

THE SIREN



Cmdre Bob
Jones

Commodore's Log

Our VBYC Food and Beverage (F&B) Heroes

This month we give a special salute to our club's front-of-house F&B heroes! They have persevered even as the past 15 months presented a string of previously unimaginable challenges. Their work routines were suddenly shredded as both the reality and unknown elements of COVID hit our community and the world. They faced a state government that was totally unprepared to crank out unemployment checks at the level triggered by the pandemic. Several contracted the virus, though thankfully without severe complications. They remained loyal as VBYC limped along, initially with just takeout service, then in the second half of the year, operating at half the club's normal level. They remained steady through the passing of our beloved bar manager Ray and chef Bill. Since our activity returned to a more normal level in the past few months, the club has consistently operated with 3 to 4 service staff openings, and they have gladly filled in the gaps.

Please join your board and me in delivering warm and frequent thank-yous to our foodservice heroes for their herculean efforts over the past difficult year — Brenda, Dan, Daniel, Danny, Jackie, Kassie, Natalie, and Nikki — you are all VBYC family!

Interview with VBYC Executive Chef, Rodney Smith

Now that Rodney Smith has settled in as VBYC's executive chef, it seemed a fun idea to interview him about the significant changes he has made to the menu and associated dining experience. Here are my take-aways from our conversation.

- Fewer menu items enable his staff to create truly "composed" entrée items, without having to juggle an unmanageable number of average-tasting options. Variety is achieved by making significant changes every week.
- The Caribbean/Southern cuisine of Florida and the tropics makes for tried-and-true dishes that complement our warmer weather. It also enables us to buy locally whenever possible.
- Quality vs. quantity is Rodney's philosophy. Rodney believes members will happily trade off extreme portion sizes for taste and top-notch ingredients. Further, he is committed to making virtually everything in-house, from scratch.
- Chef Rodney brings considerable expertise with cooking techniques aimed at precise and consistent cooking, including the "sous vide" method. As a hands-on chef, no meal leaves his kitchen without his seal of approval.

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MEMBERS NEEDED FOR KEY POSITIONS



DON'T WAIT, ACT NOW

The VBYC nominating committee is seeking interested members to fill positions on the board of directors and the nominating committee. It's the perfect opportunity to get more involved in our club, meet new people, and make new friends.

We need your talent and expertise, so please craft a 100-word letter expressing your interest and letting us know how your participation can benefit VBYC.

Board members and nominating committee members are elected for two-year terms. Members applying for board positions must have been a member for two years and an active member of a standing committee for at least one year. The election will take place at the Annual Meeting in January.

From personal experience, I can attest that serving as a member of the leadership team is rewarding, interesting and, yes, fun. So, why not? Your club will benefit and so will you.

Please submit your letter via email to me at mickeydonofrio@comcast.net by September 30, 2021.

Thank you,

P/C Mickey Donofrio, Chairperson Nominating Committee

SHIPMATES

HIGH SEASON IN VERO BEACH MAY BE OVER BUT THE SHIPMATES ARE NOT SLOWING DOWN



On May 27, the Shipmates hosted a luncheon and make-up demonstration by local independent make-up artist Cindy Goetz. Guests were treated to helpful hints to effortlessly achieve that dewy look. VBYC member Rose Marie Knickman was the model, and all agreed that she looked lovely.

As part of the summer activities, the Shipmates travelled to Eau Gallie Yacht Club in Melbourne for a fabulous lunch.



Coming attractions:

- On July 9 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. the Shipmates will host a Christmas in July Ship Store Sale. Stop by and see all the new merchandise we have to offer.
- Join us Wednesday, July 14 when the Shipmates will host "Chef Rodney Demo and Luncheon" in the main dining room at 11:30 a.m. The cost will be \$18.00 per person, inclusive. Reservations are required.
- Save the date, Saturday, October 16, when the Shipmates will host a Roaring Twenties-themed 95th Birthday Party for VBYC. Get your outfits ready and plan to kick up your heels at this club dinner dance.
- The Shipmates received letters of thanks from both Carolyn Thorton, executive director of Friends After Diagnosis and from Jim Romanek, executive director of Veterans Council of Indian River County. They expressed their gratitude for our generosity and ongoing kindness.

We are always looking for new members. For more information, contact Mary Wohlstein at m_wohlstein@yahoo.com. Regular meetings will resume in September.



WINEAUX' CORNER

Wine List — The manager is putting the finishing touches on the new wine list. Look for an e-blast announcement in mid-July.

SAVE THE DATE!

Wine Dinner, Thursday, August 12.

Reception at 6:00 p.m. with dinner to start at 6:30.

This five-course dinner will feature wines from Hahn Family Winery paired with a chef-planned menu.



ON THE WATERFRONT

FUN IN THE SUN



VBYC Paddle Group — Saturday, July 3 at 8:45 a.m.
North of Fritz Island

See this beautiful kayak area in our own “back yard”! If you are new to kayaking, we will teach you. For details, contact Toby Jarman at jotoby@moonriveriii.com. Email Maddy of Adventure Kayak Tours for kayak reservations at madelynrussell12@gmail.com.

Sundowner Cruise

Saturday, July 17

The next Sundowner Cruise is Saturday, July 17 (please note the new day). Several of you mentioned a mid-week cruise was not possible, so join us on Saturday instead! Contact Captain John Piecuch at jpie7237@gmail.com for details.

Beach Up

Thursday, July 22 at 11 a.m.

Destination: Spoil Island # SL-06

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



Spoil Island Cleanup

Twelve VBYC members and captains Jarman and Piecuch enjoyed a day on the water, did some community service and enjoyed lunch together! Good news: a less than usual amount of trash was found on the island, although the group did a “Hat Trick,” finding 3 baseball caps! The next cleanup will be in the fall of 2021. Stay tuned for the date.

FLEET TRIP – JUNE 2021

For many years, it has been the club's tradition to take an annual summer cruise to visit FCYC clubs. The 2019 trip was cancelled due to a hurricane and 2020 was cancelled due to COVID restrictions. In 2021, the trip was rescheduled by Fleet Captain Lee Bowden. The vessels Wayward Kraken, Sans Souci, Après Ski, What's Her Name and Vigilant visited five FCYC clubs and covered nearly 500 miles on a nine-day cruise.



*Over the river and through the locks,
to Florida's west coast we went.
The levels did drop so we filled up the lock.
Then onto the water we sailed.*



*Over the river and through the locks,
The folks said anchors aweigh.
One boat became lost but soon found – not aground.
All sailed on in style that day.*



*Over the river and through the locks,
Three birthdays we did have
(Stuart, Connie, Regina)
Hurrah for the fun they all aged by one,
Hurrah for a year gone by.*



*Over the river and through the locks,
To the intracoastal we flew,
The weather turned rough, the crew said enough!
T'was a safe return for all.*



*Over the river and through the locks,
How smooth the trip did go,
Until someone called, "Did we hit a log?"
Uh oh – the captain says, "He _ no".*



*Over the river and through the locks,
To VBYC we went
Soon all the boats were docked,
The captains got crocked (well, they were at the dock).
Hurrah for another day!*

* Sung to the tune of "Over the River and Through the Woods to Grandmother's House We Go"...



Check the photo album on the VBYC website for more photos. <https://verobeachyachtclub.com/photos>

SALTY DOGS AND SANDY TALES

Salty Dog is a nickname for an ornery sailor who has spent much of his or her life aboard a ship at sea. A Salty Dog is also called old salt or true grit. — In this context, a "salty dog" would be someone dear to the speaker's heart.

Over the next several months, we will celebrate a few of our saltiest members. There are so many stories that simply need to be told: boating adventures of all sorts, ranging from multi-year cruising to ocean passages and professional maritime experiences. What other sea stories need telling? Contact Karen D'Onofrio, Publicity Committee chair, to submit your salty tale.

Let the Stories Begin ...



Madesta Stevens

We set out on July 8, 1974, with a fair wind from Charlevoix, Michigan. Peter 11, Bobby 10, David 8, and Mom and Dad on the Heather, a knockabout schooner of 45' length and 13' beam, built in 1927 in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

Our travels took us through the straits of Mackinaw, down Lake Huron, across Lake Erie to our first real challenge: the Welland Canal, which joins Lake Erie to Lake Ontario, thus bypassing Niagara Falls. It was a whole day's adventure, with the boys doing all the line handling, and anxious moments as the giant oil tanker behind us gathered steam to exit each of the eight locks.

We proceeded with our journey, visiting relatives, making new friends, and acquiring a boat cat, Tigger. In Spa Creek in Annapolis, we joined up with a green steel schooner, the Charlotte Jean, and enjoyed many good times, including the "great schooner race" down the Chesapeake Bay in a snowstorm. We continued south in the inland waterway, Dad steering and navigating; Mom busy preparing meals, baking bread, and doing some refinishing projects on deck. The boys read, played with matchbox cars, and helped with boat stuff.

The weather gradually warmed, and soon we were in Palm Beach waiting to cross the Gulf Stream to the Abacos. Having read many accounts of sailing in the islands without refrigeration, we overprovisioned the hard way, varnishing cans of vegetables, fruits, and meats to ride in the bilge, and coating dozens of eggs with Vaseline. The cans eventually rusted, as old wooden boats leak...a lot, but the eggs lasted well. The boys hated the powdered milk, and they spent their allowance on fresh milk from the little markets.

Our main objective was William Albury's yard on Man O'War, but they were too busy to take us, so we went down to the Exumas for two months, returning to have the work done, including a new stem. In July our adventure was over, and we returned to Miami, tied up at Dinner Key Marina and resumed life "on the hard," putting the boys back in school and going to work ourselves. After three years aboard, we sold Heather and moved ashore.

SALTY DOGS AND SANDY TALES, *continued...*



Paul Ives

It was 1957 and I had been piloting for just one year when I boarded a small freighter under German flag. Germany had been rebuilding following the destruction of WW2, and this was the one of the first of their merchant ships I had encountered. The captain was an older man who had obviously spent many years at sea. I was in my late 20s and all the captains seemed much older to me at that time. We headed up the Delaware Bay, and making general conversation, I asked him if he had ever been to America before. There was a long pause, then he said: "Ya pilot, a few years ago I look at your pilot boat through my periscope." I told him I was glad he hadn't decided to torpedo it, they cost a lot of money. We had a good laugh and we both enjoyed a pleasant trip up to Philadelphia.



Don Young

Having lived aboard Cloud IX for over a year at the Capital Yacht Club in Washington, DC, I knew when I woke up on a weekday morning to dead silence, something was out of kilter. As the crow flies, the club is only about two miles from Reagan Airport. At 6:00 each morning, the noisy shuttle flights to other cities commence. But today it was dead quiet.

I pulled back the curtain for a view of the cockpit. Instead of my normal view of the dock all I saw was a world of white. Overnight three feet of snow had fallen. Wow, what to do now? I put on heavy clothes and stepped out the door into the cockpit. I heard the voices of some fellow live-aboards, setting up a shoveling gang. I got my own shovel from the engine room and went up to help. Luckily, to prevent ice-up, most of the boats had either bubbler or propeller systems to keep the water moving around the hulls. They were a huge help, since all you had to do was push the snow off the dock and into the moving water.

Someone yelled about a boat in trouble. It was a 47-footer with a long bow. The weight of the snow had pushed the bow down into the water so far that two of the front ports were fully submerged. We needed to get it shoveled before the seals on the ports gave way. Knowing the owner was not aboard and couldn't get to the club, we started shoveling. Weight distribution was paramount so only two men at a time went aboard. Soon the bow deck was cleared, and the ports were back in the sunshine.

Over the rest of the day, we managed to get the entire club shoveled out, including all four docks and the parking lot. At the Capital Yacht Club, any excuse is a reason to have a party, so we put away our shovels and hoisted a glass (or two) to celebrate a job well done.

BLUE GAVEL MAY 2021

Last month, the VBYC Chapter of the International Order of the Blue Gavel, an international organization of past commodores throughout the yachting world, hosted the spring District 8 meeting. President, P/C Frank Bilotta and his lady, Patricia, welcomed more than sixty members, spouses and guests to the weekend festivities which began Friday evening with a cocktail reception and informal welcoming dinner.

Saturday meetings included a presentation of the Ever Given containership incident in the Suez Canal by P/C Paul Ives and a presentation by P/C Joe Tringali, Esq, District Legal Officer, who spoke about his recently-published two-book set entitled "Yachting Customs and Courtesies."

The highlight of the gathering was a Saturday evening dinner dance featuring a delicious "surf and turf" meal prepared by our newly arrived executive chef Rodney Smith. Additionally, past commodores John Barringer and Chuck Ranson were presented with gifts honoring their many years of service to the Vero Beach Yacht Club Chapter of IOBG.



JUNE CONCERT IN THE PARK (-ING LOT)

CARPENTERS TRIBUTE

The last concert in the park (-ing lot) for the spring season was a tribute to the Carpenters. And VBYC was truly "on top of the world." This fabulous tribute band pulled out all the stops, playing every one of the legendary artists' greatest hits, all of which were recognized by the VBYC audience. We sang, we danced ... the "last blast" park (-ing lot) concert was a huge success.

Over the summer, club events will move indoors.

Outdoor concerts will return in the fall. Check the Siren for more details.



MAY/JUNE PHOTO ALBUM



Check the photo album on the VBYC website for more photos. <https://verobeachyachtclub.com/photos>



CLUB EVENT
 Thursday, July 15, 8:00-10:00 p.m.
 (Main Dining Room)
FEATURING
THE BEATLE Guys



Special Dinner Menu 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Event Only - \$10.00

DJ DANCE FRIDAY
FRIDAY, JULY 2



MUSIC STARTS AT 7:00 P.M.

Member Mixer
Wednesday, July 7
5:00-6:00 p.m.
Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres





**THURSDAY
JULY 29
\$20.00++**





TRIVIA

Pasta Station opens at 6:00 p.m.
Trivia Begins at 7:30 p.m.



THE SHIPMATES PRESENT

Lunch and a Cooking Demonstration
by VBYC Chef Rodney

Wednesday, July 14
Arrival: 11:30 a.m.
Cooking Demonstration – 12:00 p.m.
Followed By Lunch

\$18.00 Inclusive

Reservations Much Appreciated



Fridays, July 9 & July 23
Tee Time at 2:06 p.m.

Sandridge Golf Course

Due to summer maintenance, there will only be one course available.

Contact Madesta Stevens at madesta212@gmail.com
for additional information and registration.

Christmas

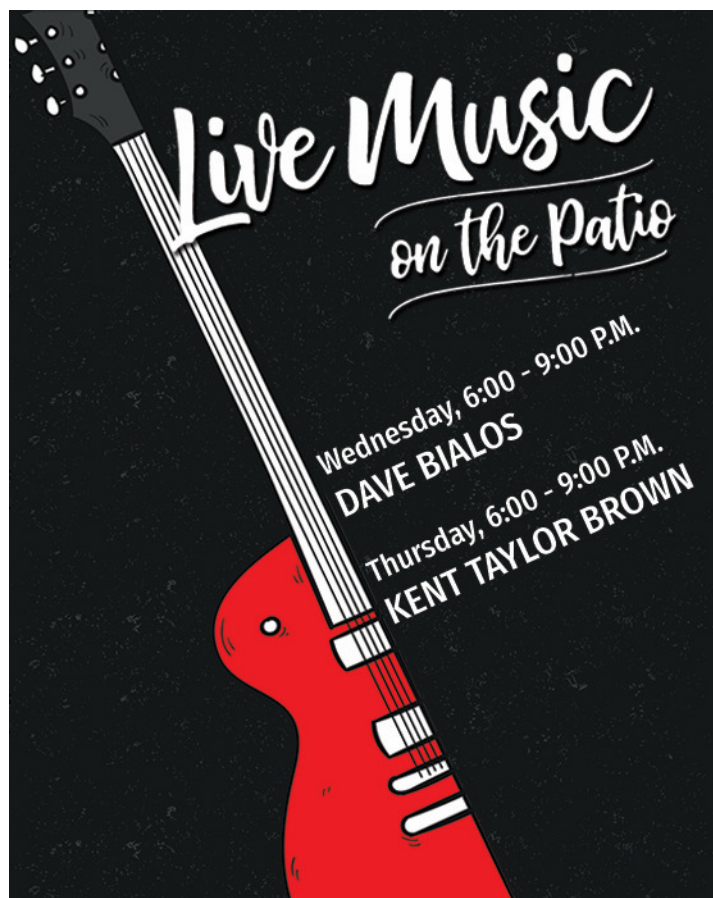
In July

SHIP STORE SALE

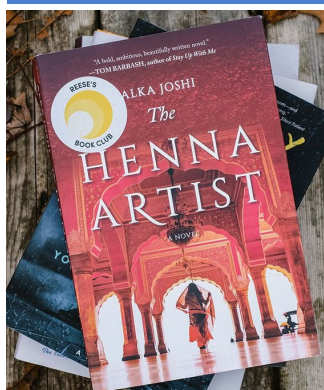
Friday, July 9
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM

Stay for Happy Hour and Dinner!
See you at The Club!!



BOOK CLUB

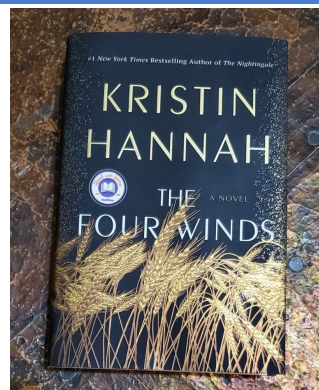


The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi

Wednesday, July 28
4:00 p.m.

This is a portrait of one woman's struggle for fulfillment in a society divided between the traditional and the

modern. The Henna Artist opens a door into a world that is at once lush and fascinating, stark and cruel. Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi makes her way alone to the 1950s pink city of Jaipur. She becomes the most highly requested henna artist—and confidante—to the wealthy women of the upper class. But trusted with the secrets of the wealthy. She has a secret too; one she can never reveal.



The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

Wednesday, August 25
4:00 p.m.

The Four Winds is a sweeping novel that brings to life the Great Depression and the people who lived

through the harsh realities that divided us as a nation and the enduring battle between the haves and the have-nots. A testament to hope, resilience, and the strength of the human spirit, The Four Winds is a portrait of America and the American dream, as seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation.

For additional information, please contact Book Club Facilitator Kathy Kinasewitz at:

kkinasewitz@hotmail.com

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

JULY 2021

Reservations Required ~ 772-231-2211





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

Sunday Brunch: 10:00 a.m. ~ 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday and Thursday Night on the Patio: Music: 6:00 p.m. ~ 9:00 p.m.

Dinner: Tuesday Through Saturday: 5:30 p.m. ~ 8:30 p.m.

Saturday: Music: 6:30 ~ 9:30 p.m. Jackets optional in main dining room

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS Friday, August 6 ~ DJ/Dance Party Thursday, August 12 ~ Hahn Estates Wine Pairing Dinner Thursday, August 19 ~ Club Event – Beachland Band Thursday, August 26 ~ Pasta Trivia				1 Lunch MAHJONG <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	2 Lunch BRIDGE BLUE GAVEL <i>Happy Hour</i> Dinner 	3 <i>Paddle Group</i> <i>Johnnie Nick</i> Dinner
4 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch 	5 Club Closed	6 <i>VBVC Bucks</i> <i>Drawing</i> Dinner	7 Lunch  <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	8 Lunch MAHJONG <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	9 Lunch BRIDGE 9DINE SHIPSTORE <i>Happy Hour</i> Dinner	10 <i>Steve Daley</i> Dinner
11 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	12 Club Closed	13 <i>VBVC Bucks</i> <i>Drawing</i> Dinner	14 Lunch  <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	15 Lunch MAHJONG THE BEATLE <i>Guys</i> <i>Special Limited</i> Menu Dinner	16 Lunch BRIDGE <i>Happy Hour</i> Dinner	17 <i>Sundowner</i> <i>Cruise</i> <i>Beachside Trio</i> Dinner
18 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	19 Club Closed	20 <i>VBVC Bucks</i> <i>Drawing</i> Dinner	21 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	22 Lunch MAHJONG <i>Beach Up</i> <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	23 Lunch BRIDGE 9DINE <i>Happy Hour</i> Dinner	24 <i>Dave Bialos</i> <i>Band</i> Dinner
25 Pickleball 9:30 Brunch	26 Club Closed	27 <i>VBVC Bucks</i> <i>Drawing</i> Dinner	28 Lunch B Club <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	29 Lunch MAHJONG PASTA Trivia <i>night</i>	30 Lunch BRIDGE <i>Happy Hour</i> Dinner	31 <i>Sunnie & Kurtis</i> Dinner