

M A Y / J U N E 2 0 1 3

PALATKA YACHT CLUB

WHISPERS OVER THE WATER

Sunshine Corner

On June 4th, Irene Waldow officially became a Retiree! Congrats to you! Do we see more boating in your future?

~ ~ ~

Prayers for Jeannine O'Connor's rapid recovery from a nasty fall on June 22nd. A quick trip to the ER resulted in stitches. Next stop the dentist.

~ ~ ~

There were a number of birthday celebrations in May and June. We extend our birthday well wishes to:

Rhonda Masters, Linda Girardin, and Karen Eubanks.

To place a message in the Sunshine Corner contact Rhonda Masters at
386.983.1659 or
rhondamasters50@gmail.com



COMMODORE'S CORNER

Ahoy Members!!

June was our first dinner at our new home... Crystal Cove Resort and Marina! I can't thank everyone enough for the time and talents shared with the club to settle us into our new home. It was a monumental undertaking and one that couldn't have been accomplished without detailed planning and precise execution of that plan... well, almost precise!

Bruce Drackett

Save the Date!

July Poker Run

07-06-13

The run begins at 10 am at the club.

See Ernie or Brenda for details!

Aug Rendezvous

08-23-13

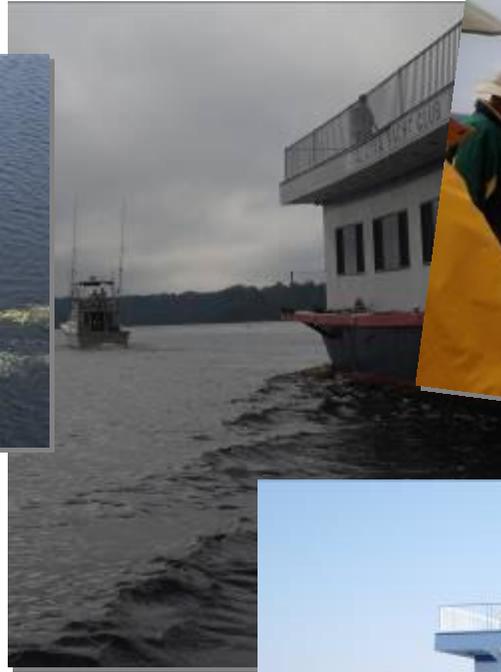
Silver Glen a club favorite for a raft-up! Contact Bruce for details.

Oct Rendezvous

10-07-13

Cedar Key Bound. Don't miss this trip! See the Reeds for info.

THE HISTORIC MOVE



Club Improvements

Take note... A number of improvements have been made to our clubhouse. Some of these improvements are visible and some, not so visible. We can all see and enjoy the new counter top and doors for the buffet area and the land bridge for the gangplank. Less visible are the new utility hook-ups, which took a monumental effort and a case of poison ivy to accomplish!

Still in progress... The signal flags are out being cleaned and will be re-hung. The flooring will be replaced in the near future. A privacy gate is being installed at the land bridge. Future workdays will include more painting of the hull and lower deck.

Donations... are being taken to complete the improvements. Thank you to those who have already donated and to those of you who will in the near future.

Upcoming Events

July 2013

- July 6 10 am Poker Run from Clubhouse
- July 20 9 am Work Day
- 3 pm Board of Directors Meeting
- 4 pm Cocktails: Door Committee ~ Dorothy McAfee
- 5 pm Dinner: \$5 per person ~ Potluck



August 2013

- August 17 9 am Work Day
- 3 pm Board of Directors Meeting
- 4 pm Cocktails: Door Committee ~ The Eubanks
- 5 pm Dinner: \$12 per person ~ Betty Poteet
- August 23-25 Silver Glen Rendezvous ~ Bruce and Rhonda

September 2013

- Sept 7-8 Murphy's Creek Lazy Daze Raft-Up ~ Gail Hart
- Sept 23 9 am Work Day
- 3 pm Board of Directors Meeting
- 4 pm Cocktails: Door Committee ~ Lindsay's
- 5 pm Dinner: \$12 per person ~ Ricards



October 2013

- Oct 4-6 Cedar Key Fishing and Star Gazing ~ Reeds
- Oct 19 9 am Work Day
- 3 pm Board of Directors Meeting
- 4 pm Cocktails: Door Committee ~ Trail/Martin
- 5 pm Dinner: \$12 per person ~ Gillean's Oktoberfest

60th Annual Mug Race

The alarm went off at 6:00 am, and we drug ourselves out of bed. I went out and checked the rain gage and we had 2.88 inches on Friday. We now had 8.76 inches of rain in just over two days!

With hopes that the rain was over, we dressed and headed for Gene O'Connor's where "Gator Bait" was docked. The river was only slightly bumpy with the winds out of the east at about 8 miles per hour.

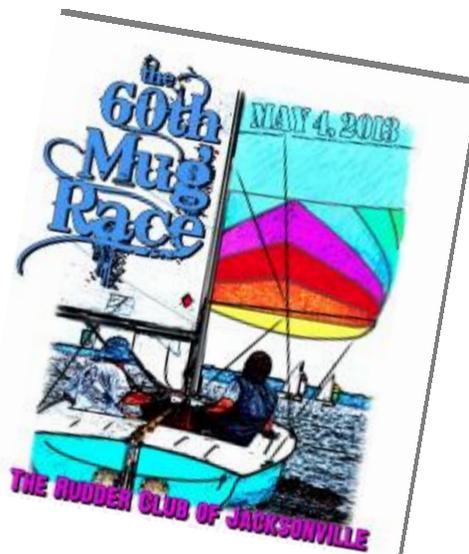
The race committee had already left the dock on Gale Hart's boat and Gene and Steve Huntley were about to launch Gene's Panga to serve as one of three official safety boats provided by the Palatka Yacht Club.

With an engine that didn't seem to be working well, we headed out to the committee boat to await the start of the race. We were to serve as the "pin boat" checking off boats that we saw on the list of registered boaters and to chase down boats when the race committee needed to know the "mug numbers" of a particular boat. It was still a steady drizzle.

We drifted around the west side of the start line as the sailboats began their dance back and forth prior to their timed start. Soon, the boats began to cross the start line and head for Jacksonville as the winds began to stiffen. The slow boats started first, then the faster boats, and finally the big catamarans.

Suddenly, Linda and I are called off of the start line to help with a flipped boat. We get up to the Elgin Grove boat ramp to assist with the righting of Luke Barraclough's lime green catamaran. His crew has dropped a wet suit bootie and we attempt to pick it up when I notice quick movement out of the corner of his eye. Luke is coming hard at our bow. I quickly pop the boat in reverse and barely avoid a costly collision. Luke scoops up the bootie and they continue on in the race.

The rain is still falling and it is almost impossible to see out of the boat. We begin to hear the first of many reports of a vessel in distress. Several of our chase boats as well as the sheriff's boat, Marine One, are now searching. We finally catch up with Marine One and start our search north. Linda talks with Dick Alsop at the Rudder Club and finds out that the boat, "Buttercup," is north of red marker 36 somewhere along the western shore—good information that no one had been able to get from the boat in distress.



About that time, Linda spots a sailboat tied up to a dock with people in yellow rain gear on the dock. They have apparently broken the main halyard and could not continue. About this time, two FWC boats appear on the scene just as we take "Buttercup" under tow. We pull her away from shore, rig a towing bridle then begin the tow to Crystal Cove (the nearest ramp) about 12 miles away. It will be a long tow.

The rain has not let up all day and remains an insidious drizzle. We are all wet and cold in spite of good rain gear.

Just as we get home, we get a call from Rhonda Masters on board "FantaSea," that Clay Gillean's boat "Reel Off Roader" has broken down, and they need help. We were very cold and tired, but, of course, we agreed to do the deed.

We had gotten into the hot tub to warm up a little, so we drug ourselves out and dressed in dry clothes and headed out. FWC contact club members that there has been a stolen boat and other strange incidents occurring on the river.

We take off for Green Cove Springs and I call Bruce Drackett and Clay to let them know that we are on the way. When we arrive, we find Clay's boat at the ramp and Bruce standing by. I back the trailer into the water and Clay winches the boat up on the trailer.

As we head for home we decide to stop at Musslewhite's for supper and a glass of wine. Afterwards we head for the house and for a stiff drink and to a warm bed. God what a day!

By David Girardin

Bosun's Locker

By Steve Huntley



US Chart No. 1 Goes Electronic

U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Chart No.1 has described the symbols used on paper nautical charts for 65 years. It gave mariners a standard guide for understanding the symbols, abbreviations and terms used on paper nautical charts. A new edition of that guide now also describes the symbols specified by the International Hydrographic Organization for the display of electronic navigational charts (ENC) on Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS).

The U.S. Chart No. 1 describes the symbols used on paper nautical charts produced by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). The new U.S. Chart No. 1 is the first such "Chart 1" produced by any country to show paper and electronic chart symbology side by side.

"Navigational charts moved to electronic format more than 15 years ago, and downloads of NOAA ENCs® now far outpace sales of paper charts," explains Commander Shep Smith, division chief of Coast Survey's Marine Chart Division. "Most of the symbology used to display ENCs is intuitive to the experienced mariner, but caution tells us that mariners will be safer when U.S. Chart No. 1 explains the symbols that appear on their electronic displays."

U.S. Chart No. 1: Symbols, Abbreviations and Terms used on Paper and Electronic Navigational Charts, produced jointly by NOAA and NGA, is actually a book. The 129-page Edition 12, now being released, supersedes all previous editions and is available for free from the Coast Survey website. Printed copies may be purchased through one of the certified publishing agents listed on the NOAA U.S. Chart 1 download webpage.

<http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/chartno1.htm>

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If you have an idea for articles, pictures of events, or items for sale, Contact: Rhonda Masters at 386.983.1659 or at rhondamasters50@gmail.com

Happy Reading!