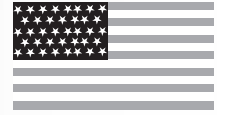


# Scuttlebutt



Charter Member Gulf Yachting Association

## Mobile Yacht Club

Established 1847

March 2015

Mobile, AL

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Rear Commodore  
Mike LaSarge

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Bill Haffner

Recording Secretary  
Randy Wendt

Board Members  
John Ballard  
Eugene LeVert  
Josh Murray  
Ellis Ollinger  
Greg Reed  
Mike Reid

### **Commodore's Report**

We were hoping the cold January would allow for some thaw in February, but the chill just kept coming. At this point, let's just hope March warms up. I hope everyone had a fun Mardi Gras season and a Happy Valentine's Day, hopefully here at the Club as the full house did.

There are activities heating up around the Club this month with the Winter Series coming up quickly. Rear Commodore Mike LaSarge will be well handling that event again. Look for details from him and check our website [www.mobileyachtclub.org](http://www.mobileyachtclub.org). A wine tasting and more dinner specials, trivia and more will be happening this month. Thursday Night Fun Races also return this month. See the calendar and website for more information.

We hope to see more and more of you at the Club as spring nears and taking advantage of our lunch specials, dinner specials, upcoming new menu items and special events we have planned in the upcoming months. Your enjoyment of the Club is the number one goal of the Board. In addition however, your support of the Club is important in meeting the forever growing financial obligations we incur. Our Club revenue is generated in three ways. Dues, slip rentals and the Bar and Galley. As you may have noticed, we have nearly 25% vacancy in the marina, stemming mostly from the down economy in past years. There are just fewer boat owners which is unfortunately a trend across the Gulf coast. This represents over \$25,000 per year in income shortfalls. This has impacted our savings for several years now, a trend which we need to curtail. While we are trying to be creative to fill the harbor with offering power boaters slips with boat hoists, renting to other yacht clubs' members, transient slip rent and more, that is slow to turn around.

When you see advertisements for activities at the Club, thinking about what to do for lunch or dinner or just need a beverage after a long day, come and give us a chance to wine and dine you. We are constantly trying to meet the needs of our Members and look forward to your visits. As always, feel free to let us know how we're doing, your food and beverage preferences and what you would like to see us do that we may not be doing. Contact any Board Member or the Manager, we are always glad to hear from you. Feel free call (251-421-1898), email ([szito@zitorussell.com](mailto:szito@zitorussell.com)) or mail letters to the Club, addressed to me and I will personally review, act upon and respond. We are here to make the Club better and want your participation in it.

Sadly, we regret to inform the membership of the recent loss of long time member Dennis McPoland. The Mobile Yacht Club family wishes to express its condolences to Mr. McPoland's family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this difficult time.

See you at the Club and on the water,  
Steve Zito, Commodore



## A message from the Mobile Bay Sailing School President

It's hard to believe that it's already March and we are closing the Carnival Season. With the cool weather these days, activity on the water has slowed a little and most of us find ourselves contemplating spring tune up and summer sailing. The Mobile Sailing School Board has begun preparing for the summer season with development of our class schedule, assessment of class structure and content and inventory of equipment. We have also begun our search for instructors. If you know someone who may be interested in being a sailing instructor this summer, please contact me either by phone at (251) 634-1442 or via email at spauldrs58@gmail.com. We ask that instructors be at least 16 years old and have sailing experience and knowledge. This year we would like to start updating our fleet of 420's and Optimists. Our fleet of 420 sailboats is aging and we believe that it's probably time to begin their replacement. We currently have 7-420's and 4 Optimist sailboats. We've been fortunate enough to fill our class rosters each year sufficiently to use all 7 of the 420's for most of the class sessions and last year we actually found that we could have used an additional Optimist to maximize sailing time for all of our students. We intend to hold a series of fundraising events this spring and summer to provide sufficient funds to replace all 7 of the 420's and to procure one Optimist. If you are interested in supporting the Sailing School with this effort please call or email me. Please note our 2015 sailing school schedule below.

I would also like to remind you that we offer adult sailing classes. If you are interested or know someone who would like to learn sailing, please contact Josh Deupree at (251)209-1800 or Jennifer Vereen (251)751-7235 for information or check out our adult sailing website at MBSSadultprograms@gmail.com. As always, we appreciate the support we get from the MYC for our sailing program and I look forward to serving as the President of the MBSS again this year. If you should have any questions about the sailing school please feel free to drop me a line or call.

Thank you,

Rick Spaulding

## MBSS 2015 Class Schedule

Class 1: June 8 – June 12

Class 2: June 15 – June 19

Class 3: June 22 – June 26 Special Opti class (1/2 day sessions)

Break: June 29 – July 3 Fourth of July Holiday week, no classes

Class 4: July 6 – July 10

Class 5: July 13 – July 17

Class 6: July 20 – July 24

Class 7: July 27 – July 31

### Notes:

1. With the exception of the special Opti classes, all classes are full day
2. Special Opti classes are held as half day classes, morning only over a five day week
3. Full day class schedule is 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
4. Half day class schedule is 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
5. Student age limits – Special Opti class: 7, 8, and 9 year olds, all other classes ages 8 10 to 18 years
6. Students may arrive as early as 8:30 AM
7. Parents must pick up students no later than 5:30 PM
8. Preferred class size is 16 to 18 students, Opti class size is 10 students maximum

## BAY GALES NEWS

Our next lunch meeting will be on Friday, March 6th at 12:30.

March 29th will be the Easter egg hunt for the children. It will begin at 2:30. Regina has all the plastic eggs as well as prizes. We do need donations of candy or items to stuff them. Bring the candy to the club or to Regina in time for her to stuff and organize them. Regina and Ellis are again chairing the event.

We will have our April meeting on Friday the 10th instead of the first Friday, as this is Good Friday as well as Passover. It will either be at lunch or dinner.

The sailing season and daylight savings time will soon begin. Any lady interested in sailing on Thursday night contact Valerie at 251-42-3272.



## Rear Commodore's Report

The weather forecast is for a warming trend for the Winter Series. I'm sure by now we all could stand some warm weather for a change, so plan to come on out. Might get some morning fog if the water is warmer than the air, but usually burns off. I'll put some registrations at the end of the bar, or you can register Friday night before the skipper's meeting.

Mike LaSarge  
Rear Commodore

## Notice of Race

MOBILE YACHT CLUB

### WINTER SERIES REGATTA 2015

March 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>

PHRF, Sport Class\*, and Portsmouth Cruising Classes

Registration Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ MYC 6:00 p.m. till 7:30 p.m.

Skippers Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

\* Sport Class (VX-1, Melges 24, etc) requires 3-boat minimum

#### Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> Race 1 & 2

Warning Signal: 10:50 Sport Class  
10:55 PHRF Spinnaker  
11:00 PHRF Non-Spinnaker and Portsmouth

Warnings for 2<sup>nd</sup> Race will follow ASAP after 1<sup>st</sup> Race if possible

#### Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup> Race 3 & 4

Warning Signal: 10:50 Sport Class  
10:55 PHRF Spinnaker  
11:00 PHRF Non-Spinnaker and Portsmouth

Warnings for next Race will follow ASAP after 1<sup>st</sup> Race if needed/possible

Four races are scheduled. The Race Committee will attempt to run 2 races on March 7<sup>th</sup> and the remainder of the 4 races on March 14<sup>th</sup>. If all races are not completed on March 14<sup>th</sup>, the remaining race or races may be attempted on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**USSA Members \$35.00 - Non-USSA Members \$45.00**

**Contact Mike LaSarge at MYC, 251-421-3089, for additional information**

## Manager's Notes

Well we are into March now and the Thursday night races will be here before we know it, March 12<sup>th</sup>! Join us at the Club for drink specials on Thursday nights.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the fabulous Mardi Gras party February 5<sup>th</sup>. Everyone enjoyed the special menu and festivities. Plan to attend next year!

We are happy to announce the Fairhope Brewing Company will be back for another beer tasting Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. This is the First Thursday night Fun Race, so come down to the club, watch the boats and enjoy some local beer. \$5

Our Stag's Leap dinner for March 19<sup>th</sup> is SOLD OUT. Keep an eye out for future wine dinners.

*If you have not been to Sunday lunch in a while, please come check out our new omelet station and bottomless mimosa for \$5.*

**Welcome New Members: Brian Joseph Heller (active), James Michael Gibson (house).**

See you in the Galley!  
Suzannah Weeks  
General Manager

## NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN

### March Menu

- March 1st – Fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, squash casserole, fried okra, baked beans
- March 8<sup>th</sup> – Shrimp and angel hair pasta, lemon poppy seed chicken, green beans, garlic bread
- March 15<sup>th</sup> – Corn beef and cabbage, Shepard's pie, sautéed carrots and mushrooms, corn bread
- March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Fried catfish, baked beans, cole slaw, hushpuppies
- March 29<sup>th</sup> – Easter Brunch – Baked ham, green bean casserole, potatoes au gratin, biscuits, cheese grits
- April 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday menu, Fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, squash casserole, fried okra, baked beans

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# *The Easter Bunny is coming!*

Join us for Sunday brunch and  
the annual Easter Egg hunt Sunday,  
March 29<sup>th</sup>!  
Mark your calendars.



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