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All the catboat news that's fit to print.

### West River Regatta sees record number of CCBA catboaters sailing, schmoozing and slurping!

With 16 catboats on the line, the membership enjoyed one of the best attended on-water events in recent history. The Regatta started with a delicious BBQ hosted by Bruce Ogden and Jill Segraves. It continued with Jersey Frank's omelets served waterside at Hartge Marina. Then, there were seminars featuring David Morrow who shared his experience restoring ANNA, a 60 year-old Sanderling that is enjoying a new, refurbished life.

Bob Leigh gave an entertaining and thorough description of the Great Loop in a trawler, describing the joys and challenges and touching on other loop options as well.

Lastly, Bruce Ogden and Jill Segraves took on their roles as docents at Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and described the history and story of this important research center focusing on issues critical to the restoration and preservation of the Bay - its flora, fauna, and issues around changing ecosystems and human impact.

As for sailing, who cares if there wasn't any wind! The day's activities were culminated by another edition of "BiValve Ligibel's" famous oyster bar. Ain't nothin' fine than a baked oyster!

Kudos to Kate Grinwald and Tim Kallman for a great outing.







## Commodore's Corner

The sailing season started off with another fantastic West River event. Kate and Tim with help from Bruce and Jill pulled off a great weekend albeit a drifter. The sail across proved that one can herd cats.

Membership has dropped by eight or so but seemed to be worse due to quite a few late payers. We have picked up a few new members. We'll get a directory out soon now that the we've finally landed on a dues cut-off date.

Prospect Bay is the next event on the 22nd. Hope to see many of you there. New trophies this year to inspire those with a shelf full of rum.

See you on the water.

C.H.

## West River Heritage Regatta and Catboat Rendezvous 2024 by Kate Grinberg

A record number of cats this year turned out for the 5th Annual West River Heritage Regatta and Catboat Rendezvous held at Hartge's Yacht Harbor, making for a stellar weekend of racing and camaraderie. The cats began to arrive Saturday on a light breeze from all directions, representing Oxford (*PATRIOT*), Chestertown (*PRIDE, TALLY HO*), Kent Island (*TIGGER, LARK*), Mathogthy River (*LEIGHWAY, OLD SCHOOL*), Rock Hall (*PEKING*) and South River (*HONEYBEE, MYSTIC WIND*). The West River contingent rounded out the fleet: *KIT-KAT, CURLEW, LIBERTY, LURA, and KATNISS*. While this is not verified, it is possible that this year's rendezvous broke all records for the number of cats assembled in one place on the Western shore! While everyone was happy that the streak of rainy spring Saturdays had finally broken, the weather delivered an early summer punch, delivering oppressive heat and very little wind for Sunday's race and setting the stage for the weather drama that was to follow on Monday. That said, the weekend got off to a great start with a gathering at Bruce and Jill's wonderful waterfront home on Chalk Point on a fair weather Saturday evening for a lively reunion and dinner catered by West River Pit BBQ. Lots of catching up happened between friends old and new, including new race committee volunteers, Terese Schlachter and Jon Coile (thanks to Bruce and Jill for connecting us!) This great team wasted no time getting to know the herd, identifying boats with skippers, calculating handicaps, and working with Bruce and Jill to plan and set the course for Sunday races. Sunday dawned clear, sunny, and still, with not a breath of wind. No matter - this adaptable crew just focused on the 'rendezvous' part of the weekend, featuring the much-anticipated (and incomparable) omelettes courtesy of Jersey Frank (Newton). Bottomless coffee and was enjoyed as three informative and entertaining sailing seminars followed. David Morrow shared his experience restoring ANNA, a 60 year-old Sanderling that is enjoying a new, refurbished life. Bob Leigh gave an entertaining and thorough description of the Great Loop in a trawler, describing the joys and challenges and touching on other loop options as well. Lastly, Bruce Ogden and Jill Segraves took on their roles as docents at Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and described the history and story of this important research center focusing on issues critical to the restoration and preservation of the Bay - its flora, fauna, and issues around changing ecosystems and human impact. Thanks to all for a morning of entertainment and education! Following a lively skippers meeting, the cats set sail off the end of Chalk Point for what was to be a race defined by the light air, tactical decision-making and more than a fair amount of luck. The outcome of the race was determined by the wind you found or what hole you landed in. As the wind began to almost imperceptibly fill in from the back of the fleet, the breeze turned out to be the great equalizer, bringing the fleet together just as most boats were attempting to round the last mark. Some shuffling of places happened as a result of position at the mark and the combined interference of moored boats and other cats attempting to finish. The boats that were able to find what little bit of clear air there was were able to reach the finish line just a bit faster. Wind (or lack of), tactics, sailing skills and a bit of luck made for an unpredictable race and result! Phil Livingston (*PATRIOT*) beat the pack to win the race, followed (after handicap adjusted times) by Jill Segraves (*LURA*) and Frank Newton (*TIGGER*). It was decided to scrap the second race as the calm air ruled and storm cells were building to the west. We welcomed the return to port, cold drinks and the reprieve from heat provided by large shade trees on the lawn. Time rolled easily into the late afternoon where Craig's oysters appeared and were prepared and consumed with great zest- thank you Craig and Colleen!! More snacks followed, the awards were given followed by the traditional raffle, offering a great stack of swag items to the lucky winners. Please give our supporters a huge thank you by patronizing their business and mentioning CCBA! Dinner, celebratory cake and more lawnchair discussion wound down the evening as everyone made plans to return by sea or by land the following day. The eastern shore contingent agreed to have a pow-wow in the pre-dawn hours to decide on a plan, as the unstable atmosphere made for intimidating prediction of storms, gusts to 30, and big waves. At 5:30 a.m., under overcast skies and light winds, the few hardy souls destined for points north and east motored out the river, some later to encounter a stormy finish to their journey but all safely tucked in by the end of the day.

For more great pictures, go to <https://craigligibel.smugmug.com/2024/Best-West-River-2024>.

# 2024 Chesapeake Catboat Association Events

## **Prospect Bay R&R June 22**

Contact: Butch Miller – 410-271-2540 or [anmillero3@aol.com](mailto:anmillero3@aol.com)

## **Ligibel's BBQ Extravaganza and Poker Run August 10**

Contact: Craig Ligibel – 903-488-0433 or [craigligibel@vmi.com](mailto:craigligibel@vmi.com)

## **Long Cruise Sept 16 to 23 *Up the Sassafras.***

A finish to last year's cruise

Contacts: Phil Livingston, Fred Sherriff, Butch Miller

## **Wild Goose Chase October 18-20**

Contact: Frank Newton - 908-581-8774 or [finewton3@yahoo.com](mailto:finewton3@yahoo.com)

## **Holiday Party Dec. 1**

Dock House Restaurant, Kent Narrows @ 2 PM

Contact: Frank Newton - 908-581-8774 or [finewton3@yahoo.com](mailto:finewton3@yahoo.com)

## **Other Opportunities:**

### **Sail with Tigger Aug 17**

Join Tigger on Casco Bay Maine

Contact: Frank Newton - 908-581-8774 or [finewton3@yahoo.com](mailto:finewton3@yahoo.com)

### **CRYC Annual Regatta September 27-28-29**

Contact: Rich McLaughlin - 302-932-3222 or [rkmcl12@gmail.com](mailto:rkmcl12@gmail.com)



# Prospect Bay Race & Rendezvous, June 22, 2024

—Frank Newton

For those of you who missed the West River Catboat Regatta Memorial Day weekend, you missed a great event. Thanks to the efforts of our hosts, Kate Grinberg, Tim Kallman, Jill Segraves and Bruce Ogden. There were 16 boats in the race, which according to some long-time members was the most we have had at any previous events. There were over 30 members and guest attending the award ceremony and BBQ after the race.

But not to worry, there are other opportunities to join the fun this season. The next event is the annual Prospect Bay regatta, on Saturday, June 22nd which starts at 11AM. The race is around Prospect and Bodkin Islands or thereabouts, and after the start participants may go around the islands clockwise or counterclockwise. Following the race, around 4:00 pm, we meet at the Fisherman's Inn at Kent Narrows, for awards and dinner.

Many of our members arrive Friday the day before. Some anchor out and spend the night on their boats. Others get a slip at one of the marinas within walking distance of Fisherman's Inn and stay on their boats or at one of the hotels. Also, there are many nearby ramps and a couple of excellent anchorages. Even if you cannot come by boat, let us know and we will get you on one of our boats.

We are an eclectic group of plumbers, carpenters, doctors, lawyers and you name it, all with the love of catboats in common. If you can make the effort to attend, you are sure to enjoy yourself.

If there is the slightest chance you can attend, please contact our Commodore, Butch Miller at 410-271-2540, or Jersey Frank Newton at 908-581-8774. We will be happy to answer any questions and possibly put you in contact with one of our members coming from your part of the bay.

## Catboaters help David and Kim Morrow celebrate Anna's 60th birthday!



ANNA was originally named Fat Cat and was the first fiberglass catboat in Nantucket, brought new to the island in 1964. We are the fifth owners acquiring her from Kim's father in 1989. After several restorations, she is now in great shape and ready for another 60 years on the water.



Son-in-law Greg Michalski, daughter Anna Morrow Michalski, their son Hudson, Kim and David. Hudson is the 5th generation to sail on her.





**What a way to start off the traditional Ligibel South River BBQ on Aug. 10th  
A fun Poker run where you will  
be dealt “virtual” cards when you check  
into predetermined locations on the  
South River. You will be dealt your final card  
at the BBQ. Stay tuned for more details.  
Know when to hold ‘em...know when  
to fold ‘em. Great CCBA gear prizes!!**

Let Ligibel know if you are coming. Party starts at 5 pm. Plenty of dockage. Poker Run info forthcoming.

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