



Note: This page is here to allow for correct viewing as two page spreads

CYC Pets (and Owners) Certainly are Blessed!



See pages 6-8 for more Pet Blessing photos

Inside

Club Honors



See page 5 for CYC Partners Award story & photos

Halloween Hijinks



See pages 10-11 for more Halloween photos

"Our Great Virginia"



See page 12 for Virginia's Retirement story

Commodore's Corner

FOR THOSE OF us in Florida, this is that time of year when we look forward to more pleasant temps and less humidity. A time when we can sit outside to enjoy a nice meal, spend time with friends and even watch Football games on many TV's. We have exactly what you have been looking for, our beautiful patio on the water and Tiki-Hut perfect for this time of year.



*Commodore
Richard
Libonate*

We are making several changes to your dining experience, some of which you may have seen already. Our Tuesday's "Friends and Family" will continue with many of our favorite items but at much more affordable prices. Please look for the Monday and Tuesday emails for the specials. On Wednesday's, Members and their guests who dine, will receive one complimentary appetizer per table with the purchase of an entrée. Thursday's, when dining, members and their guests will receive a complimentary cocktail (up to \$14) including "Happy Hour" pricing. We are not stopping there, a new menu will be rolled out in the next week, with many of our favorites and several new items. I would hope you agree, we are attempting to give our members the absolutely best experience possible.

"WE NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION"

Ultimately, WE NEED YOU! We need you to come to our Club. I am asking to please consider our Club first, when making your dining choices. Also, don't forget our Club has a full schedule of events every month. With everything we have to offer, I am asking all members to invite your friends to dinner and so they can see all the changes we made over the past 18 months as well as share the benefits of our Club.

We are all Members and we want to make our Club the best. So please don't hesitate to share your thoughts and ideas.

COMMODORE'S FAIRWELL

My term as Commodore is quickly coming to an end and this is a time for me to reflect on the past 12 months. Our goal, which I stated in my first article, was to give our members the very best experience from the time they drive in to the time they leave. We do that by "Exceeding Your Expectations Every Day," simply by listening to all our members. I certainly hope we have improved every

member's time at our Club. That is how I will judge myself.

This is also a time to give thanks, however there are so many people I need to thank. First, I want to thank our members for their encouragement all throughout the year. It has been my honor to serve as your Commodore. However, this is not about one person. I have been extremely fortunate to have great people to work with. Starting with a great Board of Directors. A group that will rival any professional group I have ever been associated with in my career. Everyone, and I do mean everyone, contributed in many different ways. I can always count on them for any help that was needed but more importantly, it was their thought process that delivered great results. I cannot forget our Board of Trustees, who are responsible for keeping our Club financially sound.

I want to thank all our committees, which are made up of our members. They truly are the engine that keeps our Club running every day, but more importantly, the ones that keep improving our Club so we all have the best experience possible.

I want to thank our General Manager, Peter Jutis and the entire staff, who always go above and beyond to deliver for our members, they truly are our family.

More importantly, I want to thank you for a tremendous experience, one I will always cherish. I have been fortunate to get to know many of you better who I now can call my friends. You have all touched me and I am better off knowing you all.

And finally, if you will indulge me, one more thank you to my wife, LJ. I could not have done this without her support and counsel throughout the year. She was always there to help in any way.

Thank you all very much. It has been my extreme honor.

rlibonate@gmail.com 813-541-8171

2024 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, APPOINTMENTS & TRUSTEES

CYC Officers

Joan Carter	Commodore
Rod White	Vice Commodore
John Minton	Rear Commodore
Keagan Pennycuff	Treasurer
Jennifer Howard	Secretary
Mike Sauer	Fleet Captain
Rich Libonate	Immediate Past Commodore

Board of Directors

Rick Broom	Phyllis Nordman
Kurt Greissing	Richie Shaw
Steve Hitchcock	Ken Teifer

Board of Trustees

Jim Coats	PC Dick Kidd
Steve Ekovich	Phil Shaw
PC Collin Heimensen	PC Tish Wold

Appointments

Fr. Bob Wagenseil	Fleet Chaplain
Dr. Donald Collins	Fleet Surgeon
Jim Coats	FCYC Director

**Live
MUSIC**

Every Friday night we will feature live music in the Main Dining Room

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

By Carey Sauer, Secretary

THE ANNUAL MEETING was held on November 9, 2024. Each Committee described their activities as well as presented summaries of their events for the year. Commodore Rich Libonate thanked all the Committee chairs and volunteers that made the club run. In addition, the Finance Committee presented the financial picture of the club. Overall, we are in good financial shape, but we would benefit from having a larger percentage of our members come to the club on a regular basis. Currently only 65% of our members use the club each month. The Trustees explained the Transfer Development Rights. CYC currently has 27 TDRs. You need a TDR to build up or expand on a property. We probably won't use all of them ever. We could add 5000 square feet on a third floor and only use 6 or 7. We have a contract to sell 15 for \$975,000 set to close by December 10, 2024. One additional TDR under contract for 65K which may be delayed due to the storms. We will have 11 left.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Final Board of Directors Meeting for 2024 was held on November 21, 2024. The Current Board reviewed and approved the Budget for 2025. The new Board will also review and vote on the budget. The Board discussed the progress of Post Hurricane repairs which are still on going. The new docks have weathered three hurricanes with nary a board coming loose. The damage to the pedestals has already been remediated.

- If you have not done so, you are welcome to come into the Drydock and see the updated floor, furniture, and the extended Tiki Bar.
- Change of Watch to pass the torch to the new Board will be December 7th at 6:00 pm. I am thankful to Jen Howard for taking up the secretary torch!

Carey Sauer 703-930-1806

The next meeting will be held on December 19 at 6 pm. All members are welcomed to attend.



Gerard Kane
Yachting Chairman

Yacht Club's investment in Pensacola indicates, are marching South. Smart sailors, as we have the best sailing venue in the USA.

Our Race Committee has delivered the goods over the past few years — to include Olympic pre-quals and some international qualifiers. As Yachting Chair I am proud and thankful for all that our volunteers have accomplished.



35,000 feet

I am on a flight out to the West Coast and I must say altitude gives one perspective. The expanse of the United

States is indeed amazing, yet the ocean is magnificent. Few beyond astronauts and ocean sailors have this vista.

Sailing in the Gulf is in the midst of a renaissance, which bodes well for the Club. Keel boat sailing is en vogue and the big East Coast Clubs, as New York



As we move into 2025, the Ocean Series kicks off in January with the Gasparilla Cup. Exciting as that may be, I am passing the baton to PC Curtis Wold. My last few seasons as Yachting Chair have been wonderful, yet challenging...and it's time for some new leadership. My capstone event is **The Celebration of Yachting** on December 18th at 6pm. Please visit the club that evening to experience the magic of sailing.

May sunshine warm your face. And, until we meet again,

May God bless you and keep you safe!





House and Grounds

By Joan Carter,
Vice Commodore

GREETINGS FROM YOUR

House and Grounds Committee! Well, it certainly has been a tough fall for us. We sustained damage from both Helene and Milton, but we are recovering and going strong!



By the time you read this, the Dry Dock should be open and operating (almost) as normal. There are a few items still on order. As you can imagine, some things are difficult to get with so many people needing them at once. The bathrooms downstairs are only awaiting doors and partitions which are important but back ordered.

Our terrific team of volunteers spent many hours working on the repair of the dry dock. Thank you to Mike Sauer, Craig Bleakley, Rick Broom, Richie Shaw, Phyllis Nordman, Ron Morrison and many others who have spent time working, planning, overseeing and decorating. Also, staff members Brice and Caleb have been working daily to bring this together. Thank you so much!

We have also taken this opportunity to replace the tiki bar and make it bigger and better! It will now seat twice as many people. This project is not quite complete but will be soon. New barstools will take some time to arrive. Many thanks again to Mike Sauer, Rick Broom, Craig Bleakley, Ron Morrison for their hard work on this amazing project.

Chef Caleb has been wonderful in creating exciting new menus and delicious food. If you have not dined at the club lately, please make plans to come out and try it again. I think you will be pleasantly surprised at the wonderful selections. Don't forget to make reservations as the dining room has been filling up! Our wonderful servers and bartenders are eager to serve you!

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as chair of House and Ground this year. VC Rod White will take over in December.

I hope you all have a wonderful Holiday Season!

See you at the Club!



Brice and Caleb working hard to bring the dry Dock together.

True North

By Kurt Greissing, Co Editor

I HAD THE opportunity this fall to watch the leaves fully change and drop, the sun move lower in the sky, and the first snow blanket the ground. It wasn't intentional but life happens.



The changing of the seasons helps remind us that change is inevitable. It's how we handle this change that defines us and how we move forward. When life gives us lemons, let's make a bigger and better tiki bar!

The Staff, Officers, Directors, Trustees and Appointments are structured by design to maintain continuity throughout the club. As one nears the end of their term, another ascends or steps in to fill the vacancy of that role. There is no better way to see this in action than during the Change of Watch ceremony. We, the staff of the Compass, will do our part to maintain continuity while others transition roles. Thank you, Immediate Past Commodore Rich Libonate and others who have served their terms, and welcome Commodore Joan Carter!

Waterside



By John Minton
Fleet Captain



SEASONS GREETINGS FROM NORTH OF THE SEA WALL!

THE TIME HAS finally come for me to say farewell to being the Fleet Captain

and move on to Rear Commodore for 2025. At long last, I was able to announce at the November Board Meeting that the marina project is complete! The project began when I took over as Fleet Captain in July 2022 and concluded in November 2024—2 years and 5 months later!

To add to the excitement of the project's conclusion, we had to remove all the pedestals and have Erwin refurbish them after they were completely submerged during the hurricanes. We were pleased to see that our marina held strong during both hurricanes without a single piece of decking out of place, and our slip holders faced minimal damage, if any.

Due to the hurricanes, we delayed our pump-out project until January because of the unexpected club expenses. After the New Year, the Waterside Committee will immediately re-engage under the guidance of your new Fleet Captain, Michael Sauer.

Thank you to my Waterside Committee for a successful two years with many accomplishments we can be proud of. Thanks to all the slip holders for putting up with my rules at the beginning to ensure we have a well-maintained marina for many years to come. Good luck, Michael, and I'll see you at the club! ➡

Clearwater Yacht Club 2024 Community Partner Award



THE CLEARWATER MARINE Aquarium is celebrating their 50th anniversary. Over the past several years, since Winter the Dolphin became a worldwide celebrity,

the Aquarium has been visited by many individuals who were inspired by Winter's story. Everyday the Aquarium welcomes many visitors who continue to have a powerful connection to Winter and are inspired by all the current rescued animals at CMA.

The Aquarium works with those experiencing physical and medical challenges along with groups that help underserved communities. Three years ago, the Aquarium



began their "Inspire Award" program, honoring many of these remarkable individuals who bring their own inspiring stories and share how these special animals have changed their lives.

On September 14th, at their annual award luncheon, the Clearwater Yacht Club was honored with the CMA's "Inspire" Award for Community Awareness. During the presentation they mentioned how our Club has been working with ARC of Tampa Bay for many years and more recently with the Boys Club/Girls Club of Pinellas County. The Boys Club/Girls Club has been a passion of Jim and Cat Coats for many years.

Our Club believes strongly in giving back to our community, after all, it is where we live and it is wonderful to be recognized but that's not why we do it. This award goes to everyone of our members for all their support throughout the year.



CYC New Members

The new members for the past few months are as follows:

- Jim & Jeanne Davis**
- Duane & Sharion Collins**
- Daniel Ewing**
- David & Debbie Paciorek**
- Craig & Peggy Phillips**
- Peter & Sherry Lozowski**

If you see the Clearwater Yacht Club burgee on a table, please introduce yourself and give our newest members a warm CYC welcome!

Dress Code Reminder

WE WOULD LIKE to remind you of our official dress code, which is Resort Casual. This means that gentlemen are required to wear collared shirts in our Main Dining Room. We kindly ask that t-shirts be reserved for the Grille Room only, and that hats are not worn on the Upper Level.

For formal events, such as Thanksgiving, Change of Watch, Easter, Commodore's Ball, and the Annual Meeting, t-shirts will not be permitted in the Grille Room.

Additionally, please be aware that a Grille Table may not always be available for you and your guests. We strongly recommend making reservations to ensure you secure your preferred dining area.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

CYC ANNUAL PET BLESSING





Continued on page 8

CYC ANNUAL PET BLESSING



Continued from page 7





By Christy Poorman and Anne Grace

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! 'Tis the season and the Bow Chasers are kicking off this season with fun, philanthropy and friends.

October CYC Tiki Bar Happy Hour was a success. We ate, we drank and we discussed what we would like to happen this year. We are celebrating the holiday season on December 1 at the home of Genevieve and Stewie Fortunato. Check email for the invitation.

Next up is a trolley pub crawl on December 3rd. Tish Wold CFA, Belleair Wealth Strategies is sponsoring this event which will allow all money raised to go to Sailability. January 19 is a class to make sourdough bread including the starter. Again Genevieve is stepping up and sharing her passion. This class will be at CYC. Watch for more information.

Our fabulous Soup Cruise will be February 12 at the Dry Dock. Like each year bring your best soup! If you aren't souper then bring an app or dessert to share. Many have been crowned the Soup Winner...who will do it this year??

In the works are wine tasting and game night at a local winery. Sunset sail cruise. Dance class. Craft cocktail class. Bingo night.

Our sailing was almost deterred by Hurricane Helene but the McNally's saved our CYC Prams!!... should say found them... all. Several were scattered around. Bow Chasers met one morning to clean and assess damage. Luckily damage was minimal and we did get out on the water. Cheers to the three sailers Anita Cafferty, Christy Poorman and Karen Watson! Stop by any Tuesday morning. We are usually out on the water!



Our year will be focusing on enjoying local venues. We have all been affected by the hurricanes and we need to support each other. We are centering our activities around the Clearwater area.

We hope however if you have been affected that you are doing well and moving on.

We also hope that you will join us for some fun. The best therapy for tough times is friends!!



Want to be on our email list for more info and invitations? We welcome you to join us. Our dues are only \$25 per year payable now at the CYC office. That \$25 will come right back to you in the functions we do. ➡

So come and join us!

A HALLOWEEN HAUNTING AT CYC



A Life Remembered

It is with deep sadness that we inform you of the passing of our cherished member, Jim Donnell. His presence will be profoundly missed by all who knew him.



Jim was more than just a member of our club; he was family. His kindness, enthusiasm, and unwavering spirit left an indelible mark on everyone he met. He was a man of many passions, including music, videography, and cornhole. Jim was also a huge part of the Cruisers Club at CYC, where his contributions and camaraderie were invaluable.

One of our long time friends said this, as Jim finally went home from this horrible disease... Jim & Jimmy Buffett passed 15 months apart. Both in Florida. Both shared their Buffett music with their friends and with their brown eyed sweethearts. God Bless both.

Only the good die young. We share the pains of loss from our hearts yet recognize that Jim's suffering has ended. We acknowledge our loss of a wonderful man who always was so kind to everyone one of us. Our hearts are full of compassion for Jenny and Jim's family as all of his friends feel the same deep loss. God Bless Jim.

This is some of the ways Jim touched my life:

BY Steve Johnson

*Today I lost a friend, our bond was tried and true
He gave me inspiration, inhibitions not a clue*

*37 years of friendship, endless pleasure did abound
Touching clouds with a wing tip, hunting treasure, always found
Playing music round the campfire, singing everywhere we could
Writing songs from our experience, damn those times were good*

*Competitive was in his soul, no matter what it was
Cornhole, horseshoes, handball, excelling was his cause*

*Scuba, airplane pilot, boat captain, mandolin
Juggler, gymnast, guitar, his successes have no end*

*Programmer, jokester, trickster, Entrepreneur too
This list it could go on and on, but these are just a few*

*Husband, brother, uncle, nephew, son, cousin
Touching lives of all he knew, Today I lost a friend*

As we mourn his loss, let us also celebrate the wonderful memories and the lasting impact he had on our community. We will share details about the Celebration of Life as they become available.

Please join us in extending our heartfelt condolences to Jim's family and friends during this difficult time.



VIRGINIA VOLLENWEIDER RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2024, CYC celebrated the retirement of Virginia Vollenweider who has been an important part of our Club for 12 years. Below are the remarks made by Commodore Rich Libonate as part of this beautiful evening:

"I would like to welcome everyone this evening, for a very special occasion to honor a very special lady, our Virginia.

Virginia is quite the celebrity here at our Club. Did you all know she has a lot in common with several lesser-known celebrities like Cher, Prince, Beyonce and Madonna? We all know her just as Virginia, mainly because we can't pronounce her last name!

In 2012, we had a presidential election, the London Olympics' and Virginia started here at our Club when she was 34 years old.

During her 12-year tenure here she has worked with (4) General Managers, (4) Chef's, (13) Board of Directors and (13) Commodore's. How would you all like to have a different boss every year and still do a great job? And some of those Commodore's continue to think they are her boss for many years after. And one more thing. During those 12 years she was acting General Manager not once but twice for 4 months each!

Virginia was the mainstay here at our Club. Every time we



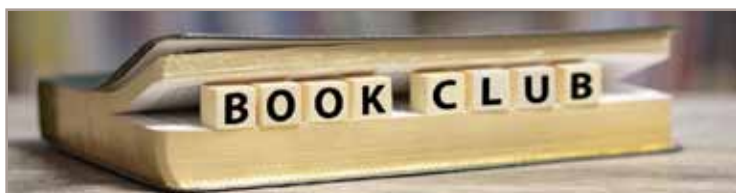
came to the Club we could expect to see Virginia in the office with a huge smile on her face, well most of the time. If she wasn't in the office she was running around taking care of virtually everything. Whenever we had a question, she always had the answer. If we needed something, she knew exactly where it was. Let's not forget her waiting on and bussing tables. Nothing, and I mean there was nothing she would not do, and you never had to ask, she just knew what needed to be done and she did it.

She always made sure all events came off perfectly, like buying and placing the floral arrangements, setting up the microphone and even taking

home table linens and uniforms to wash. Rumor had it, poor Kyle had to wear the same shirt for two or more days. BTW, Virginia, Peter asked if you can help in the kitchen tomorrow.

While this may be an end of her time here at our Club, it is just a beginning. A beginning where she can do what she loves, traveling with Kyle and being with her beautiful kids and grandkids, whenever she wants.

So, in a small way, we can all say thank you Virginia and Kyle, not as the office manager, but as our friend. Thank you for everything you have done for the Club, we are all much better off having you in our lives. **To Virginia, All the Best!"**



By Patti Morrison and Curtis Wold

THE BOOK CLUB meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6 pm in the Captain's Quarters (formerly the Board Room). All members and their guests are welcome to join our stimulating and fun-filled discussions. If you enjoy reading, this is the place to be! Many of us stay for dinner. If you plan to do so, please make reservations with the office at (727) 447-6000. All books are predetermined by the members prior to discussion. Our upcoming meetings will feature the following:

No meeting in December

January 21

THE WORLD PLAYED CHESS

by Robert Dugoni

February 18

THE BOYS OF RIVERSIDE

by Thomas Fuller



Vintner's Club

By Aubrey Posey-Hitchcock

IN OCTOBER, THE Vintner's Club held its first dinner after the devastating effect of Hurricanes Helene and Milton featuring Stag's Leap Wine Cellars. Despite the quick turnaround, the Stag's Leap dinner was at capacity. Vintner's Club members were excited to try these amazing wines along with a fabulous food pairing prepared by new chef, Caleb, with a special feature of pasta bolognese prepared by our own General Manager, Peter Jutis.

In November, all members were invited to the Second Annual All-Member Wine Tasting featuring five wine vendors in a traditional wine tasting format paired with heavy hors d'oeuvres. All CYC members were able to purchase a variety of wines they might not otherwise have access to because many of the offerings are not found at big-box liquor stores.

The Vintner's Club already has its first wine dinners for 2025 scheduled. In January, Aja wines from Malibu will be featured and the wine producer will be joining us via Zoom to tell us all about the wines. February brings us the "Many Faces of Pinot Noir" which will be a unique take on a wine dinner.

Unlike most years, the Vintner's Club will host a dinner in March, highly-anticipated

Bertani wines, rescheduled from September.

If these dinners sound like a great



way to spend a Thursday evening, contact Steve Hitchcock at cycvintners@gmail.com. A few memberships in the Vintner's Club are available for full CYC members.



Cruisers

Gary & Sondra Newcom
Cruising Chairpersons

By Karen Watson

Final Quarter

THE FINAL QUARTER of the year for the Clearwater Cruisers saw much of its forecasted agenda blown away by various forms of inclement weather. September's much anticipated Cruise In at the club hosted by Gail and Rick Broom had to step aside for Hurricane Helene. Milton



packed a one-two punch to the rest of the coastline of Florida and affected the Cruise Away in October leaving us to pick up the pieces in November.

That doesn't mean the cruisers stayed idle. Many of them banded together to clean up and refurbish the Tiki Bar and Dry Dock.

Looking ahead the cruisers are once again joining forces with the Boys and Girls Club to bring Christmas wishes, presents, Santa and a grand buffet to 57 local children. Last year, some children saw Santa (and bountiful bacon) for the first time making them feel blessed, wanted and like millionaires.

The rest of the year's agenda includes the cruisers Christmas dinner and gift exchange and a change of guard for next year. You'll have to stay tuned for the rest of that Christmas tale.



By Marcia Nichols
Gulls President

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS and
SEAS & GREETINGS!**



**Wednesday, December 4, Holiday
Musical Luncheon**

Popular Singer Karen Benjey has performed many times at CYC and always draws a big crowd. She will be playing and singing Holiday Tunes.

Hope you all were able to attend and enjoy the music and luncheon as this would be a great start to get into the *Holiday Spirit*.



Also of Note:

**Saturday, December 21
Breakfast with Santa**

**Be on the lookout for the
Announcement for further details.**

This is a special time for the little ones. Santa arrives that morning and brings treats for all the children. **THIS**

IS WHERE YOUR RSVP IS ABSOLUTELY IMPERATIVE.

Santa wants to make sure that he has a gift for **EVERY** child. Your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and their little friends are all welcome. **When you call in with your reservation – please indicate the number of children you**



**Sometimes you just have
to go with the flow**



YES, WE ALL love living in Paradise (a/k/a Florida) but sometimes Mother Nature likes to remind us that we are just little pebbles in the vast waters that surround our Peninsula.

As a consequence of the damages that our drydock incurred, the Deputy and I had agreed to postpone our October 9, 2024 Luncheon **“Active Assailant – A Citizen’s Response”** with Pinellas Deputy Jessica Hughey. Because both the Gulls’ and Deputy Hughey’s 2025 calendars are getting filled up quickly, **we have rescheduled this luncheon for Wednesday, January 21, 2026.** So please note this new date on your cell phone and/or laptop so you don’t miss it.

Also cancelled was the Club’s November 9, 2024 “Cleanout Sale”

We also had to do a bit of last-minute scouting in finding a replacement for our November 13 luncheon as RoxieK Boutique cancelled their fashion show due to storm damage difficulties.

Fortunately, well-known mystery author Susan Santangelo was available to speak on November 13. She was funny, humorous and very interesting to learn how she started writing her “Baby Boomer” mystery books series and we were very lucky that it all worked out for everyone. The ladies in attendance seemed to enjoy her talk.

**“Dear Santa, Before I explain,
how much do you know already?”**

By the time *The Compass* had been sent out — We had one more 2024 event up our sleeve.





intend to bring and whether the child is boy or girl and the age of the child. We cannot stress this enough as Santa wants to be sure that he will have enough gifts for all the good little boys and girls.



Coming Right Up Next for 2025!

Wednesday, January 15, 2025 11:30 a.m.

Speaker: Andrea Nalls, President and CEO of the Dunedin Arts Center – Topic: Art Curation and Cultural Development



GILDA SAYS:



HERE'S TO A SEASON OF LOVE, LAUGHTER, AND UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES

We would still like to see more CYC Ladies join us on the Wednesdays that we do not have scheduled Luncheons. A monthly meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month. However, for the time being, due to all the extensive repairs that will be ongoing downstairs in the Drydock; we will meet upstairs (either in the Grill or Dining Room) at 10:30 a.m. to plan



and coordinate future fun events/luncheons. On the other Wednesdays, we will continue to meet upstairs as well, and try to play games, such dominos, (otherwise known as “Chicken Foot”), Uno, Trivia Pursuit, etc. and have lunch around noon. Please join us for a lot of chatter and fun.

Our main goal is to plan new exciting, fun events, interesting speakers, topics, and entertainment. Please email me at marcia50422@yahoo.com with any suggestions, comments or ideas for future events.



Have a Wonderful Holiday Season and see ya'll in 2025!

ENTERTAINMENT

By Christy Crist & Jim Hannigan
Entertainment Co-Chairpersons

GREETINGS CYC MEMBERS. It is December and the final month of the 2024 calendar year. We bid adieu to the this past hurricane season, which was not kind to our area in September and October. The holiday season is upon us and we can look forward to a festive month, Tampa Bay style.

The month of November featured the Mexican Holiday party; a Florida Fish night dining; the Annual CYC Meeting; the Blessing of the Pets; Bingo; Gulls Luncheon; Fajita Night dining; Trivia; Bourbon Pairing night; Italian Night dining; Vintner's All Member Wine Tasting; Magic Night; Grand Buffet Brunch; Music Bingo; Wild Whiskey ("Friendsgiving") Night; and the Thanksgiving Buffet.

December starts with the Land Cruisers Christmas Party (12/3); Gulls Holiday Luncheon (12/4); The Traditional Change of Watch Ceremony(12/7); House & Grounds/Entertainment Committee Holiday gathering (12/10); Bingo (12/10); Holiday Boat Parade Captain's Meeting/Social (12/12); Holiday Lighted Boat Parade Viewing Party (12/14); Celebration of Yachting (12/18); Painting with Bree (12/18); Trivia (12/19); Breakfast with Santa (12/21); Holiday Mingle Jingle (12/21); Christmas (12/25); New Years Eve Celebrations (12/31).

Clearwater Yacht Club
Presents
MINGLE JINGLE
DECEMBER | 21 | 6:00 PM
IN THE DRY DOCK
HOLIDAY COCKTAILS | DELECTABLE HORS D'OEUVRES
UGLY SWEATER CONTEST | LIVE MUSIC & DANCING
BRING A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM FOR A FREE DRINK TICKET
RSVP BY DECEMBER 15
(727) 447-6000 OR
MARKETING@CLEARWATERYACHTCLUB.COM
\$25 PER MEMBER
\$35 PER GUEST

Upcoming events in the new year you want to hold the date for include: St Pete Yacht Club/CYC Gasparilla Cup Sailing Regatta: St Pete to CYC (1/10-1/11/2025); Gasparilla Party (1/11/2025); CYC Golfers monthly tee off (1/15 2025); Dueling Pianos (1/18/2025); Gasparilla Celebration in Tampa (1/25/2025); Chili/Chowdah Cookoff (1/26/2025); Super Bowl party (2/9/2025); Valentines Day Dinner/Dance (2/14/2025); Mardi Gras party (3/4/2025); St Patrick's Day party (3/15/2025).

We would like to thank everyone for your support and participation for this past year. We have faced some challenges and hurdles, but the awesome membership and leadership of this Club perseveres on, and continue to make this the great Club it is, and will continue to be. Please continue to be involved, more visits to the Club, joining the various Committees, and offering assistance whenever you can. Remember those ever important "RESERVATIONS" when attending the Club. All full time members are welcome to join any committee, or take part in any of the scheduled meetings.

The next Entertainment Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, January 14th, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the downstairs Dry Dock area. We welcome all suggestions, musical offerings, or event proposals that could be scheduled for a future date. This will be my, Jim Hannigan's, final column for the Entertainment Committee, as I am relinquishing my post as Co-Chair. It has been a tremendous three years with some amazing people who come together every month (or earlier) to bring events to this Club. It has been truly an honor and a privilege to have been selected to serve in this capacity, and I look forward to working with the new leadership. Thank you again to all and I look forward to seeing you all at the Club. Merry Christmas, Seasons Greetings, Happy Holidays, Happy Hanukkah, and a very Happy and Healthy New Year to all. ▶

Cheers to an awesome "2025"!

Christy Crist-Entertainment Co-Chair

Jim Hannigan-Entertainment Co-Chair: 727-215-5418

jhannigan@sgws.com



Gulls Annual
BREAKFAST
With Santa

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST
9 AM IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM**

DELICIOUS FOOD | FESTIVE CRAFTS | PHOTO WITH SANTA

Happy Anniversary

MEMBERS CELEBRATING YEARS WITH CYC IN OCTOBER

40 YEARS

Debbie Seibert

20-29 YEARS

William & Elizabeth Smith
Dick & Diane Crowl
Greg & Evelyn Garner

11-19 YEARS

Laura Hoernig
Raad Rassool
Arnold & Helene Adler
Bonnie Britten

6-10 YEARS

Tom & Brenda Buonasera
John & Sandy Landon
Shannon & Ryan Tusek
Gary & Lori Badders
David & Sue Ellen Jenkins
Emmet & Shirley O'Barr
Greg & Beth Zaski

1-5 YEARS

Harry & Alice Hughes
Michael & Tara White
Gary Brown & Sharon Hubbs
Linda Budd
Anastasia Nowling
Jean Wahl & Jerry Cravey
Judith & Shirl Warner
Charlie & Linda Bonomo
Tom & Nancy Hasley
Carri Kay
Shannon & Jill Vissman
Dennis & Misty Pickett
Brian Saur
Karl & Vanessa Stubbs
Mike & Cassandra Johnson
Patrick & Cheryl Hecker
Joel & Marcia Pineiro
Leslie & Peter Yackel
Raymond & Kathleen Hyer
David & Penny Krall
Andrew & Barbara Helmintoller
Kevin & Colleen Stillwagon
Stephen & Andrea Lennon
Liz Andrews
Scott & Ana Hale
Tom & Evelyn Polizzi

MEMBERS CELEBRATING YEARS WITH CYC IN NOVEMBER

44 YEARS

David Spaulding

20-29 YEARS

Marcia Nagle
Tom & Vivian Smith
Jack & Mitzie France

11-19 YEARS

Bill & Michele Strupp
John Chalmers
Otto & Nita Hoernig
Dennis & Michele Sheehan
Tom & Ivona Davis
Andrew & Susan Tipton

6-10 YEARS

Steve & Cathy McNally
Reinhard & Connie Opitz
Gerard & Sally Boyle
Jill Herrin
Cynthia Remely
Trent & Sydney Smith
Ken & Karen Watson
John & Lesley Ann Burgess

1-5 YEARS

Bob & Shani Davis
Mike McMullin
Bill & Gail Stone
Kevin & Anne Grace
Craig & Kim Jones
Bill & Dale Meth
Lisa Oliver
Craig Ranciato
William & Claudia Wilson
Luke & Lindsay Lapham
Debra & Chris Bosler
Leon & Sherri Flasher
Thomas & Anne Kelly
Don & Jeannie Buynack

MEMBERS CELEBRATING YEARS WITH CYC IN DECEMBER

38 YEARS

Mike & Cathy Carroll
Jim & Sharon Crist

20-29 YEARS

Diane Blum
Fr. Bob Wagenseil
Jay Coats & Lance Becatti

11-19 YEARS

Ed & Nancy Proefke
Mike & Sandy Kelly
Marietta Poe
Pat Rickey
Peter & Judy Zarilla
Don Lucarell
Scott & Jean Sanders
Jack & Carolee Stolze
Chris Turpin
Don Pierce

Tov Vestgaarden
Sam Cantrell

6-10 YEARS

Jack & Cyndee Haydon
Pierre & Margaret Maneri
Michael & Elizabeth Manning
Bo & Michelle Russ
Steve Spencer
Randy & Gail Stein
Charles & Alice McManus
John & Celeste Smallwood
Allen & Shelly Erskine
Brian & Karen Gagnon

1-5 YEARS

Manny & Maryellen Farinas
Greg & Diana Gaylor
Scott & Christine Pendleton
Joan Amsler
Andy Brown
Gerry & Terri Halle
Chrissy Tellis & Jason Batten
Allen & Sonja Duncan



Tuesday 10 - **BINGO** 7 pm
Thursday 19 - **TRIVIA** 7 pm

Come and Join In on all the Fun!

CYC EVENTS Save These Dates

Dining Room:

Monday Closed
Tues-Thursday 11:30 am-9 pm
Fri & Sat: 11:30 am-9:30 pm
Sunday: 10 am-2 pm

Tiki Bar:

Monday Closed
Tues-Thursday 5-9 pm
Fri 2 pm - Till, Sat 11 am-10:30 pm
Sunday: 11 am-8 pm

Happy Hour:

Monday Closed
Tues-Thursday 5-7 pm
NEW Fri 4-6 pm

MONTHLY MEETINGS

MONTHLY COMING SPECIAL EVENTS

December Events

Sunday—1st

Breakfast Buffet 10 am to 2 pm

Tuesday – 3rd

Bow Chasers Sail 9:15 am
Friends & Family Night 5:30 pm

Landcruisers Christmas Party 5:30 pm

Wednesday – 4th

Gulls Luncheon 10:30 am

Thursday— 5th

Private Party - Main Dining Room 5:30 pm
Membership Meeting 6:00 pm

Friday – 6th

Prime Rib Night & Live Music by **Peter Kern**

Saturday – 7th

Change of Watch 6 pm

Sunday – 8th

Breakfast Buffet 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Tuesday – 10th

Bow Chasers Sail 9:15 am
Private Event Dry Dock 12 pm
Friends & Family Night 6 pm

Entertainment Meeting & House and Grounds Christmas Party in the Dry Dock 6 pm

Bingo 7 pm

Wednesday – 11th

Gull Social 10:30 am

Boat Parade Meeting 6 pm

Cruisers Christmas Party 6 pm

Thursday – 12th

Waterside Meeting 5:30 pm

Boat Parade Captain's Meeting 5:30 pm

Private Event MDR 6 pm

Friday – 13th

Prime Rib & Live Music by **JR Connections**

Saturday—14th

Private Event - Main Dining Room 10 am
50th Anniversary Holiday Lighted Boat Parade 6:30 pm

Sunday—15th

Breakfast Buffet 10 am to 2 pm

Tuesday – 17th

Bow Chasers Sail 9:15 am
Friends & Family Night 5:30 pm
Yachting Meeting 6:00 pm

Wednesday – 18th

Gulls Social 10:30 am
Celebration of Yachting Sailors Table 6 pm

Finance Meeting 6 pm

Thursday – 19th

Board Meeting 6:00 pm

Trivia Night! 7:00 pm

Friday – 20th

Prime Rib & Live Music by **Maggie Lee & Me**

Saturday—21st

Breakfast with Santa 9 am
Holiday Mingle Jingle in the Dry Dock 5:30 pm

Private Event - Main Dining Room 6 pm

Sunday –22nd

Breakfast Buffet 10:00 am -2:00 pm

Tuesday – 24th

Christmas Eve! Club Is Closed

Wednesday – 25th

Merry Christmas! Club Is Closed

Friday – 27th

Prime Rib & Live Music

Sunday – 29th

Grand Breakfast Buffet 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Tuesday – 31st

New Years Eve Party starting at 5:30 pm

Formal Party - Main Dining Room with Music by **Mo & Company**

Casual Party - Dry Dock with Music by **Proper Wednesday**

January Events 2025

Wednesday – 1st

Club Closed New Year's Day

Thursday—2nd

Membership Meeting 6:00 pm

Friday – 3rd

Prime Rib Night & Live Music by **Peter Kern**

Sunday—5th

Breakfast Buffet 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Tuesday—7th

Bow Chasers Sail 9:15 am
Friends & Family Night 5:00 pm
Landcruisers Meeting 5:30 PM

House & Grounds Meeting 6:00 pm

Wednesday – 8th

Gulls Social 10:30 am

Thursday—9th

Waterside Meeting 6:00 pm

Friday – 10th

Prime Rib & Live Music by **JR Connections**

Saturday – 11th

Gasparilla Party

Sunday – 12th

Breakfast Buffet 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Tuesday – 14th

Bow Chasers Sail 9:15 am
Bow Chasers Board Meeting 5 PM

Friends & Family Night 5:30 pm

Entertainment Meeting 6 pm

Bingo 7 pm



CHILI CHOWDER COOK-OFF

JANUARY 28TH | 2 PM

Competition in the Dry Dock

SIGN UP TODAY!

BEST CHILI | BEST CHOWDER | BEST DECORATIONS

Wednesday – 15th

Gulls Luncheon 10:30 am
Chophouse Night 5:30 pm
Finance Meeting 6 pm

Thursday – 16th

Board Meeting 6 pm

Friday – 17th

Prime Rib & Live Music by **Maggie Lee & Me**

Saturday – 18th

Private Event - Main Dining Room 12 PM

Dueling Pianos 6:30 pm

Sunday – 19th

Breakfast Buffet 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Bow Chasers Sourdough Class 3:30 pm

Tuesday – 21st

Bow Chasers Sail 9:15 am
Private Event - Main Dining Room 10 am
Friends & Family Night 5:00 pm

Yachting Meeting 6:00 pm

Trustees Meeting 6:00 pm

Book Club 6:00 pm

Wednesday – 22nd

Gulls Social 10:30 am

Thursday – 23rd

Trivia Night 7 pm

Friday – 24th

Prime Rib & Live Music

Sunday – 26th

Grand Breakfast Buffet 10:00 am – 8:00 pm

Chili Vs. Chowder Cookoff 2:00 pm

Tuesday – 28th

Bow Chasers Sail 9:15 am
Friends & Family Night 5:00 pm

Music Bingo 7:00 pm

Wednesday – 29th

Gulls Social 10:30 am

Sailors Table 6:00 pm

Thursday – 30th

Vintner's Dinner 6:30 pm

Friday – 31st

Cruisers Cruise In

Prime Rib & Live Music

From the Front Office

By Peter Jutis, General Manager

I HOPE EVERYONE and their families are doing well after the storms we have had. I have lived here for almost 30 years and I have never been through anything like that and I don't ever want to go through it again. I'm sure you don't either. As we get back on track and back to normal here at the club we are moving fast to get this club back into shape with events, parties and more. I'm hoping to see all of you here at CYC soon.

As many of you know, we have made some changes in the kitchen. Chef Caleb Edwards who has been doing an amazing job along with Luke, his right-hand man. The menu has changed



a little bit with more of a simple feel to it. Look for some more things to come out of the kitchen in the next few months.

With the storm hitting the dry dock (once again) and having to redo it (once again, twice in 14 months), I would like to thank everyone who came out and helped!!! I want to personally thank and call out Brice, our dockmaster, and Caleb, our dishwasher. These two young men really stepped up and put in countless hours pulling sheetrock and hanging Hardie board. When I spoke with them, they told me they weren't doing it for the money but that they were doing it because they love CYC and love working here. We are all one big family. Thank you, Gentlemen. Thank you.

I hope everyone stays safe and has an amazing Christmas and New Years.

God bless Hope to see everyone soon!

THE BEAUTIFUL NEW Burgee design at the foot of the stairs is a great upgrade to our patio. Thanks to the hard work and efforts of Gary Newcom, who came up with the design but more importantly was the man behind the installation.

It was no easy task, but the results speak for themselves. This is one more example of the great members we have at the Clearwater Yacht Club, going above and beyond for the good of the Club.



A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO GARY FOR A JOB WELL DONE!



TOYS FOR TOTS TOY DRIVE

Please help Toys for Tots by bringing new, unwrapped gifts to CYC and placing them in the crib. Help support this amazing organization that brings joy to children throughout the holiday season. Let's help them make the 77th year of Toys for Tots extra special!

TOY PICK UP:

**Tuesday,
December 17th**



THE WINTER MEMBERSHIP IS HERE!

Clearwater Yacht Club

This offer is for first time CYC members and runs from November 1st through May 31st!

There is NO initiation fee and for \$275 a month you will get exclusive use of CYC and find out what it is like to be part of Clearwater's #1 social club!

REFERRAL PROGRAM

If you bring a new member into the club and they sign up for a Winter Trial Membership, we will give you a gift certificate for a FREE Sunday breakfast buffet for FOUR! If your family or friends enjoy the club and would like to join as a Full or Social Member after the Winter Trial Membership, we will give you \$250 in gift certificates to spend on food and drinks! There is NO LIMIT to how many new members you refer to the club!

New Year PARTY

The Last & Greatest Party of the Year

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

CELEBRATIONS STARTS AT 5:30 PM

FORMAL PARTY IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM
WITH LIVE MUSIC BY MO & COMPANY

CASUAL PARTY IN THE DRY DOCK & TIKI DECK
WITH LIVE MUSIC BY PROPER WEDNESDAY



OMG

ONLY MANIAC GOLFERS

Get ready to tee off and have a blast as OMG Golf Club hits the greens twice a month for 18 holes of pure golfing fun. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting out, our club is all about enjoying the game, making new friends, and sharing lots of laughs. Don't miss out on the excitement – grab your clubs and join us for some unforgettable golfing adventures!



1ST & 3RD WED OF EACH MONTH!
January 15th - May 7th at Clearwater Country Club

- OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS!
- OPEN TO ALL GENDERS!
- ENJOY OLD FRIENDS & MEET NEW ONES!
- GUESTS ARE WELCOME!

NO REGISTRATION FEE!

Contact Course Coordinators for more information!
Bruce Poorman: bepoorman48@icloud.com
Kevin Grace: strain1952@yahoocom



CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY HOLIDAY LIGHTED BOAT PARADE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH
6:30 PM TO 9:00 PM

WATCH PARTY AT CYC

- Proper Wednesday will be performing on the Tiki Deck from 6:30 to 10:30 PM
- FREE Crown Royal drink samples served by Crown Royal Girls from 7 to 8 PM
- Food Specials

GUESTS WELCOME!

FOX13 NEWS ANCHOR LAURA MOODY
2024 GRAND MARSHAL

SCAN TO REGISTER OR BECOME A SPONSOR!




Clearwater Yacht Club
830 S. Bayway Blvd.
Clearwater, FL 33767
Phone: 727 447 6000
Email: office@clearwateryachtclub.org
Website: www.clearwateryachtclub.org

CYC Staff

Peter Jutis	General Manager
Caleb Edwards	Executive Chef
Michelle Geis	Accounting Manager
Brice Artl	Dockmaster
Holly Shuga	Communications & Membership Manager
Dan Geis	Maintenance Supervisor

CYC Committees and Organizations

COMMITTEES

Entertainment, Jim Hannigan & Christy Crist
Finance, Rod White
House & Grounds, VC Joan Carter
Long Term Planning, PC Mary Kay Delk
Membership, Mike Sauer
Nominating Committee, IPC Curtis Wold
Policy, Commodore, Richard Libonate
Waterside, Leader Development, John Minton
Yachting, Gerard Kane
Communications, VC Joan Carter & Carey Sauer


CYC ORGANIZATIONS

Bowchasers, Cathy McNally & Lynne McCaskill
Cruisers, Gary & Sondra Newcom
Gulls, Marcia Nichols
FCYC Delegate, Jim Coats
Vintner's Club, Steve Hitchcock

COMPASS

Editors, Brittani Stinchcomb & Kurt Greissingner
Art Design & Production, Randy Gdovin
Photo Credits: Joan Carter, Randy Gdovin, Gerard Kane

The deadline for all copy, ads, photos is the Friday following the Board of Directors' meeting each month.



The Celebration of Yachting

December, 18th 6pm

Please come visit the club that evening to experience the magic of sailing.