



The Commodore's Journal



FEBRUARY 12-14 MEETING IS TRULY "INTERNATIONAL"

The FCA/ICA February combined meeting at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club in Fort Lauderdale will feature a truly international view. The event coincides with the famous Miami International Boat Show which begins Thursday, February 11, and runs through Tuesday, February 15, and is only a half-hour away by car. Thursday and Friday are the ideal days to beat the weekend crowd and check out all the new boats and products.

The formal FCA/ICA meeting will begin Friday evening with a presentation of ICA officers in the Commodores Room of Coral Ridge Yacht Club. Dinner is "on your own" back at the club or at any of the world-famous eateries on Florida's Gold Coast.

Saturday morning FCA and ICA members will participate in a brain-storming session to set the direction of both associations for the year 2010. As always, all ideas are welcome, and everyone will have a chance to participate.

Randy White will join us at 10:30 a.m. to demonstrate SailAngle the latest form of Internet communication developed especially for people in the boating community. SailAngle is a safe way to have all of the advantages of a home page and Internet contacts

without opening yourself up to scam artists. Its unique double-wall security system makes it invulnerable to attack by hackers, and FCA/ICA members who attend the February presentation will get the opportunity to sign up for the service completely free of charge with absolutely no recurring fee.

Our luncheon speaker is an American Air Force pilot who is currently the deputy commander of a Canadian Forces Base. Lieutenant Colonel John A. Tringali, USAF, has logged over 4,000 hours at the stick of a Boeing C-17 Globemaster, and has the supplied United States and Canadian forces all over the world. His presentation includes photos from places like the Green Zone and will show you what is happening on the ground today. LTC Tringali will give you an appreciation of the importance of an international view in protecting freedom around the world.

Saturday evening will close out the weekend with the Coral Ridge Yacht Club Valentine's Day Dance, a highlight of the Fort Lauderdale social season. And because Monday is a holiday, visitors spend Sunday visiting the fabulous beaches or shopping at the world famous Galleria Mall next to the hotel. In all, the February meeting will be a truly international event.



THE FLORIDA COMMODORES



THE FLORIDA COMMODORES ASSOCIATION
"PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE COMMODORES"

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FROM THE HELM
By Ron Richards
FCA Commodore, 2009-2010

What an exciting year it has been here in the Sunshine State! The Florida Commodore's Association was born to fulfill the desires of the yachting community's past leaders in Florida. We now have an organization dedicated to our motto of Keepers of the Flame which is providing the leadership you asked for to honor the service that each of you have so generously given to your yacht clubs. The best of the best have come together to create programs of excellence that you can use immediately to energize your chapters and make them a viable resource for your yacht clubs. Each of us who have pledged excellence in leadership this year stands ready to work with your group of past commodores to provide programs of interest to stimulate and honor your membership. We sincerely hope that you will invite us to join with you in this endeavor.

To facilitate our goals of membership growth and retention through outstanding service to our membership we are appointing field representatives, or ambassadors, for seven geographical areas of our State of Florida. Their task is to make contact with each of your chapters to strengthen our relationship and to assist with programs of interest for your membership. They will be visiting the finest of yacht clubs including yours throughout their areas to create awareness and assist in starting chapters where none have existed, or where the chapter is looking for a new invigorated organization with a local emphasis. Please welcome these representatives into your clubs and let them know how they can better serve your past commodores and your yacht club.

It is an exciting time and we hope that we can further the camaraderie of our Florida yachting community through service to our yacht clubs. Keep the flame glowing!



CABOT LODGE WILL ALWAYS BE “HOME” FOR FCA

Way back last July (half a lifetime ago in FCA time), the question of where to hold the summer planning meeting came up and without hesitating a moment members agreed on the Cabot Lodge in Gainesville. “It’s home,” everyone agreed. “It’s where the FCA was born last December.”

Special recognition came in the form of a plaque which now hangs behind the Lodge’s front desk. It is proof positive that wherever FCA goes, the Cabot Lodge in Gainesville, Florida will have a special place in members’ hearts.



FCA Commodore Phil Bouckaert and Rear Commodore Chari Stanley-Leitch present a special recognition plaque to Cabot Lodge’s manager.



Larry Kimmerling, John Matthews, John Slattery and Briggs Edney enjoy the Cabot Lodge’s hospitality following the summer planning meeting.

WHO IS RON RICHARDS?



Past Commodore Ron Richards of Pensacola Yacht Club has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Alabama where he became a devout Crimson Tide fan. He joined the United States Coast Guard as a reserve officer in 1963, and served an eight-year hitch.

In 1990, following a highly successful 25-year career in the supermarket industry in Birmingham and Pensacola, Ron entered the financial services industry. Within seven years he became a Certified Financial Planner offering comprehensive wealth management and personal financial planning services to his clients. He is past president of the Gulf States Chapter of the Financial Planning Association and president of Ron Richards Financial Planning.

Ron served as Commodore of Pensacola Yacht Club for two terms in 2000 and 2001. From 2003 to 2006 he was a director of the Pensacola Yacht Club Permanent Endowment Fund, which he was instrumental in forming, and during 2004 and 2005 he served as president of the Gulf Yachting Association Foundation.

In 2008 he served as Commodore for the Gulf Yachting Association. He served another past commodores’ association as District Treasurer, 2nd Vice President and 1st Vice President. He and his wife Innes, an associate FCA member, have actively worked with the FCA Board in the formation of the new association.

He has been active on numerous boards including Big Brothers Big Sisters, and personally became a Big Brother. He and Innes were foster parents to his Little Brother for a period of one year.

Ron, as a Charter Member, was involved in the formation of the Rotary Club of Navarre in 1995 where he served as Club President for the 1998-99 Rotary year. He served as an assistant governor for three years and as District Governor during the 2008-09 Rotary year. Ron has maintained fourteen years of perfect attendance, and is a Paul Harris Fellow, a member of the District 6940 Paul Harris Society, and a member of the Bequest Society.

Ron has been married to his wife Innes (it’s a good Scottish name) for thirty-two years. Ron and Innes are avid sailors and they have a Catalina 36’ sailboat named Island Time.



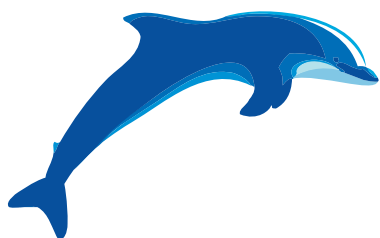
“TRADITIONS” WELL RECEIVED BY FCYC

In November, 2009, P/C’s Phil Bouckaert, Alan Adams, Joe Tringali, and Associate Member Mary Lou Tringali attended the Florida Council of Yacht Clubs meeting at the beautiful Carlouel Yacht Club located on the north end of Clearwater Beach. Carlouel was established in 1934 and named after the wives of the three founders, Carolyn Palmer, Louise Hobart and Eleanor Randolph.



FCYC members packed the room for “Traditions” presented by P/C Tringali

According to the FCYC website, “The speaker for the Fleet Captains’ meeting, representing the International Commodores Association, was Joseph A. Tringali, author of the book *Yachting Customs and Courtesies*. His talk, which lasted about forty five minutes, was interesting, informative and entertaining. He traced the development of yacht clubs back to the 18th century, discussing historic English and American Clubs and noted racing personalities. He described the acquisition of the America Cup trophy by the racing yacht *America* in 1851, as well as traditional yachting ceremonies like the Sundown ceremony and various yachting toasts.”



NOT-FOR-PROFIT, CHARITABLE AND 501(c)3: THERE IS A DIFFERENCE

P/C Joseph R. Fields, Jr., a practicing lawyer and the FCA Judge Advocate, took time out from his busy schedule to attend the October meeting at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club and explain the difference between Not-for-Profit corporations and charitable corporations under Florida and federal law.

It was an eye-opening afternoon for most FCA members. “Just because you have a Not-for-Profit corporation does not mean you’re a charitable corporation, and even if your club performs charitable works does not mean you have a tax exempt status under section 501(c)3, which is a section of the Internal Revenue Code and has nothing to do with state law,” Joe explained. “Your club may be exempt from paying income tax, but that does not mean your members can take a tax deduction for their dues. And by the way, the exemption from income tax may be in jeopardy if your club exceeds certain limits on income from non-members. It’s a very complicated area of the law.”

When it was over, Briggs Edney, an FCA member from Palm Coast Yacht Club, shook his head and said, “This [Joe’s presentation] is the kind of thing we should have been doing all along. Anybody who says he didn’t get something out of this meeting was either asleep or dead.”



FCA Judge Advocate Joe Fields, Esq., explains the law to FCA members at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club



FEBRUARY MEETING FEATURES WORLD-CLASS SPEAKERS

SAILANGLE TO BE FEATURED AT FEBRUARY 13 MEETING



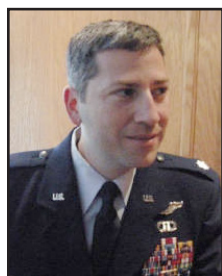
Randy White, founder of SailAngle, is a born leader who learned early in life that he could do whatever he set his mind to do. A life-long sailor who has logged more than 15,000 open ocean miles, Randy spent five seasons in the Caribbean on his Swan 53 and 10 years sailing a Ranger 33 along the southern coast of California and Mexico. He's also sailed the New England coast from Maine to Long Island and the Mediterranean Sea along the Costa del Sol and Cote de Azur.

In his business life Randy is a serial entrepreneur who founded or co-founded four different businesses in his career. He is the founder of SailAngle.com and is also the CEO of Adnavance Technologies, a San Diego based biotechnology company. Randy blames his wife of 27 years. As he tells the story, he had "retired" for the second or third time in his life, and they were living aboard their Swan sailboat in Newport, Rhode Island, when she happened to say, "It's too bad there isn't something like Facebook just for yachting people; something where you could interact with others on the computer without inviting in the whole world."

"I didn't hear anything else she said that night," Randy confesses. "The gears in my head started turning, and by the next morning I had the whole thing figured out except for one problem: I really didn't know much about computers."

Randy White prides himself on being able to pull together the best team he can find. He hired the very best people to set up the Internet program with a security system that is world-class, and announced the birth of SailAngle – the Internet that has taken the boating community by storm. Saturday, February 13 will be your opportunity to hear all about it from the guy who created it, and get on the SailAngle database free of charge and completely without obligation. Randy's presentation is scheduled for 1030 – it's one more benefit of attending this combined ICA/FCA meeting.

ICA GUEST SPEAKER IS TRULY "INTERNATIONAL"



The International Commodores Association proudly presents a truly international speaker at its February, 2010 meeting.

Lieutenant Colonel John A. Tringali, USAF, is the Deputy Commanding Officer of the 429th Transportation Squadron, 8th Wing, Canadian Forces stationed at Trenton, Ontario.

His assignment is the result of CFPEP -- the Canadian Forces Personnel Exchange Program, one of many such programs the United States has maintained with Great Britain and her Commonwealth Nations since the end of World War II. Selected officers who are assigned to the program serve directly in the host nation's chain of command.

The current primary mission of the 429th Transportation Squadron is to resupply Canadian troops in Operation Athena, their designation for their effort in Afghanistan, but because the Squadron's main aircraft is the versatile Boeing Globemaster III (designated C-17 by the U.S. Air Force and CC-177 by Canadian Forces), that mission can change at a moment's notice.

LTC Tringali, a senior pilot with over 4,000 hours of flight time, and his crews have done everything from evacuating American citizens from the teeth of Hurricane Gustav in Louisiana, to resupplying fighter bases in Inuvik, Northern Territories. They have flown coastal patrol missions over Shemya, at the end of the Aleutian Island chain, and moved material and fuel to Thule, Greenland, to support Canadian Forces alerts on the arctic circle, where pilots are locked in a continual game of chicken with the Russian Air Force over Arctic Sovereignty rights.

LTC Tringali's PowerPoint presentation following lunch at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club features up-close and personal photos of everything from the arid deserts of the Middle East to the whiteout conditions of the Arctic. It shows how Canadian forces, working hand-in-hand with American Forces, protect freedom around the world. Don't miss this opportunity to get the news behind the news from a person who is helping to make the news every day. Make your reservation for the ICA/FCA luncheon now.





INTERNATIONAL COMMODORES ASSOCIATION

The Keepers of the Flame

FLORIDA COMMODORES ASSOCIATION

Past, Present, and Future Commodores

COMBINED

ICA INAUGURAL MEETING & FCA WINTER MEETING

February 12-14, 2010

Coral Ridge Yacht Club

2800 Yacht Club Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

954-566-7886

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, February 12, 2010

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1730-1900 | Installation of International Officers in Commodore's Lounge
of Coral Ridge Yacht Club (Uniform B) |
| 1900 til ??? | Dinner from menu in Club Dining Room |

Saturday, February 13, 2010

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0830-0930 | Registration at CRYC |
| 0930-1030 | General Membership Meeting (Uniform C) |
| 1030-1200 | Randy White "SailAngle – a New Internet Service for Boating" |
| 1230-1400 | Buffet Lunch -- Guest Speaker LTC John A. Tringali, USAF,
"Canada's role in joint U.S./Canadian Operations" |
| 1400 | Return to meeting if necessary |
| 1800 | ICA/FCA Cocktails in Commodore's Lounge (Uniform B) |
| 1900 | Valentine's Day Dinner Dance, Coral Ridge Yacht Club |





Hotel Accommodations

GALLERY ONE DOUBLETREE HOTEL

The Gallery One DoubleTree Hotel on Sunrise Boulevard is just three blocks from the Coral Ridge Yacht Club where the Club will host the weekend events of the Florida Commodores Association, the presentation of International Officers and the Valentine's Day Dinner Dance.

We have negotiated a discounted rate at the hotel and have been assigned a block of 25 rooms; five of them are two-bedroom, two-bath units suitable for sharing by two couples.

We have also arranged for a special rate for the Water Taxi, which picks up guests at the DoubleTree. You can ride the boat all day and explore Fort Lauderdale's waterways, or you can get off at any (or all) of eleven stops near shopping and restaurants, and get back on the next boat that arrives every 30 minutes.

Rates are \$179/night for a single room
\$279/night for a two-bedroom, two-bath suite.

Make your reservations directly with the hotel:

2670 East Sunrise Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304-3206
Phone Number: 1-954-565-3800

Be sure to mention "Group Code ICA"

Make your reservation now!

The rates are guaranteed only until January 13, 2010;
after that date the rates will revert to regular "in-season" prices!

Sorry, there will be no exceptions!



FIRST FOUR FELLOWS OF FCA ARE NAMED



P/C's Joseph A. Tringali, William M. Barnett, Philip J. Bouckaert and Richard E. Oakley received plaques and special sleeve insignia from FCA Commodore Ronald E. Richards

In the academic world, a “fellow” has no gender. Instead, “Fellows” are an elite group of men and women who work together as peers in the pursuit of knowledge or practice. Because of a tradition found in the cultures of many people, the Florida Commodores Association selected the Lamp of Knowledge as a special symbol to be awarded to the Fellows of our association – those men and women who have promoted the ideals of our association by making FCA presentations to at least five organizations.

On Saturday evening, October 24, newly-installed FCA Commodore Ronald F. Richards presented special plaques and sleeve insignia featuring a Lamp of Knowledge to the first four FCA members who completed the requirement for “Fellowship.” P/C's Joe Tringali, Bill Barnett, Phil Bouckaert and Rich Oakley have literally crisscrossed the State presenting FCA programs to yacht clubs and service organizations.

Any member can become a Fellow with just a little time and practice. The scripts and PowerPoint CD's are provided free of charge, and the more fellows FCA has, the less territory each one will have to cover. Contact one of the first four fellows and tell them you want to be a part of their elite team. After one or two sessions you'll be an old pro.

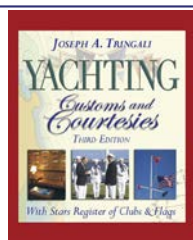
SUNDOWN CEREMONY IN PALM BEACH

The Sundown Ceremony sponsored by FCA continues to grow around the State of Florida. In Palm Beach, the ceremony is held on the last Friday of every month at the Palm Beach Sailing Club where FCA members from all area clubs gather to participate in the event.

The latest addition to the program is a color guard made up of Sea Scouts from Ship 777, Gulfstream Council, which is sponsored by the Sailing Club. Andy Flack, the Ship's adult skipper, takes justifiable pride in his Ship, and regularly puts the Scouts through their paces. Their confidence and precision has impressed everyone, and P.B.S.C. is looking forward to another year of monthly ceremonies.



Sea Scouts from Ship 777, Gulfstream Council, lower the flag at Palm Beach Commodores Sundown Ceremony



A Note to ICA Travelers

Here's an offer that's never been refused! Members of ICA have been greeted with open arms at yacht clubs from the Bay of Quinte to Valencia, Spain (during the America's Cup) when they showed up with a copy of P/C Joe Tringali's book under their arm. You can get the same treatment. If you're an ICA member and you're planning a trip that includes a visit to a yacht club, contact Joe by email at jatringali@bellsouth.com and tell him the name of the commodore or the club you plan to visit. Joe will send you a personally-inscribed copy of *Yachting Customs and Courtesies* at absolutely no cost, so that you can present the book during your visit. Don't forget to take pictures and notes, so you can share your visit with readers of The Journal.





INTERNATIONALLY SPEAKING



THE INTERNATIONAL COMMODORES ASSOCIATION

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ARE YOU A LEADER . . . OR JUST A CRAB?

This editorial by Samuel Patrick Smith, Editor of The Linking Ring, the Journal of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, is reprinted with permission.

One hot summer day when I was about ten years old, Uncle Joseph took our family to a river in Savannah, Georgia, to go crabbing. Everyone had a great time, except for a few chickens and the crabs. We were amazed to see how easy it was to catch these hard-shelled delicacies.

The process was simplicity itself. We tied a chicken neck around a long piece of twine and lowered it into the water. From my perch high and dry on the pier, I waited until crabs were attracted to this poultry in motion. They fought for the grisly prize and clutched it tenaciously even as I pulled them out of the water, shaking them off into a waiting bucket. Using the same bait and line, I lowered it again and caught the next batch.

This was great! No worms, no hooks, no bobbers getting caught in the weeds, and the crabs actually helped you catch other crabs. As they fought each other, all of

their crab thought-power was focused on the raw and tantalizing chicken neck. Being captured, pulled out of the water and dropped into a bucket should have been a stark warning about their role in the culinary events to follow. But they weren't about to let another crab beat them out of the grand chicken prize.

Once caught, the crabs were also helpful in stopping other crabs from getting away. If one ambitious, foresighted crab climbed up the side of the bucket in a dramatic attempt to escape Alcatraz, other crabs grabbed him and pulled him back down.

The day-trip with Uncle Joseph took place almost forty years ago, but I've never forgotten it. In the ensuing years, I've learned that human beings sometimes mirror the self-defeating antics of those cranky crustaceans. Whether or not you've been crabbing on the Savannah River, you have probably been faced with friends, relatives, or business associates who try to pull you back into the bucket.

Most people want their friends to succeed, but if they move too far ahead or make positive changes that strike too close to home, watch out! A hideous claw shoots out, grasping for some way to maintain the status quo in their crab-inhabited universe. These crawlers may be friends or competitors, but your new success or resolve contrasted with their complacency makes them uncomfortable – with themselves. They make sly, sarcastic, deprecating remarks about your accomplishments in a feeble effort to make their own mediocrity more palatable.

What these crab-people don't realize is that trying to hold others back is actually stopping them from climbing out of the bucket themselves. The act of belittling someone else's success or desire for improvement robs the crab-minded of their own opportunities for advancement.

The next time people try to bring you down a notch or two, just remember they are probably upset with themselves, not with you. And if you're on the opposite side of that winding river and get a twinge of resentment about the other person's success, remember that the accomplishments of our friends, and even our competitors, shows us what it is possible to achieve. If we have the fortitude not to act like crabs, our own success may be just around the bend.



COLD WINDS AND WARM HEARTS: THE ROYAL CANADIAN YACHT CLUB

By P/C Joseph A. Tringali

The bitter December wind cut like a knife as Mary Lou and I struggled to get our luggage from the taxicab to the Royal Canadian Yacht Club's side door. There was no way we were going to get up the imposing front stairway to the main entrance with four suitcases and two carry-ons, especially in this weather. The luggage had not been part of our plan. We were supposed to go to the hotel first, freshen up, and then meet Commodore Rodney Smith and his wife Marie-Luise at the Club; but a snowstorm changed that, and we barely had time to haul everything with us from Toronto's downtown Union Station if we were going to keep our appointment to dine and discuss the International Commodores Association.

The young man at the door could not have been more helpful. He quickly relieved us of our burdens (and our coats and hats and scarves) and escorted us upstairs to the main floor lounge. He said the Commodore was expected to arrive at any moment. In the meantime, we were offered drinks and invited to make ourselves at home.

We did. We made ourselves "at home." But home isn't like this unless you happen to live at The Breakers. The first thing we noticed was the chandelier in the lobby. It must be at least seven feet in diameter, and it's weighted down with so much Austrian crystal that you can't see a single light bulb. The stairway to the second floor divides at a landing graced by a ship's wheel, a carved RCYC crest and a few of the hull models that adorn many of the walls. As we stood there trying to take it all in, Commodore and Mrs. Smith arrived, and invited us to go on a "walkabout" around the clubhouse.

We went up the right-hand stairs to a glass-walled room enclosing a full-size swimming pool where people were enjoying a swim in spite of the miserable weather outside. Much of the other side of the second floor is given over to a health club, with row upon row of exercise machines of every description. After checking out a few private meeting rooms we came down a circular staircase which winds around a mast that protrudes through a glass panel in the roof. Up there, in the wind and snow, a spotlight highlighted the RCYC burgee. Inside the building, at the level of the second floor balcony, the mast was complete with a Canadian ensign at the gaff and a United States ensign on the yardarm. The Commodore asked me to confirm that the flags were properly set, and warned me not to strike the bell on the way down or I would be required to





buy drinks for the house. “There are no exceptions to the rule – even for visiting past commodores,” he assured me.

Back on the main floor, we checked out the trophy cases in the lounge and then proceeded to the informal dining room (the only one open on Monday night; it has cloth placemats rather than full tablecloths on the tables) where we could watch people playing badminton and squash on the other side of another glass wall. Over coffee and dessert, Commodore Smith, who himself had been “called to the bar” as a young man, explained that originally the RCYC was based in a “more formal” clubhouse on Toronto Island – a clubhouse that even today is accessible only by ferry. In order to become a year-round club, forward-thinking members merged with Toronto’s then-struggling City Club to make both clubs a single, financially sound operation.

Still, the heart of the RCYC is on the island, and the clubhouse there reopens every summer for a full schedule of regattas. RCYC members are proud of the fact that they have had members on every Canadian Olympic sailing team. Times are changing, though, the Commodore explained. The Club recently amended its bylaws to allow “up to 17 percent” of the fleet to consist of powerboats. But so far, the clubs and the boats have had no problem living together. In fact, it’s been better for everyone.



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