



Bringing Quality to Life One Sail at a Time



A recovering warrior with his service dog enjoying a wonderful day sailing on the Bay

January Newsletter

Staying in Touch with CRAB's Friends & Supporters

Recent & Upcoming Events

A very happy new year to all CRAB supporters, volunteers, friends, and guests! We were very pleased with the smooth transition to a new operating environment last year and we look forward to starting our sailing program in April with the same enhanced safety protocols in place. Even though 2020 was a short season for CRAB, we hosted over 400 guests with 93 volunteers contributing over 1,800 hours of their time. A big thanks to our volunteers for making it all very safe and enjoyable

time for all!

We fully expect to start sailing again in April with volunteer training taking place earlier that month and the first Family Sail Sunday at the end of the month. The CRAB sailing calendar is being populated now with programs and regattas. We will notify all volunteers when the calendar is able to be accessed and sign-ups opened.

The focus of 2021 is the building of the CRAB Adaptive Boating Center (ABC) on Back Creek. The lease for the property was signed in November, and the applications for permits are now being submitted. CRAB is scheduled for the Annapolis Port Warden's meeting on January 26th for the new floating dock permit. The Maryland Dept. of Environment also will issue a permit for the docks after a thorough review. We look forward to providing updates on progress of the construction of the ABC in the coming months as activity begins to accelerate.

It is interesting to see the social and ethical debate in the nonprofit world regarding the difference between EQUALITY versus EQUITY. Much has been made about social equality in the past, but the argument has now pivoted to being more responsive to injustices that require equity. This is an argument that CRAB has been vigorously defending over the past 4 years in support of public funding for the Adaptive Boating Center. Giving people equal access to the Bay does not serve the needs of people with disabilities. A boat is only a boat, it is not a means to access the Bay if you cannot get on it. Providing an ADA floating dock makes the dock accessible, but without a lift or transfer box it does not make boating accessible to someone in a wheelchair. CRAB provides anyone with a disability access to a dock that features the necessary equipment and trained volunteers to board a boat. We also provide boats that are specially modified so they can be skippered and sailed on the Bay by people with any disability. Indeed, this is what we consider equity and it is something that a growing segment of the population will get to enjoy more often after the ribbon-cutting at CRAB's Adaptive Boating Center.



Upcoming Events

3/7 - St. Patrick's Day Parade

4/9-10 and 4/16-17 - Volunteer Training

4/25 - Family Sail Sunday



United Way Number: 2348

CRAB is listed on United Way's list of charitable organizations. If you work for a company that donates to United Way, we hope you will make your support of CRAB known to management responsible for corporate donations.

New CRAB Officers & Board Members

CRAB is pleased to announce the election of new Officers for 2021 and four new Board Members. David Hankey of Gohn, Hankey & Berlage LLP will be serving as President, Jonathan Adams of Infogix as Vice President, Matt Schaaf as Treasurer, and Sandy Grosvenor as Secretary for the coming year. Brad LaTour of Five9 will serve as Immediate Past President.

Newly elected Board Members will serve a 2-year term: James Nolan, Partner & Former Managing Partner, Council, Baradel, Kosmerl & Nolan, P.A.; Beth Rossman, Vice President of Government Relations (ret), Honeywell; Dr. Jonathan Forsberg, orthopedic surgeon; and Steve Ritterbush, entrepreneur.

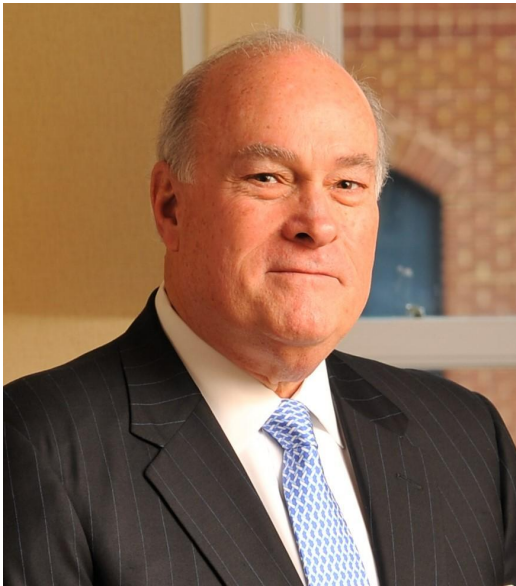
CRAB President David Hankey formally welcomed the four new members at CRAB's Board meeting on January 12th. President Hankey commended the new Board Members who represent a wide diversity of CRAB's constituency, by remarking, "We are exceptionally pleased to have these highly qualified and experienced community and business leaders who know and love CRAB's mission joining the Board. We look forward to their expertise and dedication they bring to CRAB."

The consummate Annapolitan, Jim Nolan graduated from St. Mary's High School and has been practicing law for over 46 years. Jim has served in leadership roles on numerous community nonprofit boards always making them stronger and better able to serve their constituencies.

Beth Rossman has enjoyed successful careers in the Federal Government and in the private sector in Washington, DC. She serves on the Board of a major aviation nonprofit and has been exceptionally influential in its success. Beth has recently retired and has shifted her focus to supporting CRAB sailing programs as crew and working with our volunteers serving guests.

Dr. Jonathan Forsberg, is an orthopedic surgeon who will be retiring from the Navy after many decades of providing medical care to warriors. He is an avid sailor and has been a tactician on CRAB boats with disabled guest skippers for the Don Backe Memorial CRAB Regatta in Annapolis. Dr. Forsberg will be providing his expertise on federal grants.

Steve Ritterbush is a successful venture capital entrepreneur who is paralyzed. He has sailed with CRAB and knows first-hand the incredible pleasure it brings to CRAB guests. Steve has served as a Guest Ambassador for CRAB at public events and been very helpful in communicating CRAB's mission to guests, donors, and government leaders.



Jim Nolan



Beth Rossman



Dr. Jonathan Forsberg



Steve Ritterbush

Adaptive Boating Center Update



On a sunny and crisp November 19th morning City of Annapolis Mayor Gavin Buckley signed a 40-year lease with CRAB President Brad LaTour. The new, interim sign announcing the ABC is now on the property. Assisting are (L-R) Paul "Bo" Bollinger, CRAB Executive Director, City Alderman Rob Savidge, Mayor Buckley, and Brad LaTour.

The permitting process has begun!

***Permit applications have been filed with the Annapolis Port Wardens and the Maryland Department of Environment.

***The site survey has been completed and a demolition permit will be filed.

***Architectural drawings are being finalized by ABC architect of record Roy Higgs International

***Phase 1 - Clearing of the property

***Phase 2 - Demolition and removal of the marina

Capital Campaign Update: Gifts & Pledges of \$406,725 have been received from 78 donors. CRAB's Director of Development, Debbie Daugherty is speaking with prospective donors and conducting site visits at the Adaptive Boating Center.



Guests

You can register for events on our event pages. This will allow CRAB to contact you if the event has to be cancelled due to weather. [Learn more.](#)



Supporting CRAB

If you would like to support CRAB financially or make a boat donation in support of our mission and programs please click here [Learn more.](#)



Volunteers

Are you a Verified Volunteer? Check out the Signup Genius page for all the upcoming volunteer opportunities. [Learn more.](#)

Donate Today!

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