The Florida Commodores Journal

Official Publication of the Florida Commodores Association Keepers of the Flame



Dedicated to the Memory of PC Robert B. Plummer



Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club Site of the Spring Meeting

Volume 5, Issue 3 June Issue



FROM THE HELM

Commodore June Ann Degraw

Commodore 2014-2015



The loss of our Treasurer P/C Robert Plummer on April 12, 2015, brought great sadness to our ranks. Robert served the FCA as Treasurer for 4 years and did an outstanding job. His council, dedication and support are going to be greatly missed by both the FCA and Fort Walton Yacht Club. The Florida Commodores Association had a strong showing at the Memorial Service. All there to pay tribute to a man that worked hard to make the FCA what it is today. Contributions may be made in Robert's memory, to the FCA Foundation. I wish to thank the FCA Chapter of the Fort Walton Yacht Club for their hospitality during the funeral. Your kindness during this difficult time was greatly appreciated.

Robert's wife Beverly Plummer has consented to continue on as our Quartermaster, I am happy to report. Beverly has worked very hard to make our Ship's Store a grand success. Please accept our heartfelt condolences at this difficult time.

The summer months find so many of us out on the water enjoying our great state. Where else are you able to discover so many diverse venues and to take pleasure in the natural beauty that is Florida. If your home club is anything like the Pelican Yacht Club, the pool is full of happy families, the lines are in the water trying to catch dinner and the breezes are carrying the sailboats out for a new adventure. As a child growing up in a sail racing family, I looked forward to summer. Dad usually had the boat back in the water before the daffodils were in bloom. The boating season was short in northern Ohio on Lake Erie and we had to make the most of it.

We are all excited about our Summer Event hosted by the Stuart Corinthians Yacht Club in Stuart, Florida. This event will be more on the casual side with Class C uniforms on Saturday only. This is a great opportunity to visit the beautiful City of Stuart and enjoy all of what she has to offer. Please see the information in this Commodores Journal for all the details.

At our Spring Event we voted on giving Brad Kendell an honorary membership to the FCA. Brad is from the Clearwater Yacht Club and was on the US Paralympics sailing team in 2012. The FCA backed Brad in his effort to win the gold in his division. Since the beginning of his relationship with the FCA, Brad has been one of our biggest supporters. As Larry Kimmerling told the story, Brad was at CYC and asked one of their past commodores why he was not a member of FCA. Between Larry and Brad we now have a Chapter at CYC. He is also busy raising a family and assisting other disabled individuals learn to sail. Brad we are proud to have you in the FCA. I know this is going to be a wonderful relationship.

The Foundation has secured the 501 C 3 status from the IRS. They are now fully ready to move forward into a fund raising mode. Your donations are tax deductible and are welcome. You may present any of the Foundations Board Members with a check. I am sure they would be very pleased to receive it. The members are as follows: Larry Kimmerling, Tom Reynolds, John Matthews, Jack Kennedy and Phil Bouckaert. Gentlemen, thank you for your dedication.

Continued on following page

Continued from the previous page.

The Leadership Resource Committee is working very hard in preparing the Seminar to be held this November 12-14 at the Pelican Yacht Club. Outstanding presenters are being secured for the important topics that will be covered. The timing of the Seminar is very strategic, just before the new officers take their places on their club's bridge. The training is invaluable for your officers, so please make sure that your club and the incoming officers are made aware of the event. The Seminar is open to anyone who is interested in improving their yacht club. You do not need to be a member of the FCA.

The EX/COM is working on a proposed By-Law change to be presented at the Summer Event that would include current Commodores and Vice Commodores in the membership category *Members*. This would give each of these individuals a more active role in our organization. They would not be permitted to run for any position on the FCA Board of Directors and would only be a full FCA member as long as they continue to hold the office of Commodore or Vice Commodore in their home club. If they leave their position before completing the progression to Past Commodore, they would no longer be a member of FCA. We have found that most of our members are coming from our yacht clubs' current officers. This is where our future lies. We need to embrace these members and continue to support them as they proceed through the chairs in their home clubs.

As many of you know, I have been hosting a luncheon for women officers and past commodores. These events have been on the Friday at noon just before the Quarterly Events. The luncheon is very informal with no agenda, but that has not stopped anyone from talking. The conversations have been very relevant to the issues facing our home clubs and the ideas that have come out of these luncheons have been wonderful. Ladies if you have not attended this luncheon in the past, please make an effort to attend the next one in Stuart on Friday, July 17. We will be at the Pirates Cove Marine's restaurant.

Bruce and I would like to wish everyone a wonderful July 4th and a safe summer of fun.

Looking forward to seeing you at Stuart Corinthian Yacht Club!!

NOTICE TO THE MEMBERSHIP

Associate member Donna Nelms Robinson, wife of Fleet Captain Jim Robinson, has agreed to serve as the FCA Webmaster and E-Journal Coordinator. Donna has considerable experience with all the technical aspects of managing web sites. Please welcome Donna and thank her for her willingness to assume this very important role.

We also want to thank Rich Oakley for his outstanding service as Webmaster and E-Journal Coordinator. Rich and Lynne have been faithful volunteers in working with the website and ensuring the membership receives im-



portant news and updates affecting the Association. The Association owes Rich and Lynne our debt of gratitude for their unselfish services to the Association and the membership.



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In Memory of



Robert Blair Plummer 1937— 2015 Charter Member Treasurer

Our Companion and Shipmate, Robert Plummer, a Past Commodore of Fort Walton Yacht Club and Treasurer of the Florida Commodores Association embarked on his last voyage April 13, 2015. The times of life have ebbed for our shipmate, and we, his shipmates honor his memory.

Commodore Plummer served his Club and the Association well, and gave abundantly of his time, talent, knowledge and experience to further the interest of Fort Walton Yacht Club, the Florida Commodores Association and in promotion of good seamanship and of a Corinthian ethic on the water. He carried this ethic ashore into our gatherings and deliberations, furthering all the good and proper traditions and customs of yachting and sailing competitions.

His accomplishments are etched in our memory and in the history of his Club and the Association. Now, the Supreme Navigator of the universe has called our shipmate to other duties, and to sail in eternal fair winds and calm seas; forever free from the tempests and travails of mortal life. While we honor and cherish his memory, we do not mourn for Robert as he has found refuge in the great harbor of eternal peace. If we mourn, it is for ourselves, for a good friend has slipped the moorings of this life, and has crossed the bar with the outgoing tide. Robert is no longer among us, and we will miss his steady hand on the helm and his shoulder next to ours in our labors. Most of all we will miss his always positive attitude, his smiling face, his encouragement and counsel as we continue to meet the storms and strife of this life.

Robert was a veteran and served his country in the United States Air Force as a Photo Camera Technician and later as a Flight Simulator Specialist in the Air Force Reserve. He continued his career in the Civil Service as a Flight Simulator Specialist retiring after a career that spanned a total of 36 years of faithful service.

Rest in Peace our True and Faithful Friend and Companion.



A special note for the FCA Membership

June 19, 2015

Dear FCA friends,

It is difficult to find the words to express my gratitude for the many kindnesses you have shown me during this sad time. I am so grateful for all you have done for me. The cards, letters, phone and emails messages, prayers and visits meant a good deal to me as I have struggled with my heartbreaking loss.

Along with the emotional support you gave me, the meals, flowers and other gifts of your time and energy have helped to sustain me from day to day.

I am unable to write individual Thank Yous to each and every one of you, given the great outpouring of support. Please know that your generosity and thoughtfulness has touched me deeply.

Knowing that I am not alone helps me bear my grief and sadness. Thank you, my FCA family, for being there for me.

With sincere thanks,

Beverly Plummer

SHIP'S STORE NEWS



The introduction of the FCA logo spelled out in signal flags has been received well. It is shown here on some 100% cotton Nautica sweaters and the Ladies ¾ sleeve top. I have just a few of those sweaters available so if you haven't bought one for yourself you need to do so. The Ladies top is still available so I can arrange to have the color and size of your choice made up.





Both the Men's and Ladies polo's are available at any time and the photo shows just a sampling of the numerous colors offered. Either logo may be embroidered on them so ask me about making a personal one just for you.

It's that time of the year for me to mark down the odds and ends of items that haven't already sold. At the July Summer meeting look for my SALE table to grab



up something you've been considering but didn't at a past meeting. Some of these things were bought as close outs so once there gone they're no longer available.

Looking forward to seeing you all in July. Beverly Plummer, Quartermaster, FCA

Photographs from Spring Meeting At Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club



Past Commodore Rosemary Bouckaert NPBYC and Past Commodore Mary Slattery Halifax River YC.



AM Lynne Oakley CHYC and Noreen Litchfield CHYC.



FCA Past Commodore Art Garside and his lovely wife Carole, Platinum Point YC.



Past Commodore Kay Goodman and her husband Bob Sarasota YC.



Past Commodore Bill Barnett and his wife Cora CHYC.



Looks like it is the traditional gathering at the "Ironing Board" Cocktail Party.



AM Nancy Matthews PYC/NYCP and AM Eloise Stewart HRYC.



CHYC members Gerald Newman and his wife enjoying the FCA activities.



CHYC Commodore Lorraine Geiser and FCA Past Commodore Rich Oakley CHYC discussing FCA activities.

Photos courtesy Barb Kimmerling

More from the Spring Meeting at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club



FCA Commodore June Ann Degraw leading the FCA members out for the Traditional Sundowner Ceremony.



The CHYC Sundowner Ceremony Team completing the folding of the flag.



Guest Speaker Robert McMillan, Former Chair of the Panama Canal Commission, giving an update on the status of the Panama Canal expansion.



AM Cora Barnett CHYC singing the National Anthem.



Newly appointed FCA Treasurer John Matthews giving an update on the Financial Status of the Association following the death of FCA Treasurer Robert Plummer.



FCA Vice Commodore Wayne Stewart presenting a donation from Halifax River Chapter in memory of FCA Treasurer Robert Plummer to FCA Foundation President Larry Kimmerling.

More from the Spring Meeting at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club



We have great opportunities to dance and have fun at all of our FCA meetings. You need to come and see how much fun we do have.



CHYC Members John Jacobsen and his wife with Platinum Point Yacht Club Past Commodore Carole Lick. You will always meet new people at FCA meetings. This is one of the great things about attending FCA meetings.



We always have great entertainment for our meetings. This quartet was exceptionally good.



Past commodore Lou Daniello, Old Port Yacht Club, and FCA Past Commodore, enjoying the comradery with FCA Commodore June Ann DeGraw.

SHIPS STORE IS ALWAYS OPEN





More from the Spring Meeting at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club

Clearwater Yacht Club Establishes a Chapter FCA's Newest Chapter



FCA Commodore DeGraw presenting the newest FCA Chapter Clearwater Yacht Club its charter. Congratulations to FCA Past Commodore Larry Kimmerling and his wife, AM Barbara Kimmerling for getting the chapter established.



FCA Past Commodore Larry Kimmerling proudly holding the Chapter Charter for Clearwater Yacht Club



Clearwater Yacht Club Chapter members celebrating the receipt of their Chapter Charter. Members include: Robert DeVos, Tina Fitzgerald, Tim and Terri Roberts, Tish and Curtis Wold, David and Barbara Billing, Larry and Barbara Kimmerling, and Jeffery Chambers. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWEST FCA CHAPTER

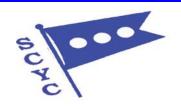




FLORIDA COMMODORES ASSOCIATION

Stuart Corinthian Yacht Club Summer Event July 17-18, 2015 Registration Form

Name	
Club Name/	/ChapterClub #
	Guest
Address	
City	StateZip Code
Preferred P	hone
	THERE WILL NO LONGER BE A REGISTRATION FEE
Please mail	this form to: SCYC, ATTN: Carla, 4725 SE Capstan Ave, Stuart, FL 34997
Or email for	rm to: scycboat2@comcast.net
FRIDAY, Jı	uly 17:
1200	Women Commodore/ Past Commodore's Luncheon. At Pirates Cove Restaurant. We will be ordering off the menu.
1700-1900	Happy Hour & Cookout \$12.95/person (includes 6% tax & 20% service charge)Cash Bar
SATURDAY	Y, JULY 18:
0800 -0900	Continental Breakfast and Lunch Buffet \$20.95/person, inclusive
1900	Dinner Buffet \$39.95/person (includes 6% tax& 20% service charge)
	Please see the attached menu that follows



FRIDAY JULY 17, 2015

Casual Cookout

Grilled Angus Burgers
Hotdogs with all the fixings
Potato Salad
Baked Beans
Coleslaw

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2015

Continental Breakfast

Danish Orange Juice Coffee and Tea

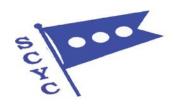
Lunch

Soup Caesar Salad Assorted Sandwiches Condiments Cookies & Brownies

Dinner Buffet

Garden Salad with Assorted Dressings Sliced Roast Beef with Red Wine Demi Sautéed Chicken Breasts with Lemon Caper Sauce Garlic Smashed Potatoes Herbed Long Grain and Wild Rice Fresh Seasonal Vegetable Chocolate Cake





FLORIDA COMMODORES ASSOCIATION STUART CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB CHAPTER SUMMER EVENT SCHEDULE **JULY 17 & 18**

Friday, JULY 17:

1200 Women Commodores/Past Commodores Luncheon - Pirates Cove Restaurant

Open to all female P/C's, C's, VC's, RC's and Fleet Captains. This is a

event, no uniforms required. (FCA Membership not required)

1500 FCA Executive Committee Meeting - SCYC's Board Room

1700-1900 Happy Hour at SCYC's Lounge

1900 Cookout, in the Dining Room. Casual Attire

Saturday, July 18:

0800-0900 Continental Breakfast - Dining Room

Registration - Lobby

0900-10:15 Membership Meeting - Class C Uniform (white shirt, white trousers/skirt,

epaulets, white belt, white shoes and white socks) Members, Associate

Members and Guests are all WELCOME!

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-1200 Leadership Resource Committee presentation by P/C Bob Peterson titled

"Commodore and General Manager Relations"

1200-1300 Soup and Sandwich Buffet Luncheon

1315-1430 Leadership Resource Committee presentation by P/C John Matthews titled

"Strategic Planning"

Adjourn

1730-1830 Cocktails - SCYC Bar

1830 Sundowners Ceremony (Class C Uniform with Cover)

1900 Dinner and Dancing (Class C Uniform and/or Cocktail attire)

Entertainment TBA



BEST WESTERN DOWNTOWN STUART



The Best Western is just 7 minutes from the Stuart Corinthian Yacht Club

Single and Double rooms are \$69.99 plus tax
The cut-off date for this special price is June 25, 2015. You have to mention the FCA.
Includes FREE hot breakfast with scrambled eggs, sausage, sausage gravy and biscuits plus much more.

This hotel is near Historic Stuart with shops, restaurants, the waterfront and the Lyric Theatre. 1209 SE Federal Hwy, Stuart, FL 34994 772-287-6200

PENSACOLA YACHT CLUB CHAPTER UNDERTAKES A MAJOR PROJECT

Hurricane Ivan really did a job on the grounds of Pensacola Yacht Club. The front lawn had been

the home to 8 large Naval Oak Trees that were over 100 years old. Ivan destroyed 4 of these magnificent trees. The remaining trees on the front and on the back side of the property suffered severe trauma and shock. Since Ivan PYC has lost at least 5 more trees on the property, the most recent the result of a major storm that devastated the Dauphin Island Regatta the weekend of April 25, 2015. Attempts to plant trees to restore those lost earlier had met with limited success because there was no water to keep the trees growing. In addition, the chapter had planted a memorial tree honoring one of our chapter members who had been very active in chapter activities. The tree died from the lack of water.



The PYC Chapter of FCA decided to do something to address this problem. After investigating the cost of installing a deep water well along with the beginnings of an irrigation system, we briefed the Commodore and board of Directors seeking their support for the project. They agreed wholeheartedly. So the following project was developed and support from the membership began on April 1, 2015.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project will consist of installing a well on the property near the entrance along with the necessary controls, sprinklers and piping for two zones. It will provide water for the existing trees and plants and will enable additional plants and trees to be planted without the risk of dying from lack of water. Bids have been received and the estimated cost of the project is \$6600.

To attract attention to the project and show concrete evidence of the success of the solicitation of contributions, a "thermometer" was created showing the growth of the donations. By the time we started the campaign we had over \$1000 in the pot. Plans were to have the campaign last until July 4 when the drawing for three prizes including an Apple IPAD would be held. By April 24, we had received donations exceeding our goal of \$6600. The initial work to install the well and irrigation system has begun.





This is just an example of what an FCA Chapter can do to help their yacht club address problem areas. It takes planning, dedication, and commitment to make it happen. When executed properly, success is the outcome. It also shows the yacht club membership how valuable having their Past Commodores still involved in helping address and solve many of the problems facing the club while at the same time not being directly involved in "trying to run" the club.

WHAT DOES YOUR CHAPTER DO FOR YOUR YACHT CLUB?????

Proposed By Law Changes:

The Executive Committee has proposed the following changes to the FCA Bylaws. The changes are identified in RED below for the designated Articles, Sections, and Paragraphs of the By Laws.

ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION

The FCA shall be composed of individual Past Commodore(delete) Members in good standing, approved Yacht Club Chapters (including Geographic Chapters) and the Executive Committee

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 – GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS – General Memberships are divided into two categories; Individual Memberships and Chapter Memberships. Membership in the FCA is by invitation only upon the recommendation of two FCA members.

Individual Membership:

A person eligible for individual membership must have been a (delete)

Any Past Commodore of a recognized yacht club and who also meets any other requirements contained in the Bylaws of the FCA and who makes application to the FCA for membership shall be eligible for individual membership. Individuals are encouraged to join a local yacht club chapter but are not required to do so in order to have full membership privileges in the FCA. Only Past Commodores in good standing may be elected to office in the Association.

Any sitting Commodore or Vice Commodore of a recognized yacht club and who also meets any other requirements contained in the Bylaws of the FCA and who makes application to the FCA for membership shall be eligible for individual membership. However, these members are not eligible to hold elected office in the Association but are allowed to vote.

SECTION 2 – ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP – Membership in the Associate category is limited as follows:

- B. The current sitting Commodore, Vice Commodore, (delete) Rear Commodore and Fleet Captain of Recognized Yacht Clubs.(Add) Associate membership is valid only while in these positions.
- D. An Associate Member in good standing may retain their membership in FCA as long as they maintain their membership in good standing with their original FCA Chapter. These members may not change yacht clubs or FCA Chapters and still retain their Associate Member status.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

SECTION 3 – ELECTION – Officers shall be nominated and elected and installed at the Annual Fall Meeting. Nominations for office may be made from the floor with the exception that the Vice Commodore will automatically advance to Commodore at the succeeding Fall Meeting or prior thereto in the event of death, incapacity or resignation of the Commodore. Only Past Commodores who are members in good standing of the Association are eligible to hold elected office in the Association.

These changes will be voted on at the General Membership meeting at Stuart Corinthian Yacht Club on Saturday, July 18, 2015.



FOUR STAR COMMODORES AWARD NOMINATION INFORMATION

Nomination documents for the fifth annual Four Star Commodores Award have been mailed to all Florida Yacht Clubs. The deadline for receipt of applications by the Four Star Award Committee is September 30.

Originated in 2011, this program recognizes former Commodores of qualified Yacht Clubs in the State of Florida who have made contributions to their Club beyond the normal duties and responsibilities of Club Commodore. Membership in the Florida Commodores Association is not required. There is no cost to the Club or to their nominee.

Those selected to be Four Star Commodores and their Clubs will be notified in writing prior to November 30. Each Award winner will receive a memento of their achievement and a special lapel pin. The Yacht Club of the Four Star Commodore will receive a framed certificate to display the achievement of their Commodore

Awards will be presented by a member or members of the FCA Executive Committee at a ceremony or event to be selected by the Yacht Club of the Award recipient. Nomination information brochure is currently available on the Association website.



Blow Your Own Horn Or Tell It Like It Is

Regardless of which way you go, the FCA would like for each Chapter to submit an article for publication in the Commodores Journal about a project the Chapter has undertaken or about some unique event the Chapter has hosted. The success of the FCA depends upon the word getting out about how Chapters and their membership have supported the mission and purposes of the Association. Let's face it! The FCA is a very unique organization that has accomplished a great deal in our 6 year history. We need to spread the word throughout the State of Florida.

There is little doubt that these stories can have a terrific impact on the way Chapters achieve success with their events and projects for their yacht clubs. Each of us learn from each other. This is one of the precepts to which the Association ascribes.

If you have a story to tell please send it with photos to The Editor, FCA Commodores Journal, 2701 N 17th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32503. The story document should be in Microsoft Word and the photos in JPG or GIF file format. Proper credit will be given to the author and photographer.

Hope to hear from you soon.

The Editor

