



# *The Florida Commodores Journal*

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

Volume VIII Issue 2

April, 2018



## **Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club To host Spring Meeting April 13 - 14**

More information and  
registration forms in this issue  
and online.

## **The 2.4mR Sailboat**

A presentation about this international sailboat and a demonstration of these boats will be a highlight of the April meeting at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club.



### **In this Issue...**

Officers/Chairpersons.....	2
From the Helm .....	3
Ships Store.....	3
Club News.....	4
Book Review .....	4
Webmaster.....	5
A Brief History of Boats .....	6
Fall Meeting Photos .....	7-9
Foundation Smile.....	10

### **Spring Meeting Forms**

Agenda.....	11
Registration .....	12
Hotel Information.....	13

### **Upcoming Dates...**

**Spring Meeting** .....April 13 - 14  
Charlotte Harbor YC

**Summer Meeting**.....July 20 - 21  
Ft. Walton YC

**Four-Star Nomination Deadline**  
September 30

**Fall Meeting**.....October 19 - 20  
Platinum Point YC

## FCA Executive Committee



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**Immediate Past Commodore**  
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*Photography for this issue was provided by Barbara Kimmerling of Clearwater Yacht Club. Thanks also to our Editor, P/C Mary Slattery of Halifax River Yacht Club.*

### Scheduled publishing dates for 2018—2019:

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

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# From the Helm

## Commodore Sam Foreman



Our FCA Spring Meeting is just around the corner. We look forward to seeing everyone so make your plans now if you haven't already.

FCA Secretary P/C Bill Barnett has been busy planning an exciting and fun meeting at the Charlotte Harbor Yacht

Club April 13 - 14. For those of us arriving on Thursday there is a planned rendezvous at the Fisherman's Village Dock where for a fee we can tour replicas of the Nina and the Pinta of Columbus' fleet followed by dinner at Scotty's Brewhouse nearby.

After Friday's committee meetings we will conduct the Sundown Ceremony followed by cocktails and dinner at CHYC. On Saturday morning we will have an educational presentation by P/C Wayne Stewart on recruiting and retaining members. It is a topic all yacht clubs should be interested in. Saturday afternoon there will be a presentation on riverboat cruising in Europe and a presentation on the international 2.4mR racing sailboat. Saturday evening there will be cocktails and buffet dinner at CHYC.

Kudos to the Halifax River Yacht Club for putting on a terrific Winter Meeting! The educational presentations on Yacht Club Safety Rules and YC Employee Incentive Programs were very informative. We also had a fascinating presentation on the Lighthouses of Florida followed by a tour of the Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse. We stayed in the newly remodeled Bahama House with great views of the Atlantic. If you missed this meeting, you missed a lot so don't miss the Spring Meeting.

The FCA is always looking for leaders to bring into the Executive Committee. It is an axiom of any organization to have knowledgeable, energetic and creative leaders to move it to greater heights with new and innovative ideas that also respects its history, character, and traditions. Nominating Committee Chairman P/C Wayne Stewart is looking for such

individuals. If you have an interest in being on the Executive Committee and would like to learn more about it, let Wayne know.



## Ships Store

Quartermaster  
Beverly Plummer

2017 was another successful year for the FCA Ship's Store. I was pleased to be able to donate a check for \$1000 to the FCA Foundation from the profits of the past year. Uniform items make up a steady part of sales but it is the Boutique items that give sales the boost in being so successful.



If you attend the general membership meetings regularly you've been able to see the different items available and purchase them at that time. I try to have a good selection of things but

space and funds limit the inventory. Mens and ladies polo shirts are always available to purchase but I can't keep an inventory of every color or size that's offered in stock. These are 100% Peruvian Pima Cotton with mens sizes S - 6XL and ladies sizes S - 3XL available. They are offered in a rainbow of colors so your favorite is sure to be available. I have a few sample shirts with the FCA burgee already on them for purchase but most folks like to have crossed burgees, which include the FCA burgee and their home club burgee, embroidered on them for a more personalized shirt. I have a color chart to choose your favorite one. These can be custom ordered through the website or in person at a General membership meeting.

At the April meeting there will be some items on clearance. All mens Columbia & Columbia style shirts will be \$10 off. Various sizes



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and colors are available but this sale does not include special orders. Also included in the clearance sale are a few odd ladies tops.

A white cotton blend ladies sweater with a red anchor motif is just one of the new items in the Ship's Store boutique along with some red or navy striped 3/4 sleeve tops that should be in every ladies nautical wardrobe. See them at the General membership meeting too.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting but please remember you may also order items through the website or contact me directly.



## Club News

### Sarasota Yacht Club F18 Worlds 2018 Championship Regatta

#### **SYC Achieves Title Sponsorship**

The pinnacle event of F18 sailing will be held on Sarasota Bay October 12-19, 2018, sponsored by Sarasota Yacht Club.

The Sarasota Yacht Club F18 Worlds 2018 Championship Regatta is a seven-day event with an exciting five days of racing. Hosted by the Sarasota Sailing Squadron, the event will bring sailors from all over the world to compete for the championship title.

Detailed information and Notice of Race can be found on Regatta Network:

[www.regattanetwork.com/event/14553#\\_home](http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/14553#_home)

Stay up to date on the latest developments on the event Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/F18Worlds2018](https://www.facebook.com/F18Worlds2018)

### 2.4mR Racing Sailboat at CHYC

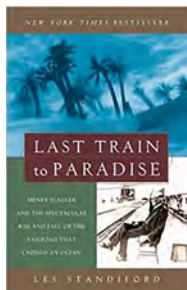
The International 2.4mR Racing Sailboat is known as the 2.4 meter.

The 2.4 meter is 13 feet 8 inches long. The 2.4 designation refers to the class and measurement rule to which it is designed and built. Not its length. It weighs about 572 pounds, including 400 pounds of removable lead ballast.

It is easily handled, trailered, launched and stored. It is designed for competitive sailing, falling under broad technical and class administration of the International 2.4mR Class Association and the International Sailing Federation (ISAF).

The class has been recognized by the ISAF since 1993. Because these boats do not require excessive strength and hiking is not required (nor permitted), a very broad spectrum of sailors sail competitively. In fact, all sailors sail competitively.

If you want to learn more—attend the Spring meeting at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club - April 13 - 14.



### Book Review

#### *Last Train to Paradise*

#### **Les Standiford**

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

John D. Rockefeller admitted that it was his partner Henry M. Flagler that made Standard Oil the success it was and in turn made him one of the richest men in the world. Flagler is quoted as saying, "If it wasn't for Florida, I'd be a wealthy man."

Probably for those of us on the East coast of Florida, the name Flagler means more than it does to our West coast and Panhandle friends. Even today it's almost impossible to make the trip from Jacksonville to Key West without learning something about this pioneer of the Sunshine State.

This book touches on some of Flagler's pre-Florida history and his climb to be one of the wealthiest of the turn of the century tycoons of the oil and railroad industries. However, his later in life foray into Florida seemed to be the end of his midas touch.

*(Continued on next page)*

The focus of this book is story of a man who has everything and comes to Florida for the health of his wife long before this was a popular way of life for so many. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century it was almost impossible to travel very easily up and down the East of Florida except by a short line from Jacksonville to St. Augustine and then transfer to the St. John river.

Flagler changed all that when he decided to extend the railroad from St. Augustine to Ormond Beach and eventually to Palm Beach and then the tip of the mainland. It would have ended there for almost every other 74 year old but not for Flagler. The Florida East Coast Railway was bringing unimagined crowds from the north to sunny Florida and at the speeding the export of sugar, fruit and other produce to the rest of the country. However, when he stood at the end of the line he knew that 157 miles to the West was Key West.

The lure of Key West was overwhelming at that time because of the proximity of Cuba, a very popular place for U.S. citizens to visit, and the Panama Canal was nearing completion and it was easy to imagine a deep water port in Key West to be the logical place for canal traffic to take on and unload cargo as the closest rail terminal in the U.S. Of course, with a man like Flagler, the fact that it was universally believed that building a railroad across the ocean just couldn't be done.

After considering all the problems involved and the estimated cost, Flagler gave his go ahead with one line - "Go to Key West!" This book relates the building of the line to Key West, the terrible problems encountered along the way such as insects, labor shortages, heat, summer storms and Theodore Roosevelt (who had no use for the men that built Standard Oil.) Along the way a new town was established (Miami) and an unknown body of water was discovered (Lake Surprise.)

The story of the last train to paradise ends with the worst (even to this day) hurricane that ever hit the United States. It's an informative, enjoyable and easy read and it even has pictures.



## Webmaster

P/C John Slattery

There have been a few changes to the software that operates our website. Most of the changes affect the administration of the site and are behind the scenes for our members. However, two new changes should prove helpful to you as users.

### Computer Sharing

Many households today share a computer and in the past when a member signed in with their username and password and clicked the "Remember Me" button, no other user could access their own account on the website. That problem has now been solved.

When you click the "Member Login" button on the upper right of the Home page you will be taken to the member page of the person that previously hit the "Remember Me" button. However, if you hold your pointer over the red arrow next to that persons name you will see a new drop-down window with the additional option of "Login as a different user." If you select that option you will be taken to a new Login window where you can enter your User Name and Password.



Some members have asked, "Why all the security on the website?" While there is many things you can see without logging in, certain information, such as members names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, etc. are protected from non-members and

others that might misuse that information. This leads to the next change for users.

## Member Directory

The Member Directory has been greatly expanded. However, I have turned off many of the features that an organization such as ours don't need. You can still search for members by name and Chapter.

When searching by name (first name only, last name only or full name) use the "Search Text" box in the Member Directory section of the website. If you just put in a first name and hit search you will see all the members with that first name. Same goes for last name. Although, there is a shortcut - just use the first three letters in the last name and you will find who you are searching for with fewer keystrokes.

Remember, if you have any questions regarding the website, just send me an email at:  
[webmaster@flcommodores.org](mailto:webmaster@flcommodores.org)

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## A Brief History of Boats

For as long as humans have lived near water, they have built boats for fishing, transportation, migration, trade and exploration. The oldest boat ever recovered was a "logboat" believed to have been carved 10,000 years ago somewhere in what is now The Netherlands. Long before that, humankind colonized places that scientists say could only have been reached by floating there on some sort of object or vessel - Australia 40,000 years ago, Crete 130,000 years ago, and the Indonesian island of Flores some 900,000 years ago.



Evidence suggests that animal pelts, bamboo, reed and hollowed-out logs were

among the earliest natural materials used to make seaworthy crafts. With the coming of the Iron Age, planks could be shaped and fastened together to

create larger boats. The Vikings are often credited with perfecting the art of shipbuilding. The design of the graceful long ship evolved throughout the Viking Age and reached its peak between the 9th and 13th centuries with clinker-built ships, whose hulls are sealed by overlapping planks. The skills and techniques introduced by the Vikings have been adapted in modern shipbuilding



As trade increased throughout medieval Europe, ships increased in size to accommodate the most profitable cargo. Boats were built to reach several stories tall, a web of towering masts supporting vast curtains of sails. The notion of ballast became critically important; as merchant ships grew in height, this additional weight in the hulls kept them centered and stable. It was around this time, as the Age of Discovery dawned, that ships became more frequently armed with munitions so that valuable goods could be protected and empire builders could vie for dominance on new shores. Today, all manner of boats ply the oceans, each built on a millennia-old tradition of mastering the world's waters.





Winter Meeting  
Halifax River  
Yacht Club  
February 2 - 3, 2018





Winter Meeting  
 Halifax River  
 Yacht Club  
 February 2 - 3, 2018





**Winter Meeting  
Halifax River  
Yacht Club  
February 2 - 3, 2018**



# The Florida Commodores Association **Foundation**



## Is It AmazonSmile or Smile.Amazon?

*It's both!* AmazonSmile is the name of the program; smile.amazon is the website.

*This is Amazon's* program to fund and support community non-profits—*of your choice!* The Florida Commodores Foundation (FCAF) is a registered non-profit charity. FCAF receives 0.5% of all eligible purchases you make when *logged onto and purchase through this specialty website. All at no additional cost to you!*

*Just think ...* if all FCA members chose **Smile.Amazon** when buying through Amazon, it will provide a steady stream of funding to FCAF – *key to its health and welfare!*

*In one short year,* FCAF received Amazon donations equivalent to a Sustaining Member classification. Happy Day!

*Make it a habit ...* use AmazonSmile every time you log on to Amazon. Don't worry, it has all the same products and features, and is no change to your personal account access. The key is ... *only when you are logged onto this site do your purchases qualify for donation.*

*Let's get started ... now!* Here's how to set it up:

- From your browser, log onto: [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)
- Look for the charity listings on the right side of the screen
- Either scroll down and select **Florida Commodores Association Foundation** or type in the full FCAF name and hit select
- You may be invited to list "Amazon Assistant for AmazonSmile" as your bookmark or simply copy and paste, whatever you prefer. **Bookmarking makes for easy access.**
- Now, just hit your handy-dandy bookmark every time you *even think* about Amazon.

Isn't this the easiest way ever to "pay-it-forward?" Help us spread the news! Ask your family and friends to sign up as well. FCAF must grow to enable it to support the many worthwhile projects FCA affiliated clubs need help with. *Thanks to all of you!*

*Yes! I will sign-up for AmazonSmile, but I want to do more to support FCAF!  
Here's my additional contribution!*

- |                                      |                   |  |         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25-\$99   | Sustaining Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100-\$249   | Captain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250-\$499 | Commodore         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 & above | Admiral |

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

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

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

***Thank you!***

Make check payable to:

***FCA Foundation***

*Send to:*

**P.O. Box 1626,  
Niceville, FL 32588**



# Florida Commodores Association

Past, Present and Future Commodores

## 2018 Spring Membership Meeting

April 12 - 14, 2018



**Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club**  
**4400 Lister Street, Port Charlotte, FL 33952**  
**941-629-5131**

### Schedule of Events

#### **Thursday, April 12**

- 1730 Meet at Fisherman's Village dock, 1200 West Retha Esplanade, Punta Gorda to enjoy a 30 minute tour of replicas of Columbus' ships, the "Pinta" and "Nina" See [www.ninapinta.org](http://www.ninapinta.org) for more information - \$8.50 Adults, \$7.50 for Seniors
- 1830 Dinner (casual) at adjacent restaurant, Fisherman's Village, Scotty's Brewhouse

#### **Friday, April 13**

- 1200 FCA Foundation Meeting (Commodores Lounge)
- 1500 FCA Executive Committee Meeting (Commodores Lounge)
- 1830 Sundown Ceremony - Class C uniform
- 1900 Cocktails and Dinner from the CHYC Menu

#### **Saturday, April 14**

- 0830 - 0900 Registration and Coffee Service
- 0900 - 1200 Membership Meeting - Class C uniform (Ballroom)  
Educational Presentation - Recruiting and Retaining Members (including membership categories.)
- 1200 - 1300 Buffet Lunch (Harbor Room)
- 1300 - 1400 Presentation - Riverboat Cruising in Europe (Ballroom)
- 1400 - 1500 Presentation - The International 2.4mR Racing Sailboat (Ballroom)
- 1500 - 1630 2.4mR Sailing Demonstration (Marina and harbor side)
- 1800 Cocktails and Buffet Dinner (Dressy Casual Attire)

- Uniform Class C - White open collar short sleeve shirt, epaulets and soft shoulder boards, white trousers, white web belt with brass buckle, white shoes and white socks for gentlemen; white trousers, white web belt with brass buckle and white shoes for ladies.



# Florida Commodores Association

## Registration Form

Spring Meeting

April 12 - 14, 2018

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

Chapter/Yacht Club: \_\_\_\_\_ FCYC# \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Member

☐ Associate

☐ Guest

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

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Thursday, April 12

# of Persons

Tour of Columbus Replicas - \$8.50 (Seniors - \$7.50)

\_\_\_\_\_

Dinner at Scotty's Brewhouse (Order from menu)

\_\_\_\_\_

### Friday, April 13

Dinner - Dinner from CHYC menu

\_\_\_\_\_

### Saturday, April 14

Lunch - Deli Buffet - \$13.95++

\_\_\_\_\_

Dinner - Buffet - \$25.00++

\_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Meal charges may be paid by cash, check, credit card or billed to your home club account through the Florida Council of Yacht Clubs.**

**You may register on the FCA website or you may return this form to P/C Bill Barnett at 490 Via Esplanade, Punta Gorda, FL 33950 or by email to: [wbarnett00@hotmail.com](mailto:wbarnett00@hotmail.com)  
Forms should be returned no later than April 6, 2018.**

**Hotel for FCA Spring Meeting at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club  
April 12-15, 2018**



**PG Waterfront Hotel  
300 West Retta Esplanade  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
(941) 639-1165**

These are the rates for our meeting:

City View (King or 2 Queen Beds): \$ 65.00

Park/Pool View (King or 2 Queen Beds): \$ 75.00

Water view: (King or 2 Queen Beds): \$ 85.00

Suites: \$139.00

Pets are welcome! (Note: The Banana Bay Motel is no longer in business.)

When you call for reservations, just tell anyone at the front desk that you are with the Florida Commodores Association (FCA) to obtain these special rates.

The check in time is after 3pm and check out is by 11 am.

Upon arrival the hotel does require a \$25 incidental hold on a credit card which will be released back after check out.

The hotel is adjacent to beautiful Gilchrist Park, the Harbor Walk, and is walking distance to Fisherman's Village. If you would like to check out the hotel further, the website is ***www.pgwaterfront.com***. If anyone has any other questions, please feel free to call the hotel and they will be happy to assist you further!