



# BRIGANTINE YACHT CLUB



Vol. 79, No. 5

July 2025

**From the Commodore**



**David Miller**

July 2025 was an extremely busy month at our Brigantine Yacht Club!

Our special events started off with a great night for July 3rd fireworks, followed by the Sam Wells regatta on the 4th and the always fantastic Oliveri family hosted Surf and Turf on the 5th. The next week, on July 10th we hosted 130 sailors for our annual MAYRA invitational on July 10th. Many thanks to everyone who came down to the club to volunteer their time, energy and boats for this event. We could not make such a large regatta possible without you. We would also not be able to make it happen without the Keating and Vizzone families who allow us to empty our boat yard onto their properties to make room for the visiting junior sailors. It is a truly special to see so many volunteer, in so many ways, to help host junior sailors.

Two days later on July 12th we had our progressive dinner. Many thanks to Sarah Chaikin for organizing this event. This event is a great opportunity for “old” members to meet new members in a more intimate setting. The various groups then met together back at the club, to end the evening with dessert. If you have not participated in this event in the past, please consider it next year. It is a fun experience.

On Saturday the 19th the Miller family hosted their annual Fish Fry and we will have live Jazz music on the 26th hosted by Lorna Rosenberg. Please check the Calendar and weekly updates for information on future events.

On a weekly basis the activities at the club include: yoga, weekday junior sailing, Tuesday night junior races, Friday night adult races, Friday night sunset bar with live music, mahjong and book club and non sailing related junior activities. If you would like to get involved please reach out.

Finally I would like to thank the my fellow flag officers, trustees, sailing staff, support staff, bartenders, cleaners for doing all the hard work (Thank you Steven Donohue, Chris Barnes & Bill Trost for the new driveway fence!) that needs to be done on a daily basis to keep the club running. We are a working club and nothing magically fixes itself, organizes itself, or cleans itself. People make it happen and the more who get involved the lighter (and more enjoyable!) the load becomes. Again many thanks to everyone for making the BYC such a great place.

Sail Ho!

## From the Vice Commodore ☆ ☆ John Doherty

Hello everyone!

The club has been a great place to be recently. Lots of laughs with new and old friends. Now we start to get to the dog days of summer with a great lineup.

This Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> is the Jazz Café which is a three piece band hosted by the Rosenberg's.

Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup> is our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Country Western night with line dancing and a mechanical bull hosted by the Gerhards, Kellys and Julianna Corson. Be sure to dress the part.

The Commodore's Ball honoring our Commodore Dave Miller is on August 9<sup>th</sup> at the Seaview Country Club. Please RSVP as soon as possible.

Every Friday night is the Sunset Bar with live music and food for purchase.

Hope to see you at the club!

### *Also, from Past Commodore Scott Oliveri*

What a great way to celebrate the 4th of July weekend—our Surf & Turf event at the club was a huge success! We had record-breaking attendance this year, and the Chefs and Crew absolutely crushed it.

A big shoutout to Stacy, Daniel, Ruth, Reagan, and Matt for all their help—setting up, working the door, cooking potatoes, and making sure food got out to our servers. Couldn't have done it without you!

As always, our younger members really stepped up. Huge thanks to Cayden & Tristan Parsio, Ethan & Owen Bilotta, Luca Colivita, Tyler & Dylan Verceles, and Gavin Mangel. You all did an amazing job serving our members, cleaning up the club, and breaking down the tents and tables.

Special thanks to Jon Mangel for organizing all the food, cleaning the grills, and working the line—he's always a huge help and a big part of what made this event run smoothly.

And let's not forget our bartenders! You kept the drinks flowing and the party going—thank you for your hard work and dedication.

Our Chefs really outdid themselves this year. Cooking for 120 guests is no small feat, but Brian Murray, Frank Pugliese, and Jon Mangel manned the grills like pros—those filets were cooked to perfection. Big thanks as well to our seafood masters, Eric Tucker and Keith Moore, for keeping the crabs and shrimp coming. You guys nailed it.

And finally, thank you to all the members who came out—we hope you enjoyed the food, the music, and the fun.

Looking forward to doing it all again next year!

## From the Rear Commodore Mark Robertson

The first half of the BYC summer sailing season has been a huge success! We've had four great weeks on the water with four left to go. The BYC SJSS regatta was on 7/10 with 128 boats and 134 sailors participating. The weather held out for a great day of sailing. BYC BOLT team sailors placed in Sunfish, Laser 4.7, and all Opti classes. A big thank you to all of the volunteers that helped make that day run successfully! A special thank you to Dr. John Keating for handling the PRO duties. Cooper River regatta is this Thursday 7/24.

Upcoming regattas and events:

7/27: The BYC is hosting the MAYRA Championship for Sunfish, Laser 6 Radial and Laser 7 Full Rig. This is an open age regatta and a great opportunity to get broad participation from the BYC!

8/15: Year end sailing and perpetual awards night.

Reminder to all members that are storing boats in the yard:

All boats, including kayaks and SUPs will need to have a sticker affixed to the transom (back wall of the boat). This way we can keep track of boats in the yard. Stickers will have names on the back and member numbers on the actual sticker. Stickers can be found in a basket on the island by the kitchen. Member numbers can be found on your invoice. If you have a boat in the yard but have not paid for a space, kindly contact RC Mark Robertson or Treasurer Joe Sheehan to obtain an invoice. Your cooperation matter will be greatly appreciated. Please reach out to RC Mark Robertson [mrob462@gmail.com](mailto:mrob462@gmail.com) or or David Miller [hagendolch@hotmail.com](mailto:hagendolch@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

## BYC Juniors by Anna Towers

We've had strong start to the Juniors programs – with both sailors and non-sailors! From Smiles Arcade to the BYC Float Day to Jurassic World Movie and then the Margate Aqua Island Water Park! We hope this trend only continues to grow to have many more Juniors attend future events. Also, we'd like to invite Juniors to the Tuesday night races! These are a great time to watch your fellow Juniors locally @ BYC. Please keep an eye out for the individual event flyers from Gale or through the BYC Juniors WhatsApp! If you haven't joined the WhatsApp group, please do! It's been a helpful tool for communication on upcoming events, last minute updates, changes, weather updates, etc! If you have any questions, please let Anna Towers know!

- **Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup> – Soccer & Pizza @ 26<sup>th</sup> Street Park**
- **Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup> – Surfing Lesson (RSVP / Sign up by Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>)**
- Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup> – Takeoff Adventure Park
- Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup> – Water Park – Location TBD! Look out for details!
- Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup> – Laser Tag (Egg Harbor Township)\_
- Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> – Canoe Trip @ Mick's
- Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup> – Beach Volleyball
- Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> – Summer 2025 Juniors Closing Party

- Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> – Sailing Awards Ceremony

We'll share final details via the Juniors WhatsApp group, so be sure to join if you haven't already. Looking forward to a great summer!

## **BYC Nominating Committee by *Bob Gerhard***

The Nominating Committee is responsible for recommending individuals to hold offices in the Brigantine Yacht Club. Those offices consist of a board of trustees, flag officers, treasurer, and corresponding and recording secretaries.

Trustees serve a 3-year term and each year a new set of four trustees comes due for renewal or replacement. No trustee may serve more than six consecutive years.

Expiring terms for trustees are:

Jeannie Munoz

Keith Moore

Chris Triolo

Beth Ann Poli

According to the bylaws, Keith Moore, Chris Triolo, and Beth Ann Poli may serve a second 3-year term if nominated. The Nominating Committee recommends that Keith, Chris, and Beth Ann for additional 3-year terms.

Jeannie Munoz has served two consecutive terms and is not permitted to renew again according to our bylaws. The nominating committee expresses deep appreciation to Jeannie for her dedicated service to the club.

We therefore have one vacancy to fill on the board of trustees. The committee is recommending Vicki Crafton for the office of trustee. The committee believes, upon investigation, that she is hard-working, committed to BYC, and will be an active and contributing member of a balanced board that will represent various aspects of club activities.

We note that Scott Oliveri is rotating off the board as he concludes his service as Past Commodore. The Nominating Committee recognizes his hours of service to BYC over many years.

For flag officers we nominate John Doherty to serve as Commodore, Mark Robertson for the role of Vice Commodore, and Carrie Mulford to serve as Rear Commodore.

We recommend that Debra Schlesinger and Gale Donohue remain in their respective roles of Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary, respectively.

Joe Sheehan will continue serving as Treasurer.

And finally, Dave Miller will serve on the board as Past Commodore! Thank you, Dave, for your dedication to BYC for these many years, and especially this past year as Commodore.

## Membership Committee by Sarah Chaikin

Thanks to all who participated in the Progressive Dinner! Our new members enjoyed themselves and enjoyed meeting other members.

### It is our pleasure to introduce BYC's newest members:

- **Kristin Alvaro** – Kristin's application to the BYC was sponsored by long-time friends, the Bilottas and the Parsios. Kristin is a Mortgage Loan Officer for FBC. She is also an artist. She currently resides in Voorhees but eventually plans to make her fulltime home in Brigantine.
- **Bonnie Richards, Philip Canelli and daughters, Luciana (age 8) and Catharine (age 6)** – The Richards/Canelli family live in Manhattan. They joined the BYC in order to give Luciana an opportunity to learn to sail. This year she has been taking private lessons and is enjoying herself very much. We hope she will be able to join the weekday sailing program next year. Bonnie works for UBS as a Family Office Consultant. Philip is a lawyer with Anisa International, Inc.
- **Carlyn Phucas & Keith Greenberg** – Keith and Carlyn have joined the BYC to expand their connections in the Brigantine community and be a part of an organization of "kind, bright people". Carlyn is an orthodontist, and Keith is a sales specialist for Quadient, an international company specializing in mailing equipment and business process automation.
- **Paul and Margie Boutcher** - Paul and Margie were sponsored by Gale and Steve Donohue. Paul and Steve have been friends since elementary school days. Since retirement, they now live in Brigantine. Paul is a carpenter, builder and contractor. Margie is retired from a position in finance and banking.
- **Nancy Hesford** – Nancy first noticed the BYC about a year ago when she stopped to watch one of our regattas on the bay. She visited our tent at the Farmers' Market, gathered information and has since learned more about the BYC. Nancy enjoys kayaking. She retired from a marketing and communications career; Penn Med in Philadelphia and a utility company in Florida.

### Membership Data:

- The BYC currently has 260 adult members representing 3% growth since last year.
- We feel that the 2025 membership stimulation campaign (Ads, Press releases, Farmers Market and Art Show) was successful.
- One goal for 2026 is to increase the size of our youth sailing program. We are working with the Rear Commodore to devise with an event to interest the committee and introduce youth to our sailing program. If you know families with children age 7 and older, encourage them to consider BYC Sailing.
- The committee's other goal for 2026 is to reduce annual membership loss to 10% or below. We would like to engage the membership in this effort. Think about members who you haven't seen frequently at the club. Please reach out and let them know they are missed.



## ***We're All in the Boat: What are Perpetual Awards and what do they mean?***

Perpetual Awards are awards given to adult and junior members for sailing, sportsmanship, and dedication to the BYC.

### **"B" Fleet Champion Joseph J. Lawless Award.**

Awarded to the highest scoring "B" fleet sailors.

In the past this award was given to the best "B" Fleet boy and girl. In 1998, when a new plaque was purchased this tradition was changed such that the best Optimist and Sunfish "B" fleet sailor as well as the best Sunfish "B" fleet sailor could be recognized.

### **Optimist Traveling Champion**

Award focuses first upon the **amount** of traveling the sailor has done, as well as the quality of that sailing in various venues and good conduct while a guest at other's clubs.

### **Sunfish Traveling Champion**

Award focuses first upon the **amount** of traveling the sailor has done, as well as the quality of that sailing in various venues and good conduct while at other's clubs.

### **Laser Radial 4.7 Traveling Champion**

Established in 2021. Award focuses first upon the **amount** of traveling the sailor has done, as well as the quality of that sailing in various venues and good conduct while at other's

### **Optimist Club Champ**

Established in 1993. Recipient has shown the highest scores in Optimist racing held at BYC. Other scores (such as MAYRA or LBI) can be used as tie-breakers.

### **Sunfish Club Champion (Josiah White IV Trophy)**

Recipient has shown the highest scores in Sunfish racing held at BYC. Other scores (such as MAYRA or LBI) can be used as tie-breakers.

### **Laser Radial 4.7 Club Champion**

Recipient has shown the highest scores in Laser Radial 4.7 racing held at BYC. Other scores (such as MAYRA or LBI) can be used as tie-breakers.

### **Outstanding Boy Sailor (Thomas P. Donahue Trophy)**

Overall sailing achievement by a junior boy.

### **Outstanding Girl Sailor (Adolph Campione Trophy)**

Overall sailing achievement by a junior girl.

**Junior Sailing Achievement (Margaret G. Schaible Award)**

To a junior who has shown growth and dedication to sailing. Not awarded to recipients of the other major junior awards.

**Axilrod Cup**

Contributed by the Axilrod and Gemmel families in memory of Doctor Herbert Axilrod who was a long time member of BYC and an avid GP 14 sailor. He passed away suddenly during the winter of 1996.

This trophy is awarded to the highest scoring skipper and crew of the most active BYC 2-person fleet. The events used in calculating this score are determined by the RC during each sailing season.

The Axilrod and Gemmel families expressed the wish at the time the trophy was first discussed that it's presence would help to encourage 2-person sailing at BYC.

**Rear Commodore's Award**

Outstanding contributions to the BYC sailing program by an adult member. Established in 1997 by Rear Commodore Harry Chaikin.

**Harry Switzer Award**

This is a sportsmanship award given to a sailor who has shown outstanding sportsmanship and character during the sailing year. It was established by Debbie Schlesinger in memory of her father.

**Alexandra Walker Memorial Award**

This award was established by the Walker and Oliveri families in memory of Alexandra Walker. It is given to the sailor who has exhibited the qualities of character and perseverance during the year.

**Carl & Sally Oliveri Award**

This award was established by the Oliveri family to be presented to families that have long term dedication to the advancement of the BYC.

**Triathlon Award**

Highest Junior Finisher of the Brigantine Triathlon

**The Mile Swim Award**

Highest Junior Finisher of the Mile Swim

## News & Notes:

Don't forget to check out our website [www.bycsail.com](http://www.bycsail.com) when you have a minute. The bottom of the front page of the website always has the "weekly events". On the website, under Social is an event calendar with all the events for the season. If you "hover" over the event on the calendar, it will give you details. Go to: the Member Login Section – Located in the upper right portion of the homepage. Click on "Member Login" and enter the following password – BYC1040. You'll find the most recent Member Directory, Committee Handbooks, BYC policies, and all the archived BYC

newsletters. One stop shopping. If you need changes to the BYC Directory, please email me at [gcdonohue13@gmail.com](mailto:gcdonohue13@gmail.com). Yachting Club of America cards have been received for the 2025 season. These cards are reciprocal courtesy cards that may be used at other Yacht Clubs in the US if there is reciprocity. To check for reciprocity, go to [www.ycaol.com](http://www.ycaol.com) and you will find a listing of all clubs that are part of this program. The BYC user ID is "club 1040" and our password is "y100446c" for the sign-in information for YCOA.

**Brigantine Yacht Club**

Published six times annually as a source of information for BYC membership. Additional copies are available upon request.

To submit materials for publication, please contact:

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