

# HARBOR LIGHT



Volume 45, Issue 11

\* MONROE BOAT CLUB \*

November 2019



## Club Commodore – Fred Hoitash

Over the last several years, I've had the opportunity to work with many of you during my time as Secretary, Vice Commodore, and President of MBC-Association. I've seen many new members come into MBC, and sadly noted the ones we've lost.

Leaving the infrastructure responsibilities behind and into the capable hands of our new Vice Commodore, I will have more time to talk to members, help with 50/50 for events and get to know more of you around the club. Many thanks to my life partner and soul mate Celeste, for all her help over the years. As a past President of the Auxiliary and Satin Gavel Secretary, she also shares a passion for this club. We enjoy working and doing things together. Both of us are looking forward to representing MBC at the AYC, I-LYA and club events this year. I spend almost all of my energies on positive ideas, helping others and having fun while doing whatever we have to do to get things done and enjoy life. It will be a year focused on what we, as a club and individuals, do well: empowering people to make our boat club experience come alive, and MBC to have its many activities well supported.

Commodore Jeff Morrow (now P/C) has effectively worked with the Board and membership over the last year. As he built on what P/C Dan Thomas accomplished, I plan to continue building on what Jeff accomplished. Monroe Boat Club is in a pretty good place with its finances and infrastructure. My goal is to continue to look at ways to update and improve the infrastructure of our club property and the experience for the members. This has to be done while watching and improving the financial position of our boat club. I'm hoping to see more members at the meetings so we can get the proper feedback on the many decisions the Board faces in running the "business" of the club. That said, I'll take the liberty to paraphrase something from a Synod workshop many years ago when I was president of the Church Council. We cannot afford to let ourselves get so caught up in the "business" of the boat club, lest we forget why we belong to the boat club. I've never forgot that lesson and that is why it is most important to focus on the positive experiences we share as members.

A lot of projects got completed last year. I presented a comprehensive report to the membership at the annual meeting. The report included all of the projects completed by members and the various club entities. One of the last projects I am working on is the new perimeter lock system for the outside doors. We are in the process of running the wires for the locks and getting the new key cards printed. At the last House Committee meeting, we consolidated a list of future projects for Vice Commodore Dan Martin.

## Vice Commodore – Dan Martin

I would like to thank everyone for your encouragement, support and pledges to assist me as Vice Commodore. With 2020 being Monroe Boat Club's 75th anniversary we are all looking forward to making this year exceptional.

I'm sure he's going to be counting on the membership for support and feedback this year as well.

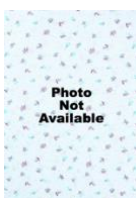
The 75th anniversary of Monroe Boat Club begins with the Change of Watch on 03 November. There are going to be a lot of special events planned for the year. There is a 75th anniversary committee at the center of these activities. We have a special logo that has already been rolled out. We will also be promoting the anniversary at all of the regular events, with special announcements and visiting guests. One of the special events that is going on right now is taking and getting pictures for the 2020 Roster-special photo edition. Keep looking at the Harbor Light and the Club calendar for details of upcoming events.

All in all, 2019 was a great year for MBC and its members. Thank you, Commodore Morrow, the entire 2019 Bridge, Yard Master, Membership chair, and the many members that have all given so many hours for the benefit of MBC this past year. I'm looking forward to a successful 2020 year, with a team of members, your elected officers, Blue Gavel, Satin Gavel and Auxiliary, all working together for the betterment of the entire membership. Thank you all for all you do.

"It's when we care for each other - choosing inclusion and love over division and hatred - that this great country is at its greatest.." *Tulsi Gabbard.*

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I am seeking your suggestions and ideas to maintain and improve our buildings and grounds. Many members have talents and special skills that will be needed. If you feel you can assist me with maintaining and improving the property, please text me at 743-751-8600 so I can develop a "go to" list of people. There are monthly House Committee meetings in the Commodore Room normally on a Wednesday and they will be posted on the Club Calendar. Consider attending these meetings and be part of the team.

There will be sign-up sheets going up soon for planning and executing the New Year's Eve party and Muskrat Dinner. Your help is needed to make these events great. Plan on attending the Monroe Boat Club New Year's Eve party. Regarding the New Year's Eve



## **Rear Commodore – Mike Powers**

Greetings MBC Members! I want to start out by thanking and congratulating outgoing Rear Commodore Barb Johnson for the great job she did this past year!

While I am an Assistant Rear Commodore as of this writing, I look forward to the challenges involved with the club's bar in the coming year. The focus will be on doing the best possible for club, keeping everyone's best interests in mind. There will be a few changes in the bar this year. These will mostly be behind the scenes and geared to reduce costs and waste, as well as improve service to all members. We welcome any and all ideas and suggestions to make the bar a better place for Monroe Boat Club! We may not be able to implement all of them, but the more ideas the better!

There are a number of events planned around the clubhouse throughout November, including the Thursday Burger Nights throughout the month.

The Change of Watch ceremony will be held on Sunday, November 3rd starting at 2 pm. Come witness your new club officers get sworn in, have a drink or two before the ceremony on the club, and stay to talk with the new officers about their plans for the coming year when the bar reopens afterwards (this will be a cash bar!).

On Saturday, November 9th, Sun Seekers Boat Club will be coming to visit by bus arriving at about 4pm – please come to help us welcome them to the club!

## **Power Fleet Capt. – Ryan Shaughnessey**

Hello everyone. I look forward to serving the club and our members throughout this next year. After only coming around sparingly the first couple years that I was a member, I was asked by Don Blouin if I could help with the charity poker nights for the MBC-A. I enjoyed those times and was asked to take a bigger role with the association. From there I was asked if I would like to be nominated for Power Fleet Capt. for this year. I gladly accepted and look forward to making this a great year. With the guidance I have received from Dan Martin already, I am excited to pick up where he left off.

The AYC Commodore Ball has moved from the French Quarter in Perrysburg, OH to Romulus, MI this year. Typically, the event is held in February. Keep an eye out for further updates when more details are available. One thing we are sure of so far is the theme is Disney. It should be a great event and my goal is to make sure that MBC has a top-notch room to reflect the quality of our club.

Ideas and help will be needed the closer we get to the event. If anyone is willing to assist, please reach out to me by text or email @

## **Sail Fleet Capt. – John Davis**

Good Day. I am John Davis, half of the John and Martie duo. I'm a lifelong sailor and a proud member of MBC since the spring of 1989. Whoever said "it's about time" at the nominating meeting, owes me a drink.

party so far we have live music that will start 7:30 PM and end around 1 AM. There will be a signup sheet for hors d'oeuvres to share, please sign up. We will have Mary Sacco Pizza delivering the traditional midnight pizza. As we continue to plan this party there will be more to come.

Another goal is to work with the Rear Commodore and others to plan events and entertainment throughout the next 12 months. We want to give more advance notice of events in the hopes we can get more participation.

Thank you again for allowing me to represent and serve you as Vice Commodore of MBC!

Friday, November 22nd brings the Wine and Painting event in the backroom. Guys, please join me in the bar while the ladies paint!

On Thanksgiving Day, November 28th, the bar will be open from 4pm to 10pm. And, on Saturday, November 30th, it will be the Ohio State University versus Michigan University football game. The game's starting time will be at noon, so we'll open at 11:30 am. Please plan to come in to cheer your favorite team in this classic contest!

There already several events scheduled for December, starting with another incoming bus trip on December 7th, a Toys-for-Tots Fundraiser with the HiJinx Band providing musical entertainment on December 13th, and the Annual MBC New Year's Eve Party on December 31st.

There are a number of tasks and projects needed to keep the club's bar operating well, from cleaning & repairing various things to preparing food or soups. If you are interested in doing any of the above for work hours, please let me know either at the club or by email (mnpowers@radideo.net).

Reminder: The coupons members purchased for the 2019 membership year expire on October 31st, 2019. Starting November 1st, the bar will start accepting the new coupons for 2020. These coupons can be exchanged for any saleable merchandise the club offers.

I'll see you around the club!

[ryan.shaughnessy@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.shaughnessy@gmail.com) or (517) 745-8145. Once a committee meeting date is set, I will have it posted.

December and January will be the Power Fleet burger nights. The money raised through those nights will go toward the expenses of the AYC room. Sign-up sheets are posted at the club and all help is appreciated. It's also a great way to knock out the work hours early too.

Some of the other duties that are the responsibility of the Power Fleet Capt. are the incoming and outgoing bus trips. We already have interest from some clubs that want to bring a large group down for a visit. I am also checking to see the interest in planning up to two outgoing bus trips for our members. If anyone has any ideas for dates and destinations, please let me know.

Thank you and see you all at the club.

Our sailing season is officially over. Our annual banquet was on October 12 and hosted by our outgoing Captain Garry Griffith. A wonderful dinner was catered by City BBQ.

The overall trophy winners for the season are:

- JAM
  - 3rd John Davis, Footloose
  - 2nd Rodger Dutton, Whitestar
  - 1st Steve Theiss, Turtle Stampede
- PHRF
  - 3rd Russ Atkinson, Wildcat

- 2nd Al Michaud, Pink Panther
- 1st Walt Norris, YukFu II

Special recognition was given to Dan Sadoski, Steve Snare, Fritz Peterson and Rodger Dutton who placed in the Mills Trophy Race. Steve Snare who won his class in both the Pt. Huron and Lake Erie Single handed Races and Al Michaud who placed 2nd in the Hobie 33 Championship.

## Dock Master – Brian Manor

The last year has gone by quickly. I would like to thank the membership for all the help and support I received this past year. I'm looking forward to serving as your Dock Master in 2020.

The high water we experienced this past year has hampered completing some of the projects that were started. The final 10-inch pylons were installed on the main T. The cross ties still need to be installed once the water goes down enough to weld them in place. We still need to install four of the new safe ladders that were purchased last spring. I intend to complete the ladder installations before the start of the next boating season.

Last winter we installed new composite decking on docks 55B through 62B. Docks 5/6 C and 11/12 C were also replaced. Thanks again to everyone who help with these projects.

I am continuing to monitor the docks for damage due to the high-water conditions. There are areas where the main T is raised up due to debris that is caught under the wood structure and the old cement docks. This will need to be addressed before the 2020 season starts. The Board of Directors has approved the purchase of deicers to help prevent damage to the should we have a heavy freeze this winter.

Financially, we are okay as we are already planning for the replacement of the seawall from the main T walkway to the Monroe Boat Club parking lot sign. We hope to begin this project in the spring of 2023 with the anticipated to cost about \$150,000. We have been earmarking \$35,000 a year till this date to help to ease the burden. One final reminder that your dock poles must be removed by Midnight November 8, or you will be charged \$50 per pole for the Club to remove them.



## Auxiliary – Michelle Lachcik

Thank you for bringing me back as your Auxiliary President for the 2019/2020 season. Welcome back Sharon Bagley; Vice President, Kim Fuller; Treasurer, Diane Costello; Secretary & Board Members, Ruth Finch, Judy Peterson, Linda Lamb and Mollie Wood. Thank you for your services.

Thank you to MBC membership for serving up our delicious dinner at the Auxiliary Annual dinner meeting on October 18th. Wonderful as always.

Thanks also to Shawna Powell and Olga Collino for again chairing the Trunk or Treat on October 19th. Kids had a blast!! Us big kids too!! First time I attended and what a great time. Some elaborate costumes and trunk decorations. Wow!!

Thanks to Jody Thatcher for chairing and all helpers with MBC General Membership dinner on October 25th.

Carolyn Dutton is chairing a platter painting party on Friday, November 22nd from 6:00pm to 8:30pm. This is to support our upcoming Commodore Fred Hoitash's Commodore's Ball. Please contact her (734) 731-2635 ASAP to let her know if you will be coming.

The Children's Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 8th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. There should be a sign-up sheet posted within the next couple of weeks. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help with the Christmas party, please contact me (734) 735-6031.

If any member has ideas for fundraisers that the Auxiliary may sponsor, please let myself know or any board member. It is these fundraisers that keep the Auxiliary financially solvent and able to host Christmas, Easter & Halloween parties for the children. It is also used to contribute to many MBC sponsored events and help with the upkeep of the club.

I am also looking for our members to volunteer in the functions of the Auxiliary and of the Club. It can be a fun and rewarding experience. It also takes teamwork to have these functions.

It was also addressed in the Auxiliary Annual membership dinner meeting that some of our members are not receiving "mail chimps" from the club. To rectify this, please email Larry Inguagiato at larry.inguagiato@mac.com with your name and that you're an Auxiliary member. Include your email address and ask to be added to the "mail chimp" list.

The Auxiliary meetings will continue to be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm following the 6:30pm board meeting. The May 2020 meeting will be held on May 6th, same times. No meeting in July & August 2020. If there are any changes to scheduled meetings, it will be posted.

I also encourage all our members to attend the meetings to stay informed and make suggestions of what they would like to see the Auxiliary do or improve upon. Your input is welcomed.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!!!

## CCEC Update – Charlotte Neuhauser

### ACTIVITIES

- November 6, 12:00pm, MBC Book Club
- November 20, 4:00pm, 5th-6th Grades Fishing Club

### MBC CCEC NEWS



**MBC Book Club.** Judy Peterson reports, "The MBC Book Club met in the banquet room on October 2. We had a great meeting! Everyone really liked the books we chose this month: Something in the Water by Steadman and On Folly Beach by White. They are excellent stories and well worth reading. We all highly recommend them both.

We discussed several books that members have either read or heard about. Patty Snarey recommends A Leopard at the Door by McVeigh. Mary Jo Griewahn recommends Behind Closed Doors by B.A. Paris. Members chose Behind Closed Doors for our November 6, 2019 meeting.

We encourage anyone who likes to read current fiction, and who enjoys a little social time and lunch to come and join us!



**November, 2019, will be the beginning of the 75th year** since Bolles Harbor Boat Club and Monroe Yacht Club merged to form Monroe Boat Club. 1945 was a special year for some of today's members of Monroe



Book Club as they, their parents, or grandparents were a part of this merger. We hope you will share some of your memories with us as the year progresses. One of the goals of CCEC for the year will be to update the Journey through History book of MBC. It will be published and ready for purchase by Memorial Day of 2020.

## MBC-A (501c3) Update



### Update on Year-End Projects Report of MBC Association.

The four projects scheduled for 2019 were successfully held: The Environmental Career Day for 7th Graders in June, the Fishing Derby in July, the Maritime Trades Career Day in October, and the initiation of the 5th-6th Grade Fishing Club in October. Each of these events has an assessment by the students and/or the teachers or educational sponsors of the event to ensure its continued validity and usefulness. For the externally funded projects by foundations, a written assessment is administered to the students which tests the knowledge/information the students gained as a result of the event. For example, in June 97% of the students said they learned new information that they didn't know before the two days of the Environmental Career Day, 94% answered the questions on water quality correctly; 91% on invasive species, 98% on U.S. Customs roles, 83% on algal blooms, 78% on pH of water, 92% on renewable energy systems, 87% on healthy streams and lakes, 89% on food origins, and 66% on Michigan Natural Features Inventory.

With the Maritime Trades Career Day, we try to find out if the students have gotten jobs in the maritime industry. What we know is that three students are now holding jobs in the industry, and one student joined the U.S. Coast Guard. The general opinion of this group is that every student in Monroe High School, not just the vocational students, should have the opportunity of experiencing this day. The Elementary Fishing Club is just getting started with an enthusiastic group of students. The curriculum is focusing on "Hooked on Fishing...Not On Drugs." The kids will be learning not just angling skills, but fish biology and habitat, environmental aspects and relationship to fish, human dimensions, and life skills.

Watch for announcements of two events which CCEC will sponsor after the Holidays which will be reflective of today's world which is so different from 1945.

Since these events have been offered in partnership with the Monroe Public Schools, the Monroe County Intermediate School District, and the other organizations and funding partners, **the MBC volunteers have touched the lives of 1,201 students.** Please know that the students and the teachers appreciate everything that you do and give so these students have the opportunity to learn about Lake Erie and its environs. Recognize that some of the students, even though they live less than a mile from the lake, have never seen the lake before they visit MBC.

I have thought about the profound statement from the assessment of the Environmental Career Day for 7th graders this past June by one of the students: "I was wondering this, why did these people want to come out and talk about their jobs? Do they like doing it? Were they forced to do it? Who knows?" May I suggest that maybe they do it because they get a sense of satisfaction knowing they are making a difference in the lives of these students.

**amazon smile** Just a reminder! When you order from Amazon, you can have a percentage of your purchase donated to MBC Association!!! All you have to do is sign up! It's painless! And it is an easy way for MBC-A to receive some much needed \$\$\$ for the projects we're offering. The way it works is that once you sign up at <http://smile.amazon.com> and indicate MBC Association as your charity, Amazon will give 0.5% of the purchase price for each item to MBC-A by depositing it directly into MBC-A's bank account. It does not add to the cost of the item you're purchasing, but it is taken from the purchase price that Amazon receives. The Amazon items and purchase prices are the same as for those you don't purchase through Smile. When signing in to Amazon, simply use the following link <http://smile.amazon.com> to purchase your items. Make sure you are using our charity by clicking on **MBC Association** within the Amazon site.



Items of Interest**MBC Club Hours – Bar & Lounge**

Monday - Sunday ---- Opens at Noon

Monday - Thursday -- Closes at 10 PM

Friday - Saturday ----- Closes at Midnight

Sunday ----- Closes at 10 PM

Note: Depending on the number of members & guests in the bar, the Bar Tender and the R/C reserve the right to keep the club open later, not exceeding the legal time as set by applicable liquor statutes.

If there are no patrons in the bar, the R/C may elect to close the bar earlier than the above posted times.

The above schedule is also subject to weather conditions as the safety of members and bar tenders is of utmost importance (As published on the MBC website and published in accordance with House Rule #1).

## **MBC Auxiliary Children's Christmas Party**



### Monroe Boat Club Auxiliary Children's Christmas Party

Sunday, December 8, 2019  
Time: 1:00pm - 4:00 pm

Children's Activities

Lunch Provided

Bring a wrapped \$10.00 gift with the child's name  
on it for Santa to give them.

Sign-up sheet in MBC Bar  
or call 734-242-2185 (to Michele)  
RSVP by December 1, 2019



MBC Club and Member Photos

MBC Trunk-Or-Treat





The Club's 501c3 arm, MBC-Association, produced the 3rd annual Maritime Trades Day on Oct 1st for Monroe High School students. They visited and spoke with Solomon Diving, Kustom Marine, Trout's Yacht Basin, Toledo Beach Marina, US Coast Guard, NOAA and Monroe Boat Club, getting exposure to marine employment opportunities. Trout's offered one student a paid internship on-the-spot!

This program has had 3 students obtain jobs in the marine industry and one entered the Coast Guard.

MBC-Association's companion program, Environmental Career Days, has provided over 1,000 students exposure to MBC, Bolles Harbor and our lake environment.





# Directory of Officers, Board, etc.

## FLAG OFFICERS for 2020

Commodore.....Fred Hoitash

[cfdist@comcast.net](mailto:cfdist@comcast.net) (734) 649-1335

Vice Commodore.....Dan Martin

[danbmartin@magnumtools.com](mailto:danbmartin@magnumtools.com) (734) 751-8600

Rear Commodore.....Mike Powers

[mnpowers@radideo.net](mailto:mnpowers@radideo.net) (734) 546-2982

Power Fleet Captain.....Ryan Shaughnessey

[ryan.shaughnessey@ymail.com](mailto:ryan.shaughnessey@ymail.com) (517) 745-8145

Sail Fleet Captain.....John Davis

[jadavis@bex.net](mailto:jadavis@bex.net) (419) 304-1211

Financial Secretary.....Lance Piedmonte

Treasurer.....Kay Sisung

Secretary.....Todd Strauch

Dock Master.....Brian Manor

Yard Master.....Dave Ryan

Membership Chair.....Steve Hudkins

Historian.....Charlotte Neuhauser/Rob Adkins

Obituaries.....Jim Brzuchalski-OH / P/C James Kozlowski -MI

Parliamentarian.....Lance Piedmonte

Chaplain.....Fr. Darin Robert

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

P/C Kathy Powers - P/C Dave Fetterly

P/C Dan Thomas - P/C Jeff Morrow

## BLUE GAVEL OFFICERS

President.....P/C Chuck Wood

Vice President.....P/C John Peterson

Secretary.....P/C Ron Soto

Treasurer.....P/C Duke Finch

Chaplin.....P/C John Peterson

Delegates.....P/C Ric Murray

P/C Jim Kozlowski

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President.....Michelle Lachcik

Vice Pres.....Sharon Bagley

Secretary.....Diane Costello

Treasurer.....Kim Fuller

## SATIN GAVEL OFFICERS

President.....Linda Lamb

Vice-President.....P/C Kathy Powers

Secretary.....Celeste Hoitash

Treasurer.....Molly Wood

**FIND MBC ON FACEBOOK!**

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Comm. Jeff Morrow - P/C Dan Thomas

P/C Dave Fetterly - Bob Tasker

Fred Lemerand - Lance Piedmonte - Tom Snarey

AYC DELEGATES: P/C Brian Moyer

Larry Inguagiato – Dan Martin

AYC ALTERNATES: P/C Rick Campbell

P/C Dan Thomas – P/C Roger Dutton

ILYA DELEGATE: Garry Griffith

Roster & E-mail address changes.....Lance Piedmonte

[lance@piedmonte.com](mailto:lance@piedmonte.com)

## NEWSLETTER "HARBOR LIGHT"

Editor.....Randy Treece

[randy.treece@icloud.com](mailto:randy.treece@icloud.com)

## DEADLINE FOR CONTENT SUBMISSION

20th of each month

Monroe Boat Club website.....[monroeboatclub.org](http://monroeboatclub.org)

MBC-A (501c3) website.....[mbcassociation.org](http://mbcassociation.org)

Webmaster.....Larry Inguagiato

[larry.inguagiato@mac.com](mailto:larry.inguagiato@mac.com)



## Calendar of Events

# November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 1:00pm MBC Change of Watch Daylight Saving Time Ends	4	5 6:30pm New Board Orientation Mtg	6 12:00pm MBC Book Club	7	8 Dock Poles MUST Be Removed!	9 ~4:00pm Incoming Bus Trip from SSBC
10 1:00pm Euchre	11 Veterans Day	12	13 6:30pm Aux Brd Mtg 7:00pm Aux Gen Mtg	14	15	16 Michigan vs Michigan State - plan on coming in to cheer your favorite Michigan team!
17 1:00pm Euchre	18 6:30pm MBC Gen Member Mtg 8:00pm MBC Board Mtg.	19	20	21	22 6:00pm Wine and Painting	23
24 1:00pm Euchre	25	26	27	28 Happy Thanksgiving! Bar Open 4pm – 10pm	29	30 12:00pm Michigan vs OSU Bar Opens at 11:30am

## Future Events

- Dec 2 – Decorate Banquet Room for Christmas
- Dec 6-8 – I-LYA Fall Meeting, Westlake, OH
- Dec 7 – 7:00pm Incoming Bus Trip from RVYC
- Dec 8 – 1:00pm Children's Christmas Party
- Dec 11 – 6:30pm Auxiliary Board Meeting
- Dec 11 – 7:00pm Auxiliary Membership Meeting
- Dec 13 – 8:00pm Toys for Tots Fundraiser
- Dec 16 – 6:30pm MBC Membership Meeting
- Dec 16 – 8pm MBC Board Meeting
- Dec 25 – Christmas Day – Bar Closed
- Dec 31 – 8:00pm New Year's Eve Party
- Jan 8 – 6:30pm Auxiliary Board Meeting
- Jan 8 – 7:00pm Auxiliary Membership Meeting

## Ongoing Events

- Thursdays 5:30 – 8:00 pm Burger Night with Delicious Homemade Soup!
- Weekday Banquet Room Rental only \$150.00
- Euchre every Sunday beginning on November 10th through at least March 8th



## MBC Classified Ads

# CLASSIFIED

Summer Storage Season  
May 1- Nov 1  
Winter Storage Season  
Nov 1 - May 1  
Contact Yard Master  
Dave Ryan  
(419)-260-9578 - [dryan@bex.net](mailto:dryan@bex.net)