

– Fayerweather Yacht Club –  
**FOGHORN**

**Fayerweather Yacht Club**  
51 Brewster Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06605  
203-576-6796  
fycct.org



**January • 2019 • Volume C • No. 1**

***Flag Officers***

**Commodore**

Dave Nemeth

**Vice Commodore**

Dan Wisneski

**Rear Commodore**

Bob Cote

**Recording Secretary**

Andrew Cross

**Financial Secretary**

Christine Ritzo

**Treasurer**

Gary Conrad

***Appointed Officers***

**Fleet Captain**

Bob Butler

**Fleet Chaplain**

Brian Kelly

**Fleet Surgeon**

Dr. Cosmo Filiberto

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Mark Berish

David Blagys

Donna Demattia

Pat Gombos

Emily Hyde

Nick Mirabile

Mike Roberts

Bob Schley

Ben Thrush

***Club Manager***

Dan Conroy

***FYC Auxiliary***

***President***

Karen Clark

***Foghorn Editor***

Kathleen Pierce

Kmpierce2013@gmail.com

**FROM THE HELM**



I can't believe how fast this year went and how much I have enjoyed serving as your Commodore. If I were to thank each and every person for 2018, the list would go on forever, so a big thanks to all the Officers, Board, Volunteers, Bar Staff and Dock staff for all their work! This club truly does run on the backs of its volunteers and that is what makes Fayerweather such an incredible place. Thanks also to Vicki and Lighthouse Grill for all the events they catered and for the lunches and dinners throughout the year.

I am honored to be nominated again for Commodore in 2019 and hope for your support as we enter our 100<sup>th</sup> year. The nominating Committee did a great job of interviewing all prospective candidates and I hope everyone can come out and Vote. I'm happy to report that the members voted in the by-law change to allow members to come and vote on the Sunday prior to the annual meeting. This year will take place on Sunday January 6<sup>th</sup> and then at the Annual meeting on Tuesday January 8<sup>th</sup>. Talking with many members over the years, I know this was a hot topic for those that work in the city and were never able to make the 7:15 cut off for voting. Forward thinking like this will continue to make our club a great place going into our next century.

I have enjoyed sitting in with committees this year in both meetings and at their events. Time spent at the Regional Commodores Council has given me great insight into the struggles and success at other clubs. It has helped to see what works and does not work on a grand scale and to get advice on issues they may have already faced.

We have one last party for 2019 as the New Years Eve party makes a return to FYC. A big and sad thank you go out to Christina and Bob Cote as they will end their 2-year run as Rear Commodore on a high note for sure. They have clearly set the bar high, but I have high hopes that the parties will continue to draw in 2019 by borrowing many of their ideas and influences.

As for the Foghorn, thank you to Kathleen Pierce and Lee Yarosh who work tirelessly behind the scenes to put out our monthly publication.

Thanks and see you at the club.

Dave Nemeth [commodore@fycct.org](mailto:commodore@fycct.org)

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**Voting hours:** Sunday Jan. 6 11:30 am - 2:30 pm . Tuesday Jan. 8 11:00 am - 2:15 pm and then 5:00 pm - 7:15 pm. ***Please make sure you have your club card and/or a valid drivers license for id purposes.***

## **Calendar of Events**

### **December 31**

Roaring 20s New Year's Eve Party

### **January 2**

Auxiliary Board meeting 7 p.m.

### **January 6**

VOTE

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

### **January 8**

VOTE

5:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

7:15 p.m. General Membership meeting

### **January 9**

Auxiliary General Membership 7 p.m.

### **January 25**

Interclub Bluefish Tournament Dinner  
7:00 p.m. @ Vazzy's Stratford, \$40pp

### **January 26**

Race Night  
Dinner @ 7:00 p.m.  
Race @ 8:00 p.m.

### **January 28**

Board of Governor's Meeting 7 p.m.

## **Weekly Events**

### **Thursday Night:**

**5:30 – 9 p.m.**

**Table Service Dinner  
Set Menu**

### **Friday Night:**

**5:30 – 9 p.m.**

**Grill is Open**



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## **Lighthouse Grill at Fayerweather**

**Lunch:** Tuesday - Friday 11 - 2

**Lunch/Brunch:** Saturday & Sunday 9:30 – 3

**Dinner:** Thursday table service: 5:30 – 9 p.m.

Friday Grill: 5:30 - 9 p.m.



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You may bring your own food when Grill is **closed**...OR the Bar has Pizza!

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## From the Rear Commodore

To our members, guests, family, friends and ALL of those who helped us pull off our 2018 Christmas party, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts! It was a truly magical day for the children and we hope that everyone had a wonderful time! We would like to thank Lighthouse Grill for the great food for the kids and adults, Elsa (Grace Shattuck) for visiting and taking pictures with the kids, the Bridgeport Fire Department for escorting Santa to our club and of course, last but not least SANTA! There are too many names to mention but thank you to everyone who helped us set up, clean up and everything in between, it is true group effort to throw a party like this and we could not have done it without your help!

We are honored to have made a toy donation to the Bridgeport Hospital's Pediatric Unit from the Fayerweather Yacht Club to all the children who are sick and might not be home for Christmas. We had extra gifts from our party yesterday and we couldn't think of a better way to share them with our community.

Our very last party as Rear Commodore for 2018 is our Roaring 20's New Year's Eve bash!! This party will be full of food, fun and glamour! We will have a cocktail hour style dinner, DJ Peter G playing great music to keep us dancing into the New Year, a photo booth, candy bar & champagne toast at midnight! You don't want to miss this party as we go out with a bang!!

As the elections for the new term approach at Fayerweather Yacht Club, I am pleased to announce that I will be running for the position of Vice Commodore. After 2 years of serving as Rear Commodore, I am excited to hopefully have the opportunity to help bring fresh new ideas to the kitchen, bar and the Ship's Store. My wife and I would like to have a few food and drink related events as well as hear your suggestions on how to make our wonderful & beautiful club the best it can be! Thank you for letting us represent the Fayerweather Yacht Club as your Rear Commodore! I hope to earn your vote on January 6th or January 8th for the position of Vice Commodore of the Fayerweather Yacht Club.

We hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a healthy & Happy New Year!

With love & gratitude, Bob and Christina Cote



A 2018

### **Auxiliary Officers**

**President**

Karen Clark

**Vice President**

Carrie Parker

**Treasurer**

Carrie Shelton

**Recording Secretary**

Deb Conrad

**Financial Secretary**

Cindy Filep

### **Board of Governors**

Judy Duva

Sharon Fabricatore

April Kleinman

Donna Palaia

Debra Rosati

**Sunshine**

Darci Labash

FYC Auxiliary email:  
[fycaux@gmail.com](mailto:fycaux@gmail.com)

## Auxiliary Corner

December was festive month. Our Members' Meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> was well attended! Almost forty people attended. Instead of our usual Members' Meeting we had a Christmas Dinner Party served by the Officers of Fayerweather Yacht Club with lobster and steak dinner preceded by shrimp cocktail and all delicious! Thank you to Ed Stilwagon for his donation and a special thank you to Carrie Parker for chairing this wonderful event. To Carrie and many others: Christina Cote, Judy Duva, Sharon Fabricatore and others I know I am missing - thank you! was wonderful to be doted on and they took very good care of us. A great time was had by all.



We also donated \$500 to Nourish Bridgeport. Nourish Bridgeport is a volunteer based community organization that strives to make a lasting impact on Bridgeport families in need. They provide community dinners, a neighborhood food pantry, domestic violence assistance, educational services, shelter and clothing.

The Children's Christmas Party was well attended and all the kids had a great time despite the rainy weather. The whole club sparkled with Christmas decorations all month long. Between the silver and white Christmas tree in the Penfield Room to the Golden Christmas Tree in the bar, the Santas and holly hung all over the club....it was hard not to get into the Christmas Spirit! Don't miss the New Years Eve Party at the club on Monday December 31st. I hope the holiday spirit follows us long into January and 2019.

The Auxiliary is blessed to have a team of wonderful Board of Governors and a terrific team of Officers at the helm. I am fortunate to work with all of them. If you missed us for the Christmas Dinner then we will see you at the next Members' Meeting, Wednesday January 9th, 7 pm.

Any questions feel free to contact me at [fycaux@gmail.com](mailto:fycaux@gmail.com).

Sincerely, Karen Clark

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**The Long Range Planning Committee** The Long Range Planning Committee has been meeting to formulate work plans for 2019 and beyond. The group has gathered a good deal of information thus far to assist us in identifying and outlining preliminary goals for the membership to consider. As the committee's work continues to unfold, materials will be circulated to the membership via e-mail for your review and input. Look for these as we progress. --- Dave Blagys, chair pro tem [pierceblagys@optonline.net](mailto:pierceblagys@optonline.net)

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Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and enjoyed the holidays. We ended 2018 with our awards dinner and a good time had by all. Thank you to the FYC membership that supports us during the year and congratulations to the winners of the annual fishing contest. I'm betting again we'll get that 50lb striper on the board in 2019!

The Interclub Bluefish Tournament Dinner is Friday 1/25/19, 7p @ Vazzy's Stratford, \$40pp contact me if you want tickets.

The Fishing Committee is planning our 2019 schedule of activities and IT'S GONNA BE GREAT!

All fishermen are liars, except you and me, and I'm not so sure about you!

Keith Jamaitis ~ FYC Fishing Committee

### FYC 2018 Annual Fishing Contest Final Results

FINAL RESULTS	First Place	Second Place	Third Place
<b>STRIPED BASS</b>	Angler: Bill O'Brien Jr. Weight: 36.02 lbs Date: 7-18-18	Angler: Charles Angotto Weight: 34.19 lbs Date: 5-28-18	Angler: Mike Fazio Weight: 33.38 lbs Date: 7-12-18
<b>BLUEFISH</b>	Angler: Bill O'Brien Jr. Weight: 11.60 lbs Date: 10-1-18	Angler: Keith Jamaitis Weight: 10.68 lbs Date: 9-16-18	Angler: DNQ Weight: DNQ Date: DNQ
<b>BLACKFISH</b>	Angler: Jerry Hogarth Weight: 7.51 lbs Date: 11/8/18	Angler: Chris Frattaroli Weight: 7.35 lbs Date: 10-28-18	Angler: Mike Vass Weight: 6.51 lbs Date: 10-13-18
<b>PORGY</b>	Angler: Topher Scheel Weight: 2.75 lbs Date: 7-3-18	Angler: Larry Palaia Weight: 2.44 lbs Date: 5-28-18	Angler: Bill O'Brien Jr Weight: 2.05 lbs Date: 8-8-18
<b>WINTER FLOUNDER</b>	Angler: Ed Kasper Weight: 3.29 lbs Date: 6-8-18	Angler: Frank Stirna Weight: 2.51 lbs Date: 5-26-18	Angler: Jerry Hogarth Weight: 2.01 lbs Date: 4-18-18
<b>FLUKE</b>	Angler: Steve Ehrens Weight: 7.15 lbs Date: 5-25-18	Angler: Larry Palaia Weight: 6.92 lbs Date: 7-9-18	Angler: Ed Kasper Weight: 6.48 lbs Date: 5/31/15
<b>SEA BASS</b>	Angler: Topher Scheel Weight: 3.63 lbs Date: 7-28-18	Angler: Mike Vass Weight: 3.57 lbs Date: 8-29-18	Angler: Frank Stirna Weight: 3.43 lbs Date: 6-9-18

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## FAYERWEATHER YACHT CLUB CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

**The place**.....Black Rock, a historic seaside area of Bridgeport, CT.  
**The time**.....June 1919.

A group of sea loving buddies had been meeting next to the rock pile at the foot of Seabright Avenue when they decided it was high time to found a yacht club. They decided to name the club in honor of Captain Fayerweather, a seafarer, who had been one of the early settlers of Black Rock. (from "History" by Bob Kranyik and Lennard Kunin).

We have a great year planned. Mark these dates on your calendar:

- Race Night – January 26 This is a throw back of one of the great Rear Commodore events
- Blessing of the Fleet – June 22 Let's celebrate our boaters and remember the founders of the Club
- Centennial Ball – Sept 7 Celebrating each 25 year period. We encourage you to dress in costume. Starting 1919 - 1943, 1944 - 1968, 1969 - 1993, 1994 – 2019. It will be a celebration to remember!
- Time Capsule – Oct 12 Let's share with future members what a great Club we are. Past and Present

We will have a limited edition of the Centennial Burgees to fly on your boat and Commemorative Burgees to hang at home or in your Office. Our Haberdashery will be selling specially designed Centennial items.

Please check out our Centennial tab on our website ([fycct.org](http://fycct.org)). We will be updating it often with information and pictures.

It is going to be a great year!!!

Please join us by volunteering to join the Centennial Committee! Contact Sue Kiely [s.kiely@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.kiely@sbcglobal.net)

Fayerweather Yacht Club Presents 

# Race Night

*A blast from  
the past*

Excitement  
Laughter  
Friends

seahorse  
racing



**January 26 7:00 pm**  
**\$12.00 - Roast Beef Dinner**  
**Races start at 8:00 pm**  
**Tickets available at the Bar**



**Chef Vicki Robinson**  
**203-984-0311**  
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**Dart League:** Monday Night Football and Darts



The FYC dart league has started, but all members are welcome to join at any time no matter what experience or ability The dart games begin each Monday at 7 p.m.

**Pool Table:**

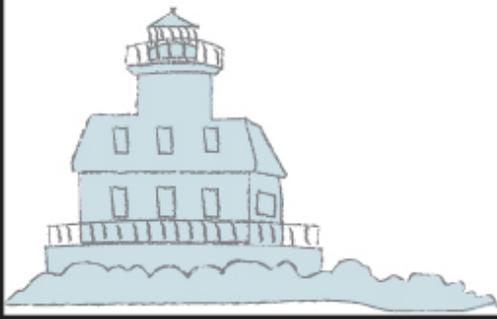
The FYC pool table has been a staple in our upper deck at the club for many years. The games are only \$.50 to play. We have a large selection of pool sticks to fit the needs of any player. Cabinets near the pool table store members' sticks, so if you are interested in leaving your own stick at the club in a locked cabinet, see the bartender on duty for more information. Please remember our table is for adult use only and keep drinks and food off the table. Ben Thrush

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# VOTE

January 6 and 8

**COMMODORE ■ VICE COMMODORE ■ REAR COMMODORE**  
**TREASURER ■ FINANCIAL SECRETARY ■ RECORDING SECRETARY ■ BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

# Meet the Candidates

In accordance with Fayerweather Yacht Club bylaws, an election takes place each year to elect flag officers for a one-year term and three members of the nine-member Board of Governors to three-year terms.

Voting is by paper ballot and may vote at the following times:

**SUNDAY, JAN. 6** 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JAN. 8** 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 5:15 p.m.-7:15 p.m.

The winners will be announced at the annual meeting on Jan. 8.

The club's nominating committee has put forth the following slate of candidates.

## COMMODORE



### David J. Nemeth

It is an honor to be selected by the Nominating Committee to run for the position of Commodore of Fayerweather



Yacht Club in 2019, the year of our 100th anniversary. I have been coming to FYC for almost thirty years. My father, George Nemeth, is a life member who joined the club in the mid-1980s. My wife

Kristie is an active Auxiliary member and you can usually find us having lunch at the club on Saturdays or Sundays with our son, Evan (nicknamed the Mayor,) and our extended families. I am a graduate of the Long Shore Sailing School in Westport, but do not currently own a boat. I do have a kayak in the dink rack!

I have served the club prior as Vice Commodore in 2014 and 2017 and am just finishing 2018 as Commodore. In that time, I have also been on the Membership Committee, Internet/Media Committee, By-Laws Committee, Bar Inventory Committee and sat in with many other committees. I have been involved with many projects around the club including the upgraded beer draft system, new website with POS from Buzz as well as the projects of enclosing the under deck with the lattice at this year's Good Friday cleanup day. This year I have been an active participant in the Regional Commodore's Council where I have gained insight on the practices of the other 12 clubs and have used the information to better guide our club with procedure and decisions.

## VICE COMMODORE



### Bob Cote

My name is Bob Cote and I have been the Rear Commodore for the last two years at FYC. My wife Christina has



been an enormous help with this challenging position. Over the last two years we have been responsible for all the social functions of the club. We have also been responsible for

the season club decor from the palm trees to the Christmas decorations and everything in between.

This year we have decided to run for the Vice Commodore position. This position is responsible for the Kitchen, Bar and Ships store. Over the last two years we have formed a close working relationship with the kitchen because of the events we have done. We would love the opportunity to be more involved with Lighthouse Grill to bring some new and exciting ideas to the membership.

Over the last two years we have been given the opportunity to meet a lot of great members. We look forward to the potential opportunity of continuing to be an asset to FYC. Please come out January 6 or 8 to vote.

## REAR COMMODORE



### Bob Ellwanger

A New York City native, Bob claims Fairfield as his home for the past 50 years. Upon graduation from



Fordham University, Bob embarked on a four-year high school teaching career before entering the corporate world as a personnel assistant at New York Life Insurance Company in 1978, where he

initially managed corporate employee training and development programs, before moving into a variety of sales support positions, and ultimately retiring as a marketing officer in 2015. He and his wife Peg have been married for over 43 years, have two daughters as well as two grandchildren, and are members of the Lake Hills Association in Fairfield. An avid golfer, Bob is also a passionate chorister, having sung with a variety of auditioned as well as church choirs for the past 20 years. He currently serves on the board of The Mendelssohn Choir of Connecticut as its Development Director and Webmaster, and also on the boards of the New York Life Retired Managers Club and the Fairfield Senior Golf Association. He is also Communications Coordinator for Fairfield Senior Advocates. Bob joined Fayerweather Yacht Club in 2013, and is looking forward to furthering the club's mission in his new role as Rear Commodore.



**TREASURER**

**Gary G. Conrad**

Conrad is the current treasurer. He was appointed to the position by the Board of Governors in June 2013. He oversees the annual budgets, monthly financial reporting, investments, banking relations, tax filings and risk management. He was responsible for the main parking lot paving and walkways project, bringing it in under budget. An avid sailor and power boater, Conrad has lived in Fairfield for more than 50 years. He is currently the finance director for the Town of Westport and previously served as the Chief Financial Officer of the Town of New Canaan. He was also manager of financial planning and analysis at AMAX/Climax Metals.



**RECORDING SECRETARY**

**Andrew Cross**

Andrew has been living in Fairfield for over 40 years and has two children. He is retired after a career as an executive in the commercial construction business and as a partner in a commercial development business. His education includes a B.A. in Psychology from Syracuse University, an M.A. in Educational Technology from Fairfield University and a diploma from NYU in Real Estate Development. He was also an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association, and a volunteer middle school math teacher in the Fairfield School system. He has been a member of Fayerweather for seven years. He has been a Scoutmaster, a young people's youth program leader, and a member of the Mendelssohn Choir of Connecticut. He enjoys the outdoors including kayaking, rafting, skiing, sailing, golf and bluegrass festivals. He has been very active at Fayerweather for the past two years as the Recording Secretary during which time he has worked on the creation of a job description manual, the creation of a policy manual for the Club and several committees including the Centennial, Bar, Membership, Budget and Policy and Procedures Committees. He would very much like to continue helping the Club in this position.



**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

**Christine Ritzo**

My name is Christine Ritzo. I have been a member since 2013 and have served as the Financial Secretary for the past two years. In this capacity, I have managed all membership records, including new member sets ups, status changes, and storage requests. I also successfully transitioned to the new system in my second term. I look forward to continuing to serve the club in this role in 2019.





**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**Mike Roberts Jr.**

Roberts is seeking his second term on the board. He has been a club member since 1994. Club positions include the Hauling and Yard chair, 2012-present; two years as Dock Master in the mid-1990s; previous and current service on the Long Range Planning Committee, the Nominating Committee



and he is currently on the Kitchen Committee. Roberts is a lifelong Fairfield resident and active boater on the Sound and in New England. A self-employed insurance professional, he is married (Christine) and the proud father of Beyron, Blakely and Katie. His father, Mike Roberts Sr., is a lifetime member.

**Johnpatrick O'Brien**

The Rear Commodore in 2016, O'Brien currently serves on the bylaws committee. He has been a club member for five years. He is a partner at the law firm Cohen and Wolf and has been an attorney for 23 years. O'Brien, 50, lives in Fairfield and is married with two children.



**Susan Kiely**

Thank you for the nomination to the Board of Governors. I have been an active member since 1996. 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.



This year I wanted to involve FYC in the Community. I thought that participating in the Black Rock Day Parade was a good opportunity. I became the Chairman of the Float Committee. With three members of the committee and additional volunteers we built a great float. One that FYC could be proud of. Although we did not win first place, we got an Honorable Mention. Not bad for the first year. I was appointed chairman of the newly reorganized Centennial Committee in September this year. 2019 will be a great year! I was appointed Chairman of the Bylaw Committee in January. Reviewed, with the Committee, changes to present to the members. Thirty-three changes were successfully passed without objections at a Special Meeting in May. The past three committees weren't as successful. I was the Chairman of the Membership Committee in 2016 (brought in 77 members) and 2017 (brought in 102 members). We were full in September 2017 for the first time in years. We had 16 members on a waiting list in January 2018. 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 two years during 2008 and 2009. I have volunteered for so much throughout the years. I'm looking for your support on Election Day.

**Floor Candidates**

At presstime, two members are running as floor candidates for one of the three open positions on the Board of Governors. They are Jerry Hogarth and Mark Michael.

**Mark Michael**

I am running for a Board of Governors position in January 2019. This will be my 13th year at the club where I have been volunteering on a regular basis and supporting many club events. Having served as your Dock Master in 2018, I have attended every BOG and General Membership meeting



this year and have an appreciation of the hard work that is required to govern the club. I would like to gain your support for me to join this group. My background includes a career in managing engineering and sales teams as well as being a general manager of a manufacturing business unit. I currently head up our R&D and applications engineering departments where I am responsible for the development of concepts and detailed budgets for equipment up to \$15 million. As a boat owner for many years, my marine knowledge has helped me serve as Dock Master and provides me an understanding of the needs of a Yacht Club. On a regular basis I frequent other Yacht clubs while boating and would be proud to represent Fayerweather Yacht Club as one of your Board of Governors. I truly feel my experience, work ethic and attention to detail would make me an ideal candidate. I look forward to seeing you at the club!

