



Changing lives One Sail at a Time



Elected Officials Break Ground at the New Adaptive Boating Center

June Newsletter

Staying in Touch with CRAB's Friends & Supporters

Groundbreaking Ceremony Kicks-Off Construction at the Premier Adaptive Boating Center

CRAB was honored to host the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the country's premier Adaptive Boating Center on **June 7th, 2022.**

The Adaptive Boating Center (ABC) is a \$5 million project supported by funding from the State of Maryland, Anne Arundel County, the City of

Annapolis, and generous donors to CRAB. The new facility is an essential part of CRAB's strategic plan to increase accessibility to Chesapeake Bay for people with disabilities, recovering warriors, and youth from underserved communities.

The Adaptive Boating Center (ABC) will be a 100% ADA-accessible indoor and outdoor educational facility and marina. It is designed to provide an exemplary environment for guests with disabilities to fulfill new learning experiences. The Don Backe Learning Center, named to honor the legacy of CRAB's founder, is designed to be ability-focused. Assistive technologies will be integrated onto the property to remove barriers to guests' abilities and ensure that guests have access to every type of sailing and boating on Chesapeake Bay.



Lawrence B. Taishoff
Building
&
Arthur A. Birney, Sr.
Pavilion



Captain Jeremy Hopkins
Boathouse



Arthur & Patricia Edwards
Family Marina

CRAB Presentation to City Council



On May 9, 2022 CRAB Executive Director Paul "Bo" Bollinger presented the annual update to the Annapolis City Council on the CRAB Adaptive Boating Center. During the testimony, a video was shown that used some of the renderings of the ABC buildings and actual pictures of the newly built marina. At the conclusion of Bollinger's remarks, Alderwoman Sheila Finlayson commented on the ABC presentation, "It almost made me cry." Alderman Rob Savidge said, "I cannot wait for the ribbon cutting and thanks for working with the neighbors." Mayor Gavin Buckley closed by stating, "I want to thank you for giving us another piece of "one

Annapolis."

Bo notably reported that CRAB was able to get the new floating dock marina built in 10 months from the start of permitting to final completion. Bo said, "After it was inspected by DNR waterway leadership, they told us that the docks were the best they have ever seen and they could win an award." Who knew there was an Oscar for docks?

Unity in purpose, equality in accessibility, and equity in all activities and programs will make the CRAB Adaptive Boating Center the premier facility in the country, if not the world. It will symbolize the bright, blue handicapped sign in the parking lot, guaranteeing access to our beautiful Chesapeake Bay for everyone who never thought it would be possible because of their disability or challenges they face in life.

To hear Bo's full remarks and the reactions from city leaders please click the button below:

[CRAB Presentation to City Council](#)

The Don Backe Memorial Regatta



It was a beautiful day for the 25th Annual Don Backe Memorial Regatta, hosted by the Annapolis Yacht Club on Saturday, June 4th. In the end, the regatta was decided by less than a boat length on the 5th and final race.

All six of CRAB's Beneteau First 22A's were in the harbor sailing courses that took them from the starting line in front of the AYC Clubhouse out to Horn Point and back again for a finish off of the club dock. All skippers had a

disability and in some cases an additional disabled crew member on board. The boat tacticians were a mix of CRAB volunteers skippers/crew and AYC skippers. The morning race was won by Rob Klein on Little Bit. Rob and Chris Murphy showed off their national sailing championship skills in the light air. After lunch, the boats were reloaded for 4 additional races in perfect wind conditions. The regatta was expertly managed by the AYC Race Committee, with PRO Peter Gordon and CRAB Board Member Sandy Grosvenor adding decades of experience. Three boats were able to claim first across-the-line honors in at least one race. Tim McGee and his USNA All-American crew claimed a victory in the second race. However, their tactician sailed a different

course in the third race moving them out of contention. Making the most of this error was Kevin Detwiler on Lainie who finished the afternoon with two bullets and a second. Kevin's team of Walt Laird and Maude Laurence claimed overall victory by a matter of a few feet, just edging out Rob Klein and Chris Murphy by one point.

It was a great day on the water for the disabled skippers and non-disabled crews who made it the tightest regatta finish in CRAB history.

At the Champion's Reception & Awards Ceremony at the AYC Sailing Center, Maryland Department of Disabilities Secretary Carol Beatty presented a Proclamation from Governor Larry Hogan to CRAB President David Hankey. The framed proclamation declared June as Adaptive Boating Month in Maryland to and recognized CRAB's service to the disabled community. Sec. Beatty said that CRAB has a lot of friends in the Governor's Cabinet and everyone looks forward to seeing the completion of the new Adaptive Boating Center in February of 2023.



The winning team!
Kevin Detwiler, Walt Laird and
Maude Laurence on Lainie



The race is on in front of the
Annapolis Yacht Club



Rob Klein, Chris Murphy, Scott
Gitchell and Amy Harris on
Little Bit



Department of Disabilities
Secretary Carol Beatty
presents CRAB with a
proclamation declaring June
Adaptive Boating Month!



All smiles at the Awards
Ceremony! CRAB President
David Hankey Joins
Secretary Beatty and the
winning team for a photo op.



Time to get serious as the
wind picked up and the
trophy was up for grabs!

[More Photos](#)

The CRAB Cup & Skipper's Challenge

Race Registration for the CRAB Cup is now OPEN!



CRAB CUP RACE REGISTRATION

You Don't Have to Sail to Be a Winner for CRAB

The race is on! Skipper's Challenge is not just for boaters. Anyone can get involved. This virtual fundraising competition is a great way to show your support for CRAB and its mission to teach sailing to people with disabilities, recovering warriors, and youth from underserved communities.

You don't have to own a boat or be a racer in the CRAB Cup to participate in the Skippers Challenge. **Everyone is invited** to participate to keep CRAB sailing programs free of charge for thousands of guests.

Mark your calendar, registration opens July 1. More information is **COMING SOON!**

Get Your CRAB Gear in time for the Party



[CRAB Store](#)

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Adaptive Boating Center Update



Beyond the Ceremony

As we move beyond the groundbreaking, the Adaptive Boating Center has begun to take shape. "Construction has begun in earnest at the Adaptive Boating Center and we are at a critical point for the Capital Campaign," said Debbie Daugherty, Director of Development at CRAB.

ABC Capital Campaign Update

CRAB continues to face increasing construction costs and supply chain issues. Your support is essential to the completion of the Adaptive Boating Center.

CRAB needs \$750,000 to meet the \$3.25M Campaign Goal. To help make the vision a reality, please contact [**Debbie Daugherty, Director of Development**](#)

Fair Winds and Following Seas

RADM (ret.) Guy Shaffer Crost the Bar

CRAB's longtime friend, supporter, and generous donor has passed away at the age of 94 in Annapolis, Maryland. Only wanting to be known as Guy, he was generous with his time and love for CRAB. Guy became familiar with CRAB at the first Wounded Warrior Sailing Regatta in 2012. He continued to be present and show his respect for the recovering warriors sailing with CRAB and the USNA Sailing Team. He really showed his enthusiasm for CRAB when it came to the new Adaptive Boating Center. Guy presented testimony on behalf of the BayWoods Homeowners Association to the Annapolis City Council in 2020. He was fond of reminding them he was representing over 200 votes at BayWoods assisted living center. Most recently Guy presented Zoom testimony (not easy for a 94 year old) before the Annapolis Board of Port Wardens to support CRAB's marina. One of his last gifts to CRAB was a generous donation to name the ABC's lobby in honor of his deceased son, who was a Federal Judge. We offer the following verses from the poem Crossing the

Bar by Alfred, Lord Tennyson in honor of our dear friend Guy Shaffer. We will miss you.

*Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;*

*For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crost the bar.*

Friends of the Fleet



*Providing the therapeutic benefits of sailing to people with disabilities,
recovering warriors, and youth from underserved communities*



"We never knew exactly what Julie was thinking each day, but the breeze on her face, a warm hand to hold, and a super secure seat made her relax and have the biggest smile throughout the sail. Sometimes words just aren't necessary. Thank you CRAB!"

-Michael S. Derby of Severna Park, MD

Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating (CRAB) is the premier provider of unrestricted access to the Chesapeake Bay. CRAB is the only program offering equity and equality to our guests in a fully accessible sailing program at no cost to them.

People with disabilities can face daunting challenges; limited access to outdoor recreational activities, isolation, and a lack of meaningful engagement with peers and loved ones. CRAB works to address these concerns by enhancing the quality of life for our guests who may have thought they would never have the opportunity to sail on the Chesapeake Bay.

Your support makes CRAB's programs possible. Every donation has a direct impact.

Friends of the Fleet. Introducing CRAB's monthly giving program. Join a growing group of supporters who understand the importance of making a lasting commitment to support CRAB's sailing programs.

Think Forward. Your donations allow us to take a long-term approach. As CRAB moves to the new Adaptive Boating Center, we anticipate programs will grow by 2 to 3 times in number and diversity in the next 3 years.

It All Adds Up. Your gift enables CRAB to keep our programs free of charge for our guests. When you support CRAB you work side by side with us to make a meaningful and lasting difference in the community.

"As an instructor, I loved to see my students' eyes light up as the boat moved across the water powered only by the wind. As a monthly donor, I can continue to share that joy with people who might not otherwise get the thrilling experience."

- Priscilla Travis of Chester, MD



Giving with Impact

\$100 ~ Supports 1 Family Sail
\$250 ~ The gift of camp to 1 child
\$500 ~ Brings 2 veterans to a clinic
\$1000 ~ Funds 20 hours of programming
\$2500 ~ Sponsors 1 group sail for a community organization

Friends of the Fleet

Monthly Giving Program

\$10/month = \$120 of impact
\$25/month = \$300 of impact
\$50/month = \$600 of impact
\$80/month = \$960 of impact
\$125/month = \$1,500 of impact
\$175/month = \$2,100 of impact



SCAN ME!



Scan the code with your mobile phone to go directly to CRAB's Giving page.

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177 Defense Highway, #9
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-266-5722
crabsailing.org



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to Life One Sail
at a Time...***

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Boats For Sale

1993 Tripp 33

Comes with 14 sails and is ready to win races this summer. Like new cabin floorboards and cushions.

\$15,000



1983 Helms 27

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during the off season. The motor is a well maintained 13hp Yanmar. Lots of headroom and space in the cabin.

\$9,500



[More Information](#)

Save the Dates!

- June 4 - Don Backe Memorial Regatta
- June 9 - Family Sail
- June 26 - Family Sail
- June 17 - Family Sail
- July 26 - Family Sail
- **August 20 - The CRAB Cup**
- September 10 - Recovering Warrior Sailing Regatta

For more information about upcoming events please look at our complete Calendar.

[CRAB Calendar](#)

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 **June**:

David Cantor
David Deputy
Leo Scalon
Angela Eggleston
Cindy Stalnaker
Dillon White



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



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](#)

Send Us An E-mail

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