

APRIL, 2018



Saint Joseph River Yacht Club

BILGE BAILINGS

From The Top of the Mast - *David Hertog (commodore@sjryc.com)*

The St. Patrick's Day opening was a great success. The Bar & Galley set a record for sales and 200 dinners were served. Thanks to Paul and his staff for all their hard work and great food. Thanks also to the decorators who made the club green for a day. We also had 12 new members attend.

April will kick off with The Steve Foresman Caravan show on Saturday April 7th. The SJRYC booking agent (aka Bruce Larson) tells me if you're only attending one event at the club this year this is the one to attend. So get a group together, come to the club and have some fun.

I have had many inquiries about membership numbers this year, so here is an update. We lost 45 members from last year. The average loss over the last 12 years has been 41 per year (last 3 years average has been 47 per year). We had 42 openings for new members (2 demits from 2017 have come back as full members, and we were at 541 members last year with our cap at 540). As of now we still have 10 openings, with 10 invites to join still out and 4 more new member applicants pending board approval. I anticipate full membership by mid-May. The wait list will be less than 10. With that in mind the membership committee chaired by Sue Hertog will be planning a summer event for members to bring in friends, family or anyone they fill would be a good fit for SJRYC and hopefully get some of them on the waitlist. More information will be forthcoming as that event develops.

Anytime you have questions or comments please contact any of the board members or the General Manager.

See you at the club!

Membership - (*membership@sjryc.com*)

The St. Joseph River Yacht Club 'Board of Directors' and Club Management would like to officially welcome our 2018 New Members, and invite them to a New Member Orientation on Saturday, April 21st at 7pm.

The 3rd floor of the Club has been reserved for New Members and their Sponsors to officially welcome them as they become a part of our SJRYC family.

After a short presentation and tour of our facilities, the orientation will conclude in the Keepers Bar.

Hours of Operation

APRIL 2018

<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



Euchre Challenge 2018 - *Cathy Cawley*

The first half of the 2018 Euchre Challenge begins the 4th of April and continues every Wednesday night through June, from 7 to 9pm. The second half begins the first Wednesday in October, and the 2018 Club Euchre Challenge Champion will be announced the last Wednesday in December.

The 2017 Euchre Challenge Champion was Keith Osborne.

The 2016 Euchre Challenge Champion was Steve Breunling.

Maybe the 2018 Euchre Challenge Champion could be you! There are over 80 Club members who have joined the fun...some play regularly, others occasionally, who have joined the fun.

We hope to see you on the 2nd floor of the SJRYC on a Wednesday night from 7-9, in your chair enjoying the camaraderie that is a big part of the Euchre Challenge.

Treasurers Report - *Gale Cawley*

Our club reached full membership this month. Since we live mostly off of our annual dues that are used to carry us throughout the rest of the year, it assures that we have a budget we can plan on to keep us operating.

Expenses will start to increase as our club goes into full swing for the summer. With planning and budget in place, we can have expectations of a successful year.

Managers Report - *Paul Rizza*

What a wonderful turnout we had on St. Patrick's Day, for our Opening Party, where our clubhouse was turned into a sea of green. At 4:30pm we already had approximately fifty members gathered at the front entrance, waiting to enter. By 6pm all three floors were packed to the gills with celebrating members and their guests. We received many compliments on the food, and setting up two separate buffet tables this year made for shorter lines and more efficient service. Hopefully, we will see a few more events this year, with record setting member attendance!

On Thursday April 12th, please join us for our Spring Wine Tasting. This is a very fun and casual event, with a nice selection of foods prepared by the kitchen staff for pairing. For your enjoyment, we have selected a couple of nice sparkling wines very appropriate for summer, a Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand, and a couple of excellent Chardonnays. Also available for tasting will be 3 Cabernet Sauvignons, 2 Old Vine Red Zinfandels, a Pinot Noir and a Malbec from Argentina. Once again, wines will be available for purchase at 20% over our cost.

Beginning on Thursday, April 5th and continuing each Thursday night through the end of May, we will be featuring a "Wine & Dine" special in the Keeper's Bar. This special will include a choice of two selected entrées & a bottle of house wine for \$40 (plus tax and gratuity). Also included is a Caesar Salad and Chef's choice of dessert. Please read the Monday e-blast for the five entrée choices available with this special.



Fleet Report - Louie Tremblay, Fleet Vice Commodore

Just some reminders of up and coming events! Coming up the beginning of May is the Pre Season Skippers Meeting on Wednesday, May 2nd at 7pm on the 3rd floor of the Yacht Club. Our first race is scheduled for Wednesday, May 23rd.

Boaters born after June 30, 1996, and most personal watercraft operators, must have a boater's education safety certificate.

The U.S. Coast Guard reports that of the nationwide accidents in which the level of operator education was known, 77 percent of boating deaths occurred on vessels where the operator never received boating education

Because of a growing number of accidents involving nonmotorized vessels, which include canoes and kayaks, 1st Lt. Tom Wanless, Michigan's boating law administrator, encourages all boaters, regardless of age or experience, to take a safety class.

From an Article in the Herald Palladium on Sunday March 25, 2018. — From the Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Coming in April the Coast Guard Auxiliary working with the DNR, is holding two, free of charge, Boating Safety Classes opened to all ages at the St. Joseph Coast Guard Station: Michigan Boating Safety Class Conducted by the US Coast Guard Auxiliary US COAST GUARD STATION 127 N. Pier St. St. Joseph MI 49085.

Saturday, April 7th from 9am to 5pm

OR

Tuesday, April 24th from 5pm to 8:30pm and
Thursday, April 26th from 5pm to 8:30pm

Please register by calling or emailing: PATRICK POZIWILO at 269.363.0790 or e-mail at poziwilko@gmail.com

Successful completion will result in a Michigan Safe Boating Certificate. Your completion of this course will be on file with the DNR.

On Saturday, June 2nd from 11am to 2pm we will be holding a free Boat Inspection at the Rumble Bar. The Coast Guard Auxiliary will be providing these inspections at no charge. On completion of passing the inspection, you will receive a sticker for display, good for 1 year showing your vessel has passed Coast Guard Inspection. This is open to Members and Non-Members. If you don't own a boat, but know someone who does, send them to the Club on June 2nd 11AM to 2PM for the free inspection!

St. Joe Fleet ROCKS!!! Let's ROLL!!!





Social Report - *Kathy Grootendorst, Rear Commodore*

If Opening Night on St. Patrick's Day is any indication, we are going to have a terrific year! A record number of buffet dinner tickets were sold, with everyone happily wearing their green!

- Please mark your calendars for a Special Event on **April 7th**. The Steve Foresman Caravan will perform on the 3rd floor at 7:30pm! This seven member band performs musical tributes to: David Bowie, Lou Reed, Chuck Berry, The Everly Brothers, Tom Petty, The Rolling Stones and The Last Waltz. Come and enjoy this terrific event along with Food and Drink Specials!
- The Club will again be offering a Wine Tasting Event on **April 12th**. This was very popular last year so make plans to attend.
- In 2017 we had the Tomas Esparza Blues Band from Grand Rapids play in the Spring, and SJRYC member response was so overwhelming that we had them back in the Fall. You may remember Tomas standing on the tables playing harmonica. Tomas will be back this Fall, and in the interim, we decided to add another Blues Band to our stable of artists in order to provide new entertainment for our membership. The great news is that we booked the award winning Big Boss Band featuring the legendary Mad Max Brown from Ann Arbor on guitar! The band is based in Kalamazoo and regularly plays over 80 clubs, festivals and community events all over Western Michigan each year. Roots, Rock and R & B, plus a lot of original music.... they hit the stage on the first floor Keepers Bar on Friday, **April 20th** at 7pm.

There are a lot of activities planned for May:

- On **May 5th**, the Club will offer a Cinco de Mayo buffet. In addition, it's Derby Day and DJ Rockin' Randy will be in the house performing all your favorites starting at 7pm.
- Our annual Mother's Day Buffet will be offered on **May 13th**.
- The Boulevard Billies will perform at the Club on **May 18th**
- And the much awaited opening of the pool and the Rhumbline Bar happens **Memorial Day Weekend**, with the very popular Jeffery Allen Roberts playing outside on **May 26th**.

Look for further details on all the May activities in the May Bilge Bailings and your weekly eblasts.

Happy Spring to all!





2018 SJRYC Board of Directors

SJRYC Commodore	David Hertog	commodore@sjryc.com
Vice Commodore	Susan Greco	vc@sjryc.com
Rear Commodore	Kathy Grootendorst	rc@sjryc.com
Fleet Vice Commodore	Louie Tremblay	fleetvc@sjryc.com
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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