



BYC

Happenings

Hollywood's View pg. 3

Member Obituaries pg. 5-6

Special edition of the newsletter

Commodore's Letter

April 2020

Dear Members,

Bill Bulkeley, our Newsletter Editor, suggested a special early Newsletter this year, and I thought that was a great idea.

As I said in an earlier e-blast, this is an incredibly difficult time. We hope that everyone is doing well, whether you are local or hunkered down out-of-state. Let's send an extra shout out to those in our membership who are first responders and health care workers; you are true heroes. I also want to offer the support of our community to anyone who needs it. Please reach out and ask. We are all in this together.

Cont. Page 2



Yikes!

The OBYC flagpole fell over one windy night recently. The pole is attached to its base by three large bolts. The threads on the southeast bolt appear to have rusted out, allowing the pole to topple. Dick Stevens is planning repairs.

Commodore's Letter

Cont. from Pg. 1

As the season approaches, we will be in touch if we determine that we need to adjust our typical plans and protocols for the season in any significant way. This is such a fluid situation that we are unable to predict the effects currently, though it is certainly on our minds.

The membership continues to mourn four Club Members we have lost in recent months - Harry Love, Bill Burns, Fred Rusczek and Rich Siegel. Our hearts go out to their families.

Aside from the effects of the Coronavirus, the Club will be ready for the season. OBYC Committees and volunteers have continued their work through the winter to ensure that all details have been managed.

Needed maintenance and improvements are being accomplished.

Most recently, the flagpole blew over, and is being repaired! Two new floats are being built as part of the multi-year float replacement program. Our Social Calendar continues to be developed with an array of eclectic events and gatherings. The crane has been reserved for "floats in" on Saturday, May 16th. I can't say it enough – I continue to be incredibly impressed by the commitment of our volunteers, especially our Committee Chairs who *make it happen*.

So, we will be ready! Having said that, again, the Board will be meeting (virtually) in late April to make decisions as regards any changes we will need to make to these plans.

Please reach out to me with comments or concerns now or at any time.

Stay well,

-Kristin Fletcher, Commodore



Hollywood does Harpswell

by Bill Bulkeley

"Easter Cove" is the name of the fictional seaside village in "Blow the Man Down," a dark,

wintertime tale of the Maine coast enlivened by countless familiar scenes filmed on Orr's and Bailey Island and Cundy's Harbor.

Even the club's roadside sign makes a cameo appearance in this tale of hidden crimes, sisterly secrets and the most incompetent police duo since Car 54.

The 90-minute movie started streaming on Amazon Prime in March, and it has gotten 99% thumbs up on Rotten Tomatoes and generally positive reviews in the New York Times and elsewhere. Still, the characters are thinly sketched and hard to like, and the plot hinges on implausibly inept police work. For this viewer, only the local interest and superb cinematography make the film worth viewing.

Filmed in the snowy winter of 2018, the overcast skies provide a fitting film noir backdrop for the mayhem on the ground. It was written and directed by Bridget Cole and

Danielle Krudy, two filmmakers who founded a Los Angeles-based all-female film collective. It was first screened at the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival.

Though the movie opens with an unlikely Greek chorus of rubber-booted fishermen singing a sea shanty, it gradually becomes clear that the film and the town are controlled by the elderly women who know all the secrets and still pull the strings.

It features a cast of character actors headed by Margo Martindale, playing a boozy cynic, and Sophie Lowe and Morgan Saylor playing the 20-something sisters dealing with the death of their mother and



the struggling fish market that she left them.

There are occasional breaks of humor – an antique bowl in the front hall of a Victorian mansion is filled with condoms; a singing fisherman puffs on his vape pen in the middle of a chorus. But the film leans hard toward the dark side of dark comedy.

Three people are murdered in gruesome fashion. The sisters, who hate each other's life choices, mourn their mother and steal funds to survive financially. The sweet elderly friends of the late mother share a shameful secret. The town's most successful business is a criminal enterprise.

But for people familiar with the area, much of the movie's pleasure comes from spotting the various sites repurposed for the movie plot. The Giant's Stairs become the perfect spot for dumping a body. The Cribstone Bridge is rechristened "Criminal's Bridge." Morse's Restaurant becomes a dive bar filled with scheming natives. The sisters' fish market is the Cundy's Harbor store up the hill from Holbrook's Wharf.

"Blow the Man Down" gives viewers a grim take on life Down East.



Movie Magic: Morse's becomes a dive bar and the local landmark is "Criminal's Bridge"



Member Obituaries

Frederick A. Rusczek — former OBYC Commodore, died Feb. 18, 2020, at age 68. Fred had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer a few months earlier, and he died at his home in Harpswell, surrounded by his family.

Fred was commodore from 2016 to 2018. He was active in many aspects of club life in recent years, including a stint as dinghy master and a role promoting adult sailing.

Fred's wife Margie and his son Andrew and daughter Julie with their spouses are all active members of OBYC, and his grandchildren are frequently seen at club events.

Fred spent his working life in the public health field in Manchester, NH, where he served as director of the city health department and later of child-health services.

After moving full time to Harpswell he threw himself into various barn-raising and boat-rebuilding projects. He spent lots of time on the water fishing and sailing, and loved coming to the club for Friday night sunset cookouts.

A fuller obituary can be found by copying and pasting this link in your browser: <https://legcy.co/2w8JM1N>



Harry Morrow Pierce Love died Dec. 5, 2019, at age 81. A retired orthopedic surgeon, he lived with his wife Martha in Mill Spring, NC.

Richard P. Siegel — OBYC board member and volunteer coordinator died March 10, 2020 at the age of 73.

Rich had served on the membership committee and was active in promoting volunteerism among members. He started the day steward program and even volunteered to drive the club launch transporting members out to their boats during the past summer.

His wife Bunny, to whom he was married for 49 years, is also active at the club.

During his career, Rich spent 28 years as a special agent in the U.S. Customs Service, capturing drug shipments, testifying to Congress about drug interdictions, managing customs issues at the Lake Placid Olympic Games and sometimes helping protect President Ronald Reagan. Later he worked at a New Jersey non-profit agency. He lived in Durham, Maine.

A fuller obituary can be found by copying and pasting this link: <https://bit.ly/39H0bYJ>



William K. Burns — died Nov. 1, 2019 at the age of 76. A distinguished physicist he pioneered integrated optical waveguides for fiber-optic communications and gyroscopes. He had over 50 patents in the field, mostly from his time at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C.

His wife of 53 years, Wendy Burns, predeceased him in May 2019.

A fuller obituary can be found by copying and pasting this link: <https://bit.ly/2X2rBWp>

