



The Florida Commodores Journal

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Spring General Membership Meeting to be held at Mount Dora Yacht Club has been cancelled due to the Coronavirus

Coronavirus Effects on Yacht Clubs in Florida

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Regional Meetings held in Northwest & Southwest Florida

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Upcoming Dates...

Spring General Meeting
April 24-25 - Mount Dora Yacht Club—**cancelled**

Northwest Regional Meeting
July 18 - Pensacola Yacht Club

Yacht Club Leadership Seminar
October 2-3 Isles Yacht Club

FCA Executive Committee



Commodore
Jack Kennedy (Mary)
Bay Point Yacht Club
865-266-9403
commodore@flcommodores.org



Vice Commodore
Ray Dewrell (Ann)
Ft. Walton Yacht Club
850-862-0753
vicecommodore@flcommodores.org



Rear Commodore
Bob Sutton (Renee)
Pensacola Yacht Club
662-397-9285
rearcommodore@flcommodores.org



Fleet Captain
Stan Mitchell (Cris)
Lake Beresford Yacht Club
386-873-4108
fleetcaptain@flcommodores.org



Secretary
Lynne Reynolds (Tom)
Ft. Walton Yacht Club
850-897-7223
secretary@flcommodores.org



Treasurer
John Matthews (Nancy)
Pensacola Yacht Club
850-492-4802
treasurer@flcommodores.org



Immediate Past Commodore -
Carole Lick (Don)
Platinum Point Yacht Club
734-945-3938
immediatepastcommodore@flcommodores.org

FCA Chairpersons

Bylaws - P/C John Matthews
bylaws@flcommodores.org

Commodores Journal - Mary Kennedy
commodoresjournal@flcommodores.org

Fleet Counsel - P/C Timothy (Tim) Burr
fleetcounsel@flcommodores.org

Foundation - P/C Tom Reynolds
towers12a@gmail.com

Four-Star Commodores - P/C Kathy Champagne
4star@flcommodores.org

Historian - Dr. Lynne Reynolds
historian@flcommodores.org

Leadership Resources - P/C Carole Lick
leadership@flcommodores.org

Nominating - P/C Carole Lick
nominations@flcommodores.org

Quartermaster - Beverly Plummer
shipsstore@flcommodores.org

WAVE - P/C Kathy Champagne
wave@flcommodores.org

Webmaster - Mary Kennedy
webmaster@flcommodores.org

Photography for this issue was provided by Mary Kennedy, Bay Point Yacht Club and Carol Lick, Platinum Yacht Club. Thanks also to our Proofreader, P/C John Slattery of the Coquina Coast Commodores.

Scheduled publishing dates for 2020—2021:

<u>Publishing Date</u>	<u>Deadline Date</u>
April 1	March 25
July 1	June 25
October 1	September 25
January 1	December 18

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From the Helm

Commodore Jack Kennedy



A lot has happened, both good and bad, since my last E-Journal notification on March 20, 2020. At that time, I announced that a decision on whether the Spring General Membership Meeting at Mount Dora Yacht Club would be

made around the first of April. A decision to cancel the meeting was made after talking with Commodore Clarence Kolek of Mount Dora Yacht Club this week. They will be closed to all activities through the month of April. The CDC guidelines and the directives from the Governor and President for the Coronavirus (COVID-19) were used for this decision.

Looking at the positive side, we have been actively prospecting for new clubs and members using our social distancing practices - emails and phone calls. We are happy to report that there are several prospects that we can include in our association once this pandemic has subsided. I predict an increase in membership on our horizon.

P/C Carol Lick, Platinum Point Yacht Club, has secured a location for our Yacht Club Leadership Seminar that is held in the Fall season. As you are aware, this seminar is for current and future yacht club leaders and does include yacht club managers. This year's Yacht Club Leadership Seminar will be held October 2nd – 3rd, 2020 at Isles Yacht Club in Punta Gorda, Florida.

Of course, the bad is the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic that is causing massive disruptions and closings of yacht clubs,

schools, and businesses. Yacht clubs across the state of Florida are having to make difficult decisions in order to abide by the CDC guidelines for social – distancing and to create safe environments for their members.

Your support and membership through this trying time is essential. By networking together with the knowledge and expertise that we all have, we will be able to sustain our association and yacht clubs.

Mary and I extend our best wishes for your health and welfare during this trying time.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Effects on Yacht Clubs in Florida

Compiled by Mary Kennedy with contributions from
P/C Jim Roberson, St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club;
P/C Jack Kennedy, Bay Point Yacht Club;
P/C Carole Lick, Platinum Yacht Club;
P/C Ray Dewrell, Ft. Walton Yacht Club;
P/C Bob Sutton, Pensacola Yacht Club;
P/C Kathy Champagne, Navy Yacht Club;
P/C Stan Mitchell and Anita Clark, Lake Beresford Yacht Club

At this time, we are experiencing a pandemic that has had drastic effects on yacht clubs throughout the state of Florida. Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory-like illness that affects the lungs. While the Coronavirus has been around for a while, this particular strain is new. Without a vaccine to inoculate the population, it is proving to be a difficult virus to contain.

Many yacht clubs throughout the state of Florida are feeling the affects of the guidelines that have been directed by the President and Governor with direction from the CDC.

Below you will find several steps that the yacht clubs are taking as they deal with the guidelines that have been issued from the President, Florida Governor, and the CDC.

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Northwest Florida

St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club: The club is open in a limited capacity.. Their dining room is closed, but take out is available. The club continues to provide docking and boating facilities as long as the 10 person rule is followed.

Bay Point Yacht Club: Since the majority of the members are in the high risk category, the club has suspended all activities until the state directs that it is safe to assemble once again.

Ft. Walton Yacht Club: The club is still open, however, major changes have taken place to minimize risk to those members that are in the high risk category. The club is halting all large gatherings for the CDC recommended days . The dining room delivery has been changed to a “meal on wheels” type of operation. They have also removed tables and bar stools in the lounge so that no group larger than the 10 person rule can assemble. Staff are utilized to provide a deep cleaning sterilization to the club and are also serving as delivery drivers for food to those members unable to pickup their meals. Communal items in the dining areas have been replaced with prepackage utensils.

Pensacola Yacht Club: Members are not allowed inside the clubhouse unless they are on the Board, janitorial or related to administration and food preparation. The dining room has gone to a “To Go” menu for lunch and dinner. Numerous club activities are in limbo depending on future directives from the President and our Florida Governor. Summer regattas haven’t been cancelled, except for the Regatta Al Sol. The Youth Worlds are still a go, but could be cancelled if things do not improve.

Navy Yacht Club: Navy Yacht Club Pen-

sacola is operating within current safety guidelines and has therefore cancelled multiple March events and April events until our Anniversary Regatta, hopefully being held on April 18, 2020, not yet cancelled. Obviously, our entire calendar is subject to future cancellations related to health updates. Just as NYCP suspended events during World War II as many club members were flying military operations overseas, once again, club members unite on the sidelines for the welfare of our great nation

Southwest Florida

The boating season on the southwest coast of Florida has been cut short. Events, activities, boating, regattas, parties, service projects, educational classes—everything is cancelled. Club doors are closed. Sad, but understandable and wise.

Platinum Point YC, Isles YC, Charlotte Harbor YC, and the Punta Gorda Boat Club have hosted a WAVE event (Wounded American Vets) annually for 6 years; however, not this year. Normally held in late March or April, it, like so many other special projects, is cancelled.

Several of these clubs were able to get in Change of Watches, Commodore’s Balls, and major events prior to the social distancing requirements being issued.

Unfortunately, numerous events that are similar have been affected by this virus. One club had to hold its Change of Watch virtually since their club closed. Clubs are moving to “Take Out” menus.

Board meetings are being held virtually and plans for 2020-2021 are in limbo. Patience and healthy behaviors will be the norm of the day in enabling all to get through this challenging time.

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East Coast Florida

Coral Reef Yacht Club: The clubhouse is closed. A light menu is available to members outside on the patio, but spatial seating is requested. All March activities had been cancelled. Drop-in large gatherings have been cancelled.

Halifax River Yacht Club: Club is fully operational due to extensive cleaning done daily.

Harbor Ridge Yacht Club: The clubhouse and dockside are closed. Take Out and delivery are available. Menus are emailed to members daily. They have instilled a drive through Happy Hour. The Fitness Center is closed. Golf courses are open, but the Golf Shop is closed. Tennis courts are open, but the Tennis Shop is closed. Pool is open. Watercraft rentals are still available.

Lake Beresford Yacht Club: Club is closed until April 1st when the club will reassess the situation.

Lauderdale Yacht Club: Club is closed for two weeks. Take Out in the dining room is available. The Fitness Center is closed and there is no reciprocity with other clubs allowed.

Marathon Yacht Club: The club is closed until March 31st when the club will reassess the situation. The marina and pool are open and the club is accepting reciprocity.

Royal Palm Yacht Club: Club events have been cancelled until April 30th. Meetings are held via conference calls. No guests are allowed and there is no reciprocity. The club has "Take Out" available and menus are emailed and posted online. The Fitness Center is open; members are required to clean

equipment and machines after use. The pool is open and golf and tennis is available.

Smyrna Yacht Club: The club is closed until April 1st when the club will reassess the situation.

The Florida Yacht Club: The club is closed until March 31. Takeout and drive-through are available through the dining room. Club is open to members and dependents only. There is no reciprocity with other clubs available at this time. The fitness center and pool are closed. Boats are allowed as are golf, tennis, sailing, croquet. Indoor events have been cancelled.

The Moorings Yacht Club: The clubhouse is closed. Buffets in the dining area have been modified and/or cancelled. Take out is available. Indoor events have been cancelled. Tennis and croquet tournaments will continue. The club has requested that non-family guests not be included in gatherings.

Yacht Club Leadership Seminar

P/C Carole Lick, Platinum Point Chair

The educational seminar for current and incoming flag officers and yacht club general managers will be held at the Isles Yacht Club in Punta Gorda. Save the date—Friday and Saturday, October 2nd and 3rd.

This seminar always receives high reviews. It is chock full of pertinent information presented by experienced past commodores and/or professional experts. Topics like insurance, ethics, management, leadership, communications, problem-solving, safety, reciprocity, tax compliance, and Commodore/Manager Relationships are a few of the topics covered during this seminar. Requests for a particular topic is always welcome prior

continue

the weekend. You would need to contact P/C Carole Lick at lickc@msu.edu or 734-945-3938. with your topic at least three weeks prior to the seminar weekend.

Your FCA is working to provide valuable learning experiences for yacht club officers and potential officers. If you have questions please contact: P/C Carole Lick at lickc@msu.edu or 734-945-3938.

Watch for more information on registering and lodging on the FCA website, if you know that you want to attend.



A/M BeverlyPlummer,
Quartermaster

While the main purpose of the Ship's Store inventory is to supply the members with their uniform needs, it's the boutique and fashion items that are the "icing on the cake" for the store.

I am excited to share the improved Ship's Store web pages which, with the tireless help of then Webmaster, P/C John Slattery, are now displaying the most popular fashion items that are available to the members. New to the site are photos of these popular items including a size chart and a color chart for each item. Photos of the embroidery options are also shown.

Please take some time to look at these new pages. Since there are fewer general membership meetings scheduled this year, I feel this will be the best way for this merchandise to be available to the members. The website pages are fairly easy to use, remember you must log in to see these pages. Once you are logged on, click the Ship's Store tab (found

under the FCA burgee on the blue band) and

then click on Ship's Store once again. There you will find several different buttons to click, depending on what you are looking for or you can just scroll down the page.

The newest pages that have been reworked may be found under **casual shirts**. Here you will see that there are several basic shirts for men in both long and short sleeves. Ladies have 3 sleeve choices. These are the E-Z



care shirts that I presented at our last couple of meetings. New information about the polo shirts is also shown. Now you can choose from the color and embroidery charts for them also.

Remember, when you choose to wear a polo, a shirt or a top with a FCA logo, you have the ideal ice breaker to talk about and promote FCA to your club or community members. Spreading the word about what FCA can do for them coming from a member means more than comments on a piece of paper. Talk up FCA and the work of the Foundation to everyone.

Northwest Regional Meeting

A/M Mary Kennedy

On Saturday, January 25th, the Northwest

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Florida FCA chapters of Bay Point, Ft. Walton, Navy, Pensacola, and St. Andrews Bay Yacht Clubs met for a regional meeting / social get-together. Thirty-eight FCA member of the aforementioned yacht clubs gathered at St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club in Panama City, Florida. St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club's well known southern hospitality was on display as the staff treated attendees with coffee, donuts, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres during the morning social get-together. During this social time, attendees were able to visit and catch up on what others were doing at their respective yacht clubs. Beverly Plummer, FCA Quartermaster, was present with the Ship's Store so that attendees could buy items needed for their uniforms, and peruse all of the unique clothing, jewelry, and accessories that she has provided for their enjoyment.

Don Hardy and his wife, Kathy, of *Ships of Glass*, were also present with their exhibit. Don enlightened attendees with his process of using recycled glass to create replicates of ships and boats. He had many Christmas ornaments, wine stoppers, and night lights from which to choose. He is also able to create a replicate of one's boat if a picture of the boat is provided. Both Don and Kathy serve on the Board of the *Governor Stone*. He had a salvaged piece of the ship and a display showing the damage from Hurricane Michael.

Lunch was served in the lovely dining room that has a spectacular view of St. Andrews Bay. Chef Jeff had prepared scrumptious luncheon selections with a special entree that was most popular with attendees. During lunch, FCA Commodore Jack Kennedy, of Bay Point Yacht Club, introduced those attending that are on the current 2020 Board:

Vice President Ray Dewrell of Ft. Walton Yacht Club, Rear Commodore Bob Sutton of

Pensacola & Navy Yacht Clubs, Secretary Lynne Reynolds of Ft. Walton Yacht Club, and John Matthews of Pensacola and Navy Yacht Clubs. Past Commodore Tom Reynolds and his wife, Lynne, of Ft. Walton Yacht Club were also recognized for their contributions that they have provided to the FCA throughout the years.

FCA Commodore Jack Kennedy introduced the current 2020 Commodore of St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club (STABYC), Chris Cramer. Commodore Cramer welcomed everyone to the club and provided an update on the recovery progress of club. According to Commodore Cramer, while much has been repaired, there are still areas that need restoring. The current 2020 Rear Commodore of STABYC, Jason Crowe, apprised attendees about the upcoming GYA Centennial Opening Regatta to be held at the club in May. Plans are under way to make this event truly special.

After lunch, attendees adjourned to return to their respective homes nutritiously satisfied, more knowledgeable of their neighbor's yacht club, and looking forward to the next get-together.

Southwest Coast Regional Meeting

P/C Carole Lick

The first regional meeting for Southwest Florida took place Saturday, February 1 at Isles Yacht Club in Punta Gorda. It was a unique opportunity for the forty-three in attendance representing at least five different clubs in the area.

The exuberant talk about the 36th America's Cup race and its new "flying machine" was presented by V/C Tom Pace. A Powerpoint presentation and short video gave everyone a taste of the new novel design and how very fast it moves both in the water and just above the water.

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The *American Magic* team is currently testing, training and evaluating in Pensacola Bay.

Tom Pace, V/C of the Pensacola Yacht Club, has been instrumental in getting *American Magic* to come to Pensacola. He helped convince the New York Yacht Club, the principal sponsor of *American Magic*, to send their team to Pensacola. They can be seen on the water almost daily.

Posters picturing *Defiant* were available for purchase. Numerous, very positive comments from those who attended confirmed that excitement is building for the next race which will take place in 2021.

The 4 STAR Award Program

P/C Kathy Champagne, Chair

As I shelter in place at home with lots of time on my hands and wanting to remain productive, I have found myself reflecting back on some of the lessons that I taught in my American History classes. One in particular comes to mind, “the American Crisis”, a pamphlet written by Thomas Paine in 1776. Its motivation was to unite the Patriots during the American Revolution

This was the first of several “crises” that have faced our country, but the underlying lesson for all of these crises is that American citizens are not “summer soldiers” or “sunshine Patriots”. Together WE WILL WIN!

As chairman of both the FCA 4 STAR Award Program and the WAVE committees, I feel that the lessons of Thomas Paine apply to both.

With yacht clubs facing shutdowns and loss of revenue, I know that each one will weaver

this storm with great leadership from a person in the club who would be a deserving candidate for the 2020 4 STAR Award. I ask you to take the time to tell this person’s story as an inspiration to us all.

All nominations forms must be received by September 30, 2020 either by emailing the form to me, kathychampagne@bellsouth.net or by mail:

Florida Commodores Association
Attn: Kathy Champagne
P. O. Box 488
Shalimar, FL 32579



P/C Kathy Champagne, Chair

From the American Revolution and throughout our history, America has always had a dedicated military willing to put themselves in harm’s way to protect our freedoms. WAVE was developed in 2012 to say “Thank you” to these brave men and women.

Sadly, on December 6, 2019, tragedy came to the Naval Air Station Pensacola (NASP) and three future aviators were killed in a terrorist attack.

First responders have been credited with containing the incident and preventing more casualties. For this reason, WAVE 2020 on Pensacola Bay will honor, in addition to the Wounded Veterans, local Pensacola first responders. NASP Commanding Officer, Captain Timothy Kinsella will address the gathering at this solemn occasion.

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If your club is interested in hosting a WAVE, you are encouraged to consult the FCA website for guidelines.

We all know that “Freedom is not Free”, and families help pay the price.

Important Dues Notice

The annual association dues were due on December 1, 2019. However, the deadline for payment was January 15, 2020. Dues not received by January 31 have resulted in the placing of your membership as “inactive.” We do not want this to happen to you, so if you haven’t already paid your dues, please submit them now.

Dues for Regular members remain at \$20 if they are in a recognized FCA Chapter and dues for Associate members are \$15. Dues for At-Large members are \$25.

Dues may be submitted directly to your Chapter Treasurer or you may send them directly to the Association Treasurer at the following address:

Florida Commodores Association
Attn: Treasurer
P. O. Box 488
Shalimar, FL 32579

FCA Foundation
P/C Tom Reynolds



The Florida Commodores Foundation is gearing up for the FCAF Youth Sailing grants again this year. Events are causing us to run a little behind last year’s schedule, but

applications should be going out shortly. Last year, we were proud to offer scholarships to seven Florida Youth Sailing Programs and look forward to doing the same this year.

The Foundation is pleased to welcome David Willbur (Pelican Yacht Club) and Susan McKinnon (Pensacola Yacht Club) to the Board. We also wish to thank departing Board members, Larry Kimmerling (Chairman), John Matthews (Vice Chairman), and Mary Slattery (Secretary) for their many contributions. They were there in the FCAF’s beginnings.

We are in the process of electing new officers from the Board Membership:

Jeff Brooks, Bay Point Yacht Club
Jack Kennedy, Bay Point Yacht Club
Susan McKinnon, Pensacola Yacht Club
Beverly Plummer, Ft. Walton Yacht Club
Tom Reynolds, Ft. Walton Yacht Club
Peter Tyson, Pelican Yacht Club
David Willbur, Pelican Yacht Club

Look for the youth Sailing Grant application shortly in your club’s mailbox and send it back as soon as possible. Thank you for your interest and support.

Galley-Up Crab Cakes



This crustacean can be found as a selection in the appetizer/dining section of almost every seafood restaurant menu. Want to tantalize

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your guests' taste buds this season with this tasty appetizer? Must be a pain to make, right? Not necessarily. They can be easily prepared in your boat's galley.

Here are a few tips that can make these taste better: Use real mayonnaise. It gives the crab meat flavor. But if you have guests watching their weight, Greek yogurt can be a substitute. You can also bake them to avoid the grease, but you'll miss that crunchy golden crust. For a little extra kick, throw in a few dashes of cayenne pepper at the end.

Ingredients:

1/3 c. mayonnaise
1 large egg
2 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
2 tsp. Worcestershire
1/2 tsp. hot sauce
Kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper
1 lb. jumbo lump crabmeat, picked over for shells
3/4 c. panko bread crumbs (or saltines)
2 Tbsp. parsley chopped
Canola oil, for frying
Lemon wedges
Tartar sauce

Directions for cooking:

In a small bowl, whisk together mayo, egg, Dijon mustard, Worcestershire sauce, and hot sauce. Season with salt and pepper. In a medium bowl, stir together crabmeat, panko and parsley. Fold in the mayo mixture, then divide to form 8 patties. In a large skillet over medium-high heat, coat pan with oil and heat until shimmering. Add crab cakes and cook, in batches, until golden and crispy, 3 to 5 minutes per side. Serve with lemon and tartar sauce.

**Just A Little
Humor**



Need to crack a smile? Want to make a crew-member laugh? Try these nautical one-liners on your yacht vacation.

Small boats are very vulnerable to pier pressure.

What do you do with a sick boat? Take it to the dock.

Why couldn't the pirate learn the alphabet? Because he was lost at C.

I'll buy a boat, schooner or later.

How do you make luxury yacht charters look younger? Boat-Tox.

How do you make a boat feel better? Give it some "vitamin sea".

How do people sailing in the ocean say "hello" to each other? They wave!

What game do young sailors play? Dock dock caboose.

What do you call the fastest sailboat in the world? Usain Boat.

What detergent do sailors use? Tide!

Saw a pirate standing in a pile of gold on his ship that came part way up his legs. He learned that his booty was only shin deep.

A ship load of blue crashed into a ship load of red paint. The crews were marooned.



**Northwest Coast Regional
Meeting
February 25, 2020**





**Northwest Coast Regional
Meeting
February 25, 2020**





**Southwest Coast Regional
Meeting
March 1st, 2020**

