



St. Joseph River Yacht Club

BILGE BAILINGS



From the Top of the Mast - Anson Lovellette (commodore@sjryc.com)

SJRYC is in full swing with a busy agenda. Last Saturday we attended a spectacular wine tasting party, beautifully staged with piano music and four wine tasting stations with wonderful hors d'oeuvres at each station. Of particular note were the fresh oysters shucked by Dan that afternoon, the Beef Wellington, and the big mushrooms stuffed with a special Debbie recipe.

Lance Wycoff and Terry Deegan kept the sailors and others very busy in April with a sail trim seminar by Perry Lewis, three "movie nights" with films from famous race events, and a special visit from Tania Aebi with stories from her solo voyage around the world as a teenager.

Patti Ceresa's Committee is planning an early opening of the pool this year, thanks to all the warm weather we've been having, and Brad German is preparing for another successful season for our SJRYC swim team.

Besides a long and productive April Board Meeting, your Board spent most of a rainy April Saturday in a team building session facilitated by Deb Terry of Skillblenders. Consensus was that Deb did a great job in helping us learn how to be more effective as a team in our service to the Club and its Members.

Remember to check www.sjryc.com frequently so you don't miss a fun event.

See you at the Club!

I can't change
the direction of
the wind, but I
can
adjust my sails
to
always reach my
destination...

Hours of Operation May, 2010

	<u>Clubhouse</u>	<u>Galley</u>	<u>Rhumblines**</u>	<u>Pool**</u>
Sunday	12:00 - 6pm	12:00 - 5pm	Noon - 8pm	Noon - 8pm
Monday	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Tuesday	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Wednesday	11:30 - 10pm	11:30 - 9pm	Closed	Closed
Thursday	11:30 - 10pm	11:30 - 9pm	Closed	Closed
Friday	11:30 - 11pm	11:30 - 2pm*	4pm - 10pm	4pm - 9pm
Saturday	Noon - 10pm	Noon - 9pm	Noon - 10pm	Noon - 9pm

*Friday evening TGIF Buffets begin at 6:30pm. Ordering from a limited menu is available at 6:45pm.

**May 21st, the Rhumblines Bar & Pool will open at 4pm. From then on they will be open every day on weekends starting at noon.



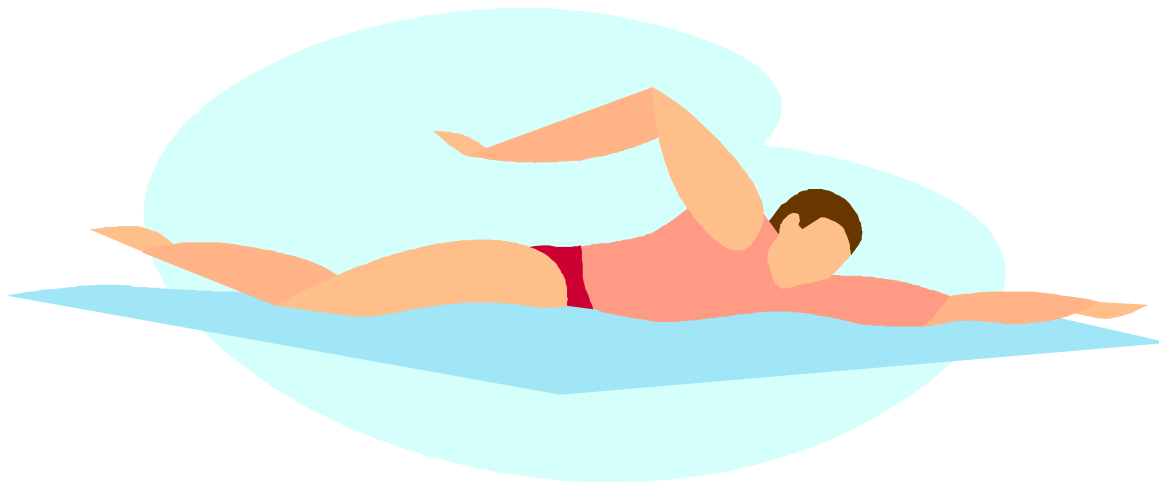
Pool Committee - *Patti Ceresa*

After this past cold and painfully long winter, I can't wait to see the pool full of blue water and open! The great news is that the Board has approved that we open a week early this year. So, the pool will officially open on Friday, May 21. We will be short on lifeguards, so it may be on a swim at your own risk basis until the guards are out of school and in full swing for the summer.

The Pool Committee met in early April and everything is in place for another fantastic Swim Season. I am happy to report that Coach Brad German will be returning to lead the River Rats along with Emily Fiskars as Assistant Coach and Head Lifeguard. Julie Warmbein will also be back as Swim Mom. On May 16, at 1 pm, we will be setting up and getting things ready at and around the pool. Any members that want to come down to the club and volunteer to help out would be most welcome.

As it has been in the past, swim team registration will also be at this time. The fees are \$65 for one swimmer, \$110 for two and \$140 for three swimmers. We increased the fees from last year by \$5 for team caps. On that note, the team is in need of a laptop computer for swim meet results. If any member has one that they would be willing to donate, it would be greatly appreciated. The team needs some other items like lane markers and new backstroke flags, so please look for fundraising events this summer.

The cost for masters swim will be the same as last year at \$70. This is open to the first twenty members and will be Monday through Friday; 6-8 a.m. starting on June 7th. See you poolside.



House and Grounds Annual Report - *Tom Zellers / Glenn Aren't, Co-Chairs*

The month of May is very busy in preparation for the pool and Rhumblin bar opening. We are planning an outside clean up for Saturday morning May 8th. Outside furniture must be pressure washed, and areas around the shrubs and parking lot need to be raked. If you can volunteer a few hours that Saturday, your help will be much appreciated. If you can make it, please bring a leaf rake and push broom if you have them.



**Rhumbline Bar
and Pool
open
Friday,
May 21st @ 4 pm**



Social - Dan & Debbie Smith

As April “wraps-up” we would like to thank all of you for making it one to remember! Several TGIF dinners with great music by Steve Foresman & Kevin McDaniel were a great way to kick-off the season! April 24th was also the date of our 1st Annual Wine Tasting/Selection Party which was a huge success. If you'd like to read more details look for Dan's article on the back page! It was a great time and following the party we received, literally, dozens of compliments and thank you's with some calling it the best social event in recent memory! As the year progresses, please let us know which events you like and which aren't as important to you. This helps us plan parties in the future and ensure that everyone continues to have a great time at all club events!

If you liked April at the club, you'll love May! The club season really gets rolling in May as both the Rhumblin Bar & Pool open (a week earlier than ever before!!!) in addition to the many exciting parties planned for the month.

We will kick-off the social scene on May 1st for the Kentucky Derby Party where you can cheer for your favorite horse whether you know something about the sport or pick the horses by their name (that's what I do). We will also offer you a Mint Julep (included with the party) and many amazing & appropriate finger foods to make you feel like you made the trip to Louisville.

On May 5th will have another culturally significant event although we will change the focus from the American South to the heart of Mexico for Cinco de Mayo! We will celebrate Mexican Independence with drink specials on Margaritas and Mexican beer while also having specials on our new tacos!

If you read Luke's last weekly email you already know that May 9th is the date of our traditional Mother's Day Dinner featuring Roast Prime Rib & Lake Perch. As always, I will also make Strawberry Shortcake from scratch and can't wait to see (and hug) everyone while you celebrate the most important women in your lives.

If you love music to go along with your TGIF dinner, you'll definitely want to come to the club on May 14th when “local favorites” Star & Charlie will visit us again and play a great variety of soft music that is the perfect accompaniment for your dinner at the club!

As I mentioned above, the Rhumblin Bar will be opening earlier than ever this year allowing all club members the ability to sit by the river and have a cocktail while watching the boats go by (Dan & I like to watch the birds when we have the chance to sit with some of our club friends). We're currently in the process of interviewing staff but will have everything ready in plenty of time for the Grand Opening on the 21st at 4pm!

Memorial Day Weekend is always a special time at the club as so many of the members are able to get away from work, enjoy the pool, the river, newly made friends and warm weather while also enjoying our Annual Outdoor Picnic. Keep your eyes open for the weekly club email for additional details on the menu!

Hugs & warm wishes,
~Debbie

Attention all Euchre Players, and Wannabe Euchre Players



1st Thursday of each month

**WIN CLUB BUCKS –
GOOD FOR
CLUB MERCHANDISE!**

**6:30 pm
instructions
for beginning players**

**6:30 pm – 7 pm
Registration
in the Sun Room**

7:00 pm – 9:30 pm – Play

Registration \$5/person

**No Partner –
No Problem,
we will match you up.**



Vice Commodore of Fleet - *Lance Wycoff*

As you read this we are preparing to start the 2010 Sailboat racing season. The shakedown race is May 5 and the series begins May 12. We have made some changes in the JAM fleet this year. We are splitting up the class based on handicap, which will allow the slower boats a chance to win their section. If you have a sailboat, please come out on a Wednesday night and give racing a try. We will let you try it without signing up for the entire season. Who knows, you might enjoy it. If interested, please email, call, or just show up any Wednesday night. The race committee will make sure you know what to do and help you have a good time.

April was a full month, the speakers and films we had on Wednesday nights proved to be a success and we have several things already planned for the fall. Don't forget about the South Haven trip the last weekend of June. This is our 3rd annual trip and it always prove to be a lot of fun. If you don't have a boat, come by car. If you want to ride in a boat, place a car in South Haven, call me and we will try to get you on a boat. Where there is a will, there is a way.

Please mark your calendar for the 4th Annual Rhumbline Regatta on June 5. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Jeff Alisch.

Also, over the last couple of years, one of our members has been busy working on the new Berrien County "Water Rescue Team". This is a non law enforcement reserve unit within the BCSO Marine Division. WRT's primary mission is water rescue and will operate under the direction, supervision and policies as set forth by the Marine Division. Members will be limited to "fulltime" police, fire and emergency services personal or as otherwise approved by the Sheriff. This is purely a volunteer organization and funded through donations. If you wish to find out more, please visit www.bcssheriff.org or to make a tax free donation contact the Berrien County Marine Division at 269-983-7141 ext. 4922. That's all for now as I go to set the marks so we can race!

Membership Report - *Steve Hadaway and Janel Groth*

Your membership committee has completed the process of filling all available openings. We have a total of 534 members, which represents nearly 1500 adults and happy children. Even though our economy is not great and there are a lot of people changing jobs or locations, our retention of existing members is 93%. This is a terrific complement to all of our members, and to your constant efforts to be open and friendly to all members of the club. Ours is a wonderful family of new and not so new club members, who strive to make everyone welcome. (I wanted to avoid using the term "older members".) Please continue to welcome our new members.

We are now in the process of preparing for a New Members Party in June –July. If anyone would like to volunteer to help welcome all our new members for this event, please contact Steve Hadaway (429-6962). Our meetings are brief, few (only 1-2), and fun. Volunteering for this committee would be a good opportunity for some of our new members to become involved in our club, meet other members, and have some fun.

As a final note, the club has recently purchased some new and unique logo wear/clothing items that will be available for sale in the merchandise area in early to mid May. We have limited the quantity purchased and do not plan to re-order this year, so check them out. Special thanks to Rachel Arnt, Susan Thompson, and Jean Hadaway for helping with this merchandise project.

MAY 2010

(Check online calendar for updates during May www.sjryc.com)

Club Hours	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Wednesday 11:30 - 10 pm							1 4pm Kentucky Derby Party
Thursday 11:30 - 10 pm							
Friday 11:30 - 11 pm							
Saturday Noon - 10:00 pm	2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo Party 7pm Shakedown Race	6 6:30pm Pool Committee Mtg	7 6:30pm TGIF Dinner	8
Galley Hours							
Wednesday 11:30 - 9 pm	9 1 - 4pm Mother's Day Dinner	10	11	12 7pm Spring Series Race #1	13	14 6:30pm TGIF Dinner Live Music by STAR & CHARLIE	15
Thursday 11:30 - 9 pm							
Friday 11:30 - 2 pm							
-TGIF Dinner 6:30pm	16 1pm Pool Opening Work Session	17	18	19 7pm Spring Series Race #2	20 6:30pm SJRYC Board Mtg	21 4pm Pool Opens 6:30pm TGIF Dinner	22
Saturday Noon - 9 pm	23 / 30	24 / 31 1-4pm Memorial Day Picnic	25 5:30-6:30pm Swim Team Clinic	26 7pm Spring Series Race #3	27 5:30-6:30pm Swim Team Clinic	28 6:30pm TGIF Dinner	29



Club Managers Report - *Dan & Debbie Smith*

Hello everyone! May, what a great time of year. The boats are going back into the water, the spring bird migration is at its peak, and your yacht club is in full swing. This month we will also see the opening of the pool and Rhumbline bar. Sitting by the river sipping a cocktail and watching the boats go by is no longer a fading memory from last summer. Debbie and I have been working to get things ready for the opening of the Rhumbline Bar, and the Rhumbline staff is very excited to start cooking on the grill and mixing margaritas.

April 24th we held our 1st Annual Wine Tasting/Selection Party on the third floor of the club. The event was a huge success with everyone having a wonderful time enjoying the 18 different wines and all the great food Debbie prepared, including oysters on the half shell, chilled shrimp, grilled scallops, beef wellington, stuffed mushrooms and a dozen other items. The background music was provided by Beverly Smith, an extremely talented pianist and violinist. The feedback received will be used to update our current wine list in the next couple of weeks. Thank you to all that attended!!!

We want to remind everyone the club is open at 11:30am on weekdays and noon on Saturday and Sunday for lunch. Debbie always has very creative lunch specials, and you should check out our newly updated menu with several new items for you to experience.

There will be some fantastic parties at the club this season. We have been working with Luke and Katrina to get all the entertainment booked. As the new heads of the social committee Debbie and I would like some feedback from the membership on what type of music or entertainers appeal to you. Our goal is to listen to you and make decisions based on what the membership wants. Please send me an email at sjryc@yahoo.com and let us know what you would like. Be sure to read the social committee article in this Bilge Bailings to get a taste of what to expect in the coming months.

We look forward to seeing everyone and meeting all the new members!!

*St. Joseph River Yacht Club
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