



# The *Florida Commodores Journal*

## **Our New Bridge**

Left to Right  
Commodore

**John Matthews**

Vice Commodore

**Larry Kimmerling**

Rear Commodore

**John Slattery**

Fleet Captain

**Chris Brown**

Treasurer

**Robert Plummer**

Secretary

**William Barnett**

Immediate Past Commodore

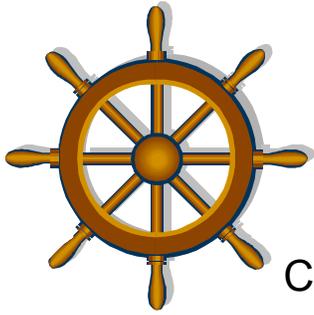
**Tom Reynolds**



## **Pensacola Yacht Club Hosts Change of Watch**

*Keepers of the Flame*

**Preserving the Customs and Traditions of  
Yachting for future generations**



## **FROM THE HELM:**

**Commodore John Matthews**



**The Change of Watch at Pensacola Yacht Club signaled another milestone in the life of the Florida Commodore's Association (FCA). Since our official beginning in December, 2008, the FCA has grown to over 170 full members, over 85 associate members and 17 chapters located throughout the State of Florida. This is an outstanding accomplishment.**

**However, we cannot rest as we need to continue to grow the Association. We have established the Ambassador program under the capable leadership of Past Commodore Phyllis Seaton, Fort Walton Yacht Club Chapter. Current Ambassadors include: Past Commodore Jack Kennedy, Bay Point Yacht Club Chapter; Past Commodore Bill Barnett, Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club; and Past Commodore Lou Daniello, Sr, Coral Ridge Yacht Club. PC Seaton has provided a discussion of the duties and responsibilities for serving Ambassadors. Please take time to read her article. Then Volunteer!!!!**

**Rear Commodore John Slattery has spearheaded a new program for FCA called "The 4 Star Commodores Program". This new program is designed to identify and recognize outstanding Commodores from yacht clubs in the State of Florida. They do not have to be members of the FCA. Our first 4 Star Commodore was recognized at the Change of Watch in Pensacola this past October. He is Past Commodore Chris Brown from Halifax River Yacht Club. He will be honored at a special recognition ceremony at HRYC this coming year. Congratulations to PC Chris Brown. All Florida Yacht Clubs are encouraged to submit nominations for this very special award.**

**This past year the Executive Committee scheduled only three membership meetings throughout the state to see if we could attract more attendance with fewer meetings. However, the feedback we received is that the membership seems to prefer 4 meetings a year with the final meeting being the October Change of Watch at the home yacht club of the incoming Commodore. This coming year the FCA meetings will be hosted by chapters at Palm Coast Yacht Club, Pelican Yacht Club (one of our newest chapters), Fort Walton Yacht Club, and the Change of Watch at Clearwater Yacht Club. The final schedule of meetings will be forthcoming in order for you to plan your attendance.**

**The FCA continues to work closely with the Officers of the International Commodore's Association to assist them in their expansion and development. As a Regional partner of the ICA we encourage each of you to consider becoming a member of this important association as they seek to grow throughout the United States and Internationally.**

**Have Fun in all that you do!!**



Successful FCA Change of Watch  
hosted by  
PENSACOLA YACHT CLUB



## Chris Brown Named Four-Star Commodore



Christopher M. Brown, Past Commodore of the Halifax River Yacht Club has been named the 2011 Four-Star Commodore by the Florida Commodores Association. Past Commodore Brown is the first person to receive this honor.

P/C Brown joined the Halifax River Yacht Club in 1995 and moved up through the ranks, serving on the Board of Directors for three years, then as Secretary, Rear Commodore, Vice Commodore and in 2007 was elected Commodore.

Brown was involved with the planning and construction of the club's new facility from the very beginning. That beginning was made more difficult with the discovery of fuel tanks still filled and sitting in contaminated soil on the site of the new building. However, the completion of the new clubhouse was only part of the heavy lifting he accomplished as the old building was still in place and needed to be removed.

The old building was built on pilings over the water and the new building stood between it and dry land so everything had to be removed by barge. During the demolition, Brown endeavored to preserve as many "treasures" as possible so they formed the basis for the club's Hall of History. He also saved any lumber that could be reused, had it cleaned and stored for a future project he was to undertake.

Compounding the problem of removing the old clubhouse, after the building was removed, there were 40,000 cubic yards of debris under the water that needed to be removed in order to build a new center dock. After getting the debris removed, Brown undertook building the new dock with volunteers. Salvaging many of the pilings from the old building and using the lumber saved from that building, the combined savings in labor and materials resulted in a savings of several hundred thousand dollars.

The new clubhouse was opened only five weeks before Brown took the helm as Commodore adding the extra tasks of working out the kinks of a new larger facility with a larger staff. Over all these years of accomplishment he continued to run Chris Brown Marine, his boat repair business based in Ormond Beach.

P/C Brown is still active in many aspects of HRYC through committee work and is a member of the Halifax River Commodores Association and the local chapter of the Florida Commodores Association. He will be honored with the presentation of his Four-Star Award at the HRYC Commodores Ball on January 21.

## **Vice Commodore's Report**

**The Florida Commodores Association is about providing an important link among Florida Yacht Clubs and our mission statement emphasizes that; "To establish a community of Past Commodores who are members of recognized Florida Yacht Clubs, promoting Florida and international yachting customs and traditions through awareness, educational, charitable and social programs."**



**FCA will continue to focus awareness and support this next year for Olympic sailors Zach Railey who won a silver medal 2008 in Beijing, China and Brad Kendall who is a champion paralympian and are members of the USA Sailing Team for the 2012 Olympics. We would also like to recognize other competition Florida sailors that your Yacht Club or organization is supporting. It is our hope and desire to provide awareness, through news media and yachting/boating communities, of the competitive sailors in the state of Florida.**

**If your Yacht Club, Community Sailing Center or organization has a competitive sailor you would like to recognize, send me the information, local media, Yacht Club, etc. and I will work with the Executive Committee to provide FCA recognition and organization awareness.**

**It is our goal to recognize individual Yacht Clubs and sailors for their contributions to the sport of sailing and the sailing community.**

**The 2012 FCA meeting schedule dates and Yacht Clubs have been confirmed and available on the FCA website. But, we will be wanting to set the 2013 schedule during this upcoming year. If you would like to showcase your club, please consider hosting an FCA membership meeting during the year of 2013. We plan on four (4) meetings : Winter, Spring, Summer and the Fall meeting being the Annual Meeting and Change of Watch at the Palm Coast Yacht Club. I will be glad to answer any questions you may have regarding the FCA host Yacht Club program.**

**Larry Kimmerling, Vice Commodore**



## INTERNATIONAL COMMODORES ASSOCIATION

### Last Call to Attend the Yachting Academy

February 23, 24 and 25, 2012.

The Academy is a two-and-a-half day, total immersion, knowledge-sharing experience with special high-quality presentations on club traditions including the founding of yacht clubs and United States Power Squadrons, rules for meetings, uniform attire, leadership, insurance, storm preparedness, understanding financial statements, and much more. The faculty includes Doctors of Law and Management, a Rear Admiral and a highly regarded consultant on private club taxes and government regulations.

The Academy provides "must have" training for club professionals as well as officers of yacht clubs and yachting associations. The Saturday presentation, "You, Your Club and The Law," is itself worth the cost of the weekend. It is the most comprehensive program of its kind covering taxes, contract and tort liability of members and officers, discrimination, liquor liability, and recent state and federal legislation including financial regulation, environmental protection, indoor smoking, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.



Make your reservation at the Wyndham in Orlando soon and go to <http://www.academyofyachting.org> to register for the course.



## Florida Commodores Association

Executive Committee 2011-2012

**Commodore**—John Matthews (Nancy)  
Pensacola Yacht Club/Navy Yacht Club Pensacola  
5119 Chandelle Drive, Pensacola, FL 32507  
(M) 850.492.4802 (C) 850.516.1580  
johnmatthews@cox.net

**Vice Commodore**—Larry Kimmerling (Barbara)  
Clearwater Yacht Club  
17900 Gulf Blvd. 12A, Redington Shores, FL 33708  
(M) 727.397.2991 (C) 727.542.5877  
towers12a@aol.com

**Rear Commodore**—John Slattery (Mary)  
Palm Coast Yacht Club/Halifax River Yacht Club  
22 Cedarwood Court, Palm Coast, FL 32137  
(M) 386.447.9947 (C) 386.627.6277  
jamslats@aol.com

**Fleet Captain**—Chris Brown (Cathy)  
6 Coolidge Ave  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174  
(M) 386-295-0686

**Treasurer**—Robert Plummer (Beverly)  
Fort Walton Yacht Club  
937 Shalimar Pointe Drive, Shalimar, FL 32574  
(M) 850.651.3412 (C) 850.225.5325  
rbplum@cox.net

**Secretary**—William Barnett  
Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club  
490 Via Esplanade, Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
(M) 941.505.7090 (C) 941.916.1821  
wbarnett00@hotmail.com

**Immediate Past Commodore** – Tom Reynolds (Lynne)  
Fort Walton Yacht Club  
4323 American Poets Drive, Niceville, FL 32578  
(M) 850.897.7323 (C) 850.499.8632  
drtomiii@cox.net

**Judge Advocate/ Legal Officer**—Tim Burr  
(Marguerite)  
Pensacola Yacht Club  
281 Plantation Hills Road  
Gulf Breeze, FL 32561  
(M) 850.916.0869 (C) 850-516-7212  
tburr@gjtbs.com

**PLEASE CONFIRM**

## FCA Area Ambassadors



Hello to 2012! I would like to make this New Year one where FCA members that would like to help us grow, commit to being an Ambassador for our organization. We need outreach to those clubs that have never heard of us or are undecided about whether or not to join us. Please e-mail me if you would be willing to visit clubs around you. We have a Power Point presentation which is simple and easy to use so one does not have to memorize anything. For more information, please call or e-mail me. We need your help on this most important role for the FCA.

Phyllis Seaton

[Phyllis4@cox.net](mailto:Phyllis4@cox.net)

850-651-0105

850-621-3186 cell

## FLORIDA COMMODORES ASSOCIATION

### GREAT NEWS ABOUT OUR OLYMPIC SAILORS

As you know, the Florida Commodore's Association has chosen to support sailors from the State of Florida that are seeking to compete in the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London. We have identified 3 highly competitive sailors including Zach Railey, a Finn Sailor, and his sister Paige, Laser Radial Sailor, and Brad Kendall who is a Paralympic Sailor, whose three-man team is part of the USSailing TeamAlphaGraphics still in competition for selection to the Paralympic Games.

This week we received terrific news that both Zach and Paige have been selected for the US Olympic Sailing Team and will compete in the 2012 Olympic Games. They both recently competed in the ISAF World Championships. Below are photos taken during the event. Zach is on the boat with USA 4.



Paige is shown at right on the awards platform with her Bronze medal.



Brother and Sister in Perth Australia during the ISAF World Championships. Congratulations to both Zach and Paige for their being selected to the US Olympic Sailing Team. The entire Railey family has expressed their sincere

thanks for the FCA Support and best wishes through out the entire competitive process. As Zach always says, the both of them may sail a single-handed dinghy but it is a TEAM effort that makes it happen.



**Zach Railey, a Florida sailor from Clearwater, who is a Silver Medalist from the 2008 Olympics and is a 2012 Olympic hopeful in the Finn class. VC Larry Kimmerling is holding what looks like a Silver Olympic Medal. Zach is currently sailing the ISAF Sailing World Championships in Perth, Western Australia . As of Dec. 5th Zach had a 2nd and a 4th to rank third overall at this time.**

Brad Kendell is a Florida sailor and member of US Sailing Alphagraphics Paralympic Team. He is another 2012 Olympic hopeful Sailing in the Sonar Class. Team.



V/C Larry Kimmerling writes that, “ Barbara and I attended day one of the America’s Disabled Open Regatta at St. Petersburg Yacht Club in St. Petersburg, FL on 12/2/11 thru 12/4/11. Team USA 674 came in fourth (1st USA) to finish among some very tough international competition in the Sonar class.”



Boats returning after competition



Front Brad Kendall holding FCA flag, left to right, Rick Doerr, Vice Commodore Larry Kimmerling and Hugh Freund.

# Paralympic Sailing

Sailing was first introduced to the Paralympic Games in 1996 as a demonstration sport and became a medal sport for the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney.

Three boats will be raced at the 2008 Paralympic Games: the 2.4mR, a single-person keelboat, the SKUD-18, a two-person keelboat and the Sonar, a three-person keelboat. The high performance SKUD-18 makes its Paralympic debut this year in the coastal city of Qingdao, China. According to the International Foundation for Disabled Sailing (IFDS), a SKUD-18 team must include one female and one person deemed a Functional Classification System (FCS) "1," or severely disabled, like a quadriplegic. Sailors are seated on the centerline for Paralympic events, but the boat can be sailed with or without either of the seats and configured to suit different sailors' needs.

Because of its design and control, the 2.4mR was selected for single-person races. The boat's ease of use allows for a level playing field, making tactical knowledge the dominant factor in competition.

The Sonar uses a versatile crew-friendly design that is accommodating to athletes with physical disabilities. It is used by sailors of all experience and ability levels, from the novice to international competitors.

Paralympic sailing competition is open to male and female athletes with physical disabilities such as amputation/limb loss, blindness/visual impairment, spinal cord injury/wheelchair-users and cerebral palsy/brain injury/stroke.

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## Nautical Puzzler

Can anyone explain what a Lugger is? Can a Lugger have more than one mast? What is the similarity between a Chinese Junk and a Lugger?

## **The Four Star Award Program**

The Florida Commodores Association is proud to announce a special recognition program for those Commodores who have taken that extra step. It is called the Four Star Commodores Award Program.

Each Past Commodore selected as a Four Star Commodore will receive a special award and a lapel pin to show that they have earned this special place among their peers. The award will be presented at your next Change of Watch or any other ceremony you designate.

Every qualified yacht club in Florida, even those without members in the Florida Commodores Association, is eligible to nominate a Past Commodore to receive this special designation.

Your Board of Directors/Governors could select a candidate or designate a committee to do so. You might even assign the honor to your Nominating Committee.

Your nominee could be a Past Commodore who did something special. For example he/she may have:

Taken the lead or a major part in assisting your Club recover from a disaster such as a hurricane, a fire or a flood.

Been the main person in guiding a Club through a major renovation or addition.

Guided your Club through a major financial disaster.

Been responsible for significant growth in your Clubs membership.

Performed community service which brought distinction to your Club or any similar accomplishment.

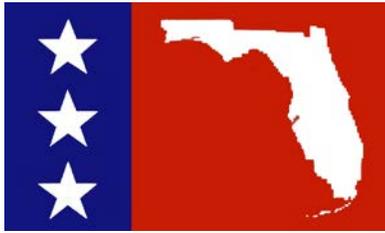
Nomination forms and additional information are available for download at

<http://www.flcommodores.org>

## **The Florida Commodore's Association Recognition Contest Number 3**

Due to an overwhelming lack of interest the Recognition Contest will be terminated. The winner of the last contest was Carol Garside.

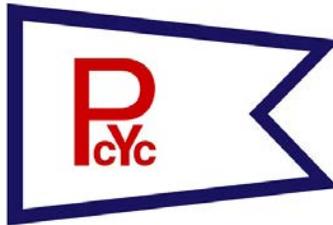
The people in the picture are( left to right): Lynne Oakley, Larry Kimmerling (vice Commodore), John Matthews (Commodore) and Mary Slattery.



# Florida Commodores Association

Past, Present and Future Commodores

**2012 Winter Membership Meeting  
February 3 - 4, 2012**



**Palm Coast Yacht Club  
1 Yacht Club Drive, Palm Coast, FL 32137  
386-445-9300**

## Schedule of Events

### **Friday, February 3, 2012**

1500 FCA Executive Committee Meeting, PCYC Captain's Room  
1730 Captains Lounge opens  
1830 Friday Night Dinner from Club Menu (Yacht club casual attire)

### **Saturday, February 4, 2012**

0800 - 0930 Registration and Coffee Service  
0930 - 1200 Membership Meeting  
Uniform C (White shirt w/epaulets, white trousers/skirt and white shoes)  
1200 - 1330 Buffet Lunch  
  
Speaker - TBA  
  
1330 - 1500 Membership Meeting continued  
1730 Sundowner Ceremony - PCYC flagpole  
Uniform B (Blue blazer, white shirt, FCA tie, white trousers/skirt, white shoes and white socks)  
1800 Cocktails in the Captains Lounge  
1900 Dinner and Dancing



## **Days Inn**

120 Garden Street North

Palm Coast, FL 32137

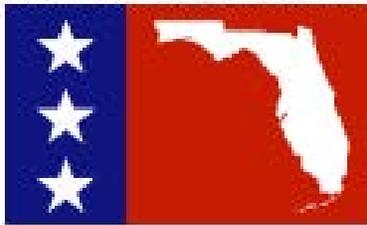
386-627-7734

For directions visit  
[www.daysinn.com](http://www.daysinn.com) and  
input Palm Coast

# **Brand New Hotel with Special FCA Pricing!**

- \$54 per night plus taxes. You must reserve your room by **January 15, 2012** to receive this rate.
- Only 3.5 miles from Palm Coast Yacht Club
- Continental Breakfast included in room price
- Fitness Center
- Free wireless internet throughout hotel
- All rooms have mini-fridge and microwave

To reserve your room call 386-627-7734 and tell them you're with the Florida Commodores Association.



Florida Commodores Association

Registration Form

Winter Meeting

February 3 - 4, 2012

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter/Yacht Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Member                       Associate Member                       Guest

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

| Registration Fee:                            | # Persons | Total |
|--|-----------|-------|
| \$10.00 per person payable with Registration | _____     | _____ |

Please make check payable to "FCA" and mail before January 24, 2012 to  
P/C John Slattery, 22 Cedarwood Court, Palm Coast, FL 32137

| <u>Friday, February 3</u> | # Persons |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Order from Menu           | _____     |

| <u>Saturday, February 4</u>                   | # Persons |
|---|-----------|
| Lunch - Deli Lunch Buffet - \$15.95 inclusive | _____     |

- Dinner - \$28.00 inclusive - please make selections
- London Broil with red bliss potatoes and green bean almondine \_\_\_\_\_
  - Grouper with rice pilaf and green bean almondine \_\_\_\_\_
  - Cornish Game Hen with rice pilaf and green bean almondine \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Meal and bar charges may be paid by cash, check or credit card (Master Card or Visa)

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They had a good time in Pensacola.  
*Photos by Julie B. Connerley*

