



# Chesapeake Catboat Association

## Volume 25 Issue 2 Mid-Winter, 2017

Editor: Craig Ligibel 443-949-7707. [tcligibel@vml.com](mailto:tcligibel@vml.com). The contents herein are believed to be accurate. Have fun and be safe on the water.

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### **Please RSVP for Annual Meeting Today!!**

Attention on Deck! The CCBA annual planning meeting will be held on March 11, 2017 at the Kentmorr Restaurant & Crab House, 910 Kentmorr Rd., Stevensville, MD 21666 from 11:30 – 3:30.

#### **We need your RSVP by March 1!!!!**

We have arranged for five items off their menu to choose from:

- Fish & Chips served with cole slaw
- Broiled Crab Cake Sandwich served with French fries
- Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad served with roll
- Hamburger served with French fries
- Vegetarian Pizza with side house salad

Cheese and grape tray with beverages (iced tea, coffee and soda) upon arrival.

Chocolate Chip cookies and coffee for dessert.

Price is \$24.00 which includes tax and gratuity.

Cash Bar for alcoholic beverages.

To reserve your spot, click the link below or email the Commodore at:

[Flesner00@Comcast.net](mailto:Flesner00@Comcast.net).

Or click this link:

[CCBA Reservation Form:](#)



### **Pay Up!!**

Your 2017 dues of \$15 are due at the Annual Meeting.

If you are not planning to attend please mail your check made out to Paul Cammarato at:

**10505 Unity Lane  
Potomac, MD 20854**

## CCBA sails off with prestigious Catboat Association Award.

CBA's 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held at the Marriott Hotel & Spa in Groton, CT over the January 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> weekend. The CCBA contingent consisted of Steve & Lois Flesner, Marc & Noelle Cruder, Jim and Jay Ohlmacher, David Morrow, Paul Cammaroto, Dave Park, Frank Newton and Butler Smythe. After the gam on Friday night we headed over to Peter Legnos' place on Groton Long Point for pizza, homemade lasagna (at least that's what Pete claimed!) and libations! Pete's new grand kids were there, 4 and 7 months old so grandpa was on his best behavior!! Saturday started with a series of workshops from Beginning Sailing to Safety at Sea and Diesel Engine Maintenance. Marc and Noelle had three tables just full of his dad's marine goodies. They had everything from a Seagull outboard to an anchor that would have made a great lawn ornament...it was a busy spot in the vendor's area and Noelle took lessons from "Huckster" Cruder on the fine art of salesmanship! There was also a slide show that had over 125 photos from CCBA activities last year that drew a lot of interest.

(Continued on page 10)



CCBA members tell it like it is...

## Membership survey helps CCBA refine programs for 2017

You might recall, we sent an on-line survey out to CCBA members late last fall. In the survey, we solicited input re: CCBA events.

Seventy-percent of our members who have boats and who live in the Chesapeake Bay area responded to the survey. That's a great response. Thanks to everyone!

Here are the topline results of the survey:

The best attended events were the Annual Meeting and the Whitehall Bay Regatta.

Reasons members gave for not attending more events included:

- too far to go
- not into racing
- timing didn't work

(Continued on Page 3 )

## Survey continued

- don't schedule over holidays

Some suggestions for improving CCBA event participation included:

- Have more events all over the Bay
- Help me get my boat to the event
- Include some on-water events that include spouses/kids/grandkids
- Have more raft-ups/informal get togethers

The most important reason CCBA members said they belonged to the association was to "hang out with other catboaters." Learning about catboats and cruising were close behind. The biggest take-away from the survey was that 2016 was an unusual year with a number of our "regulars" not having their boats in the water. Weather also played a role in some people not attending some of more traditionally-popular events. Those who did attend our events had a great time.

We intend to build on the "fun factor" in 2017 and address some of the scheduling issues with our 2017 programming.

## Two new ideas to help you get more out the Chesapeake Catboat Association:

### Crew Finder helps you find crew or get on a boat!

Need an extra hand to move a boat, handle the lines during an event, or just want company to hang out on the water?

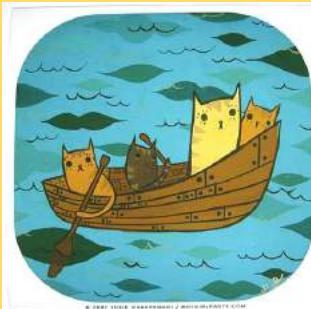
Just click this link to make your wishes known.

We'll do our best to circulate the form and its responses to the membership to help you get what you need.

If forms are not your thing, just email the CCBA Event organizer and he will do his best to help you out.

#### [Click for Crew Finder](#)

Click this link to get onboard!



### Regional Catboat Ambassadors put emphasis on Fun.

Survey respondents said they wanted more events "in their area of the Bay." We're not sure what that means...but we are looking for three Catboaters who would volunteer to be a focal point for impromptu catboat outings/coffees/Raftups/whatever. Duties would be minimal...just send out an email to a group of catboaters in your area when you hear of an activity that might be fun.

We are looking for ambassadors:

- North of the Bay Bridge
- Annapolis Area
- Solomon's Area

We'll talk more about this program at the Annual Meeting. If you'd like to help out, email the Commodore at: [flesner00@comcast.net](mailto:flesner00@comcast.net).

## Commodore's Corner...



With our change in venue to the Kentmorr Restaurant on Kent Island, we are hoping for a big turnout. It's a more central location and you have no excuse not to share an afternoon with your CCBA shipmates. The menu selection looks great and you can sit back and enjoy the view of the Bay...it don't get no betta! We have the events scheduled for 2017 and have put a request in for wind...not too much, not too little, maybe 10-12 would be just right! Lois and I enjoyed the CBA Annual meeting and tried to talk Geoff Marshall into delivering the Marshall 15 on display to an address in MD...maybe next time! We also got out of CT just as the snow started which was a relief as they got 4-6" later that day. *Scotty* sits covered on the trailer in the driveway quietly awaiting some bright work, bottom paint and Spring, like the rest of us. I peak under the tarp once in a while to make sure no critters have taken refuge in the cockpit, so far just a tangle of lines. With the longer days, I'll be looking for crocus soon and the start of boating season. See you on the water!



A Goose Chase by any other name

## Wye River Goose Chase attracts catboaters and geese...to the West, Rhode and South Rivers!

Proving once again that Chesapeake Bay catboaters are a tough bunch to wrangle, this Fall's Wye River Goose Chase was held on a trio of rivers around Annapolis.

"We didn't see many geese on the Eastern Shore early on...so we headed over to the Rhode River to hook up with Craig Ligibel and *Mystic Wind*,"



says veteran goose chaser Butch Miller.

Butch and his wife Denise rendezvoused just off the Letts Boy Scout camp in their new/old Americat 22, *Lark*.

The two boats rafted up after sharing some libations and munchies. Then, Ligibel split for home on the South River



while Butch hung out and waited for Jim Olhmacher and *Gull* to make an appearance.

*Lark* and *Gull* ended up off Smith Creek on the West River... where they awoke to the caterwauling

of a true gaggle of geese.

Olhmacher thought his cockpit had been invaded by David Bleil. But it was just the feathered multitude strutting their stuff.

Next year's Wye River Goose Chase will no doubt return to its home grounds.



# Following in the Footsteps of Benedict Arnold

By David Morrow

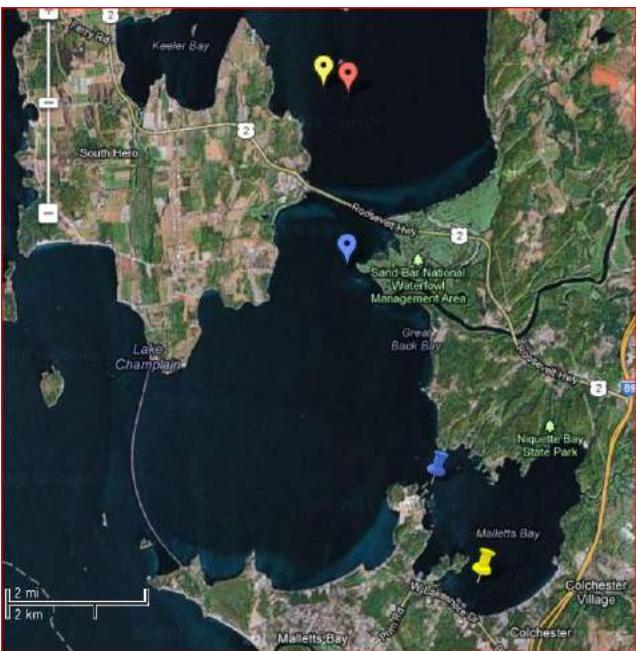
Nearly 240 years to the day after the Battle of Valcour Island, I launched ANNA in Malletts Bay, Vermont.

Benedict Arnold commanded an out-gunned and out-numbered fleet of American war ships against the British on Lake Champlain in October 1776. He knew the larger and less maneuverable ships the British had just built in Canada would wait for a favorable following wind to head down the lake. Arnold hid his fleet in a cove behind Valcour Island and waited for the enemy to sail past. When the British ships were about 2 miles below the island he attacked with his much smaller but more agile boats. The larger and more cumbersome enemy ships were badly beaten.

My trip had been in the works for several years, ever since our son Spencer decided to transfer to the University of Vermont. Malletts Bay is a well-protected and deep body of water with several marinas on the South side and some residences scattered around the perimeter. Water depths show on the chart in the 60' to 80' range though this year the lake is down at least 10' due to a lack of snow melt from the previous warm winter and a very dry summer. The water is crystal clear and even in a breeze the chop is minimal.

After launching at the local public ramp, I powered out into Malletts Bay to my weekend slip. The foliage was just beginning to turn, the air was crisp and the skies were cloudless. With practically no breeze on the water, I didn't feel guilty heading to the slip and not sailing right away. The break gave me time to check into my hotel and grab some lunch.

By mid-afternoon, sailing conditions had improved. So ANNA and I headed out. We sailed out Malletts Bay, through the narrow channel and into Lake Champlain. Now, having grown up sailing on the Barnegat Bay and then spending the last 30 years sailing on the Chesapeake, I can tell you that when I see bottom, I get nervous. My mind knows lake water is clear, and that a Sanderling only draws 18" or so with the board up, but heading out and seeing grasses gave me the willies. OK, the chart said eight to 10 feet of depth, but that was little comfort! Heck, there aren't eight to ten feet of water anywhere on the Barnegat, that I know of, but I was still nervous! Anyway, the clear water up there takes some getting used to!



As I sailed towards the New York state line, I could see Valcour Island in the distance. There were maybe 3 other boats out on the lake and the breeze was building steadily. I tied in the first reef, but it wasn't enough. To make matters worse, I hadn't run the line for the second reef. So I tacked for home and had a screaming reach back through the cut into Malletts Bay. The breeze held all the way to the marina. Even with the big breeze, the seas were minimal and the sail back to the marina was fast and smooth.

Day 2 on the lake was very overcast with periods of light rain and lots of breeze. Being smarter than I look, I remembered to run the 2<sup>nd</sup> reef line – and tied the reef in at the dock. This worked out very well as the wind held strong and ANNA was balanced perfectly as we sailed around Malletts Bay. Too much wind and not enough local knowledge kept me from venturing out into Lake Champlain. (Oh yeah, and great college football games on TV in the afternoon)

My final day of sailing was much colder than the first two. Temps in the low 50's, a nice breeze and overcast skies made me glad I brought along all the warm clothes I did (I could have used more). Spencer came along and did a wonderful job steering and taking a few photos of our adventure. Interestingly enough, the wind did the opposite of the first 2 days and slowly died as the day progressed. We started with both reefs still tied in and within an hour and a half had full sail out. However, by 3, the skies were dark, the wind was gone so we motored to the launch ramp to haul and prep for the trip home.

Here are a few things I learned from this visit to Vermont. Before I left on my trip, I wasn't aware Vermont had been suffering though a very dry spell due to a lack of snow pack melt and little rain during the summer. So, the foliage colors were muted and the lake level was way down. Next year I'll watch the season a little closer and time my trip accordingly – aiming to hit the foliage peak during my visit. (I was early this year)

I was barely prepared for the colder weather. It was in the low 80's when we departed Annapolis, which makes packing for the cold difficult. Cool, damp 50's requires planning and foul weather gear!

Finally, three days of sailing isn't nearly enough. My next visit will be for a week so I can get over to the New York State side of Lake Champlain and do much more exploring. After all, I need to see Valcour Island and hide in the same cove as Benedict Arnold.

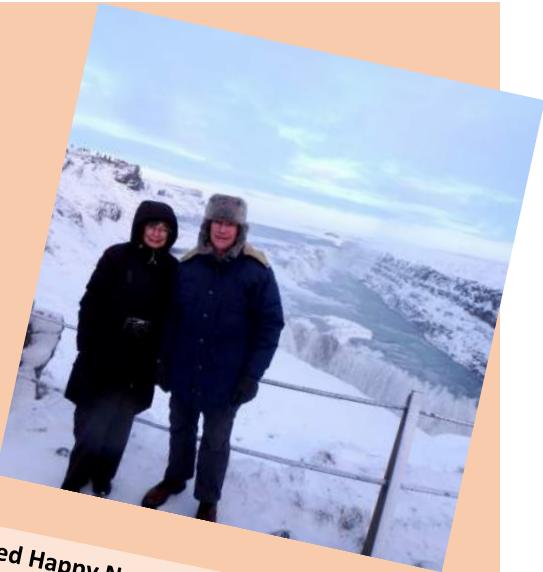
## *Postcards from the Edge....*



"I just won the catboat license plate Lottery!"—  
—Lucky Lindy Flesner



"Best use of CCBA Trophy—Craig Ligibel



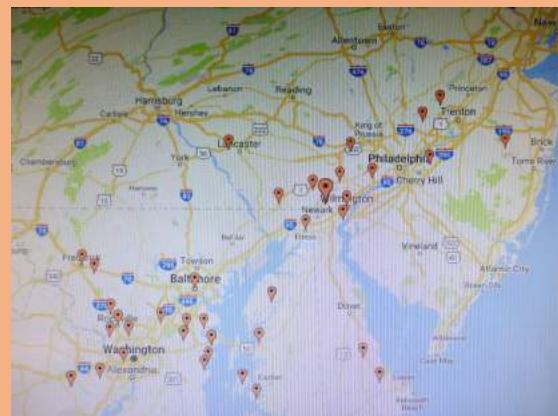
*"A belated Happy New Year from Iceland. Donna and I are standing in front of the LANGJOKULL Glacier, the second smallest of the five glaciers in Iceland. Would have liked to see you out there in your Hawaiian shirt and lava-lava." —David Bleil*

### Atlantic City Catboat Resur- rection?

Last July one of the CCBA members received an interesting email from Neal Shulman of Wilmington, NC. Neal grew up sailing catboats on Barnegat Bay at Beaton's Boat Yard. He is a wood-worker and boat builder and is retired or at least "halfway" retired. He owns and has the molds for the Mark O Atlantic City catboats, the 17, 21 and 24 and is in the process of building a shop in which he is going to build a 24 for himself. If everything works out he will start building the A/C line again as he thinks these cats are very nice and knows he can build them to high specs. Neal would be very interested in anything anyone has to say about these designs and catboats. Neal can be contacted at 910-547-9663, email [neals920@yahoo.com](mailto:neals920@yahoo.com)



### Check out where CCBA members call home!



Here's a handy tool to help you locate other CCBA members. Just click the link to see where other catboaters live!

[Click here for map and list.](#)

## The Catboat Gourmet—Pasta with Raw Vegetables

By Paul Cammaroto

With our Limited Prep Space aboard our Boats and the need for a quick throw-together meal, one of my favorites is this Pasta with Raw Vegetables recipe. Since the sauce is not cooked, it's easily prepared ahead of time and stowed until needed. As we all know, anything with tomatoes in it tastes better the next day or as left-overs. I have had success serving it with 'just-cooked' al-dente pasta as well as pre-cooked pasta which is just brought up to ambient temperature (just make sure to coat the pasta with Olive Oil, if you are not going to mix it with the sauce immediately) O.K. enough preamble....

### Sauce

I don't measure too many things so I just list the ingredients, with some guiding lines. If you like the flavor of something add more...

- **Tomatoes**—Any RIPE (soft) tomato will do, I like Roma's, about 5 or 6 work well for a pound of pasta. I remove the seeds, sometimes, but it will work if you don't. Cut to dice size or smaller pieces. Put into a large mixing bowl and drain well. Add a fair amount of salt and mix. The tomatoes will begin to give up their natural juices.
- **Garlic** —I like garlic, well minced, add to bowl
- **Capers**— From a jar, throw them in. If they are packed in salt, rinse well and then throw them in.
- **Green and Black Olives**— Any pitted olives will do here, just cut them up and throw them into the bowl.
- **Olive Oil**— This is where the magic happens, so you'll need the GOOD Extra Virgin Cold Pressed Olive Oil. For olive oil, you get what you pay for and I consider it an investment into the meal so don't skimp. I add enough to the bowl to make the mixture a thick liquidity consistence.
- **Basil**— A good hand full at minimum , chopped but not too small of pieces. Add to bowl and soak in that beautiful aroma

Mix well and put it into a well-sealed Zip-Loc Bag. It will keep for a few days refrigerated or in a cooler.

### Pasta

After the sauce is made, Bring a Large pot of Salted Water to a Boil, Add Spaghetti or Linguini type pasta, broken in half or quarters and cook until al-dente, (to the teeth) translates to 'not quite done', a few minutes less than the box says to cook. Drain and Serve or Put into Zip-Loc with Olive Oil after it has cooled.

### The Marriage

Bring the Sauce into the Pasta and Mix well. Serve and Enjoy !!!

#### **Tip:**

The sauce can also be spooned onto sliced crusty Italian bread as a Bruschetta.



# Catboat Dining...it don't get no betta!

By Steve "I never met a bivalve I didn't like"

Flesner

Last November the steering committee met at Thursday's Steak and Crab House in Galesville, MD to plan the events for 2017 and, more importantly, to have lunch and a few beers! Thursday's is located on Riverside Drive out on a pier. It's dockside dining if you sail in as Marc Cruder did. It's a low key kind of place with comfortable indoor seating and an open area for seating outside. What brought us

there was the food. The waitress said the oysters are delivered daily so we started off with trays of fresh shucked oysters, followed by the best crème of crab soup that I have ever tasted. It had the perfect consistency...no, your spoon didn't stand up in it like paste and it was just loaded with lump crab along with sherry to accompany it. Mr. Brown says you shouldn't have to ask for sherry, they should know better...they did and we didn't have to! The burgers looked great, but I couldn't pass up the oysters. Their rock fish bites were more like strips and you could easily fill up on just the appetizers. Lois and I went back a few weeks later and enjoyed lunch on a sunny day. The view is great with boats in every direction and your entertainment is provided by the big power boat guys trying to make their tankers fit along side the pier...

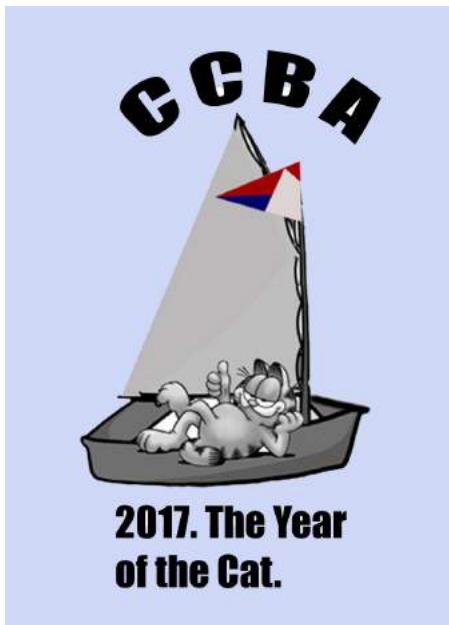
while providing directions to their first mate! Napoleon said an army runs on its stomach...so do the CCBA

folks....none of us left hungry! If you haven't been to Galesville, it's a pretty neat village with a number of marinas and more boats than you can count.

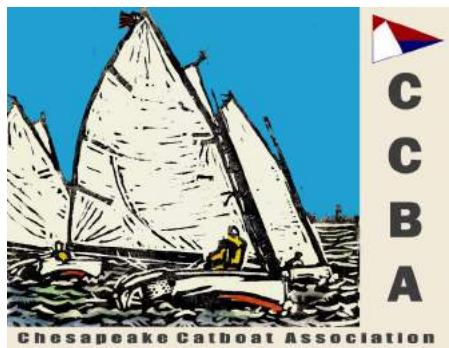
You might even see a few catboats since three of our members keep their boats there! *Bon appetite.*



# *Order your new CCBA shirt today!*



**Front**



**Back**



**Light Blue**



**Sand**

BlueCotton.com

**Indigo**

BlueCotton.com

## We have designed a new Chesapeake Catboat Association t-shirt.

They feature a “cool cat” on the front with type saying: *2017. The Year of the Cat.* And, an original catboat wood-cut on the back. These long-sleeved , 100% cotton, pre-shrunk t-shirts are high quality. The images are silk screened. We are offering the shirts in three colors: Sand, Light Blue and Indigo Blue.

If we meet minimums, the cost will be \$25 each, plus postage.

If you would like to order shirts, email Craig Ligibel :  
[tcligibel@vml.com](mailto:tcligibel@vml.com).

Indicate the quantity you want to order and your color selection.

If you order before Feb. 15, we will do our best to have the shirts ready for pickup at the Annual meeting. We will collect your money then.

## CBA Meeting continued

The Annual Meeting lunch and Business Session was followed by the Awards Ceremony. Paul and Butler were on the Awards Committee. Phil Livingston has volunteered to serve on it as this was Paul's last year as Awards Chairman. I might note Steve's legacy of wearing Hawaiian shirts seems to have been discontinued so they are back to drab colors...think black and gray in a sea of white hair! Steve relinquished the Editor's Choice Award...a ship strike clock and barometer with his rendition of "My ding-a-ling, my ding-a-ling, now it's your ding-a-ling" (who knew he could sing!!) as it was presented...much to his surprise...to Butler! This award recognized Butler's contribution as the editor of the Sailing Technique and Seamanship section of the CBA Bulletin. Jon Agne received the John Killam Murphy Award and Jane Walsh received the Dolphin Award. But the highpoint of the presentations...and again much to his surprise, was the Broad Axe Award that was given to

our own Dave Park for his restoration of *Pert*, a Herman 17, *Swan*, a Mystic 20 that he dug out of a junk storage yard and *Sarah K*, a Herreshoff 18 that he brought back into sailing condition. You will note these are all fiberglass catboats and Dave is the first to receive this award for restoration work on a fiberglass catboat, not a wooden catboat. It was a long time coming and a well-deserved award. One could easily say he broke the glass ceiling! A good time was had by all. If you are looking for all things catboat, be sure to attend next year's CBA Annual Meeting.



Dave Park receives coveted Broad Axe Award.



## For Sale!!

9.9 HP Yamaha 4-stroke electric start, long shaft outboard. \$750. Contact Dave Park 302-684-3647.