



The Florida Commodores Journal

*Official Publication of the Florida Commodores Association
Founded in 2008*

Volume VI Issue 2

March, 2016



Platinum Point Yacht Club Hosts the next General Membership Meeting in Punta Gorda - April 22 - 23, 2016

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Upcoming Dates...

Spring Meeting	
April 22-23.....	Platinum Point YC
Summer Meeting	
July 22-23.....	Clearwater YC
4 Star Commodore Nomination Deadline.....	September 30
Fall Meeting and Change of Watch	
October 21-22.....	Pensacola YC

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Photography for this issue was provided by: Mary Kennedy, of Bay Point Yacht Club; Barbara Kimmerling of Treasure Island Yacht Club and Julie Connerly of Pensacola Yacht Club.

Scheduled publishing dates for 2016 - 2017:

<u>Publishing Date</u>	<u>Deadline Date</u>
June 1	May 25
September 1	August 25
January 1	December 18
March 1	February 22

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From the Helm

Commodore Wayne Stewart



We just had our winter meeting in Panama City at the St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club and the attendance was disappointing. We found that we were in competition with Mardi Gras and many of the local chapter members were involved with that func-

tion. We did have a good business meeting and two great presentations. Mrs. Chris Reese who participated in the Pensacola to Havana race gave an excellent presentation and shared many pictures taken along the five-day trip and beautiful pictures of Havana as well. P/C Bob Peterson gave yet another fine presentation that he prepared. The subject was Sustainability, a topic of which we should all be aware.

One of my goals this year is to improve communication. Your Executive Committee has taken the first step by agreeing to enlist Club Express to help achieve that goal. Our Webmaster, Donna Robinson has worked tirelessly on getting our website up and running and Club Express will assist her and take some of the burden off of her busy schedule. The website is but one of the offerings by Club Express. We will have the ability to maintain our roster more efficiently. Every member will have the ability to update their own information. An on-line calendar will keep us up to date on important dates and events. The Ship's Store will have its own section and you will be able to make purchases with credit cards. The system has many features that will assist our progress. Club Express will take us to the next level of automation and I am excited about getting it up and running.

Another one of my goals is membership. Please remember, we now have extended the Associate Membership to Fleet Captains. Also, we have voted to make the Commodore and Vice Commodore full members. As of yet, we have not seen many taking advantage of either offering. Membership is so important to any organization and ours is no exception. We need to do two things. First, we need to recruit

in our local clubs and get all qualified members participating. Secondly, we need to identify qualified clubs that are not FCA members and reach out to them to bring them into our association.

The Leadership Resource Committee is planning another great Seminar. The Seminar is expected to be in early November somewhere in the Panhandle. Stay tuned for further developments.

On March 12, FCA member Jack Burwell from the Charlotte Harbor Chapter will be installed as the Commodore of the Florida Council of Yacht Clubs. Please join me in congratulating him for his achievement. All FCYC members are welcome to attend the event. P/C Burwell will be as great an asset to FCYC as he is to FCA. We all wish you well Jack.

Our next meeting will be in Punta Gorda at the Platinum Point Yacht Club. The meeting will be on April 22 and 23. Please make your reservations now. All the information is posted on the FCA website under Upcoming Events. P/C Carole Lick has put together a great program with Robert Macomber, a maritime author, as guest speaker. I do look forward to seeing all of you there.



4 Star Awards - 2016

The process for the selection of this year's outstanding Florida Commodores has begun, with the mailing of a document package to each yacht club in the state. Included in the mailing are: a cover letter, an informative brochure, and a nomination form, which you are asked to please direct to the appropriate official. You are also asked to keep this process in confidence, and not include your designated Commodore in the process. ***Starting on page 18 of this issue is a brochure and complete set of forms for your club to use in nominating a Past Commodore.***

All nominations are due by September 30, at which time a committee comprised of past 4 Star Award recipients will begin deliberations. The final recommendation of up to three nominees will be presented at the October EXCOM Meeting their approval. The 2016 4 Star Award Commodores will be announced at the General Session Meeting in October.

Please note, that this award can not be awarded posthumously.

Bylaw Change Proposed

Proposed change to FCA Bylaws to be voted on at the General Meeting at Platinum Point Yacht Club, April 23, 2016

Currently reads:

ARTICLE VI – STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 2 – NOMINATING COMMITTEE –

This committee shall be composed of the immediate Past Commodore of FCA, as Chair, and two members-at-large selected by the immediate Past Commodore and approved by the Executive Committee. This committee shall make its nominations for the offices of Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Fleet Captain, Secretary, and Treasurer, at the Fall Annual Membership Meeting.

Recommended Change: **in RED**

ARTICLE VI – STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 2 – NOMINATING COMMITTEE –

This committee shall be composed of the immediate Past Commodore of FCA, as Chair, and **two** (delete) **four** (add) members-at-large selected by the immediate Past Commodore and approved by the Executive Committee. (add) **No two members can be from the same yacht club or FCA Chapter.** This committee shall make its nominations for the offices of Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Fleet Captain, Secretary, and Treasurer, at the Fall Annual Membership Meeting.

FCA Member Voting Procedures

At the last meeting of the EXCOM it was decided to remind all Chapters of the proper procedure for voting on items brought before the General Membership.

ARTICLE X – VOTING

SECTION 1 – VOTING AT FCA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS –

The FCA recognizes the principal of One-Member-One-Vote. Only Individual General Members have the right to vote. Associate members are non-voting members. Casting of the votes shall be restricted to the duly qualified chapter representative who must present the FCA Secretary with a Proxy Authorization signed by their respec-

tive Club Chapter President. The duly qualified Club Chapter representatives shall represent and cast the vote of each of the chapter members. Should an individual chapter member be in attendance at a voting meeting, that member shall be permitted to vote his/her desire.

NOTE: If the FCA Chapter votes to approve/disapprove of any proposed action, the Chapter President or the duly qualified chapter representative may vote the entire chapter position by stating” the ----- Yacht Club Chapter” votes unanimously For or Against the question being considered. Otherwise he/she must state the number voting For or Against the question.



Catch It!

WAVE 2016, “A Day on the Bay”

W.A.V.E., Wounded American Veterans Event, is a private, all volunteer initiative organized by area yacht clubs, to honor our nation's disabled veterans.

Originated by Navy Yacht Club Pensacola, and joined by Pensacola Yacht Club, Pensacola Beach Yacht Club, Ft. Walton Yacht Club, Eglin Yacht Club and Point Yacht Club, W.A.V.E. 2012 was the first of what has become an annual event.

With adoption by, and support from the Florida Commodores Association, the goal for this project is to encourage other Florida yacht clubs to “Catch the WAVE.

The FCA Ship’s Store offers commemorative burgees and caps at a discount for sponsoring yacht club, and the FCA website offers an online distribution of promotional materials and registration forms. In addition, a WAVE tutorial has been prepared, and is available as a guide, by contacting P/C Kathy Champagne at kathychampagne@bellsouth.net.

The original “A Day on the Bay” featured a cruise on private sail and power boats for wounded veterans and an adult guest of their choice. The afternoon's activities included an opening ceremony with color guard, live entertainment, and a complimentary lunch and beverages.

Those, however, are just suggestions. When you “Catch the WAVE”, make it your own!



Olympic Sailing Update

P/C Larry Kimmerling

ISAF Miami World Cup started January 25, 2016 with more than 780 athletes from 64 nations were featured across the ten Olympic and two Paralympic events. Paralympian Brad Kendell and crew Rick Doerr and Hugh Freund, sailing in the Paralympic Sonar class; Zach Railey sailing in the Finn class and Paige Railey sailing the Women's Laser Radial class have posted the following results.

Paige Railey: Paige took first in the medal race to move her up to 7th over all placing her over Erica Reineke USA who is in 17th position. Qualifying to sail in the Olympics, there is a two part system and Paige is leading after the first event and will be competing in the second event at the Laser Radial Europeans, Las Palmas Grand Canaria, Spain, February 26-March 5th. Her selection into competing in the Rio Olympics will be determined by her results from both events.

Zach Railey: Zach has been largely inactive since London 2012, but started training intensively in late 2015. His first regatta after his hiatus was the 2015 Finn Gold Cup where he finished 30th of 76. Zach won the medal race in Miami. He is tied with the other US sailor and they will be competing in the second selection event for the final spot on the Olympic team. This will be the Finn European Championships in Barcelona, Spain, March 5-12.

Brad Kendell: Sailing in the Paralympic Sonar class they were the top American boat, finishing 5th. Team USA 1 are the current leaders in the first selection event in the Rio 2016 athlete selection series in their class. Brad and Team USA1 will be in Clearwater/St. Pete for the NOOD and a training camp February 25-28, followed by another training camp in Clearwater March 17-20. They will be in Hyere, France for another ISAF World Cup starting April 25-May 1, 2016 and that will be their final US Team qualifier. They will know 100% after this regatta if they are going to Rio 2016.

For additional updates and Olympic results and standings you can go to <http://www.ussailing.org/Olympics/>



Chapter Project

On December 12, just hours before the start of their annual lighted boat parade, the Annapolis Yacht Club was destroyed by a fire caused by an electrical malfunction. The fire raged through the second and third stories ("decks"). Wooden hull models burned and silver sailing trophies melted.



Annapolis Yacht Club engulfed in flames.

Not every club plans for a disaster. Does yours? Fire is always a possibility, but here in Florida, as some of our clubs already know, so is wind and water damage. Most clubs with clubhouses will have insurance - but not all do. Either way if your clubhouse is destroyed or damaged to point of being unusable what will your club do to continue operations.

A good disaster plan will enable your club to provide services, albeit somewhat limited, to your members. Putting the clubhouse back in service or perhaps an outright replacement will take time and your ability to continue bringing members together for good times, even in the worst of times, will help insure you retain your members.

If your club has a disaster plan - great! However, is it up to date? If your club doesn't have a plan, the coming hurricane season is a good reason to begin developing one now. Naturally, these days all the Boards of our clubs are busy trying to keep our clubs profitable and maintain or grow membership.

Wouldn't it be a great project for your FCA chapter to undertake the process of updating or developing your club's disaster plan!

Continued on next page

Chapter Project, continued

As I mentioned in the story about Annapolis Yacht Club, they lost their ship models and their sailing trophies. One of the things your chapter should also consider is taking inventory of those items of special value to your club. In addition, you could get a member to take “professional” photos of those items. While a photo won’t replace them if lost, a well-done “picture wall” in a replacement clubhouse will provide a way for those in the future to share what was lost.

While you’re at it, you might scan those old, fragile and irreplaceable photos of your clubs Past Commodores so that they can also live on after a disaster has destroyed what they built.

Jane Pope Prater



Jane Pope Prater, 71, of Panama City, Fla., passed away Friday, February 19, 2016. She was born in Tampa, Florida, to the late Merritt and Edna Pope and was a lifelong resident of the Bay County area and graduated from Bay High School Class of '62.

Jane started her educational career by teaching at Jinks Jr. High and Bay High School then becoming an Educational Specialist with Panhandle Area Educational Consortium. Jane was a member of St. Andrew United Methodist Church where she served in the Choir. She was also a member of the Gulf Yachting Association, the Florida Commodores Association and the St. Andrew Bay Yacht Club where she was the first and only female Commodore.

Jane is survived by her husband, Jim Prater; two sons, Rives Allen and Creed Allen; three brothers, Allen Pope and wife Martha, Bill Pope and wife Sheri and John Pope; five grandchildren, Jace Allen, Andy Prater, Alex Prater, Katie Prater and Michael Prater; a god daughter, Stacy Yarbrough.



Leadership Resources

Your Club’s Insurance



The Leadership Resources Committee continues its mission of presenting an educational program at each General Membership Meeting. At our next meeting at the Platinum Point Yacht Club our speaker will be P/C David Willbur of the Pelican Yacht Club.

Dave will be addressing the unique property and liability exposures of yacht clubs. This fast-paced one hour talk on liability insurance for yacht clubs will discuss specialty coverages for marinas, protecting the board of directors, storage tank liability, non-owned auto liability and more.

Dave was the owner of David G. Willbur Insurance Agency for 26 years. In 2003, he merged with a larger insurance agency and served as president of that agency. In 2011 they formed the InsurPro Insurance Agency. He has a Bachelors degree in Business from Florida Atlantic University and a Masters degree in insurance from Georgia State University. Has earned the professional designation Chartered Property & Casualty Underwriter.

Dave previously served as Treasurer, St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Gulf Stream Council, Boy Scouts of America and currently serves on several non-profit and business organizations Board of Directors.

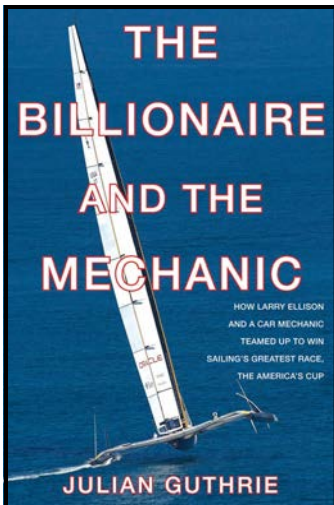
Ship’s Store

Our Quartermaster, Beverly Plummer is always on the lookout for very stylish attire for wearing at your club and always has a great assortment for men and women at each General Meeting.

However, don’t forget that she also is the official source of FCA merchandise and hard to find uniform supplies such as epaulette shirts and sweaters, white gloves and uniform hat storage cases. See the ship’s store page on our website at:

<http://www.flcommodores.org/ships-store.html>

Book Review



The Billionaire and the Mechanic

Julian Guthrie

(Available in hardcover, paperback, Kindle and audio format.)

In 1851, while watching a sailing race off the coast of England, Queen Victoria asked as the yacht *America* sailed by

her yacht ahead of the others, who was in second place. “Your Majesty, there is no second.” was the reply. The trophy won that day would go on to be named the America’s Cup (after the yacht - not the country!)

For the next 132 years the cup was defended and held by the New York Yacht Club until it was won by Australia in 1983. For the next dozen years it went in and out of U.S. possession until 1995 when we weren’t even making it to the finals.

In 2000, Larry Ellison, co-founder and CEO of Oracle Software, and a respected blue water sailor decided to take a shot at bringing the cup back to the U.S. As a member of the prestigious St. Francis Yacht Club in San Francisco, he approached the Board of Governors committing to spend \$100 million of his own money to recapture the cup. Slapping a gift-horse in the mouth, the Board placed so many restrictions in their acceptance that Ellison decided to look elsewhere for a yacht club more willing to work with him.

If you stand at the dumpster behind the St. Francis and look east you will see, only 1,000 feet away, the Golden Gate Yacht Club. Founded as a “blue-collar” yacht club on a barge, they were going through hard times. They were a half-million dollars in debt and losing members daily. Their new Commodore Norbert Bajurin and his wife were spending all their free time trying to save the club. During the day, Bajurin was a radiator mechanic at his father’s car repair business.

One evening, after working all day at his job and most of the evening at the yacht club, Bajurin was glancing at a sailing magazine and read that Larry Ellison was looking for a club to front his effort to win back the America’s Cup. Figuring he had nothing to lose, Bajurin wrote to Ellison proposing the Golden Gate Yacht Club become his partner in the venture. Guess what?

This book tells the story of the failed bids in 2003 and 2007 and the final capture of the cup in 2010. Along the way, you learn also of Ellison and Oracle, how a yacht club mounts a challenge to the cup, the design of racing yachts, the building of sailing teams and the behind the scenes politics of America’s Cup racing. The detailed description of the actual races is page-turning excitement!

The author manages to hold your interest in a myriad of concurrent stories that go into detail but are clearly explained and related. While there is a great deal of Ellison’s background it highlights what it takes to lead the challenge for oldest international sporting trophy still actively contested.

The cup sits today in the Golden Gate Yacht Club which has over 400 members and reciprocal privileges at over 700 clubs around the world. Over the years they have rebuffed several offers a merger with the rich and powerful St. Francis Yacht Club just up the road.

There is a memorable scene that best sums up the partnership of these two unlikely yachtsmen. Just before Bajurin was to lead Ellison and his team out on stage to accept the America’s Cup, Ellison leaned over to Bajurin and whispered, “What do your neighbors think of you now?”

Book Reviews Wanted-

It would be nice to make book reviews a regular part of the Commodores Journal. If you have read a book you feel would be of interest to our readers, write up a brief review and send it to me at jamlats@aol.com. The only requirement is that the book is still in print and available.



Who We Are

Many of our members have interesting backgrounds. At the last the General Meeting in Panama City, I had the pleasure of sitting next to our current Vice Commodore, Sam Foreman. As usual, one topic led to another and that's when I discovered how Aubrey became Sam (no sex change involved.)

How Aubrey Became Sam



I was born on Flag Day, 1952 in what was still the U.S. Canal Zone in Panama. My father, Sam Foreman was born in Bellhaven, North Carolina. He arrived in Panama by way of the U.S. Army and ended liking the country well enough to

stay there. His family tree was English, Irish, Scottish and Cherokee Indian. My mother, Germaine, was born in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua. Her family tree was French, Spanish, Chinese, Russian, and Miskito Indian. Her father, Emile Martin, was a Frenchman born in Panama when France had all but given up trying to build a sea level canal. While educated in France he ended back in Latin America and worked for Standard Fruit and Steamship Company most of his adult life. Mom's mother, Norma Siu, was born in Bluefields, Nicaragua. Norma's father, Wakum Siu, was a Chinese merchant from Canton with some Russian ancestry and her mother was Maria Luna of Spanish descent with some Miskito ancestry.

Standard Fruit and Steamship Company's headquarters was in New Orleans but its major country of operations was Panama. The company's major source of revenue was the shipping of bananas to the U.S. with minor revenue from passengers. I sailed on Standard Fruit vessels from the time I was two months old until my late teens. My earliest conscious memories are on board a ship. In the 1950s, a major blight all but wiped out Panama's banana crop which forced Standard Fruit to move its operations to Ecuador. My grandfather was transferred from Panama to Guayaquil, Ecuador to take charge of all loading operations. My mother and father divorced after two years of marriage. The cultural divide was far too great to cross. Mom and I followed my grand-

parents down to Ecuador.

There were lots of kids on my street in Guayaquil but the ones I hung out with the most were Pepito across the street, and the twin boys down the corner Hernan and Javier. As in just about every country on this planet, if we found something round that would roll it became a futbol. I went to a school that was half day Spanish and half day English. It was similar to kindergarten but far more intense.

There was some rule in place that required me to be resident in the U.S. by my sixth birthday to maintain my U.S. citizenship. My mom's sister and brother-in-law were already living in Pensacola, Florida, so in 1958 that is where we ended up. Pensacola then and now is a very Southern city which provided something of a cultural shock when we arrived. We lived in a small home in a working class neighborhood where most families had a mother and a father. A single mom that spoke Spanish to her young son was a real novelty to the neighborhood. On top of that, my English was spoken with precise pronunciation and diction. In a world of Southern slang some thought I was an English boy. To make things more interesting, Mom had to call me by my middle name Aubrey which was not the usual name for boys, such as John or Mike. I did learn to defend myself. So, did we stand out or what!

Our experience in the U.S. is really one of immigrants. I have to give my mom a medal for courage. She was bilingual with a great command of English. She did not know how to cook. You could afford to hire someone to do that in Latin countries. She did not know how to drive. There was plenty of public transportation. Her first car was a '47 Plymouth with a manual three speed on the column. It had been an army staff car that someone painted baby blue but the price was right. We called it the Blue Goose.

In 1964, the planets aligned and my mother married Dale E. York, M.D. He came along at the perfect time in a twelve-year-old's life. We moved to Gulf Breeze and our lives changed forever. He was a member of the Pensacola Yacht Club where we hung out many times.

I was able to reinvent myself as no one knew who I was in school. The home-room teacher asked which name I go by. That's when I became Sam!



FCA Foundation Update

The Board of Directors of the FCA Foundation met Friday morning prior to the opening of the FCA meeting in Panama City on April 5 and 6th. Attending were: P/C Larry Kimmerling, Chairman; P/C John Matthews, Vice Chairman; P/C Tom Reynolds, Treasurer; and Directors P/C Jack Kennedy, P/C Carole Lick and P/C Mary Slattery. Secretary P/C Phil Bouckaert was absent.

2016 Funding Drive - \$20,000

The Board reviewed the status of the Foundation's 2016 Funding Drive. The goal is to raise \$20,000 this year. This will be the first major funding raising campaign for the Foundation.

Part I - FCA Chapter Campaign:

The goal for Part I - \$10,000 - is anticipated to come from the FCA members and their respective chapters.

It was suggested each chapter raise \$500 or more. This funding is vital for our U.S. Olympic and Paralympic sailors participating in the upcoming 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro this August. All funded sailors and sailing teams will be Floridians.

To facilitate the fund raising, chapter representatives have been appointed. They will present the goals and objectives of this drive to individual FCA chapters at one of their upcoming meetings. Chapters where representation was needed was announced at the FCA general meeting. Assistance is still needed. Contact P/C Carole Lick at lickc@msu.edu if you can help. See separate article on page 14 for more details.

Part II - Foundation's Outside Funding Campaign:

Part II of the campaign - raising the second \$10,000 - will be accomplished by the Foundation's appeal to outside organizations and by seeking grants. These funds will be earmarked to grow the treasury. With a little over \$8,000 now on hand, *no requests for funding* will be accepted until an in-house \$20,000 goal is achieved. Those wishing to make a contribu-

tion - sans the club donation - it can be sent to: FCA Foundation, P.O. Box 1626, Niceville, FL 32588-1626.

Support Materials Development:

- **Foundation Brochure:** A newly-designed tri-fold brochure has been developed covering the goals and objectives of the FCA Foundation. All chapter representatives will be sent a supply for distribution to other members. Additional copies are available from P/C Mary Slattery at slatterymr@aol.com.
- **FCA Foundation Logo:** A new FCA Foundation logo has been developed and approved. It represents the world of sailing - a major goal of our organization.
- **Power Point Presentation:** Also in development is a power point presentation. This will be another tool for all Foundation representatives to use when presenting the goals and objectives of the Foundation to chapters or when doing outside appeals.
- **Application for Financial Support:** Application forms for requesting financial support have been prepared. These were reviewed and approved by the Board. As soon as our in-house \$20,000 goal is reached, the documents will be available for distribution.
- **New Post Office and Email Addresses:** In lieu of using personal addresses, the Foundation will now have it's own separate addresses.

The Foundation looks forward to a success 2016 funding year - with the generous support of the membership and their chapters.

Help Wanted -

Reporters and photographers to provide information about club, chapter and member projects, programs and accomplishments.

Positions provide no pay and no benefits, flexible hours and an opportunity to work with an overbearing, driving and demanding publisher/editor.

Apply to John Slattery at: jamslats@aol.com

Club Notes

Halifax River Yacht Club hosts Daytona 500 Event

In partnership with Sports Illustrated, FOX Sports and four-time NASCAR champion Jeff Gordon, making his FOX NASCAR analyst debut at Daytona Speedweeks, hosted an intimate (200 guests) gathering at the Halifax River Yacht Club in Daytona Beach, to celebrate the start of Gordon's FOX NASCAR broadcast career, the commencement of FOX NASCAR's 16th season, the DAYTONA 500 and the release of Sports Illustrated Swimsuit 2016.

NASCAR drivers, Hollywood celebrities and Sports Illustrated Swimsuit 2016 models fete "The Great American Race" at the private party were featured in primetime on JEFF GORDON'S DAYTONA 500 KICKOFF CELEBRATION, which aired the next day on FOX broadcast network.

"The Daytona 500 is such a huge event, it deserves a great party to kick the season off," Gordon said. "Thanks to FOX and Sports Illustrated, we will have the most exclusive and entertaining party the sport has ever seen. I'm honored to be hosting the event."



HRYC Vice Commodore Mike Becker and NASCAR Champion Driver Jeff Gordon flank the Daytona 500 trophy.

The clubhouse was 'taken over' the day before the event to "setup." Inside, they completely covered

the dining room carpet with hardwood and set up elaborate backdrops and special lighting. Outside, the entire building was lit up with blue lighting, FOX Sports logos were projected on the front of the clubhouse and misting machines were set up on the docks so that images could be projected on the mist and viewed from inside the club. They had to bring a generator to supplement the clubs power system.

As amazing as all this was - it was all removed by 3:00 a.m. on Saturday morning according to a very tired HRYC General Manager, Brian Smith. The hardwood flooring was donated to the local Habitat for Humanity and on Monday FOX had all the boats at the docks washed to remove any dirt as a result of the misting equipment. To see the outside setup click on this link for a video of the spectacular results: <https://youtu.be/NCFRhmOF5Ns>. To view the actual event click on this link: <https://youtu.be/NCFRhmOF5Ns>.

Bay Point Yacht Club - 30th Change of Watch

On January 16, 2016, the Bay Point Yacht Club held their 30th annual Change of Watch and Dinner Dance. During the Change of Watch formalities, Commodore Thomas Duggan was sworn in as the 2016 Commodore of the club.



(left to right) P/C and President of the BPYC FCA chapter Jack Kennedy presenting Commodore Thomas Duggan with a personal copy of Yachting Customs and Courtesies by P/C Joseph Tringali. Looking on are FCA Rear Commodore Jim Robinson of St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club and FCA Vice Commodore Sam Forman of Pensacola Yacht Club.

Club Notes - continued

Platinum Point Yacht Club Takes the Helm with Vets and Youth

WAVE in SW Florida will take place Saturday, April 30. Five yacht clubs have joined together to plan and execute this event, which will take place at the Isles Yacht Club. Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club, Isles Yacht Club, Platinum Point Yacht Club, Punta Gorda Sailing Club and Punta Gorda Boating Club have planned a day on Charlotte Harbor for disabled vets. They will join us for lunch followed by an afternoon on Charlotte Harbor on a sailboat, power boat or fishing.

A Day on the Water for Punta Gorda and Port Charlotte youth took place Saturday, February 20. Make It Count Sports, an after school program for youth created and run by Elgin Hicks, brought kids from 6 to 16 to Platinum Point Yacht Club to learn about boating, and boating safety. Yacht club members took the youth out on the water twice so they could experience both sailboats and power boats. As you might expect, talking on the marine radio to each other from boat to boat was a huge hit! This is the second year for this activity and will be repeated April 2 with another group of youth from the Boys and Girls Clubs. PPYC captains thoroughly enjoyed this experience as well, and the BS – PPYC Charitable Boating Foundation is grateful to them.

Pensacola Yacht Club Combines Sundown Ceremony with Change of Watch



FCA Vice Commodore Sam Foreman, Master of Ceremonies with P/C Susan McKinnon assisting at the Sundowner Ceremony preceding Pensacola Yacht Club's Change of Watch.



Commodore Alan McMillan swearing in Flag Officers and Board at Pensacola Yacht Club's Change of Watch on January 3, 2016.

Seafaring Terms We Use Everyday

Pipe Down!... (be quiet!)

The boatswain's pipe, a distinctively shaped whistle, was once used to transmit commands throughout a ship. Its high-pitched sound was audible above the howling of the wind to crewmen working high in the rigging. Each command had its own particular cadence by which it was identified, understood, and carried out. The cadence to "pipe down" was the last call at night aboard a naval vessel. The signal commanded all unnecessary noise and activity to stop, and hands so assigned to turn in until it was time for them to stand night watch. The ship then became very quiet. The verbal command "Pipe down!" was used by sailors and landlubbers alike when they wanted someone to make less noise or to stop talking. Since the advent of the loudspeaker, the bos'n's pipe is no longer used to issue commands throughout a ship but is limited to the ceremonial piping aboard of visiting VIPs.

Both *pipe* and *cadence* became popular ashore as they strutted and fretted their hour upon the stage (to paraphrase the Bard) in the Rogers and Hammerstein hit *The Sound of Music*. To the horror of Maria, Captain von Trapp's seven children responded to piped cadences - all except little Gretl, who, in spite of being able to hit a B-flat, just couldn't remember her signal.

**You cannot discover new oceans
unless you are willing to
lose sight of the shore!**

Chinese Proverb



**Winter General Meeting
St. Andrews Bay Y C
Panama City
February 5 -6**





**Winter General Meeting
St. Andrews Bay Y C
Panama City
February 5 -6**



Florida Commodores Association Foundation

P.O. Box 1626 - Niceville, Florida 32588-1626

2016 Funding Drive - \$20,000

The Foundation's 2016 Funding Drive is now underway. The goal is to raise \$20,000 this year. A lofty goal, but an achievable one through a two-fold campaign. The goal for Part I - \$10,000 - is anticipated to come from the FCA members and their respective chapters.

It is suggested each chapter raise \$500 or more. This funding is vital for our U.S. Olympic and Paralympic sailors participating in the upcoming 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro this August.

How chapters raise the requested \$500-plus donation will be left up to the chapter itself. It can be something as simple as a direct appeal, a fund-raising event in or outside their club, a raffle, a fish-bowl-at-the-bar-or-front door, or other clever ideas that work within the club's environment.

Timing and skill make Olympic athletes. With sailing trials still under way to determine the final teams to represent the United States, time is of the essence for FCA members and chapters to make that all-important effort to achieve the \$10,000 goal to help these Olympic and Paralympic sailors - all from Florida.

Part II of the campaign - raising the second \$10,000 - will be accomplished by the Foundation's appeal to outside organizations and by seeking grants. These funds will be earmarked to grow the treasury. With a little over \$8,000 now on hand, *no requests for funding* will be accepted until an in-house goal of \$20,000 is achieved. Those wishing to make a contribution - sans the club donation - can send it directly to: FCA Foundation, P.O. Box 1626, Niceville, FL 32588-1626.

Olympic Funding

While costs for a sailor to even reach Olympic status are elusive, here are some items that tell just a part of the story:

- A competition-caliber boat can cost anywhere from \$5,000 to \$50,000 depending on its class - and often

more than one boat is needed!

- Coaches can charge from \$250-\$500+ *per day* - training is a six-day-a-week endeavor.
- On-water training is 4-5 hours per day - 5-6 days a week - and then the athlete must do strength training.
- Travel: a very costly and integral part of the training process. Sailors must go where the competitions are held and often outside the U.S.
- Food and lodging: Another costly item that goes hand-in-hand with travel.
- Continual maintenance and repairs of the boat(s) - mechanical and sails.
- Shipping costs for boats to be sent to competitions.

Very few competitive sailors have private funding. They must seek outside support from wherever it can be found, taking valuable time away from training, and making this part of the sport of sailing an uncertain adventure.

That's why your donation to the FCA Foundation is so very important! You can be part of the success of these Florida sailors - representing the United States - to bring home the gold, silver or bronze!

Just think of the thrill of seeing the U.S. flag flying from the racing boats ... *and then on the podium!* Your generous donation will support our fellow Floridian Olympic and Paralympic sailors in Rio this August - *just a few short months away!* The "Road to Rio" is not all smooth sailing - financially or on the water! Please give now and support our U.S. Olympic and Paralympic sailing teams.

They work so hard  *to make us proud!*

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state. (Registration #Ch41734)



FLORIDA COMMODORES ASSOCIATION

April 22-23, 2016



Platinum Point Yacht Club
Burnt Store Marina
3601 Cape Cole Blvd, Punta Gorda, FL 33955



Registration Form

Name _____

Club Name/Chapter _____

Associate Member _____ Guest _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Preferred Phone _____ Email _____

Friday, April 22 Four Points by Sheraton Punta Gorda Harborside, 33 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda, FL, 33950

1000 ~ FCA Foundation Meeting Number attending _____

1200 ~ Women Commodore's Luncheon (order from the menu, individual checks) Number attending _____

1500 ~ FCA Executive Committee Meeting at Sheraton Four Points Inn Number attending _____

1900-2100 ~ Dinner @ Laishley Crab House, 150 Laishley Ct, Punta Gorda Number attending _____
 (941) 205-5566 (order from the menu, individual checks)

Saturday, April 23 Platinum Point Yacht Club, Burnt Store Marina, 3601 Cape Cole Blvd

0830 ~ Continental Breakfast Number attending _____

1200 ~ Lunch at PPYC **\$15 per person** x Number attending _____ = \$ _____

1630 ~ Dinner at PPYC **\$31 per person** (incl tax & gratuity) X Number attending _____ = \$ _____

Menu Choice: Pork Tenderloin _____ Citrus Salmon _____ Mediterranean Chicken _____

Dietary restrictions _____

1000 ~ Saturday **OPTIONAL ACTIVITY** - Visual Arts Tour in Punta Gorda Number attending _____

Total due: \$ _____

Platinum Point Yacht Club is not a member of the "Florida Council of Yacht Clubs".

Please return the registration form by April 18, 2016, with a check payable to Platinum Point Yacht Club and mail to PPYC, 3601 Cape Cole Blvd, Punta Gorda, FL 33955.

See the Schedule of Events page for further details of events and meals.

Contact: Past Commodore Carole Lick 734-945-3938 or lickc@msu.edu



FLORIDA COMMODORES ASSOCIATION

April 22-23, 2016



**Platinum Point Yacht Club
Burnt Store Marina
3601 Cape Cole Blvd, Punta Gorda, 33955**



Schedule of Events

***Note:** Due to 10 mile trip (25 minutes) between Punta Gorda and PPYC in Burnt Store Marina, all Friday meetings and meals will be held in Punta Gorda. All Saturday meetings and meals will be held at PPYC in Burnt Store Marina.*

***Dress:** Saturday - Daytime - Uniform Class C. Sundowners and Evening - Uniform Class A. A recommendation is to bring Sundowners and evening uniform with you Saturday morning to avoid the time consuming return trip to Punta Gorda.*

Friday, April 22 Four Points by Sheraton Punta Gorda Harborside, 33 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda, 33950
941-637-6770 or 866-716-8133, (a block of rooms have been reserved @ \$109, for 4/21,22,23)

- 1000 FCA Foundation Meeting
- 1000 Optional Tour of the Visual Arts Center in Punta Gorda at 210 Maud St., Meet in the hotel lobby. On your own after the tour: lunch at Fisherman's Village, shopping, etc.
- 1200 Women Commodore's / Past Commodore Luncheon (order from the menu, individual checks)
- 1500 FCA Executive Committee Meeting
- 1800 Dinner at Laishley Crab House, 150 Laishley Ct, Punta Gorda, FL 33950, 941-205-5566
(order from the menu, individual checks)

Saturday, April 23 Platinum Point Yacht Club, Burnt Store Marina, 3601 Cape Cole Blvd, 33955

- 0830 Continental Breakfast
- 0900 Opening
- 0915 **Robert McComber ~ Special Guest Speaker: Award Winning Maritime Author . . .**
Internationally recognized author, lecturer and TV commentator – "Yachts That Went To War".
His Honor Series highlights the U.S. Navy's critical role in the expansion of America in the mid-century to a global power in the 20th century. *The Assassin's Honor*, is his latest book release.
- 1000 Book signing / Break
- 1030 Meetings
- 1200 Lunch at PPYC
- 1330 Meetings and Speaker
- 1700 Sundowners
- 1730-2130 Reception & Dinner, followed by Dancing and Entertainment provided by **Two Can Jam**
Select dinner entree choice on the Registration Form:
 1. Pork tenderloin, stuffed w/apricots & cranberries
 2. Citrus Salmon, lemon/lime mandarin w/orange glaze
 3. Mediterranean Chicken, stuffed w/sundried tomatoes, olives, feta cheese w/roasted red pepper cream sauce.
 Entrees include: Caesar salad, red garlic mashed potatoes, green beans almondine, w/rolls & butter and dessert .

Contact: Past Commodore Carole Lick 734-945-3938 or lickc@msu.edu



FLORIDA COMMODORES ASSOCIATION

April 22-23, 2016



Platinum Point Yacht Club
Burnt Store Marina
3601 Cape Cole Blvd, Punta Gorda, 33955



Hotel Accommodations

FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON PUNTA GORDA HARBORSIDE

33 Tamiami Trail · Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950 · United States · Phone: [941-637-6770](tel:941-637-6770) · Central Reservations: [866-716-8133](tel:866-716-8133)



The Four Points by Sheraton Punta Gorda Harborside has preferred rates for the FCA meeting. Make your individual reservations by contacting the hotel and asking for the special FCA Group rate of \$109 for April 21, 22 & 23.

When calling for reservations you have to ask for "in house reservations".

Reservations must be made *no later than* March 30, 2016 for the special group rate.

Pets are allowed with a \$25 fee. . . Free Wi-Fi . . . Free Parking

Contact: Past Commodore Carole Lick
734-945-3938 lickc@msu.edu



Can you tell me more about the Florida Commodores Association?

The Florida Commodores Association (FCA) was founded in 2008 as a organization for Future, Current and Past Commodores who are members of Florida yacht clubs. Its mission is to recognize those who have taken leadership roles in the yachting community and to provide educational programs to current and future yacht club leaders.

Regular Membership is open to all Past Commodores. Associate membership is open to spouses of Past Commodores and yacht club officers who have not yet achieved the status of Past Commodore.

More information about the FCA and past Four Star Commodore awards is available at our website at www.flcommodores.org.

Each Four Star Commodore will receive the special award pictured on the last fold as well as a unique lapel pin. Their Club will receive a certificate honoring the Club and its membership.

The Award



Four Star Commodores and Clubs

2011

Chris Brown - Halifax River YC

2012

Kathy Champagne - Navy YC - Pensacola
Dick Coughlin - Halifax River YC

2013

Phyllis Seaton - Ft. Walton YC
Charles Smith - Pensacola YC
Wayne Stewart - Halifax River YC

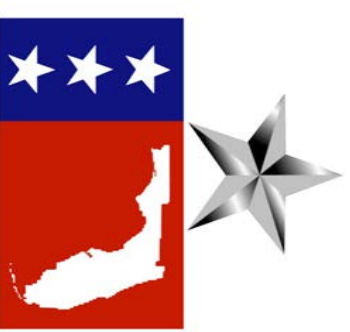
2014

John Matthews - Pensacola YC
Robert Schwalm - Platinum Point YC

2015

Darrell Mashburn, Grand Lagoon YC
Peter Tyson, Pelican YC

Announcing the 2016 Four Star Commodore Awards Program





Does your yacht club have a Past Commodore who deserves special distinction? The Florida Commodores Association is proud to sponsor a special recognition program for those Commodores who have taken that extra step.

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.

Who is eligible?

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.

How do we select one of our Past Commodores?

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.



What are the requirements?

Your nominee could be a Past Commodore who:

- ★ Took the lead or a major part in assisting your Club recover from a disaster such as a hurricane, a fire or a flood?
- ★ Was the main person in guiding a Club through a major renovation or addition?
- ★ Guided your Club through a major financial disaster?
- ★ Was responsible for significant growth in your Clubs membership?
- ★ Performed community service which brought distinction to your Club.

It's not necessary that a nominee did any of the accomplishments listed above. It just matters that they did something that had a major impact on your Club and/or its membership. Posthumous nominations will not be considered.

Is there a cost to our Club?

No. This program is entirely funded by the Florida Commodores Association.



How do we nominate one of our Past Commodores?

Nomination forms are available on the Florida Commodores Association website at: www.flcommodores.org.

When are nomination forms due?

Nominations should be returned to the address on the nominating form no later than September 30th.

When will we know if our nominee will be honored?

You will receive written notification by November 30th if your nominee has been selected to be a Four Star Commodore.

When will the presentation be made?

A representative of the Florida Commodores Association will make the presentation at your Club at a date and function selected by you. An appropriate function might be your Change of Watch or the Commodores Ball.

How many awards will be made?

Up to three awards will be made each year.



Florida Commodores Association

Past, Present & Future Commodores

2016 Four Star Commodore Nomination Guidelines

Purpose

This program distinguishes former Commodores of qualified Yacht Club in the State of Florida who have made contributions to their Club or on behalf of their Club beyond the normal duties and responsibilities of a Club Commodore. The award recognizes their commitment to continue to serve their Club and its members, to support the current leaders of the Club and to inspire their peers and future Club leaders.

Eligibility

All former Commodores of qualified Florida Yacht Clubs are eligible for consideration. Only one nomination may be submitted annually by each eligible Club. Membership in the Florida Commodores Association is not required. There is no cost to the Club or to their nominee. Posthumous nominations will not be considered.

Nomination Procedure

Each Club is free to decide how they will select a candidate for nomination. Upon selection the Nomination Form and all required documents must be submitted to the Florida Commodores Association (FCA) no later than September 30.

Awards Procedure

Upon receipt of all Nominations the Awards Committee of FCA will review each Nomination submission for completeness and may disqualify a nomination if any required documentation is missing or incomplete. The Awards Committee will determine and recommend to the Executive Committee of FCA the names of finalists. The Awards Committee may require finalists to be interviewed by one or more Committee members. The Executive Committee of FCA will review the recommendations of the Awards Committee and make the final determination of those to be awarded the distinction of a Four Star Commodore. Up to three awards may be made in any one year.

Awards and Recognition

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 to distinguish them as a Four Star Commodore. The Yacht Club of the Four Star Commodore will receive a framed certificate to display the achievement of their deserving 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 recipients. In addition, each Four Star Commodore will be invited to be a guest of honor at the next regular meeting of the FCA.

Nominations must be returned by September 30, 2016 to:

Florida Commodores Association
Four Star Award Program
P.O. Box 488
Shalimar, FL 32579



Florida Commodores Association
Past, Present & Future Commodores

2016 Four Star Commodore Nomination Form

Name of Yacht Club: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ e-mail: _____

Contact: _____ Position: _____

Nominee Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ e-mail: _____

Year(s) served as Commodore: _____ Member Since: _____

Other positions held in Club and year: _____

Please provide the following information for nomination press releases:

Name of Local Newspaper: _____

Local Newspaper Phone Number: _____ e-mail: _____

Name of Regional Paper: _____

Regional Paper Phone Number: _____ e-mail: _____

This nomination is submitted on behalf of the above mentioned Yacht Club and the Nominee is aware of his/her nomination and agrees to accept the award of a Four Star Commodore if they are selected by the Awards Committee.

Submitted by: _____ Position: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Over)

Description of Accomplishments: Please attach a statement specifying the accomplishments or contributions made by the Nominee. The statement should include the Nominee name and Yacht Club Name. The statement should not be greater than one page.

Nominations may be made for extraordinary service to the Club or in the local community on behalf of the Club. Such accomplishments should have occurred in the year the Nominee was serving as Commodore or any time after their service as Commodore.

Including quantitative data such as percentages, numbers or time lines will enhance the position of a Nominee. Other supporting documentation such as photographs, newspaper clippings, correspondence, etc. may also be attached. Do not include any originals since we will be unable to return any items submitted.

Committee submitting Nomination: Please list the name and positions of those involved in the nomination of this candidate:

Name: _____ Position: _____

Name: _____ Position: _____

Name: _____ Position: _____

Name: _____ Position: _____

Name: _____ Position: _____

Endorsements: This nomination should be endorsed by the current Commodore **or** two Past Commodores of your Club.

I hereby endorse the Nomination of this Commodore for a Four Star Commodore Award.

Name: _____ Year Served as Commodore: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Year Served as Commodore: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Remember to include the following with this Nomination Form:

- Description of Accomplishments
- Photograph of Nominee preferably in uniform (please write the Nominees name and Club on back of photo)

Nominations must be returned no later than September 30, 2016 to:

Florida Commodores Association
Four Star Award Program
P.O. Box 488, Shalimar, FL 32579