Volume 58, Number 1, January, 2025 Latitude: 30°32'29"N Longitude: 87°54'14"W

The Mainsheet

From the Commodore

Welcome to a new year. Helping me to serve you and keep our club running smoothly are the members named below. Please call on them when you need them this year.

John Adams
Commodore

BRIDGE:
Commodore: John Adams
Vice Commodore: Steve Savarese
RearCommodore:HowieMcNair
FleetCaptain: Jennifer Stanley
Fleet Surgeon: Dr. Parag Mahateka
Secretary: Gretchen Valentine

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:
(to serve 2 years)
Ellis Ollinger
PC Philip Durant
Dan Beasley
PC Randy Fitz-Wainwright

HARBOR: (to serve 2 years)
Steve Delahunty
Chris Faircloth
Robert Hangen

MEMBERSHIP: (to serve 2 years)
Elizabeth McGriff
PC Scott Hartwell
Sophia Waara
Austin Greene

LONG RANGE PLANNING:
(to serve 3 years)
James Hughes
Mike Nyden
Joe Donelan

The Commodore's Ball and Honors Presentation

Above: thte 2 Junior awards, on the left,the Marty Cup for outstanding service to the club, Lanee Imparato and

On the right, the Boat Cohen award to

the most improved first-year Junior!

Above presented by her Bridge when FYC Commodore, the Ed Coley award for service to the Club was awarded to GYA Commodore Randy FitzWainwright.

Below on the right, the Cruisers of the Year was awarded to David and Kim Zimmerman

Above, the dedicated volunteers of the Race/Regatta Committee who assisted with all the many races and regattas we enjoyed this past year show off their special cups!

FAIRHOPE YACHT CLUB
AUXILIARY
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024
13TH ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF
ADMISSION - $10.00 AT THE DOOR

Chili Tasting Begins @ 4:30pm
Awards @ 6:00pm
FOR INFORMATION:
BARBARA ECHOLS, 251-454-4089
DIANE SUDA, 251-463-9050

The Mainsheet is published monthly by the Fairhope Yacht Club, a member of the Gulf Yachting Association and United States Sailing Association. Circulation includes all Fairhope Yacht Club members and GYA affiliated clubs. Insertions may be sent to The Mainsheet, Fairhope Yacht Club, P.O. Box 1327, Fairhope, AL 36533, or e-mail to mainsheet@fairhopeyacht-club.com by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

BRIDGE
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Vice Commodore - Steve Savarese
Rear Commodore - Howie MacNair
Fleet Captain - Jennifer Stanley
Fleet Surgeon - Dr. Parag Mahatekar
Secretary - Gretchen Valentine
Treasurer - Kay Robberson

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Bob Kinler
David Roberts
Michael Amos
Ellis Ollinger
PC Philip Durant
Dan Beasley
PC Randy Fitz-Wainwright

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Entertainment Jason Harrelson
Building & Grounds John Adams & Dave Willits
Insurance/Marine Safety David Barr
Harbor Chad Smith
Associates PC Gary Garner
Membership PC Chris Dabney
Offshore Don Faircloth
Cruising PC Cathy Cromartie
Sailing Director Holly Murray
Adult Sailing Holly Murray
Race & Regatta Howie McNair & PC Randy Fitzpatrick-Wainwright
Junior Commodore Coleman Kennedy
Juniors Advisor Ann Hartwell
Historians PC Barbara Brown Sarah Johnston-Cox
Guardian John Adams
GYA Coordinator PC Randy Fitzpatrick-Wainwright
Mainsheet Editor Nancy Fitzpatrick
Long Range Planning TBD
ICRC TBD
FYC Auxiliary Shirley Ryals

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Web address: www.fairhopeyachtclub.com

The Layline ~ *Holly Murray*

I hope everyone has had a wonderful Holiday Season. I am excited to ring in the 2025-year building on the success of the 2024 year.

Earlier we had a Women's 101 sailing clinic, it was a lot of fun getting to know everyone and sharing some fun stories about sailing. We work mainly on upwind sailing on the Melges 15 and Sunfish. We look forward to hosting more in the year to come. I would like to thank Randy Wainwright, Maddy Murray, and Lanee Imperota for their assistance with this clinic.

January 18 and 19 our Optimist sailors will be participating in a combined clinic with Pensacola YC coached by Harrison Menszer from Southern YC. This should be a great learning experience for our group of sailors while getting them prepared for Valentine Regatta in St. Petersburg, FL.

We also have a group heading to Merritt Island FL to participate in the Melges 15 Winter Series #2. There are106 boats registered at this time, making for some exciting racing ahead. Good luck to Nate Hartwell, Lanee Imperato, Maddy Murray and Holly Murray. We are sure they will bring back some great stories and learning experiences with this event.

Speaking of **Melges 15s**, we have a few events lined up in the next 3 months for our own Melges 15 Gulf Coast Winter Series. Let's go sailing and build this fun exciting class in our area.

MELGES 15 GULF COAST SERIES

January 18/19 Pensacola Yacht Club - Regatta Network
February 1/2 Fairhope Yacht Club – Regatta Network
March 15/16 Pontchartrain Yacht Club – Club Spot
For club boat reservations contact Holly@fairhopeyachtclub.com

SAILING CAMP

We know everyone will start looking for our camp dates as we plan our summer vacations. Below I have posted the dates, they will be online this month with a place to leave your email for notice of open registration. Member registration will open the end of March, dates will be announced later. Please pay close attention to the dates we are offering camps. They have changed a bit from previous years due to the fact we are hosting the Sunfish Nationals.

SESSION 1: MAY 26 - JUNE 6
SESSION 2: JUNE 16 - JUNE 27
SESSION 3: JULY 7 - JULY 18
SESSION 4: JULY 21-AUGUST 1
Camp Fees: $400 member.
$450 non-member
Bay Buddy Camp is the last week of each session 8am-12pm only

Questions or concerns:
Holly Murray 228-363-0073.
or Holly@fairhopeyachtclub.com

Women's 101 Sailing Clinic!

January, 2025

FYC Junior Report

From the Junior Commodore

The Junior Bridge was elected at he December meeting and we are pleased to offfer you their names and let you know that they are off on trips at this time, some with families but most at very important seasional Regattas like the Orange Bowl for example! Our new Junior Commodore, following in his father's footsteps, is Cruz Dabney, Junior Vice Commodore is Joe Comer V, Junior Treasurer Axel Jackson, Junior Fleet Captain Emmie Kuhn and Junior Opti Chair Jude Walker. We will be watching with pleasure the leadership traits we will see developing this year.

We will line them up for photos next month but you can probably see them in many of the Mainsheet issues of the past year!

These are just a few pictures from my files to show you what our juniors are up to on their vacations!

Celebrating a New Chapter: The Dedication of Carpe Diem

On December 4, members of FYC gathered for a special moment in our club's history: the naming and dedication ceremony for a Melges 15 purchased earlier in the year year. This event marked the culmination of months of effort to grow our sailing fleet and foster the spirit of competitive sailing within our community.

The journey to bring this boat to FYC was a labor of love, driven by the shared vision of building a Melges 15 fleet. Many of you played a vital role in the fundraising efforts, demonstrating the incredible passion and generosity of our sailing family.

Among the most meaningful contributions was the generous donation of over $5,000 from the Valentine family, whose involvement in the Junior Yacht Club has left a lasting legacy. This gift was made in memory of Jeff Valentine, a beloved member of our community who played an instrumental role in fostering the next generation of sailors. Honoring Jeff's memory through the Melges 15 fundraiser was a fitting tribute, reflecting his dedication to sailing and the FYC family.

The newly named Carpe Diem—Latin for "Seize the Day"—symbolizes more than just a vessel. It represents the adventures ahead, the connections it will forge, and the sailing history it will help write. Carpe Diem is a reminder to embrace every moment on the water.

We invite you all to experience the thrill of sailing Carpe Diem and to be a part of this new chapter in FYC's story.

Here's to new adventures and an exciting future for our Melges 15 fleet!

Restaurant & Bar Hours Of Operation
(251-928-8888 for Dinner Reservations)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11am-8pm	Closed	Closed	4pm-9pm	4pm-9pm	11am-10pm	11am-10pm

January 2025

			1 Happy New Year *Club closed*	2	3 Aux Lunch Meeting 11am	4
5	6	7	8 6:00 JrYC 7:00 General Membership Meetings	9	19	11 GYA FYC Winter Meeting
12 FIRST RACE	13	14	15 Membership Committee	16	17	18
19 SECOND RACE Delta Drifters Porch Social	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 THIRD RACE & COOKOFF	27	28	29 Regatta Committee	30	31	

What's Happening at OUR Club!

MONTHLY SCHEDULE

★3RD SUNDAY: PORCH SOCIAL outside when the weather permits!
★TUESDAY: POT LUCK returns in March!
★1ST WEDNESDAY: JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP MEETING, 6pm in the Boat Barn.
★1ST WEDNESDAY: MEMBERSHIP MEETING, 7pm in the Ballroom.
★2ND WEDNESDAY: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: By invitation, meeting, 6:30pm
★LAST WEDNESDAY: REGATTA COMMITTEE: Meeting, 6:30pm in the Jubilee Room, anyone interested is welcome!
★1ST FRIDAY: FYC AUXILIARY: Luncheon at 11:00, meeting follows.
★2ND SATURDAY:VOLUNTEER CLEAN-UP: beginning again in March,

SPECIAL EVENTS

JAN 11: GYA Winter Meeting hosted by FYC. GYA planning and committee reports.
JANUARY! 12, 19, 26: The 13th Annual Chili Bowl Races and CookOff! Test your skills At Sea or Ashore!

Restaurant & Bar Hours Of Operation
(251-928-8888 for Dinner Reservations)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11am-8pm	Closed	Closed	4pm-9pm	4pm-9pm	11am-10pm	11am-10pm

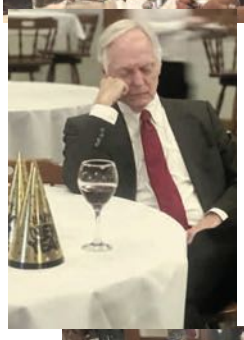
February~2025

						1
2	3	4	5 6:00 JrYC 7:00 General Membership Meetings	6	7 Aux Lunch/Meeting 11am	8
9	10	11	12 Membership Committee	13	14	16 Valentine's Day Dance!
16 Stan Foster Trio Porch Social	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Regatta Committee	27	28	

Santa came to the Club!

Santa came to check out the good who was ready for his visit!

We welcome the New Year



As usual, a good time was had by all, and after a feast, we danced til the clock struck 12!

FYC Auxiliary's Chili Cook-Off this month!

FAIRHOPE YACHT CLUB
AUXILIARY

CHILI COOK OFF

SUNDAY
JANUARY 26th, 2025
Chili Tasting Begins @ 4:30pm

Second Saturday Spruce-Up looking ahead!

A reminder to please make your plans now – well ahead of time – for the first of this year's Second Saturday Spruce-Up events that will take place on (Surprise, surprise) Saturday, March 8, 2025. (Happy New Year!)

We'll be doing the "usual", grounds and parking lot clean-ups (please bring your own rakes, shovels, blowers, etc.) and join us. Plans are to begin about 9 a.m., with a dawn-patrol likely starting shortly after sun-up tasked with blowing any build up sand and/or debris from the various parking lots.

We'll close down the earlier of 11 a.m., or when we all get the tasks completed. Also as usual, I'll have some water available, and a frosty for anyone wishing one at completion.

By the way – this is not the semi-annual club "work day" which usually take place in April, though you may wish to keep your eyes open for that date too. Help is always appreciated.

This is a great chance to rub elbows with other members, get to know some folks, and keep our club's status as the Gem of Mobile Bay.

I hope to see you then! Mike

Your Membership Committee for 2025

Elizabeth McGriff
PC Scott Hartwell
Sophia Waara
Austin Greene
Jimmy Adams
Chris Faircloth
PC Chris Dabney
Bob Knapp
Jack Bystricky
Rhett Holder-Dodge
Gretchen Valentine

Welcome Aboard
PC Chris Dabney
Membership Chair

First aid for hypothermia

Going overboard happens when you don't expect it! A great day on the water will become serious quickly if you don't know how to deal with cold, wet situations.

★ Gently move the victim to a warm dry area.

★ Check for breathing and heart beat. Start CPR and call 911 if necessary.

★ If you have dry clothes or a blanket, remove the victim's wet clothes. Minimize body movement, since rough handling can cause cardiac arrest. Put on a stocking cap.

★ Lay the victim in a level face-up position with a blanket or some other insulation underneath.

★ If the person is alert and responsive, give them warm liquids such as tea with sugar or hot chocolate.

★ No alcohol. Alcohol increases heat loss.

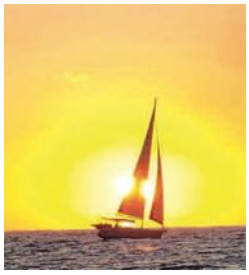
2024 Cruisers of the year

Congratulations to the 2024 Cruisers of the Year – David and Kim Zimmerman receiving their trophy from Past Commodore Cathy Cromartie.

From day cruises to weekend cruises to week-long cruises, few people enjoy cruising their boat, *Katrina* - an Erikson 38, as much as David and Kim. Over the holidays the Zimmermans and Gus M ller sailed their boats to Destin. They had mixed winds and sea states but all agree it was a great cruise with many dolphins, fish, and an amazing sunset.

Katarina moving along in the gulf.

The 2025 cruising schedule is on the FYC website. Some dates are subject to change and all cruises are subject to weather conditions. We look forward to seeing you on the water in 2025.



Khüley at sunset during the holiday cruise.

Future Race Officers!

GYA

Get ready to master the art of race management at the IN-PERSON Basic Race Management Seminar hosted by the Pontchartrain Yacht Club!

★ ***Date:*** Saturday, February 1, 2025
★ ***Time:*** 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
★ ***Location:*** 140 Jackson Ave., Mandeville, LA 70448
★ ***Instructors:*** Donna Sue Marks, Jerry Thompson and John D. Farris
★ ***What's Included?***
A single action-packed day of in-person learning.
Expert guidance from seasoned instructors.
Hands-on knowledge to boost your race management skills.
★ ***What to Know:***
Pre-Course Work: Required (90–120 minutes). Be sure to complete this before the seminar!
Download: The Racing Rules App (essential for the course).
Canvas Email: Ten days before the seminar, you can look for an invitation to the Canvas learning platform to access the required materials.
Cost: $40 registration fee (discounted US Sailing membership for first-timers available).
No Walk-Ins: Registration closes Wednesday, January 22, 2025.
★ ***Limited Slots!*** Only 24 spots are left—act now to secure your place!
★ ***Enroll Now:*** (https://www1.ussailing.org/enrollment/selectregistrant.aspx?courseid=13509650)
★ ***Add to Your Calendar:*** Don't forget to block your day and join us for an unforgettable experience!
Contact John D. Farris for any questions at Patssun@yahoo.com.

It's good To Know!

BOAT AMERICA 2025, a course on responsible boating

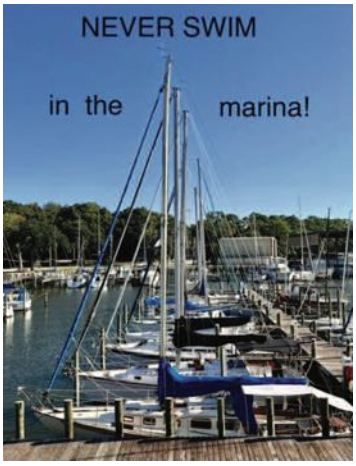
Boat America is a boating certificate class that offers an in-depth and interesting boating safety course, and provides the knowledge needed to obtain a boating certificate.

Your local USCG Auxiliary (Flotilla 081-03-06) will be offering this much needed course on safety equipment, boating laws, safe operation and navigation, boating emergencies, trailering and more.

Please email or call Ken McGrew at kenmcgrew@bellsouth.net or 251-583-9445 and reserve your spot for one of the following dates: February 15, March 15, April 12, May 17, June 14, or July 19.

All classes will be held at the Daphne Fire Training Center - 25250 Bailey Yelding Jr. Dr., Daphne.
BOAT AMERICA 2025 . . . a course on responsible boating

Semper Paratus!
Bill Fallin
FYC Safety Committee
FSO - PB U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
America's Volunteer Guardians
Flotilla 081-03-06
404-557-3667
#justwearit



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