



Changing lives One Sail at a Time



(L-R) Volunteer Carol Lazzaro, Elizabeth Bollinger, Santa Walt Laird, Board Member, Officer, and Volunteer Beth Rossman, and Director of Operations Matt Schaaf have a group hug at the CRAB Holiday & Volunteer Appreciation Party on December 7th.

Celebrating our Volunteers

On December 7, CRAB held its annual Holiday and Volunteer Appreciation Party. Thank you to everyone who enjoyed the festivities and showed their support for CRAB while celebrating another record-breaking year! CRAB was honored to recognize its current Board of Directors, incoming Board Members, and Officers for 2023. Every CRAB volunteer who donated 25 hours or more of their time at CRAB events was presented with a very cool, soft-sided cooler with an embroidered CRAB logo.

CRAB was very proud to announce and recognize the 2022 "Crew Member of the Year" Nancy Wright and "Skipper of the Year" Martin Lutsky. The recognition included the presentation of a pewter platter with a crab (of course) and engraved with their accomplishment.

Nancy has been a dedicated CRAB volunteer since the beginning with founder Don Backe and this year she provided 35 hours of service at a wide variety of events. Nancy proves again and again that one motivated person can make a difference far beyond any expectation. Her warm and engaging personality endeared her to hundreds of CRAB guests who enjoy sailing with her. Nancy

also was an incredible advocate for CRAB at the Annapolis Sail Boat Show. She could sell dozens of raffle tickets without any assistance or support from the CRAB booth. Nancy was on travel in Mexico and was unable to receive her award at the party, but she was presented her award later in the CRAB office.

The 2022 Skipper of the year award was presented to Martin Lutsky. Martin has been a volunteer for CRAB since the beginning of the 2017 sailing season and has logged more than 568 hours of volunteer service for CRAB, plus an amazing 167 hours in 2022. Martin is an experienced sailor who takes every opportunity to give CRAB guests a positive and memorable sailing experience. Martin sailed more than any CRAB volunteer this year, and he said it was his best year ever with CRAB guests. CRAB also took the opportunity to recognize an additional 49 volunteers who donated 25 or more service hours this year.

In 2022 CRAB partnered with 23 community support organizations and hosted 1,233 guests (65% of whom have a disability) for a total of 71 sailing events. This was all made possible because of the dedicated support of 151 volunteers who provided more than 3,840 hours of service. With so many wonderful volunteers making a difference at CRAB, we were able to bring huge smiles to the faces of guests and caregivers, "CRAB is such an awesome organization! The volunteers were incredible, and the experience meant everything to the people I serve. I cannot emphasize enough how big of an impact it made on their lives this year," said Anita Hagan of Arundel Lodge, a CRAB community partner.



Donna Clapp, Carol Tabak, and Denise Dunn are VIP volunteers who donated 25+ of service.



Kristin and Lynn are all smiles!



Executive Director Bo Bollinger presents the Skipper of the Year Award to Martin Lutsky.



CRAB Crew volunteers Tad Klopchic, Michelle Dina, Denise Ertel share a few laughs and stories.

New CRAB Board Member Don Santa (spouse Karen) join CRAB VIP volunteers Nancy and Doug Fineberg for dinner.



Palate Pleasers did a great job of preparing a gourmet buffet that everyone enjoyed.

[More Photos](#)

CRAB Announces New Board Members

Arthur "Jib" Edwards

Mr. Arthur W. Edwards, Jr., head of The Severn Companies, has over 27 years of real estate experience. He currently manages over 130 employees and 85 multi-family housing properties in four states.

Prior to moving back to Annapolis, Jib served as a naval pilot and flew the SH-2F during Desert Storm. He also served as a maintenance officer in charge of 45 personnel and 3 helicopters.

Jib is a past member of the Board of Trustees for Key School and Historic Annapolis. He is currently a commissioner for the Housing Authority of Annapolis. The Edwards family are active philanthropists in the Annapolis area. Of all of his varied accomplishments, he is most proud of his wife, Katie, who is a pediatrician, and their 4 children. The family enjoys sailing Rafinee their Beneteau 42 on the bay and East Coast.



Shelly Ford

Shelly is the *Head People Person* at The Brick Companies (TBC) based in Edgewater. In addition to overseeing the HR functions for TBC, she also sits on the executive team and assists in the setting of the strategic direction for the organization. Shelly oversees the "Good Works" arm of TBC as well and is very involved in facilitating fund-raising events and implementing programs and initiatives supporting TBC's commitment to Social Responsibility and Environmental Leadership. In her spare time Shelly enjoys golf, cooking, gardening, and time spent with her grandchildren and her Quaker Parrot "Tula."



Don Santa

Don is an active Annapolis racing sailor on his J-105 Santa's Reign Dear, who has supported the sport of sailing and charitable organizations with a sailing/boating focus, especially CRAB. He also has prior experience as a member of nonprofit boards for the Arundel Rivers Federation and St. Anne's School of Annapolis.

Don is an executive with over 35 years' of experience dealing with the intersection of law, public policy, and business imperatives affecting the energy industry. He has served in multiple roles connected with the US natural gas and electric power industries, including federal government policymaker, industry trade association leader, corporate legal and executive positions, and outside counsel.



Incoming 2023 Board & Officers



**Jim Nolan
President**



**Elizabeth Rossman
Vice President/Secretary**



**Will Crump
Treasurer**



**David Hankey
Immediate Past
President**

Phillips Charitable Foundation



CRAB Executive Director Paul Bollinger, Phillips Charitable Foundation Founder and Board Chair, Eileen Gross, Phillips Charitable Foundation Board Member, Jennifer Good and CRAB Director of Marketing, Rebecca Gonser accepting the donation.

CRAB is honored to receive a \$94,000 grant award from **Phillips Charitable Foundation** for the new Lawrence B. Taishoff Building at the CRAB Adaptive Boating Center. The learning center in the building, named for CRAB's founder Don Backe, is an ambitious, first-of-its-kind project and will be the prototype state-of-the-art learning center for people with disabilities.

Funding will be used to purchase the accessible classroom furniture and the adaptive technology necessary to create a fully ADA-Compliant learning space. The universally accessible learning environment will allow guests to participate in CRAB educational and training programs year-round. CRAB has consulted with the Maryland Department of Disabilities, the Maryland Assistive Technology Reuse Center, the Maryland Division of Rehabilitation, and the Sennheiser and CSS Presentation Systems to identify the tools necessary to create a cutting-edge accessible classroom. "The identified adaptive technology is essential to ensure that people with all types of disabilities will be able to access and enjoy a thorough and robust learning experience at the ABC," said CRAB President David Hankey.

CRAB was founded on the principle that people with disabilities can and should be able to live fulfilling and joyful lives and have equitable access to meaningful therapeutic recreation on the Chesapeake Bay. Every effort is being made to accommodate a broad spectrum of people with disabilities. "Phillips Charitable Foundation is thrilled to provide funding to support the ambitious educational goals of the Don Backe Learning Center," said Eileen Gross, Founder and Board Chair of Phillips Charitable Foundation.

Annapolis is known as the "Sailing Capital of the U.S.," and with the addition of the Adaptive Boating Center, it will be known as the "Accessible Sailing Capital of the World!" The Annapolis Adaptive Boating Center (AABC) is a partnership project between the State of Maryland, Anne Arundel County, and the City of Annapolis. The AABC will be open year-round, with a 16-slip floating dock marina, increased adaptive boarding equipment for guests (Hoyer lifts and transfer slides), an open-air pavilion, and a 2,660 sq. ft office and learning center, all built to meet or exceed ADA standards. The flagship facility is set to open in March 2023 and is expected to accommodate triple the number of

guests participating in CRAB programs by 2026. Certification courses, sailing and boating training courses, and therapy courses for people with disabilities will be incorporated into CRAB's existing sailing programs and will continue to be offered free of charge.

CRAB Board Member to Speak at Annapolis Maritime Museum

Growth of City Dock and Harbor Area



When: Thursday, January 12

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Where:

Annapolis Maritime Museum

723 Second Street

Annapolis, Maryland 21403

**Registration fee: \$10 at the
door, no prior registration
available.**

Dr. Steve Ritterbush's talk will cover the evolution of the Annapolis Harbor, the City Dock, and the surrounding marketplace over a 150-year period as it went through one major change after another, shifting from a working waterfront to a community of pleasure boats. He also will discuss how these changes were intimately connected to the broader history of the Chesapeake Bay.

For years, the marketplace at the foot of the City Dock was the commercial heart of the city. Dr. Ritterbush will discuss his experience working there in the 1950s and how the Market House has long served the city.

Stephen Ritterbush has spent his life as an adventurer, entrepreneur, and student of history. He remains an avid sailor with CRAB and serves as the Chair of the CRAB Capital Campaign Committee. You won't find him on social media, but you may spot him at the Boatyard, Davis' Pub, or McGarvey's having a drink with friends...and doing research.

Giving with Your IRA - A Win Win



If you are 70 1/2 or older you can support CRAB using your IRA!

WIN! You can donate all or a portion of your required minimum distribution directly to CRAB through qualified charitable distribution or QCD. With a QCD, the check will be sent directly from your IRA to CRAB.

WIN! This allows YOU, the donor, to exclude that amount from your taxable income.

As always, consult your financial advisor to see if this is an option for you.
The deadline is December 31, 2022

Happy Holidays from CRAB!



Happy Birthday!

CRAB relies on its wonderful volunteer skippers and crew and we are grateful to everyone who donates their time and expertise. A big Happy Birthday to our volunteers launched in **December:**

Jonathan Adams
John Cantrick
Charles Carpenter
Greg Shea
Athena Tsakos
Trey Warman
Nancy Fineberg
Amy Harris
Cindy Mexcur
Sheila Rowny
Christina Grant



*Please send [Matt](#) your birthdate so we can include you in our newsletter!

Are you interested in becoming a CRAB Volunteer? CRAB relies on its dedicated team of more than 150 volunteers to support its sailing programs. With the move to the new Adaptive Boating Center in 2023, we

will increase our reach and services for even more people with disabilities, recovering warriors, and youth from underserved communities. We are looking for dependable, energetic, and compassionate team members to help with everything from staff support, crew, and skippers.

Volunteer



Guests

Want to Sail with CRAB?
View our calendar of
events [HERE](#)



Supporting CRAB

There are many ways
you can support CRAB.
Check out the list [HERE](#)



Volunteer

Would you like to help
out at CRAB events or
sail with guests? Read
more [HERE](#)

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