

## COMMODORE'S CORNER - BRIAN J. BURKE

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I am happy to say that the level of enthusiasm and excitement around the club has been very encouraging. As you read the following articles, you will notice that the membership has joined in with the members of the Board of Directors to accomplish a wide range of tasks which are all designed around increasing what the club has to offer to you, the Member.

Cleve Fair has been busy putting together a racing format designed to encourage all of the Members of the club to participate in. The format that we are designing will welcome all sailors, regardless of boat type or racing experience. And if you currently do not own a boat, just let someone know that you are interested in crewing and we will introduce you to one of our many members who are regularly looking for additional crew.

Scott Discon and his house and grounds committee have been working almost every weekend to ready the club for Opening Day. As you will notice when you come to the club, the gardens are looking very attractive and I am sure that with the advent of spring, they will be first class. Also, one of the things that I asked Scott at the beginning of the year was to try to transform the pool area into a resort type atmosphere so that when we are sitting around the pool we can truly relax and enjoy the surroundings. By Opening Day, you will notice that Scott and Marianne Lipscomb have gone a long way to achieving this goal.

## COMMODORE-BRIAN J. BURKE

Erin Powell has been doing a great job of already organizing and conducting several parties from the New Year's Eve pig roast, to the first class "Commodore's Ball", to the Superbowl "Road Kill Café". In addition to these organized parties, Erin has been working hard to make sure that there is always something fun and entertaining at the club on weekends as well as organizing the successful Friday night dinners.

Rob Doolittle has been hard at work organizing the Junior Program and encouraging the Juniors to step up and take part in all that the program has to offer. He held his first Junior meeting in February which was well attended by both the Junior members and their parents. As you will read in his article, he has organized a three week sailing program for our youngest members which will be taught by one of our longtime family members, Ross Kirk. Rob has also finalized the plans for summer sail camp with four, two week sessions.

In addition to developing a plan to recruit new members and retain existing members, Bobby Lipscomb will also be hosting four member meet and greet cocktail parties designed to introduce new members and existing members to one another. He will also be hosting two family style member meet and greet parties which will be held downstairs by the pool area.

And, not to forget, Brock Schmidt, is continuing to put together a strong one design program and is striving to take first place at the Sir Thomas Lipton Regatta to be held at PYC September 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Recapping what the club has to offer to you and your family in the near future, the list includes, but is not limited to:

- PYC Opening Day, March 26, 2011: formal opening ceremony, blessing of the fleet, followed by the Opening Day party on the front lawn with, in addition to the pot luck contributions, complimentary hot dogs, hamburgers and the "Commodore's Keg".
- Pontchartrain Yacht Club spring racing series followed by a cook out at the club.
- Pontchartrain Yacht Club cruise to Tammany Yacht Club.
- PYC harbor mice program, a sailing program designed specifically for our youngest sailors, seven to ten years old.
- Summer sail camp for kids ages eight to fourteen.
- Small boat Portsmouth racing on Thursday nights.
- PYC owned Optimists available for use by our Junior members.
- Annual PYC fishing rodeo.
- PYC gathering on the second Saturday of Jazzfest to see Jimmy Buffet live in concert.

- Club Caribe, the night in August that our club is transformed into a Caribbean island.
- Soup night on Tuesdays with half price bottles of wine.
- \$2.00 hot dogs on Wednesday nights with \$1.50 domestic beer.
- \$1.50 tacos on Thursday nights with two for one jose quervo margaritas.
- Friday night food prepared and served by our guest chef members.

Thanks, Brian

Brian J. Burke

Commodore, Pontchartrain Yacht Club



## **VICE COMMODORE- RICK DELAUNE**

Wow !! What a great start to this year, again. All the Board Members who were involved will probably say something about this as well. But for my 2 cents, the joint race with the CSA and PYC racing fleets was just amazing. Reminded me of the old days when PYC would put 25 to 35 boats on the starting line. We had 24 boats racing against each other. The most perfect sailing day I can remember in a long time. But for me, every time I am on the water it's a great day !!! We also had a number of great meals at the club this month. Just hope that Danny Kerr can find us some more " over stock steaks " so we can do that again. What a great night. ribeye steaks and I didn't have to cook. Yea !!

But now for the VICE of the Month-----

With all of these great meals comes ( dare I say it ??? )

DIRTY DISHES and TRASH. Ladies and Gentlemen, we are a volunteer club. And this AIN" T YOUR MAMA'S KITCHEN. Please clean-up after yourselves; so others can enjoy the same table when you are finished. OK Rick !! have another martini, I'm off of my soap box.

Smooth Sailing,

## **MEMBERSHIP – BOB LIPSCOMB**

Our membership count is rising. One of the reasons for this is the variety of activities available, as mentioned in the Commodore's article. We are a sailing club but we have so much more to offer. There are those of us who choose not to sail for a variety of reasons. They can find great satisfaction and entertainment with the other aspects our club has to offer such as our great facility including the pool area, regatta (ball) room, lounge and the beautiful grounds here on Lakeshore Dr. in Old Man-deville.

Remember, we welcome children to our Club, they are our future. It is great to see the kids sailing, fishing playing ball in the yard or the various other activities we have to offer.

Yes, we are a Yacht Club. This means that most of us enjoy sailing and simply being on the water. We are encouraging all members to participate in our inner club sailing races. If you do not own a boat someone can always use additional crew members. However, if you are more competitive inquire about our adult and junior sailing teams.

Our first **Wine and Cheese Party** for new and potential members will be on Thursday 3/17/11 in conjunction with Saint Patrick's Day. All members are invited and we encourage you to come. If you know someone who is curious about our club be sure to invite them. You can also tell them to contact Kaia in our office, directly, for details about the party and PYC.

Remember, of all 32 Yacht Clubs in the Gulf Yachting Association (GYA) we are known as one of the friendliest. Please keep it up.

See you at "The Club".

**Bobby**

rjlipscomb@bellsouth.net

## **SOCIAL - ERIN POWELL**

February has gone by like a speeding bullet!



We've had fabulous Friday night chefs, Gary, Sylvia, Mark, Danny and Jean. Thank you. Mardi Gras is upon us, the next two Friday nights are Mandeville parades, and the bartender will order pizza those nights.

The book clubs' field trip was a huge success and we plan to make this an annual affair. Our next book club meeting is here at PYC April 6<sup>th</sup>, [The Likeness](#) by Tina French. We are always looking for new members. Everyone has plenty of time to read the book.

The food and company could not have been better for the Roadkill Café Super Bowl party. Grill night and Kaia's brunch continue to be a treat and particularly tasty. Commodore Brian and his lovely wife, Lesley treated everyone to Jambalaya last Saturday night.

This Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, our own Drunken Sailors are hosting an Open Microphone Night from 8-til.



March is shaping up to be a great month.

The Drunken Sailors plan to play again on March 5<sup>th</sup>, so c'mon to the club.

On St. Patrick's Day, Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> we are having a wine and cheese get together for the new and prospective members. All current members are encouraged to attend and wear green.

Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> the Juniors, under Rob Doolittle's tutelage will host a spaghetti dinner. There will be both a marinara and meat sauce available.



## JUNIORS – ROB DOOLITTLE

Hope everyone is ready for Spring, because it's here and our junior sailors are wasting no time getting geared up for the warm weather and racing season. They've taken charge and have come up with an impressive to-do list to keep them (and all of us) busy for the next couple of months. Most impressive is that they have formed a Junior Collaborative Committee which meets every other Sunday at 5pm to discuss fund raising ideas and to get our boats in tiptop shape for summer sail camp. These kids are off to a great start and already have the Optis looking spic 'n' span, and are now looking to keep them that way with a new rack to house them. Seeing as nothing is free these days, our hard working kids will be hosting a Juniors "Spaghetti & a Movie" Fund Raiser at 6:30p on March 18<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds will go towards a fine new Opti rack. Everyone come out, grab a bite, and support our junior sailing program. I would also like to give a special "high-five" to the juniors that came out to clean up our Opti fleet last Sunday. Avery Sollberger, Zeke, Jacob, & Elli Stevens, Tripp & Rylan Doolittle, James & Rachel Lipscomb, and Jared & Sydney Kerr, a big hats off to each of you for all the weekend elbow grease to keep our fleet sparkling on the water!

Now in the interest of continuing PYC's tradition of top-notch sailors we're reorganizing our Harbor Mice program to start our smallest sailors off right. Ross Kirk will be conducting a 3 week "Intro to the Opti" session on three consecutive Sundays beginning March 20<sup>th</sup>. Each class will be from 1p-4p and will focus on the basics of rigging, derigging, sailing and being safe in an Opti. The 3 week session will cost \$30 and parents are encouraged to be there to assist and learn with their Harbor Mice. Please sign up with Kaia by March 16<sup>th</sup> if your 7 - 10 year old is interested.

We're also planning a Junior Field Day on April 17<sup>th</sup> for our kiddos of all ages. Come out and watch as our kids compete in games and skill challenges for bragging rights and maybe even a few coveted prizes... There will be hamburgers, hotdogs, and more than a few good laughs so please be sure to mark it on your calendars. Contact Marianne Lipscomb (504-615-8960) or Wendy Stevens (931-205-4448) to volunteer or with any questions. You won't be sorry!

Finally, I have just a few housekeeping notes. Please remember that Opening Day is on Saturday March 26<sup>th</sup>. I need all of the juniors to meet me on the front lawn at 10:45a for the flag raising ceremony. Boys should wear white or navy shirts with khaki pants or shorts, and girls in red, white, or navy. Also, we have a date set to begin our seasonal Portsmouth races. The first outing will be on April 14<sup>th</sup> with a harbor start at 5pm. We promise to run as many short course races as we can to make it back in before dark. And last but not least, please don't forget to sign up for summer sail camp! Dates are set and the registration forms are on the PYC website. We're marketing to fill the sessions quickly this year so sign up early to make sure you have a spot.

See you on the water!

Rob

## HOUSE AND GROUNDS - SCOTT DISCON

Thanks for all the donors for the new poolside chaises that will arrive prior to Opening Day. Thank you! Look for the the new cushions and umbrellas to match! We only have 2 weekends until Opening Day..... so I am looking for volunteers for March 12, 13th, 19 and 20th and Friday the 25th. Please circle these dates and plan to come to the club for 10 AM. I have sign-up sheets in the Commodore's hallway. Please take a minute and sign up and come on out!

We still need gardeners and we still need a seamstress (please talk with Marianne Lipscomb for the new table clothes for the bar!)

Please email me and I will sign you up.

Thanks, Scott Discon



## RACE - CLEVE FAIR

In February we held two race informational meetings in an attempt to determine what you want to see in the race program. Many PYC members are also members of the Corinthian Sailing group which have an active race schedule on the North Shore. It was decided, as a start, that all members of PYC be invited to race with the Corinthians since races were already scheduled. On February 26<sup>th</sup>, the 3<sup>rd</sup> race of Corinthians winter series, 24 boats showed up to race. That's the most boats that have been out on the lake for a casual race in a long time. It was a beautiful day for sailing with winds of 10-12 kts out of the S.E. and plenty of sunshine. That evening, Commodore Burke hosted a chicken stew meal and social around the Don Arnold fire pit. Everyone gathered for food, adult beverages and a review of the fun that day. If you were not there, you missed a good time on and off the water! Of the 24 boats, 12 were PYC members who were also Corinthians, there were 9 Corinthians and 3 PYC boats that were not Corinthians. The race was a staggered start and included a handful of spinnaker boats.

Assessment? It appears at first glance that we only attracted 3 boats that might not otherwise have raced. The reality is however, that a number of boats showed up when word of the combined fleet spread so perhaps we re-encouraged some of the PYC fleet and maybe a couple of the Corinthians as well. Bottom Line? We will continue this format by joining the Corinthians in their first race of the spring series on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Skippers meeting at 10:30 'under the trees' @ Prieto's Marina, 12:00 start.

PYC will host it's first race on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, the day after PYC Opening Ceremonies. Details to follow. We invite everyone to join these races. Get your boat out of the slip. This laid back sailing, fun on the water. If you'd like to crew, almost all boats will take on crew. A few were sailing single handed, so you'd be most welcome. If you're bashful or just want more information, call me, I'll make it easy to race or get you on a boat.

We still plan on seminars around sailing, boating, racing etc. We'll probably start with a seminar on Race Committee Procedures. This will be of interest to all sailors and to those interested in helping with race management.

As always, if you have ideas or suggestions for improving our race program, let us know. Hope to see all of you out on the water.

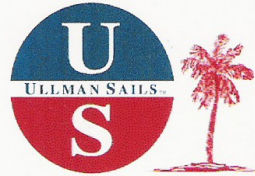
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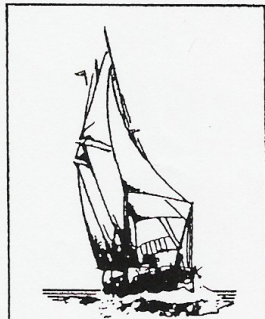


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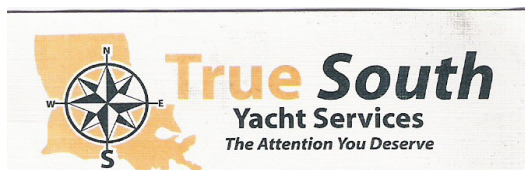
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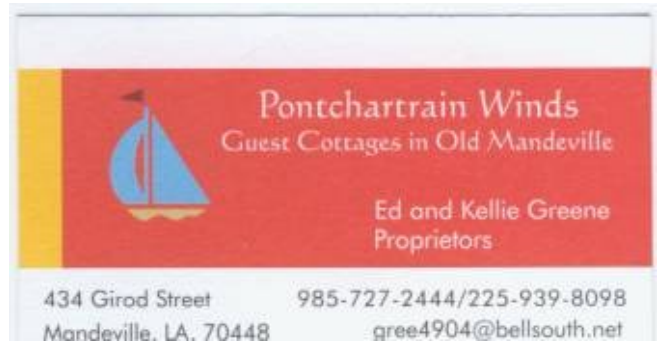


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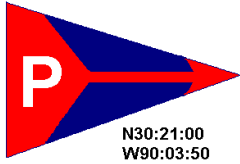


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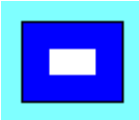


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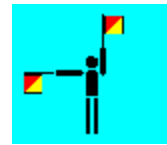
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