Volume 58, Number 3, March, 2025 Latitude: 30°32'29"N Longitude: 87°54'14"W

The Mainsheet

The day gave us a cool,damp end for February with a promise of Spring

From the Commodore

February was an incredible month. What a great turnout for dinner and dancing on Valentine's Day while enjoying the Doc Rogers Band and the porch social was also a hit featuring the Stan Foster Trio. The grand opening of our newly renovated boat launch is now complete and ready for use just in time for spring! March will begin our Regatta season and promises lots of sailing and hopefully great weather. The Wet N Cool Regatta and Dogwood Regatta will provide competition and good times for all. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to Howie McNair via email **(howardmcnair@gmail.com)** for volunteer assignments.

Thanks to everyone who joined us, volunteered, and made February special at our club. Hope to see you around having fun boating, supporting our bar and dining room facilities, and participating in the upcoming events this month and throughout the year.

John Adams
Commodore

Quick reminders
New menu will be available March 1– quite a few added items to try.
Reservations ensure the best dining experience – thank you for calling ahead!
Please continue to support our new Dining Room Dress Code – helping to elevate our club experience for everyone.
Any event on FYC property – big or small – must be scheduled through our Event Coordinator.

Discover the Joy of Sailing at Fairhope Yacht Club!

SAILING 101

FYC is offering Sailing 101 on the dates listed below:

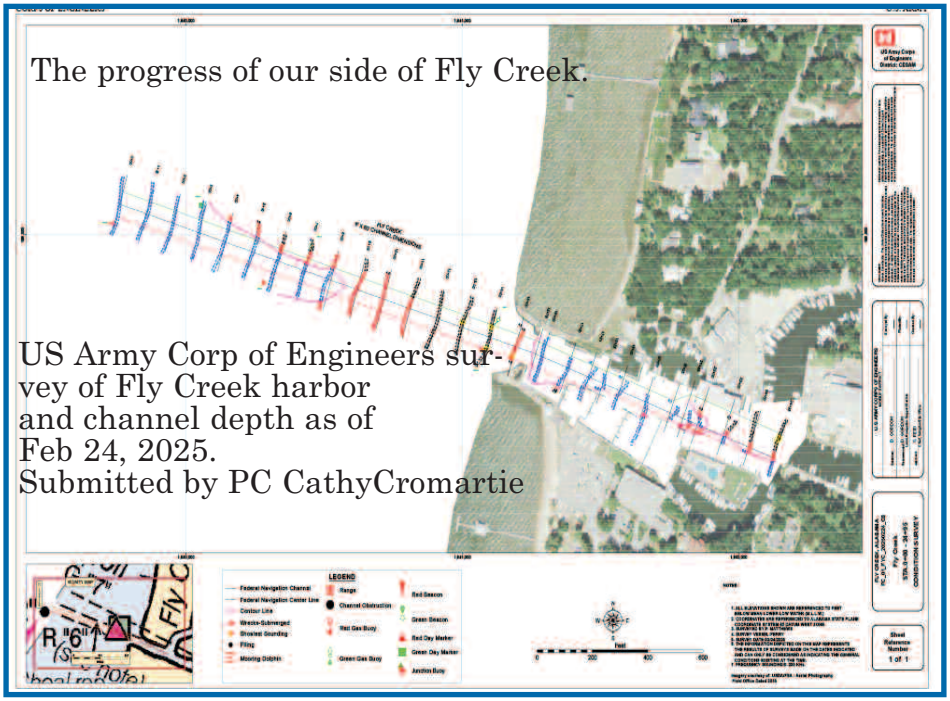
Saturday, March 15, 2025, 11:00 am
Saturday, April 12, 2025, 11:00 am
Saturday, May 17, 2025, 11:00 am

The class will include a 30-40 minute classroom introduction to sailing followed by on-the-water training in club owned boats (weather permitting). Expect to be finished no later than 3:00 pm.

This is a low key, no pressure experience intended to provide you with a fun and rewarding introduction to sailing. The class is designed for beginners with no experience or for those who have some experience but would like to improve and become experienced with club boats.

Dress appropriately for the current weather conditions, including a jacket, hat, sunscreen, and water.

John Buziak and Joe Donelan
FYC Race and Regatta Committee



The progress of our side of Fly Creek.

US Army Corp of Engineers survey of Fly Creek harbor and channel depth as of Feb 24, 2025.
Submitted by PC CathyCromartie

Wonder where your friends are? They're on the water, sailing, crewing, fishing, watching, involved in the activities of an active club! Don't like putting up sails? Try being a committee boat on a race course. We can't put on the great regattas we host without two or three powerboats helping each course! Not on the water, the shore duties are just as important and necessary. Join us for a great time!

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

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

COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Memorial Pat Colvin
Entertainment Jason Harrelson & PC Gary Garner
Building & Grounds John Adams
Insurance/Marine Safety David Barr
Harbor Chris Faircloth
Associates Louis Zadnichek,II
Membership Shelby Allen
Offshore Don Faircloth
Cruising PC Cathy Cromartie
Sailing Director Holly Murray
Adult Sailing Holly Murray
Race & Regatta Howie MacNair & PC Randy Fitzpatrick-Wainwright
Junior Commodore Cruz Dabney
Juniors Advisor Chris Dabney
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

Office: Mon-Fri 8:00am-12:00, 1:30-4:30pm
Phone: 251-928-3276 **Fax:** 251-990-8602
Email: office@fairhopeyachtclub.com
Club Office: 101 Volanta, Fairhope AL 36532
Mailing Address: Box 1327, Fairhope AL 36533
Web address: www.fairhopeyachtclub.com

The Layline ~ *Holly Murray*

As we embrace the sailing season, we want to share a recap of our recent activities and a preview of what's on the horizon for our club. Our commitment to fostering a vibrant sailing community continues to shine through the various events we've hosted and participated in.

Gulf Coast Winter Series for the Melges 15

On February 1 and 2, we proudly hosted the #2 Gulf Coast Winter Series for the Melges 15 class. Given that this is a relatively new class in our area, we dedicated Saturday to drills and practice races. This format allowed sailors to refine their skills and connect with the boat.

After a full day of practicing, we enjoyed a delightful taco bar, accompanied by engaging discussions about sailing strategies and experiences related to the Melges 15. It was a great opportunity for camaraderie among participants.

On Sunday, we managed to complete four races in light wind conditions. Congratulations to Clerc Cooper from the Southern Yacht Club for winning the weekend series, and to Joe Comer V who, along with his father, secured 2nd place. The winter series will conclude on March 15th and 16th at the Pontchartrain Yacht Club, where we look forward to more exciting races.

USODA Valentine's Day Regatta

A few weeks later, four of our junior sailors—Ty Nichols, Elsie Hollingshead, Jude Walker, and Cooper Williams-competed in the USODA Valentine's Day Regatta in St. Petersburg, Florida. The weather was sunny and warm, creating a pleasant atmosphere for sailing. However, the wind conditions were not as favorable, and we were only able to complete two races over the weekend. We are incredibly proud of our young sailors for their efforts and sportsmanship during this challenging event.

ILCA Mid Winters

Shortly after the Valentine's Regatta, Joe Comer represented our club at the ILCA Mid Winters in St. Petersburg, Florida. Competing against a fleet of 154 boats, Joe finished 4th in the Silver Fleet, achieving impressive finishes despite facing setbacks, including a couple of black flag penalties. We are confident that without those flags, he would have ranked within the top 25, showcasing his potential and skill.

High School Sailing Team Practices

This month, our high school sailing teams have kicked off their practices! Despite a few weather-related delays, we finally got on the water to shake off the rust. As temperatures rise, we are eager to spend more time sailing and enhancing our skills together.

Junior Parent Meeting

We encourage all junior sailors' parents to attend a Junior Parent Meeting on March 5 in the Boat Barn, immediately following our junior meeting at approximately 6:30 PM. This meeting will focus on upcoming events and fundraising opportunities for our junior program. Your involvement is crucial in supporting our young sailors, and we would love to hear your ideas and suggestions.

Spring clinic

Want to get a jump on sailing? Our Opti spring clinic will begin March 1st. We have learn to sail, green fleet and advance fleet. The schedule and sign up can be found online. Come on we still have room!

SUMMER CAMP

Registration will open the last week of March for Members Only!! Please visit the website to find, dates, times and cost. Also drop your email and you will be the first to be notified when camp opens.

As we look back on our recent successes and forward to exciting future events, we want to thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm for our sailing community. Together, we can ensure that our members—young and seasoned alike—have the best experiences on the water.

We hope to see you at our upcoming events and meetings!

Coach Holly Murray
Sailing Director

At Half Mast

Rusty Godard
February 2025
Equity Member

Richard Shaw
February 2025
Equity Member

FYC Junior Report

March, 2025

From the Junior Commodore

Spring is upon us, and with it comes a fresh season of racing, camaraderie, and adventure on the water. The docks are bustling, the sails are being rigged, and the scent of salt and varnish fills the air—it's a great time to be a member of our beloved yacht club!

Heather & Ty's Spanish Sojourn

Before we dive into our upcoming events, let's take a moment to wish Heather MacNair and Ty Nichols fair winds as they enjoy their time in Spain. Whether they're enjoying the Mediterranean breeze, exploring historic harbors, or simply soaking up the rich sailing culture, we know they'll have stories to tell when they return. We eagerly await their updates and, perhaps, a few Spanish sailing tips!

Upcoming Regattas: Wet N' Cool & Dogwood

Back here at home, we have two exciting regattas on the horizon. First up is the **Wet N' Cool Regatta**, which lives up to its name! Be prepared for plenty of spray, fast action, and thrilling competition. Whether you're racing or cheering from the shore, the exhilarating competition and spirited camaraderie are sure to make it a highlight of the season.

Following close behind is the **Dogwood Regatta**, a favorite among club members and a sure sign that spring has truly arrived. Expect competitive racing, shifting breezes. Be prepared for plenty of spray, fast action, and thrilling competition. Whether you're racing or cheering from the shore, the exhilarating competition and spirited camaraderie are sure to make it a highlight of the season.

Get Involved!

Whether you're a seasoned racer or just getting your sea legs, now is the time to get involved. Volunteer, crew for a skipper, or simply come down to the docks and soak in the energy. The more, the merrier!

Cruz Dabney
Junior Commodore

Aidyn James, our rising Senior member

Aidyn James is currently a senior at Bayshore Christian School. After attending sailing camp one summer about 5 years ago he fell in love with sailing. Since then he has sailed in opti, 420, Viper, and Melges 15 a few times. He has been on the Junior Lipton team as well as the captain of the school team for the last two years. He is an instructor for summer sailing camp and also for green fleet.

In the Fall he will major in Mechanical Engineering at Auburn, where he has been awarded the Spirit of Auburn Presidential Scholarship for academics. He plans to continue sailing while there by joining Auburn's sailing club. Upon graduating from Auburn he plans to go to seminary and then join the mission field where he can use the talents God has gifted him to help others both physically and spiritually.

Ty and Heather take on the world!

Ty Nichols and Heather MacNair going to Spain was probably the biggest thing for this month. This pictures the vast armada they sailed against! The Regatta, Europe Opti Orange was sailed off Valencia, Spain, with 537 checked out on the water! More information will be give us at the Wednesday meetings!

Junior Regattas and Circuits

March 9
NORTHSHORE CUP
High school regatta
PontYC

March 15/16
MARDI GRAS
NOYC

March 22/23
WET 'N COOL
FYC

March 29/30
DOGWOOD
FYC

April 12/13
ALFONSO SUTTER
Laser D14 Championship
Sutter Cup
GYC

April 26/27
DAUPHIN ISLAND RACE
MYC

April 25/27
SPRING
High school
JYC

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

March 2025

						1
2	3	4 Mardi Gras	5 6:00 JrYC 7:00 General Membership Meetings	6	7 Aux Lunch Meeting 11am	8 Second Saturday Spruce-Up 9am
9	10	11 Pot Luck	12 Membership Committee	13	14	15 GYA Melges 15 winter series PontYC
16 Harrison McInnis Porch Social	17	18 Pot Luck	19	20	21	22 FYC Wet n Cool Jr Regatta
23 Wet n Cool Jr Regatta	24	25 Pot Luck	26 Regatta Committee	27	28	29 FYC Dogwood Regatta
30 Dogwood Regatta	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 on March 8,

SPECIAL EVENTS

St. Patty's Day falls on Monday, the 17th this year. Therefore, there will not be a band or any dinner specials.
WET N' COOL & DOGWOOD! 2 major sailing events will happen at the club this month:
Your help, and patience, will be asked and we encourage you to join us and not miss the fun!
EASTER will be celebrated in our usual manner, Special buffet menu and an Easter Egg event starting with the youngest about 2pm. More info will be coming as the day gets closer.

It's Easter time and looking for the Big Bunny after a wonderful buffet spread just for us! Both sides of the grounds will be the gathering-hunting areas for luck-filled eggs.

Treat Mom to a Buffet on a day to be outside with the Bay, the sand and who knows what you might find in those eggs!

Reservations would be appreciated!

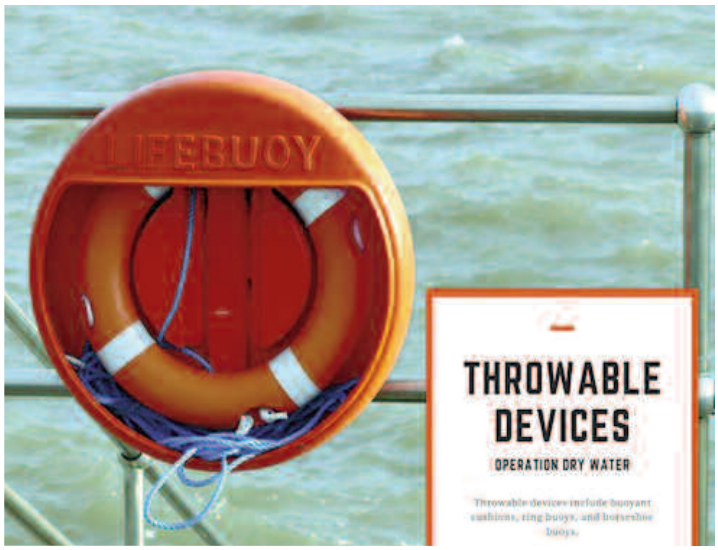
Restaurant & Bar Hours Of Operation
(251-928-8888 for Dinner Reservations)

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

April~2025

		1 Pot Luck	2 6:00 JrYC 7:00 General Membership Meetings	3	4 Aux Lunch Meeting 11am	5
6	7	8 Pot Luck	9 Membership Committee	10	11	12
13	14	15 Pot Luck	16	17	18	19
20 Easter Buffet	21	22 Pot Luck	23	24	25	26 Dauphin Island Race MYC
27 The Delta Drifters Porch Social Dauphin Island Race	28	29 Pot Luck	30 Regatta Committee			

FYC Safety Committee~Bill Fallin



U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) regulations require your boat to have a Type-IV throwable flotation device aboard your craft. A throwable device should be easily accessible to the boat skipper or crew in the event that someone falls overboard. This device is meant to be thrown to a person in the water, who should grab onto it and hold it until help arrives. It is not meant to be worn.

Tetanus "Lockjaw"

You have injured yourself in or near the water! What me worry? We love our Bay but take precautions!

LOCKJAW!

★ *Increased risk with open dirty wounds.* Common marine injuries causing abrasions, lacerations, and puncture wounds occur from boating mishaps, fishing injuries, catfish fins, stingray spines, barnacles, sharp debris on beach, falling on slippery rocks on jetties, etc.

★ *Wounds exposed to dirty bay water*, sand, or debris can have tetanus spores called *Clostridium tetani.* This bacteria releases a nerve toxin called *tetanospasmin.*

★ *Symptoms* can include fever, sweating, muscle spasms and stiffness, paralysis, breathing difficulties and death if left untreated. On average, symptoms usually develop within 3 to 20 days

★ *Tetanus vaccine booster* is recommended every 10 years.

For dirty or major wounds, booster is recommended after 5 years.

★ *Cleaning a wound* by washing it with soap and water, removing dirt, can help prevent tetanus and other infections.

Dr Parag Mahatekar
Fleet Surgeon

FYC Auxiliary News

2025
Fairhope Yacht Club Auxiliary Scholarship

$2,000 Scholarship to be awarded to a High School Senior by May 1, 2025

To be eligible, applicant must be a child, grandchild or great grandchild of a Fairhope Yacht Club member or employee.

Applications may be picked up in The FYC Offce

Cruisin' with PC Cathy Cromartie

The Annual Burning of the socks

Greetings Cruisers and Happy New Cruising Season! The cruising page of the FYC web site has been updated with this year's cruising schedule. Our first cruise, Sock Burning Cruise with our friends from Mobile Yacht Club, is coming up March 21-23. We will cruise to Pelican Bay (Dauphin Island) and on Saturday evening gather on the sand spit for the traditional burning of the socks. We will also plan to grill hot dogs on the beach for all FYC cruisers in attendance. More details and sock burning etiquette will be sent via email closer to the event. I hope you will plan to join us for this fun event.

Nothing like a Tube Steak over coals!

Second Saturday Spruce-Up

Heads Up!

The very first "Second Saturday Spruce-Up" will be taking place on March 8th - Weather Permitting.

The regular "clean up" begins at 9 a.m., with the "Dawn Patrol", leaf blowers to scour the parking lots of sand and debris, cranking up at 7 a.m.

I'll provide water (anytime) and a cold frosty (once the tasks are complete) for anyone participating.

You please provide various hand tools, rake shovels, brooms, etc.

And please remember - the Spruce-Up appreciates help from everyone - including the youngsters who seem to get a kick out of it.

One other side benefit, especially for Associates (and everyone else too, really) - this is a great way to meet other members of the club, break a sweat, get some stuff done, and enjoy the members.

This is not the spring "work-day" which is tentatively scheduled for March 22, but please mark both dates - the "Spruce-Up" and the work day, on your calendar. See you March 8.

Sunday sailing~Spring Series Begins!

Spring 2025 Series Race #1 Results

Nine boats competed in the first race of the spring 2025 series. Winds were steady at 8-10 knots out of the southwest. The weather was beautiful

Top five boats:

1. *KatieDid*, Rhodes 19, Tony Chavers, Steve Odom
2. *Damn Yankee II*, S2 6.9, Rick Byrne, Jerry Hall, Mark Elliott
3. *Flying Scot #1,* Sam Krivacs, Joe Donelan
4. *MOJO*, Lindenberg 22, Teri Loftin, Jason Ellison, Matthew
5. *Hermione,* J29, Gabe Tipton, Elsie Hollingshead, Jilly Hollingshead, Jeff Smith

Other participating boats (in alphabetic order)

- *Alouette*, Beneteau 35s5, Eddie Manes, Gus Muller, Tracy Hirsh
- *Gypsy Wind*, Jack Ardrey, Andy Fells, Todd Landau
- *Moonglade*, Pearson Flyer 30, Don and Tracy Faircloth
- *Tigress*, J22, John Buziak, Michael Reagan

February 9 Race Results

Seven boats competed in the second race of the spring 2025 series. The winds were 8-10 knots at the start but increased to 12-15 knots on the final leg. The weather was . . . well . . . interesting. Patchy fog until the last mark, when the entire fleet sailed into a dense fog. Visibility dropped to 5-10 boat lengths. Everyone was sailing on instruments. Results follow:

1. *Damn Yankee II*, S2 6.9, Rick Byrne, Jerry Hall, Mark Elliott, John VanVynck
2. *Moonglade*, Pearson Flyer 30, Don, Chris, Deb, & Tracy Faircloth; Dan Griffin
3. *KatieDid*, Rhodes 19, Tony Chavers, Steve Odom
4. *Hermione,* J29, Gabe Tipton, Beth Beery, Elsie Hollingshead, Jilly Hollingshead, Liana Dees, Jeff Smith
5. *Gypsy Wind,* Jack Ardrey, Andy Fells, Todd Landau, Brandon Fischer, Paul Settle
6. *Flying Scot #1*, Sam Krivacs, Joe Donelan
7. *MOJO*, Lindenberg 22, Teri Loftin, Jason Ellison, Matthew, Sean Howard, Roxie

February 16 Race Results

The third race of the spring 2025 series was a wild event. The winds were 15-20 with gusts to 25. Heavy seas. Six boats queued up in the harbor, five went out, and four boats started the race. Results follow:

1. *Damn Yankee II*, S2 6.9, Rick Byrne, Jerry Hall, Mark Elliott, John VanVynck
2. *Kühly,* single handed by owner Gus Müller
3. *Alouette*, Eddie Manes and Tracy Hirsh

4. *Gypsy Wind*, Jack Ardrey, Dave & Libby Hackney, Kevin Russell

- *Hermione,* Gabe Tipton's J29. DNS
- *Flying Scot #1*, FYC. DNS

February 23 race cancelled due to bad weather

– 50 degrees and raining.

An Historic "First" for FYC: *Member Celebrates 99th Birthday at the Club*

Sunday afternoon, January 5, Jeanne O'Connell made The Ballroom host to the birthday celebration of Bob Hasewinkle, who recently turned 99 years of age.

The room bustled with friends of Bob, and well-wishers. Hors-d'oeuvres, were served as well as more potent refreshment, and the room was decorated for the occasion.

Bob spoke briefly, followed by a heartfelt tribute, and a rather humorous song – "That's our Bob – because nothing rhymes with Hasewinkle."

We thank the kitchen for providing a wonderfully delicious array of food for us. We are shooting to celebrate again when he completes his 100th year.

Happy Birthday, Bob – and see you for another one late December 2025.

Harbor Report

From this to this! The boat ramp is complete, ready for use, and looks great. The job came in under budget and extends much further than the original ramp. This should allow launch depths of at least 5 feet even at low tide. Special thanks to Bob Knapp for his oversight of this project.

As for dredging, we are still awaiting city permit approval. Thanks,

Chris Faircloth
Harbor Chair
404.769.7558å

Please support the Members whose Ads support the Mainsheet

W. Holt Naff
Financial Advisor
THE HARTY CARPENTER GROUP

Merrill Lynch
Bank of America Corporation

251.990.2391
601 N. Section St
Fairhope, AL 36532
holt.naff@ml.com

www.fa.ml.com/thehartycarpentergroup

© 2017 Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved. Merrill Lynch Wealth Management makes available products and services offered by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, a registered broker-dealer and Member SIPC, and other subsidiaries of Bank of America Corporation.

MARIA CAZALAS
REALTOR®

EXIT REALTY LANDMARK

(954)536-4655
Hablo Español

mariawithexit@gmail.com

316 S Mckenzie St Foley, Al 36535
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.

CamScanner

Critical Path Mechanics

Project Scheduling
Claims Analysis
Expert Witness Testimony

www.CriticalPathMechanics.com

John Buziak
PSP, MSME, PE
Chief Mechanic
FL #59193
AL #27899

29000 Highway 98
Bldg C, Suite 102
Daphne, Alabama 36526

Phone: 251-586-8466
Cell: 850-291-2115
buziakj@cpmechanics.com

WISE LIVING
REAL ESTATE

DAVID ROBERTS
Realtor®
david@wiselivingre.com
Call or Text: 251-278-5633

HELPING YOU BUY & SELL IN BALDWIN COUNTY

FAIRHOPE BOAT COMPANY

TONY CHAVERS

702 N. Section Street
Fairhope, Alabama 36532

Phone: 251-928-3417
Fax: 251-928-6439

SOUTHERN MARINE CO.
FAIRHOPE, AL

Highfield Boat Sales
Tohatsu Sales and Service
Outboard Service and Repair Center

HIGHFIELD | TOHATSU

ALEX DONALD
251-599-2966 | www.southernmarineco.com

Gary Garner
Owner/Insurance Professional

(251) 625-1226 Phone | (877) 251-1984 Toll-Free | (251) 625-6211 Fax

21558 County Road 13
Fairhope, AL 36532

E: gary@relaxretire.com

www.relaxretire.com

Insurance and annuities offered through Gary Garner, AL Insurance license NPN #19092201.

SCHURR SAILS
PENSACOLA

Full Service Sail Loft!

Ask about our pickup And delivery program!

Hunter Riddle
Phone: 850-438-9354
www.schurrsails.com

Koala INSULATION®

Connor Curtis
President

Koala Insulation of the Gulf Coast

251-517-4122

KENNEDY ADVISORY

Asset Management, Investment Advice, Planning

Geoff Kennedy, CFP®, CFA
Doug Kennedy

KennedyAdvisory.com | 251-928-3131

Securities offered through Registered Representatives of Cambridge Investment Research, Inc., a Broker/Dealer, Member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through Cambridge Investment Research Advisors, Inc., a Registered Investment Advisor. Kennedy Advisory and Cambridge are not affiliated.