

THE SIREN



Cmdre Mickey
Donofrio

Commodore's Log

Welcome back, club members; VBYC is ready to re-open its doors! General manager Shawn Witmer and the board of directors have developed a plan that focuses on health and safety for everyone, while complying with all current Florida regulations. However, our ability to stay open will depend on many factors, and primarily on the cooperation of all members and employees. Please be prepared to **strictly** follow the rules, and know they are only temporary.

Club and staff rules, as set out in an email attachment from Shawn to all members on May 20, have been fully instituted. Each of you should evaluate your personal risk tolerance before deciding to attend the club. If you have any questions concerning our new rules, please contact either Shawn or myself.

Please be patient as we spend more time together. See you at the club!

Mickey Donofrio
Commodore

**Your Vero Beach Yacht Club Will Re-Open
Tuesday, June 2nd**

(Reopening Guidelines Follow on Page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Reopening Guidelines	2
FCYC	3
Frontline Heroes	3
Islands in the Sun	4
In Memoriam	4
On the Waterfront	5
Spotlight on Publicity	6
VCYC Pickleball	6
Updates	7
Activities	7
Calendar	9

VBYC Reopening Guidelines

Pursuant to Governor DeSantis' full "Phase One" Executive Order the club will re-open Tuesday, June 2, while strictly adhering to the following government-mandated guidelines.

Inside Dining ~ RESERVATIONS ARE MANDATORY (for dining or drinks)

- **Members Only (NO Guests)**
- Allowable seating ~ 50% of maximum occupancy
- Seating at designated tables only, to ensure the 6 feet distancing requirement. The number of chairs at the table indicates the maximum number of people allowed. DO NOT add chairs to any table.
- No seating or gathering at the bar allowed. All drinks served will be delivered to tables by the wait staff.

Outside Dining ~ RESERVATIONS ARE MANDATORY (for dining or drinks)

- **Members Only (NO Guests)**
- Allowable seating ~ 100% of capacity with 6 feet between tables
- Seating at designated tables only, to ensure the 6 feet distancing requirement
- No seating or gathering at the Tiki bar. Only drinks delivered to tables by the wait staff will be served.
- The maximum number of members at any outside table is six. DO NOT add additional chairs to any table.

Additional Recommendations for Club Members:

1. Please refrain from using the club if you or a family member are experiencing any symptoms of a cold or flu; have a sore throat, runny nose, feel achy or have a fever.
2. Please refrain from using the club if you or a family member have traveled out of the state by plane, train, or any other mass transit, or have taken a cruise. You should self-quarantine for 14 days.
3. If you are comfortable wearing a mask and/or gloves, please do so.
4. To reduce exposure with staff, consider pre-ordering your meal when reserving your table.

With the health and wellbeing of members and staff being our top priority, the following mitigation steps have already been taken:

- All chairs and carpets have been steam cleaned.
- All hard surfaces have been sanitized.
- Entire clubhouse has been fogged with Vital Oxide, a sanitizing fogging process used in hospitals.
- The club's air quality is superior to that of most facilities. It was engineered with a perfect balance of fresh and conditioned air to force droplets to the ground more quickly than normal. Additionally, UV lights were installed throughout our ductwork.



P/C Rey Neville,
Director FCYC

Florida Council of Yacht Clubs (FCYC)

MAY MEETING: The general meeting scheduled for Davis Islands was cancelled and a virtual meeting was held in its place on May 16; this was the first meeting of the FCYC since January. A virtual meeting will be held on the date VBYC was to host the meeting on July 13 and, according to the FCYC Commodore, virtual meetings may continue after that.

VBYC REPLACEMENT HOSTING DATE: After coordinating with Commodore Donofrio and GM Witmer, Rear Commodore John Timmel, who handles the general meetings, has scheduled VBYC to host the FCYC meeting on July 9-11, 2022.

ONLINE ACCESS TO FCYC DOCUMENTS: Efforts toward making FCYC information available online have been underway for some time and with the need for virtual meetings, the effort is accelerating. We now have online access to the two documents we update to keep the council and its membership informed of club information and visitation information. In addition, the Directors Manual, which contains all the information relating to management and club information, is now online for club directors. This is a big step forward in keeping all the member clubs up to date. Likewise, the FCYC Cruising Guide also will be available online soon.

STATUS OF OTHER CLUBS: Many clubs are offering take-out meals, as we have been doing. In addition, several have opened at 25% capacity with some at 50%. Only one club fully honors reciprocity currently and that is our neighbor, Eau Gallie Yacht Club, although their Harbor Grill is still under renovation. It is expected to open around Father's Day.

MEA CULPA: I deeply regret failing to acknowledge Kiki Rohr in my last column. I listed all the other FCYC General Meeting Committee members and somehow missed Kiki who had done so much on behalf of the committee. Thank you, Kiki. You did a great job on numerous fronts which everyone appreciated.



See you on the water, Rey

VBYC Feeds Frontline Heroes

On Wednesday, April 29, the Vero Beach Yacht Club board of directors sponsored lunch for local frontline heroes performing COVID-19 testing at the Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital drive-thru testing site. VBYC staff, including GM Shawn Witmer, Kim Witmer, Chef Tommy Bologna, Dana Davis, and Forest Sulet provided tempting, nourishing lunches consisting of a sandwich, soup and cookies for 17 workers who spend long days at the testing site with only a short break for lunch. In addition to Wednesday's meal delivery, Shawn and Kim also sponsored a day of lunches.



Islands in the Sun

The spoil islands were created from the dredging of the ICW between the early 1950s and the early 1960s. The 137 islands, along 156 miles of the Indian River, are state-owned and designated as either "conservation" or "recreational." The Spoil Island Project (SIP), part of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), was subsequently formed to manage those islands designated as recreational. Docks were constructed on some of the islands, and work is underway to clear invasive plants and reestablish native plants on all of the islands.

Friends of Spoil Islands (FOSI) is a Florida nonprofit composed of volunteers dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and enhancement of the spoil islands. In 2016, the VBYC board of directors approved the club officially adopting the northern portion of Spoil Island #25. The program requires volunteers to clean the island by removing trash once every three months, and report pertinent findings to the DEP.

The adoption was not the VBYC's first bond with SI-25. Its convenient location, just north of the channel entrance to Grand Harbor west of mile marker 120, with a dock on the southwest side, has made it a gathering place for club members for close to 60 years. In the 1960s, they even nicknamed it Boat Club Island!

Since its official adoption in 2016, many VBYC members have helped keep the island clean and cleared, while also enjoying a day on the water with their club comrades. Clearing creates more useable space for VBYC members and the general public, and demonstrates the club's commitment to the community and the Indian River Lagoon.

The next scheduled clean-up of the island, with an opportunity to enjoy time on the water with fellow VBYC members, was planned for mid-April. At this time, a new date has not been determined. If you are interested, please email Connie Dominianni, conid@aol.com for specific information.



In Remembrance

Ray Auger

P/C Ed Davis

Peter Maxwell

Gil Stevens

Glenn Strunk

Reaves Tuthill

We Will Miss Them

ON THE WATERFRONT



In April, the VBYC board of directors approved funds to address dock safety issues, specifically making repairs of some finger piers and replacing the dock ladders. The work is scheduled for the summer.

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, our fleet has continued to be active, albeit with modifications. Because safety afloat is always the primary concern, captains and their crews have been implementing additional safety steps, whether taking boats to Hole-in-the-Wall or making trips north or south to visit restaurants or swim at the Ft. Pierce Inlet. Additionally, some owners and guests have been enjoying evening cocktails on their respective boats, thereby supporting safe social distancing.

Rentals of the VBYC boat Friendship have been resumed. New rules limit capacity to six passengers, and renting members are responsible for wipe down, before and after use. At this time, trained members only will be allowed to rent. No new training can be provided in the near term. Please call the club office for additional details at 772-231-2211.

UPCOMING FLEET ACTIVITIES

June 6th, Kayak Outing from Round Island Park at 8:45 a.m.

Never Kayaked Before? We Will Teach You!

Contact Toby Jarman if you are planning to attend.

(jotoby@moonriveriii.com)

Call Maddy at Adventure Kayak Tours for Kayak Reservation.

(772-538-3265 / 772-567-0522)

June 18th, Sundowner gathering at Hole-in-the-Wall, 5:30 p.m.

Captains may anchor together or apart, as they wish. Any large boats that are willing to raft up are asked to contact Fleet Captain Piecuch.

June 27th, Beach-Up at Spoil Island SL-08, 11 a.m.

Let us know if you plan to bring your boat or would like to ride on another participating boat.

Contact Toby Jarman at jotoby@moonriveriii.com



Spotlight on Publicity



The Vero Beach Yacht Club is fortunate to have a world-class management team in place. General Manager Shawn Witmer and his wife, Kim, accountant Irene and Chef Bill bring years of successful management experience to our club, and our membership numbers stand in testament to the level of their management expertise.

We also have a highly competent and dedicated board of directors to provide oversight of all club management functions and several member-led standing committees, which focus on various aspects of club management. These committees are instrumental in determining and driving the club's direction, and we are always looking for members interested in committee service to provide "new blood" to the life of our club.

Over the next few months, we will focus on one committee in each issue of The Siren. In this issue, we look at the Publicity and Publications committee.

Publicity and Publications is responsible for promoting club activities to membership and, where appropriate, in the public sphere. Given our tax status, we are discouraged from openly advertising for members; however, we are proud of our reputation as a good neighbor of long standing, and we do publicize events that speak to that point, such as our Teddy Bear Drive and Holiday Food Drive. Additionally, the Publicity and Publications Committee is responsible for producing club promotional materials, such as The Siren, and our social media presence is managed by a member of this committee. If you have an interest in promoting your club and its activities, please contact Kiki Rohr, comstrat@earthlink.net or 301-526-8465.

For information on the other VBYC standing committees, please visit verobeachyachtclub.com; log in, then click on "Governance" and then "Committees."

VBYC Pickleball

OK, most people have heard of Pickleball, but what in the world is it? Is it hard to learn? Are you really playing with a pickle? Is it messy?

Invented by three buddies on an island off the coast of Washington in the mid-1960s, Pickleball is a paddle sport combining a bit of tennis, a bit of badminton and a bit of ping-pong into one fun game.

The court is about 1/3 the size of a tennis court and players use a whiffle ball and small paddles. The only other requirements are a pair of athletic shoes and somewhat reasonable eye-hand coordination.

VBYC members meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 to play on two courts in the East parking lot. All club members are invited to come out and give Pickleball a try. The court lines are permanent and the portable nets are stored in the onsite locker, so play can occur anytime the lot isn't needed for parking. If you are interested in more information, please email: gkinasewitz@outlook.com.



VBYC Activities Schedule for June

Pickle ball may resume beginning June 2

The club boat "Friendship" will be available for rental beginning June 2

Kayak rentals will be available beginning June 2

Wednesday night music on the patio will resume June 3

Saturday night music will resume June 6

Special entertainment will begin in June and continue throughout the summer

Bridge, Poker, Mahjong, Rummikub are suspended through June 30, 2020

Friday Night DJ Dance Party expected to resume in July

Coming to VBYC

FRIDAY, JUNE 19TH

Fantastic & Entertaining Show !!

WORLD RENOWNED CELEBRITY IMPRESSIONIST

Reserve Early!!

As Herself



HOLLY FARIS.

6:00 PM COCKTAILS/ HORS D'OEUVRES

7:00 DINNER / SHOWTIME 8:00

\$40.00 ++

Father's Day Brunch

Sunday, June 21st

10:00 am- 1:30 pm

A Special Day to Honor All Dads

\$25.00 ++

RESERVE EARLY



4th of July BBQ
Saturday
July 4th

Special Served Menu
from 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Music By "Papa" Pete
6:30-9:30 pm
\$25.00++

THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ROOM
a novel
MARIE BENEDICT
USA Today Bestselling Author of CARNEGIE'S MAID and THE OTHER EINSTEIN

BOOK CLUB
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24TH
4:00 PM

SATURDAY NIGHT BANDS
JUNE

- 6th- DJ Joe Tessier
- 13th- Beachside Jazz
- 20th - Tony and Holly
- 27th- Sunny and Kurtis

WEDNESDAY ON The PATIO
6:00 pm- 9:00 pm

WELCOME BACK
Jazz Guitarist Dave Bialos
Bass Player David Glassner

PLEASE CALL FOR YOUR RESERVATION

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

Reservations Required For June ~ 772-231-2211

Lunch Wednesday through Friday: 11:00 am ~ 1:30 pm

Sunday Brunch: 10:00 am ~ 1:30 pm

Wednesday Night on the Patio with Music: 6:00 pm ~ 9:00 pm

Dinner Tuesday through Saturday: 5:30 pm ~ 8:30 pm

Saturday ~ Jackets optional in main dining room

JUNE 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Club Closed	2 <i>VBYC Bucks Drawing</i> Dinner	3 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	4 Lunch Dinner	5 Lunch Dinner	6 <i>Kayak</i> <i>Music by DJ Joe Tessier</i> Dinner
7 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	8 Club Closed	9 <i>VBYC Bucks Drawing</i> Dinner	10 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	11 Lunch Dinner	12 Lunch Dinner	13 <i>Music by Beachside Jazz</i> Dinner
14 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	15 Club Closed	16 <i>VBYC Bucks Drawing</i> Dinner	17 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	18 Lunch <i>Sundowner</i> Dinner	19 Lunch	20 <i>Music by Tony & Holly</i> Dinner
21 Pickleball 9:30	22 Club Closed	23 <i>VBYC Bucks Drawing</i> Dinner	24 Lunch Book Club <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	25 Lunch Dinner	26 Lunch Dinner	27 <i>Beach Up</i> <i>Music by Sunny & Curtis</i> Dinner
28 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	29 Club Closed	30 <i>VBYC Bucks Drawing</i> Dinner				

Special Event Impressionist Holly Faris

Father's Day Brunch