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September 2016

Ruszczek Chosen Commodore



Fred Ruszczek was elected as the new commodore of the Orr's Bailey Yacht Club by club directors following the annual meeting, Aug. 20. Ruszczek succeeds Garrett Knight as commodore.

Kristin Fletcher was elected vice commodore. She succeeds Ned Kitchel. Rich Siegel was also added to the board. Continuing in their roles are: Teena Patton, secretary, Sue Baker treasurer and Bill Obreiter, assistant treasurer. .

At the annual meeting, Knight and various committee chairs outlined a successful year with solid plans in place for club operations. Knight said there has been a big increase in the number of volunteers

on committees and helping with various events.

The club currently is at capacity of 250 members, having added 16 new members this year.

Currently there are 14 people on the waiting list, and two more couples have begun to submit their paperwork. Membership committee chair Sandy Nelson said "we have a club where a lot of people want to be members."

The club wasn't able to find a launch operator for weekends this summer. Directors will consider whether the job might attract more applicants if it was

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volunte

New director, Rich Siegel, Commodore Fred Ruszczek and Vice Commodore Kristin Fletcher

Commodore's Letter

I write this while sitting in Gloucester Harbor aboard my son Andy's sailboat *Capers*. Our destination Boston lies about 25 miles southwest. Andy's plan is to extend the season by having his boat closer to home for the months of September and October when work affords him less time to escape to Maine. I will admit this was not a trip I had a burning desire to take. Not because I wasn't up for the sailing adventure. (Can one still call it sailing if there was no wind and we motored for two days?) Nor because I don't enjoy spending time with Andy. And certainly not because I haven't yet finished my spring yard chores. Rather, it is because our summer days are waning and I don't want to miss any opportunity to enjoy OBYC and Casco Bay. I've been spoiled by OBYC and I know it.

OBYC is a special place for Margie and me. It is hard to imagine a volunteer run yacht club that offers more than OBYC does. From rich social and enrichment opportunities, to opportunities for sailing instruction for children, boating, sailing, fishing, kayaking or just hanging out with friends, it would be hard to create a more perfect place. All this has been made available to Margie and me, and all OBYC members because of the vision and hard work of dedicated volunteers, prior boards of directors and commodores. For this, we are deeply grateful.

As your new commodore, I look forward to working with the Board in continuing the traditions and progress that have made OBYC such a special place. In this regard, please share your ideas and issues with me. In the meantime, you might find Margie and me enjoying another sunset or two before the boats and floats are hauled ashore. We welcome you to join us!

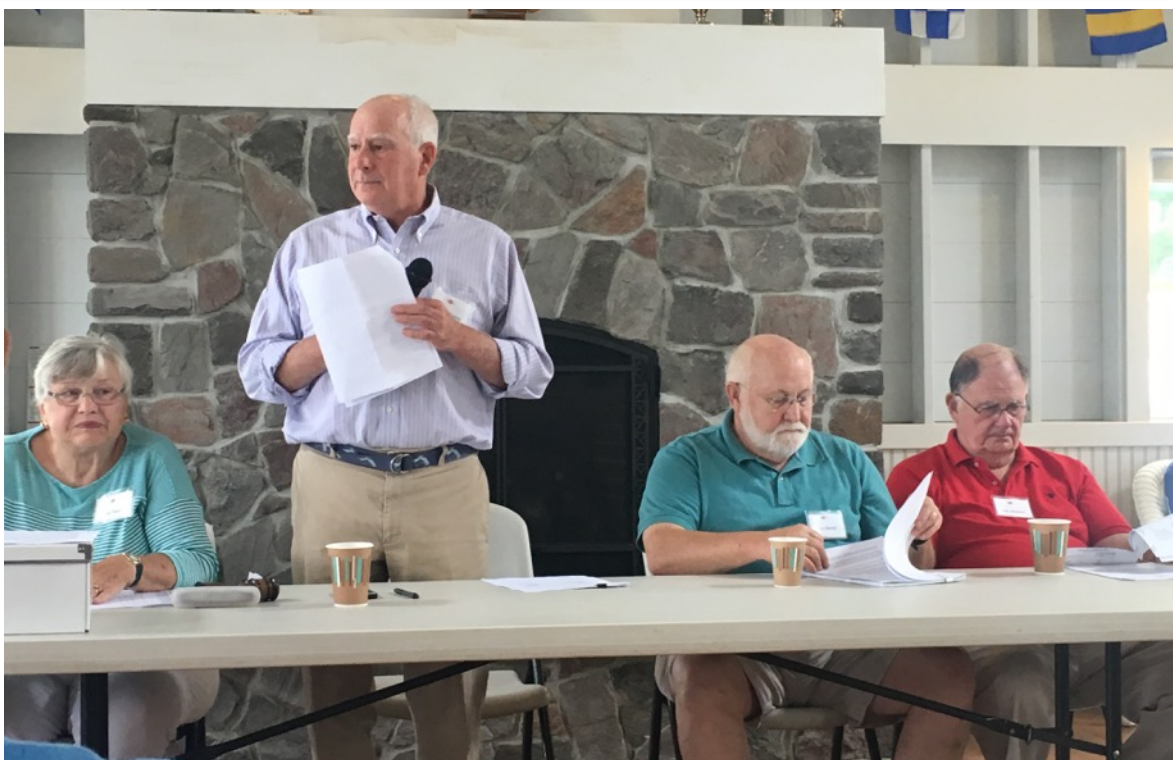
Enjoy the remaining days of what has been a wonderful summer season!

Fred Rusczek

Float Removal, Clubhouse Closing

Oct. 15

Help needed. No experience required.
Please let Paul Cournoyer know if you can help out that day.



Sue Baker, treasurer, Garrett Knight, outgoing commodore, Ned Kitchel, outgoing vice-commodore and Sam Hartman outgoing director.

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funded for five days a week with some additional responsibilities. However, the volunteer day-steward program managed to staff the club almost every day this summer. The directors also plan to review the Abbott Fletcher Sailing School results.

Paul Cournoyer reported that the mooring field was reconfigured this year to accommodate 10 new or relocated moorings. There are currently five members seeking a mooring. Six moorings have been

unused the past two years, and the club would like to help owners of those moorings to sell them. Under Harpswell town rules, moorings that are unused for a year may be considered abandoned.

In other waterfront news, he said the committee is developing a plan for replacing or reconditioning the floats, which are 20 years old. The committee is also considering expanding the dinghy float because six new dinghies were added this year.

Harpswell History Lecture

The development of the Harpswell peninsula and Orr's and Bailey islands as tourist destinations in the late 1800s was the topic of the final lecture in the summer's four-lecture series.

Ed Phinney, a local historian, showed photos of the steamships that plied Casco Bay, some carrying up to 1,000 passengers. They brought vacationers from Boston and New York to Portland. Then tourists took smaller ships to Potts Point, starting in 1875 and later to the islands. Merritt House, now a condominium behind the OBYC clubhouse, was one popular destination.

Phinney said there was an ample labor supply in the area, because the development of steamships had shuttered much of the local sailing-shipbuilding industry. In an era before air-conditioning, the Maine coast was comfortable. And water arrivals dominated, even after the railroad came to Brunswick. It took a four-hour ordeal over rough roads to get to the end of the island by carriage, he said.



2016 Social Calendar

Items in italics are for general information only – not club functions

Hosts needed for several events. Please take a turn.

Members should bring their beverage of choice to ALL events

Members must sign up either online or at the club.

Sign up must be completed by Wednesday evening for all Saturday and Thursday events.

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|--|
| Sat | 9/10* | <p>SOUTHERN PULLED PORK DINNER (With a Twist of Star Trek!)
 Celebrating Star Trek's 50th Anniversary on TV.
 Star Trek attire welcome!
 5:00 pm Social Hour
 6:00 pm Dinner cooked by the Kinsers and Volunteers
 Members only, \$10 per person, limited to 90.
 Hosts: Kinser, Gill,</p> |
| Sat | 10/1* | <p>CHILI AND CHOWDER FALL GATHERING
 5:00 pm Social Hour
 6:00 pm Potluck – Bring chili, chowder, bread, salad, or dessert
 Hosts:</p> |
| Sat | 12/3 4-6:00 pm | <p>ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY
 Bring a hearty appetizer</p> |



Hosts:



Basho, an Australian cattle dog, requests "Permission to come aboard" from owner Toby Sifton. They were headed for Ragged Island. (The newsletter seeks more photos of dogs in boats.)

AFSS Completes Successful Summer

The Abbot Fletcher Sailing School taught beginner and intermediate sailing classes to 60 young sailors during the past summer, Bobbi Robertson, committee chair, said. Some students took more than one class.

Of the total, 15 were children or grandchildren of OBYC members. The club sponsors the sailing program, named for a former commodore, and provides waterfront, classroom and boats as well as hiring instructors. Tuition is charged to make the program self-supporting.

Last winter, the club eliminated the racing program that had been part of the school, in order to reduce the number of instructors needed and cut program costs. The cost cuts appear to have made the program "very sustainable," Robertson said.

This year, students were taught by a head instructor and two assistants. Every day, a member of the sailing committee was present to provide adult oversight and on-shore assistance if students needed to come off the boats.

The club is selling two Laser sailboats that were used in the racing program. See below.



Laser for Sale – needs a little work. Former AFSS boat. Can be seen at OBYC. \$1000.00 OBRO.



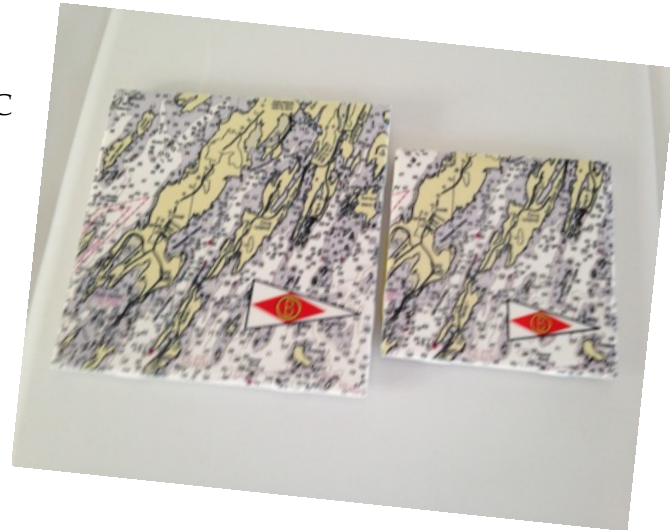
Laser II for Sale – needs a little work. Former AFSS boat. Can be seen at OBYC. \$500.

Please contact Malcolm McFarland – (207) 833-6671.

GREAT NEW OBYC ITEM.

Coasters and Trivets available in area coastal chart with OBYC burgee. Coasters are \$8.00 each and Trivets are \$12.00 each.

For purchase Contact Helen Kitchel (802)989-5728) or Susu McIlvaine (215)767-4412.



Board of Directors

Commodore: Fred Rusczek

Vice Commodore

Kristin Fletcher

Secretary Teena Patton

Treasurer Sue Baker

Membership Sandy Nelson

Board Members:

Jim Whalen

Holly Lusk

Malcolm McFarland

Richard Siegel

Ned Kitchel

Don Robertson

Fred Holler

Allan Jarvis

Garrett Knight

OBYC

PO Box 236

Orr's Island, ME 04066

(207) 833-7312 *summer only*

Membership:

George & Ellie Patterson, OBYC

Honorary Life Members, resigned last month after the annual meeting and have moved away from the area to be close to family members.

Kim Stewart has been accepted into regular OBYC membership, from our waiting list. Kim is the daughter of OBYC members Sandy & Barry Stewart and has summered on Orr's Island since childhood. Professionally, she is a speech pathologist in the Boston area and she is an active sailor in her family's Tanzer 16 as well as skippering J-24s and Solings out of the Boston Sailing Center.

Newsletter

Contact **Bill Bulkeley** with photographs, articles, and suggestions for your OBYC newsletter.

617-320-2528, bill.bulkeley@gmail.com,
newsletter@obyc.org