

DECEMBER, 2017



Saint Joseph River Yacht Club

BILGE BAILINGS

From The Top of the Mast - *Susan Greco (commodore@sjryc.com)*

December is always a time for holiday cheer and reflection on the year that's about to end. I sincerely hope that you all have enjoyed your membership and time spent at the SJRYC in 2017. A special thanks to the members who joined us for the Annual Meeting on November 16th. The Board stressed that high quality and value are the two guiding principles that they strive to achieve with the membership's dues and enjoyment, whether it's use of the clubhouse, the pool, or the Rhumbline Bar, as well as the Club's events, activities and entertainment. Limited copies of the complete Annual Report packet are available near the Clubhouse door if you would like more detailed 2017 information.

The four incumbent Board Directors who were elected for the three term 2018-2020 were introduced and the Officers for next year were also elected at the Annual Meeting. I am proud to introduce your 2018 Board and Officers:

Commodore	Dave Hertog (2018-2020)
Vice Commodore	Susan Greco (2018-2020)
Vice Commodore	Louie Tremblay
Rear Commodore	Kathy Grootendorst
Treasurer	Gale Cawley (2018-2020)
Secretary	Julie Migala
Director	Laurie Canfield (2018-2020)
Director	Eric Hansen
Director	Bruce Larson
Director	Gene Weil
Director	Bill Womer
Director	Demrhy Youngquist

I truly appreciate the trust you all placed in me as your Commodore for 2016 and 2017; however, the end of December marks the end of my tenure as commodore. During the past two years the Board established financial procedures and hired a professional and experienced general manager, Paul Rizza. We believe this transition will continue to assure that your dues are well spent under a structured business environment. With Paul's help, we also continue to address member concerns regarding food quality and service and will be undergoing facility and equipment upgrades this upcoming year to enhance your enjoyment of the Club.

The other Board members and I are very pleased and confident that 2018-Commodore-Elect Dave Hertog will lead the Club with your very best interests, inclusion and informational communication as his basis for Club decisions and direction. While my role as Commodore ends, I am very happy to remain on the Board of Directors as Vice-Commodore and to fully support Dave in any way that I can.

Please take a few minutes to read through this edition of the Bilge Bailings. There are holiday events planned for December, including Santa, a sing-along and our annual New Year's Eve party as well as the Euchre Challenges each Wednesday.

I wish you all a very enjoyable holiday and a winter full of fun whether it's snow or sun. I hope to see you in December but for sure we will all see each other on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17, 2018!

Hours of Operation DECEMBER 2017		
<u>Day</u>	<u>Clubhouse</u>	<u>Galley</u>
Sunday	Closed	Closed
Monday	Closed	Closed
Tuesday	Closed	Closed
Wednesday	Noon-10pm	Noon-9pm
Thursday	Noon-10pm	Noon-9pm
Friday	Noon-11pm	Noon-9pm
Saturday	Noon-10pm	Noon-9pm

Wednesday



Please come a few minutes before 7pm to sign in and find your place at the table before the first round begins.

You don't have to be an experienced player to enjoy meeting other members and sharing in the comradely!

We will play 7 rounds of euchre with 7 different partners and witness the weekly trophy presentation (or receive the trophy) by 9pm.

We hope you choose to join us!



Facility Report - *Dave Hertog and Gene Weil*

The three new air conditioner units have been installed and are ready for next summer. They replaced three 20 plus year old units that had failed. Cost was just under \$16,000. The first and third floor restrooms will have wallpaper removed and walls painted along with the hallways getting repainted starting November 27th. This will take a few weeks so at times you will see the work in progress.

Managers Report - *Paul Rizza*

As we enter the month of December, and you begin enjoying the festivities of the winter holiday season, take a few minutes to reminisce and be thankful for the beautiful memories, and new friendships forged this past summer, and the great family times spent at SJRYC. Before you know it, the Club will be refreshed and ready to reopen on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th 2018, offering our very popular and always well attended, traditional Irish Buffet.

We still have a few dates available in December for family get togethers or work holiday parties. Please contact Amanda and she will be more than happy to accommodate and assist you with space availability and menu selections.

If you missed the Wine Tasting in October, you missed an excellent event! Everyone who attended commented on how great the food and wine selections were, and the fact they were able to purchase wine to take home at just 20% over what the club pays wholesale for wine. Look for the next Wine Tasting event to take place sometime in the spring.

This year, we will again be having a Food Drive to benefit West Michigan Food Bank, from November 29th to December 23rd. You can bring canned goods, or review a list of most needed items in the Club-house. Thank you in advance, for any donation of food that you provide for such a worthy cause.

The entire Staff and I would like to wish you a blessed Holiday Season, and a safe and prosperous New Year's.

Treasurers Report - *Gale Cawley*

I will reiterate my message given at the annual meeting on November 16th. In our year drawing to a close, our finances paralleled 2016 in the ebb and flow of income and expense. Over \$750,000 moved through our hands in both years. However, we made less and spent less this year. In 2016, we had more new members join which brought in more money in membership fees. We had about double the number of private parties and weddings which earned double what was earned in 2017. We hosted the Queen's Cup Regatta in 2016, which earned a substantial amount of money. On the debit side, we earned less money, but that was offset by over a 15% savings in costs in 2017, due to the good management of our general manager, Paul Rizza. Paul has shown a very good ability to analyze and control our balance sheets and general finances. That bodes well for us in 2018.



Social Report - *Kathy Grootendorst, Rear Commodore*

The Hectic Holiday Season has begun, so come down to the Club to unwind from all the hustle and bustle. Enjoy our beautifully decorated club, have a cocktail or two, a snack or dinner, and fun at our upcoming events.

Do not miss Friday, December 1st! Back by popular request, we have **Jeffrey Allen Roberts**. A fantastic entertainer, he performs a variety of “doo wop”, songs of Elvis, Motown and much more. This begins at 7pm.

Direct from the North Pole, **Santa Claus** will make his annual stop at the Club on Saturday, December 9th from 1 to 3pm. Come one and all for a lunch special before his big arrival! Remember to bring your cameras!

On Friday, December 15th the Club will host a holiday TGIF, followed at 7pm by the Annual Christmas Sing-A-Long with **Mockingbird**. We will provide bells and songbooks and encourage adults, children and grandchildren to sing and ring along. **Mockingbird** will also perform a “baby boomer” rock and acoustic set later in the evening.

At our final party of 2017, New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31st, the popular and very talented **Michael Hulett** returns to the Club. This promises to be a lot of fun as Michael's saxophone and vocals captivate everyone while he performs a variety of Jazz, Soul, Rock and the Best in Dance Music!! Doors open at 7:30pm with the Club offering three different options:

I. at 7:30pm a fabulous variety of heavy **Hors d'oeuvres** will be served;

OR

II. enjoy the **Hors d'oeuvres** along with a delicious **Plated Dinner** served at 8pm;

OR

III. **No Dining...Just Entertainment** (which begins at 8pm.) All three options include a **Champagne Toast at Midnight**.

Reservations ARE required for either dining option by December 28th. Details are available on the poster in your weekly eblast or in the Club Lobby.

With just four Wednesday nights left of the **2017 Euchre Challenge**, the scores show several of the SJRYC members as the possible 2017 Club Champion. The member with the highest collective score, during our 6 months of play, will be announced Wednesday, December 27th after the final game.

Come join us any Wednesday night shortly before 7pm, and be among the many Club members enjoying the Challenge on the 2nd floor of the Club Euchre begins at 7 p.m.

A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY and the BEST FOR 2018 to all our Club members!!



2017 SJRYC Board of Directors

SJRYC Commodore	Susan Greco	commodore@sjryc.com
Vice Commodore	David Hertog	vc@sjryc.com
Rear Commodore	Kathy Grootendorst	rc@sjryc.com
Fleet Vice Commodore	Louie Tremblay	fleetvc@sjryc.com
Treasurer	Gale Cawley	treasurer@sjryc.com
Secretary	Julie Migala	secretary@sjryc.com
Director	Gene Weil	weil@sjryc.com
Director	Laurie Canfield	canfield@sjryc.com
Director	Eric Hansen	hansen@sjryc.com
Director	Bruce Larson	larson@sjryc.com
Director	Demrhy Youngquist	youngquist@sjryc.com
Director	Bill Womer	womer@sjryc.com
Membership Committee		membership@sjryc.com
Race Committee		racecommittee@sjryc.com
Social Committee		social@sjryc.com
Pool Committee		pool@sjryc.com
House / Grounds Committee		facilities@sjryc.com
Swim Team Committee		swimteam@sjryc.com