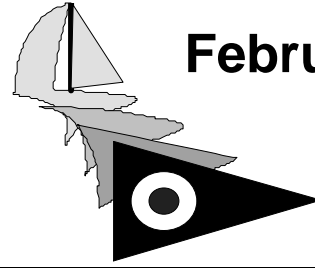


MELBOURNE YACHT CLUB

TELL-TALE



February 2006

<http://www.melbourneyachtclub.com>

Officers and Board

Commodore	
Ross Herbert	757-9231
Vice Commodore/House	
Bob Hughes	729-6356
Rear Commodore/Membership	
Steve Shippee	727-1118
Secretary	
Rochelle Yates	544-3764
Treasurer	
Will Garvey	722-1273
Directors	
Bar Debbie McGregor	952-8540
Youth	
Marlene Sassaman	768-0046
Fleet Phil Spletter	773-5848
Entertainment	
Peter Aydelotte	727-7725
Docks Bob Bagnell	725-0624
Newsletter Editors	
tell-tale@melbourneyachtclub.com	
Sherry Beckett	779-3024
Winnie Lambert	631-4220

FEBRUARY

- 1 General Membership Meeting
- 3 TGIF Birthdays
- 5 Winter Rum Race #6
- 11 Cruise to Marker 21
- 12 Small Boat Sunday 1pm
- 19 Spring Rum Race #1
- 22 Board Meeting
- 26 Small Boat Sunday 1pm

MARCH

- 1 General Membership Meeting
- 3 TGIF Birthdays
- 5 Spring Rum Race #2
- 4 Kayak Outing
- 11 Cruise to Marker 21
- 12 Small Boat Sunday 1pm
- 16-19 Sunfish Midwinters
- 17 TGIF St. Patrick's Day Party
- 19 Spring Rum Race #3
- 25 Commodore's Ball
- 26 Small Boat Sunday 1pm

The Party Line

We had a meeting of the 'party' minds on January 18 to brainstorm on activities for the next year, and you will not be disappointed with the fun events we've planned. You can find out about the events through MYC's online calendar (URL at the bottom of this page) and by reading this section of the Tell-Tale.

We are still looking for great event ideas to fill several open Saturdays throughout the year. If you have an idea for an event and/or are willing to sponsor one, please contact Peter Aydelotte at 727-7725.

Upcoming Events

TGIF—Every Friday - TGIFs are held every Friday evening in the clubhouse. Birthdays will be celebrated on the first TGIF of the month. Look for special TGIF events in this newsletter and the online calendar.

Cruise to Marker 21—February 11 and March 11 - Cruises to Marker 21 are scheduled for the second Saturday of every month. MYC will provide the firewood, hot dogs, and marshmallows for s'mores. There is no cost and no reservations are needed for these events, just show up and have a good time.

Contact Peter Aydelotte at 727-7725 or windinmesails@earthlink.net if you need additional information or a ride on someone's boat.

Kayaking—March 4 - Kayak outings are scheduled for the first Saturday of every month. The January event was cancelled due to cold temps and high winds, and there was no event scheduled for February. So, the March kayak will be the first in the two-part Grand Canal series (see Page 3). To confirm date and place call Carol Mairs at 728-7941.

MYC has kayak storage on the east side of the clubhouse building. For more information on storing Kayaks, contact Bob Bagnell at 725-0624.

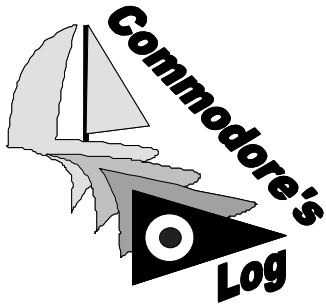
St Patrick's Day Celebration—March 17 - There will be corned beef and cabbage at this TGIF for \$5. No reservations are needed, first come first served. If the weather is bad, the Sunfish Midwinters will have the clubhouse and the dinner will be cancelled. Friday morning's forecast will determine the outcome. Just be ready to wear green!

Commodore's Ball—March 25 - The 2006 Commodore's Ball is Saturday, March 25. Look for more details in the March Tell-Tale.

- Peter Aydelotte, Entertainment Chairman

MYC Calendar Online

<http://melbourneyachtclub.com/MemberDatabase/calendar.php3>



At the start of New Business at this month's General Membership meeting, the 2006 Board of Directors assumed their offices. I hope you will give them as much understanding and support as you have given me, and the 2005 Board members.

After the Renovation vote at the January meeting, I asked the 2005/2006 Board and LRPC members to canvas the membership for deficiencies in the renovation plan put forth at the January meeting. I want to thank all of you who shared your thoughts and feelings with us. We have spent the month reviewing the responses and have updated the presentation to "answer the mail" to the best of our abilities. Al Waschka, Phil Scalise, Simon Koumjian, and Jim Miller presented the updated plan to the membership this month. Along with Neal Tompkins, they have committed their time over the next year to manage the renovation effort to meet the proposed budget.

During this month's meeting, they also answered questions and took recommendations on the presentation. The end result was that the Dues/Dock Rate By-law amendment was introduced again. It will be discussed and voted on at the 1 March 2006 General Membership meeting. I hope all of you will be in attendance.

I really feel that the renovation will resolve a number of deficiencies in the club. It is the result of over two years of hard work and effort. As the plan stands now, it will enhance the beauty of the clubhouse, provide facilities that support our sailing community in both their sailing and social activities, and give the property a much needed face-lift. In my mind's eye, the view from the north wall out over the harbor will be incredible. As has been stated before, "This is the club we deserve."

Finally, while reading this month's Latitudes & Attitudes, I stumbled across an article on the Aquifer 150 by Spectra Watermachines™. It is a portable self-contained 6-gallon per hour 12-volt water maker. The article stated that "The Aquifer 150 is an affordable, light weight and compact water maker installed in a shock resistant, non-corrosive case, ready to plug in and run. All you need is salty or brackish or fresh water (from a bay, lake or river) and a 12 VDC power source from your RV battery pack or the Aquifer's optional solar panels." Spectra Watermakers will be at the Miami International Boat Show in the Convention Center Booth I-68. If you aren't going to the Boat show, then check out their web site at <http://www.spectrawatermakers.com/index.html>.

As usual, if there is anything, you see that we need or need to do, please send me an eMail at ross2629@bellsouth.net (the best way), or catch me at a TGIF as I am usually there.

Ross Herbert, Commodore

Vice Commodore / House Report

House is going to be challenging this year, whether or not the remodeling project is started.

I have a big list of things that NEED to be done around the clubhouse. Some of them will not be necessary if we do the remodeling, but most are necessary regardless. I will be organizing a few clean-up days this year and will need volunteers to help on these and other more extensive projects. I have a small committee selected, but if anyone has a desire to serve on the House Committee please let me know. If you have noticed things that need to be changed, improved, or fixed, please let me know so I can facilitate this work.

I am looking forward to serving YOU, "The Club", this year but we will only be successful if everyone pitches in.

I want to thank everyone for a very enjoyable year as your Bar/Kitchen Manager. It was a lot of work but I really enjoyed it and learned much about the club and its members. Some members may be getting blackmail letters from me to keep me quiet...

Having Fun,

Bob Hughes, Vice Commodore and House Chairman

Dock Cart Storage: To All members who use dock carts: When you finish using them, please leave them **right-side-up**, preferably with the handles facing downhill. Do not store them upside down. Storing them upside down causes the handles to bend and eventually break.

Bulletin Board

COME PADDLE WITH US!

MYC kayak trips are typically held the first Saturday of each month, with the second Saturday as a rain-date. The next two trips of 2006 will be March 4 and April 1, a two-part paddling series exploring the Grand Canal off the Banana River.

We can park and launch at the new Paddles and Oars Park next to Tel-A-Mar Marina off S. Patrick Drive in Indian Harbor Beach, then go north through the Canal past Lansing Island, stopping at Sampson Island for a picnic lunch and rest stop, and return along the other side of Lansing Island. OR, we could park and launch on the SE side of the Pineda Causeway, head south alongside Tortoise Island, and stop at Sampson Island for lunch. We can explore Lake Shephard, and the inner canals of Tortoise Island. Which end we start at will depend on the winds—it will take at least two trips to really explore this area.

Kayak rentals are available at Extreme Sports. Extreme Sports has agreed to give MYC members a discount. Single kayaks \$25 instead of \$30 for 24 hours, and tandem kayaks \$30 instead of \$40 for 24 hours.

Call Carol Mairs at 321-728-7941, evenings, for more information.

Sea Turtle Cruises in Ft. Lauderdale-to-Key West Race

If you've read any sailing magazines over the past couple of years, you've probably seen pictures of TP-52s named *Rosebud* and *Sjambock* or *Ocean Planet*, an Open 60 that raced around the world and is featured in the *Wooden Boat* magazine this month including being on the cover. These boats are totally tricked-out custom racing machines and are typically sailed by pro crews with annual program budgets well into six figures. Jim Miller and his crew, including MYC members Will Garvey, Simon Koumjian, Phil Scalise and myself along with navigator Tom Knowlton and principal helmsmen Jim and Jack Henry, sailing the stock Beneteau 37 *Sea Turtle*, beat them all on corrected time for top honors in PHRF overall in the 31st Ft. Lauderdale – Key West race. This 160 mile race puts a premium on navigation, sail trim and helmsmanship. Jim also entered the IRC class and was second overall, again beating numerous world-class boats. Further evidence of the superb performance is that in *Sea Turtle's* own class, they nearly beat another Beneteau 37 with a much more high performance rig (and a faster rating) boat-for-boat and killed them on corrected time. Clearly, *Sea Turtle's* performance turned some heads - and probably got some well paid and much younger crews chewed out!

Submitted by Phil Spletter

Rum Racing Update

The Spring Series will begin on February 17th, and continue on Sundays until early April when Daylight Savings Time kicks in, and we switch back to Fridays. April 2 is a Sunday, April 14 is a Friday Race.

I revised the Start Time spreadsheet to reflect the rating revisions discussed in the mass emailing I sent out recently. The new Sunday start times are found at <http://sail-race.com/myc/rumracestarttimes.htm>.

- Hasty Miller, Rum Race Chairman

BULLETIN BOARD

MYC Board/Officer Email Addresses

@melbourneyachtclub.com

mycboard@

commodore@

vicecommodore@

rearcommodore@

treasurer@

secretary@

dockmaster@

entertainment@

fleet@

membership@

youth@

Newsletter:

tell-tale@mellbourneyachtclub.com

Your Mother Doesn't Live Here

Remember the sign in your college dorm that said "Your Mother doesn't live here—please clean up after yourself"?

Please keep that in mind when you're leaving a table in the bar—take a minute to clean up after yourself and your friends...

Got a contribution for the newsletter?

E-mail it to:

tell-tale@

melbourneyachtclub.com

Please include your name & phone number.

Also include captions with any pictures you submit including names, dates, places, etc

Dockmaster Report

1. Continued Diligence in the Launch Ramp Staging Area

The privileges of Membership are inseparably coupled with the obligations of Membership. Each of us, not just the members of the Board, is burdened with the fiduciary responsibility to protect the Club's assets, among which are the open spaces and common areas. With respect to the large number of member-owned vessels stored on site, compounded by 24 MYC-owned vessels plus one additional vessel on loan to MYC to support the sailing instruction program stored on site, the open spaces and common areas are a precious asset in short supply. There has been a MYC-owned Sunfish on a MYC-owned dolly left on the blacktop pavement in front of the Sunfish storage slots since mid January without any sign of intermittent use during that time period. In the last week of January it was joined by a MYC-owned Laser on a MYC-owned dolly. Before potentially establishing an alarming precedent, spreading throughout the general membership to include their vessels (as has unfortunately occurred in the past) these inappropriate actions need to be corrected. Recall, the lower level blacktop pavement area immediately west of the Mast-Up storage slots is a dual purpose area supporting both vehicle turn around and vessel staging for the launch ramp and hoist. Without conjecture, vessel staging is a physical effort that cannot possibly be accomplished by an "absentee" skipper or crew. Accordingly, the Board has endorsed the inclusion here of the following announcement:

***"Members using the Club Owned Vessels and Launch Dollies are admonished to either return them to their storage slots/areas after use or refrain from using them altogether. Further, at the end of the day members who have launched and retrieved their vessels must leave no equipment on the lower level blacktop pavement in either:
the dual purpose Vehicle Turn Around / Launch Ramp Staging Area; or,
the Mast-Up Storage Area."***

2. Hoist Maintenance for Travel Limit Switch Retrofit

By the time this column is published the limit-switch-retrofitted hoist should be reinstalled on the boom arm of the crane. This effort is anticipated to be completed by 11 February.

3. Alligator

The alligator, originally reported to the State in October, was sighted in mid January and reported. However, it has not yet been confirmed that the Trapper (George Walrath, cell phone 407-466-4544) was able to harvest it. Further, because this is now 2006, the original complaint number issued in 2005 has been changed to **4780**. Please use this new complaint number should you spot the alligator and report it to George.

4. Storage Occupancy and Revenue Summary.

The February 2006 storage invoices indicate 67 MYC members exercising storage privileges. Of these:

- 30 Club members have Wet Storage only;
- 13 Club members have both Wet and Dry Storage, and
- 24 Club members have Dry Storage only.

Of the \$6,004.78 invoiced for February 2006 (excluding the 6% State Tax):

- \$315.99 will be credited to the Submerged Lands Lease Account (6% of the Wet Storage revenue),
- \$526.65 will be credited to the Dock Reserve Account (10% of the Wet Storage revenue), and
- \$5,162.14 will be credited to MYC's General Fund (\$ 4,423.81 from 84% of the Wet Storage revenue, and \$ 738.33 from 100% of the Dry Storage revenue).

Further, as of 1 February 2006 there are:

- 29 members registered on the Wet Storage (Dock Slip) Waiting List; and
- 1 member registered on the Category A (Mast-Up) Dry Storage Waiting List.

5. Acknowledgement.

Once again I want to express my sincere appreciation to Jack Bibb, Hasty Miller, Jerry Ross, and Rob Van-Name, my fellow Members on the 2005 Dock Committee, for their mental and physical support without which my service as Dockmaster would have been significantly more challenging. And finally, I'll conclude this column by saying: **"Welcome aboard Bob Bagnell, take over."**

Harry Stapor, Dockmaster

Fleet Report

These past two years have gone by in a hurry. I want to thank all of the volunteers that have helped us put on some really great regattas at MYC. Without these people we could not have gotten to the starting line. It would fill this page to name them all and we don't have the room. However, I need to name a few that have gone above and beyond to make racing better at MYC. Sherry Beckett for all of her behind-the-scenes work and her great website as well as her work with the Mermaid Regatta and woman's sailing in our area. John MacNeill for his efforts in putting on the Wet Sunday races for all these years and all of the other things he does for sailing at the club. Hasty Miller for all of his work keeping the Rum Races going and the racing close. Jack Bibb and Wally Everest for all of the time and effort they put in keeping our club Sunfish and Lasers together. I also need to thank Lynde for helping me with all of the work involved. There are others that helped a lot but the people just mentioned deserve the most thanks.

THANKS!

I want to congratulate Jim Miller and his crew on *Sea Turtle* for winning the Ft. Lauderdale to Key West Race. Most of his crew are MYC members. Phil Spletter, our new Fleet Captain, was on *Sea Turtle* and plans to do an article for the Tell-Tale about the race (see Page 3).

Phil plans to continue small boat racing and rum racing on alternating weekends throughout the year along with the Spring, Fall and Mermaid Regattas. His ideas for additional activities include but are not limited to, rules seminars, sailing clinics with experts, distance racing and more opportunities to race with spinnakers. The amount of energy that is put into making these happen will be directly proportional to the amount of interest within the membership. So if you have any thoughts or other ideas and especially if you would like to make any of it happen, let him know.

I want to thank everyone for all of the help and support I have received over the last two years in this position. We need to all get behind Phil in the coming year and help him move things up a step or two.

Thanks everyone, see you on the water.

Jim Edwards, Retiring Fleet Captain

Youth Sailing

Several people have expressed an interest in the Youth Sailing Program here at MYC. Ideas for a structured advancement for our young sailing students have been suggested. All students would begin as a Pirate in a Pram. Upon successful demonstration of basic sailing skills, a Pirate could advance to the rank of a Sunfish Skipper. Similar criteria for demonstrating proficiency in a Sunfish would earn the student the honor of becoming a Courageous Captain. A Courageous Captain would then have the opportunity to sail other small sailboats such as the Raider or even a small multi-hull. Another, and perhaps more important, idea is to host a 'Youth Sailing Safety Day.' On this day the annex building would be organized into a safer area for students. The date will be announced before the next General meeting.

Melbourne Yacht Club, under the instruction of John MacNeil and Simon Koumjian will continue to provide a first class program that addresses the needs of the community. Students need to learn to be independent thinkers, responsible, and team players. I remember when Dave Noble ran the youth program. It is my intention to use the expertise of Dave, Simon, and John to continue this wonderful opportunity at an affordable price for our future sailors.

I especially hope that our excellent female skippers and crew will serve as role models and inspire the young ladies who participate in the youth sailing program. These women could adopt at least one young lady this summer. You can be a shore crew or an on-the-water guide. Become a sailing sister! And guys, why not become a sailing brother? I hope to quadruple the number of members involved in the youth program from last year. So e-mail me and let me know that you are interested. In the meantime,

Safe sailing

Marlene Sassaman, Youth Director

Membership Report

New Members:

David Beyer, sponsored by Bob Huges.

Edwards Roberts II, sponsored by Harry Stapor.

New Nominations:

Tom Moor, sponsored by Chris Gates.

Tom has lived in Melbourne for the past 21 years, and recently retired from Harris Corporation, where he was the director of State and Local Taxes. Tom grew up near Lake Erie, where the family spent time boating and fishing. He became interested in sailing 6 years ago and now sails *Watercolors*, a J-24. Tom has been the ECSA River Race Fleet captain, where he has met many good sailors from ECSA and MYC. His reasons for joining MYC is to become more actively engaged in sailing and continue his friendship with members of MYC.

Kelley Dragon, sponsored by Beverly and Gordon Drysdale.

Kelley is a new graduate in Environmental Engineering from UCF and is currently job hunting. She is also a retired U.S. Army helicopter pilot / instructor pilot / instrument flight examiner, with her first degree in Journalism from Florida Southern College. Her hobbies include stained glass, jewelry making and motorcycle riding. Before going into the Army, she was an experienced Sunfish and Hobie Cat sailor. Kelley would like to become a member of MYC because she feels she has finally landed, and won't get sent somewhere every three years. Also, her brother and sister-in-law (Gordon & Beverly Drysdale) are members and told her that "our club has the best people in it they have ever met".

Robert Gauthier, sponsored by Bob Hughes

Robert is a Coast Guard Academy graduate, Coast Guard pilot and a commercial airline pilot for the last 30 years, and is now retired. Robert and wife C'anne have sailed the Virgin Islands, St Lucia, St Vincent and Bequia. Their boat, a Hunter 41, is presently in the Bahamas. They are planning a one year cruise for next year, then, upon returning, will reside at Captain Cove Condos (next door). They would like to be a part of the MYC family, and Robert, being a "long-ago" captain of the CG Academy sailing team, may have something to add to our racing committee.

Membership Data:

Resident:	158
Non Resident:	21
Corinthian:	14
Honorary:	11
Total:	204

I have additional membership cards, for members who have a need for a second card.

New Club Burgees, with the MYC red logo are in our ships locker for purchase.

Stephen Shippee, Membership

Sunfish Midwinters Coming to Melbourne in March

MYC is hosting the annual Sunfish Midwinters on March 16-19. The event will be held at Ballard Park, but may spill over to the MYC club house if the weather is nasty. Chris Gates is the Regatta Chairman. Contact him for more information (cgates@cfl.rr.com, 321-727-7227) or monitor the website for information updates: <http://www.sail-race.com/dinghy/2006midwinters.htm>.



Revised Dues, Fees and Dock Rate By-law Amendments

The revised changes to the by-laws will be discussed and voted on at the March General Membership Meeting. The Board and Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) felt that the vote taken at the January meeting indicated that a significant majority of the membership was in favor of the remodeling project. However, the discussion also indicated that there were concerns that had not been adequately addressed in the January presentation. Since the January meeting, work has been done to address, where possible, the stated concerns of the membership opposed to the project in the form presented in January. A presentation was made at the February meeting indicating the following changes to the plan:

- Clubhouse plans have been detailed to show both social and party use of the clubhouse.
- Showers with internal and external access have been added to the rest room area of the clubhouse.
- A concept was presented for remodeling the restrooms in the annex, and funds were included in the project budget to cover the costs.
- Following a meeting of the kitchen and bar committee, more details were added to the kitchen and bar area of the plans.
- A conceptual site plan was shown that increases parking and small boat storage on the current property. This concept will be developed in more detail to assess feasibility to provide a contingency plan for loss of use of the tire store.

The LRPC and Board still recommend remodeling the clubhouse to make the facility better suited to the use of the membership. As presented in January, the funding of this project will require increases in Dues and Storage Fees, as presented in January. However, the portion of the costs to be borne by each could be modified to bring the club's income back into line with the traditional 50-50 split. The limits to the increases in either Dues or Storage Fees, or both, proposed below could be reduced to attain the desired split between Dues and Storage Fees making up the club's income while still supporting the project. These changes will be voted on at the March meeting. Prior to the vote, an updated presentation by the Building Renovation Committee will provide the latest status of the planning for the project.

Recommended By-laws changes introduced in the February meeting:

Article 3 Section 1, Dues

Change (underlined text)

"The Annual Dues for each class of membership shall be as follows:

Resident Member—\$315"

to read as

"The Annual Dues for each class of membership shall not exceed:

Resident Member—\$420"

Article 3 Section 2, Initiation Fees

Change (underlined text)

"Resident Member—\$420"

to read as

"Resident Member—\$750"

Article 6 Section 3, Slip Rental

Change (underlined text)

"Rental dockage, when available, shall be for use by Resident Members only, for a fee of \$3.67 per foot per month."

to read as

"Rental dockage, when available, shall be for use by Resident Members only, for a fee not to exceed \$4.65 per foot per month."

Al Waschka, LRPC

Sea Turtle leaving Lauderdale YC for the start of the 2006 Ft. Lauderdale - Key West Race

Crew (left-right): Jim Miller, Jack Henry, Phil Scalise, Tom Knowlton, Phil Spletter,
Will Garvey, Jim Henry, Simon Koumjain

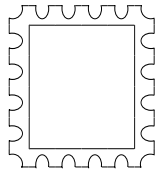


**MELBOURNE
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*The Tell Tale is the official newsletter of the
Melbourne Yacht Club. Deadline for sub-
missions is the first Wednesday of the month.
All MYC members are encouraged to submit
articles or notices of interest to the Club.*