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September, 2024

Commodore's Letter

It seems like just yesterday that we were gathered for the 2024 annual meeting and member appreciation picnic. It was good to see so many people.

I want to thank everyone for the engaging discussions that took place around the results and themes captured in the membership survey.

You've given the board a strong foundation to build upon with respect to defining our operational needs into the future. Over the course of the winter, the board will be delving into more details of planning for the long-range vision of how the club meets the mission and needs of membership.

The board will provide updates and perhaps request additional input and support as we progress towards the 2025 annual meeting. This work takes all of us to contribute. Please reach out to any board member if you have an interest in being involved.

Finally, the board re-elected the following as officers:

Commodore: Liz Incze

Vice Commodore: Andy Rusczek

Treasurer: Sue Baker

Secretary: Dawn Kalmar

We are changing the schedule for our regular board

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Floats Out October 14

A giant crane and a crew from Redfish & Associates will pull the floats and close off the club waterfront on Monday, October 14th. All dinghies should be removed by Oct. 11, the Friday before, so that the Waterfront and Anchorage Committee can prepare the floats for removal.

A small number of experienced club members who are familiar with the process will assist Redfish. The Waterfront committee requests that other members avoid the club on Oct. 14.

OBYC will not be responsible for dinghies left in the water after October 11th. If you have any questions please contact the Waterfront and Anchorage Committee at obyanchorage@gmail.com.



More than 50 members filled the clubhouse for the club's 70th annual meeting on Aug. 17.

Annual Meeting



Commodore Liz Incze and Bunny Siegel count the votes on whether to hire staff or emphasize voluntarism. The board will consider the issues this winter.

Commodore's Letter

Cont. from Pg. 1

We are changing the schedule for our regular board meetings going forward. They will be held the third Monday of every month. (In person when the club house is open, with Zoom as an option; only by Zoom when the club house is closed).

Anyone is welcome to join the board meeting – please reach out to me (Commodore@OBYC.org) and I will make sure to send you the zoom meeting details as well as the agenda.

Thank you once again for your dedication and commitment to our club's future.

Liz Incze

Commodore

Member Rolls Filled

Membership chair, Sandy Nelson, reported that the club's membership is at capacity with 260 members, including six added since the last annual meeting.

There are 26 people on the waiting list including 12 couples and two singles. Because of unusually low turnover, the waiting list is effectively three years.

Under club rules, junior associates and children of existing members jump to the top of the waiting list.

The club's newest member is Caroline Weatherill, daughter of Chip and Mary Weatherill. Caroline is a senior vice president of Bank of America in the human resources field.

She lives in Portland and enjoys using her kayak off the club float.



(Left-to-right) Board members, Phil Sumner, Tara McCarthy, Andy Ruszcek vice commodore and Dawn Kalmar secretary are continuing in office. Diana Kenyon completed her term.

Finances Strong

Kristin Fletcher, finance chair, reported that the club's capital spending in the past year was low, after three straight years of spending over \$15,000 a year to replace all our floats.

She said the club had about \$40,000 in operating income, comprised of \$16,000 from new membership applications and annual dues for existing members.

The club is working to project future capital spending needs, with replacement of the pier being the biggest item, estimated at \$200,000. The pier is currently in excellent shape and there isn't any forecast for when it might require updating.

Waterfront chair Paul Cournoyer reported the pier didn't suffer any damage in last winter's storms. However, he said, the club's dinghies are aging.

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.

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]

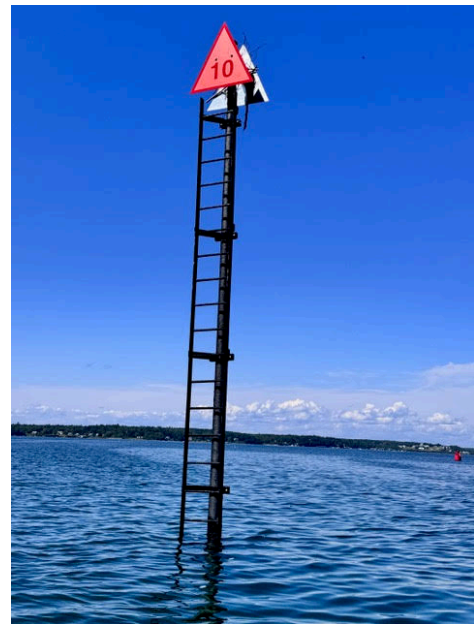
Dec 7, Sat, 4pm Annual Holiday Party – Bring a hearty appetizer to share. Please remember the water has been shut off and the fireplace will provide the only heat. For questions and/or if you can help contact: Tim Vail or Joanne Urquhart [jurq.23@gmail.com]

HAH Help Wanted!

OBYC is a cosponsor of Harpswell Lunch with Friends, a potluck luncheon run by Harpswell Aging at Home, a volunteer organization with many OBYC participants. The luncheon is Oct. 1 at the Orr's Island Schoolhouse 1594 Harpswell Islands Rd.

Club member Rebecca Levitan, is coordinating the event and seeks club volunteers to bring potluck items — labeled to warn off allergy sufferers — or provide help with set-up, serving and clean up.

Rebecca needs responses by Sept. 20.



The Cox Ledge marker has been replaced by the Coast Guard. Last year the Coast Guard said it was considering abandoning the navigational aid.

OBYC Merch Online

The Merchandise Committee reminds members that OBYC clothing and other goods make great Christmas gifts. Log on to see and, of course, order a broad selection of colorful and exciting new apparel and accessories along with longtime favorites.

Show your support to the club and this hardworking committee by stocking up and wearing your OBYC Swag.



In Memoriam

Barbara “Joan” Wells, passed away Aug. 24 at the age of 77. A longtime club member, she was the wife of William Wells and lived on Bailey Island.

An avid gardener, she served as vice president and president of the Harpswell Gardening Club, and also volunteered at Mid-Coast hospital. Professionally she worked as a realtor for Rob Williams Group and Homes and Harbors.

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

Teena Patton

Lee McIlvaine

Chris Nichols

Newsletter

This is the fifth Newsletter of 2024. 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.