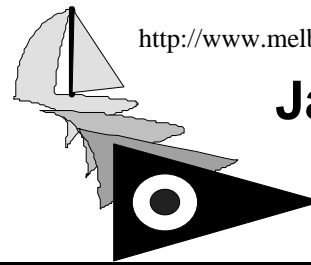


TELL - TALE



Officers and Board:

Commodore
Lenny Beckett 779-3024
Chuck Baird 724-6173

Vice Commodore
Chris Reynolds 777-5622

Rear Commodore
Gabe Denes 773-3367

Secretary
Sally Wakefield 725-1726

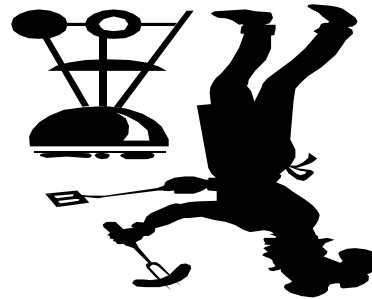
Treasurer
Chuck Harris 779-4400

Directors
Docks *Chuck Baird* 724-6173
Membership *Tony Barile* 727-0681
Youth *Dave Nobel* 779-8404
Fleet *Hasty Miller* 723-7395

Newsletter Editors
Brent & Laurie Saunders 725-8199
 FAX 725-6074
Sherry Becket FAX 727-9497

email: myc@dataflowsys.com

Reverse BURN-IT



TGIF, January 26th at 7:00 p.m.

MYC Reverse Burn-It Policy:

**MYC provides the meat to grill,
with plates, flatware, sauces,
Rolls & Butter and Coffee**

While

YOU supply the Veggies and Dessert

Those whose last name Starts with :

A - P Bring a Veggie Dish to share
Q - Z Bring a Dessert to share

**Price: Only \$4.00 per person
Reservations please to:**

ReynoldsCC@AOL.com, 777-5622, 960-1158

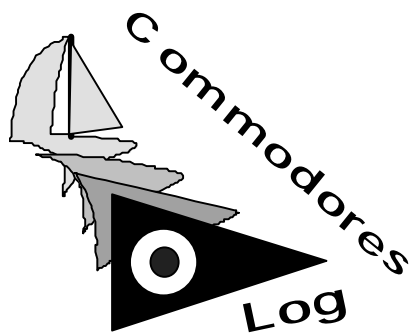
Event Calendar:

January

26 Reverse Burn-It
31 Board Meeting

Feburary

7 General Meeting(7:30)
8 Race Committee Seminar
15 Race Committee Seminar
11 Couples Race & Burn-It



Thanks to the efforts of the membership chairman, Tony Barile.

- Fifty plus students received sailing instruction in the various levels of the youth sailing program by Youth Director Dave Nobel and his instructors, Chris Duer and Sari Wakefield.

My year at the helm is rapidly drawing to a close and this will be my last article for the newsletter. Thanks to a great supporting cast of officers this year has been relatively enjoyable. Thanks especially to my beautiful wife who did all the mass emailing that keeps everyone informed on upcoming club activities; in addition to editing the newsletter, being active in racing and being the family breadwinner.

Some key happenings in 2000:

- Our new steward, Mike Grayson, was hired. With Mike's hiring, the annex apartment was totally redone. The work included cleaning, paint, plumbing and balcony guardrail. Since Mike took over the steward duties the grounds have looked better than they have in years.
- A very active racing year with three awesome regattas thanks to the efforts of Hasty Miller, Dave Noble and many people too numerous to mention.
- New flooring installed throughout the clubhouse, new bar furniture purchased, and bar tables refurbished, thanks to Gabe Denes and his redecorating committee.
- Total membership increased from 132 members to 151.

These were just some of the key accomplishments and we should not forget all the efforts by the rest of the board and volunteers. These people kept the club running throughout the year maintaining the docks, monitoring budgets, keeping the books, paying bills, ordering supplies, planning parties, maintaining house and grounds, etc.

The new Board of Directors for year 2001 was officially elected at the general membership meeting January 3rd. The new BOD is:

- Commodore - Chris Reynolds*
- Vice Commodore - Gabe Denes*
- Rear Commodore - Mary Williams*
- Treasurer - Victor Poor*
- Secretary - Marsha Millar*
- Dockmaster - Rob VanName*
- Fleet Captain - Sherry Beckett*
- Membership - Rhonda Delmater*
- Youth - Dave Noble*

Please congratulate (or condolences) these folks next time you see them. Thanks again to everyone for making a great year for me.

*Lenny Beckett
Commodore*

The Party Line



Happy New Year Everyone!

December, as usual, has been a busy time at MYC with the traditional holiday festivities and New Year's cheer.

The month kicked off with the tree-trimming TGIF organized by Rachele, and we finished that evening with a fine pickin'n grinnin' session on the porch. The trees and decorations made a fine backdrop for the MYC Christmas party run by Betsy Baird, whose good food and entertainment selection made the event a great success.

Not to compete with last year's grand event, the MYC New Year's Eve party at the club was a cozy affair shared among about 25 celebrants. Quite a few had to beg off due to sickness, but those who attended enjoyed a roaring fire, great hors d'oeuvres, music, and a rollicking start to the New Year with linked arms and a chorus or two of "Auld Lang Syne". Many thanks to Sue, Faye and friends for decorating the lounge for the occasion.

On the Water Front

On December 3rd many MYC boat owners were kind enough to donate their time, energy, and boats, to give some children a wonderful day. Organized by Brent and Laurie Saunders, children from the Big Brother/Big Sister organization were fed hot dogs and burgers and taken out for a sailing experience they should long remember. Many thanks to Brent and Laurie and the other volunteers for showing such consideration for those less blessed in

the name of the Melbourne Yacht Club. You make us all proud.

The third Winter Sunday Rum Race was held December 10th, and thanks to Lenny the bar was open for the post race roundup. Having the bar open on Sunday race day afternoons is proving very popular, and all are invited to stop by even if you don't sail.

From what I hear, only the hearty Becketts and a few others were brave enough to face the post Christmas cold and head down the river to Marker 21 Island, and they didn't stay long due to the dull, overcast weather. However, things will warm up, and Mary Williams is already planning a cruise up to St. Augustine in a few months. She'll be penciling dates in on her Entertainment calendar for this year, so watch out for cruise news to be announced.

Upcoming Events

The cool weather seemed to stimulate a party-party holiday season, and I for one am partied out with several pounds to lose. Accordingly there will be no MYC sponsored eating events while we recover.

However, a "reverse" Burn-it is planned for Friday, January 26th, - see the Burn-it ad. in this newsletter for details. This should make for a TGIF night more lively and lengthy than usual, and with our tummies full and our throats lubricated we may even finish up with a pickin'n grinnin' session.

Those who showed up to vote at the January 3rd general meeting will know that Mary Williams will be the new Rear Commodore effective at the February 7th meeting. Mary brings an enthusiasm to the position that is literally infectious, and I'm sure that this will be a great year for MYC social events and activities.

It has been a pleasure to serve you all this past year, and I know I leave you in good and capable hands.

*Best Regards,
Chris Reynolds
Vice Commodore*

Membership

New Member Applications:

**Paul T. and Bonnie Siefert,
Sponsored by: Tony Barile**

Paul and Bonnie, have recently purchased the 22' Aquarius Sailboat from Bob Boska, one of our members. Paul is a Software Engineer at Harris corporation, is an assistant scoutmaster and enjoys coin collecting. He did a considerable amount of sailing on a 65' schooner as a teenager at San Francisco Bay.

Bonnie is a Clinical Social Worker in crisis intervention, most recently at Holmes Regional Medical Center Emergency Room. She owned a Daysailer when younger and enjoyed sailing the Indian River.

Siefert's have two teenage boys, Nathan and Scott at home now, are looking forward to do some sailing on their new boat, and enjoy the camaraderie of the Melbourne Yacht Club members.

**Sandra Hense,
Sponsored by: Tony Barile**

Sandra recently retired for the Federal Gov. and moved from DC to Indian Harbour Beach. She has been involved with the boating commu-

nity for over 20 years. She bought her first boat in 1979. Sandra joined the Capital Yacht Club, Wash. DC in 1987, and served as newsletter editor and board member that year. Subsequently, she served as Rear Commodore, Vice Commodore and Commodore. CYC was established in 1892, and never had a woman serve as RC, and only on woman has served as VC and Commodore prior to her election. Additionally she served on several other CYC committees.

Sandra's boating experience has been primarily shallow draft power, best for Potomac cruising, with some time spent as crew on sailboats.

Sandra would like to become more involved in sailing and sail racing and is looking forward to a convivial association with Melbourne Yacht Club.

Also, welcome to New Members:

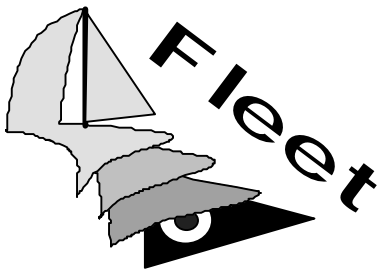
**Gene and Vera Mangold
Daniel D. Keen
Robbie Eckert
Jose Vogel
Kyle Johnston**

*Respectfully Submitted,
Tony Barile
Membership Director*

Oh Where, Oh Where can they be....

The count of the club's best white table cloths as of today, January 5th, is only seven. The inventory last year showed we had eleven. If you took some home to be cleaned and then forgot about them, please return them promptly. If you know where they are, please give Sue Reynolds a call at 777-5622.

*Thank you.
Entertainment.*



Things have been quiet on the racing scene, what with Christmas, New Years, and the cold weather. Three races have been completed in the Winter Rum Race Series, and the fourth race is scheduled for Sunday, January 7th.

Our upcoming Fleet Captain, Sherry Beckett, has worked out the complete racing schedule for the coming year, with a little kibitzing from myself and the other Fleet Captains around the county. A lot of thought and hard work by a lot of people has gone into this calendar. Please remember that when things don't seem to make sense, such as having our Spring Regatta on Mother's day, that it was the best we could do, given the constraints that we had to work with. It will be published soon, but in the meantime, see it on our website.

On two Thursday evenings, February 8th and 15th, Mike Huck will teach a class on how to be a race committee. We need volunteers, and would especially like retired racers. This last year, I tried to staff the regatta committees in such a way that active racers were not taken off of the race course. This seems a little unfair; after all, those of us who have the fun should pay for the fun, but each boat that is taken off the course reduces the fun for the rest of us. So please, running a race can be a pleasant way to spend an afternoon, and the rest of us will be very much in your debt.

*Respectfully submitted:
Hasty Miller
Fleet Director*

From the Incoming Fleet Captain

My goal in 2001 is to accomplish the following:

- Maintain MYC's excellent racing program essentially as it is
- Get more serious racing boats out racing in the serious races
- Have at least 4 events during the year that get the cruisers out racing (first one is in February—Couple's Race)
- Hold at least 4 educational seminars on racing topics (first one is in February—Beginning Race Committee Class)
- Assist the Entertainment Chairman's efforts to organize cruising events

My motto has always been "Many Hands Make Light Work". So, everyone, plan to be involved in the racing/cruising activities this year!

I have lined up the following people so far to chair our major events:

- Spring Regatta Chairman – May

12-13 – Gary Smith

- Mermaid Regatta Chairman – Sep 22-23 – tbd (volunteers?)
- Fall Regatta Chairman – October 14-21 – Dave Noble
- Rum Race Chairman – Hasty Miller
- Last call for a volunteer to Chair the Catalina 22 State Championships in November (other wise MYC will have to tell them we can't host it)

When THEY come to you looking for help, please say YES!

The year's racing schedule has been worked out among the cooperating group of area yacht clubs and sailing clubs. It is posted on our new racing website, and MYC's portion will be published as soon as there is room in the newsletter.

*Come Sail with Us!
Sherry Beckett,
2001 Fleet Captain*

A RATINGS RETROSPECTIVE

We have now completed six months of racing using the MYC PHRF Correction Factors. I personally feel that the results have been favorable, with average race participation up from around a half-dozen boats racing at the beginning of the year to around a dozen boats racing now. The intention was to increase participation in fun racing, and it has worked. I also intended to gather data to further refine the Correction Factors. That was optimistic. Since the rum race format takes no finish times, our only "data" has been the relative finish positions of the racers. Before the change to the handicapping system, we would have a small group

of "racers" finishing close together, then a gap, then a group of "cruisers" straggling in later. Now we have a group of perhaps a half-dozen mixed "racers" and "cruisers" finishing in a clump, with the rest straggling in afterward. I think that today, most of us find ourselves frequently in either group, depending on luck and boathandling.

The most negative feelings that I have gotten from people about the Correction Factors have been from several of the more competitive racing skippers. I find it strange, but most racing skip-

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

pers agree strongly with both of the following statements:

- 1) The function of a handicap rule is to allow different boats to compete on equal terms.
- 2) An important part of boat preparation lies in equipping the boat to get a competitive advantage.

(I am amused by our local sailmakers, who say "A good-setting suit of Dacron sails is as fast as a suit of high-tech sails." And then advertise "If you want to win, you must have our SuperSails made with miracle fabric K9-P!!! (for only 2X\$)". One or the other, guys.)

The MYC Correction Factors attempt to draw some sort of wavy line in the sand by separating out simple things that everyone can do, such as scrubbing the bottom before each race, from more serious and expensive decisions such as changing to a folding prop or buying high-tech sails. But that still leaves a huge gray area, with questions such as: "Can I get a credit for my Bimini top or do I have to take it down?" "Skimmer has roller bearing jib sheet leads. Should they carry a penalty?" To put these things in perspective, I remember how many times that I have blown a tack by fouling a jib sheet, costing me at least 30 seconds, or missed a windshift, costing me a minute or more. Yet 30 seconds is about 5 seconds of rating on our course, while a minute is about 9 seconds of rating. Good boathandling is worth a bunch of rating. If you make one serious error in a race, you shouldn't win. If you are in the stragglers, your focus should be "We made ten errors in this race. Next race we should try to get it down to nine or less."

As self-appointed Rule Administrator, I have arbitrarily changed two ratings this year. At the introduction of the MYC Correction Factors, I changed my base rating from 120 to 114 because I was frequently winning or placing with just myself and a pickup helmsman. Recently, I changed Dave Nesbitt's base rating from 228 to 216, because he so frequently led the fleet by one to two minutes, apparently just by intrinsic boat speed. There are a couple of stragglers who have my sympathy, but I have no evidence that an improvement in boathandling wouldn't land them in the winner's circle. So, for 2001, we will keep on keeping on, gathering data and having fun.

Hasty Miller

MYC Racing Schedule for 2001

Month	Date	Event
January	7	Sunday Rum Race #4
	21	Sunday Rum Race #5
February	4	Sunday Rum Race #6
	8 & 15 (Thurs Nite)	Beginning Race Committee Class by Mike Huck
	11	Couples Race & Burn-It
	18	Spring Rum Race #1
March	4	Spring Rum Race #2
	18	Spring Rum Race #3
April	1	Spring Rum Race #4
	6	Spring Rum Race #5 (FRI)
	20	Spring Rum Race #6
May	5	Seafood Raft-Up
	11	Summer Fri Nite Rum Race #1
	12-13	Spring Regatta
	19-20	Brevard Challenge (Cirripedia Cup)
	25	Summer Fri Nite Rum Race #2
June	8	Summer Fri Nite Rum Race #3
	17	Father's Day Generations/ Distance
	22	Summer Fri Nite Rum Race #4
July	6	Summer Fri Nite Rum Race #5
	20	Summer Fri Nite Rum Race #6
August	3	Fall Fri Night Rum Race #1
	17	Fall Fri Nite Rum Race #2
	31	Fall Fri Nite Rum Race #3
Septem-	14	Fall Fri Nite Rum Race #4
	22-23	Mermaid Regatta & ECSA Women's #3
	28	Fall Fri Nite Rum Race #5
October	12	Fall Fri Nite Rum Race #6
	14-21	MYC Fall Race Week Sun, Oct 14 - Dingy Racing Tue, Oct 16 - Racing Seminar *Other Mid-Week Activities tbd*
Novem-	4	Big Brother, Big Sister Sail
	11	Winter Sunday Rum Race #1
	25	Winter Sunday Rum Race #2
December	8	ECSA River Challenge (a Cirripedia
	9	Winter Sunday Rum Race #3

Check <http://home.cfl.rr.com/sailrace/myc> for updates & results!

Manatee Meeting

When: Feb. 21 at 7PM

Where: Melbourne Yacht Club

Speaker: US Fish and Game

More information next news letter.

Mary Williams - 727-3456

or marywindward@yahoo.com

Valentine's Day Couples Race

Sunday, February 11

Rum Race format, with 2pm start

Additional

Rating Correction Factors

***** for this race only *****

(to encourage cruiser turnout)

Dodger or Bimini Up +6

Boat did not race in 2000 +6

More than 2 years since last bottom job +6

Each Couple aboard +2

See <http://home.cfl.rr.com/sailrace/myc>
for the Rum Race Start Time worksheet

**Winning Boat Gets
a Bottle of Wine**

Couples Burn-It

Sunday, February 11

Join us for an after-race Burn-
It

You Bring

Your main dish to grill

(steak knives if you
want 'em)

We supply

Baked Potato

Salad

Dinner Rolls

Dessert

\$4.00 Per Person

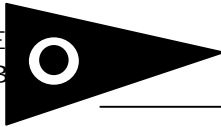
No Reservations

Necessary



Bar Open at 3:00

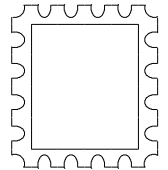
MELBOURNE
YACHT CLUB



1202 E. RIVER DR. 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**



Visit our web page at <http://www.melbourneyachtclub.com>

Jan-01