

BRIGANTINE YACHT CLUB

Vol. 81, No. 2

February 2026

From the Commodore ☆☆☆ **John Doherty**

I hope everyone is staying warm and enjoying their winter.

As we navigate the midpoint of the off-season, we are preparing for another spectacular summer. The board recently had its annual budget meeting and the club financially is doing well and will not be raising any of the dues and fees. Mark Robertson has started to put together the summer social calendar. Please contact Mark if you are interested in organizing a party. The bills for 2026 will be going out shortly. If you have children participating in the sailing program, please return your payment as soon as possible. This will assist Carrie Mulford with her detailed planning for the summer.

The spring work day is scheduled for April 18. It will start at 8:30am. Please try to attend.

The dues and fees list is located at the end of the newsletter.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the BYC.

From the Vice Commodore ☆☆ **Mark Robertson**

Hi all,

The holiday season at the club was festive and a great way to close out 2025 and usher in 2026! We hosted a great holiday party in early December and were open for a warm refuge during the Polar Bear Plunge on New Years Day. Planning for this spring and summer is well underway. Some upcoming events at the club are:

- Workday Sunset Bar: 4/17 evening
- Workday Spring Cleanup: 4/18
- Kentucky Derby: 5/2 Party specifics to follow

Memorial Day Weekend and Summer parties to be announced in the coming months.

If any members are interested in hosting a weekend party next summer, please reach out to me at mrob462@gmail.com to discuss details and dates.

Stay warm and think of sand and surf!
Summer will be here before we know it!

From the Rear Commodore ☆ **Carrie Mulford**

Although we are buried in a foot of snow, the sailing season is right around the corner. Spring workday is April 18th, so mark your calendars and plan to come out and help.

The junior program will begin on Monday June 22th with Bill Trost returning this summer as the Adult Sailing Director. There will be a parents' meeting and BBQ the weekend before, where we will cover final details about both the youth sailing and social programs. In the meantime, parents and guardians should expect communication from me about the sailing schedule later in the month. Thank you to all the parents who updated us on their children's plans for the summer.

For the sailing program, I have been working on hiring instructors and dock hands. Applications are in and offers have gone out. The New Jersey minimum wage has increased to almost \$16/hour, but we have kept our youth sailing program fees to \$550 for 8 weeks of instruction and fun! If you know any families with young children who might be interested in joining the club and participating in the Junior Sailing program, please have them reach out to me at CarrieFMulford@gmail.com.

As a reminder, we are hosting MAYRA on Thursday, July 23rd. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out in any capacity.

Membership Committee *by Sarah Chaikin*

New BYC Members since the publication of the last Newsletter:

Steve Hurtt: Steve Hurtt is a local landscaper and builder. He recalls that his mother “signed him up” at the yacht club in 1957 but states that he didn't want to go. Having recently refurbished a vintage sailboat, Steve now wants to learn how to sail and looks forward to taking lessons. He also looks forward to meeting BYC members who has heard are a “nice social group”.

Pat Onofrio and Mandy Weinberg: Pat sailed small boats (Sunfish and Lasers) in his youth and would like to reestablish his skills. He is an electrical engineer and owner of Eccotrol, a “full-service controls, building automation, system integration and energy efficiency company”. Mandy also works for Eccotrol as a project manager. They are excited to hear about our Friday evening get-togethers. We might even hear Pat sing!

Happy Birthday! We welcome the following 21-year-olds into Senior membership at the BYC

Elaina Corson – Elaina turned 21 on September 21st, 2025

Landon Mulford – Landon turned 21 on October 31st, 2025

Sydney Sullivan – Sydney will turn 21 on June 26th, 2026

2026 Goal: Increasing the number of children in our sailing program.

Data from 2025: An analysis of our 2025 applications shows that:

- 39% of new members joined last year because they were encouraged by current BYC members.
- 25% of new members joined last year because of our reputation in the community.

Results from the Membership Marketing Survey:

In the last newsletter we invited members to participate in a survey. We asked their opinions on how to market the club to parents with children who are sailing age. These marketing vehicles were rated as the most likely to produce results:

- Having a tent at the Memorial Day weekend Farmers' Market
- Ads and articles in the Brigantine Times
- Having a website that emphasizes our sailing program
- There was also strong write-in support for sponsoring a "Try Out Sailing" day at the club.

Efforts currently underway

Updating our website: We have engaged Mariele Ford of MF Visuals <https://mfvisuals.co/> to update and refresh our website. The first phase, already in progress, will include reorganization of the website and updating the text. The second phase will be to refresh the photography and will be done during the summer season.

Brigantine Times: A series of articles are being written by BYC members to appear in the Brigantine Times at intervals during the spring. The first should appear in the February 20th edition. It was written by Jason Augustine, "Sailing for Through Life". We are planning one or two print ads.

Farmers' Market: We have secured space at the Memorial Day weekend Farmers' Market, May 23rd. We will be looking for volunteers to assist with this project.

Do you know families with children or grandchildren over 7? Please encourage them to consider our BYC sailing program as a summer activity!



We're All in the Boat:

Don't forget to check out our website 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. Yachting Club of America cards have been received for the 2026 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 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. **You can receive your 2026 card after you have paid your 2026 dues.**

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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BYC 2026 Schedule of Annual Dues and Fees: Adult dues and fees are based on the age of the member.

60% of dues/fees is budgeted for operating expenses. 40% goes toward the club's long-term needs.



Adult Dues/Fees	Dues and tax	Capital Fund Fee	Capital Building fee	TOTAL	PLUS One-time initiation fee for new members*
Adult Dues, Ages 75 and over 6.625%tax	\$140.00 \$9.28	\$60.00	\$75.00	\$284.28	\$275.00
Adult Dues, Age 65 & over w/30 years of membership 6.625%tax	\$140.00 \$9.28	\$60.00	\$75.00	\$284.28	NA
Adult Dues, Ages 35 to 75 6.625%tax	\$295.00 \$19.55	\$60.00	\$150.00	\$524.55	\$400.00
Adult Dues, Ages 30 Thru 34 6.625%tax	\$210.00 \$13.91	\$45.00	\$75	\$343.91	\$330.00
Adult Dues, Ages 25 Thru 29 6.625%tax	\$140.00 \$9.28	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$179.28	\$170.00
Adult Dues, Ages 21 Thru 24 6.625%tax	\$70.00 \$4.64	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$89.64	\$85.00
Youth Dues (for all children in family) 6.625%tax	\$135.00 \$8.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$143.44	\$0.00

*New adult members are charged a one-time initiation fee. Upon request, this fee may be approved for payment over the course of two years. Initiation fees contribute to BYC's capital improvement fund.

The Brigantine Yacht Club charges fees for participation in the sailing program and for boat storage (as capacity allows). Boat storage costs are based on size and type of vessel. A pricelist is available upon request.

The following is a schedule of additional user fees for 2026

Junior Sailing Fee	\$550.00
420 Rental Sailing Fee	\$200.00
Boat Storage - any boat with a road trailer (Day Sailor, GP-14, 420, Laser, Moth, Sunfish)	\$300.00
Boat Storage - 420 without road trailer	\$215.00
Boat Storage - Kayak	\$80.00
Boat Storage - Laser without road trailer	\$195.00
Boat Storage - Moth without road trailer	\$215.00
Boat Storage - Sunfish without road trailer	\$195.00
Boat Storage - Optimist	\$80.00
Boat Storage - In Water Slip	\$1850.00
Winter Storage - Large Boat	\$ 140.00
Winter Storage - Small Boat and Kayak	\$70.00

There is a waiting list for "in water" slips.