



Volume XLII No.1 • A Publication of Masthead Cove Yacht Club • March 2020



*Congratulations to David Kessler cover photo contest winner  
"Annapolis on a winter day"*

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Hello to everyone!

Well here is the debut of my Masthead entries as Commodore of this fine club, however...I can still hear the repeated verbal taunt from the parking lot of West Shore Marina to me, in water storage, C dock. Our good friend, Scott Gerber, used to keep asking, "are you going to be the next Commodore?" Nice zing Scott, but time flies and here we are two years later.

There was a lot to learn quickly as Vice Commodore to prepare for this position, I have to thank Lee Stern, for her direction in that first year, but I also think she enjoyed still playing a part, as she is now doing in the educational "Gales and Buoys" program. I hope I do as well for Shirley Nel.

So now I follow in the footsteps of the efficient and fully involved Jackie Martin, involved in every area of boating in the Huntington area, to the lovable personality of Dave Cordts, the charm of Brad Simon with the signature promise of wind at your back and a Dark and Stormy on the horizon...how does one continue the class act of predecessors I have admired since joining the club?

So, let's see where my term takes the club. I don't have an idea for a "signature promise" such as wind on cruises, or races. I might though like to think we should all pay more attention to our health. I personally feel I'm having trouble with the physical demands of sailing. As an aging athlete this most distressing, finally retired and not able to play on the foredeck, as in my misspent "youth" of the '90's. Let's all encourage each other to walk, exercise, eat right, and improve our health so we can all continue to fully enjoy our boats for years to come.

Thank you all for your support and well wishes being installed as Commodore, as I begin to fulfil a dream of serving a club of this caliber with such lofty goals and services to others.

Commodore Gary Matthesen

*Holiday*



Cruise Captain, JP Nel presents exciting plans for the new cruising season. Huge thanks to Bob and Liz Bergsten for graciously hosting.



**SAVE THE DATE!!!!**

**MCYC Annual Spring Brunch, March 29, 2020, 12 noon to 4pm**

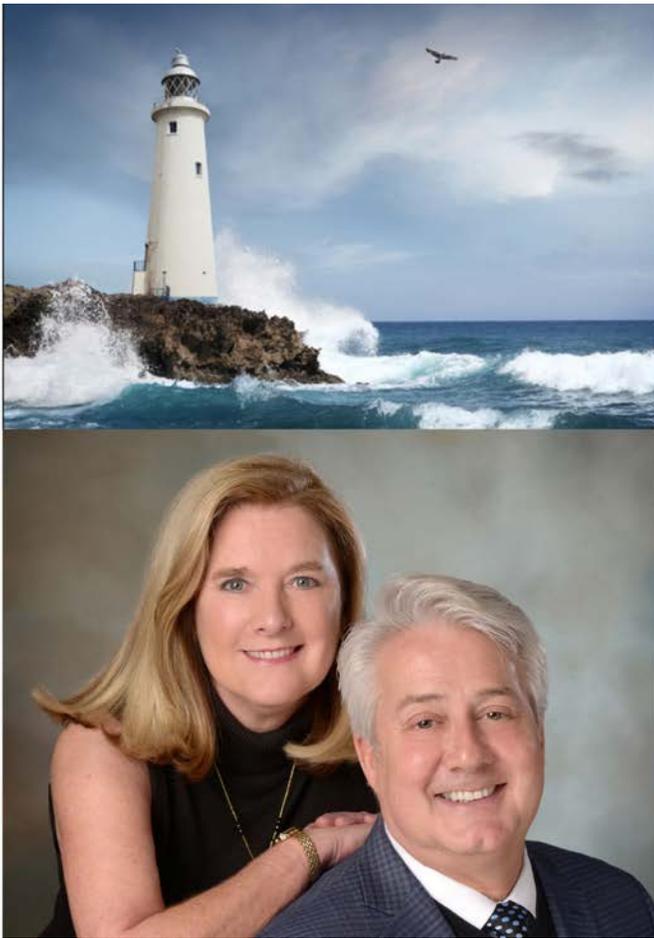
**Northport Yacht Club \$45 per person**

Our Annual New Member Spring Brunch is the beginning of the end of the boating “drought” of the cold winter months. Join us in welcoming our new members, Bill & Emma Hendler, Lindsay Honorof, Ron & Diane Ingram and Jonathan & Jodi Rosenzweig. Instead of a traditional speaker this year, the Whaling Museum and Education Center of Cold Spring Harbor will give a presentation called “Heroines at the Helm”. We will hear inspiring stories about the lives and experiences of whaling wives. These women lived and raised families at sea. And some of us think that roughing it is being at anchor or on a mooring without shore power!

New this Year! A waffle iron station and an omelet station! Along with the usual brunch offerings of pastries, a variety of hot dishes such as Chicken Francaise, Penne Ala Vodka and a London Broil Carving Station are being offered. As always, a Bloody Mary or Mimosa is included in the price. A cash bar is also available.

The Ship’s Store will be having its Grand Reopening under the direction of our new Rear Commodore Linda Simon. She will have many new styles to choose from as well as many items on sale.

RSVP to Shirley Nel ([mustang.shirl@gmail.com](mailto:mustang.shirl@gmail.com)) by March 10. Payment is due no later than March 12. Please make checks payable to “Masthead Cove Yacht Club” or “MCYC” and mail to:  
 Shirley Nel, MCYC Vice Commodore  
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# It's True -The MCRYC King Neptune Retires

by Gene Kinney

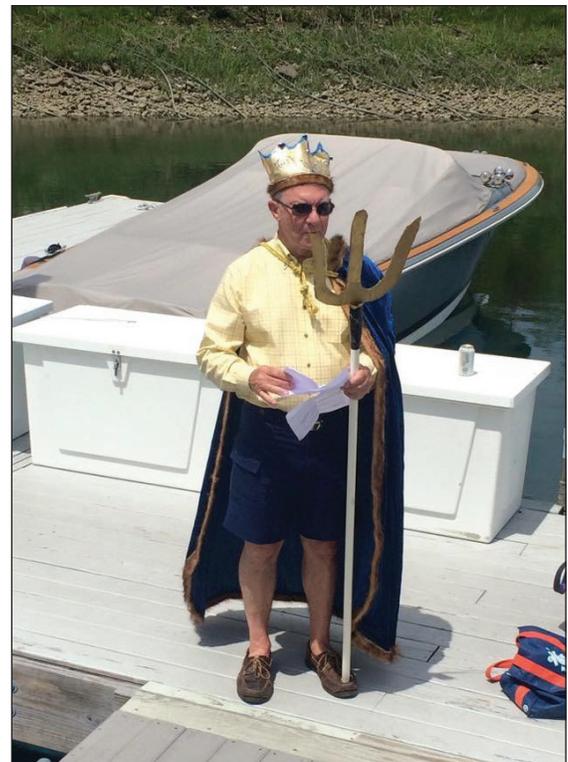
We all know there is only one Santa Claus and that he has many helpers. So, too, with King Neptune... he has many helpers. King Neptune has been appearing on Sunday afternoons of the Memorial Day Cruises to Saugatuck Harbor Yacht Club for the past 6 years or so. He even brings along a lovely companion- his Sea Goddess. Have to admit, she's one of his favorites. It was she who procured and painted the "gold" ingots and then carefully inscribed the previous name of the vessel (so it wouldn't have to be said aloud during the de-naming ceremony - bad luck and all that).

After exhaustive research the King ascertained the proper and fitting verbiage which would ensure a safe and proper vessel de-naming and name change ceremony. Then King Neptune added plumage and trappings (why not?) – an ermine-lined cape, a boat hook trident and what-the-hell? A Crown and a bell (don't forget to ring the bell, muy importante!) Lastly, he needed to be sure to follow all rules and regulations he'd uncovered so that de-naming the vessel would be done correctly.

Over the years many captains have enjoyed being a part of this de-naming ceremony. So, I guess it worked. But it gave us pause to think of that large number of name changes. How many had there been??? Is there a permit? Is it running out? Hmm!?

We knew that King Neptune and his faithful Sea Goddess had officiated at many, many de-namings and name changes; many sock burnings; and many Blessings of the Fleet. We started to add them all up. It was well over 55. Then we began to notice signs everywhere that said **Do Not Exceed 55**. So, as much as we'd like to continue, the universe has spoken. So now, alas, the mantle of office must be passed on.

So, perhaps, if MCRYC is lucky, there may be a relief king and goddess who will appear among the members who will come forward to take on this temporary mantle of office and continue to provide the same service for the club over the next few seasons. But Who? WHO? WHO? Inquiring minds need to know. More importantly, vessels need to be safeguarded.



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# Event Menu Smorgasbord There's Plenty in 20!

## Shoreside

### **Spring Brunch**

Fancy & fresh with a dash of enlightenment to welcome new members

March 29<sup>th</sup> @ Northport Yacht Club

### **\*Boatyard BBQ**

*Bring an inquisitive sailor to this casual and easy going event marinated with summer anticipation*

May 3<sup>rd</sup> @ Coneys Marine

### **Decommissioning Cocktail Party**

*This event is infused with seaside tales of summer sailing adventures*

October 25<sup>th</sup>  
Ketewomoke Yacht Club

### **Annual Membership Meeting**

*Strong hints of business compliment coffees and Danish*

November TBD @ Harbor Boating Club

**Change of Watch**  
*A formal affair with splashes of ceremony, comedy, and topped with dancing the night away*

December 5<sup>th</sup> @ Northport Yacht Club

## Philanthropic

### **A Day in the Sun**

*An inspiring event for special needs athletes with bold notes of summer aboard your sailboat*

September 13<sup>th</sup> @ Goldstar Battalion Beach

## Summer Cruises

### **Memorial Day Cruise**

*Flavors include a progressive boat crawl, poolside BBQ, Blessing of the Fleet & burning of the (winter) socks with a dash of theme for extra spice*

May 23 – 25 @ Saugatuck Yacht Club

### **Commissioning Raft Up**

*Swim, nosh & swap summer dreams while savoring the ceremonial hoisting of our new Commodore up the mast*

June 6<sup>th</sup> @ Lloyd Harbor Club mooring

### **Liberty Landing Cruise**

*A dazzling cruise with dicey currents, and multi-national high-speed foil races complimented by NYC's dramatic skyline*

June 11 – June 14<sup>th</sup>

### **4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks**

*Exquisite fireworks erupt above revelers sampling libations and samplers below*

@ Lloyd Harbor or Oyster Bay Club mooring

## Summer Cruise

*Pick your own ports with club meet-ups in Wickford/Essex & Block Island*

July 18 – 26

## Tumbleweed Cruise

*Favorable winds and currents grace this comfort cruise*

August 14, 15, 16

## Dragon Boat Race Festival

*Feast on the sights and sounds of this surf & turf festival.*

September 18, 19, 20 @ Port Jefferson

## Races

### **\*Play in the Bay**

*Seasoned for all skill levels these light affairs are perfect for play and practice*

Saturdays May 31<sup>th</sup> & Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **Women's Skipper Race**

*Tables turned at this event, ladies at the helm, Skippers grind!*

June 7<sup>th</sup>

### **\*Masthead Race & Party**

*Masterfully layered with action-packed racing, partying, & charity; this event is sure to satisfy*

August 9<sup>th</sup>

Race – First Gun TBD

Party 4 – 7PM @ Wyncote Yacht Club

## Pirate Race

*Old world flavors of pirates, sea shanty's & treasure hunting immediately followed by rum-fueled-tales.*

August 29<sup>th</sup> Hunt. Bay Vicinity/Lloyd Harbor Club mooring

## Dinghy Poker Run & Music Festival

*A medley of music and games with a side of water-warfare*

September 5<sup>th</sup> in Lloyd Harbor

## Ongoing

### **\*Boys 'n Buoy & Gals 'n Gales**

*Informal evenings with your fellow sailors & non-member friends*

Honu Kitchen, Tues.  
1/28, 2/25, 3/31, 4/28, 5/26, 6/30, 7/28, 8/25, 9/29, 10/27 and 11/17

### **\*Flash Happenings**

### **Shore Leave ~ Calling All Hands!**

*Who will jump-start the next one, and where will it be? Watch for it to spring to life from an email ~ Join Us!*

### **\*Non Members are**

### **Welcomed**

For the latest visit [www.mastheadcoveyc.org](http://www.mastheadcoveyc.org)

*This menu was crafted in collaboration with Valerie Link*



**Ron and Diane Ingram** officially joined MCYC in January. They live in Pawling, NY, near their 2 sons, ages 29 and 26.

Diane is a coach and coach trainer for personal and professional development. Ron has retired from a career working in IT.

They are new sailors, having purchased their first boat from Coneys in September 2019: a C&C 35 currently named 'Girl in Motion', but likely to have a new name in the coming months. (No plans to race it.)

They first heard about MCYC from the staff at Coneys and attended the MYCY Decommissioning party in October. "We were really impressed with the friendliness of the MCYC people we spoke with, and left with the impression that this would be a helpful, sociable group where we could learn and have fun. After attending the cruise planning meeting in January we're now certain of it. Huntington is a two hour drive from home but we haven't seen any place else we'd rather be based.' They are currently planning to moor at Coneys this season and hope to get up to speed quickly.. enough to join a few club cruises.



### Happiness Ahoy!

Congratulations to Tom & Eileen Conneely on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding Anniversary on 5.23.2020 and on their new boat, a Catalina 350 complete with a shower for Eileen and an in-mast furler for Tom! Her name is Irish Sails!

*Please submit your happiness to:* [fleclaire@gmail.com](mailto:fleclaire@gmail.com)

### Members Q & A

**Q.** How should we leave our bilge pump OFF-AUTO-ON switch during winter storage?

Ken Hecht answers:

**A.** Bilge water is bothersome at best throughout the year. But leaving a boat's bilge pump switch set to AUTO, or relying on the pump's float switch to cycle the pump on and off in the winter could be catastrophic. In the freezing winter months it is important to turn the pump off or remove the inline fuse for the pump (if the pump is hard wired to the batteries). When water in the bilge freezes it is likely the pump's float switch will be frozen for a long time in the ON position. This could lead to the pump and battery wiring overheating, melting, short-circuiting and potentially causing a fire onboard. Regularly checking the boat during the winter, and temporarily reconnecting or turning on the bilge pump when temperatures are high enough is advisable. Antifreeze can help keep bilge water from freezing, but rain and snowmelt will eventually dilute the antifreeze making it less effective for the many winter months.

[author's note: we melted a Johnson Controls bilge pump on our Pearson 34 a number of years ago and count ourselves lucky. We wired an in-line removable fuse soon after]

## Jonathan and Jodi Rosenzweig

Jonathan and I are elated to be a part of the MCYC. We are extremely adventurous and love the water. Having grown up with powerboats, we know very little about sailing, but are excited for the CHALLENGE!!

We are looking forward to many new friendships and many lasting memories. The name of the boat is "Brown Eyes". We thought of changing it but Jonathan felt that because I have brown eyes, we should keep it! The boat is a 25ft Catalina. Currently, it's in wet winter storage at West Shore Marina. In the spring it will be moored at Gold Star Beach.

We are really looking forward to getting to know all of you and becoming seasoned sailors. One day we hope to call ourselves "OLD SEA DOGS".



## MCYC Fleet Figures & Favorites

*Special thanks to all who returned their 2020 Member Survey! Some highlights are below. Watch future issues of The Masthead for more Fleet Figures & Favorites!*

### Figures:

- Our members (Skippers & Mates/Admirals) have a staggering 1,577+ years of boating experience.
- We spend an average of 44 days and 20 nights on our boats each season.
- The longest reported round trip of 4,400 NM was made by Rich Correll and Ginger Bourguignon who had this to say about their voyage:

"The trip was from Huntington on Oct 31st, 2005 to Key West Florida. The boat, Loki 3 was a S2, 30 foot stripped down racer/cruiser. We arrived in Key West in January of 2006. The race was held over the first week in Jan, 5 days. Our crew flew down and rented a house with us for race week. I was on board with Rich for the 4,400 mile journey. After race week we rented a mooring in Key West until April 2. We got home in May of 2006. Yes, 7 months aboard a 30 foot racing yacht. We were a lot younger. And no, I would not do it again; but Rich would."

### Favorite Quote:

Dave & Barbara Cordts who sail Better Together, a Catalina '36, reveal the following quote as their favorite:

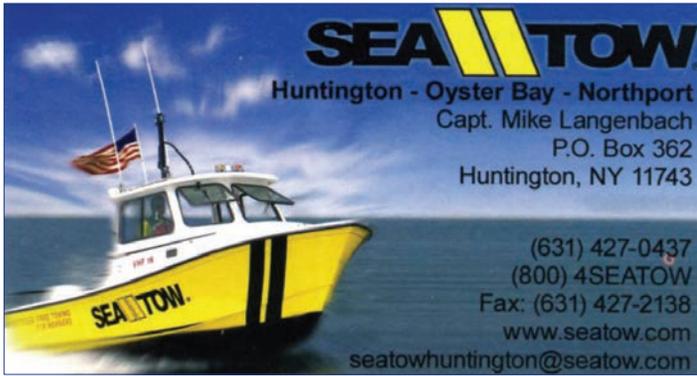
"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." Attributed to H. Jackson Brown Jr. and Mark Twain! (Google it... who knew?)

### Our Sailboat's name is:

Balance. James & Mary Robinson named their Jeanneau '42 Balance because, "We work really hard, and this is our reminder of what we always need in life, balance."

*Watch for more member news in future issues of The Masthead! Submit yours today to*

*editor@mastheadcoveyc.org!*



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What are “Flash Happenings”? That’s when a member, any member, sends a shout-out to the club with a date, time and location for some flash-fun with fellow MCYC friends. There have been many of them so far, with many more to come. Who will jump-start the next one, and where will it be? Watch for one to spring to life from an email (or go ahead and initiate one), and be sure to join us!



First Ladies “Flash Happening” at Honu January 2020

### **New Year, More Boys ‘n Buoys / Gals ‘n Gales**

By Dave Tuck, *Glory*, Scott Gerber, *Late Harvest* and Lee Stern, *Daddio*

Our monthly gatherings are gaining speed over ground; attendance has grown to over 40 people since the first one was held back in September of 2017!

On January 28th, another large group of passionate, spirited and enthusiastic MCYC sailors and friends met for our first monthly Boys ‘n’ Buoys/Gals ‘n’ Gales gathering of 2020 at our new meeting spot, Honu Kitchen & Cocktails in Huntington. The evening featured a short talk by our local Sea Tow owner, Capt. Mike Langenbach, who generously offered a discount on our renewals and new memberships (details to follow). The night was filled with our traditional give-and-takes about our latest boat projects, hull challenges, yacht stories and the season’s frequent question, “When do you launch?” Even though the shivering temps drive us to our fireplaces this time of year, we can’t wait to set sail! Future highlights include guest speakers on topics including everything from sail maintenance, to caring for the cushions on your boat, to galley recipes, to engine tinkering and more – as well as a couple of great off-site visits. And, of course, we’ll have plenty of non-speaker time to shoot the breeze about whatever other topics come up – all with great food, drink and ambiance in our new “port.” Join us at our “shore-side raft-ups!” Grab your significant other, curious sailing friend and other crew for fun, informal evenings with your fellow sailors. We look forward to seeing you when you pull up and dock at Honu in 2020! Tuesdays\* on 1/28, 2/25, 3/31, 4/28, 5/26, 6/30, 7/28, 8/25, 9/29, 10/27 and 11/17.

\*Some dates are subject to change, you may contact [Editor@MastheadCoveYC.org](mailto:Editor@MastheadCoveYC.org) to confirm date & location in advance. Cheers! Dave, Scott and Lee



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## Unplugged on a Hunter 90 *by: Gary Schacker, Exhale*

This story begins with the purchase of a Hunter 90 back in 2002, a Bar Mitzva gift for our son Ryan. The Hunter 90 is a 9'6" dinghy, is double hulled and thankfully almost, but not quite, unsinkable.... We lived in the Huntington Beach Community in Centerport at the time, and launched it into Centerport Harbor one very gray, windy summer day. It was blowing a robust 15-20 plus knots. As we rigged the boat up on the beach, I realized I had forgotten the rudder, so I had to run back up to the house to retrieve it. As I left, I asked Ryan to check everything, so that we would be ready to go when I came back. Conditions looked exhilarating as I dropped the rudder into place and we were anxious to get out there into what was going to be an exciting sail. Ryan and I pushed off, and jumped in....

The boat instantly took off like a rocket into the bay; we were flying! We tacked, and jibed, and flew across the water, tearing off the stiff chop-tops with spray dancing.

We noticed later that the boat was slogging! It was dragging in the water with a great loss of responsiveness. Looking the boat over carefully, I searched for the cause of our concern as the boat got noticeably lower, and lower in the water. Finally I asked Ryan what he thought, "Ry, what's going on here?!"

Ultimately looking over the transom I noticed the drain plug was out, and we were riding so low in the water that the hole was submerged. We're sinking! Because of the double hull construction, the inner hull had filled with water and the cockpit was dry except for the spray coming over the gunwale. We immediately tried to hi-tail it back, but in short order it was too late; the boat had sunk to the water line and the cockpit filled.

We swam out of the boat, and into the bay (yes, we were wearing PFD's). Taking stock of our situation, we found ourselves quite alone in the middle of Northport Bay. Now what, how do we get back? The sails were still up but the boat was under - Hmmm. It was time to get creative. I realized we could probably, kind of sail it. So, I had Ryan in the water outside starboard side working the mainsheet, and I swam behind the boat and steered with the rudder as we literally sailed the swamped boat and allowed it to tow us through the water. It was slow going but after about an hour and a half we arrived, relieved at the nearest beach in Huntington Bay. We were both exhausted and cold. Ryan was such a trooper. He stayed calm the whole time and took it in stride.

We hauled the boat up on the beach and walked to the road to figure out exactly where we were and started walking home in our soaked clothes and bare feet. When we got back, we retrieved the car and trailer and went back and picked up the boat, drained it and brought it back home.

It was totally my fault for not checking the boat more thoroughly when I came back after retrieving the rudder. I let my anxiousness to get going hinder me from this oh so important task. Another (and important) lesson!

Fortunately, it was way before I joined MCYC, so no Bent Anchor Dan!





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*My Bimini and frame had disappeared and Dodger was in tatters. It was time for new ones. Second generation canvas guy, Dave Mcsorley of Huntington fixed me up on a budget, on time and for a good price.*

*Jeb*

*Catalina 30 installed January 2016*

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## Advertiser's Spotlight

# Sea Tow

This issue's featured advertiser is Mike Langenbach, owner of Huntington's Sea Tow. Mike grew up in Glen Cove and worked summers at the Hempstead Harbor Club. After college he moved to St. Thomas where he worked as a charter captain for five years. Upon returning to Long Island 15 years ago, he purchased the Huntington Sea Tow franchise. Mike is a certified diver and has a 100-ton Captain's license. He lives in Greenlawn with his family.

Sea Tow Huntington is available 24-7, 365 days a year. Their territory is Glen Cove to Nissequogue Inlet to Mid-Sound. There is a Sea Tow app for smartphones that Mike recommends. When activated after an incident, the local franchise is notified with member information, boat name and GPS position. I really need to upgrade my flip phone one of these days. Of course, they can also be contacted via cell phone or vhf radio. An additional feature Sea Tow provides in the Huntington area is ARC; Automatic Radio Check. Transmit on Channel 28 and you will hear your message played back. This is handy for checking for radio clarity and power. It also keeps Channel 16 clear.

Another benefit is local knowledge. Mike said transients will contact him for information about marinas, chandleries and local attractions. He says it is all part of the service. Sea Tow operators in other areas are happy to provide local information. Good to know.

I spent over two hours chatting with Mike and the time flew by. The office walls are filled with photographs of "incidents", most with interesting stories and happy outcomes. He also shared with me the PowerPoint tutorial that he presents to various clubs and organizations. It covers towing questions, admiralty law and what constitutes salvage versus a normal tow or assistance. Perhaps MCYC could pair up with one of the local yacht clubs for a presentation sometime in the near future.

Mike Langenbach and Sea Tow – great assets for our boating community.

by Peyton Harrison



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