



LITTLE EGG HARBOR YACHT CLUB

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

September 2, 2019

Officers

Commodore	Koerwer, J.L.
Vice Commodore	Darling, L.H.
Rear Commodore	Kiep, R. P., III
Secretary	Herrin, D. C.
Treasurer	Kiep, R. P., III
Membership	Colgan, L.
Chaplain	Stevens, R.

Senior Trustees

Gilbert, S.M.	'19
McGlynn, E.K.	'20
Reynolds, G.D., III	'21
Flagler, C.R.	'22
Turner, J., IV	'23

Trustees

Baker, H.	'19
Johnson, D.	'19
Kegler, S.	'19 NA
Lenhard, M.	'19 NA
Neff, R.	'19
Ryon, L.M.	'19
Condon, B.	'20
Di Fillippo, P. A.	'20
Donat, L.	'18
Eng, W.	'18
Schroeder, L.	'18

Past Commodores

Cox, E.T. III
Gilman, P.
Heilman, W., III
Herrmann, A.O., III
Lampman, J.
Masterson, J.
McGlynn, K.
McOrmond, R. III

Past Commodores (cont.)

Oelkers, R.
O'Neill, J.C.
Peacock, P.
Reilly, F. B. Jr.
Restrict, H.
Reynolds, G. D. III
Rosborough, B.W.
Van Saun, B. W.
Walton, J. M. III

Committee Heads & Members

Benelli, T. A.
Benelli, T.
Berglund, R.
Bodnar, N.
Bottitta, J.
Boyle, E.
Carullo, J.
Cole, T.
Colgan, J.A. III
Condon, J.
Cox, C.
Cremer, C.
Darling, J.
Davis, N. T.
Donat, R., Jr.
Eng, K.
Garrett, H.
Gilman, N.
Graham, M.
Herrmann, C.
Johnson, B.
Hook, G. A.
Kiep, S.
Klaus, C.
Klaus, K.

Committee Heads & Members(Cont)

Koerwer, E.
Lowry, E.
Mahon, B. A. II
McGlynn, M.
McOrmond, M.
McOrmond, R.
Murray, G.
Oelkers, N.
Peacock, L.
Reilly, C.
Reynolds, L.
Ryon, W. III
Schwarz, A.
Smedley, S.
Snyder, J.D.
Stahl, D.
Stevens, J.
Turner, S.
Wagner, R.
Walton, F.
Wells, B.

Provisional Members

Hopkins, M.
Hopkins, R.
Rothman, S. J.
Rothman, S.

LEHYC ANNUAL MEETING

September 2, 2019

Commodore Joseph “Joe” L. Koerwer called the meeting to order at 1000 hours at the Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club. Club Chaplain Bob Stevens offered the opening prayer, recognizing those who had died since the last Annual meeting, including PC George H. “Tommy” Thomas (6/30/2019), Robert Schlabach (4/22/2019), John C. Oram, Jr.(3/3/2019), Walter L. Lieb (3/1/2019), and Mary Lou Denitz (10/30/2018).

Secretary Herrin confirmed a quorum was present.

MOTION: Van Saun/McOrmond

To approve the minutes of the September 3, 2018 Annual Meeting

Approved

Nominating Committee Election

Commodore Koerwer explained the process for the election of members to the Nominating Committee. Under the By-Laws, the Commodore selects the chairman of the Nominating Committee and two members. In addition, the outgoing Commodore will serve on the Committee in the year following his/her year as Commodore in an advisory, non-voting capacity. Two additional members plus one alternate, for a total of six members, are elected at the Annual Meeting by the membership. Commodore Koerwer opened the nominations for next year’s Nominating Committee. Tom Cox, Gene Ann Hook, Margie McGlynn, Cathy Reilly and Lisa Schroeder were nominated from the floor.

MOTION: Restricks/Lampman

To close nominations for the 2020 Nominating Committee.

Approved

Members were asked to vote for two candidates (one vote per membership family). The two candidates who get the most votes will be on the Committee and the individual with the next highest number of votes will serve as the alternate. Results were tabulated and reported later in the meeting.

Honorary Members Election

Commodore Koerwer presented the slate of Honorary members, which included Franklin H. Berry Jr. and Rev. Dr. Caroline Carson, as well as Honorary Members ex officio: Phil Murphy, the Governor of New Jersey and Nancy Davis, the Mayor of Beach Haven.

MOTION: Rosborough/O’Neill

To approve the slate of Honorary Members.

Approved

Officers' Reports

Commodore's Report

Commodore Koerwer deferred his report until later in the meeting.

Vice Commodore's Report

Vice Commodore Laura H. Darling reported that the Youth Championships were a huge success and the final report is available to all interested members. Also, the 2nd Annual A+ dinner was a huge success. At this time, she has almost all chair positions filled for the 2020 season.

Rear Commodore's Report

Rear Commodore Robert "Bob" Kiep noted that it was an exceptional summer and thanked all Members, Trustees and Past Commodores for their involvement. He also requested that all photos for the 2020 calendar be sent to him.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Herrin shared that in fiscal year 2019 there were 52 changes to the membership roster, which included four membership activations, 27 going inactive and 21 resignations. She reported that the Club's membership has remained fairly constant over the last 5 years, averaging 725-750 memberships.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Lowry was pleased to report that the financial position of the club remains strong. Club revenue increased again in 2019, and we anticipate generating an operating surplus for the current fiscal year. In addition, our cash position remains healthy and we have ample liquidity to meet both the operating and capital needs of the club as we move into 2020. The operating budget for 2020 was approved by Trustees this past Saturday and this will result in a 3.0% increase in dues and no increase in harbor & dock fees which should allow us to generate a small operating surplus in 2020.

He concluded by saying, "It's been a pleasure to serve the club as Treasurer for the past year and I would like to thank the current Flag Officers (Joe, Laura and Bob), Tom Cox and Derek Stoldt and other members of Finance Committee, Mike Reynolds (for serving as AT), Robin MacMillan, Ruth Blankemeyer and Eileen Smith for all of your help and support. Thank you."

Committee Reports

(The following includes reports by Committees that requested an opportunity to present at the Annual Meeting. In addition to these, many Committees submitted written reports for the Club's records.)

Finance

Co-Chairmen Derek Stoldt reported on behalf of the Finance Committee that the Club remains in a strong financial position. He then read the following:

The Finance Committee is comprised of past Treasurers, as well as representatives of many Club committees including House & Property, Harbors & Docks, Long Range Planning, Junior Sailing, Tennis, and Personnel. Together, we monitor spending of the Club's funds and create the Capital and Operating budgets that are reviewed and approved by the Trustees. During this past fiscal

year, the Finance Committee continued to furnish the Flag Officers and Trustees with financial information and projections in order to create and adhere to fiscally prudent budgets. We began a new system led by Mike Reynolds to help create greater transparency into the financials of the Junior Sailing Program. We took great care to keep our dues as low as possible while at the same time maintaining a balanced budget, including accounting for the depreciation of our assets.

The past weekend, the Trustees approved a capital budget that implements continuing reinvestments in the Club facilities, including to build the new Pavilion. The Pavilion will be built without the need for an assessment or undue strain on our cash flows.

The Finance Committee wishes to that all of the Flag Officers, Trustees, committee chairs and Club members. Our most important asset remains your time and willingness to volunteer. That volunteerism does not appear on our financial statements, but it makes all the difference.

As chairs, we wish to thank all members of the Finance Committee for your dedication and thoughtfulness. In particular, we would like to highlight the efforts of Ruth and Eileen in the office, and Scott Lowry, who has done a wonderful job in his first year as Treasurer. A huge “thank-you” to each of them for their dedicated service.

House and Property

Rear Commodore Bob Kiep read the following report from House & Property Co-Chairs James Tallent and Henry Vare:

With the exception of a HVAC and new carpeting, House and Property had no major project(s) over the winter. The stewards were brought in towards the end of February (the Club is usually closed during the months of January and February) for minor clean-up and repair from the usual harsh winter weather. Under the leadership and guidance of our Head Steward, Joe Ryan, the Club was quickly returned to top shape.

A list of the projects or capital purchases completed or under way, is as follows:

- *Expenditures for permitting needed for our Jr Sailing basin area*
- *Additions to the tennis courts for pickle ball*
- *HVAC units for the second and third floor of the main clubhouse*
- *Begin crack repairs to the concrete around the main clubhouse*
- *New carpet on the second floor of the main club house*
- *Replacement of motors, prop guards and zodiac repairs for Jr Sailing boats*
- *Minor pavilion design/permitting costs – see separate pavilion report*

In addition to any storm repair and capital work, House & Property is responsible for opening the Club in the spring, closing it in the fall, all daily maintenance & repair throughout the year AND all committee support which is generally during the Club “season”.

We think all members will join me in thanking Joe Ryan and staff for having done an excellent job with the entire club property, grounds and committee support this year. When you leave the Club today or over the fall be sure to stop and thank our Head Steward Joe, Stewards Leo, Shjon, Mark, and Junior Stewards Brian and Jaxon for their service and dedication.

In addition, the following report on the Pavilion project was circulated to the Membership: As most of our membership knows, a pavilion, similar to the one at Spray Beach Yacht Club, has been in the planning stages over the last 5, or so, years. This project had long been

discussed and thoroughly vetted as to need, design and affordability by the Board of Trustees, Long Range Planning, House & Property, Finance, and many committees (Junior Sailing, Scrambled Eggs, the JYC, Tennis, Young Members, Cigar Night, Bocce, Entertainment, 4th of July, Sailing, and Regatta to name a few). All committees, when approached, expressed excitement and support for the project for many reasons; but simply, the area would give them additional protected space for their function or committee activities, and for gathering or meeting in general.

Two years ago the Board approved a phase to obtain State of New Jersey permitting for this project as well as design and costing. With this phase complete, we finalized construction drawings and associated costs. House & Property is pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees approved moving forward with a design similar to the pavilion constructed by the Borough of Beach Haven at the bay in the vicinity of Taylor Avenue. This pre-fabricated structure, modified to our size requirements, will be a well built, high quality product which blends nicely into our property and is scheduled for construction this winter and ready for next summer.

As previously reported, the pavilion will be in the area where the bocce court is now located; and the plan is to move the bocce court north along the bulkhead in front of B dock. The bocce committee and others are currently “fine tuning” the particulars of this new location for that facility.

As with all major projects, we will keep the membership informed as to the progress for this addition.

Harbor and Dock

Co-Chairman Bob Donat reported that they are close to budget as they had two empty slips on A Dock. He added that the summer of 2020 looks promising and we already have members on the wait list. Bob thanked Joe Ryan, the stewards and House & Property for keeping the docks in excellent condition and supporting members with various needs during the course of the summer. We do however need to members to be more diligent in securing their boats to the docks. He closed by extending thanks to Eileen Smith and Ruth Blankemeyer for managing the paddle board and kayak racks and billing.

Junior Sailing

Co-Parent Coordinator Cherie Cremer gave the following report:

Headcount and Operations

Our final headcount for the sailing and tennis program is 112 children. We had an exciting start to the summer with an opportunity to watch the US Sailing Youth Champs races. We kicked off the program with Parent Orientation. During Parent Orientation the coaches led the sailors on a Safety Scavenger Hunt to help remind sailors about important safety rules.

Our sailors proudly represented LEHYC in many regattas this summer including Junior Commodore's, Powder Puff, Junior Olympics, several Green Fleet regattas, USODA Nationals, NJ States; as well as, the LBIYRA Interclub Series. We had thirteen sailors travel to Michigan for Opti Nationals and nine of those sailors qualified for USODA Team Trials. In addition, our Opti Race Team competed in and won the Merrick Team Race at Bay Head and the Barclay Cup Team Race at Little Egg. We had many sailors place overall in the LBIYRA Interclub Series and the sailors won Red, White and Blue Opti Fleets, 420 Fleet and the prestigious Jack Elfman Team award. The four daggerboards and Jack Elfman award will be displayed proudly in the Molly until next summer.

Our Opti Racing Team has made great progress this year thanks to our coaches Mike Dowd (Head Racing Coach), Nick Stefanoni and Connor Johnson. In addition, we continued our Race Development team which allowed many of our younger sailors to focus on improving their racing skills. The Race Development team participated in the LBIYRA interclub series and traveled to several regattas. We anticipate that many of those sailors will join the team next year. Many of our current and future Race Team sailors will join Fall CERT practices and the Toms River Fall Series throughout September, October, and November. Several sailors are participating in the ACC's at BBYC at the end of September.

We had two sailors on our Laser Race Team and six sailors on our 420 Race Team this summer. These fleets attended the LBIYRA Interclubs as well as the Junior Commodore's Regatta and Junior Olympics. All of these sailors participated in our Little Egg Sunday Series.

Our Guest Coaches, Ben Mohny & Alan Cappelin, were a great addition to the program this summer! Ben Mohny worked primarily with the 420 Race Team, helping to bring our advanced racing teams to the next level. Alan worked with our Transitional sailors and Opti Race Development sailors, as well as hosting a clinic for our 420 & Laser Race Team sailors and any Opti Race Team sailors that were interested in trying out a bigger boat. They both had such an amazing time working with our sailors that they have expressed interest in returning next summer! We look forward to working with them to continue to improve our advanced race teams and provide high level instruction for our 420 & Laser sailors.

Wayne Street, our Tennis Pro, led a fun tennis program this summer which concluded with our annual Junior Tennis Tournament. We are actively working with Wayne to provide several higher-level options for our junior tennis players. Wayne and his family resided in the Ocean Street house this summer. We are grateful to use the Ocean Street house and appreciate the support.

Our Junior Sailing casino night fundraiser was a success. We would like to thank everyone who supported the Junior Sailing Fundraiser especially our committee chairs Maryanne Salmon, Jen Otero & Cheryl Schmid and their outstanding committee.

On July 10, we hosted the LBIYRA Interclub. We greatly appreciate the ongoing help of our Race Committee, Jeff Condon & Jim Stevens, who set up excellent race courses that ran safely and efficiently. We would also like to thank Patty McHugh who ensured it was a successful Interclub along with the club parents and volunteers whose assistance was so greatly appreciated. We received many compliments for our organization and race orchestration. In addition to our Interclub, we also hosted the Barclay Cup on August 9. We had two teams of sailors participate, both teams made it to the Gold Division and finished in 1st and 2nd place. We want to thank Anne & Scott Perry and Parry Barclay for all their work to make the Barclay Cup such a big success.

We continue to incorporate character development within our summer curriculum. A new character trait was introduced each week; such as respect, sportsmanship, and courage. There were weekly lessons designed around each trait. This year we added an award for each character trait. The sailing and tennis coaches nominated one sailor for each character trait. They were announced at the Slideshow and received a plaque and US Sailing buff.

This summer our socials included Beach Pizza Party, three dances, a trip to Fantasy Island, a visit to Thundering Surf Water Park, BBQ & Field Day Games and Movie Night. Our fun days consisted of a Four Square Tournament, Minute to Win It Challenge, Day on the Bay, The Canoe Trip, and a Tennis Fun Day. We want to thank Amy Horne and Nancy Bodnar for their help coordinating and planning the Socials and Fun Days.

Safety continues to be our number one priority. We are working directly with the LEHYC safety Committee led by Bridget and Dave Johnson to assess current protocols and continue to incorporate best practices to educate and support our coaches and protect our children. We are grateful for Bridget and Dave's support and guidance and will work together throughout the winter to prepare for next season.

Capital Expenditures

We truly appreciate the new tubes, engine and center console that were purchased this year. A huge thank you to John Haig for his continued effort to ensure our coach boats are prepared and safe for the program. We have discussed our coach boat requests for next summer with the Finance Committee. We greatly

appreciate the hard work and support of the Finance Committee to ensure we have substantial resources to maintain and update our coach boat fleet.

Heartfelt Thank You

The Junior Sailing team would like to thank Henry Vare, John Haig, and Jack Lampman, who ensure our power and sailboat fleets are ready to start the season and tucked away safely once Fall arrives. We are indebted to the Sailing Committee and the Race Committee, especially Jeff Condon and Jim Stevens, who ensure our Interclub is both safe and challenging for our junior sailors. A huge thank you to Leah Donat for her continued guidance and unwavering support. We are grateful for the Junior Sailing Advisory Board's insights and commitment to our program. A heartfelt thank you to Eileen Smith, Ruth Blankemeyer, Joe Ryan and his team for their incredible assistance throughout the summer and willingness to always help. We wish to extend our deepest gratitude to the Flag Officers and the Trustees who are active partners and advisors and without them this program would not exist.

Race

Co-Chair Jim Stevens gave the following report:

The 2019 racing season was very successful as we hosted a very large US Sailing U 19 championship to open the year. This was a major undertaking for our club as the regatta spanned 5 days and included over 80 sailboats. The regatta chair was Laura Darling and I can't emphasize what a tremendous job she did in organizing the event. I have never seen such talent assembled for such an extended period of time. Great job Laura! We will keep our fingers crossed for the St Petersburg Trophy.

After the U 19s things settled down and we started our normal Saturday races. We had 10 sanderlings and 7 E scows registered for the season. The weather was not great as we had several races cancelled due to too much wind. We also had some really nice sailing days with lots of wind shifts and good competition.

The Down Bay regatta was very successful with 17 E scows, 10 Sanderlings and 6 Lightnings competing. Unfortunately the A Cats decided not to attend the regatta, so we had less boats than normal. We were able to sail 6 good races and the competitors all had a good time racing. The race committee also ran the LBI interclub for the junior sailors in July and we successfully ran races for four classes of sailboats. This was an all-day event and over 80 sailors on the bay racing.

We would like to thank the many volunteers who help out on the water. The list is too long to mention but includes over 30 dedicated and skilled people. This terrific crew of people enabled LEHYC to win the P.C. William C. Waggoner trophy for race committee excellence in the state of New Jersey. We won this award for hosting the Opti ACC's last September.

Next year we host the E Scow nationals in September and we are looking forward to another successful summer.

Pickleball

Pickleball Co-Chair Margie McGlynn gave the following report on behalf of the committee:

Flag Officers, Trustees and Members – I am delivering this report on behalf of Beth Koerwer, my co-chair of Pickleball, and I want to recognize Beth for her idea last year to start pickleball at LEHYC. But unlike last year, when Beth taped the lines on the courts to play, this year we had a more formalized pickleball program and lines were painted for four pickleball courts on tennis

courts 3 and 4, though we did need to use chalk to mark lines on court 5 due to a high number of players on many days. Portable nets were stored along the fences to enable easy access. Agreement was reached with the Tennis Committee and the Junior Tennis Program as to when Pickleball should be held, so that we kept the tennis courts available for tennis on days and times of high usage. Open Play for Pickleball was held every day for at least 90 minutes at 10 am or at 8:30 am mid-week. We averaged four courts a day in use on weekdays and weekends and utilized all six on several days. A teaching court was available for most of the summer, and Winkie LaForce, a certified pickleball instructor and LEHYC member who donated her time, taught several members how to play, as did Beth Koerwer, Margie McGlynn, Cathy Ryon, Tom D'Altrui and other experienced players. Members were also able to reserve courts through the tennis reservation system. We estimate that over 100 unique LEHYC members played pickleball at least once this season, with most returning to play several times. As with many other activities at LEHYC, many players commented on how many other LEHYC members they met due to pickleball.

We held our first annual LEHYC Pickleball tournament on Sunday, August 18th. Fifty enthusiastic LEHYC members played and 39 teams competed across the Mens, Womens and Mixed Doubles Divisions. All six tennis courts were utilized, giving us twelve pickleball courts to play on, with many spectators from the second floor porch enjoying the semifinals and finals. Medals were awarded by the Commodore following the completion of each Division, and winners were recognized at the LEHYC Awards Ceremony yesterday. We thank the many volunteers who manned the Event Table and enabled us to run a smooth tournament.

We believe our first season with a formalized pickleball program was a huge success, and we look forward to continuing next season with two more tennis courts being painted to avoid the need to use chalk to mark lines when a large group arrives to play. We will use a lighter green color to minimize confusion with tennis lines. We are formalizing a pickleball committee and will meet over the winter to plan improvements to the program for next year. We thank the Tennis Committee and especially the Chairs Dave Johnson and Amy Webb for their support – when pickleball is introduced at many clubs you find tension between tennis and pickleball and conflict over use of courts, but Dave and Amy and others on the committee were enthusiastic supporters who helped us come up with the best approach to support both sports. We also thank the board and the club for your support and investment into this program (we spent just over \$4000 (\$4047.31 is final estimate, to be confirmed by Ruth) for nets, painting of lines, paddles to loan new players, balls, and tournament supplies), which we believe was a worthwhile investment in an activity that was very much enjoyed by members of all ages and athletic ability. Members are encouraged to keep playing in the fall, and we will leave a few nets locked to the fence, though you may need your own balls unless one of the stewards is available to unlock the tennis room. We look forward to an even better season next year!

Membership

Commodore Koerwer asked the current provisional members in attendance to leave the meeting temporarily. Membership Committee Chair Linda Colgan reported that the Membership Committee met Saturday, August 17th, 2019 and voted unanimously to present to the general membership for approval for full membership the following 2019 Provisional Members:

Kate and Dave Christiansen

Marci and Ray Hopkins

Raquel and Kyle Langworthy

Sara and Scott Rothman

Steve Small and Laura Maltifano

MOTION: Oelkers/Turner

To approve for full membership in Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club the Provisional Members presented by the Membership Committee.

Approved

Commodore Koerwer then welcomed the Provisional Members back into the meeting and congratulated them on being approved for general membership.

Results of Nominating Committee Election

Commodore Koerwer reported the results of the election held earlier in the meeting for the members of next year's Nominating Committee. The two members are Tom Cox and Margie McGlynn with Lisa Schroeder serving as the alternate.

Nominating Committee

On behalf of her Committee and the Past Commodore, Nominating Committee Chairwoman Jody Masterson submitted the following nominations to serve as Officers and Trustees of LEHYC and the LEHYC designee to the Mordecai Land Trust Board for the coming year:

Commodore	Laura Haig Darling
Vice Commodore	Robert P. Kiep, III
Rear Commodore	Caroline Rosborough Flagler
Secretary	Denick Colgan Herrin
Treasurer	Scott Lowry

Senior Trustees	(2019 - 2024)	Patricia Cotey Peacock
	(2019 – 2022)	Anthony Herrmann III

Regular Trustees	(2019- 2021)	Trish Benelli
		Cherie Cremer
		Chris Fretz
		Matthew Lenhard
		Richard Neff

Mordecai Land Trust Board	Hayden S. Baker (2019- 2023)
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MOTION: O'Neill/Oelkers

To approve the slate of Officers, Trustees, and Mordecai Land Trust Trustee as presented by the Nominating Committee.

Approved

Commodore Koerwer then acknowledged and thanked Susie Gilbert for her term served as Senior Trustee as well as Hayden Baker, Scott Kegler, Lindsay Ryon, and Dave Johnson for their service to the Board as Trustees.

Mordecai Land Trust (MLT)

Linda Colgan, MLT President, submitted the following report:

Fundraising and Educational Outreach:

- *Miles for Mordecai: Laura and Ben Condon chaired the walk/run at the end of June and have signed up again for next year.*
- *Boutique on the Bay: Sheila Vaughan chaired the July daytime shopping event, which was even more successful than last year.*
- *The House Tour and Cocktail Party: Chairs Nancy Lampman, Cherie Finn, Pat Miller, and Elaine Stevens did it again. This was their swan song after many successful years. They were ably assisted by Kay Mutterer, Alyce Tatlow, Deb Harkness, and Dawn Starr, and a volunteer staff of approximately 100. The Trust doesn't have enough words to express our gratitude.*

Projects

- *Installed two marsh sills constructed of Oyster Castles as part of our Oyster Castle Living Breakwater off the western shoreline of the island. Volunteers from The Nature Conservancy and Atlantic City Electric helped with the construction. The Nature Conservancy awarded us a grant for the Project in 2018, of which Atlantic City Electric contributed \$10,000.*
- *Continued our partnership with ReClam the Bay, primarily working in the Geotube area, using shell bags to reinforce the shoreline.*
- *Monitored the island's birds and habitat through the work of our environmental biologist and vice-president Michele Budd.*
- *The Mordecai USACE Coastal Wetlands Restoration Project remains on schedule to move out of feasibility by June 2020 and into the planning stages.*
- *Five 10'x10'x10' triangular shaped WADS (Wave Attenuation Devices), five feet high and weighing 8100 lbs. each, are scheduled to be installed this September as a pilot installation off the western shore of the island next to the Oyster Castle Pilot Breakwater. The Mordecai WADS information will be used in any WADS Army Corps uses in the Restoration Project. WADS are a Living Shoreline type of breakwater used extensively in Florida.*
- *US Fish and Wildlife will be on the island approximately two weeks before the first frost to chemically remove the invasive Phragmites that is killing the island's indigenous plants (eelgrass) and making it harder for our birds to nest. Danielle McCullough of USFWS will head up the project. Apparently, the chemical does not harm other plants or wildlife.*

Thank you to everyone at LEHYC who continues to give your support, and who shares in our mission to preserve and protect Mordecai Island.

Old Business

(none)

New Business

(none)

Presentation of the Commodore's Cup

The Deed of Gift for the Cup reads as follows: *"The Commodore's Cup is to be awarded to individuals who have contributed significantly to the well-being, spirit and traditions of the Little Egg Harbor Yacht Club on a sustained basis."* This year the Flag Officers selected Ellen Boyle & Rich Wagner.

Ceremonial Proceedings

- Secretary Denick Colgan Herrin will again serve as Secretary, so there was no exchange of the Secretary flag.
- Treasurer Scott Lowry will again serve as Secretary, so there was no exchange of the Treasurer flag.
- Commodore Koerwer presented the Commodore's flag to Laura Haig Darling.
- Vice Commodore Darling presented the Vice Commodore's flag to Robert "Bob" P. Kiep.
- Rear Commodore Kiep, with a very warm introduction, presented the Rear Commodore's flag to Caroline Rosborough Flagler.
- Caroline accepted her flag and responsibilities with thanks and a brief introduction of her and her family's history at LEHYC.

Richard Webster's sister, Linda Webster Huggler, gave a brief history of the Webster family's history with the Club and the origin of the "Old Glory" fund that is used to purchase a new burgee each year, so the out-going Commodore can receive the LEHYC burgee that flew over the Club during his term. She then presented Commodore Koerwer with the aforementioned LEHYC burgee.

Past Commodore Van Saun then presented Commodore Koerwer with the Past Commodore's Flag, thanked him for his hard work and leadership and inducted him into the Order of the Blue Gavel.

A lovely exchange of gifts and tributes among the past year's Flag Officers took place following the ceremonial proceedings. Commodore Koerwer concluded the meeting by sharing the following heartfelt remarks:

Now earlier I mentioned that first phase of being a Flag—the "what have I done phase." One can only imagine what poor Jody was going through at that time—I can picture her sitting on the dock looking at me and thinking "What have you done—what have I done!—I better surround this fellow with people who know what they are doing..."

So enter Laura Darling and Bob Kiep—the two best partners I could ever have. There is Laura, with her color-coded spread sheets and org charts—the most methodical and organized person I know—there is nothing she cannot handle. And there is Bob—with his mastery of the numbers, his keen insight, and his rock steady judgment—he is a star. Thank you, Laura and Bob, for all of your hard work and support. And now another star—Caroline—joins the team. The Club is in excellent hands. Well done, Jody!

To Past Commodores O'Neill, Peacock, Reilly, and Van Saun--thank you for your steady support and encouragement.

I want to thank my family—daughters Kelly and Holly, and sons Christian and Trevor. Kelly helped us set up events and was always there for kind words of support; Holly designed the shirt the year we ran DownBay, plus now she is off deterring the Russians; Trevor helped me on Race Committee and last week behind the bar; and I would still be working on the calendar if it were not for Christian. Together they gave constant support over the last three years and made fun of

me every time they saw me in uniform—they kept me laughing and for that I will always be grateful.

I know I have spoken at length already but let me turn to one other very special person. This story begins 39 years ago. I was running my first set of auditions at Show Place. I was 17. I looked up and in walked a considerably older woman. The song she sang was entitled “Over the Hill”—which made sense because she was in fact, considerably older. But she had a powerful voice and a winning smile. She was the first singer I hired and now here we are today, and she is anything but over the hill.

In the short time we have been here, she ran the 420 States Regatta, (for which she baked chocolate chip cookies for all 70 sailors); she has run DownBay, spent two years running the Ship’s Store, and worked in the kitchen at other regattas. She baked cakes for the Trustee meetings, she’s hosted fireside cocktails in April the last four years, and last week she hosted our thank you party, for which she handmade the decorations, the centerpieces, and over 200 deserts, including her famous Oreo truffles. And on top of that, she has helped teach every man, woman, and child in the Club how to play pickle ball. I think you now have a sense of what I call the “magic of Beth,” and if you have spent any time at all with her, you know now, as I knew within five minutes of meeting her 39 years ago, that her smile is morning sunshine, and her heart is Christmas Day. Ladies and gentlemen, will you join me in thanking the brains, the beauty, and everything else of the Koerwer family....

In conclusion, let me reiterate what a pleasure, privilege and honor it has been to serve the membership here at LEHYC. I few months ago at Commissioning I wished you fun and fair play. My wish for you now is that the good ship Little Egg sail on in the comfort of fair winds and following seas.

Thank you for all of your support this season and thank you for your kind attention this morning.

MOTION: **Van Saun/Turner**
 To adjourn the annual meeting
 Approved

The meeting was adjourned at 1115 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Denick Colgan Herrin, Secretary