



# Great Blue Hill



May 2020

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# COVID-19 ISSUE

**Commander's Message**

**Cdr Joseph F. Frawley, AP**



All Hands,

May this issue of the VFTB find the Great Blue Hill Squadron's members and families in good health, As you are aware our Governor has extended non-essential business closures and the stay-at-home order until May 4. Our school's are closed for the remainder of the academic year. Hopefully, these closures won't be extended. A sense of uncertainty and unease reaches every part of our State, and April is looking to be the hardest month.

Yet amidst this despair comes community response, resolve and hope.

I am impressed by the response of our Executive Board. They have reached out to all of our members to ask them how they are doing during these unprecedented times. I am grateful for the concern for their fellow members and our membership's continued dues support as our Squadron navigates this crises.

Most importantly, we have a community which fosters hope that better days are on the horizon, that we'll remain together during these difficult times and that we'll come out of this stronger.

That is the promise we must make to each other as stewards of our Great Blue Hill Squadron.

*Commander Joseph F. Frawley, Jr., AP*

**Executive Officer’s Message**  
**Lt/C Bette O’Conner, S**



Dear Members of Great Blue Hill:

As my term as your Executive Officer concludes it is, indeed, a sad time on many fronts. There is great confusion on the boating season, unemployment, the investment market, the risk we take just going to a doctors office or to the grocery store, and our social gatherings along with educational offerings came with great risk and to an abrupt halt. The virus touched us each in different ways even though it may not have hit us physically. The past months seeing friends become ill and given me an acute awareness on how important it is to maintain good healthy life style. Confinement to your home or in my case the boat probably was not easy. I came down with walking pneumonia and my dockside community rallied to get me over the hump.

My health experience gave me a new perspective on camaraderie and the importance of social outreach and helping others complicated by social distancing. Those three home made cookies left on the stairs, the kindness, care and concern of neighbors checking in picking up some provisions for Maya and the human, a wagon train of home cooked meals all came from the kindness of the heart without condition. The calls from membership to see how I was fairing helped me get better and were truly appreciated. Thank you.. I realize how wonderful my circle of life is, how rich those who touch it enriched my being and appreciation for the interaction with GBH members these past years.

Maya is fine - upset the wrap is down. She had a great time running beneath the wrap day and night and taking sunbaths up on the helm. The first mate is now thirteen years and some days and still runs on all cylinders. Her junket across the harbor to our summer port comes with concern due to the virus. On May 1st there are three boats to move and weather dependent the Captain is at the ready to help out those without a defined skill set. Moving a sailboat and docking would not present the inherent headaches a power boat presents with fly bridge but without trial and error there is no learning the confidence necessary to execute the task.

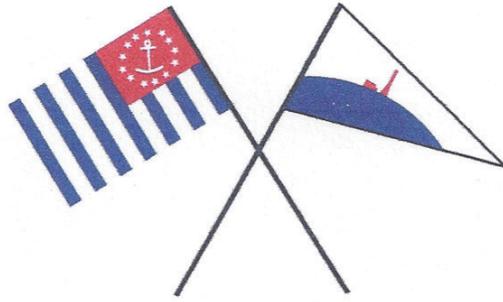
Soon the COW will take place in a different format than many know. The incoming Bridge, I believe, will bring forth a new dimension and act so the goals of the Squadron can be met as we move forward.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve these past years as a member of your leadership team. I, indeed, am disappointed not to be moving forward.

Happy Boating,  
*Bette*

**Great Blue Hill Sail & Power Squadron**  
**SUMMER 2020 CALENDAR**

GBH VIRTUAL Meeting & COW, ONLINE	30 April	2020
GBH Executive Committee Meeting, Method TBA	4 June	2020
GBH Summer Cruise	24-26 July	2020
GBH Executive Committee Meeting, Method TBA	6 August	2020



The Great Blue Hill Sail & Power Squadron  
cordially invites you and your guests to the

2020  
V I R T U A L  
*Change of Watch*

Thursday, April 30, 2020  
1845 Social Gathering  
1900 Ceremony

Via ZOOM

<https://zoom.us/j/95377164714>

646-558-8656 (audio only)

Password: 034704

Details on Next Page

**CUT AND PASTE THE ABOVE LINK INTO YOUR BROWSER**

## An Inside Passage

by Chris Jackson, JN

We pulled out the Cruise Planning course materials in March to get ready for the Jackson Spring cruise. As our instructors taught us, preparation comes first to insure a successful and enjoyable vacation. Except this spring we never released the dock lines! Our cruise took place inside in quarantined and land-locked Wrentham, Massachusetts. Provisioning, gear, itinerary, communications, and maintenance all took on new meanings.

Chris provisioned for our stay of several weeks inside the house. As cruisers we knew to plan menus and meals and, especially, snacks. We stocked soap, towels, and paper goods. We practiced our mantras “Finish Fresh Food First” and “Hydrate, Hydrate, Hydrate.” Several secret surprises (think chocolate bunnies) to pull out at appropriate moments were stashed, and Chris put by ingredients to bake our favorite Easter cake.

We had plenty of space inside to stow our gear. We wore our slippers and sweats below deck. When going on deck, we didn't don PDFs or slather on sunblock for protection and safety. No, instead we geared up with masks to protect us from the Covid-19 menace.

We scheduled no ports of call for this cruise. Our home became a Port of Calls. We reached out to relatives and friends in town, state, country and even around the world, for cryin' out loud! We swapped local knowledge with neighbors who stopped to “gam” at the curb as they took their daily walks.

One of the most inspiring experiences of this cruise happened on April 7 from inside our yard. At dusk, we watched the Super Moon rise on the horizon in a golden glow. Next, we viewed the Sky Lab transit to the southeast in a clear sky above our house. Later, we left the evening to the bats and the brilliant full moon. Finally, the sound of the gentle April rain lulled us to sleep.

Fortunately, *Key of C* sits snugly on the trailer in our driveway with electric and water services close by. Don put in hours of boat therapy: bottom scraping, sanding, power washing, and painting. He prudently paced himself, as this cruise had no end date in sight.

As the Jackson Inside Passage Cruise continues, we will anticipate the launch of *Key of C* and hope for a successful summer boating season. Be safe! Be well!

—Chris Jackson April 8, 2020

## Great Blue Hill – Project Outreach

by P/C Peter Griswold, JN

During the April 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Committee Meeting, using Zoom, I suggested a crazy idea, asking all 16 EComm Members and guests to call every Great Blue Hill Member to cover the following topics:

- 1.GBH cares about you and we want to make sure you are AOK.
- 2.Suggest to Member(s) that they consider taking on-line Seminar courses ([www.abc-gbh.org](http://www.abc-gbh.org))
- 3.Member's stories about what they are doing during Covid-19.

Since the EComm Members really liked this idea, I assigned the Roster's pages to them with a deadline for making all the calls.

Here are the results, listed in alphabetical order, something Rich Terry enjoys doing (see below):

- **David Albanese** is with his son in Barnstable Harbor, and will launch his 25' Wellcraft May 4<sup>th</sup>. He is the Director of Public Safety at Roxbury Community College, working from home with many meetings using Microsoft Team.
- **Jim Andersen** used to work remotely 75% of the time, but now 100%. All family contact is through Zoom. He cannot imagine what life would have been without the internet and safety net systems. Perhaps, another Great Depression...probably worse.
- **Ed Dockham** is enjoying Florida, but misses preparing his 28' Bayliner.
- **Steve Donato** was too busy with work to talk but appreciated the call.
- **Chuck and Nancy Eliot** are still in Florida, waiting for Massachusetts to get cleaner before heading north. As is commonplace, their activity is limited to walking ( 2 miles + per day) in the heat. Sold his boat a couple of years ago. He misses 22' Catalina *Dirth* terribly along with missing the comradeship of GBH Members and meetings.
- **Brian Engstrom** works from home, visiting his office three times a week. Let's hope his *Last Dance*, a 23' Precision, provides many more seasons of fun.
- **Commander Joe Frawley** is currently preparing his home in Martha's Vineyard for a quiet summer with family and friends, and of course GBH Members. The Island does NOT want visitors for the moment since there are precious few medical facilities. No moorings, no docks - launching a boat now is just about impossible. He confirmed that his year as Commander flew by, starting with our Grand 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration, and now ending with Covid-19. While he is pleased that we implemented the Strategic Plan, along with many other accomplishments, he really hopes GBH can start to utilize social media. While some of us are perhaps too dated for this medium, he is convinced that we will find a youngster to get us started.
- **Ed Gagnon** sends his best wishes from New Bern, NC. Staying-in-place, cleaning out closets and the garage. He is making a LEGO Mack Truck (570 steps) and starting the Trailer (450 steps), saying that "the detail and engineering in LEGOs is astounding." He had to cancel several trips, including an Around the World on the Queen Mary II.
- **Jeff Gardiner**, our Editor in Chief, is renovating a bathroom on the first floor of his home, from scratch, with plumbing and electrical work as well. He completed his prelaunch projects below the water line of his 35' Senator Trawler *Second Act* – what a beauty. In his spare time, he bought a Film-to-Digital converter and is converting over 120 8mm films. These films date back to his Christening in 1942! He wants to digitize everything for his kids by Christmas. This quiet time at home has made this project feasible.
- **Elisabeth George** appreciated the call, writing "how sweet. All good here – thanks."

*Continued on next page ...*

## Project Outreach ... Continued

- **Peter Griswold** is related to Jeff Gardiner, and therefore is also editing about 100 8MM movies taken by his Grandmother, starting in 1926. He gained experience doing this under orders from Commander Frawley, a retired policeman, when the Commander asked him to edit GBH's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary two hour movie down to 14 minutes. Peter and Joan are hiding in Ogunquit, Maine. No tourists yet, so they are getting much done along the Town's closed Marginal Way.
- **Stephen Guarracino, John Guthrie** and **Bill Hall** are all doing well, and appreciated the calls.
- **George Hagerty** is carving the tiller of *Echo*, his antique 22' Friendship gaff-rig. He is also looking for a new career. A man of many talents (artist, historian, timber framer, and project manager for installing art shows and taking them down with NO breakage), this should be an interesting search.
- **Mike Hanlon**, Commander-to-Be (for the second time), works full time delivering materials for a construction company, preparing *Solstice*, and all meals at home. Thank you, Mike, for volunteering to be the third Member in GBH's 51 Year History to serve as Commander for two year – and the first to serve non-consecutive terms. Our founding Commander, Bill Kline and John Cocomazzi were the first two. Read all about it in GBH's History Book with two Chapters.
- **Christine & Donald Jackson** are connecting by phone with many friends, even in Germany, sewing masks, jogging, writing an article on cruise planning for the *View from the Blue*, preparing their boat on a trailer, cleaning out old records and reading.
- **Don Johnstone** bought yet another boat, an 18 foot'ah Wellcraft with a 115 Mercury – easy to tow to Maine. He enjoys reading on his back porch with the birds and his wood stove.
- **Ruth Kajunski** is making masks for her daughter who works in Boston. She appreciated the call.
- **Todd Kaminski** was on the other phone – very busy working from home.
- **David Kase** was at work shouting directions to people parking trailers...back...back...hold it...STOP! No wonder he named his 30' Pacemaker *Danneskjold* - Ragnar **Danneskjöld** is a character in Ayn Rand's Atlas Shrugged.
- **Ed Kelly** is working at home...no wonder his boat's name is *Days Off*.
- **Joe Kelliher** prepared a "Retirement To Do List" eight months ago. Little did he know that this list would run out of projects so quickly! After yard work, he focuses on Sails Call's bottom, following the recommendations provided by Pettit Marine Paint for ablative applications. Ask Joe why it is easier than most think. His wife, Sue, is working at Sherborn's COA as an essential employee, organizing 45 volunteers who deliver food and RX prescriptions.
- **Barbara and George Kyte** are still trying to sell *Flying Kyte*, their 30' J/Boat – she is really fast. They Zoom often, especially with their daughter in San Diego. George is not sure about their habitual vacations on Martha's Vineyard – just ask Commander Frawley. While George wears out his Kindle on free books, Barbara has perfected the best way to Anti-Covid-19 grocery store purchases.
- **Bob and Leslie Lincoln** are working on many projects. Bob's favorite is installing new piping for his propane tank on *Gosling*, a 30' Cape Dory.
- **Chris McGrath**, a South Boston Fireman, is working full speed. He misses his *Sol Mate*, a 21' Grady White.
- **Nate Merrill**, who joined the USPS in 1963 and is a GBH Charter Member, is still in Sugar Loaf, walking with Sally using ski poles, given the snow on the ground. The ski lifts are closed, so the town is nice and quiet. Soon, they will return to Camden, Maine to prepare *Yankee Last II*.
- **Jay Moskow** and Barbara moved to Sarasota, Florida from Longboat Key – they enjoy watching New England weather from afar.

Continued on next page ...

## Project Outreach ... *Continued*

- **Bette O'Connor** lives on her 44' Silverton in the Constitution Marina and suffered walking pneumonia late winter. Instead of being a quiet place, a recent windstorm destroyed several docks, forcing her to raft up despite trying to keep a social distance. As a result, she will power over to Admiral Hill Marina in Chelsea (2.2 miles away). The however is that once she leaves Constitution Marina, she is literally on her own since the Coast Guard closed Boston Harbor. Recently, a fight erupted nearby when the Marina closed the bathrooms. Throughout all this excitement, her cat remains calm.
- **Helen and Brian O'Malley** are preparing their large veggie garden, take long walks and are looking forward to being on *Windfall*, their 25' MacGregor.
- Speaking about excitement, **Laurie Reilly**, a "retired" RN, us working very long hours at Tenet Healthcare making sure her team captures all the required paperwork for each patient. She is stressed and exhausted. **Chip Wayne** tries to keep her relaxed with good food and a calm house. Remember, he served on nuclear submarines, and is used to being cooped up for over 100 days. His excitement is the stock market, trading options while the indices bounce every hour.
- **Helen and Bob Sagan** are healthy, hoping to go to London - not sure yet.
- **Todd Savage** works for his wife, **Linda**, who is a master plumber. The company's name is Her Plumbing. He was on a service call when Rich Terry called him. No wonder they named their boat *Plum Tuckered Out*.
- **John Sheridan** would like to sit in on the next GBH meeting, using Zoom as a spectator. Health issues have sidelined him from attending meetings.
- **Sandra Stover** is working hard for the postal service during the 3am shift. Think of her when mailing stuff. She owns 13 boats. One is a 1935 wooden boat she and her father renovated when she was just 10 yrs. old. She even has a kayak in Quincy.
- **Eleanor and Rich Terry** are doing well. The company has slowed to a standstill. They haven't furloughed anyone yet and were approved for the PPP. That will help. Rich is staying busy, and even sorted the 54 spices and herbs cupboard alphabetically. Took all day. A 60 ft tall Tree fell on their two family rental last week. Working on *Avanelle G*, their 35' Bristol. Luckily, he brought her home this year. West Island Marina is planning on opening. All the moorings are installed and docks are in.
- **Craig Tyrie and Diana Marsh** are staying quiet in Sherborn, with the option to escape to either Vermont or Moosehead Lake in Maine.
- **Ridge White** painstakingly restored his Grandfather's model sailboat that he and his Father won races with during their respective childhoods. She has no electronics. Therefore, sailing in Marblehead's Redd's Pond is not an option given the rocky shoreline. Instead, Ridge and Louise are starting to prepare *Paper Moon*, their 23' Sea Sprite.

GBH Members are obviously resourceful, creative and used to living in tight quarters fully provisioned. Stay well and enjoy the boating season. Keep your distance from others. And, since you have time, **send Jeff Gardiner an article for the *View from the Blue*.**



## We are not in the Same Boat!

Author Unknown - From: Marine Trawler Owner's Association

I've heard it said that "we are all in the same boat", but it's really not like that. We are in the same terrible storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship could be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa. And as with any storm there are variations in intensity and outcomes.

For some, quarantine is optimal. A moment of reflection, of re-connection, easy in their flip flops, with a cocktail or coffee. For others, this is a desperate financial & family crisis with anxiety and fear of the unknown possibly looming for months.

For some that live alone they're facing endless loneliness, even depression. While for others it is peace, rest & time with their mother, father, sons & daughters.

With the \$600 weekly increase in unemployment some are bringing in more money to their households than when they were working. Others are working more hours for less money due to pay cuts or loss in sales. Many have no benefit, no savings. Some families of 4 just received \$3400 from the stimulus while other families of 4 saw nothing, zip, \$0.

Some want to go back to work because they don't qualify for unemployment and are running out of money. Others want to kill those who would break the quarantine and increase the risk of a resurgence of the virus.

Some are home spending 2-3 hours/day helping their child with online schooling, while others are spending 2-3 hours/day to educate their children on top of a 10-12 hour workday. Some are health care workers, our new national heroes.

Some have already experienced sickness and near death from the virus, some have lost friends and family from it and others are not sure if their loved ones are going to make it. Some don't believe this is really that big of a deal, others don't believe it at all.

Some have faith in God and Nature expecting miracles during this disastrous storm of 2020. Soon to be over. Others say the worst is yet to come, even longer and maybe stronger.

So, friends, we are not in the same boat. We are going through a tough time when our perceptions and needs can be completely different.

Each of us that survive will emerge, in our own way, from this storm. It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. Not just looking, but actually searching and seeing. Because... We are all on different ships during this storm weathering different conditions and experiencing a very different journey.

This storm is not over yet. For some it may end soon for others it will rage on for some time. A tale of many boats, many different ports in the same storm of a lifetime. Hopefully the calming some now see is because we are passing the peak and not just entering just into the eye wall of the hurricane that is not finished!

Stay safe old friends....

History repeats itself. Came across this poem written in 1869, reprinted during 1919 Pandemic.

## This is Timeless....

And people stayed at home  
And read books  
And listened  
And they rested  
And did exercises  
And made art and played  
And learned new ways of being  
And stopped and listened  
More deeply  
Someone meditated, someone prayed  
Someone met their shadow  
And people began to think differently  
And people healed.  
And in the absence of people who  
Lived in ignorant ways  
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,  
The earth also began to heal  
And when the danger ended and  
People found themselves  
They grieved for the dead  
And made new choices  
And dreamed of new visions  
And created new ways of living  
And completely healed the earth  
Just as they were healed.



## MAYFLOWER SQUADRON MEET UP UPDATE

by Bette O'Connor, S

In light of the current public health crisis related to COVID-19, recent guidance issued by Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker's office regarding public gatherings and recommendations by the CDC, Mayflower Sails 2020 is being postponed. The original event had been scheduled to take place May 14 through May 19 in the Charlestown Navy Yard.

When the new date is published I will let the members of GBH know and will, again, offer M/Y "Plan B" to take out members to view this event.

## GBH Summer Cruise

Planning is Underway

by David Albanese, S, A/O

Our 2020 Cruise Committee has met to begin planning our summer cruise. This year's objective was to have a short, manageable cruise, primarily over a weekend, with ports that were accessible by both boat and car. We decided to do Cape Cod Bay from July 24-July 26. Of course, members can add days to either end of the cruise, but the official portion will start on Friday, 7/24 in Scituate Harbor, followed by Saturday night, 7/25, in Provincetown Harbor, followed by Sunday night, 7/26, in Barnstable Harbor. We're looking at a clambake at Dave Albanese's house in Barnstable Harbor on that Sunday. We'll be looking for Port Captains and figuring out the logistics as the year goes on. Stay tuned!



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## CLASSIFIED ADS

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**Mooring Ball** - TaylorMade 24" Includes collar and short length of chain. Will deliver to anywhere in eastern MA. \$75 or best offer. George Kyte, 978-475-9432, [gbkyte@verizon.net](mailto:gbkyte@verizon.net) (9/17)

Cost of an Ad is \$15 for up to 40 words. No pictures. Include description, condition, price and contact info. Please send your Ads (with your check payable to "GBH Sail & Power Squadron") to the editor, Jeff Gardiner, 398 Central Ave., Needham, MA 02494.

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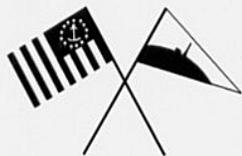
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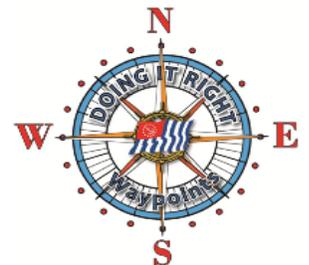
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# View From The Blue

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A Non-Profit Organization

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