

THE SIREN



Cmdre Mickey
Donofrio

Commodore's Log

The year of 2020 has come to an end and I hope that every one of you enjoyed a healthy and happy holiday season.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 19, at 4 p.m. and I hope to see you at the club for that important function. Because of social distancing requirements, the meeting will not be held with the same seating arrangements as in the past. Instead of theater-style in the dining room, members will be spread out all over the club, including the patio. Our audio system will allow for everyone, regardless where you sit, to hear everything and participate in the meeting. For those seated inside the building you can rest assured that all COVID protocols will be in place and everyone will be wearing masks. Our air conditioning and ventilation system is state-of-the-art, including pathogen-killing ultraviolet lights inside every air handler, very efficient filters, and fresh air exchange inlets.

I want to thank Kim and Shawn for their boundless energy that allowed the club to continue to safely serve our members through this year of the pandemic, giving us a wonderful port in the storm of uncertainty. They even found time to put up all of the beautiful outdoor holiday decorations that greet us as we arrive "For Fun and Friendship."

My term as Commodore is also almost over and I want to thank all of you for electing me to serve the club in that honorable position. I have had the great honor of serving with a competent and hardworking board of directors who, along with general manager Shawn Witmer and a great, loyal staff, will continue to propel our club into a healthy, happy 2021 and beyond.

Mickey

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Thank you to Rey Neville for sharing his photos with all of us.

SPOTLIGHT ON VBYC ANNUAL MEETING



VBYC Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 19, at 4:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to update all members on the status of the club, review the budget and elect the commodore and officers for 2021.

To ensure member safety, all social distancing and mask protocols will be enforced. Audio from the meeting will be piped into all rooms and the patio.

Reservations for drinks and/or dinner are required. Please call the club to arrange for a table.

2021 SLATE SUBMITTED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

BRIDGE

Commodore – Robert (Bob) Jones



Bob grew up in Puerto Rico, earned a BS in Electrical Engineering from USC, and an MBA from Northwestern. His career includes VP and strategy consulting roles at McKinsey, Moore, Whirlpool, and Cisco Systems. In 2013, he and his wife Pam discovered Vero while voyaging south from Annapolis on their sailboat. Two years later they moved to Vero and joined VBYC. Bob has been a member of the Finance Committee and served as chair of the Planning, Membership and House and Grounds Committees. He currently is VBYC's Vice Commodore and the chair of The City of Vero Beach's Finance Commission.

Vice Commodore – Kristin (Kiki) Rhor



Kristin (Kiki) Rohr enjoyed a 40-year career in marketing communications. She worked in advertising agencies and as a government contractor; she operated a communications consultancy and served for 16 years as marketing director for a national hospitality management company.

As a member of the board of directors, she is chair of the Publicity and Publications Committee and sits on the Membership Committee. As Vice Commodore, she will chair the House and Grounds Committee.

In other activities, Kiki sits on the board of directors of Impact 100 of Indian River County; she is a Grant Panel Chair and serves as Marketing Chair.

Rear Commodore – Judy Peschio



Judy and her husband Tom moved to Vero Beach from Omaha, NE in 2008, and promptly joined the Yacht Club. Judy serves on both House and Grounds and Planning Committees, leads the Design Committee, and is the alternate director representing VBYC for Florida Council of Yacht Clubs. She also has served on the HR and Nominating Committees. Her career experience included work in financial services, a technology company where her role was manager of corporate communications worldwide, and CEO of a large Omaha non-profit.

Past volunteer leadership includes President of Indian River Impact 100 and Commander of the Vero Beach Power Squadron.

TWO YEAR TERM

E. Jane Booth



Jane moved to Vero Beach full-time in June of 2016. She and her family have enjoyed beaches and boating in the area since 1985. She currently lives with her dog and cat in the Ocean Ridge neighborhood.

Jane is a retired information technology professional. She has an undergraduate in Industrial Engineering and a master's in business administration. She has extensive knowledge of various IT disciplines and has several certifications.

Jane has served on the VBYC IT Committee and is looking forward using her talents to support the continued development of the club.

Karen Donofrio



Karen would like to further her involvement with VBYC by becoming a director. Serving on the Publicity, Membership and Food committees, being a member of Shipmates and writing for the Siren has given her insight into the operations and management of VBYC.

Past experiences include owning and operating National Export selling equipment to the U.S. Virgin Island government, serving as director of community relations for Waste Management as liaison to City of Coral Gables, serving on the board of directors of the Coral Gables Community Foundation and being vice president of The Villagers dedicated to preservation of historic sites.

Sean Kashawlic



Sean and Joyce relocated to Vero Beach from the Detroit area in 2015. They joined the club that fall and have enjoyed making new friends and being part of such a wonderful group. Sean currently is chair of the Membership Committee following several years of active participation. He has worked on new member recruitment projects, data collection and data storage activities for membership; as a member of the IT committee, he is reviewing all the Club's IT systems. Sean also has been active in the clearing and maintaining of our adopted Spoil Island.

Kathy Kinasewitz



Prior to moving to Vero Beach, Kathy owned and managed an independent bookstore in Edmond, Oklahoma. Her 25 years of experience as a small business owner taught her the importance of providing excellent customer service while paying close attention to finances. She has been on the board for the past four years serving as secretary and is highly qualified to continue in that capacity. Kathy is highly active in the club, participating on the planning, house and grounds and publicity committees as well as facilitating the monthly book club.

Pamela (Pam) Young



Pam has been a member of the Vero Beach Yacht Club since 2010 and currently serves as a member of the board of directors and editor of the Siren. Additionally, she has served on several committees, including Fleet, Planning, Nominating, Decorating, Wine, and Human Resources. She also has served as secretary for the Shipmates. These activities have given her wide-ranging insight into the general policies and procedures of VBYC.

ONE YEAR TERM

Sam Nerses



At the age of 11, Sam emigrated to the United States from Romania.

He worked in the hospitality industry throughout high school and college and became the assistant manager at the Mayflower Hotel. He attained the position of City Club manager at 24.

Sam was a member of the International Wine Society and the Metropolitan Club Managers Association, where he served on numerous committees. He retired as general manager of the Garden City Country Club.

Sam has been active in his Florida condominium association, serving as president and treasurer, as well as serving on the VBYC board and on the House and Grounds, Photography, Food, Audit and Inventory committees.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tom Peschio



As a 12-year member of the club, Tom has served on the board of directors under nine very different commodores, observed numerous candidates move through the ranks and lots of board members come and go. He has a clear understanding of what makes good club leadership. The Nominating Committee is more important to the club's future than any other committee and Tom has the experience to serve it well.

Robert C. Scofield



Bob became a member in 2014. He has served a two-year term on the board of directors, been the dock master since 2015, and he chaired the planning committee in 2016. He also has participated in several club projects including assisting Commodore Frank Bilotta on the selection committee which interviewed and hired our current manager, Shawn Witmer; he designed and managed the construction of our current Tiki Bar and spear-headed the purchase and management of the club's pontoon boat "Friendship." Bob also was involved in the seawall project and was project manager for the patio pergola.

Dear Members,

Words cannot express our profound heartfelt gratitude of the care, support, and generosity you all have shown us this past year. We are truly privileged and blessed to be working for such a fine club with the BEST members!

**Happy New Year!
Your VBYC Staff**

SHIPMATES



The Shipmates held their annual holiday luncheon in December; we were honored to have Fire Chief Tad Stone and members of his brigade join us for lunch. We donated some of the teddy bears we had collected to the Fire Department for their Toys for Tots Drive to thank them for their service.

The annual drive for the Food Pantry, led by Helen Drewett, finished mid-December with over 515 pounds of food being donated. \$1,500 in checks also was donated through the Shipmates, and other donations were sent directly to the Food Pantry. We appreciate everyone who opened their pantries and their wallets to support this much needed and appreciated community activity.

Thank you to the volunteers who participated in the "Hanging of the Greens" in the interior of the club. Those volunteers included Brenda Sheridan, Helen Dodds, Catherine Walker, Linda Pierce, Barbara McGrath, David and Vilma Stewart Guiducci, and Mary Wohlstein.

The first Black Friday Ships Store sale took place December 4. Over \$900 in merchandise was sold and ideas were gathered for future merchandise. Plans are being made to conduct a second sale on Friday, January 29, 2021 from 4 – 7 p.m.

The Shipmates will hold their January meeting Friday, January 8 at 11 a.m. The 2021 slate of officers will be sworn in by Commodore Donofrio. All members are invited to attend.

Best wishes to all for a safe and Happy New Year.

Mary Wohlstein
Shipmates President

Matthew Metz, Garrett Cagle,
Zachary Dedonti

Fire Chief Stone, Michael Rule,
Dodge Karpinski, Mary Wohlstein



ON THE WATERFRONT



ANNUAL BOAT PARADE

The annual Boat Parade was held Saturday, December 12. Approximately 30 boats all decked out in their Christmas finery floated past the reviewing stand. VBYC was represented by Captain Bacon and his crew: Lee Bowden, Tim Hermes, James DeSimone, Sean Kashawlic, and Chris Roekle in Après Ski. Congratulations on winning second place!

VBYC PADDLE GROUP OUTING

Saturday January 2, 2021, at 8:45 a.m.

Pelican Island off the Jungle Trail. Kayak in the first Wildlife Refuge established by Teddy Roosevelt. If you have never kayaked before, we will teach you! Please contact Toby Jarman at jotoby@moonriveriii.com if you are planning to attend. If you need a kayak, call Maddy at Adventure Kayak Tours at 772-538-3265 / 772-567-0522 for a reservation.



BEACH UP

Thursday, January 28 at 11 a.m.

Destination: Spoil Island # SL-6

Bring your beach chairs and picnic lunch. Please contact Toby Jarman at jotoby@moonriveriii.com if you plan to bring your boat.

SUNDOWNER

Due to the early sunset time during the winter months, Sundowner Cruises are on hiatus until March. Contact John Piecuch at jpie7237@gmail.com for more information.

VBYC - CHRISTMAS 2020

Santa made his list and checked it twice. It says everybody at VBYC is nice!



The VBYC Christmas Celebration was a great success. Four wreaths were created and donated by Shawn and Kim Witmer. These beautifully decorated wreaths were auctioned off and several personal donations were made totaling \$3,150 to support the Riverside Theatre's children's programming. Thank you to all participants and congratulations to Robin and Brenda Lloyd, Kiki Rohr, and Rey Neville.



PHOTO ALBUM

Elvis has left the building...

He says rocking and rolling in the VBYC parking lot is way more fun!



And a good time was had by all...

On Wednesday, December 9, VBYC presented an Elvis Tribute Concert in the Parking Lot.

Check the photo album on the VBYC website for more photos.

<https://verobeachyachtclub.com/photos>



A bit of Elvis trivia -

"Elvis has left the building" used to be announced at the end of Elvis Presley's concerts to encourage his hysterical fans to accept that there would be no further encores and to go home. It is now used more widely to indicate that someone has made an exit or that something is complete. The first known use of "Elvis has left the building" was printed in the Detroit Times, November 23, 1956.



VBYC ANNUAL MEETING
 Tuesday, January 19 at 4:00 pm

To ensure safe distancing, audio from the meeting will be piped into ALL rooms including the patio.

- * Commodore and Board Elections
- * Treasurers Report
- * Recognition Awards
- * Swearing in Ceremony

Choosing leadership and governance determines future direction of the Club

DINNER RESERVATION REQUIRED



VBYC CHANGE OF COMMAND

Sunday, January 31
4:00 p.m.

Be a Part of the Tradition

FOLLOWED BY A SERVED BBQ FROM 5:00 TO 7:00 P.M.
\$20.00++

CONCERT IN THE PARKING LOT
SOUNDS OF SOUL

Relive the hits of Motown and beyond, as this exciting, high energy group unleashes superior vocals and slick dance moves powered by pure soul.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 21
 Starting @ 8:00 PM
 Reserve Early!!

Cost Concert Only - \$25.00 ++

Special Home Cooking Menu available prior to the show.

Bring your lounge chairs & dance moves, or just kick back and enjoy the show.

Vero Beach Yacht Club

MOVIES IN THE PARKING LOT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

Movie Starts at 8:00 p.m.

10++

Complimentary Popcorn
Drink Service will be Available

Join Us for Dinner Prior to the Movie

BRING YOUR BEACH CHAIRS AND ENJOY THE SHOW!!

Movie TBA



**ATTENTION ALL VBYC GOLFERS
NINE AND DINE IS BACK!**

9 & DINE



Sandridge Golf Course

The golf group will be teeing off Fridays, January 8 and 22.

For more information contact Ginny Husted at
virginia.husted@gmail.com.

If you plan to have dinner or cocktails at the club,
you must have a reservation.

THURSDAY THEMED DINNERS



January 7
Asian NIGHT

January 14
PASTA NIGHT

January 21
HOME COOKING NIGHT

January 28
Pizza NIGHT

REGULAR DINNER MENU NOT AVAILABLE

**Card Making
Class**
January 2021

Gear up for Valentine's Day!

Class dates: Tuesday, January 5 and Wednesday, January 6 at 10 a.m. in the Burgee Room. Note the change from the second week to the first week of the month.

We will be making three Valentine cards appropriate to send to friends as well as partners. The cost is \$15 for materials, and all are welcome to attend. Please email Marilyn VanTassell at mvantas@verizon.net, to reserve your choice of day.

Live Music
on the Patio

FEATURING.....

Wednesday 6:00 - 9:00 PM
DAVE BIALOS

Thursday 6:00 - 9:00 PM
KENT TAYLOR BROWN

Please Call For Your Reservation

SATURDAY AT VBYC

January 2
Johnny Nick

January 9
Movie Night

January 16
Beachside Trio

January 23
Tony & Holly

January 30
Kurtis Wilson

BOOK CLUB

Save Me the Plums
by Ruth Reichl

January 27, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

The selection for January is *Save Me the Plums*, by Ruth Reichl.

When Condé Nast offered Ruth Reichl the top position at America’s oldest epicurean magazine, she declined. She was a writer, not a manager, and had no desire to be anyone’s boss. Yet Reichl had been reading *Gourmet* since she was eight; it had inspired her career. How could she say no? Under Reichl’s leadership, *Gourmet* was transformed into a cutting-edge publication. Complete with recipes, *Save Me the Plums* is the personal journey of a woman coming to terms with being in charge and making a mark, following a passion, and holding on to her dreams—even when she ends up in a place she never expected to be.

Be sure to ask for a free libation during your birthday month.

Reservations Required For January ~ 772-231-2211

Lunch Wednesday through Friday: 11:00 a.m. ~ 1:30 p.m.

Sunday Brunch (Breakfast & Lunch Menus): 10:00 a.m. ~ 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday and Thursday on the Patio with Music: 6:30 p.m. ~ 9:30 p.m.

Dinner Tues Through Sat: 5:30 p.m. ~ 8:30 p.m.

Saturday ~ Jackets optional in main dining room

JANUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Club Closed	2 <i>Paddle Group</i> <i>Johnny Nick</i> Dinner
3 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	4 Club Closed	5 Card Creation <i>VBVC Bucks Drawing</i> Dinner	6 Lunch Card Creation <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	7 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Asian Night Themed Dinner	8 Lunch <i>Shipmates</i> <i>9&DINE</i> <i>Happy Hour</i> Dinner	9  Dinner
10 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	11 Club Closed	12 <i>VBVC Bucks Drawing</i> Dinner	13 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	14 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Pasta Night Themed Dinner	15 Lunch <i>Happy Hour</i> Dinner	16 <i>Beachside Trio</i> Dinner
17 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	18 Club Closed	19  <i>VBVC Bucks Drawing</i> Dinner	20 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	21 Lunch  <i>Home Cooking</i> Themed Dinner	22 Lunch <i>9&DINE</i> <i>Happy Hour</i> Dinner	23 <i>Beach Up</i> <i>Tony & Holly</i> Dinner
24 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	25 Club Closed	26 <i>VBVC Bucks Drawing</i> Dinner	27 Lunch  <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	28 Lunch <i>Beach Up</i> <i>Music on the Patio</i> Pizza Night Themed Dinner	28 Lunch <i>Happy Hour</i> Dinner	30 <i>Kurtis Wilson</i> Dinner

31
Pickleball 9:30
Brunch



FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, February 13
Valentines Dinner

Thursday, February 18
Concert in the Parking Lot ~ Billy Joel Tribute "The Turnstiles"