



# Brigantine Yacht Club Newsletter

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From the Commodore ☆☆☆ Doug Corbett

Dear Friends,

We're off and running: it's a new year at BYC with a new administration – and now that the election is over, it's time for all of us to come together and make BYC even greater ☺. Forgive me, I just couldn't resist the temptation to make a little fun of what's going on in the national political arena.

On a more serious note, we had a successful workday effort led by Brian Murray, which was followed by a Trustees Meeting. Sincere thanks to the locals that attended and to all that traveled back to the island and donated their time to help get the club ready for winter and to those that came in for the meeting.

In attendance were:

Flag Officers: Doug Corbett, Hugh Braithwaite, and Brian Murray.

Recording Secretary Leo Parsio

Corresponding Secretary Gale Donohue.

Trustees: Joanne Kearns, Jack Fisher, Beverly Faunce, Sue Ferguson & Carolyn Braithwaite

**In accordance with the by-laws, the next Trustee Meeting will be 9:00am on Saturday, February 25, 2017**  
Spring meeting dates and workday date will be announced after consultation with the Board.

We are fortunate to have two enthusiastic Flag officers that will do a great job in their respective roles this year – Brian, as the returning Rear Commodore, proved his seaworthiness last year and is intent on building on that success. Hugh, as your new Vice Commodore, is brimming with ideas to stimulate the social scene and keep the clubhouse active all summer with something for everyone. I am really looking forward to a memorable summer of 2017 at the club and hope you are too.

That enables me to focus my attention on 5 other priorities over the coming year and I'll be in search of member support to make progress in these areas.

1. **Membership:** We'll need to provide incredible value to existing members so that they become our best salespeople and bring others into the club. We need a strategy to reach out to past members and encourage them to come back. And finally we need to find ways to tap into sources of new members and be able to show how membership at BYC is enriching and fun.
2. **Communication:** it's clear to me that members like to get their BYC news in lots of different ways. (John Gibbons did a weekly phone call, Jimmy Burns did a magnetic calendar) - We need to utilize all the tools available to streamline the process and get out the news and messages efficiently and in a way members want to receive it (telephone, mail, email, google docs, etc.)
3. **Standardization of processes:** one thing is for sure, in an organization in which the leadership changes every year, there is a need for a central location for information and "how to" manuals.

4. **Marketing:** We have a brand new website that offers plenty of room to add content. We also had a great presence in the local paper this past year. We have a new clubhouse that could and should generate substantial incremental funds from rentals if marketed well.
5. **Fiscal Responsibility:** As a Trustee back in the 90's, I recall learning about the work of the long term finance committee and being impressed that they had the foresight to put money away for a "rainy day". Thanks to their efforts and that of previous administrations, we were able to afford a new bulkhead when the time came and currently are on stable financial ground.

I'm pleased to say that your Flag officers, Treasurer, and Board of Trustees are all in agreement and committed to a path to get the clubhouse loans paid back and become debt free as quickly as possible. This is why membership growth and clubhouse rentals will be my 2 top priorities. Tom Parvesse has also re-established the funding of a separate account for long term capital expenditures, like the docks. Know that as a team, we have an open-door policy and welcome constructive criticism, compliments, and especially volunteers!

In conclusion, I'd like to say that it's an honor and a privilege to join the ranks of BYC Commodores. When I look at the portraits up in the gallery on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, it gives me pause to know that I now shoulder the responsibility that they all carried so well. I take that responsibility seriously and am thrilled to "carry the torch" this year and be leading the way along with such a talented team made up of Brian, Hugh, Tom and the Trustees. I'd like to thank all of them for their service to the club and to all of you for all you do for BYC.

## From the Vice Commodore ☆☆☆ Hugh Braithwaite

**Thanksgiving Eve at the BYC!** If you're in town celebrating with friends or family, please plan to drop in on Wednesday night the 25<sup>th</sup> for a holiday drink or two with your BYC friends at 7:30 PM. What better way to relax before you head home for your big Turkey day!

### **BYC Family Ski Weekend**

A few families have already signed up for the annual BYC Ski Weekend. This has been a great winter tradition and always a ton of fun for kids and adults. This year the fun will be held at Camelback Lodge on the weekend of Jan 7th-8th. Reservations also include tickets to the indoor waterpark. So even if there is no snow -- there is fun to be had! Learn more here: <http://www.skicamelback.com/stay-with-us/camelback-lodge>.

There is no formal BYC event planned. But if enough families sign up, a private room can easily be rented for Saturday night. Members interested in going can contact Katie Burns to coordinate times and places for BYC families to meet up -- [kedburns@gmail.com](mailto:kedburns@gmail.com).

**Summer 2017 Social Committee:** We are in the midst of forming an energized social committee for this summer! Members that wish to contribute ideas, expertise, and enthusiasm for social events are welcome on this year's committee. My goal is to have a unique and diverse calendar of activities and parties for all interests. Please contact me at [hugh@gobraithwaite.com](mailto:hugh@gobraithwaite.com).

**Club Rentals:** We're getting some new interest in the club for rentals! Please remember that the club is the most spectacular venue on the island and available at an incredibly reasonable price. Prices are based

on four hour blocks: Members can bring in their own Food and Beverages or use Club liquor. Non-members must bring their own F & B and also must hire a Supervisor recommended by the club and pay \$100 for cleaning fee. There is no better rental and no better view!

Memorial Day thru Labor Day – BYC is available for rent on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings after 5:00 pm. The summer rental fee is \$500 per night for 4 hours. Extra hours can be requested at \$100 per hour. Extra hours are not guaranteed if not agreed upon in advance.

September through May – BYC is available for rent on all days and evenings of the week.

\$300 for 4 hours in November, December, January, February, and March

\$400 for 4 hours in April, May, September, and October

**From the Rear Commodore  Brian Murray**

I also would like to add to Doug's thanks to everyone who helped on work day in October. We can't maintain the club in such good shape without the help of all our volunteers who worked to put our docks away, to clean up the yard and prepare the building for the winter.

The fall has been quiet on the sailing front. But we are beginning to think about the sailing program for next year. Please let me know before our next Trustees meeting in February if you have any thoughts or recommendations for next year's junior program. I'd like to thank John Keating for attending the MAYRA planning session where the date of next year's MAYRA interclub regattas were set. The first MAYRA will be June 29th at Avalon. BYC will host on July 20th. And the final interclub regatta will be on August 10th at Ocean City. I attended the LBIYRA meetings and those dates will be chosen at the next meeting in February.

Finally, the MAYRA Awards Dinner will be held Friday December 2nd at Corinthian Yacht Club of Philadelphia. RSVPs must be in by November 28th. Email me at [BFMurray@gmail.com](mailto:BFMurray@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending so I can forward you the details, menu and the form to RSVP.

Have a healthy and happy holiday!

## *News and Notes*

Fred and Kathy Dohn are happy to announce the marriage of their son Brian Frederick to Sarah Dow Keim. The couple were married in Leesburg Virginia on October 29, 2016. They reside in Saratoga Springs NY

Steve Donohue won the EPA "Glen Witmer" award, a peer award given by fellow employees at the EPA

for the employee who best exemplifies his or her integrity, initiative, perception, resourcefulness, dedication, enthusiasm, and objectivity in service to the environment. This is a top award given by the EPA region.

Congratulations to Michael Donohue, son of Steve and Gale Donohue who graduated from Nursing School to become a Practical Nurse passing the PA LPN exam and has found employment at Manor Care Rehabilitation and Nursing Facility in Yardley, PA

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To submit materials for publication, please contact:

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