



Reports in Advance of
The Cruising Club of America Annual Meeting of Members
New York Yacht Club
March 7, 2025

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Jay Gowell |
| 2. Quorum | Pat Montgomery |
| 3. Commodore's Welcome | Jay Gowell |
| 4. Approval of Minutes (Fall Meeting 10/17/2024) Link to Minutes: https://cruisingclub.org/sites/default/files/pages/Minutes%20Fall%20Meeting%2010-17-2024%20Final.pdf | Jay Gowell |
| 5. Report of the Commodore (Oral Report) | Jay Gowell |
| 6. Report of the Vice Commodore | Chace Anderson |

As noted in Fall 2024 report to the Governing Board, CCA's By-Laws, under Duties of Officers and Governing Board, state the "Vice Commodore shall assist the Commodore in the discharge of his or her duties and in his or her absence act in his or her stead." I can safely say that I have performed this duty with diligence and along the way, have developed an excellent relationship with the Commodore and other CCA Officers.

Particular areas of engagement have included:

- Representation of CCA in fellow Yacht Club events
 - o Spring commissionings of Larchmont Yacht Club, New York Yacht Club,
 - o International Council of Yacht Clubs ("ICOYC") meetings/seminars in Toronto and London
- Active Participation in five CCA Committees:
 - o Cruise Resources
 - o Financial Affairs
 - o Long Range Planning
 - o Newport Bermuda Race 2024 Organizing Committee
 - o Newport Bermuda Race Foundation
- Participation in the budgeting process as a member, and as past chair of the Financial Affairs Committee along with the Treasurer. We continue to make strides in improving the process and the end product.

- Led a working group to re-evaluate the role and contribution of our Reserve Fund. The new policy will enhance the economics of our club and make our budgeting process more efficient.
- Served on the Cruise Resources Committee and played an active role supporting Cruise Committee Chair Ernie Godshalk in crafting the new Cruise Resources Guide. Have served on six Cruise Committees, including:
 - o 2024 Bermuda Cruise
 - o 2025 Transatlantic cruise-in-company
 - o 2025 Western Isles Cruise
 - o 2026 Grenadines Cruise
 - o 2026 Bermuda Cruise
 - o 2027 Bras D'or Lakes Cruise
- Working on organizing a September 2026 New England Cruise – still looking for a cruise leader.
- Participated (or scheduled to participate in) in seven CCA Cruises
 - o 2023 Newfoundland
 - o 2024 Maine
 - o 2024 Majorca
 - o 2024 Antigua/Guadeloupe
 - o 2025 Ski GAM
 - o 2025 Transatlantic
 - o 2025 Western Isles
 - o 2025 PNW
 - o 2026 Grenadines
- Heading up a small fund-raising effort to underwrite a portion of the NBR Documentary film, currently in production.
- Wrote an article on the 2025 Alta Ski GAM for Waypoints.

Chace Anderson
Vice Commodore

7. Report of the Treasurer

Kathleen O'Donnell

- I. The Cruising Club of America has two accounts at Bank of America and an investment account at Fidelity. As of February 24, 2025, the balances were:
 - a. \$ 184,110.70 - Business Checking
 - b. \$ 230,356.07 - Business Savings
 - c. \$2,076,545.08 - Fidelity (FYI \$1,757,314.80 in 2024)
- II. The 2025 budget was approved by the Board of Governors in December. The Financial Affairs Committee achieved a balanced budget through the decision to raise the dues to \$265. Five dollars of this increase will go to the Stations. (The allocation is currently calculated at \$1000 per Station plus \$15 per member). The Commodore has established an ad hoc committee to evaluate the Club's publications expenses, which currently represent a significant share of the Club's annual expenses. Budget vs. actual expenses for 2024 will be sent to the Committee Chairs to assist in preparation of 2026 budgets.
- III. Prior Treasurers sent the Station Allocations in late summer or early fall. The Treasurer asks when the Stations would like to see these payments and she will adjust the schedule. Stations will be receiving requests for their financial reports in the next ten days. These reports are required for the Club's financial reporting to the IRS.
- IV. As of February 12, 2025, 88% of the members had paid their dues and payments continue to be received. There is some confusion about Blue Water Medal winners who are also members of the Club. To avoid receiving dues invoices, the current process requires resignation of membership and then re-enrolling as an honorary member. The Treasurer has forwarded any correspondence regarding resignations and Seafarer status to the Secretary and Membership Chair.
- V. The Treasurer is assisting Western Isles Cruise Treasurer with budgeting and payments and is starting the budgeting process with the Cruise Chair for the Grenadines cruise in 2026.
- VI. The Treasurer wishes to acknowledge the recent death of her predecessor, Peter L. Chandler. Peter served as the Club's Treasurer for eleven years but his role in the Club was so much larger than that one job. He helped recast the mission of the Financial Affairs Committee and strongly encouraged the Committee's development of the new budget process. After his retirement from his role as Treasurer, he could not have been more helpful and supportive to his successor, patiently answering even the dumbest questions. He will be missed.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen M. O'Donnell

8. Report of the Secretary

Pat Montgomery

Secretarial duties (Agendas, Reports, and Minutes) have been executed for three Governing Board Meetings and are in process for the New York Annual Meeting of Members 2024. Assistance has

been given to members in need of updating contact information and requesting letters of introduction for Yacht Clubs abroad.

Additionally, the Commodore requested the development of a single source of reference for all adopted policies that had been approved by the Governing Board. With the assistance of our webmaster, an Adopted Policy Compendium was designed and populated on the member-side of the website. Six policies were identified and are listed with a brief description and policy link.

Lastly, in the process of identifying adopted policies, the opportunity arose to partner with our Archives Chair and begin the practice of uploading secretarial records (agendas, reports, minutes and policies) to a secretarial portal for preservation of documents. Years 2022 through 2024 have been completed.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Montgomery

9. Report of the Historian

Douglas Adkins

The tasks of Historian have evolved over the tenures of ten members who have carried that flag. They begin with The Historian's Log, an entry in every Yearbook since 1932 when W. P. Stephens, the Club's first Historian, concluded that there was enough history to report. The nine Historians who followed always prepared and published a Log and though that seemed enough for many years, the Club's third Historian Jack Parkinson began to expand the expectations with the publishing of "Nowhere is Too Far", his superb 1960 detailing the History of The Cruising Club. It set a very high bar. Other Historians supported the Cruising Club News and Jack Towel established yet another standard with his inauguration of "History of the CCA" columns which have appeared twice yearly in The Gam since 2009, generally running to four pages. These duties have become standard. With the inauguration of Waypoints as the CCA monthly electronic newsletter, a column from the Historian titled "Lore from the Lazarette" has emerged and appears most months. The column focuses on CCA members who have made interesting and important contributions to the field of yachting. Occasionally these columns will prompt members to add to the topic with corrections or additional data and the Historian is very grateful for the responses. Therefore, writing and research constitute a good deal of the Historians work. The Log runs to 2100-2700 words, the Gam to about 2500 and the Waypoints columns to between 600 and 800 words. In an effort to introduce the CCA to the newly elected members, the Historian is also asked to make a short presentation at orientation sessions. Occasionally other summaries of our history are called for and provided. Inevitably other tasks arise. There are questions, historical documents which emerge and unusual publications which are offered. Questions regarding forebearers and their boats arise. The Historian is asked to direct traffic to make sure that such materials or inquiries are handled and correctly directed. As electronic records such as scanned Yearbooks and the Cruising Club News expand, as they have in the past few years, the Historian's job is made easier and hopefully will continue. Some Stations like PNW have active Historians but most do not. If there is a target of opportunity it is to expand that activity in a systematic way. Nevertheless, the Station and Post entries in The Gam assure that the record is not lost. Possibly that is enough for the time being.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Adkins

10. Report of the Fleet Surgeon

Jeffrey Wisch

The Fleet Surgeon advised the Club leadership, Stations and SAS regarding medical issues as requested and needed. Since the last report this included advising the Transatlantic Feeder Cruise.

The Fleet Surgeon also sits on the Safety and Seamanship Committee and advises as needed.

The Fleet surgeon continues in his advisory role to the Bermuda Race Organizing Committee and is responsible for organizing medical coverage for the race. For the 2026 race we are planning a change in coverage and are in the process of working out details with GW Maritime Medical Access. We are grateful for the many years of excellent coverage by Dr Masser and her group at BIDMC, Boston.

The Fleet Surgeon Medical Memo was reviewed and updated for the 2025 Yearbook and CCA Website.

Although Covid 19 is still active, the current threat based upon severity of illness has diminished considerably. In view of this in consultation with our Commodore and the Covid Task Force it was determined that the Covid 19 Policy be removed from the website. I would like to thank the Club Leadership, members of the Task Force and our Club members for their support during the pandemic. This was clearly a very difficult period to navigate for all of us.

It was also recommended that the Covid Task Force transition to a **Medical Advisory Committee** to act as a resource to the Fleet Surgeon and help advise on medical and health issues affecting Club members relative to the CCA and its mission. This was approved by the BOG at the last meeting.

Committee members are: Anne Kolker, MD, Moe Roddy, RN, Charles Starke, MD, Bill Strassberg, MD, Bill White, MD and Jeffrey S Wisch, MD, Fleet Surgeon and Chair.

Respectively submitted,
 Jeffrey S. Wisch, M.D.
 Fleet Surgeon Cruising Club of America

11. Report of the Fleet Captain

Ernie Godshalk

| Year 2025 | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Month | Location | Cruise chair(s) | Comments |
| June 10- ~25 | Transatlantic Cruise In Company | Steve Berlack | Announced, accepting expressions of interest. Likely 6-10 boats, some from ports other than Newport. |
| July 19- Aug 1 | Western Isles (Scotland) | Jonathan Brewin, Rob Childs, Barbara Watson | Planning well underway, accepting registrations, ~50 boats/~200 people as of late Jan, many partner clubs |
| Sept | San Juan Islands | Stacey Wilson, Joe Golberg | Station cruise before Fall Meeting, open to all members. Dates and start/end point determined, charter boats ID'd, registration opened Feb 1, currently planning for 60-90 people |
| Year 2026 | | | |
| Feb | Grenadines | Peter Rugg | Planning well along, strong committee, registration opens soon |
| June | NBR | | |
| June | Bermuda Cruise | James Watlington and Les Crane | If sufficient interest, initial marketing under development |

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| ?? | Corsica/Sardinia | ?? | |
| | New England? | ?? | |
| Year 2027 | | | |
| March | US/Spanish VIs | Roel Hoekstra | Roel is exploring charter boats and routing, preliminary itinerary under development |
| Winter | S Pacific? Whitsunday Islands? | ?? | Weather is an important factor in scheduling; June-Sept best for Tahiti. Ernie to report re Tahiti after his cruise there in June. |
| July 24- Aug 4 | Bras D'Or | David Stanfield & Peter Rugg co-chairs | Announced. Planning well advanced |
| Year 2028 | | | |
| Mar-May | Bahamas? | ?? | |
| | NBR | | |
| | Bermuda Cruise? | James Watlington, Les Crane? | |
| Sep | New England? | ?? | |
| | | | |
| Year 2029 | | | |
| | ICC Centenary? | Dave Curtin? | |
| | Newfoundland? | ?? | |
| Other locations (and potential cruise chairs) discussed: Exumas, Thousand Islands, Alaska (Rick Meslang, Wyman Harris), Georgian Bay (Lake Michigan) (Bob Medland), S coast of England, Brittany/Normandy, N coast of Spain, Canaries, Apostle Islands, canals of England or France, Brazil/Uruguay, Greece (Adriatic), Portugal, French Riviera | | | |

12. Reports of the Rear Commodores

a. Bermuda

Somers Kempe

The Bermuda Station held two luncheons in 2024, with many members contributing to the 2024 Newport Bermuda Race and the subsequent Bermuda Short Handed Return race. Additionally, the station organized a Bermuda Cruise in 2024, which took place the week following the NBR. The cruise was well-received by the small fleet of boats that participated, exploring areas not typically seen during a standard visit to the island. Thanks are extended to James Watlington and his team of station members for coordinating the event. The station is looking forward to a successful 2025 with Bermuda station members organizing and participating in the Scottish Western Isles Cruise in July.

b. Bras D'Or

William Greenwood III

I am pleased to present my report on the on-goings of the Bras d'Or Station since my last report to the general membership. Our station remains vibrant and active in our comradery and the pleasure of messing about in boats. The Bras d'Or Station can report that we now have members from all four Atlantic provinces, being Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland and Labrador. One new member, David McCurdy was welcomed into the station this year. Our season starts in the Spring with the first of the rafts up being Scott's Cove with twelve boats situated between Halifax Harbour and Mahone Bay. We had the pleasure of welcoming Chris and Molly Barnes aboard "Sila" from the Boston station as a welcomed fellow CCA members. Both Kathy and I were pleased to host a reception aboard "Airborne IV" complete with the ubiquitous rum barrel.

Our second raft up took place in the fall of the season in Mahone Bay tucked in behind GiUords Island. A perfect hurricane hole which brought with it warm water for swimming and beautiful fall sunny days. Our members have been travelling afar on their boats this past year. We have the CCA Burgee well represented in the Mediterranean, the Caribbean and the Atlantic Ocean including the Labrador Sea and Greenland. Both cruising and racing. Congratulations also goes to our member Will Appold skipper of “Dragan Fire” who won the award in this year’s Newport to Bermuda Race for the best result in a CCA Station besides winning second place in class. The summer cruise of the station was to the south shore of Nova Scotia which included stops in Cub Basin (Prospect Harbour), the Lunenburg and LaHave River YC’s, the LaHave Islands and Lunenburg Harbour. Our cruise director, Grant Gordon was presented at our AGM with the “Millennium Bowl” for his guidance and planning for the cruise. The bowl is presented to a member who makes a significant contribution to the Station during the year. (It is also noted that Gretchen and her committee have also been recognized with the Bowl the previous year for her contribution to the CCA as chairperson for the Fall 2023 CCA fall meeting). During the cruise both Gretchen and Kit McCurdy kindly hosted a well-attended cruise dinner at the Lunenburg YC. Arriving in the LaHave River RC Bill Greenwood had the pleasure of presenting the Commodore of the LaHave Rive, Tanya Siepiela, with a CCA burgee as a thank you for hosting a cruise dinner. The Station’s annual general meeting was held in November at the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron at which time the committee chairs were re-elected with the change of the safety officer who was assumed by Reginald Goodday. Thanks to Wilson Fitt for again organizing a wonderful weekend getaway and hike in the Annapolis Valley.

Respectfully submitted,
William B Greenwood III, RC, Bras d’Or Station

c. Boston

Nick Orem

The Boston Station has hosted its regular Rats lunches, its New Member Dinner/Annual Meeting and amid-winter GAM at the home of Nick and Phyllis Orem.

Lunches at the India Wharf Rats Club have lately attracted maximum capacity crowds of 40 people. October’s lunch included a riveting account by Carter (Bink) Bacon on the loss of his yacht Solution, a 50’ Aage Nielsen sloop, last July on return from Bermuda. February’s lunch features a talk by Stu Flerlage, arranged by Stephen Forasté, on lessons Stu has learned from decades of racing with Larry Huntington.

The New Members Dinner/Annual Meeting was held on November 13, 2024, at the Union Club in Boston. Sixteen new members were introduced, and each gave a summary of their sailing background. A notable number were of the “Next Watch” and have already made extended cruises, some with young family leading the way. Two new members were halfway round the world in the western Pacific. With many accounts of racing and cruising in far off places, the future membership is true to the Club.

Upcoming events will include a talk about Ocean Plastics by Charlie Rolsky on April 12, 2025, our final Rats Lunch of the season on April 19th, and the Boston Station Mass Bay Cruise beginning in Provincetown, MA on June 21, 2025.

We had our final winter luncheon on April 19, 2024, with a presentation by CCA member Finn Perry who gave an enthralling accounting of his years of high latitude sailing. His adventures throughout the North Atlantic either stimulated enthusiasm to follow in his footsteps or convinced you to stay in more southern latitudes. It was a fantastic presentation by Finn. The meeting was attended by forty-two Buzzards Bay Post/Boston Station members including seven past Rear Commodores.

Our summer cruising began with our annual combined GAM with the Narragansett Bay Post at 3 RD Beach on the Sakonnet River in Middletown, Rhode Island. The beginning of June always seems to be a challenging time from a weather perspective, and this year's GAM on June 8th was no exception. Skippers and crews saw 20 kts breezes and brisk temperatures. Ed and Marty Kane as in years past hosted all on Bolero with a full rum keg. I can't think of a better boat to host this group than Bolero. Ed and Marty were outstanding hosts. Unfortunately, Sunday found the weather unchanged with both wind and rain given all an early season shakedown test sail home.

Many BBP members went on the Down East Cruise to Maine in August shortening the time available for another summer GAM. The next and final GAM was held on October 12th at Bassetts Island, in Pocasset, MA. Bob and Joyce Wallace again hosted the group at their home, an idyllic setting on Bassetts. Members from the Narragansett Bay Post joined the Buzzards Bay Post for a fabulous late afternoon GAM on the island. 20 to 25 knot winds out of the northwest gave all attendees a terrific ride especially those coming from Newport. 18 boats and 40+ members picked up moorings or anchored in the well protected harbor and came ashore with the typical beach dinghy landing. Members brought wonderful hors d'oeuvres to share and Bolero's chef cooked up some fantastic chicken and asparagus on the grill. As is tradition, we enjoyed Bob Wallace's very fresh oysters (harvested one hour before the GAM), a pot of fish chowder and of course a full rum keg and punch.

In December, the Post hosted its first winter luncheon at the Beverly Yacht Club in Marion, MA. CCA member Sam Vineyard, who leads the yachting division of Marlow Ropes in the US, gave a very educational presentation on fibers, construction and applications of modern ropes. There were 36 CCA members in attendance.

Our February luncheon moved to the world headquarters of Schaefer Marine in New Bedford, MA. Owner/President Fred Cook gave us a wonderful tour of his manufacturing facility giving all an inside look at the making of high-tech marine hardware. Lunch was served after and Fred continued to field questions from the group. It was a very fascinating afternoon. 43 CCA members attended the meeting.

The Buzzards Bay Post to hoping to have a March tour and lunch at the Cape Cod Canal Control Station in Bourne.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Cullum
Post Captain, Buzzards Bay Post

The Post has new leadership, with Peter Driscoll and Charles Tarbell being replaced by Barney Baker assuming Post-Captain duties and Howard Coon assuming the Secretary role. We want to extend our thanks to Peter and Charles for years of service to the Post.

Gulf of Maine Post (GMP) activities this year have included many special events. We welcome those CCA members from away that attended and encourage all to participate in future events on our beautiful coastline.

The Downeast Cruise from Camden Maine to Saint Andrews, New Brunswick was a highlight. The cruise included 'Maine' gatherings at Lyman Morse, the Wooden Boat School, a sand bar in Merchants Row and on the lovely Great Beach at Roque Island. Sailing was at its best with many enjoying long spinnaker runs in the afternoon southwesterly's from Penobscot Bay to Campobello. Onshore events hosted by GMP included tours of projects underway at Portland Yacht Services (May) and Rockport Marine (February). Prock Marine Company provided a lecture on the coastline damage attributed to the January 2024 storms (April). Members toured the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences in Boothbay (October). The annual Damariscotta River Grill lecture in December featured GMP member Peter Plumb's trip to Greenland.

This year GMP has lined up a lecture on Foiling Technology organized in concert with and held at the Portland Yacht Club on March 9th. The first Fenders over the Side (FOTS) is scheduled in the first week of August to be held in Burnt Coat Harbor, Swans Island coincident with the Sweet Chariot Music Festival. In addition, the Post is planning a second FOTS event on Hurricane Island, an Island Cleanup & Oysters event in Casco Bay, a GMP Potluck Dinner at the Post-Captain's residence in October. The annual GMP luncheon in Damariscotta in December will feature Southern Ocean sailing by GMP member Max Fletcher. Further details on these events and others will be posted on the CCA website.

The Narraganset Bay Post membership enjoyed several interesting and fun events in 2024 starting off with a dinner and an evening with CCA member and author Tim Murphy presenting "Sailing into the Great American Songbook: How Boats Shaped the Popular Music of David Crosby and Jimmy Buffett." Together with the Buzzards Bay Post on June 8, many hearty souls gathered at Third Beach anchorage in Middletown RI for an early season Gam. We were reminded of the time of year while sailing on Saturday in brisk 20 kt breeze and chilly temps. The trip was well worth it as several boats from both stations either anchored or used the just-commissioned moorings. A fall cocktail event was hosted by Gay and Charlie Chapin at their waterfront home in Barrington RI.

We are fortunate in our Post to have a deep and varied membership that finds our sailors and mariners undertaking many different types of cruises and races throughout the heart of season. Lots of NBP post sailors raced to Bermuda. Many Post members were reported participating in the Down East Maine Cruise in August. Countless informal get togethers from Dutch Harbor, to Edgartown, to Block Island. Our burgee is widely seen throughout the region. I have particularly enjoyed the tradition of meeting new CCA folks when spotting the burgee and introducing myself.

A Naval War College lunch and tour is in the works for this spring, as well as the traditional Spring Gam together with Buzzards Bay Post to Third Beach in Middletown RI. We are hoping to have solid NBP participation in the BOS Station Cruise to Mass Bay in June.

Chesapeake Station has had a very busy and exciting year since the last annual meeting. The highlight was having the honor and responsibility to plan and manage the 2024 Fall Meeting. The meeting was held at the Annapolis Yacht Club where a Class A experience for the attendees was delivered. The meeting's social events – Harbor Cruise Reception, Transatlantic Panel Discussion and lunch, Naval Academy Tour, and Closing Cocktails, Dinner and Awards –were well attended and received excellent reviews. Immediately following the first day of meetings, a harbor cocktail cruise under full moon, clear skies and pleasant temperatures was enjoyed. During the Thursday luncheon an informative panel discussion on preparing for a transatlantic crossing was held. The meeting concluded with a sold-out closing dinner and Awards presentations. The station's fall cruise followed the meeting with 33 boats and over 100 participants on opening night. Attendees joined from several stations and our annual Sunny Neff Race was sailed in challenging air with a recent record attendance. The cruisers emptied the Rum Keg and refills on three separate occasions.

The station held monthly luncheons at Annapolis Yacht Club and a visit to Corinthian Yacht Club of Philadelphia, our northern nexus of members. All were well attended with periodic speakers and great stories. Our Spring cruise focused on the upper mid-bay with a solid attendance from the CHE Fleet. The annual Goldsborough Race was sailed to a shortened completion. 2024 ended with the annual Holiday Luncheon that included the station's annual meeting and election of officers. Planning for a busy 2025 cruise, luncheon and event schedule began in earnest as we entered the new year with a new leadership team.

The Essex Station had a busy Fall after the Fall Meeting in Annapolis, MD in October 2024. Our monthly lunches, held at Pilots Point Marina (part of the Safe Harbor organization), have seen a healthy increase in participation of Essex Station members and spouses, increasing from an average of 35 people attending the lunch, to an average of 45 per lunch. We also typically have guests from other stations in attendance as well as potential candidates for membership in the organization. Our Annual Meeting was held in early December at the Essex Yacht Club where Tom Wadlow completed his term as RC, and I was installed as the new RC. Also in December, a festive lunch was held at Pilots Point Marina with over 60 attendees and with a presentation by a guest, Vito Addabbo, a pilot, who spoke about what pilots may do when receiving distress signals at sea. In January, members of the Essex Station were invited by Scott Kraft of the New York Station to a special viewing of the documentary, "76 Days Afloat" which described Steven Callahan's 1982 ordeal of floating for 76 days in his life raft.

We have completed compiling our calendar of events for 2025 which includes 10 monthly lunches (including December's "Festive Lunch"), a formal Spring and Fall dinner, a Spring Potluck dinner, our Annual Meeting and Dinner in December, three planned cruises, and opportunities to attend events at local yacht clubs which are kind enough to include the Essex Station. Our calendar has now gone electronic, and members are able to upload the electronic version to their various devices. We are looking forward to an exciting and active 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Biemesderfer, RC

i. Florida

Clint Bush III

The Florida Station of the Cruising Club of America is pleased to report on its current status and activities. While our station is widely spread geographically and has the oldest age profile in the CCA, we maintain close connection and communication through regularly scheduled luncheons in three metro areas: Vero Beach, St. Petersburg, and Miami. The station did not sponsor a cruise in 2024, however concrete conversations are underway to renew and maintain that activity as a station tradition.

Membership recruitment is constantly on our radar with new ideas in the works to find younger blue water sailors within our communities.

The station held a well-attended and successful Annual Meeting and Rum Keg in January 2025. We are blessed with a solid group of experienced, engaged, and enthusiastic members.

j. Great Lakes

Peter Balasubramanian

k. New York

Peter Becker

The New York Station of the CCA remains active and engaged, welcoming seven new members this year. Notable events included a March presentation at the Stamford Yacht Club on the “;Lost Secrets of the Kuhner Family,” featuring insights from both generations of the Kuhner family, and the revival of the GAM (raft-up) in October, with 14 boats and 36 members gathering in Oyster Bay. Thanks to Station Cruise Chair Scott Kraft, this event is now a fixture on the calendar, with the next GAM scheduled for September 13. Additionally, the station has retired its original rum cask and acquired two new five-liter casks bearing the CCA burgee, initiating a private rum-aging endeavor. Looking ahead, the station will host CCA member Peter Gibbons-Neff on March 29 for a presentation on his Mini 650 adventures, followed by a Caribbean rum-tasting event on April 19. A station cruise, organized by Scott Kraft, will take place from July 29 to August 7, departing from Stonington and concluding in Nantucket. The station remains committed to fostering camaraderie and the Adventurous use of the Sea.

Submitted: February 21, 2025
Peter Becker, RC

l. Pacific Northwest

Doug Adkins

The Pacific Northwest Station remains active and strong. Members number 124 and surviving spouses total 16 making PNW the fourth largest Station in the Club. The Station Flags through 2025 are:

Rear Commodore- Douglas Adkins
Membership Chair- Susan Stillman
Secretary/Treasurer- Roddy Hearne
Quartermaster- Douglas Cole

Succession through the chairs normally follows every two years in our station.

We have traditionally met every month for lunch during the non-sailing season of October through June but have decided to meet less frequently for several reasons. Because of the ability for members to attend remotely and because our presentations are recorded, the number of attendees in the room has declined. That combined with increased room charges has prompted us to meet less frequently. We always hold an Annual Dinner on the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

The Station remains active in Safety for Cruising Couples Seminars and three have been successfully held this past year in Bellingham, Seattle and Tacoma. It is an important way to assist the broader yachting community and heighten the awareness of the Cruising Club and we plan to continue to work with local yacht clubs to sponsor them. Much of that effort is headed by John Robinson.

Under the guidance of Cruise Chairman Roger Werner, two interesting and enjoyable cruises were completed in 2024. The Spring Cruise took the Station first to the Port of Everett for several days, many then stopped in Coupeville on Whidbey Island overnight and the cruise concluded in LaConner with a Rum Barrel the first night and a lovely fleet dinner the next. The Fall Cruise took the Station to Canada with two nights on Daphne Isle as quests of Kaspar and Trisha Schibli. It is our fifth visit to this magical one-acre island in Brentwood Bay and we are very lucky for the hospitality. A salmon barbeque and the rum barrel filled our two nights together. The cruise then followed to Sidney Spit for a host-boat floating cocktail party and the next morning Cruise Chairman Werner inaugurated “Pancakes and Bloody Marys” on the beach. It was a big hit. We continued the cruise at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club in Cadboro Bay with a very pleasant tent dinner with the Club’s Racing Fleet. Finally, a stop for many yachts at the Center for Wooden Boatbuilding in Port Townsend complete the very successful cruise.

Spring and Fall Cruises are planned for 2025, and the Fall Cruise will be held in conjunction with the 2025 Fall Meeting to be held September 18-20 at Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine near the Canada Border north of Bellingham. Planning for the meeting is being chaired by Bruce Johnston. The Cruise is Chaired by Stacey Wilson and Joe Golberg and will begin in Bellingham on September 10th and conclude on the 17th. Stops are planned at Sucia Island, Garrison Bay on San Juan Island and West Sound on Orcas with lay days allowed for visits to nearby islands. The weather is generally fair during this period, and we are working hard on arrangements and are hopeful that members coming for the Fall Meeting will join in the Station’s Cruise. The CCA website includes registration and charter boat information as well as event details.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Adkins, PNW Rear Commodore

m. San Fransisco

Chuck Hawley

Led by Rear Commodore Chuck Hawley, Secretary Mary Lovely and Treasurer Synthia Petroka, the 100-member strong SAF Station is active and is engaged in cruising and racing on its home waters of San Francisco Bay, as well as over blue waters to Hawaii, the South Pacific, North Atlantic and around the Americas.

One of our Blue-water Medalists, Randall Reeves with friend and crewmember Harmon Shragge, intends to circumnavigate the Americas the “wrong way.” That is, Randall and Harmon are going to sail Randall’s yacht, Moli, clockwise around the continents of North and South America. They are going to, if you will, “leave the Americas to starboard.” They transited the Northwest Passage west to east from Alaska, during the summer of 2024 and, via Greenland, made their way to

Newfoundland, where Moli is spending the 2024/2025 winter. This year, Randall and Harmon will reboard Moli in Newfoundland and sail her down to and around Cape Horn and then up the west coasts of the Americas to San Francisco Bay, arriving in 2026. Another of our SAF Blue-water Medalists Jeanne Socrates, has recently completed a two and one-half year, solo voyage from Victoria, BC to Australia, aboard her yacht Nereida. Jeanne is currently in Tasmania.

SAF members were recognized during 2024. Seven members will receive Transoceanic pennants for skippering their yachts in the 2,100-mile Pacific Cup Race from San Francisco to Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii, and four will receive Parkinson Trophy awards for skippering their yachts back to the Mainland. Our CCA Webmaster, Michael Moradzadeh was Principal Race Officer (PRO) for the race between 62 yachts. Also qualifying for a Parkinson Trophy award is SAF member Marco Misbach who skippered his yacht, Mona Lisa, on a 3,000-mile, Transatlantic voyage from Kiel, Germany to Port St. Charles, Barbados during October 7, 2024, to December 15, 2024.

The SAF Station continues its program of monthly meetings at various yacht clubs on San Francisco Bay and elsewhere. The station meets every month from September to May with summer months dedicated to cruising. SAF members have their various yachts positioned in the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, Europe, and the South Pacific and, with other SAF members cruising, there are no meetings during the summer months.

n. Southern California

James Eddy

Our luncheons with interesting speakers and camaraderie started In March at Long Beach Yacht Club with member Brendan Huffman sharing about his Singlehanded Transpac experiences. We had another lunch in May at the Orange Coast College of Sailing and Seamanship and with tour of the yacht Palawan and in October at the San Diego Yacht Club with a tour of Miramar and interesting comments from the Scripps family who has owned her for over 50 years. Hosting the National Cruise in the Sea of Cortez in May was a highlight of the year. Amazing natural scenery and fun social events. A good time was had by all! We also had our end of Summer BBQ in August and our station Annual Meeting in December, both at the Newport Harbor Yacht Club. All events were well attended.

13. Committee Reports

a. Archives

Mark Grosby

Work on the digital Archive has continued on the Dropbox cloud servers. All yearbooks have been posted in a searchable pdf format. A second copy of the yearbooks, with the membership sections removed to protect personally identifiable information, has been posted. Membership and board meetings for 2022, 2023 and 2024 have been archived. 2002 is currently being scanned. Additionally, the 2021 to 2024 Waypoints and a couple of cruise books have also been scanned. QUESTION: Should we keep the scanned records? If yes, Mystic?

b. Awards

Steve James

2024 was the first year since the pandemic that Members returned to the water in force. As a result, they were awarded one Circumnavigation Award, eight Transoceanic Pennants, and six Parkinson Memorial Trophies. Additionally, there were four 50 Year Membership Medallions, and one 15 Thrashes earned. Also awarded by Commodore Gowell were two Commodore's Awards, one to Andrew Kallfelz and one to Diane Embree.

Through the work of the Committee the following Members were selected to be honored: Finley Perry (BOS) – Far Horizons Trophy, Carter Bacon (BOS) – Rod Stephens Trophy for Outstanding Seamanship, William Cook (BOS) – Richard S. Nye Trophy, William Barton (BOS) – Charles H. Vilas Literary Prize, Nicolas Walsh (BOS) – Royal Cruising Club Trophy, Nigel Calder (BOS) – The Diana Russell Award.

Awarded to non-members were the Blue Water Medal to Leiv Poncet of the Falkland Islands, and the Young Voyager Award to Cole Brauer from New Port Rhode Island.

Our committee continues to work remotely and independently, always keeping a mindful eye on the Club's pocketbook knowing that we are entrusted with a large but limited budget.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen W. James
Awards Committee Chairman

c. Bermuda Race Foundation

Brad Willauer

It is important we remember our mission is to promote national and international amateur sports competition, to serve as the Organizing Authority of the Newport Bermuda Race, to provide vessel safety inspections, and educational services and training for offshore sailing and Safety at Sea. In addition to organizing and conducting Safety at Sea training under the auspices of US Sailing and World Sailing, through the volunteers on its Bermuda Race Organizing Committee (BROC), the Foundation screens potential vessel and crew participants, conducts pre-race vessel safety inspections, organizes and runs all aspects of the race, and to repeat, is the Organizing Authority for the Newport Bermuda Race.

Thanks to extensive efforts by many and especially Treasurer Jeff Eberle, the Foundation has received several gifts to enlarge its treasury from individuals using credit cards, checks, gifts of securities and Donor Advised Funds. The Bermuda Race Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) public charity. Our sincere thanks to the many individuals who made gifts to the foundation since we met in September.

We are looking forward to preparations for the Centennial Newport Bermuda Race starting the third Friday in June 2026, again ably led by Andrew Kallfelz, who did a remarkable job introducing new idea in the 2024 Race, especially the Fort Adams start. We extend our sincere thanks to the Bermuda Race Organizing Committee (BROC) - with more than 40 volunteers, both in Bermuda and Newport. When you see one of them, thank them for their countless hours volunteering. The Race would not happen without them.

As usual, I have written personal thank you notes to each donor.

Respectfully,
W. Bradford Willauer, President

d. BROC

Andrew Kallfelz

The BROC is pleased to report that preparation has begun for the 54th race to start on June 19, 2026.

- Lessons Learned from 2024 edition:
Three post-race incident reviews (BROC/CCA/USSailing) are nearing completion. Recommendations already being incorporated into 2026 planning.
 - o Abandonment and Rescue at Sea
 - o Steering and Structural Failures
 - o Satellite Communication Failures
- Ft. Adams Start was a success on all metrics. Small refinements will be made for 2026.
- New race management platform well received by OA/RC and Competitors
- F-TCF scoring debut was a success and already appears to be the new model for offshore racing worldwide.
- Opportunities to improve post-race experience for competitors.
- Small net ‘profit’ overall despite increased expense of Ft. Adams Start Event.

Race planning for the 2026 Race:

Early Strategic Focus

- BROC roster for 2026 is largely confirmed with a focus on succession planning.
- Messaging / marketing focus to celebrate 100 years of CCA / RBYC Race Partnership - “One Century – Two Clubs”.
- Continue to refine both shore party and streaming event at Ft. Adams.
- Strive to engage BTA in Newport / Starting Event opportunities
- Enhance the Bermuda experience for competitors (docking/welcome, celebratory spirit, events).
- Engage early with NC to further streamline entry, registration / online administration, participant and spectator engagement.
- Continue leadership in Rating / Scoring innovation for offshore events. Support and encourage continued ORR VPP improvements.
- Ensure safety lessons from 2024 incidents are thoroughly presented to the community.
- Prioritize and action top suggestions based on 2024 feedback.

Status

- Budget planning is underway (thanks Jeff and Richard).
- Marketing for 2026 race has begun. Second of five pre-race webinars to be held on March 26.
- Expect the 2026 race to open for entries on Friday June 20, 2025.
- ‘Final’ Draft NBRSR for 2026 is complete. Mostly minor and foreshadowed changes, though immediate (2026) adoption of SER 2.12-13 / Appendix L.

The BROC is composed of nearly 50 dedicated, talented, and generous volunteers from the CCA and the RBYC. BROC roster can be found here: <https://bermudarace.com/race/organizing-committee/>

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the BROC.
Andrew Kallfelz, Chair

e. Bonnell Cove Foundation

Bob Medland

Support of the Bonnell Cove Foundation is critically important to the Foundation’s ability to make grants to charitable organizations with particular emphasis in the areas of safety at sea and increased understanding of the Marine environment.

In 2024, the Foundation received thirty-seven grant requests totaling about \$300,000. On behalf of the Foundation’s Board and the Grant Recipients, THANK YOU! to the 178 donors who contributed \$48,695 to support the Bonnell Cove Foundation in 2024. This support enabled the Foundation to make 21 grants totaling about \$107,000 to twenty organizations in 2024.

The organizations receiving grants last year were:

| Organization | Organization |
|--|---|
| Back Country Medical Guides | Barry University, Inc. [Earth Sustainability] |
| Bellingham Bay Community Boating Centre | Billion Oyster Project |
| Brigs Youth Sail Training | Broad Reach Foundation for Youth Leaders |
| Call of the Sea | Cobscook Community Learning Center |
| Fins Attached Marine Research and Conservation | Friends of Casco Bay |
| Hurricane Island Foundation | Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association |
| Sail Newport | Save the Bay |
| Sea Meadow Marine Foundation | Spaulding Wooden Boat Center |
| The Gloucester Adventure Inc. | SEA Education Association Inc. |
| Vashon-Maury Nature Center | Wooden Boats for Veterans Foundation |

In the coming year, please encourage qualifying organizations to submit grant applications to Bonnell Cove Foundation, see “Apply for a Grant” on the Foundations’ web site: <https://www.bonnellcove.org/apply> and give your support to the Bonnell Cove Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,
 Bob Medland, President
 Bonnell Cove Foundation

f. Charts and Guides

Wilson Fitt

The Charts and Guides Committee has been very busy and the CCA’s print and online cruising guides continue to provide positive exposure for the Club in direct support of its mission to “promote cruising ... by amateurs” and “gather and keep on file all information that may be of assistance to members in cruising.” The Committee had two lively and informative virtual meetings since the last Annual Meeting and expects to meet again later this spring.

The user base for the free on-line Cruising Guide to Maine <https://guides.cruisingclub.org/> grew to about 25,000 in 2024. There were 769 copies of our printed cruising guides for Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Labrador, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the Viking Route between Europe and Canada sold in 2024, providing \$10,000 in revenue paid to the CCA by the printer/distributor.

Discussions about the technical and commercial potential of digital versions of the printed guides continue.

Respectfully submitted.
 Wilson Fitt (BDO)
 Chair, Charts and Guides Committee

g. Communications

Julie Kallfelz

The Communications Committee continues to support the great work of all our volunteer editors and creators. We have focused on maintaining the quality of our internal and external-facing communications, promoting consistent branding and messaging, meeting members' needs and preferences around how they consume information, managing cost, and building sustainable processes that member-volunteers can continue to lead. The committee is doing a lot of good work, as individual reports attest.

At the request of membership, Station leadership, and CCA leadership, the Communications Committee has developed a CCA Brand Kit. This is the first iteration of the kit, which is a living document and will be continually updated. The CCA Brand Kit includes our mission statement and core values; burgee and publication logos; guidance on typography, colors, imagery, tone of voice; social media guidelines; and various letterhead and presentation templates for members, Station leadership, and Club leadership. The CCA Brand Kit will be available on the CCA website (location TBD).

h. Environment of the Sea

Rowena Carlson

We continue to submit "Environmental Moments" to Waypoints, produce articles for the GAM and enlist speakers on ocean environmental topics. Dr. David L. Porter of JHU Applied Physics Laboratory spoke at our Fall meeting on the latest in oceanographic data collection in support of a range of environmental projects. We also continue to enthusiastically encourage reduction of use of single use plastics.

It has been my great honor to serve as chair of this committee for the last 5 years. It is time for new blood! Maggie Salter (BOS/GMP) will take over as chair as of this meeting. I will remain on the committee as the representative of the San Francisco Station and look forward to supporting Maggie however I can.

Thank you,
Rowena Carlson
Chair Environment of the Sea Committee

i. Events

Deanna Polizzo

The Events Committee is pleased to report on a successful 2024 which included the addition of Leadership Breakfasts following the Annual and Fall Meetings, and two new membership events surrounding the Bermuda Race. We would like to thank Gretchen McCurdy for her years of service as she steps off the committee and welcomes Yuko Nakajima.

Upcoming events include:

The 2025 Annual Meeting will be held March 6-8 at the New York Yacht Club, New York, NY, we are over subscribed for dinner. The Summer Cruise in Company from Newport, RI to Kinsale, Ireland is scheduled to leave Newport on June 10. At present 19 boats are registered. The Western Isles Cruise, Kerrera Marina, Oban will be held from July 19 to August 1. The Fall meeting for 2025 hosted by the PNW station (Bruce Johnston and Stacey Wilson) will be at Semiahmoo Resort, Blaine, Washington September 18 th – 20 th and will follow the Washington state/British Columbia Cruise scheduled for Sept 10 th -18 th 2025.

2026 will start off strong with a Grenadines cruise from January 24 to February 7 th . The 2026 Annual Meeting will again be held at the New York Yacht Club, New York, NY March 5 th to 7 th. The Events Committee will continue to work with the Membership Committee to host membership events surrounding the Newport to Bermuda Race, which begins on June 19, 2026. A club cruise is tentatively scheduled to follow the race. The Southern California Station has begun planning the fall meeting.

Although 2027 seems far off, it will be here before we know it. The Annual Meeting is to be held March 4 th to the 6 th at the New York Yacht Club in New York. Cruises are being planned for the US/ Spanish Virgin Islands from March 20-29 th, and the Bras D'Or Lakes from July 20-Aug 5 th . The Great Lakes Station has taken responsibility for the Fall Meeting in 2027.

Respectfully submitted,
Deanna Polizzo

j. Financial Affairs

Peter Griffin

The Financial Affairs Committee (FAC) has had a busy and productive year. The FAC in coordination with the Treasurer, K. O'Donnell, monitored the 2024 financial results throughout the year and worked to improve the budget process for 2025. Both revenue enhancements and expense containment issues were focused on. 2025 budget submissions were submitted and reviewed and a final 2025 budget was approved at the December BoG meeting.

Also, during the year the FAC proposed two policies for BoG approval:

- 1) Contract Authorization Policy which outlines the parameters for signing contracts at both the Club and Station level for financial commitments for events and cruises. This policy was approved at the June 24, 2024, BoG meeting.
- 2) CCA Investment Policy Statement which sets forth the parameters to manage the CCA's investment portfolio, the "Reserve Fund", including the spending policy and the guidelines for permissible investments. This policy was approved at the November 25, 2024, BoG meeting.

Currently, the FAC formed a new subcommittee - Approvals, Authorizations, and Controls. This subcommittee was born out of a discussion at the December Governing Board Meeting regarding the Contract Authorization Policy and the possible conflict with By-Law Section XVIII, Financial Matters. The subcommittee held its first meeting on February 6, 2025. The subcommittee discussed a contradiction with the CCA's bylaws, specifically a clause that prohibits issuing a check, draft or other order for payment unless it is within the budget. It was agreed that this clause as written is vague and contradicts the recently passed Contract Authorization Policy which provides certain spending level authority at the Club and Station level. The subcommittee is discussing a possible By-Law change to clarify this as well as a broader review of internal controls and contract authorizations. Also discussed was the importance of budgets as a control mechanism. The subcommittee will continue to meet and discuss proposed language and/or policy changes and present its recommendations at the CCA fall meeting.

Peter Griffin
Chair FAC

k. Gam

Phil Dickey

Since our last Annual Meeting, we have published two GAM issues, Spring 2024 at 44 pages and Fall 2024 at 64 pages. The Fall issue featured a record number of new member biographies and more extensive coverage of the Fall Meeting, including the busy Awards Dinner and the Chesapeake Fall Cruise. The GAM’s mission remains to document Club and member activities, foster cohesion, and recognize members’ noteworthy sailing achievements.

We need to continue to evaluate the cost of the magazine (\$11.75 per issue plus postage for the Fall issue). We also need to work with the Stations to help them identify, nurture, and reward Historians who will write for the GAM about Station activities.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Dickey

l. Guest Moorings

Liz Baylis

Updates are being made to the information for the current guest mooring listings, working with the webmaster and editor, on the web page and in the yearbook. Some modest success was made to get more moorings and docks added to the list by reaching out to the membership via Waypoints and in person connections at the Fall Meeting. We will continue to use these techniques. More efforts are underway to keep the data up to date and add more listings. Additionally, work will be done this year to garner more safety data, such as “last inspection date”, from the stewards and add to that to the listings. The Committee membership remains the same with Liz Baylis as Chair and Tom Babbitt and Ted Clucas as members.

m. Investment

Tom Post

2024 was a good year for both the stock and bond markets. Our long-term returns remain very good. Here is a synopsis of results through **1/31/25**:

| Fund | YTD | 1 Year | 3 years | 5 years | 10 years |
|---|---|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| CCA Account | For the CCA account we had a data feed problem due to an account transfer. We expect to resolve this issue by the time of the fall meeting report | | | | |
| Bonnell Cove Endowment | 2.22% | 17.10% | 7.34% | 9.28% | 8.36% |
| Bermuda Race Foundation Endowment | 2.27% | 17.27% | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 65/35 Benchmark * | 2.00% | 17.49% | 7.20% | 9.83% | 9.50% |
| S&P 500 | 2.78% | 26.38% | 11.91% | 15.17% | 13.76% |
| Dow Jones US Total Stock Market | 3.07% | 26.28% | 11.28% | 14.50% | 13.14% |
| MSCI ACWI ex USA (International Stocks) | 4.03% | 11.08% | 3.62% | 5.67% | 5.41% |
| Bloomberg Agg Bond Index | 0.53% | 2.07% | -1.52% | -0.60% | 1.19% |

* 65% S&P 500 / 35% Bloomberg Aggregate
Periods longer than one year are annualized.

We remain close to our allocation targets and don't anticipate making any dramatic changes to the portfolios. We endeavor to keep our costs as low as possible. Expenses for the Bonnell Cove portfolio are 0.05% annually and for the CCA portfolio, they are 0.03% annually. For the Bermuda Race Foundation Endowment portfolio the expenses are 0.04% annually.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas C. Post

n. InterClub Relations

Chris Otorowski

o. Long Range Planning

Tim Surgenor

The Long Range Planning Committee presented its final report at the Annual Meeting at the New York Yacht Club in March, 2024. A final report was posted on the CCA website in June of 2024 and includes data through the 2024 Blue Book. Of the topics covered in the report, the most significant is the recent decline in CCA membership that started in 2019/2020. The most recent data indicates that total membership has flattened at about 1,370 members. We are working with the membership committee and CCA leadership to provide background data and ideas for increasing new member activity while maintaining the Club's high standard for membership qualifications.

p. Membership

James Phyfe III

The Membership Committee recently elected 19 candidates to membership ranging in age from 24 to 71, with six being eligible for Next Watch (under <55 y.o.) and an average age of 56. Seven are women.

We conducted a New Members' introductory Zoom meeting on January 23 rd , which was attended by 18 new members and their spouses. This is the second of these events we have held for new members, and it was generally well received. The rough agenda includes an introduction to the CCA and what makes it special from the Commodore. The Historian gives a necessarily summarized retelling of the origins of the Club and motivations that led to its founding. We hear from the Vice Commodore on the Club's structure, stations and many committees. Our Fleet Captain discusses upcoming cruises, and then the Communications Committee Chair along with the Webmaster discuss our publications and how to stay connected. That leaves approximately 45 minutes for general conversation and the opportunity to get to know the new members personally.

The next deadline for proposals will be April 21, 2025. A target of 15 new members in April will keep us on track to meet the Commodores' goal of 1-2% membership growth per year.

q. Next Watch

Jesse Terry

Next Watch is a club-wide effort to build the next generation of active, engaged CCA members. NW activities are oriented toward ensuring the club is addressing the needs of younger members as well as helping to maintain and enhance CCA's reputation among potential members as an important organization for top-tier sailors.

Jesse Terry (NY) had his full year as Next Watch Captain. He focused on organizing and connecting the Next Watch group through regular communication and hosting video meetings. In order to encourage NW connection/conversation, he had four educational calls highlighting Ronnie

Simpson's ocean racing, Stan Honey and prep for the Bermuda Race/PacCup, and a summer wrap up featuring several NW members. It has been challenging to encourage local NW events beyond Boston, which has a large local base. In 2025, NW would expect to continue to provide stories/people of interest and educational calls to highlight the experiences of CCA members and connect the younger members.

Jesse Terry

Next Watch Chair

r. Nominating
Oral Report

Bob Medland

s. Publications

Richard Casner

The CCA Publications Committee continues to oversee the club's publishing initiatives, ensuring that its publications serve as an important Club initiative.

Manuscript Status Update

Chairman Richard Casner recently spoke with Sheila McCurdy and Tim Murphy regarding the status of the manuscript for the upcoming book "High Seas, Home Waters" which serves as a follow-on box set to the first volume, "Adventurous Use of the Sea". The draft manuscript is now with the publisher for review and layout. In addition, we have also had discussions with Spencer Smith of Seapoint Books & Media, the publisher, who is developing the book's business plan. This plan will include marketing strategies, publishing cost estimates, timelines and a fulfillment of "High Seas, Home Waters". Seapoint will manage the production process while working closely with the CCA. The responsibilities are outlined as follows:

1. CCA Role:

- o The CCA will appoint one person to serve as the liaison between Seapoint Books & Media and the club.

2. Seapoint Books Responsibilities:

- o Production scheduling
- o Design
- o Indexing
- o Printing
- o Coordination with the CCA

3. Seapoint Books Exclusions:

- o Distribution to members or external audiences
- o Writing
- o Editing
- o Fact-checking

Next Steps for the Committee

While the full Publications Committee has not yet convened, a meeting will be planned once the publisher provides the requested financial and production details. Additionally, the Committee is actively reviewing costs and methods of publishing the various CCA publications, including The Gam, Voyages, and Waypoints.

NBR Trophies were delivered from the CCA Trophy Case in April to TOMART in Mamaroneck, NY; who inspected and repacked the trophies before loading in their specific shipping trunks bound for Bermuda. Kudos to Carter Holiday and Bob Darbee for ensuring the correct winners received their hard-earned awards@RBYC.

They were shipped back to Mamaroneck in August for engraving and polishing. In early October all but one (Glenn Family Award) of the completed NBR trophies were retrieved from TOMART and re-assembled in the CCA Trophy Case. Special thanks to fellow CCA Members Ed Sisk and Phip Hallowell for their assistance. Please come to view, located John Mecray Aquidneck Mill Building 4th Floor IYRS .

Steve Prime who has held this position since 2018 has been mentoring Andrew Dickinson to take over duties as Quartermaster in 2025. Monthly visits and tutorials at IYRS with bit of active silver polishing has aided in the transition process.

u. Safety and Seamanship

William Strassberg

The Life Jacket and Tether statement is a great opportunity to publicize the CCA. Our S&SC Mission Statement: *"Make yachting safer by researching and promoting best safety practices and seamanship skills, capitalizing on the knowledge and blue water experience of CCA members"* stands strong together with "adventurous use of the sea". Brian Guck and Nancy Cook are group leaders.

The Education and Safety Skills subcommittee continues the thought processes of how to best plan and implement an expanding outreach program. Committee members include Chuck Hawley, Anne Kolker, Jim Woodward, Galen Todd, Moe Roddy, Brian Guck, Doug Bruce, Ann Noble-Kiley, and William Strassberg.

The Safety for Cruising Couples (SCC) program prospers under the leadership of Moe Roddy. The SCC Advisory Committee includes Sheila McCurdy, Brian Duchin, Judy Robertson, Jim Woodward, John Robinson, and Chuck Hawley.

Safety officers (SOs) have been active in their regions with a blend of written & spoken Safety Moments, safety programs and related activities. Safety officer director Brian Guck notes programs are tailored to specific areas. Chuck Hawley offers remote assistance to every SO.

Chuck Hawley is the liaison between the Safety and Seamanship Committee and the Communications Committee. Chuck continues to improve and organize Safety and Seamanship website content.

The SAS training, under the leadership of Ann Noble-Kiley, continues to be modified based on new information, lessons learned, and new equipment available.

The Practice on Your Own Boat program, under the leadership of Galen Todd is implementing a barbell approach to training, designing a carefully scripted self-directed program alongside the instructor-based program.

The Offshore Communications Guide, renewed by Mark Lenci and team, continually updates communication capabilities, real-time, as they develop.

The committee continues its involvements with global safety and offshore related sailing issues, working with participating committee members including Dick York, Stan Honey, and Sally Honey, of US Sailing and World Sailing respectively.

Respectfully submitted,
Willaim Strassberg
Chair, CCA Safety and Seamanship Committee

v. Technical

Jim Binch

The past year your Technical Committee members met on BROCC or CCA technical matters numerous times, to good effect.

World Sailing is investigating keel attachment standards and ISO stability standards, the latter the result of the BROCC and CCA Technical Committee pointing out an inconsistency in how the US stability index (used by the ORA) and the ISO index can produce radically different conclusion as to whether a particular design is capable of self-righting, or not. Thankfully, BROCC and several of the CCA Tech Committee members prevailed, hence the new undertaking by World Sailing, with longtime US Sailing Offshore Office lead Dan Nowlan, chairing the subcommittee.

Last winter and spring, a tremendous amount of work was done by Jim Teeters, Stan Honey, and a horde of others in developing and testing the world's first use of weather grib files and current forecasts for a designated race course, to first, plot a best-case course using a given boat's specific polars, and from this information calculate how many hours and minutes it would take for this specific yacht to complete this specific long distance course, beginning on a date certain. What this has successfully resulted in is the creation of a new long distance race scoring system, that objectively eliminates many of the other systems' weaknesses, known as F-TCF (Forecast – Time Corrections Factor). It was used with great success at the 2024 Newport Bermuda Race and will be used in this summer's TransPac and the biennial Marion Bermuda Race as well as Marblehead-Halifax. ORC are also introducing their own version of this system this summer. A real step forward curated at the CCA Technical Committee meeting in September 2022!

More recently, we have all been focused on the lessons learned from the unfortunate loss of three yachts during and after the 2024 Newport Bermuda Race.

There are three major takeaways the Committee wishes to remind all its members of:

- 1) The majority of the steering systems on modern designs have recommended inspection and maintenance procedures to be followed by owners. Among these, for example, is the recommendation that every three years all Jefa steering systems have the rudder dropped out of the yacht for replacement of the seal at the topmost section of rudder stock, all through bolts surrounding the head of the rudder post be inspected and made secure, and all tensioning systems inspected and adjusted. There have been more instances of failed rudder or steering systems than represented by the cases in this year's NBR --- so please be advised to check these systems annually, and minimally follow the protocol

recommended by the steering system manufacturer. Every owner should confer with his boatyard, manufacturer, or designer to ascertain whether his or her steering system is up to the task of offshore, long-distance use.

- 2) At least every five years, drain - completely – your diesel fuels tanks, flush all lines, replace all filters, and remove all sediment in the tanks through the porthole's often provided on the topmost surfaces of the tanks. Both Hound and Gunga Din were unable to either keep their engines running, or worse, start them, as a result of sludge from the tanks plugging the fuel lines and filters! In both instances, this severely hindered their ability to keep the pumps running at rated capacity and would have provided more time before having to abandon their yachts.
- 3) If any member yacht has had a serious grounding and your boat is made of composite materials (including fiberglass), you should ensure that it undergoes an infrared scanning of the area surrounding the hull/keel attachment following any such hard grounding! {Unofficially, I would define a "hard grounding" to be any time your yacht is brought to a standstill from more than 5 knots boat speed, or when waves lift the yacht and drop her - hard and repeatedly – on her keel when grounded. The scan should incorporate an area at least a two-foot breadth from centerline from the stem end all the way past the upper trailing edge of the keel. While no one will know for certain, it is possible such an evaluation might have informed Gunga Din's owner of the compromise in its keel and mast structural grid. Infrared scans should also be performed after any keel/hull repair work --- not for insurance purposes, but so you know for certain there is no compromise in the integrity of your hull/keel construction.

We will soon ascertain whether a Tech Committee site might be considered, from which our members might benefit from the insights offered by the Technical Committee members on the above topics and others.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Binch, Chair

w. Trophy

Robert Darbee

1) All CCA Bermuda Race trophies are back from the Onion Patch and "home" in our Newport IYRS showcase. Along the way both 2024 and 2022 engraving update of recipient names took place. The 2022 engraving had been held over in order to have all back in Newport in time for the Centennial celebration.

2) After 6 sterling years as our "trophy man on the scene" in Newport, Quartermaster Steve Prime has asked for relief. Commodore Gowell has appointed Andy Dickinson to fill the slot. Steve Prime's "local knowledge" is too valuable to let slip away so he has agreed to stay on committee as "Quartermaster Emeritus" which we much appreciate. Given the dynamic, always on call nature of the duty (responding to security alarms going off at 1AM and the like) in the best James Bond tradition, the Quartermaster has been assigned code name "Q." Many thanks, Steve, for a great job well done; welcome Andy!

3) After much trophy movement over the past 9 months (Bermuda Race, Annapolis Fall Meeting, tonight) our hardware will be staying in place in Newport for a while. Next project, given this respite, will be a complete updating of trophy appraisal which document then also serves as inventory record.

4) Friday night is the annual CCA Awards Dinner. We are happy to report there will indeed be awards on hand under watch of the new Quartermaster who is charged with trophy delivery to 44th Street and return to Newport.

Robert S. (Bob) Darbee

Awards Chair Newport Bermuda Race/ CCA Trophy Chair



x. Voyages

Dan Biemesderfer

At this writing (late February), the 67th issue of *Voyages* is at the printer, J.S. McCarthy, Augusta, Maine and should be delivered to members within the next few weeks. This issue includes 15 feature articles, including an article written by Ellen Massey on this year's Blue Water medalist, Leiv Poncet. In addition, Sheila McCurdy shared an excerpt from *High Seas and Home Waters*, a history of the CCA entitled *The CCA After WWII*. There are also three reviews on books written by Skip Novak, Lin Pardy and Randell Pepper. There are 22 Final Voyages.

I've also announced in *Last Words from the Editor* a new feature that will appear in the next edition of *Voyages* — Letters to *Voyages*. I'm encouraging members who have something they'd like to share to write a short letter (maximum 500 words), perhaps with a photo or two. Topics might include, but aren't limited to, comments about previous articles, short sailing stories that might not be appropriate for a full-length article, and thoughts about CCA in general. Letters will be edited and, if need be, selected.

During the coming year *Voyages*, through the CCA communication committee and word of mouth, will be actively recruiting sailing stories from our members and announcing the addition of the *Letters to Voyages* feature.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Biemesderfer, Editor *Voyages*

y. Waypoints

Elizabeth Gowell

Our monthly digital newsletter *Waypoints* continues to provide timely information to members on events, topics of interest and Club policy. It also serves as a forum to share information and invite participation in local, regional, and global events and endeavors.

Each issue of *Waypoints* is a team effort. The editor, with input from the Communications Committee, Flag Officers, and Committee Chairs, works to make *Waypoints* content interesting, valuable, and digestible. Collectively, we solicit input from a broad cross section of members and encourage all to send suggestions for content to be included in *Waypoints*. We are fortunate to have several authors who contribute regular columns on history and safety, as well as committee and cruise chairs who provide regular updates. *Waypoints* also relies on timely coordination with and support from the CCA Webmaster, who creates and manages content on the CCA Website that can be linked to various articles in the newsletter.

Analysis of data from the past two years provided from our MailChimp platform indicates reader engagement continues to be strong. The *Waypoints* “open rate” (the percentage of recipients who open the *Waypoints* email) continued to average around 65% in 2024. The maximum open rate was 73% in January; the lowest rate was 59% in December. The “click rate” (the percentage of recipients who open *Waypoints* and click on a link) continued to average around 13.5%. The maximum click rate was 19% in January; the lowest rate was 9.7% in August. The Communications Committee is working to use this data to better understand member preferences and tailor content accordingly. We are also working to archive *Waypoints* so members can access past issues. Most of the 2024 editions can be found on the Members Only section of the CCA website at: <https://cruisingclub.org/waypoints-newsletter>

In March 2025, *Waypoints* will be welcoming Mark Gabrielson as co-editor.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Gowell, Editor

z. Web

Michael Moradzadeh

The CCA Website, (group of sites actually) continues to provide support for the club’s activities

1. Club roster information is being updated in anticipation of our next YB printing
2. Our Articles database continues to grow at a modest pace. Readership gets bumped when an article is highlighted in social media.
3. SAS and SCC transactions continue smoothly on the SAS sub site. Looking forward to adding supporting Practice on your Own Boat when they share their needs.
4. *Adventurous Use of the Sea* sales on the site are a bare trickle. Maybe one every other month,
5. A new site has been set up expressly for managing cruises. This is going well with some suggestions for refinement coming in from early adopters
6. Bonnellcove.org site will be replaced with an updated version.

The Yearbook is well under way for 2025. I am indebted to all the contributors who timely submit material, Committee chairs, RCs and POs, but especially Awards, Steve James and Jim Quanci, also Webmaster, Michael Moradzedah, without whose efforts the Yearbook would not exist.

Ray Callum has agreed to be the Co-chair for 2025 and take over in 2026. Ray and I spent four days going over the procedure and Indesign. Ray has access to those who are professionally familiar with Indesign. The printers, J S McCarthy, have an excellent Tech guy, Shawn, who was especially helpful for my first edition and awaits to assist. I am grateful to Ray.

However professional help is required. Many willing hands have worked on the Yearbook which has accumulated over eight Master pages and over 50 different Paragraph styles that indeed create the book but muddy the waters for a new editor.

A review of the Yearbook was last undertaken in 2014 when it was then updated. So with developing software I believe it again needs to be reviewed and simplified. This review should be added to the next budget. Ray is looking into potential costs.

The 2025 Yearbook should be received by members in early May. A PDF copy of the Yearbook will be available after publication, by contacting the Editors.

Barbara N. Watson and Raymond J. Cullum
CCA Yearbook Co-Editors 2025