

Brookville Multifaith Campus



*A Pathway to Mutual
Understanding*

NEWS

December
2021

2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, NY 11545
www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

Facebook: [Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus](https://www.facebook.com/Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus)
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Brookville Church

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brookvillechurch@gmail.com



Rev. Vicky L. Eastland
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The New Synagogue of Long Island

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The Interfaith Community of Long Island

info@interfaithli.org Interfaithli.org



Rev. William McBride &
Cantor Irene Failenbogen
Directors of Education
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Rev. Enid Kessler
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interfaith4you@gmail.com

Vision Statement

Through learning opportunities, essential partnerships, and occasional shared worship, our campus welcomes all who want to learn, question and grow, while making a positive and lasting impact in the community and world.

Mission

To build a multifaith community of people from different faiths who connect to one another by embracing similarities while celebrating differences.

Find a Place to Belong

We invite you to discover a spiritual community made up of different religious groups. Together we promote cross cultural understanding, peace building, and a strong commitment to service. Each group maintains its own religious identity but fosters an open environment for learning, celebrating and honoring each distinct religion.

Reflections from campus leaders



Rev. Vicky Eastland

Recap of Webinar, After the Vows: Stories of Interfaith Couples

God takes us on journeys we never dreamed possible. I grew up in a very conservative Christian community in the Midwest and it was beyond my wildest dreams that I would be led on a journey that would open a whole new expansive understanding of God and God's work in the world. Eventually I was led to New York and found myself ministering in a context that previously had been foreign to me. As I served a church in upstate New York I began to meet people of faiths that were different from my own and my understanding of God and God's work in the world grew wider.

After nine years of serving a church in Catskill, I felt called to move to Long Island and serve God at Brookville Church. I was asked by the Christian congregation to not only be their pastor, but to be the pastor of an interfaith community made up of dual-faith households where one spouse was Christian and the other Jewish. They sought to raise their children with a love and understanding of both faiths represented in their household and were looking for a dual-faith home where they could worship as a complete family in both a church and a synagogue. We could offer them both because The New Synagogue of Long Island was sharing our worship space.

We quickly grew to become a multifaitth campus and my world began to expand even further as I made connections with other organizations on Long Island who were working to bring people of different faiths together. It was an exciting time for me and is how I became connected to the Interfaith Institute of Long Island (IFILI). Dr. Faroque Khan, the chair and founder of IFILI asked me to join the Advisory Board. We began to cosponsor interfaith events together.

My context on Long Island led me to many families who were navigating interfaith marriages and raising children in homes where neither parent wanted to abandon their own faith tradition and wanted their children to grow up knowing and practicing both religions.

Continued on page 3



Rabbi Stuart Paris, HaKohen

Hanukkah

Hanukkah, the Jewish festival of rededication, also known as the Festival of Lights, is an eight-day festival beginning on the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev (this year corresponding to November 28th). Hanukkah (alternately spelled Chanukah), meaning "dedication" in Hebrew, refers to the joyous eight-day celebration during which Jews remember the victory of the Maccabees over the Greeks and "rededication" of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem in 167 BCE.

Continued on page 4



Christine Mankes

It's Holiday Time!

The holiday season brings excitement and lots of fun activities to the Interfaith Community of Long Island (IFCLI). The week before Thanksgiving, the Brookville Multifaitth Campus hosted a Multifaitth Thanksgiving Celebration. The love, peace and welcoming spirit was felt by all as our faith leaders preached from each other's holy scriptures. Some of our IFCLI families even had the opportunity to participate in Rev. Bill and Cantor Irene's Wonderbox lesson!

Continued on page 5

Recap of Webinar, **After the Vows: Stories of Interfaith Couples** ..continued from page 2

It is a new paradigm that for many houses of faith did not fit within their theology and therefore did not embrace these families as a whole unit. Brookville Multifaith Campus, housed at the Brookville Church became a safe haven for these families, a place where they could find healing and wholeness.

As the pandemic halted the way we had been doing events, Dr. Khan had the foresight to transition from in-person events to virtual ones. This allowed not only further learning and development to continue but became a life-line for some who felt isolated and alone during these difficult months that have turned into years. The world of Zoom that had been used mostly by businesses has now become the number one way that people connect with each other.

Dr. Khan asked me to join the Executive Board of his organization and we discussed an event where interfaith families could share their stories and hopefully provide guidance and support for other interfaith couples as they navigated their relationships in a sometimes hostile world. On October 3, 2021 we co-hosted a webinar entitled: **After the Vows: Stories of Interfaith Couples**.

Zoom allowed interfaith couples to participate on the panel from various states in the U.S. Arif Mohamed (Muslim) and his wife Rorri Geller-Mohamed (Jewish) Zoomed in from Florida.



They have two young children who they describe as being 100% Muslim and 100% Jewish and therefore are raising them as both Jewish and Muslim. They shared their insights from their seven years of marriage.

Panelists Kim Paymaster (Hindu) and David Wade (Christian) have been married for eight years and have a young daughter who they are teaching about Hinduism and Christianity.



The third panelist couple, Benjamin Rifkin (Jewish) and Lisa Fell (Christian) have been married for 31 years. Before marriage they decided to raise their children Jewish.

Some of the topics addressed by the panelist couples were children's religious education, parents and in-laws, holidays and traditions and how these are celebrated in their households.

There were guests who attended this webinar from places around the United States and as far as South Africa! Many attendees are also in interfaith relationships and had the opportunity to ask questions of the panelist couples that spoke into their own contexts. It was extremely helpful for them to hear how other interfaith couples are navigating their relationships and for some, parenting in a dual-faith household.

A few of the attending couples have connected with panelist couples following the webinar for further support and council. There have also been requests for another webinar on interfaith marriages, as well as an ongoing support network as some of the attending interfaith couples find themselves in a context where there are no other interfaith couples to walk with them and therefore feel alone in their out of the box relationships.

Brookville Multifaith Campus was honored to co-sponsor this webinar with the Interfaith Institute and hope to continue the partnership as our mission and vision are similar, to build bridges of peace between religions.

In Peace and Solidarity, *Rev. Vicky*

Hanukkah ...continued from page 2

We have all heard the story about the victory of the Maccabees over the Greeks and the miracle of the oil that lasted eight days instead of one. The holiday is celebrated by reciting special prayers, by sharing the light and the message of the holiday with public menorah lightings, and, of course, with the lighting of the chanukiyah (a special menorah for Hanukkah) in our homes, adding a candle each of the eight nights.

For eight days running, we kindle the chanukiyah's flames, adding a new light each evening. The message of Hanukkah is a message of light and hope. Gazing at the beautiful candles is not sufficient. We must also pay attention to the lessons they are imparting. One must listen to the lessons of the Hanukkah lights.

A room full of darkness is drastically changed by even a very small flame. A little light drives out a lot of darkness. Darkness is the absence of light; so any light means the absence of darkness. By the same token, evil exists when we are apathetic and don't make any effort to change the situation in our homes and in society, between us and G-d and between us and our fellow humans. Any effort, any change, any illumination we create goes a very long way. We should never allow the seeming smallness of our contribution to prevent us from making it and appreciating its importance.

Each night of Hanukkah we add a light. We are given another day – another day to accomplish something positive we have not yet achieved. We kindle the Hanukkah lights by a door or a window - exits from our home. It is not enough to light up our own lives; we must light up the lives of others as well. We do this with a kind word, a smile, a good deed, and perhaps "I love you very much."

We sing a special song, The Rock of Ages (Ma'oz Tzur), as we light the candles each night:

*Rock of Ages, let our song,
Praise thy saving power.
You amidst the raging foes.
Were our sheltering tower.*

The Hanukkah lights are the lights of our soul and the endurance of our spirit. It is the light of G-d in the soul of humankind and it cannot be extinguished. The Hanukkah lights tell us that, despite the odds, we will prevail.

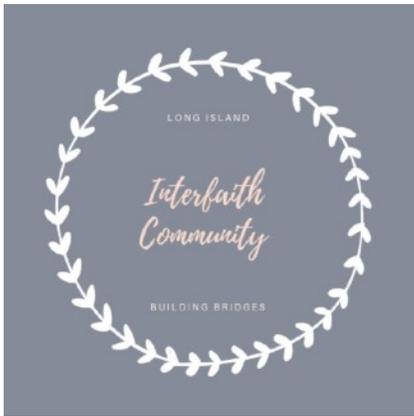
A flame must be lit by using another flame. Kindle your internal light and the internal lights of your children and others; make them shine brightly and strong. And remember that once that light is kindled, your flame and your children's flames will be added to all the flames of humankind that are being kindled around the world.

Just one candle, burning in the darkness. Imagine the light and hope if we each lit one candle.

Chag Hanukkah Sameach – Happy Hanukkah!

Rabbi Stuart A. Paris, HaKohen





It's Holiday Time! ...continued from page 2

After the celebration, IFCLI hosted pie and coffee in our Fellowship Hall for members of our campus to enjoy camaraderie and friendship. It was a wonderful time to re-connect, catch up and share stories with our family and friends.



We are looking forward to another Wonderbox lesson on Sunday, **Dec. 5th at 10 a.m.** with classes following. Cantor Irene will lead us in some Hanukkah songs at the end of class.



On **Dec. 19th at 10 AM**, our very own IFCLI students will participate in the first-ever Brookville Church Christmas Pageant! Following the pageant will be our annual **Hanukkah** and **Christmas** party. There will be kids crafts, latkes, cookie decorating and more! The party is **FREE** and open to the public. Please R.S.V.P. to Allison. You will find her email below.

Please check our website, Facebook & Instagram pages for more info about upcoming events!

New members are always welcome and registration for membership and classes is still open.

Please send us a message on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ifcli/> Or email the steering committee chair, Allison at allison@interfaithli.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

IFCLI website: <https://www.interfaithli.org/home>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ifcli>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/interfaithcommunityli/>

Study, Pray and Worship at Brookville Multifaith Campus

Muslim Reform Movement Organization

muslimreform@hotmail.com

In person and online Prayers,
Fridays 1 PM
Khutba at 1:10, English
Prayer at 1:30

Online Quran Study
Sundays, 2:30 - 4 PM

[CLICK FOR ZOOM LINK](#)

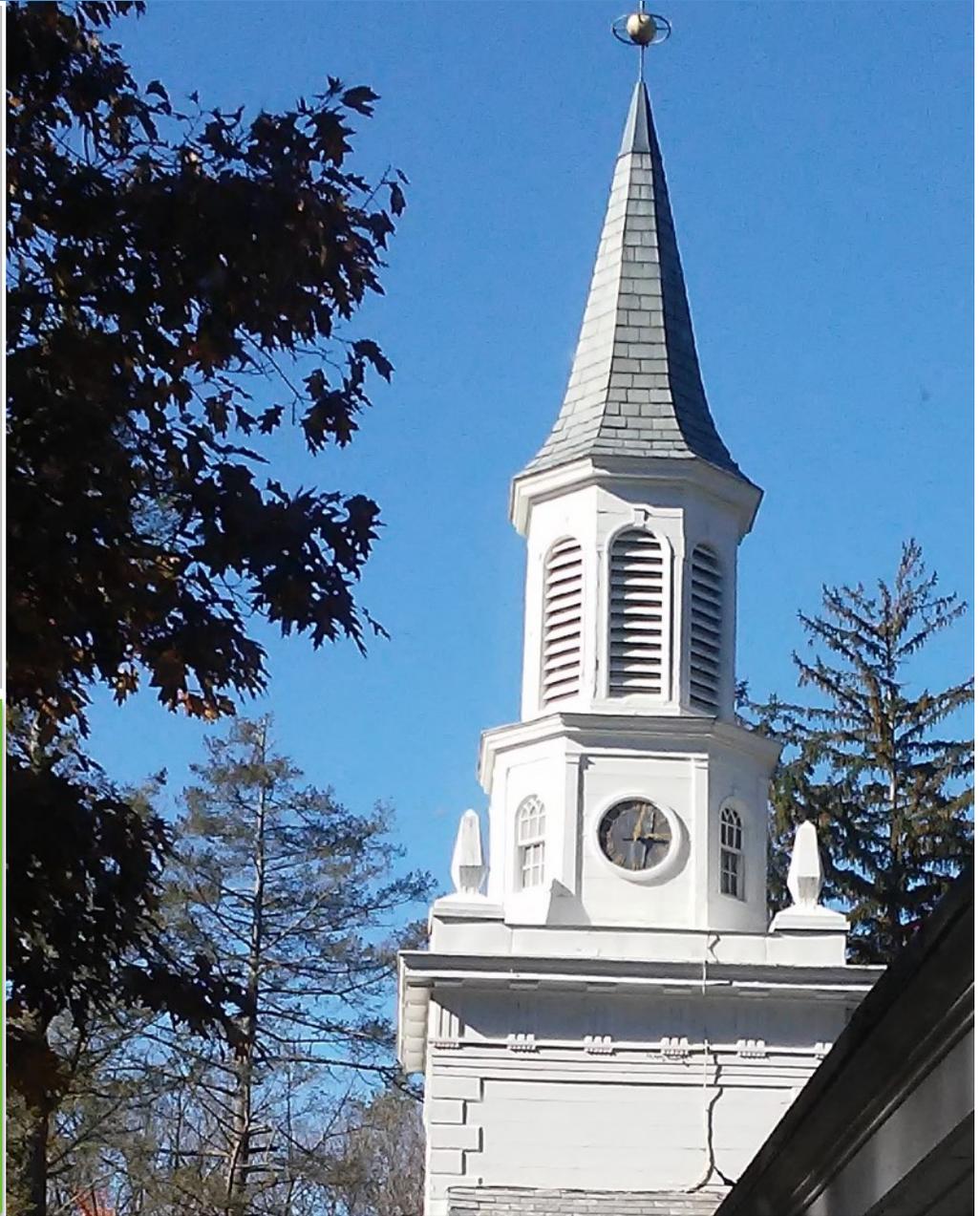
Brookville Church

brookvillechurch@gmail.com

In person and online Worship,
Sundays, 10 AM

Online Bible Study

[CLICK FOR ZOOM LINK](#)



New Synagogue of L. I.

newsynagogue.li@gmail.com

Online Shabbat Services
The first Friday of each month, 7:00 PM

[CLICK FOR ZOOM LINK](#)

Interfaith Community of LI

allison@interfaithli.org

In person classes for children
Alumni Summits for youth
certain Sundays, 11:15 AM

[CLICK FOR INFO](#)



Visit the campus channel to view this year's Multifaith Thanksgiving Celebration



40 Shore Road
Glen Cove, NY 11545
516-676-5913
www.coveanimalrescue.org

November 16, 2021

Dear Friends at Brookville Reformed Church,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$150.00. Without the support of organizations like yours, we would be unable to care for the dogs and cats in our shelter until they find their forever homes.

Cove Animal Rescue is a 501(c)(3) organization. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation.

Sincerely,

Cove Animal Rescue

P.S. It was a pleasure joining you for the Blessing of the Animals. We look forward to next year!

Thank you to :

Hank Surig and Tom Field
for fixing and painting the front
steps to the office.





Brookville Church
2 Brookville Rd. Glen Head, NY 11545
brookvillechurch@gmail.com
516-626-0414

Christmas Pageant
Staring children from our Interfaith Community
Sunday, December 19
during 10 AM
Worship Celebration

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Celebration
December 24 at 7 pm

Both services will be hybrid -
attend in person or request a zoom link.

Masks are required for all who attend in person.

**Poinsettias are back for
Christmas Eve at
Brookville Church!**

**If you would like to order a
plant, you can:**
Email your order to
brookvillechurch@gmail.com
and pay by Venmo
or On-line giving

OR
Mail a check to Brookville Church

Please indicate if
your plant is in
honor or memory
of someone.



Cost: \$15 per plant

**Deadline to order:
December 20**

Support Brookville
Reformed Church
by shopping at



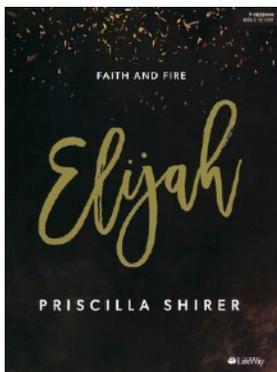
amazonsmile
You Shop. Amazon Gives.



COMING IN JANUARY

A series of seven on-line
Bible Studies on the
prophet Elijah

(Watch for more details in
the next newsletter)



Bible Study

Would you like to be part of our on-line Bible Study?

Come as you are - wherever you are, to a
screen near you and join others who wish to learn
together. Bi-weekly Tuesday evenings
(6:30-7:30 p.m.)

Email vickyleastland@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Raise the Roof

The Fellowship Hall, our shared fellowship and education space, is also home to community groups and it is in need of significant roof repair which will cost \$16,500.

You can contribute

by sending a check to Brookville Church, 2 Brookville Rd., Glen Head, NY 11545

Or go to the Raise the Roof campaign to

DONATE

12 Oy Fathers! of Satisfaction

According to etymonline.com, the origin of the word satisfaction is "the performance of an act set forth by a priest" inspiring reconciliation with God.

In each of the 12 months of 2022, former Catholic priest, Bill McBride, and Jewish cantor, Irene Failenbogen will attempt to bring smiles of satisfaction to audiences with the performance of their 2-act musical comedy entitled, "Oy Father!"



The plan is the product of a creative intuition of Cantor Irene and her belief that the sanctuary of the Brookville Church and The New Synagogue of Long Island, as well as the Muslim Reform Movement Organization can serve as a spiritual home for artistic expression on a regular basis.

This original theatre production, with words by Rev. Bill and music by Cantor Irene, proved to be a fun and fund-raiser for the Brookville Multifaith Campus a few years ago. It will continue to provide joy and funding for the community thanks to a cooperative arrangement with the artists.

The first performance will be on **Sunday, January 23, 2022 at 2 PM**. Tickets will be made available through the Brookville Church office and the [Oy Father page](#) of irenetunes.com website.

Brookville Multifaith Campus LOGO Contest 2.0

A PATHWAY FOR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

We are re-launching our logo contest with a few parameters:

- The design should not include any religious symbols
- It should reflect the idea of a pathway
- The design needs to be submitted in PNG format with a clear background by December 31, 2021

Cash Prizes for the top 3 entries!

Email submissions to brookvillemfc@gmail.com

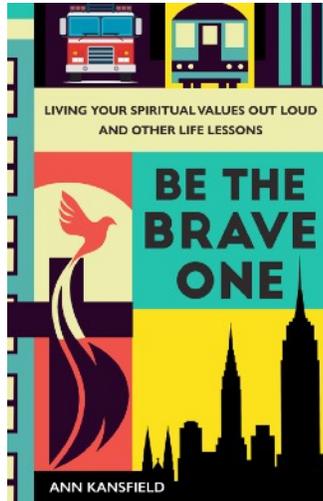
www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

Be the Brave One

Living Your Spiritual Values Out Loud and Other Life Lessons

By Rev. Ann Kansfield
(Available December 14, 2021)

This author and awesome individual is a friend and supporter of our multifaith campus.



From the publisher's website:
"The first female and openly gay chaplain at the New York Fire Department, and voted the inaugural *New York Times* New Yorker of the Year, Kansfield uses her characteristic wit and knack for accessible storytelling to reveal how an adventurous faith rooted in living out your convictions can bring about radical change in the world.... [This] story will leave readers both comforted and challenged to discover and live out their own faith rooted in open-hearted conviction."

Reserve your copy by clicking the title



Join the in person meeting every **Saturday at 9 PM.** For more info call Carol B. at (516) 428-0479.

Protect Yourself During A Power Outage

- Keep freezers and refrigerators closed.
- Use a generator, but ONLY outdoors and away from windows.
- Do not use a gas stove or oven to heat your home.
- Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.
- Have alternate plans for refrigerating medicines or using power-dependent medical devices.

ready.gov has more info on further preparations



Find Peace

S	O	L	U	H	O	G	N	O	R	L	O	D	T
O	T	A	L	S	A	A	L	U	H	T	U	K	U
L	U	P	T	H	L	H	M	E	J	O	K	O	P
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MIR
FRIEDE
PAIX
SHALOM
TUTKIUM
SANTI
AMANI
LAPE
PAX
RONGO
MALU
UKUTHULA
PAZ
SOLH
PEACE
SALAM
VREDE
POKOJ
IRINI
WOLAKOTA
HEIWA
SIOCHAIN

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3866549/>



Life Line Screenings go beyond regular checkups to look inside your arteries for signs of plaque build-up



All 5 Screenings for \$139

Carotid Artery Disease:

An ultrasound is performed to screen the carotid arteries for buildup of fatty plaque.

Peripheral Arterial Disease:

An Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test is performed using blood pressure cuffs on the arms and legs.¹

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm:

An ultrasound is performed to screen the abdominal aorta for the presence of an enlargement or aneurysm.

Atrial Fibrillation:

A 6-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) is performed by placing sensors on the arms and legs to screen for irregular heartbeat.

Osteoporosis Risk:

An ultrasound is performed to measure the shin bone for abnormal bone mass density.

**We will be in your neighborhood on Monday, January 3, 2022
At the Brookville Church and Multi-Faith Campus
2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, NY 11545**

Get your special Community Circle pricing!

Three ways to register:

Call toll-free: 1-866-229-0469

Online: <https://llsa.social/HSC>

Text: the word [circle](#) to 797979



Getting Screened is Simple!

**Painless, non-invasive,
keep your clothes on.**



¹ No single screening can detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease.

Screening results are provided to you in about 14 days. We direct all participants with abnormal results to take the report to their physician. Appropriate modification of risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, heart disease, diabetes and poor diet) is also necessary for cardiovascular disease prevention. Our screenings cannot detect all forms of stroke risk or cardiovascular disease. All tests are for screening purposes only. You should consult with your personal physician regarding your screening results. Price does not include any applicable review fees. Insurance Note: Life Line Screening does not participate in the Medicare program and the cost of our screening services is not covered or reimbursable by Medicare. Life Line Screening does not file insurance claims nor provide referrals to any physician's group or hospital. If you are unable to attend the screening for any reason whatsoever, we will issue a gift card for the full amount to be used by you, or anyone you choose, for future screening services.

The Next Chapter



Branch Worsham

Sometimes a passion for a sport or activity runs its course and the fire in the belly to continue goes out. When I came into Nancy's family they were already into serious boating. Her father was an early member of the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club and his craft was a sailing canoe. You don't see those unwieldy craft anymore as they challenged the skill of any sailor

to keep its round bottom upright while making forward progress. Her dad was a gifted man - as in blessed by God with intelligence and many deep interests. After World War Two he pursued boating again by buying a cruiser that had been used in the war as a navel vessel. Nancy tells of her experience sailing with him as they brought the craft from Florida to the Long Island Sound. She was way ahead of me as a deckhand and boating enthusiast. Our wedding party was held in the Yacht Club and some of my friends and attendant's were new second lieutenant officers who were impressed with that kind of lifestyle.

Some time after we were married and that boat was back in Florida we were invited to join them on the first part of another trip back to Long Island. Sailing across Florida, through Lake Okeechobee and up the Inland Waterway captured me, I wanted to be a boater too. Back on the Long Island Sound we had short weekend cruises with her folks and I became an avid student soaking up her dad's knowledge.

When Nancy's dad decided to get a different boat - newer, larger and beautiful I was privy to that whole experience which taught me what to look for when we decided to do our own boating. Our children were now older and enjoyed sailing with us. Daughter Marie was a great partner at the helm when we chartered sailboats. While my father-in-law had his power boats I learned real sailing from a friend who graduated from the Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy. He had a 33 foot boat fitted out for racing in the Great South Bay. Racing on some weekends and sailing across the Bay to the ocean beaches with our wives deepened the passion we had for boating. Nancy and I took the next obvious step, getting our own boat.

Our new boat was a modest twin engine 27 foot craft that had modern navigation instruments that her father's did not have. He had taught me how to navigate by compass only. He was a pilot in WW2 and knew navigation that fit right into the map reading I had learned at West Point. This boat was the

classroom for BJ to learn what I had learned. He was infected with the same fire in the belly for sailing as I was. Sailing can be taught, but passion can't be taught, bought or borrowed. You either have it or you don't. BJ has passion for a number of endeavors and was right with me when we bought our second boat. Seeing BJ take our craft out on his own and not have concerns about his ability was a proud moment. Now I had two great crew members in the family. Boating always needs a crew and family is the best.

Sailing around Manhasset is okay, but sailing out East, out of the North Fork gave us access to new and famous sailing locations - Mystic, Connecticut, Block Island, Newport, Rhode Island and more. Family adventures up the Connecticut River were wonderful when we would go to the Goodspeed Opera for shows and dinner. We often stopped at Essex, Conn and on one trip at an auction bought a beautiful old wooden hulled sailboat and moved it down to a vacation house in St. Michaels, Maryland a marvelous Revolutionary War town. Another weekend in Essex I bought two \$100 tickets for a new car raffle at the Essex Museum's annual fund raiser. We won the car - - - what excitement. That soon became Marie's car as she needed transportation.

With all of the activities that I was reasonably good at, there became too many of them, but slowing down was not one I did very well. Assessing the seasons ahead and new interests led us to the decision to stop what we were doing. We sold the boats. As Marie and I motored around the lower end of Manhattan Island, easterly towards Freeport's several Yacht Sales ending our last hoorah trip we realized the end was "NOW." For most boaters, the decision to give up the boat is made little by little; you use the boat less while costs continue to pile on straining a thinning income. We tied the boat in a for sale slip and drove away. Our optimism was not diminished with the new adventures that we found. The children became adults and took with them the lessons we had shared. Now our granddaughters have been learning sailing at summer camps at Mystic Seaport. Their mother, Marie, sends them because she still has the fire in her belly for sailing even when she cannot. I still get monthly magazine copies of Power & Motoryacht proving you don't need to own a boat to be a boater.

We have given the family lifetime memories.

~ *Branch Worsham*

BEAT NAVY!