do love it on the water and as soon as Evan gets older, I can't wait to show him how to sail with the help of his grandfather.

In 2014, I served as Vice Commodore for FYC, where I met our goal of upgrading our draft system and expanding it from 4 to 6 taps. This offered us more of a variety of beer and increased the profits at the bar that year. Dan Conroy was a huge help in facilitating this for the club.

I have also worked to bring in high quality items at closeout prices in our Ship's Store. With the new pricing method the club makes almost a 30% profit on all items while keeping the cost to members down. Using social media and our website also helped move items more quickly in spreading our brand.

Since 2014 I have been co-administrator on our FYC website and an admin on the Facebook page. I also served on the Membership Committee in 2015 and 2016 and volunteered for several other committees. I have a fair amount of experience leading volunteer organizations in the past. For 11 years I was president on the board of my condo association and in 2015 finished a major project on the complex of siding, trim and gutters, having put all the work out to bid and overseeing it on a daily basis.

I am currently employed as a Senior IT Systems Engineer for a company in Trumbull that offers outsourced IT support for small to medium sized companies that don't have in-house IT staff. From 2002-2010, I took a side project and managed, and then owned, my own liquor store in the Norwalk area. I am very familiar with the CT liquor laws, and the profits and margins associated with that side of the business.

I would like to thank everyone who is supporting me for this position and hope to soon serve you once again as Vice Commodore of FYC.

Christine Ritzo - Financial Secretary

I attended many events at Fayerweather as a guest for over fifteen years. Opening day, wrapping food for the Harvest Dance, wrapping gifts for the Childrens Christmas Party, race nights and lobster bakes, just to name a few. I became a member in July 2013. I enjoy spending time on the deck in the summer and spend many Sunday afternoons in the winter enjoying the camaraderie in the bar. I am a regular attendee at the membership and BOG meetings, which has given me insight as to how the Club operates.

I spent many weekends while growing up on a powerboat and later learned about sailing. I also enjoyed jet skiing and kayaking. I graduated from Longshore Sailing School and have Boating License from the Power Squadron.

I worked for a large company for 37 ½ years before retiring and worked part time for a small firm for 8 years. Most of my career has been in payroll, accounts payable and human resources. I received multiple awards for process improvements which resulted in savings for the company. I served as treasurer on the Board of Directors at my condo. I have been researching the responsibilities of the Financial Secretary position and have some ideas to streamline the process, saving the club some money and reducing the wait time for new members and issue of boat stickers. I would like the opportunity to serve the club in this capacity and will do my best to fulfill my responsibilities.

Andrew Cross - Recording Secretary

I have been a resident of Fairfield for 50 years and a member of Fayerweather Yacht Club for five years. As a member I have participated in several events as a volunteer. I would like to be more helpful in performing work necessary to allow the Club to function so I have decided to run for the position of Recording Secretary. I believe my experience as a construction manager responsible for keeping meeting minutes, and my experience as a contract writer and arbitrator will be valuable assets in allowing me to perform this job well. If I receive your support I'll do a great job for the club. Thank you for this opportunity to run for this position.

Nominating Committee - Slate BIOs (cont.)

Tom Lee - Board of Governor

Life member Tom Lee has been nominated to serve a second three year term on the BOG. Tom has been a member of the Audit, Budget and Nominating Committees as well as chair of the Centennial Committee. He has attended all but one BOG meeting in the past 3 years. Tom has been instrumental in drafting By-laws, Rules and Contracts for the Club. Tom spearheaded the effort to prune the trees in the front of the Club and to clean up and replant in a garden like setting the area between the upper parking lot and Brewster Street.

Perhaps Tom's most important service was aiding the BOG in dealing with two law suits brought by former members against the Club. Both suits were successfully defended and Tom aided Insurance and FYC Counsel in performing their duties by attending depositions, court hearings and a trial. He kept the BOG informed on every step of the proceedings helping to demystify the process, making it understandable and aiding the formulation of decisions that the BOG had to make.

Among other accomplishments, Tom founded the Blessing of the Boats for Black Rock Harbor craft and enhanced the reputation of the Club as a result. Tom hopes to continue with the Centennial Committee as we progress to our anniversary in 2019.

Chris Gill - Board of Governor

Chris is a lifelong sailor and powerboater. He has been a member of Fayerweather for 23 years. Prior to starting and running WindCheck Magazine, he worked as a professional sailor and sailing coach and was a founding member of an economic, valuation and strategy consulting firm. He is familiar with the finances of managing a business and the procedures for running a yacht club.

Chris wishes to continue with what has become a proactive and open-minded board - one that communicates well with the membership and helps to ensure the continued growth and health of the club. Additionally, he thinks that, while it is important that as Fayerweather moves forward, we continue to maintain the traditional values of the club.

Chris currently serves as Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee.

Mike Cooleen - Board of Governor

Mr. Cooleen moved from Long Island to Fairfield, CT in 1978. He became a lifeguard, stationed at Penfield Beach. He lived in Fairfield for many years before moving to Stamford, CT.

He joined the Stamford Yacht Club as a Corinthian member. It was not long before Mr. Cooleen purchased his first sailboat, a C&C 27 sloop. He began to participate in many of the sailing programs there, including the J-24 fleet racing. He then started crewing on much larger racing boats, such as a Baltic 50, J-44 and even a Swan 56. His passion became distance racing. He participated in many distance races over the years while at SYC, some being the Vineyard Race and Chicago Mackinac Race Island Race. In his 18 years at SYC, he chaired several of the clubs committees, including the race and the Ideal 18 committees.

Mr. Cooleen currently resides in Fairfield CT with his wife Bettina and twin 9-year old daughters Cameron and Caleigh. He has been active member of Fayerweather YC for 8 years. Mr. Cooleen has volunteered for numerous committees over those years, including the Park City Regatta and Frostbiting program. He is also a 10 year member of the Blackrock YC, having just completed a 3-year term on the Board of Governors, as Yachting Chair. Mr. Cooleen is still very much a competitive sailor and will always instill in his daughters his appreciation for the water and his love for boating.

Running from the Floor - BIOs

Dan Wisneski - Vice Commodore

I'm a communications professional with over 25 years experience in producing large scale global events for various corporations, including television broadcasts and live streaming.

I spent the first 4 years of my career with the World Wrestling Federation and the next 16 with General Electric. At GE I ran a global media department, with a satellite network and a local corporate TV studio.

I've been a member of FYC since 2009. My friend Brian Butler raved about the atmosphere here and the members. One look and I was hooked.

I spent parts of five years working in restaurants early in my career and also spent part of my job at GE in hospitality working large events. I think some of the skills that I have learned in those roles would be an asset in the role of Vice Commodore.

Serving as your Vice Commodore, I want to work with the Commodore and Rear Commodore, as well as the other officers and board members, to insure that members have a consistent experience when they visit the club, whether it be to bring the family down on a Sunday to grab a bite and go sailing, or have a business lunch with a client, or just to drop in for a beer.

Thank you for the opportunity to be considered for Vice Commodore in 2017.

Mark Berish - Board of Governor

I've been a member in good standing at FYC for 17 years. I have served on almost every committee, most notably the Fishing Committee for the last ten years. Between 2013 - 2015 I have served as a Governor on the Board and it was a very enlightening experience to see how the Club operated.

Members who know me know how I feel about this Club. I am passionate about seeing the Club succeed and hope other members enjoy the Club the same way my family has for so many years. One thing that I love about the Club is the way members reach out when someone needs help. Whether it's stepping a mast, weighing a fish, or setting up chairs and tables for an event its "all hands on deck" just like it should be.

I am running again because I think there are some challenges the Club is facing that requires the services of someone with my experience. Some of the fixes can be done quickly, others will take more long range planning. I think I can provide the insight and necessary guidance as one of the Governors to accomplish these goals.

I look forward to serving on the Board of Governors for the 2017-2019 period. Thank you, Mark

Susan Kiely - Board of Governors

I have been an active member since 1996. I am the Chairman of the Membership Committee. I have been on the Entertainment Committee in 1998, 2013 and 2014. I was on the Nominating Committee in 2012. I was the Financial Secretary for 2 years during 2008 and 2009. I was on the By-Law Change Committee twice, helped at the Park City Regatta, and the Coastal Cookoff for several years.

I bring years of club experience and knowledge. I attend both the Membership and BOG meetings regularly. I am passionate about the Club and its members. I have a lot to contribute to the Board.

I have spent my career in IT as a Network Manager. I am currently seeking a Project Management position. I have an MBA from Sacred Heart University and PMP (Project Management Professional) Certification from the Project Management Institute.

ATTENTION

ALL MEMBERS

Dues Invoices are mailed to all members the last week of December. To avoid penalty, they must be paid in full by January 31st.

***REMIT ALL PAYMENTS TO
FAYERWEATHER YACHT CLUB
P.O. BOX 472
BRIDGEPORT, CT 06601-0472***

DO NOT SEND CHECKS TO THE CLUB. If you pay your bills through your bank, make sure that you update the address.

NOTE: If you are not renewing your membership, you must notify us by the beginning of March. If you “resign in good standing” you may re-apply. If you do not notify us and get “deep sixed”, you will not be eligible to re-apply for membership in the future.