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May, 2024

Commodore's Letter

Dear OBYC Members,

Welcome back to another season of connecting with familiar faces, making new friends, and creating special memories at The Club. Throughout the offseason, the OBYC Board and Committees have been working to prepare for the 2024 season.

One task has been considering all your feedback from the all-member survey in order to enhance your experiences at the club this season.

There is new OBYC branded merchandise. On-line payment is now available for AFSS and membership dues. (but not for individual events at this point). There are new events planned for the social calendar. The webcam has been upgraded (and is functioning!). New members are being welcomed. Thank you to all the committees and the OBYC Board.

LOOKING FORWARD - The board is grateful to all who took the time to complete the membership survey. The essence of our club lies in its volunteer-driven history, where members contribute time, energy, and expertise to nurture and sustain the club. Your responses and feedback within the survey encouraged the board to explore creative ways to navigate the shifting demands of modern life, while leveraging our strengths as a club and within the community, to ensure the legacy of the club continues for years to come. *Cont, pg. 3*



Floats In May 6

By Paul Cournoyer

On May 6th, an experienced crew of knowledgeable members and outside contractors, launched the floats and commissioned the waterfront for another season at OBYC. Lets hope there will be less rain — especially on weekends!

The floats are available for use Saturday, May 11.

The Mooring Service Providers are still commissioning moorings in the field so be sure to check that your mooring is ready before you bring your boat over.

The commissioning of the waterfront was preceded by a Spring Work Party on April 27th. Waterfront and Anchorage Committee members *Cont. Pg 3.*



*Kym Cournoyer,
Commodore Liz Incze
and Max Fletcher
secure the club sign to
the dock.*

Float Launching



*Left — A black dachshund oversees
Nick Nichols as he gets a float ready to
be towed into position.*

*Below — Paul Cournoyer is a man
with a plan.*



Waterfront

Cont. from Pg. 1

gathered at the club to clean and paint the club dinghies and perform general maintenance.

The mooring field continues to be tight and lacking space for new moorings. Next month the Waterfront and Anchorage Committee and the Harpswell Harbormaster will be assessing the field to determine if there's space for new moorings.

If you are no longer using your mooring, please advise W&A Committee Co-Chairs Paul Cournoyer and Ed Kenyon. Your help in allowing your fellow club members the opportunity for a mooring in the field will be appreciated.

In order to spread out the responsibilities of the Waterfront & Anchorage Committee, we have created an W&A Executive Committee to provide oversight of the waterfront as well as develop a greater knowledge base. However, we still need the help from every member who has signed up for the W&A Committee to assist us with various tasks both during the season and during the off season.

Please feel free to reach out to any of the below members if you have any questions regarding the club's waterfront.

The Executive Committee is:

Paul Cournoyer
Ed Kenyon
Kym Cournoyer
Tim Vail

Peter Taylor



Commodore's Letter

Cont. from page 1

The board is excited to share the responses and open the first of what may be many discussions on what we heard. The initial presentation of the club survey results will be on Saturday June 15th at 4 pm. Come to the club for an information and discussion session with the board – or join by Zoom if you can't be here in person. (A link will be sent to all members via an e-blast as we get closer). After the presentation and discussion, a copy of the slide show will be posted on the members only section of the website.

A FEW HOUSEKEEPING THINGS - Communications are primarily done through the email system of the club. Please make sure to keep all your contact information up to date, including email addresses and phone numbers.

If you have a dinghy or kayak at the club, it is critical you have your contact information in the dinghy/kayak. It is not only a matter of our being able to know who to contact if a boat is loose, but also a matter of safety. Orange stickers are available at the town offices, and we will have a supply at the dockhouse. If you store your dinghy on the float, make sure contact information is visible on the transom.

The clubhouse, including the porches, is a non-smoking environment. Please refrain from smoking anywhere near the building.

You will see something new on your nametags this year – Sue Baker kindly added the year you became a member – with the idea that may strike up some interesting conversations between more seasoned members and new members. Have some fun learning something about old history at the club.

YOUR CLUBHOUSE AND FLOATS are available for use May 11!

I look forward to seeing everyone on the floats and at our various social gatherings.

Best,

Liz Incze

Commodore

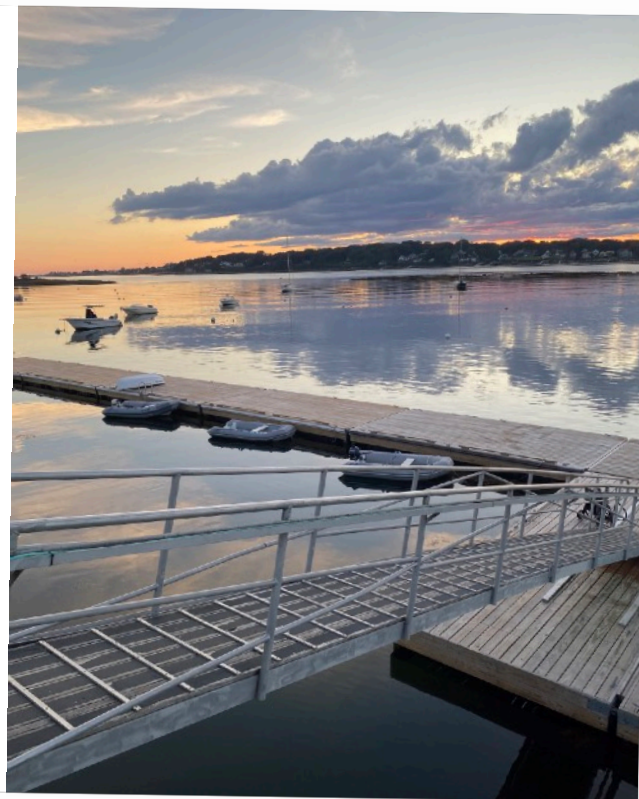
New Law Requires Safety Course for Young Boaters

Boaters under 24 years old have to take a qualified boat safety course before driving any boat with more than a 25 horsepower engine under a new state law.

A link to safety course is available at the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife site.

<https://www.maine.gov/ifw/programs-resources/educational-programs/safety-courses/boating-safety.html>

Beginning January 1, 2024, a person born on or after January 1, 1999, may not operate a motorboat greater than twenty-five (25) horsepower for recreational boating purposes on inland waters of this State or territorial waters, unless that person is 12 years of age or older and has completed a boater safety and education course. These persons must possess and present a boater safety and education course certificate for inspection upon request to a law enforcement officer. There are a few exemptions, such as for registered Maine guides (hunting, fishing, and recreational guides only), commercial fishermen, daily boat renters, and merchant mariners.



Coast Guard May 'Disestablish' Cox Ledge Marker

The Waterfront & Anchorage Committee received an explanation from the USCG on their plans to disestablish the daymark on Cox Ledge, which is the ledge just to the west of the club's mooring field. You may have noticed that the daymark has been home to an osprey nest for several years. The USCG's response is as follows:

This aid needs to be rebuilt or removed. It can no longer be serviced by the responsible unit in its current condition. Due to its location it cannot be rebuilt by the local unit and needs to be contracted out. Marine construction costs, especially in areas that are very exposed are extremely expensive. A proposal such as this (along with reaching out to local harbor masters and harbor safety committees) is part of the steps to determine the necessity of an Aid to Navigation.



Old boaters get a pass on this.



Pre-Opening Work Party

Clockwise from below: Garrett Knight, Ben Skinner and Max Fletcher, Dan Gates, Doug Nelson



Social Calendar

Welcome to the 2024 OBYC Social Event Calendar! In addition to the scheduled events listed below, please make use of our wonderful clubhouse/kitchen, deck, grill, picnic tables, and lawn to gather often! Check the listings for any scheduled private events, yoga, lectures, etc. as the indoor facilities may be occupied at those times. All events are BYO beverages.

PLEASE NOTE: For events where sign-up is required, please sign up on the OBYC Web site or on the sign-up sheets posted on the bulletin board at the clubhouse. If there is a cost for an event, please pay with cash or check prior to, or at the event. Lastly, since pitching in is how OBYC functions, if you can lend a hand, get in touch with the contact person listed below for that particular event.

May 11 Waterfront commissioning complete. Floats ready for use.

June 8, Sat, 5pm Welcome Back Social - Bring an appetizer to share. No sign-up needed. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Lynn Knight [lynnknight@oldecove.com]

June 14, Fri, 5-ish "Do-Drop-In" Casual Friday – This is a DIY event. Bring an appetizer to share. BYO supper too if you wish. Join members for sunsets, conversation, and other spontaneous goings on like music jams or cornhole tossing. No sign up, no set up; just show up, but don't forget to pick up, clean up & lock up. For questions contact: Lynn Knight [lynnknight@oldecove.com]

June 15, Sat, 4pm Presentation of Club Survey Results – Come to the club for an information and discussion session regarding the membership survey recently conducted. A Zoom link will be provided for those who cannot attend in person. For more information contact: Liz Incze [liz.incze@gmail.com]

June 20, Thurs, 7:00pm Book Group – The group will discuss "The Berry Pickers," by Amanda Peters. For questions contact: Bobbi Robertson [bobbierobertson12@gmail.com]

June 22, Sat, 5pm Blessing of the Fleet –5pm (Blessing at 5:45pm) Bring appetizer to share. NO SIGN-UP NEEDED. Items for the AFSS Auction will be on display. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Margie Rusczek [rusczek@comcast.net]

June 23, Sun Overnight Cruise with OBYC Friends – Cruise your own boat to the nearby anchorage around Snow Island to meet up and socialize with friends. For questions contact: Bob Gill [bobgill1946@gmail.com]
[bobgill1946@gmail.com]

June 27, Thurs, 6:30 **Lecture Series:** Artist, writer, Maine native, and OBYC member Kate Beck talks with us about her fascinations with painting, photography, and place through her *Will's Strait* series of overpainted photographs which reveal Maine to be the wellspring of so many of her abstractions. Coffee/tea/dessert gathering at 6:30; Presentation starts at 7:00pm For questions and/or if you can help contact: Cathy Kelley [ckelley0506@gmail.com]

June 29, Sat, 8–10am AFSS Pancake Breakfast -- Open to public. Organized and staffed by AFSS. \$10/adult, \$7/child ages 2-10, kids under 2 free. Breakfast 8am to 10am. Items for the AFSS Auction will be on display. For questions contact: Tom Nicholson [Thomas.nicholson@comcast.net] or Diana or Ed Kenyon [efkenyon@aol.com]

July 1 thru Aug 9 Abbot Fletcher Sailing School is in session.

July 13, Sat, 10 to 3 AFSS Auction - Items will be displayed at the Blessing of the Fleet and the Pancake Breakfast. Bidding can take place at these events and on-line (details regarding on-line bidding will be forthcoming). Final bidding and pick-up will take place this day from 10 to 3.

July 13, Sat, 5-ish “Do-Drop-In” Casual Saturday – This is a DIY event. Bring an appetizer to share. BYO supper too if you want. Join members for sunsets, conversation, and other spontaneous goings on like music jams or cornhole tossing. No sign up, no set up; just show up, but don’t forget to pick up, clean up & lock up. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Margie Rusczek [rusczek@comcast.net]

July 18, Thurs, 7:00pm Book Group – The group will discuss “This Other Eden,” by Paul Harding. For questions contact: Teena Patton [Christine.Patton48@yahoo.com] or Cathy Kelley [ckelley0506@gmail.com]

July 21, Sun, 5pm Sunday S’mores Casual Outdoor Gathering -- Finish your weekend with a sweet treat! Ingredients for s’mores will be provided. No sign up, no set up; just show up, but don’t forget to pick up, clean up & lock up. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Margie Rusczek [rusczek@comcast.net]

July 27, Sat, 5pm Italian Dinner with Rockweed Band -- 5pm Social hour, appetizers provided. 6pm Lasagna dinner with tossed salad, garlic bread, dessert provided. \$25/person. SIGN-UP REQUIRED. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Martha Tubinis [tubinis@comcast.net]

July 28, Sun Overnight Cruise with OBYC Friends – Cruise your own boat to the nearby anchorage at The Basin to meet up and socialize with friends. For questions contact: Bob Gill [bobgill1946@gmail.com]

Aug 1, Thurs, 6:30pm Lecture series: Joe Goldman presents his 90-minute documentary film: “The Fishermen of Mackerel Cove.” Through a series of interviews with Harpswell fishermen, the film examines the intense engagement with nature, and the independence, freedom, self-reliance of this livelihood central to the town’s heritage. Coffee/tea/dessert gathering at 6:30; Film starts at 7:00pm. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Cathy Kelley [ckelley0506@gmail.com]

Aug 2, Fri, 4:30pm Fun Sailing Race – AFSS Committee presents a fun race open to all. Sail whatever you want—dinghy, sunfish, big boat—no problem as long as it sails!! Surprise musical guests could make an appearance. BYO appetizers and drinks. All spectators welcome! For questions contact: Chris Nichols [nicholodeoncreative@gmail.com] or Bob Gill [bobgill1946@gmail.com]

Aug 10, Sat, 5-ish “Do-Drop-In” Casual Saturday – This is a DIY event. Bring an appetizer to share. BYO supper too if you want. Join members for sunsets, conversation, and other spontaneous goings on like music jams or cornhole tossing. No sign up, no set up; just show up, but don’t forget to pick up, clean up & lock up. For questions contact: Lucy Cook [lucycook56@gmail.com]

Aug 15, Thurs, 7:00pm Book Group – The group will discuss “Home Now: How 6000 Refugees Transformed an American Town” by Cynthia “CB” Anderson. For questions contact: Maggie Gill [maggie.gill55@gmail.com]

Aug 16, Fri Overnight Cruise with OBYC Friends – Cruise your own boat to the nearby anchorage at the Goslings to meet up and socialize with friends. For questions contact: Bob Gill [bobgill1946@gmail.com]

Aug 17, Sat, 4pm Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Picnic – Please come to the annual meeting and then stay, relax to enjoy a picnic supper provided by OBYC. Join in some friendly corn hole competition if you like. There’s a good chance our own OBYC fiddlers will make an appearance! SIGN-UP REQUIRED. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Lucy Cook [lucycook56@gmail.com]

Sept 21, Sat, 5pm Pulled Pork Dinner -- 5pm Social Hour, 6pm Dinner. Enjoy a delicious pulled pork dinner and dessert. \$20/person SIGN-UP REQUIRED. For info contact: Cathy Kelley [ckelley0506@gmail.com]

Oct 5, Sat, 5pm Chili/Chowder Potluck – Bring appetizer, chili, salad, bread, or dessert to share. Sign-up for specific type of dish is requested. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Cathy Kelley [ckelley0506@gmail.com]

Dec 7, Sat, 4pm Annual Holiday Party – Bring a hearty appetizer to share. Please remember the water has been shut off and the fireplace will provide the only heat. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Tim Vail or Joanne Urquhart [jurq.23@gmail.com]

Weekly events:

July 3 thru Aug 28 Wednesday Bingo – Great fun for all ages! Social/dinner hour begins at 6pm. Bring something to grill for yourself and an appetizer, salad, or dessert to share. Bingo starts promptly at 7pm. For the games, bring a low/no-cost wrapped fun gift for prizes. For questions contact: Teena Patton [Christine.Patton48@yahoo.com]

June 18 thru Sept 10 Tuesday Yoga with Kara Douglas - 7:30 to 8:30 – Please bring your own yoga mat and arrive 10 minutes early to complete paperwork. \$15 per class. For questions contact: Charlie Johnson [charlie-j@outlook.com]

June 21 thru Sept 13 Friday Yoga with Kevin Wicks - 7:30 to 8:30 – Please bring your own yoga mat and arrive 10 minutes early to complete paperwork. \$15 per class. For questions contact: Charlie Johnson [charlie-j@outlook.com]

June 25 thru mid-Oct Tuesday Mah Jongg - Come and join our Mah Jongg group for an afternoon of fun. All you need is a 2024 Card. We meet on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 at the club and play until 4:00-4:30. We will start on June 25th and play through mid-October or until it gets too cold. We are always looking for new players and are willing to teach you. For questions contact Linda Kittle at 913-306-2986.

Membership Changes

Only five members resigned over the winter, barely half the usual attrition, according to Sandy Nelson, membership chair.

The resigning members were Stephanie Greenwood, Steve and Judy Corson and Phil and Connie Connor.

There are currently 20 people on the waiting list — nine couples and two singles.

Information on our new members will appear in the June issue of the newsletter.



In Memoriam

George Patterson, who served as Club Commodore 2002-2003 and spent many years as club Treasurer, passed away during the winter. His wife Ellie had died in 2023.

George was a Connecticut banker who loved sailing and retired to the coast of Maine. He was active in the restoration of the Elijah Kellogg Church on Harpswell

Green Thumbs Wanted

Nancy Kinser, who is responsible for the elegant look of the gardens next to the club is looking for additional volunteers.

Please call her at (207) 844-0473 or email nkdiet@gmail.com if you can aid in keeping the premises looking tidy and cared-for.

Board of Directors

Commodore

Liz Incze

Vice Commodore

Andy Ruszcek

Treasurer

Sue Baker

Secretary

Dawn Kalmar

Board Members

Bunny Siegel

Tara McCarthy

Bob Seaman

Phil Sumner

Howard Levitan

Janice Skillings-Goff

Diana Kenyon

Lee McIlvaine

Chris Nichols

Newsletter

This is the first Newsletter of 2023. The newsletter appears monthly during the summer season.

Contact Bill Bulkeley with photographs, articles and suggestions for your OBYC newsletter. Any pictures of dogs or cats on boats are particularly welcome.