

<http://www.melbourneyachtclub.com>

Officers and Board:

Commodore
Lenny Beckett 779-3024

Vice Commodore
Chris Reynolds 777-5622

Rear Commodore 773-3376
Gabe Denes

Secretary
Sally Wakefield 725-1726

Treasurer
Chuck Harris 779-4400

Directors

Docks *Chuck Baird* 724-6173

Membership *Tony Barile* 727-0681

Youth *Dave Noble* 779-8404

Fleet *Hasty Miller* 723-7395

Newsletter Editors

email: myc@dataflowsys.com

Brent & Laurie Saunders
725-8199 FAX 725-6074

Sherry Beckett
779-3024 FAX 727-9497

Event Calendar:

FEBRUARY

- 11 Valentine's TGIF
- 13 Couples Race
- 20 Rum Race
- 23 Board Meeting
- 27 Sunfish Racing

MARCH

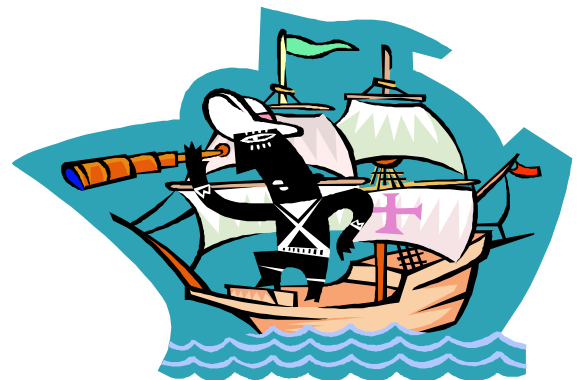
- 1 General Meeting
- 5 & 19 Rum Races
- 12 Sunfish Racing
- 17 St. Pat's TGIF
- 25 Commodore's Ball

The Party Line

Valentine's Burn-It, TGIF, Feb 11

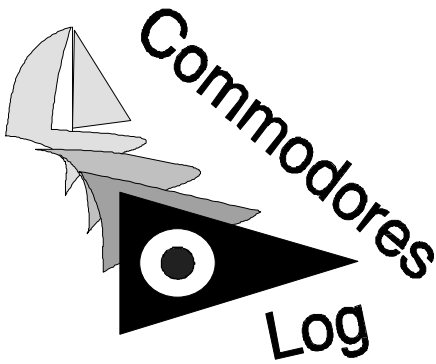
Join us for a Burn-It for Valentine's Day
Potatoes, salad, rolls, coffee & desert - \$5
Roses for all the ladies.

What with wrapping up the Treasurer's duties and learning the Bar and Entertainment responsibilities, January has been a very busy month for me, and for Lenny Beckett – from whom I inherit these obligations.



January was also the month in which Rachele Ross organized her most excellent "Shrimp 'n (BYO) Suds" party, which brought out more members than I have seen at the club for quite a while, and which was a great success. A final count of 94 people came out to help shake the post-holiday blues. Not everyone got seconds on shrimp but didn't go away hungry at any rate. Success was due in part to the great help spear-headed by Rachele, assisted by Dorothy Crowe, Marion Valin and Bob Bosca, Karen Knockel and Bob Sowden, Michelle and Bill Shoaff, Marsha and Lloyd Millar, and Grant and Debbie Ball. Thanks to all for coming, and to all for helping.

The Entertainment Committee is currently under formation, with a core leadership of my wife, Sue, and chief advisor, Rachele Ross. They are in process of laying out a calendar of events that will feature our most popular mainstays, such as Hasty's splendid Seafood Raftup (May 13th) and Betty Thon's Sharing Party/Auction (November), reviving some old favorites like the Octoberfest, and introducing some new and exciting indoor and outdoor activities.



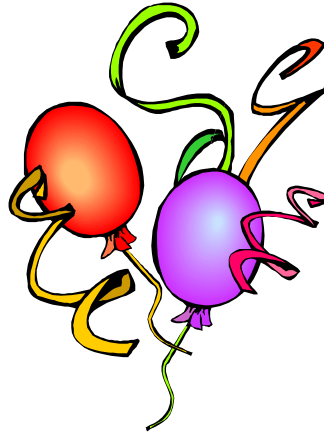
I would like to thank everyone in the club for making this a neat club to belong to, and also for expressing your confidence by selecting me to take the helm as Commodore for the first year of the new millennium.

I need to especially thank the outgoing board members for their performance last year. Last year was the first year since the club expansion project that the club's cash balance did not decrease. The new board is already at work putting together the budget for the coming year. The next two months will be a busy time for the incoming board as we wrestle with maintaining a balanced budget while improving the club facilities.

A dues/fees increase was approved at the February general meeting. Effective March 1, initiation fees, dock fees, and monthly dues will increase by 6%. This will not affect existing member dues for this year, as these are billed on Feb 1st. The membership attending the meeting was 100% in favor of the increase, but also questioned if the increase was adequate to meet the needs. The finance committee feels that this increase will be adequate.

As members, there are

(The Party Line—Continued from page 1)



Members interested in assisting in the planning of new and exciting events should contact Sue, Rachele, or me.

Upcoming Events

We have plans for a **St. Patrick's Day TGIF** on Mar 17. Check next month's newsletter for details.

Our next major entertainment event, is the formal occasion of the year for the Club—the **Commodore's Ball on March 25**, sponsored by our incoming officer's spouses. We expect the usual high attendance at this most prestigious affair, so please mark this date on your calendar. Invitations will be mailed in early March—watch for yours in the mail.

For those couples wishing to improve their dance technique in advance of the Ball, Brenda Shadbolt is organizing **dancing lessons**—see her announcement on page 6.

We look forward to sharing with you another year of Melbourne Yacht Club's tradition of friendly membership participation in some nautical and not-so-nautical parties and entertaining activities.

- Chris Reynolds, Vice Commodore & Entertainment Chairman

things we all can do to reduce the necessity of increased dues. Since the club does have a very modest income compared to the size of the facility, we need to do a lot of our maintenance by volunteer labor rather than hire an outside contractor to do the work. Members can help reduce operating costs by helping out on workdays to keep the club looking nice. Members can also help increase cash flow by recruiting new members. The club is still a few members short of our optimum membership. If you have friends who may be interested in the club, bring them to happy hour or club functions and encourage them to join.

Thanks again for everyone's support.
I'm looking forward to another great year at MYC.

-Lenny Beckett, Commodore

New MYC Web Page Address

Brent Saunders has secured our own web page address that will be much easier to remember than the old one. It is:

<http://www.melbourneyachtclub.com>

If you haven't explored our website yet, you should!

Membership Approves Fee Increases at Feb Meeting

The fee increases proposed at the Jan meetig and published in the Jan newsletter were discussed and approved by the general membership at the February meeting. The increased fees are as follows:

Resident Member Dues	\$275
Initiation Fee	\$365
Dockage	\$3.07/ft

All fee increases are effective March 1. The increased membership fee, however, will not be effective until next year's dues, as the dues are billed annually on Feb 1. (Note that the \$275 amount on this month's bill is the previous rate of \$260/year plus 6% sales tax).

Membership Roster Updates Due Immediately

The new directory for MYC will be coming out soon. We need inputs from all who have changes in their Addresses, Phone Numbers, Boats, and E-Mail addresses or changes.

Call Sally Wakefield at 725-1726 or E-Mail Castawaypoint@msn.com

DockMaster's Report

As a follow up to the dinghy rack expansion caper, the club belatedly filed a building permit with the assistance of Reynolds General Contractors. Special thanks to **Rose Baker**, **Hasty Miller** and **Gabe Denes** for demonstrating that the dinghy rack is in compliance with the zoning set-back requirements.

I would like to welcome Chuck Baird for a return engagement as the incoming Dockmaster. Chuck can be reached at 724-6173 for dock related items. I will serve as a member of the dock committee and can continue to operate my beloved dock database.

As a consequence of the changing of the guard, I request that all members using the dinghy rack identify their dinghies in the rack by name. This is needed so we can update the dry storage inventory list. Appreciate your help with this task.

Again thanks for your cooperation and assistance during the past year.

- Rob Van Name, Dockmaster

MYC Activities E-Mailing List

If you'd like to get on an e-mail list for last-minute MYC activities and reminders, send an e-mail to Sherry Beckett at ITBecketts@aol.com with subject: "Put me on the MYC list"

Bulletin Board

MYC Officer/Board Email Addresses

Lenny: LennyBeckett@aol.com
Chris: ReynoldsCC@aol.com
Sally: Castawaypoint@email.msn.com
Chuck H: info@canvasconnection.com
Chuck B: CABaird@worldnet.att.net
Gabe: still in the dark ages
Tony: BarileTM@aol.com
Dave: NobleDC@gateway.net
Hasty: hasty@digital.net
Newsletter: myc@dataflowsys.com

Parking Plea

Please **do not** park in the area of the lower lot, in and around the pram rack and mast up storage, during sailing classes.

Classes are normally scheduled Thursday 6 to 8 pm, and Saturday 9 am. to 12:30.

Got a contribution for the newsletter?

⇒ E-mail it to:

MYC@dataflowsys.com

- ⇒ Drop it off in the box marked 'Newsletter' in the MYC kitchen
- ⇒ Bring it to the membership meeting (PC format floppy or print-out)

Please include name & phone number in case we need to contact you.

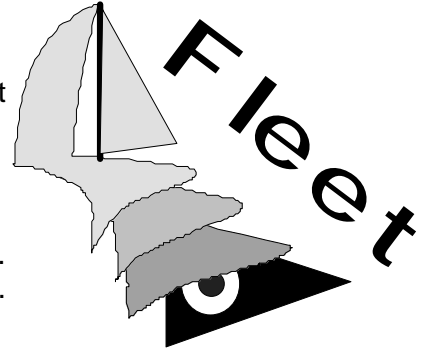
FLEET REPORT

Couples Race – Sunday Feb 13th

For details on the format, start time, and rules of this race, consult Hasty Miller (who didn't supply details to the newsletter in time :))

Rum Racing Going Strong — Next Dates Feb 20 & Mar 5

Winter Rum Racing has been going strong on Sunday afternoons. The last two races have produced a strong turnout of about 12 boats. Next Rum Races are February 20th and March 5th.



Sunfish Sunday Series — First Race Feb 27

Dave Noble sponsoring Sunfish racing on Sunday afternoons—call Dave at 779-5222 for details.

Ratings Review In The Works

Ever since yachting began in this country in the 1850's, people have wanted to race unequal boats against one another with equal chance of winning. This is done by assigning handicaps to boats based on various objective factors, generally with unintended consequences. For example, since boat speed is proportional to the square root of the waterline length, the first racing rules handicapped boats on waterline length. One result of this was "Outlook", a 50 foot long racing scow with a 21 foot waterline length. You would never want to cruise in "Outlook". Later came the Universal Rule which produced the famous "J" boats, and it's European cousin, the International Rule, which produced the 6-and 12-meters. The Cruising Club of America wanted to handicap cruisers, and so produced the CCA Rule which governed racing in America from the '30's through the '60's. It mandated a comfortable hull, but allowed an outlandish rig, which we are still stuck with. Its companion rule in Europe, the RORC Rule, mandated a very seamanly rig, but had a way of measuring hulls that produced strange things with skinny bows, fat middles, and pinched sterns. The rules were merged in 1970 to form the IOR Rule. Politics being what they are, the IOR Rule kept the CCA rig on the RORC hull. The common factor to all these rules was that if a designer could design a boat that sailed faster than it rated, that was all part of the competition. Looking for legal loopholes was part of the racing game.

But finally, around 1970, some people in San Francisco said "We can't afford to buy a new custom boat every year or two, and we like what we have, even though it has not been optimised to a rule. How can we have fair racing?" Same question that we have for the Rum Races. "How can we have fair racing?" The answer lay in a new way of determining handicaps. Rather than using objective things like sail area or waterline length, they decided to rely on the entirely subjective decisions of "experts" to assign ratings based on expected performance. The ratings were assigned something like "I think that your Floating Log 30 should rate about 150 seconds per mile." Period. End of discussion. Of course, the "experts" were really trying to provide fair racing for everyone, so they used as much objective data as they could find, such as race times for many different boats of the same class. This helps to separate the ability of the skipper from the ability of the boat. The resulting handicap system is called PHRF, for Performance Handicap Racing Fleet. It is very fair, but it is difficult to administer. The problem is that the racers tend to go nose-to-nose with the handicapper and yell "What do you MEAN that my boat rates 150? Joe Blow's boat rates...yadda-yadda-yadda." Tough for the handicapper to deal with.

Several years ago, our own East Coast Sailing Association, having tried several rating systems, decided to adopt PHRF. By then, PHRF had a large national data base, so rather than trying to make subjective decisions, the ECSA Rating Committee used the data that they had, as fairly as they could. But they tried to stay objective, and that let people try to work around their rules, if they could. Some of the resulting attempts have caused a lot of bad feeling and legal action. I feel that this has been a mistake, and since you have elected me fleet captain for the next year, I am going to alter some of the handicaps that the MYC boats are now racing under. In general, the low-number (fast) boats win, and the high number boats are just out there to share the experience. In general, I am going to lower the low handicaps, and raise the high handicaps. More next month. - Hasty Miller, Fleet Captain

New Membership Applications

LINDA K. DAWSON

2625 Dairy Road
Melbourne, FL 32904
Sponsor: Jim Duncan

Linda originally lived in Melbourne and graduated from Melbourne High School. After graduating from the University of Florida she has lived in Washington, DC and Jacksonville Florida. She has worked for the Internal Revenue Service for the past fifteen years and is currently an International Examiner. She transferred from Washington, D.C. two years ago to return to Melbourne.

She has been sailing since 1978 and have lived on sail boats almost continuously since 1982. "Gabriel" (34' Crealock-Pacific Seacraft) is her sixth boat and she presently lives aboard Gabriel at Waterline Marina in Melbourne with her cat, Levi. Her sailing experiences include several trips to and from the Chesapeake Bay and several trips to the Bahamas. She also crewed on another boats in the Caribbean, and a cruise from Norfolk to the Virgin Islands in 1994. She has participated in the Women's Racing Series over the past year. Linda belongs to the East Coast Sailing Association and is presently Chairman of their membership committee.

Although her sailing interests are mostly cruising, she would like to become a member of the Melbourne Yacht Club because she has attended several functions and have enjoyed the friendly people. She would also like to help MYC to promote sailing in the community.

ROSS AND JACKIE HERBERT

2629 Aston Circle
Melbourne, FL 32940
Sponsor: Hasty Miller & Jack Bibb

Ross lived his early years in Melbourne, FL and actually learned to sail in the Melbourne Yacht Club pram classes, under the tutelage of Charlotte Tuttle. Ross's parents, Art and Shel Herbert were members of the MYC in the 1960s.

After schooling at Ft. Lauderdale, Ga. Tech and various other adventures, the Herberts have now moved to good ol' Melbourne, FL as software and test engineers at Harris.

Ross has great memories of sailing in the Melbourne area, and Virgin Islands with the Tuttles and other MYC friends. Ross says "It's great to be back", and is looking for the sailing and camaraderie of the MYC.

House Report

Since January is my last month as House Chairperson I'd like to thank all the members who volunteered their time and talent to maintaining and improving the Melbourne Yacht Club. Gabe Denes will take over the House duties for 2000.

During my tenure, the club survived several storms, all the clubhouse leaks have been fixed (I think), the west property along US1 looks much better, improved lighting has reduced security problems, and our furry nocturnal visitor appears to be gone. Also, in case you haven't noticed, we finally got a new dumpster to replace the old one that had a freshly painted rusted out bottom.

Lenny Beckett repaired the bar drain for us. However, when behind the bar, be especially careful of the PVC plumbing, it is very delicate.

We still have two storage lockers left and available for rent. You can contact Joe Erickson if you would like one.

Please make sure that ALL doors and windows at the club are locked if you are the last one to leave. If you notice something that needs attention please let any board member know.

- Vic Lucas, Rear Commodore / House

Spring Sailing Classes Scheduled

Beginner's Class – April 1

This class is for beginning sailors, aged 9 through 16. Class is Thursday evening and Saturday morning.

Intermediate Class – May 6

This class is for youths that have completed the Beginning Class, or equivalent. Class is Thursday evening and Saturday morning.

Summer Sailing Camp – June 12-23

Contact Dave Noble for Details 779-5222

Dancing Lessons

Sunday Mar 12

7:30-9:00

\$10 per couple

Tune up for the
Commodore's Ball!



Swing, Foxtrot, etc—our choice!

Brenda Shadbolt has arranged for professional dance instructors to come give a 1-hour lesson at MYC.

For more info, or to sign up,

Contact Stu or Brenda Shadbolt

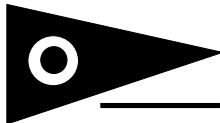
259-3571 or yankeereb@aol.com

America's Cup TV Schedule

Watch America's Cup 2000 racing LIVE on ESPN2 on the following dates:

Feb. 18	7 p.m. – Race 1
Feb. 19	7 p.m. – Race 2
Feb. 21	7 p.m. – Race 3
Feb. 23	7 p.m. – Race 4
Feb. 25	7 p.m. – Race 5
Feb. 26	7 p.m. – Race 6
Feb. 28	7 p.m. – Race 7
Mar. 1	7 p.m. – Race 8
Mar. 3	7 p.m. – Race 9
Mar. 12	1:30 p.m. America's Cup Review

**MELBOURNE
YACHT CLUB**



1202 E. RIVER DR. 1 MELBOURNE, FL 32901

The Tell Tale is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Yacht Club. Deadline for submissions is the first Wednesday of the month. All MYC members are encouraged to submit articles or notices of interest to the Club.

**FIRST
CLASS
MAIL**

