



COMMODORE'S CORNER- DICK JONES

As I sit here writing this article its 31 degrees outside with on and off freezing rain, the causeway is closed, schools are closed and the weatherman says next week will be worse. If I wanted this weather I could have stayed in New York. The weather has made me think of James Leydecker, one of our newer members. James and his 16yr. old son Marcus took the plunge on New Year's Day by participating in the annual Iceman Dip and Dash hosted by Franco's. James and Marcus jumped into the Tchefuncta River and swam across and back with the water temperature at 45 degrees. James spent 37 minutes in the water and Marcus 36 minutes. Our illustrious Vice Commodore suggested we should have a similar event on New Year Day by swimming cross the bayou. I volunteered to be the time keeper.

Robert Warrens was also in the spotlight in January. The St. Tammany Commission on Cultural Affairs held its ninth annual President's Arts Award ceremony on January 24th. Robert was honored and received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations Robert.

Included in this Chart is an article written by A.G. Monaco that appeared in the Nov/Dec. issue of Small Craft Advisor. Please take the time to read it. This is a man who has a passion for his boat and sailing.

Sea Shepherd II is now home behind the club. Tom Jarvis has been spending a good amount of time making minor repairs and Steve Choate will be applying our club burgee and name. Tom also sold the original Sea Shepherd in record time and now working on selling the Aqua Sport. If you are interested let him know.

The annual GYA Winter Meeting took place January 11th. & 12th. at the Gulfport Yacht Club. Your club was well represented. We had two past GYA Commodores, the flag officers, various committee members and members wanting to attend various seminars. Jamie, our Club Manager attended the GYA Club Manager's meeting on Sunday morning and was very encouraged by the discussions between the managers. She came away with some good ideas and also offered a number of ideas to the group. Her best comment to us was "we do a lot of things right" and "the relationship between our club staff and members is far away the best". The awards dinner was held on Saturday and PYC racers were honored. Skip Webster was recognized for his participation in the Youth World Qualifiers in Laser radials. David Bolyard Jr., Collin Ross and Larry Frost won the Gulf Coast VX One Circuit award. Congratulations to all!

Lately we have seen a decline in people volunteering. Oh, sorry, that was my leadoff line last month; but now that I have mentioned it we do need volunteers for upcoming events. February 14th is Lobster Night. We expect around 100 quests. I will need 6 or 7 pots and burners and 10 or so MEN to volunteer to help cook, serve and clean up. I don't think it would be a good idea to take our wives or dates out for a Valentines dinner and ask them to serve a 100 people. So please contact me 504 451 6579 or rcj797@gmail.com ., if you are willing to help cook, serve or cleanup.

February 22nd. & 23rd. we are hosting the North Shore Leukemia Cup High School Regatta. We expect a large turnout of sailors and their families. People will be needed on the water and on shore to make this a successful event. You will hear more about this event from the various committee members.

This winter has been harsh on the club especially the yard. As the weather improves we will require help to bring the club back to tip top shape. Please keep this in mind as the call for volunteers is announced.

Saturday, March 22nd. is the start of the 20th Annual Leukemia Cup Regatta. We will host pre-race activities Friday evening with food and entertainment. Volunteers will be needed. The race is a two day event and fund raiser to fight and cure Leukemia. Last year the Mississippi/Louisiana Chapter collected over \$372,000. As of this writing we have 5 PYC boats committed to race and raise money. We would like to have more boats participate. It is a great race so please consider participating and be generous if you are asked for a contribution.

Hope to see you at the club and please contact Paul if you would like to host a Friday night dinner.

Dick Jones

The new year has arrived and we are off to a running start. It started with the annual Don Arnold New Year's Eve pig roast and, as usual, the fun started early in the morning and went on until the next day. Fortunately, all of the esteemed members of the Board were able to make it until midnight this year.

The members of the Board along with other club members gathered at the Gulfport Yacht Club in January for the annual GYA winter meeting. In addition to hearing some of the issues being faced by other yacht clubs in our area, it also gave us a chance to discuss the direction we would like to see our club move in the upcoming year some of which are increased activities in which the entire family can participate and increased club sailing events. There are several meetings scheduled over the next couple of weeks so be sure to come to the meetings, get involved and help bring these ideas to fruition.

And for those of you who missed Paul's sake dinner you missed an outstanding evening of food, drink and fellowship. I know he is already beginning to plan his next dinner so be sure to attend.

Thanks, Brian

REAR COMMODORE– TERRI HAMILTON

PYC is a great club and you the members help keep it running smoothly. Once again I would like to discuss the importance of club dues and paying those on time.

Since, like your Visa card, PYC does not collect membership dues and any charges incurred until the following month, it is critical to our cash flow that you pay your dues on time. At PYC every member dollar is used to pay bills that are necessary to keep our doors open.

Each month we have around \$5000 in 30-60 day past due uncollected amounts. We have around \$4000-5000 in additional amounts due over 60 days. That adds up to approximately \$9000 dollars in membership fees and club charges that are not paid each month. By not paying the amount due each month, members hurt our club and make it difficult to provide the services you've come to enjoy.

This ongoing problem is being addressed in the following ways:

Any member who has a delinquent account at 61 days can no longer charge at the bar (as per the bylaws). If after 90 days this is not corrected, the member will be suspended from using the club.

It is now possible to pay any dues and charges using your credit card (Visa and Mastercard only). To use your credit card, please contact Allison at PYC so that she can take your information and process your payment. **There is a 5% convenience fee associated with the use of your card.** This is a direct cost for processing your credit card. We still welcome your regular monthly payments and remember that autodraft is available too.

Any past due amounts can be paid using your credit card also (5% fee applies), and we highly encourage this.

ALL PAYMENTS ARE DUE BY THE 25TH OF THE MONTH.

I will be continuing to call members who have delinquent accounts each month. Please don't be one of those members!

The Consumer Price Index for the months Jan-Dec 2013 has come out by the Bureau of Labor and Statistics. The CPI is 1.5%. In other words the average cost of everything used in our daily lives went up 1.5% in 2013. Your dues, per the by-laws, will increase accordingly. You will see that on your current bill.

Thanks for all you do to make PYC a great club.

Terri Hamilton

Quote from Bureau of Labor and Statistics:

“The CPI rose 1.5 percent in 2013 after a 1.7 percent increase in 2012. This is lower than the 2.4 percent average annual increase over the last ten years.

This is the first time the CPI has gone up less than 2.0 percent for consecutive years since 1997-98.”

SOCIAL- LEIGH WANLESS

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Hopefully you attended our Social Committee planning meeting and gave us your input and suggestions for social activities you would like to see at the club!! We had a busy January, a successful Greek Food night(Thanks, Betsy Meyers-Green!) and some fabulous gumbo and 'tater salad courtesy of Bob Barrilleaux!

We'll be changing things up a little starting this month with scheduled "Grill Your Own" nights, You bring your meat, the club will provide side, salad and bread for \$6.00!(Or you can preorder your meat from Paul at an additional charge).

LOBSTER DINNER February 14th-bring your VALENTINE or treat YOURSELF - sides of clam chowder, potatoes, slaw and dessert!

Coming up in March we'll have the new and improved calendars to go out with your Chart with SPECIFIC activities listed for both Social and Sailing events so STAY TUNED!!

MEMBERSHIP- KAIA WILLIAMS

We have had two new applicants this month, Jack Galle and Charles Tracy. The membership committee and I had the pleasure of meeting with Jack and I will be recommending him for membership at our February 5th board meeting. He is a single gentlemen with grown kids and grandchildren and is interested in sailing and social events. He especially loves cooking! I will be hosting the February 7th Friday dinner, along with Stefani Sollberger and have encouraged Jack to help us serve. Please come by the club so that you can help us welcome him. I have not met with Mr. Tracy yet but will be doing so before the board meeting.

Please mark your calendars for the first of four 2014 membership wine and cheese on Wednesday, March 12th from 6-8 pm. Please plan on bringing guests who might be interested in membership. It is a great opportunity to showcase the club and meet our newest members.

See you soon,

Kaia

FOOD AND BEVERAGE- PAUL CALECAS

I'd like to thank everyone who attended the Sake Dinner on January 30th. Everyone seemed to enjoy the food and the drink, which is why we do it! If you were unable to attend, don't fret. I have a few things in the works for the next couple of months. I'm currently in contact with Vanessa Gomes from Champagne Beverage to try and set up a less formal Beer Tasting event for the month of February. If you're looking for a more fancy event, I'm working with Art Riley from Heaven Hill Distillers to put together our first ever Cocktail Dinner for the month of March. Some of you may remember Art from the Whiskey Tasting we did last year, or depending on how much you enjoyed the event, you may not. Both of these events should be lots of fun, so be sure to attend at least one of them! As usual, if you have any suggestions, please feel free to stop by the bar so we can discuss them over a drink!

Prost!

Paul

On January 22nd your Flag Officers, several past commodores, and race chair traveled to Southern Yacht Club for the Leukemia Cup kick-off party. This annual event sets the tone and the Bar for the donation drive supporting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society fund raising effort. Gary Jobson was guest speaker and presented a video of the recent Americas Cup Races held in San Francisco. Gary is always entertaining and super knowledgeable on the technical aspects of the boats and tactics. Gary was tactician aboard Ted Turner's boat when they successfully defended the Americas Cup many years ago and he served recently as president of US Sailing. More important however, is that Gary Jobson is a Leukemia survivor and is why he spends so much time through the auspices of US Sailing to support these fund raising regattas nationwide. The Leukemia Cup Regatta will be held at SYC on March 22-23, 2014. This PHRF regatta is open to spinnaker and non-spinnaker boats. Man O War, Jalapeno and VooDoo Child are committed to race. We hope others will join in. Racers will be asking for donations from our members for the benefit of the Leukemia Society. Please give generously as this funding for research and treatment has improved survivability from 30% to near 80% over the past 15 years.

Hew Hamilton traveled to Houston in January to participate in the annual Frostbite Regatta sailing Victoria 18 model boats. Hew came home with a second place in this national regatta.

Bob Hodges finished 1st at the 2014 Coconut Grove Sails Regatta on his lightning fast A-Cat catamaran in Islamorada, Florida. Congratulate these sailors when you see them!

Pontchartrain Yacht Club will be hosting our own 3rd annual High School Leukemia Cup Regatta on February 22-23, 2014. Mark your calendars, this will be upon us soon and we will need volunteers to put on a successful event.

The J-30 Mid-Winters will be held at Pont YC on May 17-18, 2014. Again we will be seeking volunteers to help run the regatta. If you are interested in volunteering either on the water or for the social events ashore, please speak up. There is always plenty to do and all help is appreciated.

Cleve Fair, Race Chair

JUNIORS- CHRIS FRIEND

There are plenty of activities for youth sailors this year starting as early as next month! First up is the Northshore Cup High School Regatta on February 22-23. This is the third running of the Northshore Cup in its new incarnation as a High School Leukemia Cup regatta. If your high school is interested in participating, please register at <http://www.nextsailor.com/regatta/northshorecup>. We also need volunteers to help with race committee, safety boats, and shore side. Please contact me if you are interested.

The 2014 Sail Camp has been scheduled as follows:

Session 1: June 2-June 13

Session 2: June 16-June 27

Session 3: July 7-July 18

Session 4: July 21-Aug 1

Jeremy Picone will be back as the Program Director for Sail Camp this year. We are looking for Sail Camp counselors! Please contact Jamie in the club office if you want to be a counselor. You must turn 16 during 2014 and be a US Sailing Level 1 Certified Small Boat instructor. We are working with GYA clubs to arrange a class this spring for those not yet certified. For information on certification, see http://training.ussailing.org/Teaching/Small_Boat_Instructor_Certifications/Small_Boat_Instructor_Level_1.htm.

For aspiring Opti sailors, Southern Yacht Club has invited our juniors to participate in the Optimist Spring Clinic. The advanced and green fleet programs start March 8 and harbor mice start April 5. These are excellent programs with professional instructors. Instruction is on both Saturday and Sunday on scheduled weekends. See <http://www.southernyachtclub.org> for more details. If anyone wants to use a club Optimist for this program, please contact me at cfriend17@gmail.com.

Be on the lookout for a meeting in February to start forming our junior racing team for the summer. There are many junior regattas on the Gulf Coast, including the Junior Liptons at SYC, and we need experienced AND those junior sailors who want to improve their game.

Chris Friend

It’s Freeeezing and our grounds don’t like it! The cold weather is taking a toll on our vegetation! Keep your fingers crossed for an early spring and revival of our landscaping investment!

I want to thank Amy Crane the one and only respondent to last month’s call to sign up to help! I appreciate your interest in helping!

Once again, here is a list of areas that could use someone to take ownership of as a team leader:

- Dry Storage organization and control
- Pool Maintenance and Projects
- Parking lot
- Gardens and Grounds Maintenance and Projects
- Building Maintenance, repair and improvements (interior and exterior)

This month I took some time to develop a list of “must do” and “would like to do” projects. Naturally, the “Must Do’s” take priority and the other are discretionary spending. Do you see one you would like to take on? Every little bit helps. You can do it yourself if you like that mode of work or build your own team of volunteers.

Don’t have the time or the skills? You can sponsor someone with your financial support!

Maintenance

Paint Hand Rails	Paint Steel Doors	Refinish Shower Doors
Paint Fence Boards	Wire Fence repairs	Pressure Wash Bldg. Siding
Repair Dry Storage Electrical	Frozen Plant Rehab	Repair Frozen Drink Machine
Spread Fill, Front Yard	Repair Entrance Doors	Dispose of Scrap Sunfish
Dry Storage fence repairs		

UPGRADES

- Concrete walk way extension carport to elevator.
 - Under club ceiling and plumbing painting.
 - Front entrance walkway lighting.
- Please send me your contact information and choice of projects. I will assist you getting started.

thomasajarvis@yahoo.com or 985-237-4087

Tom Jarvis

At Long Last Rosie

A.G. Monaco on Dreams Finally Fulfilled

Illustration by Joseph Buchanan

It is a dark night and I'm wishing lanes in heavy traffic to make a left-side exit. That I'm pulling a boat on a trailer with no lights makes this a stressful maneuver, but I'm not worried. What should move this situation from stressful to terrifying is my wife's silence. She stopped speaking to me just north of Alexandria, Louisiana, about three hours up the road. This all started just a few weeks earlier when what should have been pleasant sail with my oldest child ended up pointing me on a course of marital brinkmanship.

I already have a sailboat. It may not be much but it's mine; it's simple to rig and easy to sail and it doesn't leak. Considering that it's wooden and quite old, that last factor—being free of leaks—is a big deal. I was in love with that boat until my oldest son arrived. He had just moved east from Southern California and in an effort to show him the beauty of Louisiana I took him for a sail on Lake Pontchartrain.

Pontchartrain is not your ordinary lake. In fact it's not a lake at all—it's an estuary with lovely little towns on one side and America's capital of overindulgence, New Orleans, on the other. Pontchartrain covers about 630 square miles making it a sizable body of brackish water bisected by the world's longest bridge. It is a challenging place to sail in large part because the average depth is only 12 to 14 feet. When the wind is just right for sailing its shallow nature causes the surface of Pontchartrain to rise up and deliver bone-jarring, multi-directional swells that pound small boats and their occupants.

On the day I took my son out for a sail the gusts were in excess of fifteen knots, but our two overinflated bodies were more than enough to keep the dinghy flat, though nothing could make it comfortable. The pain delivered to my back by

the boat's oak ribs was excruciating. To make matters worse, my son had grown inconsiderate living in Los Angeles, and had taken both of the boat cushions to lessen his discomfort, leaving me to take the brunt of the pounding without any protection. About the time the boom nearly twisted off the mast and the wind started throwing water over the bow, I knew it was time to head back in. As we pounded through the "chop" my son was asked to assist, but beyond being morose ballast he was worth little. His lack of initiative required that I use my "commander's voice" to motivate him. In return the complaints started flowing from his mouth—"Dad, do you find this fun?" "Dad, are you doing this right?" "Are you sure this is a safe hobby for a guy your age?" And then finally "You know old man what you need is a better boat." Needing the ballast to counteract the boat's heel I resisted the urge to toss him overboard just west of Slidell.

We got back to the Lake Pontchartrain Yacht Club where my son proceeded to tell Paul the bartender how he had not been out on a boat with me in decades and now he remembered why: "My Dad is too cheap to own a good boat."

Upon getting married in 1978 my wife and I moved to an apartment on the beach in Milford Connecticut. Seeing all the sailboats out on Long Island Sound I immediately purchased a book on how to sail and then, after reading the first three chapters, I bought a sailboat. It was a *Houma* "Phantom," a little faster and far less well known than the Sunfish, I named her *Phantom Rosie*. Despite flipping the boat and dumping my wife into the Sound, my first sail aboard *Rosie* caused me to fall in love with sailing.

So a few years later with a down payment in my pocket I



was headed to a sailboat show in Stamford CT. I was ready to move up to the boat I had long been obsessing over. I was going to purchase a bright yellow 1982 West Wight Potter 15, the boat of my dreams.

Well not quite... that morning the reality of adulthood crept into my life. With just one short announcement my dreams of overnight anchorages in the Thimble Islands and trips trailing the boat to Barnegat Bay were shattered. That particular morning "original Rosie" (my wife) announced that she was pregnant with my first child. We still went to the boat show, but all I purchased was an XXL T-shirt in anticipation of her future wardrobe needs. Emotions of joy and sorrow hit me that day and in a way my heart was both filled and broken.

After the birth we moved inland to Westchester County, New York, where other children came and job and family pressures took the place of sailing. I occasionally took *Rosie* out on a lake in a state park, but having to dodge the fishermen and the fools on various inflatables, it was more depressing than exhilarating. Then it was on to Oberlin, Ohio, where I sailed the now neglected *Rosie* only once on a lake filled with even more fishermen in aluminum rowboats. By the time we got to Edwardsville, Illinois, the affair with *Rosie* was over and I bought a bicycle. I told myself I could never sail a "glorified

Sunfish" in the commercial traffic of the Mississippi River.

So my little *Rosie* just sat neglected in the backyard until by chance she made her way to the Jersey Shore. There a nephew learned to sail on her and then being a jaded youth he "dumped" her for some "stink pot" with a built in cooler and a twenty-five horsepower Mercury. For a while I wondered where *Rosie* ended up and whether anyone was caring for her, but eventually I just forced her from my mind.

As it happened my career would take me back to Ohio and it was in the city of Akron where my interest in sailing was rekindled. One day I came across the nearby Portage Lakes. After seeing the many small sailboats skimming across the beautiful lakes I began to look for a boat to sail. It wasn't long before I fell in love with a new "*Rosie*."

Rubber City Rosie is an antique wooden dinghy that had been carefully restored by a chiropractor in Flint, Michigan. More interested in woodworking than sailing, he sold her to me at a bargain price. This "*Rosie*" is so beautiful to look at you almost forget that she is uncomfortable to sit in, impossible to point close to the wind, and very slow on all other points. Still, she quickly became the new boat in my life and my passion was reignited. I was in love again and I was back on the water. We spent a wonderful year sailing together as a

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My wife suggested counseling—I instead chose to treat my malaise with Bourbon and craigslist.

member of the Portage Lakes Yacht Club on Turkeyfoot Lake. Even though every Interlake on the lake easily passed her by as did every Snipe, every Lightning, every Laser, every Sunfish, and the occasional drunk in an inner tube, she was still the loveliest boat on the water. Each weekend I would go out to the lake and sail her and each time people would compliment her beauty as they sailed past.

As fate and my career as a college administrator would have it I moved again—this time to Louisiana. I found a yacht club on Lake Pontchartrain "only" an hour from my home. Launching her on weekends my beautiful *Rosie* was once again complimented by everyone as "just the prettiest little boat." But this time she was sailing on a much bigger, much rougher, and much meaner body of water. Her wooden ribs were hard on my back out on the placid waters of Turkeyfoot Lake, they were sheer torture on the rough and tumble Pontchartrain. I had loyalty to this boat and I thought I was resigned to be with her forever. I'd learned my lesson after *Phantom Rosie*—the boat you have is still far better than the one you will never get. I had finally forced the idea of a West Wight Potter out of my head... until the day I took my son out for that dreadful sail.

Had it not been for his awkward timing I would have owned a Potter 15 and long ago satisfied the dreams that those little cruisers are designed to fulfill. How dare he complain about my *Rubber City Rosie*. She was beautiful! I was furious for days after that sail. I had trouble concentrating at work, and sleeping at night. My wife suggested counseling—I instead chose to treat my malaise with Bourbon and craigslist.

One day in a near drunken stupor while looking at the listings for used sailboats, I found her—a yellow, 1982 West Wight Potter 15. More than 30 years after seeing her for the first time and 1400 hundred miles from the spot where I fell under her spell, I was about to be reunited with the vessel of my desire.

All I needed was to convince my wife to drive four hundred miles round trip to look at a thirty year old boat....

The plan though simple was brilliant—avoid all mention of boats. I told the wife that we would drive up to the historic, little city of Natchitoches, Louisiana where I would buy her lunch at one of the town's elegant restaurants, and together we would stroll down the main street and browse in the antique emporiums and little shops. Upon arrival in town I would also suggest we first stop by the lake and look around.

The minute I saw her floating in Sibley Lake I knew I was leaving today with that boat. When I attached her to my hitch I also knew I had a problem. It was impossible to park a boat anywhere on the narrow streets downtown. Driving slowly on the quaint cobblestones, right past the shops and restaurants I explained to my wife that we would someday come back. Out of what I thought was her own selfish joy that my

dream had come true she seemed at a loss for words. Then after offering her dinner at McDonald's, I heard her mumble what sounded like—"I swear to God, I will smother you in your sleep."

The joke is on her—I am too excited to sleep tonight! The Potter is filthy inside and the cabin needs refurbishing but she doesn't leak and her sails are in terrific shape. Soon with a little effort I will have her clean and ready to sail. I realize that no boat could ever live up to three decades of expectations but on the day that *Merci Rosie* launches I will be as happy as I was on the days my wife gave birth. Perhaps happier.

It doesn't matter how well she points or whether I ever sail her very far—I finally have her. Now I am just trying to get home and dreaming of the day I finally get my girl out on Pontchartrain and point her east. I am also blocking out the thought that I need to part with *Rubber City Rosie*. Maybe a separation is inevitable but I like to think that she deserves more from me than a quick goodbye. Why not own more than one sailboat—wind costs nothing! While I suppose my wife will have a thing or two to say, those concerns are for later. Now let's just hope that my new *Rosie* and I can get through our first sail together without dumping my wife Rosemary (who hates being called *Rosie*) overboard.

The sweetest of dreams are the old ones that are finally fulfilled. *S.C.A.*

A.G. Monaco is an administrator on the campus of Louisiana State University. His wife will let him he hopes one day to sail out of sight of land.

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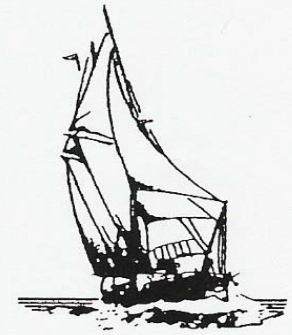
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February 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Jan	27	28	29	30	31	1 Feb
		\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer	\$6 Soup Night PYC Dinner PYC Dinner	Guest Chef @ 7pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Super Bowl Road Kill Cafe @ 4:00		\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer PEO Meeting @ 9am	\$6 Soup Night	Guest Chef @ 7pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer	\$6 Soup Night	Guest Chef @ 7pm Valentines Dinner @ 7pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$ Regatta Rental @ 1pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Regatta Rental @ 1pm		\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer	\$6 Soup Night	Guest Chef @ 7pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$
23	24	25	26	27	28	1 Mar
		\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer	\$6 Soup Night	Guest Chef @ 7pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$

See you at the club!