

Scuttlebutt

Mobile Yacht Club



Charter Member Gulf Yachting Association

Established 1847

March 2023

Mobile, AL

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John O'Brien

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Maureen Lowe

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Judd Chamberlain

Treasurer
Curtis Polk

Corresponding Secretary
Bill Haffner

Recording Secretary
Guy Miller

Board Members
Dennis Barnes
Dave Carey
David Hickman
Ryan McKee
Gordon Marsh
Steve Prater

**Immediate Past
Commodore**
Brian Barnett

Commodore's Report

Fellow members,

Let's go sailing!

As the weather warms and the days lengthen it's time for us to shake off the doldrums of winter and get ready for another season of sailing and boating. Nothing kicks it off like the start of the Thursday Night Fun Races (TNFR) on Thursday, March 16 followed by the recognition of the winners of the 2022 TNFR Season after that race. I look forward to the excitement in the clubhouse that the crews and skippers bring both prior to and after each race. It's part of the rhythm of the club and for many of us, some of our earliest memories are of serving as crew. I hope to see a crowd heading out to the start marks on Thursday.

Next month we will host the Dauphin Island (DI) Race and Rear Commodore Judd Chamberlain and PRO Josh Deupree are working to put together a top-notch sailing event. As many of you know, this is no small endeavor, and it presents unique challenges in both on course management and the pre and after sailing events. To that end we have great sponsors lined up and it promises to be quite a post-race party here at the club. As of now, we are now the only club of the original four that has agreed to ensure the continuity of this race. Buccaneer will continue to host as they can and between both clubs, we will do what we can to keep the tradition of the DI Race going. Stay tuned for more detailed info in the coming days and weeks.

April also brings on the start of a very busy 2023 schedule and our Entertainment Committee Chair, Christina Hickman, and her crew have prepared a great calendar of activities. If you want to help or have any ideas, please send her a message entertainment@mobileyachtclub.com.

Our staff continues to work wonders and improve our dining experiences. Please make sure to let your servers and Chef Steve know how much we appreciate their work.

Sadly, I must acknowledge the passing of former Commodore John Kenneth "Robbie" Robinson. Robbie was a fixture with the lunch regulars and was a repository for all things sailing history here at MYC. Robbie also had the very distinct honor of being recognized as a Star Class Life Member.

Godspeed Commodore Robinson.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the water and at the club.

John O'Brien
Commodore, MYC
commodore@mobileyachtclub.com

Rear Commodore's Report

MYC has been well represented over the winter months sending teams to compete in Southern Yacht Club's Viper 640 Winter Series. Both junior and adult teams are preparing for the Viper 640 World Championships during the last week in March. Their work and dedication over these last weeks will certainly benefit our Capdevielle team this year beginning with the Mardi Gras Regatta at New Orleans Yacht Club March 18-19.

Unfortunately, the MYC Winter Series was cancelled this past weekend due to lack of registrants. This event has struggled for the last few years and we are going to assess what can be done to get some early season sailing back on Mobile Bay. I will be working with the Entertainment Committee to try to put together some ideas that have worked in the past and schedule for a weekend in 2024 that will fit into all of our competing schedules.

On a brighter note, one of our most successful series, the Thursday Night Fun Race(s) will return starting March 16! We have heard from some sailors that there is interest in introducing an option to sail with spinnakers and we are working to make that a reality. Most likely, this will be in the form of an adjusted rating for Spin vs. Non-Spin and all boats will still compete

head-to-head. Stay tuned for details and plan to come to the club and get out on the water!

The 63rd running of the Dauphin Island Race is scheduled for April 29th with title sponsors Michelob ULTRA® and General Insulation graciously offering their support for what promises to be a great event. Committees have formed and plans are underway to host both the Skipper's Meeting as well as the after party and trophy presentation at MYC. We do still need Race Committee help for the upcoming season and in the Dauphin Island Race in particular. We know from past experience that it takes approximately 50 people both on and off the water to run this event. Thanks to all that have volunteered, please let me know if you are able to participate and in what capacity.

If you are willing to help either on one of the committees or provide a mark/pin set boat, please let me know. I have had several members approach me on this and it is greatly appreciated. You can send me an email at rear-commodore@mobileyachtclub.com.

Judd Chamberlain
Rear Commodore, MYC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 16
First Thursday Night Fun Race

March 18 & 19
March Gras Regatta
(MYC Capdevielle Team
travelling to New Orleans
Yacht Club)

March 21
MYC Board Meeting
at clubhouse at 6:30pm

March 26
Dogwood Regatta
(Fairhope YC)

March 26
Entertainment Meeting
1pm

March 26
Bingo cards on sale at 3pm
Bingo starts at 3:30pm
reservations recommended

April 2
Easter Bunny visit &
Easter Egg Hunt at 2pm

April 8
Masters Golf Tournament
at 10am

April 15
Commodore Crawfish Boil

Vice Commodore's Report

We have a lot going on at the club. Chef Steve has a new Bingo menu that was such a success at Bingo on February 26th that we are going to use a variation of this menu for the Thursday Night Fun Races. I continue to email out the weekly specials that Chef Steve makes for the members. We have hired an additional server, MJ Jeffers, who used to work at the club and has returned and we are glad that she is back working for us.

Keith "The Mailman" Burns played for us on March 5th and we had a great turnout so we will plan more music for Saturday nights in the future. Our 1st Annual Sock Burning on March 9th was a big success so this will become an annual event. We had a rum toasting and marshmallows for the kids. We also had a Wine Tasting on March 12th with our wine representative from United Johnston Brothers. She showcased four wines that we will be offering in the coming months. And lastly, we will have bingo on Sunday, March 26th. Reservations are highly suggested as the past couple months we have had a full house.

I am still working on paving the parking lot and putting more gravel down. We have hired an architect to draw up plans to put a covering over the deck for extra dining space. I am also going to get safety stripes put on the steps. If you have any more ideas for the club, please let me know.

See you at the club,

Maureen Lowe
Vice Commodore, MYC
Vice-commodore@mobileyachtclub.com



Unauthorized trash thrown away in the Harbor

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

THINK 60 -Cold Water Danger

The U.S. Coast Guard reports that statistically cold-water incidents peak on nice, sunny weekends. Research has shown that the two factors which best relate to cold water fatalities are "Cold Water Shock" and hypothermia. Cold Water Shock occurs when water is below 60 degrees and the difference between the water and air temperature is > 15 degrees. Hypothermia threat increases significantly in water temperature less than 60 degrees. Our Mobile Bay water temperatures are steadily rising and have just barely reached 60 degrees. So dress for the water temperature and NOT the air temperature. Do NOT be fooled when the air temp feels warm but the water is still in the 50s or 60s! How cold does the water have to be to put a person at risk for hypothermia? Even water temperatures as high as 75- and 80-degrees F can be dangerous. And most importantly, ALWAYS wear your life jacket!

Semper Paratus!

Bill Fallin

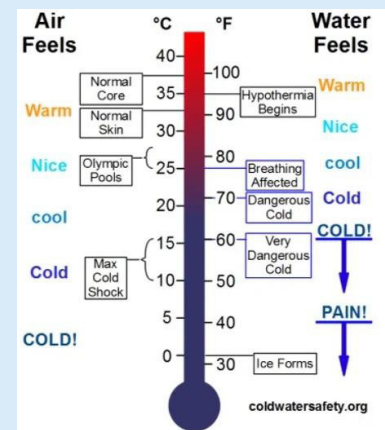
FSO - Marine Safety

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Flotilla 081-03-06

404-557-3667

"Each one, reach one, teach one," to wear a life vest.



Waterfront Report

Sailing

February has been a busy month for sailing at MYC. The first weekend of the month we had two teams competing in the Viper 640 Winter Series at SYC. The weather was perfect for racing on Saturday with winds in the 12-14kt range. The teams had good results with breeze but struggled on Sunday with a dying north breeze on Lake Pontchartrain. They ended up with a 7th and an 11th for the final result. The week-end of March 4th they competed in the 4th and final event of the Winter Series leading up to the Viper 640 World Championship hosted by Southern Yacht Club March 27-31. We will also have a Junior Team representing us in the Viper 640 Youth Championship the weekend of March 25th. The week-end of March 18th our regular Capdevielle Team will compete in the Mardi Gras Regatta hosted by New Orleans Yacht Club. This will be the first Capdevielle Regatta of 2023 and we are pushing for a good result to start the season off! If anyone is interested in getting on the Viper, please let myself or Rear Commodore Judd Chamberlain know.

Our Juniors have been practicing hard to prepare for some upcoming High School Regattas. We have a team from UMS-Wright and a team from Murphy High School. They had a regatta March 11-12 at Fairhope Yacht Club. I will post results in next month's Scuttlebutt.

I'd like to remind everyone that we have J-22s for member use. Contact me for details if you would like to get checked out on one. It would be nice to get these boats competing in the regattas that we host here at MYC!

Harbor

Spring is here and along with that comes spring storms. Now would be a good time to check your lines and make sure that you have a good furl on your jib. Last year we had a couple of members lose their headsails in storms. Don't be caught off guard.

We will be bringing in more gravel for the drive in the harbor soon. This is a regular part of maintenance in the harbor but we will not have to do it as often if we mind our speed when driving through the harbor.

The trash cans in the harbor are there for your convenience but there are certain items that are prohibited such as oil, hazardous materials, marine construction materials like resins, paint, removed cabinetry, sinks, plumbing or anything that will not fit in the can. We have a dumpster on the clubhouse side of the road for bulk items. Please use it.

Josh Deupree

Waterfront Director, MYC
sailingschool@mobileyachtclub.com

