

MARCH, 2020



## Saint Joseph River Yacht Club

# BILGE BAILINGS

### From The Top of the Mast - *Eric Hansen (commodore@sjryc.com)*

It has been only 30 days since my last submission and all I can say is I'm speechless. Four weeks ago we were just about finished with Winter. Our St. Patrick's Day party was a few short days away, signaling the beginning of a great Summer at the Yacht Club. Months of planning by our committees, board, staff, and general manager would have provided us a whole host of events throughout the Spring leading up to the opening of the Rhumbline and pool. Swim teams, Sailing, Regattas, and many of the major events for the remainder of the year were already planned and ready to go.

What a difference a few weeks makes. At this point, the club (as well as most of Michigan!) is closed. As this continually changing situation evolves, we as a board along with our General Manager, have been working diligently to make decisions in the best interest of the club and our membership. The board has recently been meeting weekly to assess the ongoing financial, operational, and staffing issues as the challenges seemingly change on a day to day basis .

Communication between the city, county, state, and of course our membership will be key. We will provide timely updates as we move forward in the coming weeks and have relevant information to pass on to you.

On a better note, as we shelter in place, I have a few ideas. One is to use this time for being with your family. My daughters have come back to our home; one from College, the other working at home, and we are now all together. I have to appreciate these times (you would have to ask them if the feeling is mutual...). Another idea, maybe it's time to learn a new skill or take up a hobby. With the help of YouTube and Amazon I am learning in my garage how to professionally buff and wax gelcoat! I was never able to do a good job until now.

We value you as members and know that together we will get through this time. So in the meantime, please stay safe and everything will be done to open the Club as soon as is feasible and prudent to do so. I know we all look very much forward to that day!

## St. Joseph Junior Foundation

We realize there is much uncertainty in the world at this time with everything effected by the Coronavirus pandemic. In efforts to curb the spread of the virus, schools, restaurants and fitness facilities have been closed and many employers have instituted work from home policies. At this time, we don't know how long these restrictions will be in place so we are taking things day-by-day. We certainly hope things will improve by summer so we can hold our full summer sailing schedule as planned. However, if we are forced to adjust or shorten our schedule of classes we want to assure you we will be keeping you informed of our decisions and will be providing full credit to transfer to other available classes or receive a refund if a transfer is not possible.

We are hoping this will give you the confidence to register for classes without the worry of losing money. As a reminder, we are offering a 10% off "early-bird" registration discount code **2020SAIL** for those registrations booked before April 1st. Sailing is a great activity to get outdoors and have fun while learning in a safe environment. Over the next couple of months we will be monitoring developments and adjusting our program and procedures accordingly. Safety has always been a core value of our program along with teaching sailing to our youth. We hope you choose to join us again this season to make this another great summer of memories with friends to be remembered for years.

## Social Report - *Bruce Larson, Rear Commodore*

Saturday, May 2	<b>Kentucky Derby Party w/ The Mark Ficks Band...</b> co-chaired by Nick & Kyah Culp and Jill Straub. The band is a Nicole Collins recommendation
Thursday, May 7	<b>Trivia...</b> with Emily Szymkiewicz
Thursday, May 14	<b>Mike Klein</b> bringing and speaking about the actual <b>Tommy Gun</b> which was used in the <b>St. Valentines Day Massacre in Chicago in February 1929...</b> chaired by Greg Heine
Friday, May 15	<b>Rachel's Soul Shakers...</b> A band with two female vocalists. Performing Janis Joplin, Grace Slick, Stevie Nicks, etc. Recommended by Tom Mawhinney.
Thursday, May 21	<b>Trivia...</b> with Emily Szymkiewicz
Friday, May 22	<b>The Rhumbline Bar</b> opens
Saturday, May 23	<b>Gabriel Estrada Mariachi Singer &amp; Mexican Buffet</b> at the Rhumbline Bar
Saturday, June 6	<b>Rhumbline Regatta with The Boulevard Billies...</b> chaired by Louie Trembly
Saturday, June 13	<b>Mike Struwin with Congas and Bongos</b> at The Rhumbline Bar
Saturday, June 20	<b>Summer Solstice Party</b>
Friday, July 3	<b>Fireworks at 10:15 PM</b>
Saturday, July 11	<b>Parrot Head Party with Don Middlebrook...</b> chaired by Jill Straub
Saturday, July 25	<b>Reggae with Zion Lion and Jamaican Buffet...</b> chaired by Nick & Kyah Culp
July 31-Aug 2	<b>Rendezvous to South Haven with Kevin McDaniel Acoustic Rock</b> on Saturday evening South Basin...co-chaired by Louis Trembly and Bruce Larson
Saturday, Aug 22	<b>Lobster Bake with Island Breeze Steel Drum</b>
Saturday, Sept 5	<b>Tri-State Race Party with Libido Funk Circus</b>
Saturday, Oct 3	<b>Cups &amp; Flags Sailing award presentation</b>
Saturday, Oct 24	<b>Falloween Children's Party...</b> co-chaired by Jill Straub, Nick & Kyah Culp, Patrice Nelson and Cathy Cawley
Friday, Oct 30	<b>Halloween Party...</b> costumes optional
Saturday, Nov 14	<b>Commodores Bash with Top Secret Band</b>
Thursday, Nov 19	<b>SJRYC Annual Meeting</b>
Saturday, Dec 12	<b>Visit from Santa...</b> chaired by Nick & Kyah Culp
Friday, Dec 18	<b>Christmas Sing-a-long with Mockingbird</b>
Thursday, Dec 31	<b>New Year's Eve Party</b>

Additional Summer and Fall updates will be made accordingly. There are still some dates to be finalized, including a "**Children's Fun Day**" being organized by Jill Straub for a summer afternoon. SJRYC has **Trivia twice a month during the Spring and Fall** hosted by Emily Szymkiewicz and Dave Hertog on alternating Thursday evenings.

There is a "**speaker's series**" on several Thursday evenings during the Spring and Fall. Subjects and speakers will be sent to members by email notification and posters in the Club. There are weekly **Euchre Nights** on Wednesday evenings in the Spring and Fall.



## Fleet Report - Louie Tremblay

Greetings everyone! I hope this finds all of you well and hunkered down!!

We are planning our Pre-Season Skippers' Meeting for Wednesday 06 May at 7pm on the 3rd floor of the Yacht Club. As we get closer to that date, if we cannot or we do not feel comfortable having a large gathering on that evening, we will make other plans to distribute the Race Schedule, the 2020 Sailing Instructions, and to get folks signed up to race.

We are planning on the Race Season beginning on schedule as well. However, we will assess the start of the race season as we get closer.

Also, I am working with the Coast Guard Auxiliary, along with the DNR, to hold Boating Safety Classes at the Club again this year. These classes are free and opened to all ages!!

We do have a class scheduled in May, though at this time Patrick would like a list of people who are interested in taking the class. *Please contact Patrick Poziwilko at 269-363-0790 or e-mail: [poziwilko@gmail.com](mailto:poziwilko@gmail.com)* if you are interested in taking the Class. Please pass this information along to anyone you feel may be interested or benefit from the class. **IT'S FREE!!!!**

The Coast Guard Auxiliary will also be performing Boat inspections again this year. 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. We are hoping to schedule Boat inspections again at the Club this year. More to come.....

The planning is under way for the Rhumbline Regatta is scheduled for Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>. The skippers meeting will be at 10:30AM. There will be a Banquet and Entertainment by Boulevard Billie's at the Club following the Race. More details to come.

The weekend of July 31<sup>st</sup>, August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> the Cruising Fleet is planning a Cruise Rendezvous weekend up in South Haven MI. The fun starts on Friday and carries through the weekend! Dinner on Friday I believe is at your discretion. Saturday dinners are to be ordered from a local restaurant and delivered to the Municipal Marina. Each person/group places their own order and pays individually by credit card at the time of order. Then everyone sits out on the deck where everyone will enjoy entertainment by Kevin McDaniel! You do not have to own a Boat to participate in this event. You are welcome to drive up to South Haven and enjoy the event with the Boaters. This is a fun event and everyone is invited. Watch the Bilge Bailing for more to come on this event!

Next up is the Tri-State Regatta! This is always a fun event for the Racers the Community and the Club. The Race starts this year on Friday September 4<sup>th</sup> with the Racers arriving early Saturday am, hopefully! There will be festivities starting at the Club in the morning and extending in to the night hours. This event is so much fun make sure to sign up for volunteering so you can enjoy the whole experience!

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

## House and Ground's Report - Dave Hertog

With the continued closing of the club normal daily, weekly, and monthly maintenance will continue with the facility and equipment. Already one furnace has failed and will be replaced. All this will protect our investment and enable the club to be ready to open when the rules change and allow us to open. The pool will also be ready to open in a short period of time when we are allowed to use it.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at; [dhertog54@gmail.com](mailto:dhertog54@gmail.com)



## Treasurer's Report -

The new season for the Yacht Club has brought new and serious challenges for the Board as well as membership and staff. The Board made the decision to close and the State has as of now closed all non-essential businesses. This will have an impact on club finances as it will on all other businesses, members and our staff. The longer this national emergency continues the bigger the impact on all of us including the club. For the time being there will be no additional revenue other than the dues to cover fixed expenses. With all this in mind we can report that the club is in a very good position to pay expenses and continue to keep up on any maintenance issues that arise, even if this were to drag on for months. The Board is also considering what we can do for our staff. Laws being changed and recommendations on what to do with that change daily, so it is a learning experience for all.

If you have any questions on the Club's finances please contact me at; [treasurer@sjryc.com](mailto:treasurer@sjryc.com)

## Swim and Pool Report - *Jill Straub, Pool and Swim Committee Chair*

What a strange time we are living in right now. With COVID-19 data changing by the hour, it's becoming more and more difficult to plan for the near future. I know we are all dreaming of laid-back days at the beautiful SJRYC pool with our friends and loved ones.

As of now, we have set a date for the SJRYC River Rats Swim Team sign ups. Please mark your calendars for **Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm**. We'll have a pizza buffet so bring the kids and sign them up. \*\*If anything changes due to state regulations or stay at home order extensions, we will keep everyone updated.\*\*

The SJRYC River Rats Swim Team offers an exciting season of competitive swimming, as well as daily stroke instruction, for swimmers ages 4-18. Practice sessions are 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 11:30am. 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!



## 2020 SJRYC Board of Directors

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