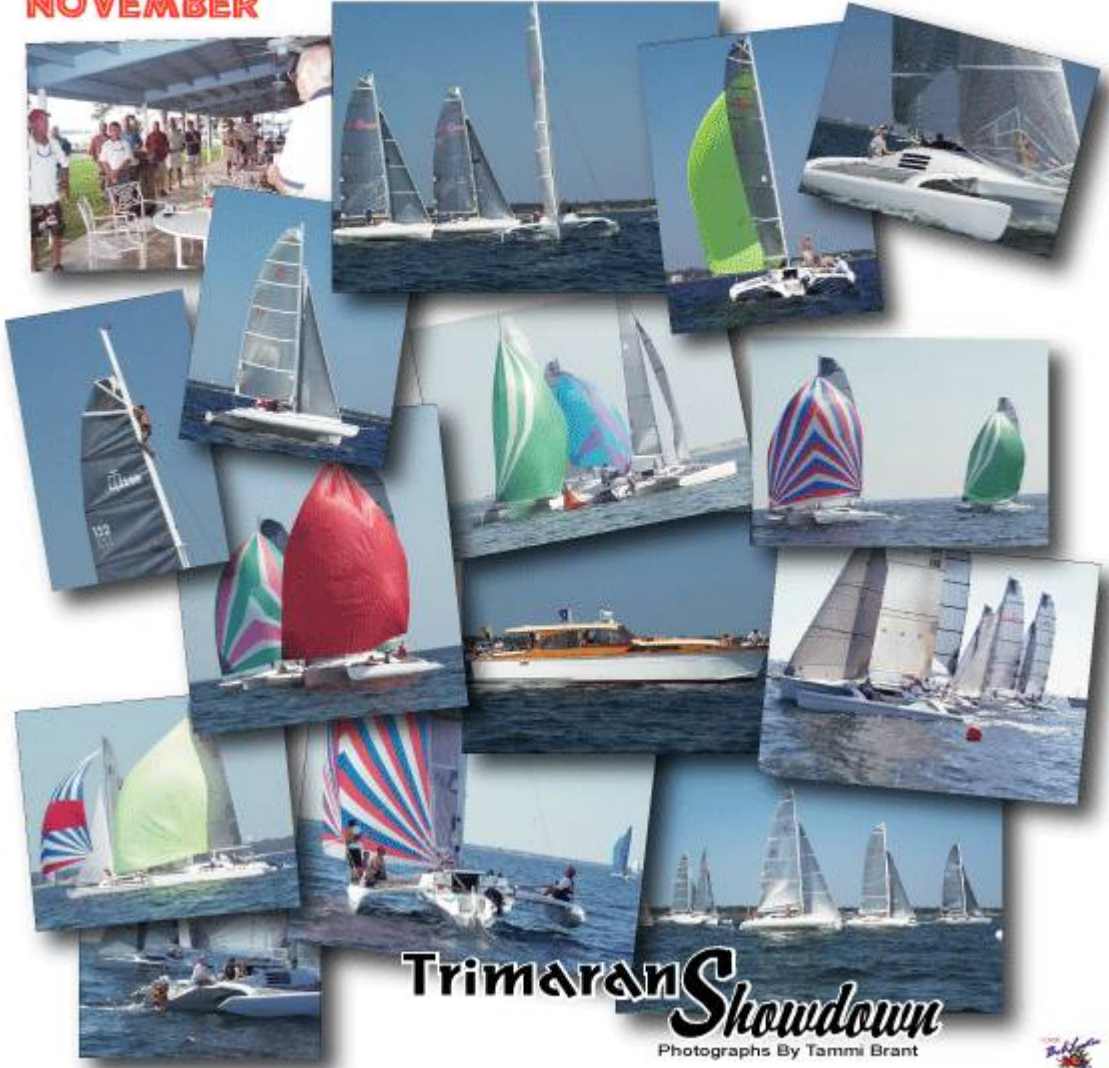


the 2007

Fort Walton Yacht Club  
**LETTER LOG**

**NOVEMBER**



**Trimaran Showdown**  
Photographs By Tammi Brant

*The Official Publication of the Fort Walton Yacht Club*

*Editor: Jan Thomas*

# FROM THE COMMODORE'S CORNER



Hi Folks:

Well, here it is November; Halloween and the great party are over and it is time to plan for Thanksgiving. Our thinking now changes to the big turkey on the table and the family gathered around to give thanks for the family's good health and the sharing of the wonderful freedoms our republic provides to each of us. Also, to thank and ask protection for those who are in harms way around the world to ensure we continue to have those freedoms. Vicky and I wish you each a very Happy Thanksgiving with your families.



**General Membership Meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>.** We had a good, but not great turnout for the General Membership Meeting. I was told by a Past Commodore who attended the meeting that not having a quorum is a good sign. He felt that meant things were going well. We did have an active participation in identifying additional candidates for the Board of Directors for the 2008 Elections. For those unable to attend, I have included my key comments below:

*It has been a very busy year and (excuse an old cliché) "...time flies when you're having fun." I'm very glad to see so many of you here. We only get to see the membership in this forum twice a year. Once to say, Hello, this is who we are and this is what we hope to accomplish." and once to say, Thank you, to the many people who worked so hard to help the club succeed during the year. This then is our opportunity to say: welcome, update you on the club, and express thanks.*

*First, let me address: The state of the club. The state of the club is very good. The Club Management and the Finance Committee have worked hard this year to address the cash flow challenges of the club. As of September 30th the club's accounts are paid up to date. A number of actions have been implemented to ensure many of the old cash flow problems are controlled. An ongoing challenge will be the maintenance of the physical plant as it ages. Steps have been taken in the 2008 budget to anticipate some of the necessary repairs and replacements.*

*Our membership drive has been quite effective thanks to our members actively seeking new members. Our current dues paying membership roles stand at 382 members with two months to go in this year. The Club still needs to raise that number to be at a 'comfortable' level, financial speaking. The costs associated with maintaining the quality of food, drink, and comforts, plus what is required to maintain this older building will*

*continue to be a challenge. I do need to mention that the kitchen has a new look. The 'huge' new Imperial Range, the new Wall Oven and rack structure, the new restaurant style Toaster, have been installed and are operational. Also, Gina Coulter donated a large Microwave Oven that is a big help. We have a very happy kitchen team.*

*Thanks to the many members who volunteer to address all aspects of maintaining our club, from social activities to Self-Help Days and other maintenance and repairs, the state of the Club is **very good**.*

*I'd like to say thank you' to a number of people and groups of people for their active participation, support of the club, and personal effort. These many volunteers, and many others, contributed to make the year a success:*

*Tammi Brandt – for taking a large number of us on a sea-going adventure*

*Tommy Garner – for stepping into the “Head Mongolian BBQ Chef“ role and for cooking an amazing pig and the pork roasts for the Luau*

*Carole Langford – for making our Dining Room so special on those Special Holidays: Easter Sunday, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, and the other holidays.*

*The many who support our Junior Sailing Program and our Hi-School Sailors*

*The Sailing Teams who represent our Club so well in the many Gulf Coast Regattas*

*The Party Chairpersons and their teams, ...what wonderful parties we have had this year.*

*Don Aimes – for the surprise in the sky, on the 4th of July*

*Linda Wright – Director of the ECSA Summer Sailing Camp, so important to creating new sailors, and she is also the FWYC Dock Master*

*Bob Fisher and Bob Strauss – the first Annual FWYC Fishing Tournament*

*Marion Bushey and Pat Gross – the first Annual FWYC Poker Run*

*...and lots of other members, all contributing so much to the fun we have all had this year.*

*Also, special thanks to all of the wonderful staff we are blessed to have in this club, especially, Pat, our Club Manager, Darrel, our Executive Chef, Trish, our Lounge Manager, and Tracie our Dining Room Manager. We are so lucky to have this great team of professionals here with us.*

*Most important; thank you to each of you, the many club members. Your participation made all of the activities possible.” Thank you to those of you who have supported the Bridge and Board of Directors this year and could not make it to the meeting. Your help is greatly appreciated.*

## new members



Lee Griffen  
Rachel Groner  
Frank Harrison  
William Johnson  
Edward Toretta

Of course, we already know Rachel; she and her husband have been active Young Adult Members for some time.

The club is a lot like the “Cheers” bar from TV-given the opportunity, it is “a place where everyone knows your name.” So, don’t be shy, jump in and get acquainted. We all look forward to seeing you at the club. Join a committee; it’s a fun way to meet lots of members. If you will put on one of the “new member burgees” available right outside the door to the lounge it will help us to meet and welcome you inside. Remember to try “*Cook Your Own Steak Night*” ... every Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday evening; a New York Strip Steak, Baked Potato, and Salad, all for \$10,95. It may very well be the best price for such a dinner in the town.

**Members:** We have been doing a terrific job in attracting new members this year. We need to keep up the great effort that has resulted in over 40 new members. The Fort Walton Yacht Club blue brochure is an additional tool to help you share the FWYC story with potential new members. Also, remember you can fill out the cards on the tables in the Lounge and Dining Room to identify friends to be invited to a ***Wine & Cheese Party***. Those listed will be invited to a ***Wine & Cheese Party*** that includes a tour of club facilities and a discussion session that addresses any questions they may have about the club. Also, don’t forget the Board of Directors has approved providing the sponsor of a new member with \$50.00 to help defray the expenses in hosting potential new members. When the new member’s application is approved at the second reading, the primary sponsor (sponsor #1) will receive a \$50.00 credit on their club account. This is meant as an incentive to bring your friends to the club.

Your feedback is always welcome. Thanks and see you at the club.

***Bill Denny, Commodore*** 609-0408 or, [billdafret@msn.com](mailto:billdafret@msn.com)

**P.S.** For those boat owners that share an interest in the history of sailing and this area, be sure to check out the full-page ad from Jim Tucker at Tucker Marine. Those that have an interest in preserving local sailing history may want to contact Jim and offer a donation.



## VICE COMMODORE'S BRIEFING ROOM

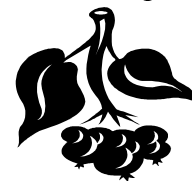
**S**ELF HELP DAY, what a success, what a great time to get together, and great weather we enjoyed. Some 40 members, spouses, and several non-member guests came out to share several hours of fun in the outdoors making our club a better place to play.

So many projects, so little time. That said, it was through pre planning that ensured the days success. David Tye, & Bob Horne worked and coordinated for countless hours and days prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> to ensure things were in place and ready to go. Just some of the improvements that were made include the renovation of the laundry room making loads more room for storage of items for the kitchen, internet cable run for the Fleet Captains office, the Zevin Memorial Tree planted and the associated benches installed, all the club benches either stained or varnished, new concrete laid in a couple of areas, new road bedding spread within dry storage to repair ruts, weeding, mowing, weed eating, etc.

A special thanks needs to go out to all the participants, and this you'll find as a flyer within this Letter Log. Someone that has stood out not only on self help day, but for the five days following is Char Gibiscar. She came back out each day following Self Help Day with her tools of various trades,

and not only mowed half of the dry storage area herself, but picked up washed up fish from the boat ramp and the beach each day for a week. Thanks Char, if not for you, we'd still have remnants of the Red Tide gracing our door step.

I'd be remiss if I did not mention Bob Horne a second time. He's our Landscaping expert, and put in countless hours prior to, during, and after self help day to ensure completion of beautification projects.



From purchasing benches in advance, to selecting and purchasing trees, shrubs etc, he worked behind the scenes to make your self help day as seamless as possible.

Thanks to everyone for making the day such a success. I hope each of you look at the Thank You flyer and then pat each person on the back when you see them around the club house, out on the water, where ever. Without club member support, many projects and the beauty of our club would go wanting.

### Projects and Repairs:

I'm happy to report that within the **KITCHEN**, all the upgrades for 2007 are complete. The new Range was delivered in mid October, which was the last piece of major equipment purchased. All the hard work of Vicki Denny, our Appointments committee Chairperson, resulted in all the highest priority items for the kitchen being delivered, installed and up and running.

These items include new 'industrial strength' toaster, wall oven, and finely the range. The kitchen staff could not be happier, and countless members seem to be taking advantage of the new equipment, and enjoying their results, with so many of you commenting on the quality of your meals. A big thanks to Darrel, Tommy, and the rest of the kitchen staff for doing such a great job.

I'm sorry to report that another four of our **pine trees** had to be removed, due to succumbing to boring beetles. While four trees came out, I'm happy to report that 6 trees of various varieties were planted as replacements.

Some of you may have noticed some new **furniture** out on the front lawn. Thanks to anonymous donations, a new sitting swing and two chairs & table now grace our grounds. While the weather may be changing, there has been no lack of folks seen enjoying these new amenities.



Within the Castaway room, other newly donated items can be found. A **36" LCD FLAT SCREEN TELEVISION** recently replaced the 15" TV that we've seen for years. This new television will soon be hooked up to a computer and surround sound system, also donated, giving us a state of the art audio visual system. Thanks Sam Grant for spear heading this project.

Yet another project completed in October, that being the advent of increased **security lighting** around the grounds. The light within dry storage had to be replaced, and a new light was placed in the area of the boat ramp, adding much needed light to the boat ramp area, bulk head boat slips, and the new fish cleaning station.

**Repair And Replacement Budget:** As reported last month, the Repair and Replacement, and Enhancement budgets for 2008 were submitted to the Board of Directors (BOD) during the October BOD meeting. During the November meeting, any refinements and discussions will take place, and with just a bit of diligence, the plan will be ready to implement on January 1, 2008.

With that final note, I hope this all finds you well and that you're looking forward to all the end of the year festivities scheduled around the FWYC, your club!!

Fair winds and strong motors to all of you;

**David Vaughan**  
**Vice Commodore**  
**Dave\_cat@earthlink.net**



## REAR COMMODORE'S PARTY CHAT

**B**y the time you receive this Letter Log, there will only be one party left in the year that the Rear Commodore is responsible for, and that is the DINNER THEATRE/PLAY scheduled for 17 & 18 November. Carole Langford and her crew have been very busy practicing and it should be a great two nights. Reservations are required so call the office for the night of your choice.

Of course there are still parties left this year that fall under the Commodore, i.e. the parties.  
With the year slowing coming to a close, it's

time to reflect and thank all of you that have help make this another great year for the Rear Commodore. First of all, thanks goes out to all the members that responded to the questionnaire I sent out at the beginning of the year. The responses helped the entertainment committee plan for twelve great parties that were very well attended. Thank you FWYC members.



The twelve parties we had this year were: Bon Voyage, Super Bowl, Mardi Gras, Mongolian BBQ's, St Patrick's Day, Easter Sunday, Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> July, Meigs/Crawfish, Luau, Halloween and the Dinner Theatre/Play.

This year we had seventeen very hard working members. They are: Faye & Jerry Black, Betty Burkett, Allen & Jackie Chapman, Gina Coulter, Gethyn & Ron Giordano, Jennifer & Sam Grant, Mary Harrison, Carole & John Langford, Ginny & Jack Lindsey, Shari Seaton and Bobbie Prim. In addition to our regular committee members, special thanks goes to Tommy Garner, Ken Smith and David Eames for their contribution.

**Ron Giordano, Rear Commodore**  
(rggr222@cox.net)

"People rarely succeed unless they have fun in what they are doing."

—DALE CARNEGIE

## THE FLEET BEAT FROM THE FLEET CAPTAIN



The Final #3 Night Race was held on October 5. We had a full moon with the exception of the last race. This final race had to be postponed because of the possibility of very bad weather and it was hard an open date. The overall winners for three races were:

### Fleet A

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Jibe Talkin, Mark Balant
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Pelirrojas, Jerry Black
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Breakaway, Charles Hine

### Fleet B

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Half Pint, Rob Brown
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Joint Endeavour, Ron

### Hankins

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Rudder Madness, David

### Seaton

#### Catalina 22 -

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Tango - Beattie Purcell

### Trimarans

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Strategy - Cliff Farrah

A Committee that comes under the Fleet Captain that is not well known, Recreational Boating, made an impact on the club this year. The First "Annual" Poker Run, October 6, organized by Marion Bushey and co-chair, Pat Gross has created quite a stir. With 22 boats participating in the Run, the workers on the docks had just as much fun (if not more) than the boaters picking a card at every stop. Prizes went out to those that were lucky in the draw. Please take a moment to read the list of volunteers who

worked all day, efforts crucial in the overall success of this the first Poker Run. I want to add a huge thanks and appreciation also.

The next weekend, the Brent Hennieke Regatta had 8 PHRF boats competing with fairly close finish times. The winds held just enough for a good race. Holly Hennieke Hennesey and Roger Hennieke were present to welcome and encourage the racers and my thanks for their participation. Top finishers were:

#### Fleet A

1<sup>st</sup> - Breakaway, Charles Hine

2<sup>nd</sup> - Jibe Talkin, Phil Pritchett

3<sup>rd</sup> - Ambush, Bob Lester

#### Catalina 22

1<sup>st</sup> - Fandango - Brent Purcell

Congratulations to all who won an award and thanks for all the participation. There were a few out of town regattas on the same weekend which some of our club racers attended so it cut down on the number of boats participating. Scheduling is never easy but our racing is always enjoyed by our racers no matter how many participants there are.

On October 26, 27, 28 was the Windsurfing Regatta. This is a joint regatta with our club member, Bobby Nabors of the Liquid Surf and Sail and the FWYC.



This is the first year that the FWYC has been in charge of organizing and working the regatta. It was great fun to meet the surfers from all over the USA and a few from the Dominica Republic. States represented include Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, Texas, Colorado, Alabama, Minnesota, Connecticut, and our own Florida, with people from this area, as well as Tallahassee, St. Petersburg and Miami, Pensacola and Panama City.

With the exception of Friday when the winds were very light and not ideal for windsurfing, Saturday and Sunday were perfect. With winds blowing at 10 to 20 and averaging 17 on Saturday, it was just a bit lighter on Sunday, but enough to have a total of 10 races. If one has never been within a few feet of the windsurfers during a start, one has missed a fun experience. Even though there were a few mishaps, collisions, and “interruptions” on the water, we on the race committee had a front row seat to an exciting adventure.

Without the super help from all the volunteers, this regatta would not have happened. Thanks very much to the registration gals, Mary Harrison and Jane Waters. On the water, Dave Eames in his boat as mark set boat, David Seaton positioning the marks from the race committee boat. David Vaughan, Shari Seaton and I started and finished the surfers along with some help from Josh (contributing writer for Windsurfer Magazine and Meredith Bass, which helped us with her windsurfing expertise. A huge thanks to Shari for the scoring which took many hours on Sunday. This type of regatta is a bit more complicated than what we are used to running. However, next year will be much easier as we now have a feel for what it’s all about. Thanks, Bobby Nabors, for giving our club a chance to shine and learn. Thank you everyone!

I also want to thank Manager, Pat Macias, Tracy, Dining Room Manager, Chef Darrel for the outstanding food and all the other staff which went *waaaay* out of their way to make this a great event.

The sailors told us over and over what a great club this is and how it’s perfect for the windsurfers.

Upcoming is the female-only at the helm for

the Brinckmann Regatta on November 3. This race always has a big turnout. Come down at noon watch the fun from the Point.

Before I close I want to thank Maggie Loar for her help on the Race Committee during the Challenge Cup. I overlooked adding her

**Thanks, Maggie**

name to the list of volunteers and want her to know her volunteer time was greatly appreciated.

Our Capdevielle Team has really "brought home the bacon"! After the last Capdevielle Race, the Schreck in Pensacola, they finished with an overall 4<sup>th</sup> which gives FWYC a yearly overall 8<sup>th</sup> place. They were really top notch and my congratulations to the entire team for this terrific finish. Also, this team finished #1 in the Florida Challenge! This year each state has their own challenges within their clubs and we can again be proud of all the hard work put into these finishes. My thanks to Jeff Brown and Jim Coulter for keeping the team going in the right direction all year.

***Phyllis Seaton Fleet Captain***  
***(phyllis4@cox.net)***

#### **WOMEN ON THE WATER at FWYC**

WOW completed its annual community outreach project, "My Soldier, My Country", in October, sending 250 toiletries and insulated mug kits to our military men and women serving in Iraq. The folks at Hurlburt Family Services unit were thrilled with the generosity exhibited by WOW ladies, as well as the FWYC members and their friends.

There was some money left after expenses were paid from the contributions that were received: that amount will be donated to Shelter House in Fort Walton. Many thanks to the ladies of WOW who gave generously of their time and talent to make this project such a success, and to the members of FWYC who supported us.

The next WOW luncheon will be held on Wednesday, November 14, from 11:45am until 1:30pm in the club lounge. All ladies of the club are welcome to come and enjoy the opportunity to visit with friends, while making new ones. We always have such a great time! Come join us!

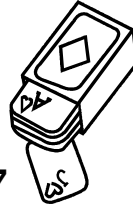
#### **Good Heavens!!!!**

**We made it one more year.....thanks to all your good thoughts and prayers. The past two years have been heaven sent and we are most thankful. It has been great being the "hurricane queen."**

**A big thank you to all who offered to help and all those who did help in the past many years, I look forward to helping someone new. Thanks again.**

**Cathy Jones**

# RECAP OF FWYC POKER RUN



OCTOBER 6, 2007

58 REGISTERED PLAYING HANDS PURCHASED PRIOR TO RACE  
55 ADDITIONAL CARDS PURCHASED END OF RACE  
22 BOATS REGISTERED

PRIZES EXCEEDED \$1000.00

## PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR GENEROUS POKER RUN DONORS:

Philharmonic Of Nwf (Davit Ott, Composer/Conductor)  
D.C.V. Homeworks, Inc.  
Well-Site  
Kelly's Super Value Stores  
Lewis Bear Company  
Aaa Travel  
Goldring Distributers  
Ocean Potions  
First City Bank  
Bellissimo's  
West Marine  
A.G. Edwards

## FWYC POKER RUN WINNERS:

NAME	CLUB	PLACEMENT	HAND
James Baughman	FWYC	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Straight
Diane Oldnettle	ECPBH	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Straight
Barbara Harrington	FWYC	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	3 Of Kind
Jane Waters	FWYC	Booby	Lowest

## INVITED PARTICIPATING CLUBS:

Bluewater Bay Sailing Club  
Emerald Coast Performance Boating Club  
Fort Walton Yacht Club Sail And Motor Boaters

Respectfully Submitted:

Marion L. Bushey  
FWYC Recreational Boating Chairman

**Our First FWYC Boating Poker Run was well received and enjoyed by all in attendance. Special thanks to my Co-chairman, Pat Gross. We worked together on a specific plan. Our very able and willing volunteers were superb! By including our neighbor boating clubs, we made new friends and possibly elicited some new FWYC members. We laud our success to our diligent planning, great volunteers, and enthusiastic FWYC working staff; it resulted in total TEAMWORK by all!**

**Listed below are our Poker Run Volunteers. If you pass them in the club, please give them a high sign and your thanks.**

**DOCKWORKERS:**

Bob and Debbie Biel  
Jerry and Faye Black  
Gina Coulter  
Debra Deats  
Jennifer and Samuel Grant  
Barbara and Skip  
Harrington  
Mary Harrison

**Cathy and Graeme Jones**

Carol and John Langford  
Gail Mitchell  
Pat and Harold Pruitt

Doris Schism  
Shari and David Seaton  
Carrie Serpa  
Jane Waters

Linda Wright and Tim

Miller

Bill Tennis, photographer

**PIT CREW:**

Marion Bushey  
Pat Gross  
Joan Kordich  
Maggie Loar  
Phyllis Seaton  
Peggy Taylor

**RAFFLE GALS:**

Suzy Fisher  
Cathy Jones  
Liz Holden  
Davie Nabors  
Ida Peugh

**PRIZES:**

Naomi Brown  
Marion Bushey

**THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!!!**

**Marion L. Bushey**  
**FWYC Recreational Boating Chairman**

**GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP**



MONDAY NOV. 26, 2007

@FWYC 1-4PM

\$20.00 PER PERSON

All members, spouses, guests, children, grandchildren, and employees are welcome.

All supplies provided by the club.

Proceeds will go to the "Angel Tree"

To help underprivileged children have a Happy Holiday.

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AND MAKE A RESERVATION NO LATER THE NOV. 18, 2007

## From The Letter Log Editor:

The delay in delivery this month is entirely my. . . COMPUTER'S fault. I had the Letter Log put together when the computer went KAPUT. I would like to blame the post office, but can't do that this time, so I apologize to members and hope it didn't inconvenience anyone.

I'd also like to say that this Letter Log, like all the others, is the monthly "child" of Sandra in the office as well as me. We share the job and next year, will be sharing it even more. More changes are in the works to make the Letter Log a better avenue of communication.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please email me at [jcampbell@pta-crm.com](mailto:jcampbell@pta-crm.com).

**Jan (Campbell) Thomas**

**FOR INFORMATION ON THE  
FLORIDAL COUNCIL OF YACHT CLUBS  
CALL  
JOHN JOHNSTON AT 651-4545**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SELL  
LETTER LOG ADS. WE STARTED OFF GREAT, BUT NEED A SPARK  
PLUG TO REV IT UP.  
SO, COME  
ON, THROW YOUR HAT IN THE  
ENGINE BY CALLING SANDRA  
AT THE OFFICE OR EMAIL  
[OFFICE@FWYC.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@FWYC.ORG)**

