

HAPPY MARDI GRAS!

Gather up your beads and throws and join the PYC Mardi Gras crew on Mardi Gras Day. King Bob Reedy and his Queen Bridget Jarvis (wow what a couple) will lead us as we make our way from Don's on the lake front to Ruby's Roadhouse. So put on your carnival digs and join us at Don's. Erin Powell is orchestrating the roving party and will be happy to have volunteers help with decorating boat floats. Contact her at 985 789-2707 or [erinfeys@yahoo.com](mailto:erinfeys@yahoo.com). February was chock full of social events.

Paul our great bartender, hosted a Saki tasting and a beer tasting a few weeks later. Both were well attended and everyone enjoyed the libations and food pairings.

Becky Deano has started an eight week Yoga class on Tuesday evenings. The class sold out in days.

The club purchased a 60" TV and will have "movie night" on Fridays for the children. The kickoff for movie night was February 7<sup>th</sup>. We expect this new activity will encourage parents or grandparents with young children to join us for the Friday dinner and socializing in the bar area.

On Valentines Day 99 lobster dinners were served. This was the largest crowd in recent history. If you were not one of the 99 you missed a great dinner. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to help cook, serve and clean up. I am thinking it would be a good idea to have another one in June or July.

All of the above activities in addition to our regular Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday food nights, book club meetings and Friday night food are designed to encourage you, our members, to come and join the fun. We will be placing a suggestion box in the club so if you have any ideas or suggestions please write it up drop it in.

Coming in March; a new boutique. We have contracted with Coral Reef Sailing Apparel to be our online boutique. The PYC boutique has been sorely neglected and Coral Reef is exactly what we need to dress you all up in PYC fashion. Coral Reef has the widest variety of nautical clothing and accessories from major manufactures. With Coral Reef you can order online, have the PYC logo applied to almost anything and shipped directly to you. And there is no minimum. Look for their link on the PYC web site this month. We will have limited quantities of popular merchandise at the club also.

I am happy to announce that we are going to have a formal sailing lesson program for adults this spring. Beginning in May, Captain Larry Strouse will conduct sailing lessons for members and non member adults during a four week period. When completed students will receive a certificate of achievement. More on this as we finalize the details.

Before I close I want to tell you about Allison Simmons.

Allison is our club accountant and works for us 15-20 hours a week managing the finances. Unfortunately, a few weeks ago she was involved in a very serious auto accident on the northbound lane on the causeway bridge. The bridge was up and cars in front of her were stopped and she was the last car in line. A large pickup truck did not stop and rammed into her car pushing it into the car in front. Her car was crushed and totaled. Allison suffered multiple broken bones, a major head injury causing internal bleeding and a collapsed lung. Fortunately the internal bleeding has stopped and she has been released for the hospital. At some point she will have surgery to repair one of the broken bones in her arm. I don't expect Allison to return to work for at least 4-6 weeks. We recently sent out a request to help Allison and her family during this difficult time. Below is a reprint of the announcement. If you would prefer, perhaps

a gift card from a local Mandeville restaurant would be easier for you and I am sure quite welcome by the family.

The PYC accountant, Allison Simmons, was recently involved in an accident on the Causeway.

After a week's stay in the hospital she has finally made it home.

She has a long and difficult recovery ahead of her.

Her daughter Hannah is also an employee at the club. She works as a lifeguard during the summer and helps with events.

Hannah has a younger sister and brother. All three children are doing their best to help mom!

Allison's mom has also moved in to help.

In an effort to help Allison's family we are putting together a daily dinner calendar. If you would like to help by preparing a meal for a family of 5, please contact Jamie at [985-264-9123](tel:985-264-9123).

Hope to see you at the club and please consider helping Allison and her family. And please contact Paul if you would like to host a Friday night dinner.

Dick Jones

**VICE COMMODORE- BRIAN BURKE**

As most of you know, at the Semi-Annual meeting to be held on a yet to be determined date early this summer, the membership will elect the members of the Nominating Committee whose duty will be to seat a slate of candidates for the Board of Directors to be voted on by the membership at the Annual Meeting. If you are interested in serving on the Board for a three year term beginning in January 2015, now is the time to begin to make your interest known and to get involved in the Club so that you are ready to assume your position January 1<sup>st</sup> and fulfill the duties and responsibilities associated therewith.

Thank you, Brian

February flew by at PYC. Although we were closed for 2 days due to the cold weather we had a good month. The 2013 financials have been completed and we are anticipating that tax forms will be complete soon and another year put to rest. You have by now seen and paid your latest PYC bill and it should have reflected the 1.5% increase for the CPI. As a reminder, this once a year increase will occur each January going forward.

We continue to collect past dues from delinquent members and I appreciate your efforts at getting your monthly dues paid by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. As a reminder please read your bill and pay the amount due located at the top and the bottom of your bill. **DO NOT PAY THE BALANCE FORWARD!**

Our awesome bookkeeper Allison Simmons was in a car wreck and will be out of commission for at least 1 month. A very special thanks goes out to Kaia Schindler for coming back in to the office to help out with payables, receivables and payroll. Her help has been invaluable to the running of PYC.

Terri Hamilton

**SOCIAL- LEIGH WANLESS**

Giving all the "Cooking Volunteers" a break during Lent Season- The club will have Fried Catfish Dinners every Friday night starting March 7th all the way through Good Friday on April 18th. Also on Friday night March 7th and again on April 11th will be our monthly Movie Night with a Family Friendly Film to watch in the Regatta Room on the big screen!

Book Club normally meets on the first Tuesday evening of each month at 6:30 PM, however, due to Mardi Gras this month, they will be meeting on Tuesday March 11th.

Friday night March 21st will be designated a Leukemia Cup Fund Raiser with proceeds going to benefit the Leukemia/ Lymphoma Society as this weekend is also the Leukemia Cup Regatta on the Southshore.

Saturday March 15th will be a "Grill Your Own". You may either bring your own meat to grill or purchase steaks from the club, we will provide salad, potato, bread and dessert for \$6.00. You **MUST** sign up for this ahead of time so that we will know how much food to prepare.

Mark your calendars NOW for these upcoming events:

April 19th -Kids Easter Party

May 10th-Pontchartrain Yacht Club Opening Day

May 11th Mothers Day Brunch

May 25th Family Luau

Leigh

Sailing has begun at PYC with us hosting a High School regatta last weekend with 15 boats from 6 schools from here to Fairhope. Our own team from Christ Episcopal sailed on Saturday with some top finishes only to get rained out on Sunday. Thanks to all race committee members and shore help to make it a fun event for all. Well done PYC.

Also in Feb. Steve Attard and crew traveled to St. Pete to sail their Hobie 33 in the NOOD regatta to bring home a 1st place finish.

In March our sailors will be traveling to Miami to sail in the Melges 32 class and also in the VX- ONE class. Good luck to these sailors.

Bob Hodges has also been traveling a lot last month with great results as usual. Keep a look out for info from him on these regattas.

In Feb. Rob Doolittle and crew and David Bolyard with Larry Frost went to the VX-ONE Mid-winters to bring home the title.

The Mardi Gras regatta will be in N.O. this month in PHRF and One-Design Races on different weekends, so dust off those boats and get out there.

SAILORS NEEDED...

I need someone to head up the Capdeville class at the Mardi Gras regatta, so if you are interested call me at 985-630-2289.

See you on the water. Bill Ross

## JUNIORS- CHRIS FRIEND

The third annual Northshore Cup High School Regatta was held on February 22-23 with 13 420's and 3 Laser Radials from 8 high schools. Mother Nature fooled the sailors into thinking it was a warm day on Saturday. Some dressed in shorts only to find out that the wind was strong and the water was cold! Sunday we had historic rain and lightning accompanied by a lack of wind, so Saturday's results stood. The winner of the 420 division was Ocean Springs High School with Crew Stanley and Matthew Demboski. The Laser Radial division was won by Boyd Housey of St. Stanislaus High School. The "Farthest Traveled" award went to Fairhope High School from Fairhope, Alabama. The Sportsmanship award, voted by the competitors went to Christ Episcopal School. Thank you, volunteers, for helping make this regatta a success! For full results, see <https://www.nextsailor.com/docs/files/100/NorthshoreCupLeukemiaCupRegatta2.html>.

We are hosting a US Sailing Level 1 Training Course April 22-25. The course is during the week after Easter. If you are interested in getting certified, please register online at [http://training.ussailing.org/Course\\_Calendars/Small\\_Boat\\_Instructor\\_and\\_Coach\\_Course\\_Calendar.htm](http://training.ussailing.org/Course_Calendars/Small_Boat_Instructor_and_Coach_Course_Calendar.htm). We are looking for hosts who can provide housing to visiting students. Please contact me if you can help with this.

Sail Camp is just around the corner! Please register early! Four two-week sessions start on June 2. Jeremy Picone will be back as the Program Director for Sail Camp.

We will have a meeting of juniors and parents on Thursday, March 13 at 7:00 pm in the Regatta Room to discuss our summer junior sailing program. We are planning open sailing as well as racing on weekends. We need sailors and helpers. Please come!

Chris Friend

Maintenance to do list

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	
Dry Storage fence repairs		

UPGRADES

- Concrete walk way extension carport to elevator.
- Under club ceiling and plumbing painting.
- Front entrance walkway lighting.

Current Volunteers on my list

- Scott Discon
- Amy Crane
- Clancey Powell
- Cynthia and Larry SCHUTTE
- Richard DeNUNZIO
- Charles WYLLIE

*Looking forward to spring and some warm weather!*

**MEMBERSHIP- KAIA WILLIAMS**

Happy Mardi Gras to everyone! Membership remains at a stable number however, we have a few couple of potential new members which Jamie and I continue to be in contact with. March 12th I will be hosting a membership wine and cheese event at the club and invite each one of you to bring a guest to show what the club has to offer. Please join us in celebrating current, new and potential members from 5pm-7pm on the Wednesday. I hope to see you all on Mardi Gras day to cheer on our PYC King and Queen as they represent our club in the Mandeville parade!! Fun to follow at PYC after the parade!

Kaia

### MIDWINTER RACING UPDATE

The winter racing season takes some of us to Florida with others from the cold parts of the country for some great regattas. In mid January I traveled to Islamorada for the first two events of the A-Class catamaran winter circuit. The week of sailing consists of two regattas with a lay day mid-week. This year we got in four days of great sailing with three days at 8-13 knots of breeze and one day at 18-22 knots breeze. We had great participation with 25 boats racing from around the country. The venue is fantastic taking place out of The Islander resort. My boat was rigged and ready to go less than 50 feet from the back door of our room and the facility has an excellent restaurant and bar. We also brought Elise's Sunfish with us so she had a couple of nice days of sailing in the Atlantic ocean. The launch is unique in that you are launching into the ocean but there are no breaking waves (ever). We had excellent race management from Islander Watersports. I wish every sailor could experience this type of venue, it's perhaps my favorite place to travel for a sailing regatta.

Our next event was the St. Petersburg NOOD regatta in mid February. There were over 100 boats racing at this event in multiple classes and several race courses on Tampa Bay. Both Steve Attard with his Hobie 33 and myself with my A-Class competed at this event. We had 8 boats in each class entered for three days of scheduled racing. Tampa Bay this time of year is either fairly windy or relatively light and it followed that recipe pretty well. On Friday we sailed two races in 7-9 knots. The next day, an early morning cold front passage brought brisker temps and winds at 12-20 knots for the rest of the day. We got in four races in the shifty and puffy northwesterly. Sunday dawned beautiful and clear but the bay was a millpond with only 2-3 knots on the race course so racing was eventually cancelled for the day. Steve's team included his wife and daughter, Steve Choate, and Bob Reedy.

Results:

#### **A-Class Coconut Grove Midwinters and A-Class "Intergalactic" Winter Regatta**

(25 boats, 9 races sailed in both events)

1. Bob Hodges (both events)

#### **St. Petersburg NOOD Regatta (6 races sailed)**

Hobie 33 Class (8 boats racing)

1. Steve Attard

A-Class (8 boats racing)

1. Bob Hodges



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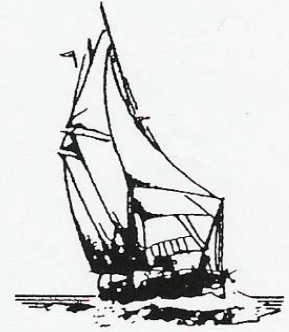
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# March 2014

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<u>23</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>		<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Mar</u>
			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine		\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer	\$6 Soup Night	Guest Chef @ 7pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$	
<u>2</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>		<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	
			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine Mardi Gras		\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer POE Meeting @ 9am	\$6 Soup Night	Guest Chef @ 7pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$ Regatta Rental @ 1pm	
<u>9</u>		<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>		<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	
			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine		\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer	\$6 Soup Night	Guest Chef @ 7pm Yard Rental @ 6pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$	
<u>16</u>		<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>		<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	
Sunday Brunch			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine		\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer	\$6 Soup Night	Guest Chef @ 7pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$ Regatta Rental @ 5pm	
<u>23</u>		<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>		<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	
			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine		\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer	\$6 Soup Night	Guest Chef @ 7pm	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$ Regatta Rental @ 1pm	
<u>30</u>		<u>31</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	
			\$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\$ Regatta Rental @ 1pm	

See you at the club!