



# *Under the Rock*

**Spring 2022**

## **The Newsletter of the Marblehead Yacht Club**

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### **Commodore's Comment**

Ahoy! Don't let that occasional white stuff on the ground fool you, boating season is just around the corner.

Make your "to do" list, get your supplies, schedule your launch date, and dream of fishing, sailing, racing, and relaxing days ahead.

The MYC officers and board have been meeting via Zoom and most recently in person organizing and planning for a busy and fun season. We are excited and ever so hopeful that the Covid challenges are in our rear view.

We have very exciting news to share, see the House Committee report below. Rear Commodore Marcel Nyffenegger and the House Committee have worked hard over the winter and I want to express my gratitude for their efforts.

Vice Commodore David Williams and the Waterfront Committee along with the intrepid leadership of Bill Kilham are focused on getting the waterfront ship shape and ready to go.

The Entertainment Committee is busy planning events as well! Please volunteer for a committee and come to the spring work parties!

I am honored to serve as your commodore and look forward to seeing you on the deck and launch.

Stay warm and get those projects started!

Jane

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## House Committee Report

### MYC Galley Changes

First, I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Rear Commodore of the Marblehead Yacht Club.

I am excited to let you all know that we have awarded the MYC Galley catering contract to K/C2, owned by Kevin Verga and Casey Brown. Kevin and Casey ran the kitchen and service last year and have made the leap to start their own business. They are creating an exciting new menu and will expand on the offerings from the past. They are also making changes to improve service with a new POS system, and a hostess managing the front of house. The goal is to greatly improve wait times for a table and service.

With boating season on the horizon, I am looking forward to meeting many of you and enjoying a meal on the best deck on the harbor!

Marcel Nyffenegger

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## Spring Calendar

### **Board of Directors' Meeting**

Tuesday March 15, 6:30pm, MYC Cliff Room

### **Final Winter Program, Fame–The Salem Privateer**

Wednesday April 6, 7:00pm to 8:30pm, MYC Cliff Room

### **First Spring Work Party**

Saturday April 9, 8:00am to 4:00pm, MYC House and Yard

To sign up just respond to this email.

### **Second Spring Work Party**

Saturday April 16, 8:00am to 4:00pm MYC House and Yard

To sign up just respond to this email.

### **Board of Directors' Meeting**

Tuesday April 19, 6:30 pm, MYC Cliff Room

### **First Day of Launch Service**

Saturday May 7, 10:00am to 6:00pm

Click here for [Full Schedule](#)

### **MYC Meet and Greet and Kentucky Derby Party**

Saturday May 7, 5:00pm to 7:00pm MYC Cliff Room

### **Board of Directors' Meeting**

Tuesday May 17, 6:30pm, MYC Cliff Room

### **Memorial Day Cookout**

Sunday May 29, 12:00pm to 2:00pm MYC Deck

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## Waterfront Update

The Waterfront Committee, along with Dock Master Bill Kilham, has been busy preparing for the 2022 boating season. The docks and floats are currently going through maintenance and repairs. Bill is readying the launches, completing annual maintenance, preparing for our scheduled Coast Guard inspections, and finally our 2022 launch schedule is set. All will be ready when the season begins.

As a volunteer group we welcome any member to join the Waterfront Committee.

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## Manager's Minit

We hear so much about “infrastructure” these days, but some of the most important infrastructure here at the MYC is often taken completely for granted. The floats you say? Correct!

–We have over 500’ of ½’ long link chain that needs constant replacement on an annual rotating basis. That’s akin to 2–3 boat moorings every 3 seasons.

–5 multi-ton mooring blocks and 3 drilled ledge anchors keeping us generally in the right place.

–4 ¾” steel float irons with 2 2” solid float pins connecting our two 32’x16’ mains with a pair of smaller irons and pins for our 24’x10’ gangway float.

–4 30’ lengths of 5/8 inch, 3 strand nylon lines at the gangway base (replaced annually) keep our constantly moving floats attached to a hopefully immovable pierhead. Even on the calmest days there’s a 1–3

knot tidal current almost always tugging one way or the other.

– More floatation tubs than I care to count keep our feet out of the water no matter how many pounds of ice gets packed in the cooler (not to mention traffic on July Fourth).

–Last fall's late season 3 day northeast storm has required replacement of two 1'x1'x 15' spruce header logs; delivered by rail from the forests of the Pacific Northwest (Ooooo! Such a grand image!). Everything about the floats must be robust, oversized and able to withstand 6 months of ocean living.

–The annual cost of maintenance, haul/launch, permits and storage of our three floats is routinely the fourth largest expense within our yearly budget, yet could we have a yacht club without them; I think not.

Most MYC members are lucky enough to not feel the need to dwell on such matters and can simply stroll comfortably across our floats as they enjoy time spent at their Club, as it should be. Perhaps we can all take a quick moment this season to fully appreciate what's under our feet and what goes into making our time on the water so convenient. After all, isn't the best infrastructure something we rely on and take for granted on a regular basis?

See you soon on the deck and docks (floats),

Bill

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## Entertainment Committee:

The Entertainment Committee has been meeting via Zoom and recently in person! We have a full schedule of our traditional events. Check the website, Facebook, and newsletters for details.

Mark your calendars now for the Kentucky Derby, Meet and Greet Party, May 7, 2022, 5:00pm –7:00pm. BYO appetizer and wear a fancy hat! There will be prizes for best hat and appetizer! RSVP to [nancyproulx@comcast.net](mailto:nancyproulx@comcast.net) with your appetizer contribution. Bring family and friends, this is a great way to introduce potential new members to the Club,

The Memorial Day Cookout will be May 29, 2022 12:00pm – 2:00pm or rain date May 30. 12\$ per person, please RSVP to [nancyproulx@comcast.net](mailto:nancyproulx@comcast.net)

Stay tuned for more events!

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## Regatta Committee:

The MYC will hold two regattas this year – be sure to mark your calendars and join the fun.

### **Downeast Challenge: Marblehead to Portland July 29–30**

This year we have changed the destination from Boothbay to Portland. The course is 90 nautical miles and sailed partly at night. The race starts Friday, July 29 at 12 noon. There will be a Skippers' meeting party on Thursday July 28 complete with music and sponsor Rumson's Rum tasting. The Awards party will be at the Forepoints Marina in Portland,

Maine. This is a great way to get up to Maine in the company of others.

### **Clemson Chase Race: August 28**

This is a fun, low key race for captains who have little or no racing experience, as well as the seasoned racer. You will be given your own individual starting time based on your boat's handicap. The slowest handicap boats go first and the faster boats go later. The object is for slower boats to get to the finish line before faster boats. If you are curious what all the fun is about, plan to join this year.

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## **MYC History Committee Update:**

As you may be aware, the History Committee has been researching the MYC History and is busy writing a book. At this point the book is 90% complete with over 200 pages of text and pictures and in the second draft. We plan to complete the final version by next fall (after the boating season ends) and to publish the book by end of the year. We plan to set up a table at some upcoming social events to collect member stories about your time at the Club. Both old and new stories are welcome, so stop by our table.

We are in need of a few reviewers or proofreaders interested in reviewing the second draft for content, grammar, flow, repetitive information, and general feedback. We do not need all the reviewers to be long-time MYC members, we would like some reviewers who do not know much about the MYC and can read the history with a fresh set of eyes.

We are still accepting boat photos from members to include in the book. If you have a photo of your boat, please send it along. We are charging \$20

per boat photo to help offset the cost of printing – and you will be guaranteed to be part of the MYC history.

If you are interested in being a reviewer, or have a boat photo to submit, or story to share, please contact John Murray at [jmurray97@yahoo.com](mailto:jmurray97@yahoo.com) or 781-632-8828.

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## Final MYC Winter Program

Fame – The Salem Privateer  
Wednesday, April 6, 2022  
7:00pm to 8:30pm

Presented by Captain Michael Rutstein



Capt. Michael Rutstein is the owner and operator of the Schooner FAME of Salem — no stranger to the sailors of Marblehead, who have been crossing

tacks with her on Salem Sound since 2003. FAME is a full-scale replica of one of the first American privateers to put to sea during the War of 1812, and the first to send in prizes: a ship and a brig, headed to England with shipbuilding timber, captured off New Brunswick on July 4, 1812.

Capt. Rutstein is an enthusiastic historical researcher and has written two books about the War of 1812. His talk will focus on the exciting story of the original FAME, the building of the modern representation at the Burnham Boatyard in Essex, MA, and the challenges of operating a traditional wooden schooner in the modern era.

For more info visit: [SchoonerFame.com](http://SchoonerFame.com)

Seats are limited so register early to reserve your seats at MYC. Click here to [make reservations](#)

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## Want the Best Job You Ever Had?

We are looking for Launch Drivers of all ages. The MYC will reimburse the expense for getting your (or your child's) Launch Operators License if candidates are willing to commit to driving at the MYC. Costs will be reimbursed for up to \$300 per year. This is a great opportunity for college students, the self-employed, or retirees, and better than Uber as a side gig!

Ask any launch driver and they'll probably tell you it's the best job they ever had. For more information contact:

Manager Bill Kilham or Vice Commodore (and launch driver) David Williams.

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