

MARCH, 2022



# Saint Joseph River Yacht Club

## BILGE BAILINGS

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

It is an exciting time for the Club as we usher in a new season for 2022! The reopening of the doors and the welcoming sight of familiar faces are sure signs of spring's arrival, even if the weather tries to tell us otherwise. It is my honor to serve as your incoming Commodore and I look forward to all that the year ahead has to offer!

Last month, the SJRYC Board of Directors shared the much-anticipated news that Ray Mays has joined as the Club's new General Manager. His arrival came at the perfect time to prepare the Club for its annual March 17 reopening. For many of you, Ray may be a familiar face and name as he is a fixture of the area's restaurant industry – as chef, manager, and restaurateur. His professional experience and warm personality make him a perfect fit and we are thrilled to have him on board. Please join us in welcoming Ray to the Club!

Thank you to Susan Greco, Eric Hansen, Ron Klemm, Bruce Larson, Kathy Myers, and Louie Tremblay for their time and dedication throughout the extensive GM search committee process. Our thanks as well to Amanda Sartor for serving as interim General Manager and to the entire team of staff who made the transition seemingly seamless. We are grateful for all that you continue to do to make the Club a home away from home.

We also begin the 2022 season with a fantastic Board of Directors. Please join me in welcoming Vice Commodore Eric Hansen; Fleet Vice Commodore Ron Klemm; Rear Commodore Bruce Larson; Treasurer Rebecca Hirschboeck; Secretary Kim Kragt; returning Directors Kathy Myers and Matt Waters; as well as newly elected Directors Colin Anderson, Dave DeVore, Paul Falk, and Bob Walck. They are among the countless volunteers and committee members who dedicate their time to keep our club thriving. As members of the Board, we have been entrusted by you – our fellow members – to serve the best interests of the Club and its membership. Please do not hesitate to contact any one of us with your suggestions and ideas.

As you will read in this newsletter, we have much to look forward to in 2022, starting off with the Club's traditional St. Patrick's Day opening. Wear a bit o' green and join us for a toast to good things in the year ahead! We are all hopeful for a further return to normalcy with a fully loaded calendar of sailing and boating, social events, and swim. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the Club in a volunteer capacity – whether for an event like the Tri-State Regatta or as part of one of our regular standing committees – please let us know as well.

Thank you to Patrice Nelson for once again graciously agreeing to putting together the monthly Bilge Bailings newsletter. We hope that you find it a helpful communication tool in addition to the weekly email updates and regular Club postings.

Wishing you all the very best for 2022 and look forward to seeing you at the Club!

### Hours of Operation Effective MARCH 17, 2022

<u>Day</u>	<u>Clubhouse</u>	<u>Galley</u>
Sunday	Closed	Closed
Monday	Closed	Closed
Tuesday	Closed	Closed
Wednesday	Closed	Closed
Thursday	Noon-9pm	Noon-9pm
Friday	Noon-9pm	Noon-9pm
Saturday	Noon-9pm	Noon-9pm

## 2022 Social Report - *Bruce Larson, Rear Commodore*

March 17	Thursday	SJRYC Opening Day...St. Patrick's Day...Brian McClure Celtic
April 1	Friday	April Fools Day with The Brit and The Twitt Classic R&R and Humor
April 7	Thursday	Trivia with Past Commodore Dave Hertog
April 15	Friday	Rachel & The Soul Shakers
April 16	Saturday	Easter Bunny Chaired by Nick Culp and Bitts Thomas
April 28	Thursday	History of Sliver Beach by Kathy Zerler & Bruce Anderson
April 29	Friday	Morgan Ingle & The Back-Ups
May 5	Thursday	Trivia with Past Commodore Dave Hertog
May 6	Friday	SJRYC Annual Sock Burning Chaired by Bob Walck
May 7	Saturday	Kentucky Derby Party...Two Renegades Chaired by Nick Culp
May 14	Saturday	Rod Stewart performance with opening act Quentin Flagg
May 26	Thursday	Historical presentation with Bob Myer Chaired by Carole Seymour
May 27	Friday	The Rhumbline Bar opens
May 28	Saturday	The Tomas Esperanza Blues Band at The Rhumbline Bar
June 2	Thursday	Keith Scott Blues
June 11	Saturday	Rhumbline Regatta Boulevard Billies Chaired by Louie Trembly
June 16	Thursday	Kevin McDaniel
June 23	Thursday	St. Joe Jack
July 1	Friday	Morgan Ingle & The Back-Ups
July 3	Sunday	Jimmy Fastiggi Americana Music
July 3	Sunday	Fireworks at 10:30pm
July 7	Thursday	Keith Scott Blues
July 21	Thursday	St. Joe Jack
July 23	Saturday	Parrothead Party with Don Middlebrook
July 28	Thursday	Kevin Mc Daniel
August 4	Thursday	St. Joe Jack
August 5,6,7	Weekend	Rendezvous to South Haven Kevin McDaniel Acoustic Rock
August 11	Thursday	Kevin McDaniel
August 13	Saturday	Gabriel Estrada III Mariachi Singer
August 18	Thursday	Keith Scott Blues
August 20	Saturday	Sista Myra & Zion Lion Reggae Band
August 27	Saturday	Steel Drum Caribbean Music with Island Breeze
September 3	Saturday	Tri-State Race Party with Libido Funk Circus
September 23	Friday	Julia James
October 8	Saturday	Cups & Flags Awards
October 29	Saturday	Halloween Party costumes optional
November 12	Saturday	Commodores Bash with Top Secret Band
December 12	Saturday	Visit from Santa Chaired by Nick Culp



## Meet The General Manager - *Ray Mays*

In February, the Board of Directors announced the hire of Ray Mays as the Club's new General Manager. Ray joins the Club as a well-known community member, professional chef, and restaurateur. We sat down with Ray to learn more about him and for a sneak peek into what is in store for 2022.

**Bilge Bailings:** Ray, we are excited to have you aboard. Can you please tell us a little about your background and professional experience?

**Ray Mays:** I love living in this community! I grew up here and it's a place that my wife and children are proud to call home. My work in the restaurant industry began while I was attending college in Kalamazoo. The rest, as they say, was history. My passion for food took me out of state and into the corporate restaurant world where I learned a lot about how to manage an organization and lead a team. The nuts and bolts of hospitality. I eventually returned home and managed a number of our area's flagship restaurants. Just prior to joining the yacht club, I was the executive chef for dining services at Andrews University.

**Bilge Bailings:** What about the St. Joseph River Yacht Club interested you?

**Ray Mays:** I am a people person and working with people is the best part of my job. I live to cook, but it's the personal interactions that matter so much to me. Being a smaller community, I'm fortunate to know many of the members already. And if I haven't had the pleasure of meeting you, I look forward to doing so soon! The yacht club has a great atmosphere, a long tradition, and an unbeatable venue – it is something very, very special that you just don't find in many places. I am excited to bring in my professional experiences and ideas to the club to help take our dining, operations, and member experience to the next level.

**Bilge Bailings:** What's in store for the Club in 2022?

**Ray Mays:** It's going to be a great year and I am excited to hit the ground running. We're planning an update of the menu – respecting the club favorites while bringing in new dishes and flavors through our specials that members and their guests will love. Those changes will come in stages as we introduce new dishes. The emphasis will be on menu items that are fresh, local, and in-season. I'm also a big believer in making things in house – homemade just tastes better! On the operational side, we are looking at efficiencies in the kitchen layout to improve the flow for staff, especially during peak hours.

**Bilge Bailings:** Give us an idea of what members can expect from this year's menu.

**Ray Mays:** We're going to have some exciting weekly and event specials. We're starting off the season with my corned beef in honor of St. Patrick's Day – it's a traditional dish at many establishments but one that I have prided myself in perfecting.

**Bilge Bailings:** We can't wait to try it! Thanks for the time, Ray. And see you at the Club!

**Ray Mays:** It's my pleasure and I look forward to seeing you there!



## Treasurer's Report - *Rebecca Hirschboeck, Treasurer*

2021 final financials are not quite ready, but based on the preliminary figures prior to getting them over for a tax review things are looking promising and in the black. In addition our 2022 budget has been set and is in place and we will continue to review as the season progresses. Both the board and the Finance Committee are actively vested in ensuring our finances remain solid.

I also had the pleasure this week of meeting with our new General Manager Ray Mays and had detailed conversations around our budget, finances and financial policy. I'm looking forward to continuing these discussions as Ray continues to get onboard.

Here's to opening day being just around the corner and a successful season for 2022 getting closer by the day!

If there are any questions regarding the Club's finances or any requests for reports, please direct them to me at [treasurer@sjryc.com](mailto:treasurer@sjryc.com)



# Happy St. Patrick's Day