



BILGE BAILINGS

ST. JOSEPH RIVER YACHT CLUB

MARCH 2015 ISSUE

From the Top of the Mast

Glenn Arent, Commodore

As I look out the window at yet another long winter's day, I can't help but think of how excited we will all be to kick-off our annual club opening on St. Patrick's Day! The party will occur on St. Patrick's Day--Tuesday, March 17, 2015. It will be an event to remember as we shake off the cold and come inside to enjoy great friends, warm smiles, and green beer!

The club is in "tip top" shape thanks to our House and Grounds, Decorating, and Interior Design committees and of course our outstanding staff, who in addition to getting our club ready, has been busy with fresh menu ideas and great new

drink offerings. If you get a chance please take a moment to look around, as you will not believe your eyes as you gaze upon the beautifully refinished, second and third floor, hardwood floors.

To the business of the club, your 2015 board has been busy at work dotting our I's and crossing our T's for the 2015 season. This of course is inclusive of our Executive Search Committee, which was formed to search out and interview potential candidates for the General Manager position. To date we have had some outstanding candidates and hope to have a decision possibly in time for a

St. Patrick's Day introduction, but if not, rest assured that Jerry and Amanda have us covered as they always do.

There are so many to thank and so much to share you will simply have to come to the club, get involved, and remember to volunteer to get the rest of the story.

Please join me on St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday March 17th, to lift a glass to our club's past, present, and future, to greet members new and old, and to welcome back our great club staff.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Amanda Sartor

The staff and I would like to welcome everyone back, including our new members, to celebrate the opening of the 2015 season here at the St. Joseph River Yacht Club. We are looking forward to our annual St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 17. Our doors will open at 5:00 pm and our delicious traditional Irish buffet will start at 6:00 pm. Come hungry and thirsty and don't forget to wear your green!



**Mark Your
Calendar**



St. Joseph River Yacht Club



Opening Day

St. Patrick's Day Party

**Tuesday
March 17, 2015
5 - 10 pm**

**Traditional Irish Dinner
Starting at 6:00 pm**

Featuring:

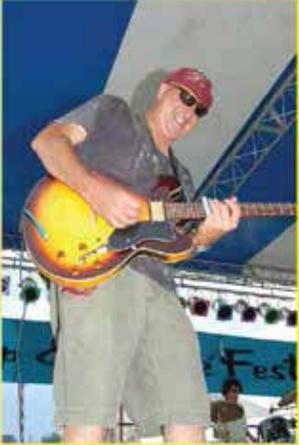
- Corned Beef Brisket
- Porterhouse Lamb Chops
- Baby Red Potatoes
- Steamed Cabbage
- Braised Carrots
- Caesar Salad
- Assorted Breads & Rolls



Keith Scott

Saturday, March 28

7 - 10 pm



Keith Scott is one of Chicago's most vibrant musicians. For the past 20 years he's built his reputation as a sizzling blues guitarist and dynamic performer. Keith has toured the U.S. and Europe with his band and blues great Jimmy Dawkins.



Let's Get Social

March 17

Club opens, St. Patrick's Party
5:00 pm to 10:00 pm

March 28

Keith Scott
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

April 4

Easter Egg Hunt, visit from
Easter Bunny 1:00 pm

April 10

Mike Talbot
7:00pm to 10:00 pm

April 18

Guest Speaker
Catherine Thomas 7:00 pm

April 25

Delilah DeWylde
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

May 2

Kentucky Derby Party 4:00 pm

May 9

Jimmy Fastiggi
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

May 10

Mother's Day Brunch
12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

May 15

Deep Fried Pickle Project
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

May 25

Memorial Day Picnic
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

May 30

Kevin McDaniel
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

**Plan on coming to the Club to
enjoy all the great events we
have planned for December.**

Social Report

Laurie Canfield, Rear Commodore

Welcome back everyone! We have a great year planned at the club, starting opening day (Tuesday, March 17) with the St Patrick's Day Party. The following week Saturday, March 28, sizzling blues guitarist Keith Scott will kick off the music from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The club will have music every other weekend with a mix of new musicians and old favorites. Look for the weekly email or on Facebook to find out who will be playing.

All the club favorite events will be back, along with new ones to enjoy. We will be having some new family events throughout the year, starting Saturday, April 4 with a Easter Egg Hunt and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Check out the club calendar on the SJRYC website for a complete list of everything that will be happening at the club this year.

The following is a short list of new and old events to put on your calendar:

June 13 Rhumbline Regatta

July 11 Lobster Clam Bake

August 8 Lobster Clam Bake

August 9 Deep Fried Pickle Project family concert, with Kindermusic Workshop

September 5 Tri-State Regatta

October 3 Commodore's Bash

December 12 Visit from Santa Claus

December 31 New Year's Eve Party

There is always something to do at the club, come on down and enjoy it!

Fleet Vice Commodore Report

Byron Higgins

As I write this note, I officially assume the mantel that Terry Deegan has worn so well for the last three years. Kudos to Terry for a job well done. It is intimidating to follow in his footsteps.

Jim Schrage has graciously agreed to continue as fleet captain and he is hard at work planning for this summer. The life blood of a racing fleet is numbers and competition. We have fielded between 20 and 30 boats on Wednesday night races for a number of years. Wouldn't it be great if we could increase the number of boats racing. This is one of the areas that Jim and I have been discussing. The effort to increase the numbers began last year and had some success. The key to success is to identify potential racers and encourage them to join the fleet.

The potential exists with the countless sailboats that sail out of St. Joseph. We also know that if there are two sailboats within sight of one another, there is usually an informal race underway.

Unfortunately, many sailors are reluctant to race for a variety of reasons, but two of them stand out. I can't tell you how many times I have heard a boat owner say that he would love to race, but he doesn't know the race rules and thinks he would interfere with the more experienced sailors. The second excuse is the lack of crew.

Although Jim and I have discussed some ideas, success will require a group effort. I invite you to send to me any ideas that you might have to increase the fleet size. Contact me at: lavieve1@comcast.net



Membership Update

Rex Hartwig, Director

Well, I think I can speak for most, it is time to see some green grass soon and no ice on the water. We are almost there. I'm happy to report that the membership renewal process is complete. We are glad to see so many returning members this year! Everyone should have their membership card renewal stickers by now. If you don't, please let me know at membership@sjryc.com. We look forward to seeing you at the Club for the St. Patrick's Day 2015 opening day celebration!

Looking Ahead ...

Gale Cawley, Director

It's a great time for daydreaming and planning for the coming months. Before long, it will be time to bring out the money from the private "rat hole stash" and start spending it on the boat, again. One of the plans could be for a rendezvous this coming summer at harbors north of us. We have the well established sailing program, but seem to be lacking in activities for the "stink potters." Rag baggers would certainly be welcome to join the crowd. Since we are a yacht club, I see no distinction should be made between the two nor of those who do not own a boat. We could even have a system where those folks could be a guest on one of the traveling boats with someone else in the family driving a car to the destination good deal wheels available to travel about at destination. I welcome suggestions for dates, destinations, and all that goes with it. What do you think?

Pool News

Julie Warmbein, Director

While the pool resembles a hockey rink more than a refreshing pool, we on the Pool Committee are busy at work preparing for summer. Head Swim Coach Janet Beemer has decided to move on, we wish her the best of luck as she and her family sell their SJ home to live permanently in Sawyer. We are in the midst of interviewing for our new coach and will keep you informed. Luke Linscheid will be our

Head Lifeguard, many of the guards from last summer will be returning as well.

For our new members, we welcome you for a summer of sun and fun around the pool!

Like last year, several of our lifeguards will be available to teach private swim lessons on an individual basis.

The **SJRYC River Rats Swim Team** offers a fun-filled season

of competitive swimming as well as daily stroke instruction for swimmers ages 4-18. Experienced coaches manage practice sessions each weekday morning, early June through late July. Swimmers practice with their age group/ability level, from young beginners to very competitive, from 8:00 to noon. SJRYC is a member of the MAPSC swim conference, a group of teams from private clubs in the Michiana area. We have

a weekly dual meet, home or away, every Wednesday morning early June through mid July. As a culminating event, the team participates in a Conference Championship meet in late July. It truly is a wonderful summertime experience for the kids, as well as adults, and a great way to make new friends! Please see the swim section of the website or contact Julie Warmbein at swimmom@sjryc.com for more information.



St. Joseph River Yacht Club

PO Box 3
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Commodore.....Glenn Arent
 Vice Commodore.....Mary Coon
 Rear Commodore.....Laurie Canfield
 Fleet Vice Commodore.....Byron Higgins
 Treasurer.....Bob Rice
 Secretary.....Susan Greco
 Director.....Jim Bentham
 Director.....Leif Norland
 Director.....Gail Cawley
 Director.....Rex Hartwig
 Director.....Julie Warmbein
 Director.....Gene Weill

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



ST. JOSEPH RIVER YACHT CLUB

BILGE BAILINGS

