

THE SIREN



Commodore
Bob Jones

Commodore's Log

I would like to shout out a special welcome back to our returning seasonal members!

If January is a month for forward-thinking resolutions, December seemed designed for thoughtful reflection as I write my final Siren Commodore's Log. It has been a fun year!

2020 to 2021 handoff

Mickey's year as commodore culminated with the north patio extension of our pergola and installation of automatic doors at the clubhouse entrance and Burgee Room exit to patio. Outside dining continues to be very popular.

Foodservice transformation

Early in 2021, we gained great insight from members on foodservice priorities and took the step to hire a new executive chef, who has truly transformed the club's dining experience. Chef Rodney and Shawn continue to listen to members and will offer refinements aimed at balancing food taste, service excellence, menu updates and item choice.

Covid mitigation

Much as we had hoped to say goodbye to COVID-19 in 2020, we've had to stay vigilant as the virus continues to go through additional peaks and variants. Shawn is particularly proud that both members and staff achieved a near-100% vaccination status without having to resort to mandates, which enabled the club to return to more normal operating mode.

South patio plan

In 2021, we transitioned from planning and frustrating permit tracking into execution mode on the final phase of our patio reinvention journey: a seawall extension adding patio width to the end of the property, six additional tables and a horseshoe-shaped bar with unobstructed water views. What fun it will be to witness our next commodore cut the ribbon, hopefully this spring.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Commodore's Log	1-2
Thank You	2
2022 Slate	3-4
FCYC	5
Blue Gavel	5
Shipmates	6
Food Drive	7
Wineaux	7
On the Waterfront	8-9
Fleet Survey	10
Christmas Parade	11
Friendship Purchase	11
Photo Album	12
Activities	13-15
Calendar	16

....continued on page 2....

COMMODORE'S LOG, *continued*

Celebrating VBYC as a yacht club.

In the Siren, we featured tales from several of our saltiest members. Via a survey, we gained insight into members' interests in an expanded set of boating and on-water activities. A few members are exploring radio-controlled sailboats, and we are considering upgrading to a pontoon boat capable of getting to Ft. Pierce or Sebastian in an hour and making it more accessible to all members.

Friendship sails down Ocean Drive.

Under Susan Burton's leadership, a terrific team was assembled to transform the club pontoon boat, Friendship, into a gleaming motor yacht. We did not win a prize in the Vero Beach parade, but we sure had fun!

Most importantly, we continue to be a vibrant club offering diverse activities in a beautiful waterfront setting, and plentiful opportunities to meet and bond with friends. As we look forward to the new year, I will be retiring my flag and saluting our new Commodore, Kiki Rohr. All the best in 2022!



thank you

Dear VBYC Members,

Words cannot express our utmost sincere appreciation and thankfulness to be able to work for a club and her members that have such a genuine care and consideration for the staff. Your generous contributions to the Employee Holiday Fund helps all of our Christmas's be a little more merry and bright!

Thank You,
Your VBYC Staff

2022 OFFICERS



Kristin (Kiki) Rhor — Commodore

Since moving to Vero Beach, the club has become Kiki's home-away-from-home. She has formed great friendships and is impressed with the caliber of both board and staff. She has served on the board of directors and as chair of the Publicity and House & Grounds Committees, and is honored to be asked to serve as commodore in 2022. Her past career includes serving as director of marketing for a mid-sized hospitality management company with an emphasis on food and beverage services. She also has served on the boards of several non-profits and industry organizations, including the Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington (eight years) and the National Cherry Blossom Festival (six years, four as board chair).



Judy Peschio — Vice Commodore

Judy was born and raised on a fourth-generation cattle ranch in South Dakota. She received her BA in Education from the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minnesota. She started her business career working in management positions in the financial services industry and later was hired by the American Red Cross Heartland Chapter in Omaha, NE, where she served as chapter CEO until her retirement. She and her husband, Tom, recently celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary. Judy is past commodore of the Vero Beach Power Squadron and past president of Indian River Impact 100, a women's collective-giving grant making organization; she currently serves on several committees at the Vero Beach Yacht Club.



Sean Kashawlic — Rear Commodore

Sean relocated to Vero Beach from the Detroit area with his wife Joyce. They joined the Club in 2015 and have enjoyed making new friends and being part of the group. Sean has been an active participant on the Membership Committee and the IT Committee for several years. Specific projects he has worked on include new member recruitment projects, data collection and storage activities, and conducting a review and analysis of the club IT systems. One activity he enjoys is assisting in the clearing and maintaining of our adopted Spoil Island.



Gordon Sellers — Director

A lifelong boater, Gordon has enjoyed getting involved with the many social, recreational, and nautical activities available through the club. He has served two years on the Publicity & Publications committee and has participated on the House & Grounds and Planning committees. He believes we have two opportunities for growth as a club over the next few years: We need to explore and develop a plan to use our waterfront more expansively in conjunction with the City's redevelopment at their Marina facilities to our north and south. Also, we need to continue to keep up with the changing demographic makeup of our membership - looking for fresh new ways to attract and keep membership high and demand at its peak.



2022 OFFICERS, *continued*



John Piecuch — Director

John comes from Calumet City, Illinois. He attended Purdue University before being drafted and sent to Vietnam. He then worked for Motorola Communications before starting a new career in 1981 as a licensed owner/operator of a McDonald's franchise location in Long Island, New York. He served on the McDonald's regional purchasing committee, the New York board of McDonald's advertising co-operative and also was president of the 86-member Long Island Owners Association for six years prior to his retirement. After his wife passed in 2013, he moved permanently to Vero Beach where they had been snowbirds since 1969.

Peter Saxon — Director

Peter was a partner at a well-known NYC Intellectual Property (IP) legal firm and president of the largest regional IP association in the country. Other affiliations included president of the Havemeyer Park Owners Association in Old Greenwich, CT, vice-president of the Block Island Residents Association, president of the Block Island Economic Foundation, and legal counsel to and a founder of the Block Island Yacht Club. Closer to home, he served as treasurer and board member of the Old Orchid Homeowners Association. He is chair of the Long-Term Planning committee.

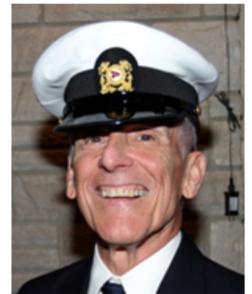


James (Jim) DeSimone — Director

Jim has spent his entire career in the maritime industry, first serving in all officer capacities on commercial ships, and then ashore in senior management positions. He also has served on corporate and not-for-profit boards, and on several government advisory committees. As a member of the Planning Committee, Jim has been very involved in the bulkhead construction project and looks forward to the project completion. He and his wife enjoy the fun and friendship that makes VBYC so unique, and he will work to make sure it continues that way.

Jim Miskel — Nominating Committee

Jim and his wife have been members of the yacht club for many years. They are year-round residents of Vero Beach and are active participants in club activities. He served three years on the board of directors and has been a member of the Membership Committee.



Joel Cipolla — Nominating Committee

A member of the Yacht Club since 2015, Joel serves as insurance and financial professional chairing the Insurance Committee responsible for negotiating and maintaining insurance programs of the club, and as a member of the Finance Committee. Other experiences include treasurer of Riverwind Homeowners Association and Membership and Finance Committee member of the Bent Pine Golf Club. Joel attended the University of Connecticut with a major in insurance and minor in marketing; he worked in the field forty years, before becoming president and chief executive of Zurich Reinsurance Company. He also co-founded a small venture capital company investing in brokerages, agencies, and small health companies. He is married to Catherine Cipolla, a fellow club member.

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF YACHT CLUBS (FCYC)



P/C Rey Neville,
Director FCYC

2022 General Meeting: We are all very excited about the new extension to the patio and the fabulous waterfront bar that soon will be there. That said, VBYC was scheduled to host the FCYC General Meeting in July, 2022. Considering construction issues, the BoD requested the date be moved back a couple of months, just in case. Fortunately, the Isles Yacht Club in Punta Gorda has graciously agreed to host the July meeting in our stead. We can now look forward to a fabulous weekend of all things yachting and fun with FCYC meeting here on September 9-11, 2022.

2021 Cruising Logs: Ok, cruisers, it's time to get your log sheets to our fleet captain, Lee Bowden, confirming your yachting travels to faraway FCYC clubs. He needs these by year's end for submission to FCYC. Remember, there could be "hardware" to be had.

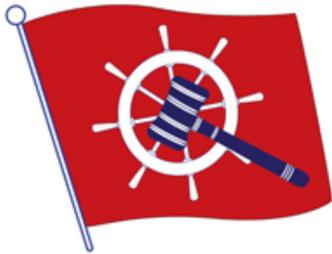
Insurance: FCYC is continuing to examine some forms of group insurance, in hope of reducing insurance costs for member clubs.

Dues: With the absence of revenue from the Cruising Guides, annual dues will marginally increase for 2022.

P.C Rey Neville



BLUE GAVEL INVITATION



The VBYC chapter of the International Order of the Blue Gavel invites all past commodores who are members of the VBYC to consider joining our chapter.

Membership in the Order of the Blue Gavel is open to all past commodores of recognized yacht clubs. A social gathering, meeting and dinner are held at the VBYC on the first Thursday of each month. Spouses or partners are always welcome. Uniforms are optional, but proper club attire is required.

Please contact PC Barbara Ebstein, secretary/treasurer of the chapter, at bebstein249@comcast.net, for additional information.

Frank Bilotta, President



SHIPMATES

SHIPMATES FINISH 2021 ON A HIGH NOTE

The Shipmates brought 2021 to an end with a fun-filled Holiday Luncheon complete with a presentation by Lynn Jackson, a visit from Santa Claus, news about our very successful Food Pantry Drive, and lots of Teddy Bears for the Cleveland Clinic Indian River Medical Center Emergency Room. Thanks to all the Shipmates and club members who participated in these activities. We could not have done it without you! Special thanks as well to the elves who participated in the Hanging of the Greens. VBYC certainly looked festive for the holidays.

Shipmates will kick off the New Year on Friday, January 14, at 11 a.m., with the swearing in of the officers for 2022. President - Mary Wohlstein, Vice President - Janet Leh, Secretary - Judi Wisniewski, and Treasurer - Brenda Lloyd. We also will host Dr. Deepti Sadhwani as our guest speaker; her presentation is entitled "Aging with Dignity and Grace."

All members of the club are invited to the Shipmates meetings and presentations.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Mary



FOOD DRIVE

FOOD DRIVE

This year's Food Drive benefiting the Food Pantry of Indian River County has been awesome. Although the final numbers are not yet totaled, as we still have additional days to include, to date we have delivered 514 pounds of food.

Also, this year, for the first time, we asked for cash donations, which totaled over \$2,000. The Pantry will use those funds to purchase lots of food, since they buy at discounted prices.

So, thank you everyone, from our VBYC volunteers and from the good folks at the Food Pantry, who also expressed the sincere thanks of those individuals and families receiving aid. Also, the club wishes to express a special thanks to the Shipmates, and to Helen Drewett for all her hard work on this initiative over the past four years.



Pictured left to right....
Director Scott Turner
Volunteer Dinah Gabany
Volunteer Goretti Canty
Director Tom Mackie
Commodore VBYC Robert Jones
Not pictured: Chairman of VBYC Food
Drive Helen Drewitt

WINEAUX

SAVE!
the **DATE!**

We are happy to see members and guests enjoying the two current wine specials. Both the Edda and the Smith and Hook have been well received and will continue as the specials for January. Be sure to give them a try.

In addition, put February 23 on the calendar for the California Dreamin' Wine Dinner. It will be a presentation of rarely available boutique wines from California with a pairing menu created by Chef Rodney. The wines are brought to us by Cork Capital and limited sales will be available.



ON THE WATERFRONT



Captain Hiram's Pontoon Boat Tour

Monday, January 31

Boarding: 9:30 a.m.

Return: 12:00 p.m.

15800 US Highway 1, Sebastian

Cost: \$25 plus tax and may be charged to your club account.

Join us for a two-hour cruise aboard the forty passenger River King. Travel the Indian River Lagoon to view the dolphins, manatees, fish, and birds. River King is fully accessible and has rest rooms. You may bring a small cooler with snacks or, make your own arrangements for lunch after the cruise. Consider carpooling to ease parking. Reservations are required and must be made by January 16. Please send your request to Kim at vbyc@verobeachyachtclub.com.



CHANGE OF COMMAND

Sunday, January 30, 2022

Ceremony to start at 1600 (4:00 p.m.) followed by a Pass-in-Review of fleet boats where VBYC fleet boats are saluted by the board of directors. After the festivities join fellow members for a barbeque dinner in the clubhouse. See page 13 for additional information. Captains participating in the Pass-in-Review should meet just north of the Barber Bridge at 1545 (3:45 p.m.).

.... continued on page 9

ON THE WATERFRONT, *continued*

PADDLE GROUP –THE AMAZON..... Saturday, January 8 at 0845 (8:45 a.m.)

Kayak through mangrove tunnels in this Brazilian-like setting. Contact Toby Jarman at jotoby@moonriveriii.com to sign up. For kayak rental, email Maddy of Kayak Adventure Tours at madelynrussell12@gmail.com.

SUNDAY RAFT UP..... Sunday, January 16 at 1300 (1:00 p.m.)

Contact Captain Piecuch at jpie7237@gmail.com for additional information.

SPOIL ISLAND CRUISE & PICNIC..... Sunday, January 23 at 1100 (11:00 a.m.)

Destination Wesley's Island (SL-17), Fort Pierce Inlet next to the ICW. Contact Toby Jarman at jotoby@moonriveriii.com.



FOSI

Fourteen VBYC members enjoyed a day on the water, met new friends and volunteered for a community day of service to clean Spoil Island #25 on Sat Dec 18th!

Two full bags of trash were collected with the normal glass and plastic bottles and some unusual finds: one shoe, one sandal, one empty gas canister, and two plastic containers which were repurposed for use by the captains! Thanks to Captains Chatterton, De Simone and Green for providing the vessels!



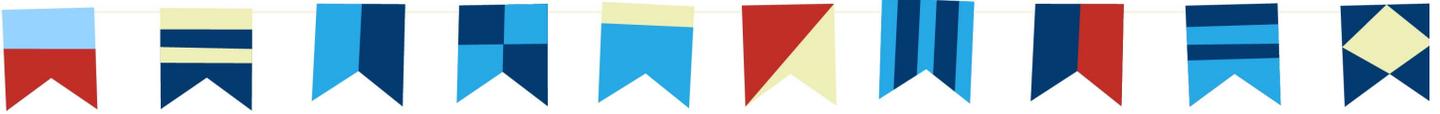
FLEET ROUND UP

Under the guidance of our intrepid fleet captain, Lee Bowden, the VBYC fleet traveled over 1200 miles and visited 10 FCYC Clubs in 2021. Visited clubs included:

- ◆ Coral Ridge YC – Fort Lauderdale
- ◆ Eau Gallie YC- Melbourne
- ◆ Harbor Ridge Yacht & Country Club- Stuart
- ◆ Lauderdale YC- Fort Lauderdale
- ◆ Marco Island YC- Marco Island
- ◆ Naples Sailing & YC- Naples
- ◆ Naples YC- Naples
- ◆ Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club- Boca Raton
- ◆ Smyrna YC- New Smyrna
- ◆ St Charles YC- Ft Myers



FLEET SURVEY



Ahoy all water-lovers! The VBYC wants all Club members who are so inclined to experience the joy of being out on the water. To make this happen, the Fleet Committee conducted a survey to gauge members' interest in boating and water-related activities. The survey results, from well over 200 member families, were very exciting.

From the non-boat-owner respondents, almost half want to participate in monthly drawings for free rides on the club-owned "Friendship" pontoon boat to take part in boating activities. To support this, the club is in the process of acquiring a larger and faster Friendship that will hold 10-12 people. Other activities under consideration include:

- Captain Hiram's and Environmental Learning Center pontoon boat tours
- Water-related land tours, such as Triton Submarine manufacturing plant in Sebastian
- Air boat rides
- Domestic and international commercial cruises
- Crewed and bareboat yacht charters in the Bahamas, Virgin Islands, etc.
- VBYC's adopted spoil island cleanups
- Kayak outings
- Fishing boat charters
- Casino cruises out of Port Canaveral
- Model and "Beer Can" sailboat races



Boat owners' most popular activity choices included ceremonial cruises for Blessing of the Fleet and Change of Command flotillas, along with other high interest activities such as:

- Cruising to nearby restaurants and to spoil islands for picnics
- Gatherings at VBYC for brunch, lunch, dinner
- Offering boat rides in support of specific VBYC cruising activities
- Overnight cruises to reciprocal yacht clubs
- Raft-ups with other VBYC boats
- Poker runs
- Fishing tournaments

So, what's next? Check the Siren's "On the Waterfront" section each month, where we will highlight club water-based activities. In addition to the monthly boat owner cruises, raft-up, beach-up, and kayak outings, January 30 is the Change of Command Review for all boat owners and for five lucky members on Friendship. Additionally, on January 31st, VBYC will reserve Captain Hiram's 40-passenger pontoon boat for their "Dolphin Watch" river cruise.

These are just the initial activities that will kick off a very exciting year for boating at your Vero Beach Yacht Club! For more information, contact Toby Jarman (jotoby@moonriveriii.com).



CHRISTMAS PARADE



It's all about the Friendships ...

On Saturday, Dec. 4, VBYC participated in the Oceanside Business Association and Sunrise Rotary Christmas Parade. Our float was titled MY FRIENDSHIP (in honor of our boat's name, Friendship), "captained" by Commodore Bob Jones.

FRIENDSHIP had a great crew of decorators and a group who walked with her through the parade. She was expertly trailed by Craig Saunders from Fox Marine, and thanks to Gordon Sellers, the participants had colorful burgees to wave.

It was a wonderful experience to see the delight and excitement on the faces of the children watching the parade as FRIENDSHIP sailed by.

The crew had a fun evening that culminated at VBYC with an excellent, tasty buffet provided by the club.



NEW FRIENDSHIP PURCHASE



LET'S KEEP THE FRIENDSHIP GROWING ...

The club is planning to purchase a newer pontoon boat to better meet the needs of our membership. To assist with funding, a prepurchase opportunity is being offered to club members from January 1 – March 31. The cost of a one-day rental is \$100 or twelve days for \$1,000 (plus gas). The regular rental fee will be \$150 a day (plus gas). For additional information, please contact the office.

PHOTO ALBUM



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



CHANGE OF COMMAND

Sunday, January 30

4:00 p.m.

BBQ to Follow

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

\$20.00 ++

After the ceremony, the tradition of the fleet honoring the new Commodore and bridge officers will be celebrated on the dock.

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

- ◆ Boats wishing to participate should email the fleet captain indicating the captain and first mate's name and the boat name (each boat will be announced as it passes the review stand at the VBYC docks) bowds21555@gmail.com
- ◆ The order of march will be alphabetical by boat name with club boat "Friendship" leading the parade
- ◆ Boats should assemble in the ICW just north of the Barber Bridge at 3:45 P.M.
- ◆ Follow the boat ahead by approximately 3 boat lengths
- ◆ Monitor VHF channel 72 for detailed instructions



U2 TRIBUTE BAND

VERTIGO IS THE ULTIMATE U2 EXPERIENCE

They deliver a high energy sing along U2 show that will bring the house down and have you talking about them for weeks.

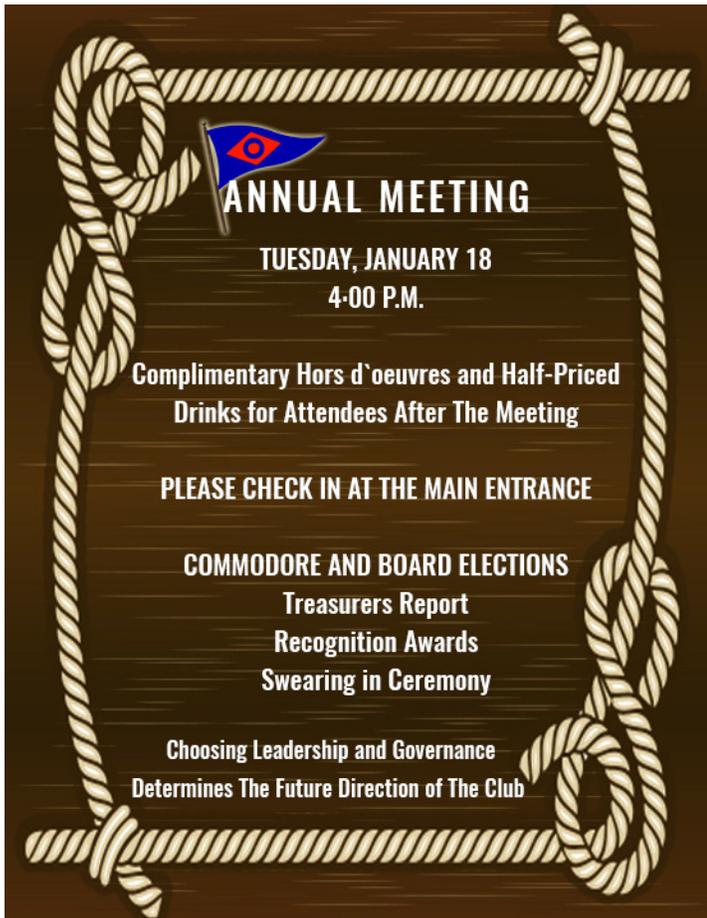
COMING TO VERO BEACH YACHT CLUB

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

\$25.00++

CONCERT IN THE PARKING LOT





ANNUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18
4:00 P.M.

Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres and Half-Priced
Drinks for Attendees After The Meeting

PLEASE CHECK IN AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE

COMMODORE AND BOARD ELECTIONS
Treasurers Report
Recognition Awards
Swearing in Ceremony

Choosing Leadership and Governance
Determines The Future Direction of The Club



**CHEF RODNEY'S 1st
SEAFOOD EXTRAVAGANZA BUFFET!!**

Wednesday, January 19
6:00-8:00 p.m.

\$65.00++

RESERVE EARLY!!



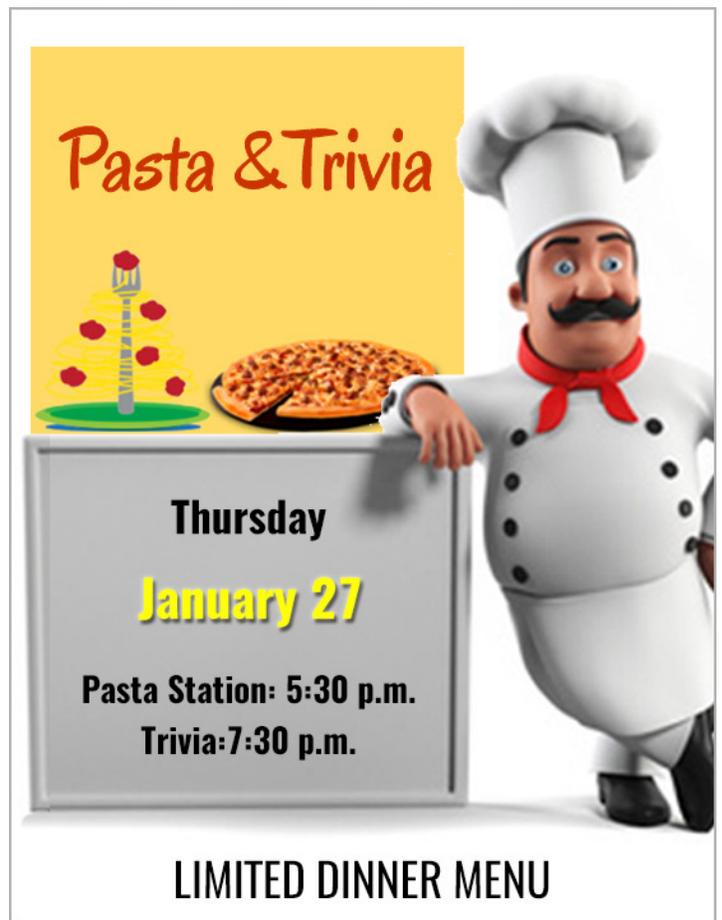
DJ DANCE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

MUSIC FROM 7:00-10:00 P.M.

HAPPY HOUR MENU 4:30-6:30 P.M.

REGULAR DINNER MENU 5:30-8:30 P.M.



Pasta & Trivia

Thursday
January 27

Pasta Station: 5:30 p.m.
Trivia: 7:30 p.m.

LIMITED DINNER MENU

MEMBER MIXER

Wednesday, January 5

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres



SATURDAY NIGHT BANDS

January 8 - Steve Daley

January 15 - Johnny Nick

January 22 - Beachside Trio

January 29 - Sunnie & Kurtis



BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

4:00 p.m.



The book selection is *Leave the World Behind* by Rumaan Alam. Contact Kathy Kinasewitz at kkinasewitz@hotmail.com for more information.



Wednesdays
6:00 - 9:00 P.M.

DAVE BIALOS

CARD CREATION

The January card creation class will be held Tuesday, January 4 and Wednesday, January 5 at 10 a.m. in the Burgee Room at the club.

Please contact Marilyn Van Tassell at mvantas@verizon.net to reserve your spot.



Sandridge Golf Course

The golf group will be teeing off Fridays

January 7, January 21

Tee times start at 1:57 p.m.

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.

JANUARY 2022

Reservations Required ~ 772-231-2211

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

Lunch: Wednesday through Friday: 11:00 a.m. ~ 1:30 p.m.
 Sunday Brunch: 10:00 a.m. ~ 1:30 p.m.
 Wednesday 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: Jackets optional in main dining room
 Saturday: Music: 6:30 ~ 9:30 p.m. (main dining room)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1 Club Closed	
2 Club Closed	3 Club Closed	4  BRIDGE Drawing Dinner	5  MEMBER MIXER Music on the Patio Dinner	6 MAHJONG BLUE GAVEL Dinner	7 BRIDGE 9&DINE Happy Hour Dinner DJ PARTY	8 <i>Paddle Group</i> Steve Daley Dinner	
9 Pickleball Brunch	10 Club Closed	11 BRIDGE VBYC Bucks Drawing Dinner	12 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	13 Lunch MAHJONG  CONCERT IN THE PARK(ING LOT) Dinner	14 Lunch BRIDGE  SHIPMATES Happy Hour Dinner	15 <i>Johnny Nick</i> Dinner	
16 Pickleball Brunch <i>Raft Up</i>	17 Club Closed	18  BRIDGE VBYC Bucks Drawing Dinner	19 Lunch <i>Music on the Patio</i> Seafood EXTRAVAGANZA	20 Lunch MAHJONG Dinner	21 Lunch BRIDGE 9&DINE Happy Hour Dinner	22 <i>Beachside Trio</i> Dinner	
23 Pickleball Brunch <i>Spoil Island Cruise/Picnic</i>	24 Club Closed	25 BRIDGE VBYC Bucks Drawing Dinner	26 Lunch  <i>Music on the Patio</i> Dinner	27 Lunch MAHJONG PASTA Tivia night	28 Lunch BRIDGE Happy Hour Dinner	29 <i>Sunnie & Kurtis</i> Dinner	
30 Pickleball Brunch  CHANGE OF COMMAND	31 Club Closed  TICKET PONTON BOAT TOUR	<p style="text-align: center;">FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Member Mixer ~ Wednesday, February 2 DJ/Dance Party ~ Friday, February 4 Valentine's Dinner Dance ~ Saturday, February 12 Seafood Extravaganza ~ Wednesday, February 16 Wine Dinner – California Dreaming ~ Wednesday, February 23</p>					