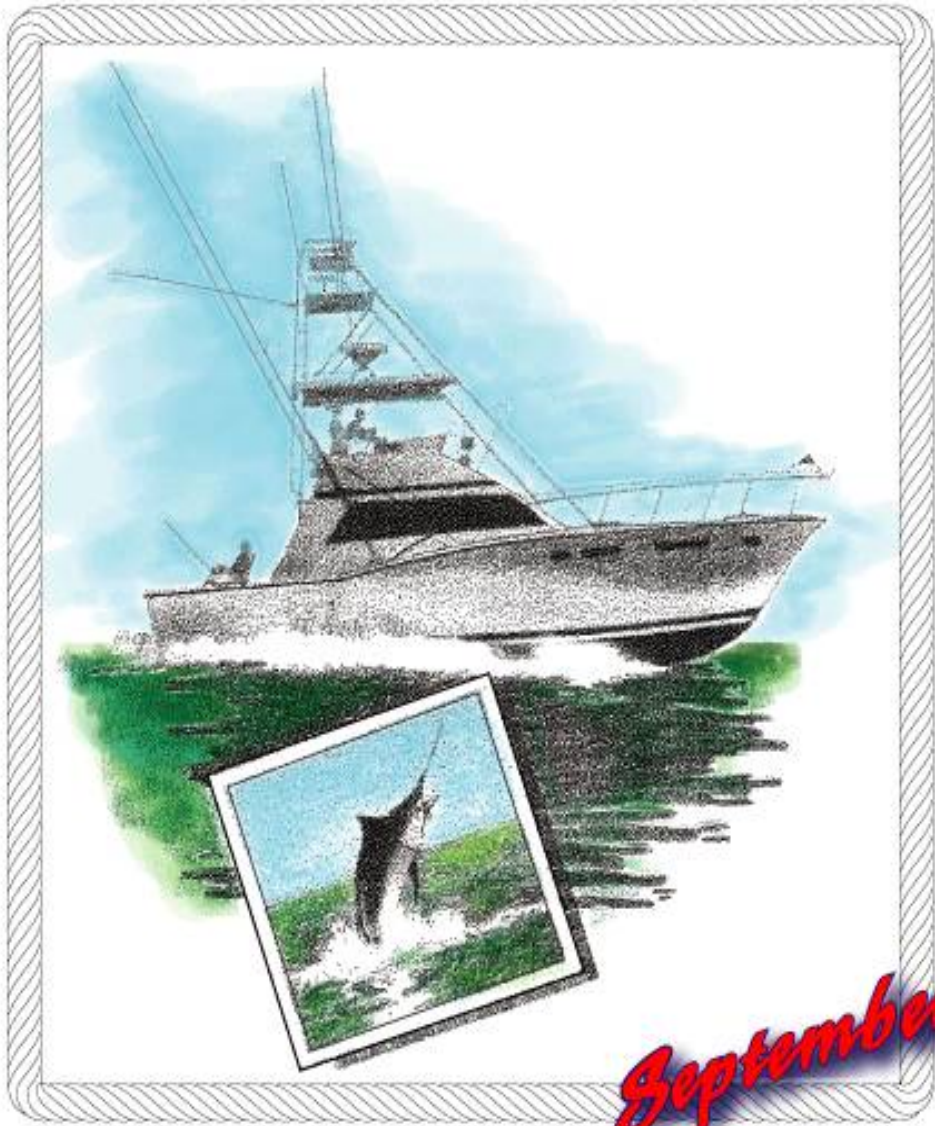


the 2007

Fort Walton Yacht Club
LETTER LOG



The Official Publication of the Fort Walton Yacht Club

Editor: Jan Thomas

FROM THE COMMODORE'S CORNER

H_i Folks:

Race for the Roses: Very hot weather with good breezes; three FWYC boats; each crewed by a team of local ladies that had practiced, practiced, practiced; a challenging four mile race course; lots of spectators out on the water consuming the wet consumables in an effort to stay cool while cheering on (silently – the rules you know) our ladies in each of the three races – that describes a fun filled Saturday afternoon on Pensacola Bay where our sailing gals brought home a 2nd Place Trophy, a 3rd Place Trophy, and a Spirit Award Trophy while sailing magnificently through a fleet of competing boats from other GYA clubs. What a great day for our ladies and what a fun experience for the FWYC spectators. ... and, boy am I glad the beer was ice cold.

Lipton's Race Series: The Lipton's* Race Series is one of the oldest sailing competitions on the Gulf Coast. **September 1-3** will have our Capdeville racers working hard to bring home some silver from the **Buccaneer Yacht Club, in Mobile**. This will be three days of racing in the competition boat of GYA club racing, the Flying Scot. A small boat that thinks it is big, the Flying Scot always manages to put on a show when racing. You can expect everything from radical turns on the mark, bumps on the course, and even some wet heads when a crew has to hike way out to offset the wind and water. Spectators need to be on the water to appreciate the action – so do not hesitate to ask for a ride to the

racecourse. If it works for your weekend, you should come to Mobile for one of the three days. Great racing, a chance to see Buccaneer Yacht Club's' new clubhouse, and cold consumables will make it a fun trip. We'll be there – again silently cheering on our racers. We wish GREAT GOOD LUCK to our racing folks.

*The Lipton Trophy is named for the same family that created the world famous "America's Cup Races." That series of races used to be the biggest in all sailing and the teams were national teams so the races were really between teams from each of the competing countries. Now "professional" sailors (mercenaries, "for hire" sailors from around the globe.) are brought in from anywhere and, in my opinion, the whole flavor of the races has changed. The national pride focus is completely gone and now it is about which billionaire will spend the most to go the fastest. The only real surprise is that a land-locked nation (the Swiss) turned out to have the guy who would continue to spend the most. Yes, I miss the days when the "USA" was in it.

Fishing Tournament on Sept. 8th:
Gourmet Gulf Seafood Buffet on Sept. 9th:
Director Bob Fisher, Chairperson of the Fishing Tournament Committee, has been hustling around and putting the flourishes and final touches on what promises to be a fantastic weekend at the FWYC. **Saturday** will have a great day of fishing with the boats away early in the morning, the weigh in the late afternoon, fish prizes for largest and most fish in each of five categories of fish, and an opportunity to brag about the one that got away over a late dinner or snack. **Sunday** will include Chef Darryl William's Gourmet Gulf Seafood Buffet, an opportunity to buy tickets to win a significant number of wonderful contributions from tournament supporters, and an opportunity to share in the applause as the tournament winners are announced. The proceeds from the tournament will go toward the purchase and installation of the

NEW Fish Cleaning Station being installed, at no cost to the membership, in proximity to the pump-out station. Plan to come and check out the action on both days. Certainly, you do not want to miss out on the Seafood Buffet on Sunday. Chef Darryl guarantees it is much more than a fish fry.

Kitchen Update: Vicky Denny, the Appointments Chairperson has met with Pat Macias, the Club Manager, and Chef Darryl Williams to review the list of kitchen needs developed during her February meeting. You may remember that the need to update a number of equipment items in the kitchen were discussed in the April column. In this meeting the club manager and chef agreed that it was urgent to replace the current range and oven. They were very concerned about equipment reliability and food safety. Thanks to the great job of the membership (you) in bringing in new members (over forty so far this year) and the club manager's efforts to host special parties we are in a position to move forward and begin the purchase of these needed items. The Board of Directors during the meeting on August 21st approved the expenditure of the funds necessary to purchase the range and convection wall oven recommended by the chef and manager. While members are not allowed in the kitchen for food-handling safety reason, I am sure the kitchen staff will enjoy giving you a peak from the doorway after the new range and wall-oven are installed.

New Members: I'd like to introduce the following new or returning members who have joined our Fort Walton Yacht Club and encourage you to watch for them as they join our activities. Their sponsors each have a checklist of ways they can help their new members get acquainted with the club. However, do introduce yourself and help in making them aware of the many benefits our club has to offer.

WELCOME

New Members:

Mel Schudmak (non-resident)

(Mel and Connie will be easy to spot as they tie up their beautiful, powered, cruiser at one of our transient docks. They are a fun couple, be sure to say "Hello.")

Ralph Bauer (non-resident)

Welcome aboard! You'll find 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. Bring your spouse or significant other to "Taco Tuesday" ...a free taco bar set up in the lounge every Tuesday starting a bit after 5 p.m. 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. Also, stop by on Wednesday evening. The weekly Sailing Fun Races start at 5 p.m., followed by Casual Steak Night in the Dining Room with an even more casual menu on the patio. The lounge starts serving at 4 p.m. to help offset the warm temperatures during the evening.

Members: We are doing a terrific job in attracting new members. We need to keep up the great effort that has resulted in over forty new members this year. This is really not the time to feel good about our past efforts because the fall season is a harder time to generate interest. Please pick up one or two copies of the *Fort Walton Yacht Club Recruiting Brochure*. The brochure tells the FWYC story and is an additional tool to help you share the club story with potential new members. The text is intentionally brief

with the photos of members having fun at various club activities filling the pages. Remember to fill out the cards to identify friends to be invited to a ***Wine & Cheese Party***. When the office has collected 10 or 12 cards, personal letters will be sent to those listed inviting them 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. 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. Be sure to thank the club officers for this incentive to bring potential new members to our great club.

High School Sailing: School is starting again and that means you will have an opportunity to see some real fantastic sailing going on off the FWYC beaches. The high school teams sail the 420 sailboats. It is a two-person boat with main and jib, sailed in both high school and college competition. This is a very fast boat that is a lot of fun to watch in action. During summer camp a number of our high school sailors under the coaching of FWYC Director Bill Rackley, expanded their skills to a very competitive level and were seen doing an especially interesting maneuver called roll tacking. Hard to describe, it is a very fast tack with two team mates getting to the other side of the cockpit in a very carefully timed event – the boat actually appears to accelerate out of the tack. You have to see it to believe it. So, come on down to the club on a week day afternoon from about 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. – it is worth the trip.

ECSA Art Auction, September 23rd: While talking about our youth sailing programs it is timely to remind you to plan on coming to the ART AUCTION in

September. The proceeds of the auction will go to the ECSA and help support the youth sailing programs and camps run by the ECSA. It is amazing how easily young people can find ways to break sailboats while learning to sail. A significant amount of the operating cost of ECSA programs goes into repairs and spare parts. You can help ensure the future of youth sailing at our club by investing in any one of the many art objects, paintings, sculpture, quilts, etc. available at the auction. A great opportunity to own art by a local artist and see the profits go to cause we all care about. Hope to see you there.

Feedback: I always look for and appreciate feedback on how we are doing in meeting your needs. Feedback from members has resulted in: the *new* Wednesday Patio Menu available in the lounge and on the patio; it has resulted in the return of the Wednesday-night onion rings of old, (butter-milk dipped, hand-breaded and deep fried); four items are available for the “Cook-Your-Own” nights and the hours have been extended; it has also resulted in a review of the pricing of beer and some adjustments, and other areas of great help to the management and staff. If there is something special we can do to make the club experience better for you, we will do what we can. Please stop and let me know how we are doing. Thank you and see you at the club.

Bill Denny, Commodore 609-0408 or, 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

Is that just a nip of Fall we've been feeling these last few days? It sure will be more pleasant when the temperature drops to something below 96 degrees!! It seems this August has been hotter than some, in fact, if the Weather Channel has it right, we had the hottest day on record this month, Ouch!!

Lets hope that September proves to be a bit nicer. We could sure use it what with all the parties, racing, fishing events, weddings, sales, etc going on around the club this month. And for all you day sailors out there, those down wind legs will become a lot more bearable with the coming of cooler weather.

Projects and Repairs: August was a busy month for getting a few repairs accomplished, and a few projects started and or completed around the club.

Before I go into those, lets all welcome Barry back from his convalescent leave, forced upon him after a nasty fall, from a ladder. We've established procedures to ensure this does not happen again, but with that said, we're all thankful he was not hurt any worse than he was. Welcome back Barry, you were missed, Big Time.

Our dry storage water supply pipes needed a bit of attention this month, but at no cost to the club, we managed to re-work some pipes and get the Point, and boat rinsing area, up and running with fresh water again.

Some of the problems with **kitchen appliances** are on the way to being fixed, with the replacement of the Wall Oven, and the main stove and oven. The Board of Directors and the Appointments Chair,

Vicky Denny deserve a big Thank You for helping keep the infrastructure of the Club, and more specifically, the kitchen in tip top shape. The kitchen staff will have a much easier time in the preparation of food with the new appliances. While a few more items are needed to keep the kitchen upgraded, these will probably have to wait for funding in next years budget.

Some of you may have noticed a structure being built at the head of slip 1, next to the hoist. This is our new **fish cleaning station**, capable of two members cleaning their catch simultaneously. The station has been paid for using financing from the Fishing Event, coming up in early September. If proceeds from this event are what is hoped, additions to the station may be realized. For now, anyone cleaning fish should keep foremost in mind, our Clean Marina Status. Clean your fish, but allow nothing but rinse water to enter our waters. Dispose of all debris in the marked garbage cans, ensure a liner is placed inside it, and take your spoils away with you. Do Not place the fish remains in the water or any FWYC garbage receptacle. Take fish remains from club property, and place in your own garbage. This will not only keep our club clean, but keep it smelling fresh as well.

The **Bath House** and shower area now have new **Cipher locks** on them. These went in approximately a month ago as a result of a member being locked in the bathroom inadvertently. To prevent this from ever happening again, new fail safe locks, always able to be opened from the inside, are now installed, and the pad locks removed. The **combination is 543**. We could not use the common combination, due to the locks not being able to use the same number twice.

Repair and Replacement Budget: As you all know, these are the funds that pay for the major maintenance and replacement of

things around the club house and grounds. This is your budget, and amounts to \$48,000 per year, and while I, along with the planning committee may manage the funds, it is our Board of Directors who approves all budgets, projects and resulting expenditures. As our facilities age, this budget has to be stretched to go further, and repair things such as plumbing leaks, replace air conditioners, fix ice machines, replace trees etc. The Planning Committee is now working on the 2008 Projects Budget. If you have a project that you'd like to see done around the club, please let me know. Some items already on the list include refurbishing the exterior of the old (south side) sail loft, more benches around the grounds, replacement of an old air conditioner. If you have something you feel needs to be done, this is your budget, make your voice heard.

We also have a Facilities Enhancement Budget, these funds pay for new items, which we don't already have. New docks might fall within this category, as do any new structures and the like. This budget is more long range, but needs input from the members to be viable.

Speaking of the Docks, as you know, we're working a project right now to see if we can't build additional docks, thus increase our number of slips from our current 103 by some 20-50 additional slips. I've made contact with the Department of Environmental protection who is currently looking at the four dock proposals provided by the Strategic Planning Committee. I anticipate word back this month, on their take on the best location and allowed area for new docks.

Funding of course has not been secured, this is a feasibility study only, we will take the next step once it's been determined that we may construct.

Self Help Day: As announced last month, the Fall Self Help Day is set for October 9th 2007. We will have lots of fun, and not so fun things to do around the club house in addition of a free lunch and some cool refreshment towards the end of the day. Mark your calendars now and come out and enjoy a day of enjoyment with fellow members, while helping out your Club as well.

Ok, with that bit of news, I'll close for this month and hope this all finds you well. Fair winds and strong motors to you all;

David Vaughan
Vice Commodore
Dave_cat@earthlink.net

REAR COMMODORE'S PARTY CHAT

LUAU – Our next party will be a Luau on **Sunday 16 September** starting at 4 PM. Please make a note of this date because the planned date for this event has been changed several times for reasons beyond my control. Gina Coulter, along with the entertainment committee, has been working hard planning the details for this party.

HALLOWEEN – In October we will have the annual HALLOWEEN PARTY on **31 October**. Bobbi Prim and Betty Burkett have agreed to be chairpersons again this year. The thing I remember most about the party last year was that I thought it was New Year's Eve. They did a bang up job and trying to out do their selves will be a challenge I know they can achieve.

DINNER THEATRE/PLAY – Carole Langford is in charge of our **November** Dinner Theatre/Play. If you know Carole,

you know this is going to be an outstanding night for everyone. Everything that Carole does is first class and this will be a night to remember.

Ron Giordano
Rear Commodore
(rggr222@cox.net)

The Fleet Beat From the Fleet Captain

The second Night Race in a series of three was held Saturday, August 25th. The winds held up just until the last 45 minutes of the 9.43 NM for Fleets A & B, and Trimarans and 5.73 NM for the one Catalina 22. A total of 13 boats participated, which is a high number of boats for a night race. The Race Committee consisted of Barbara Harrington, Skip Harrington, Lou Richard and Phyllis Seaton. Thanks to you all for staying up late so the sailors could have an enjoyable moonlit evening out on the water.

Fleet A in 1st Jibe Talkin
2nd Pelirojas
3rd Breakaway
Fleet B in 1st Half Pint
2nd Joint Endeavor
3rd Rudder Madness
Trimarans was 1st Strategy
2nd, Yo
3rd Katrina

Catalina 22 was 1st Tango
See you at the last Night Race on September 22!

Wednesday Night Fun Races are still going strong and it is probably the favorite of all the racing we have. If you haven't seen a start at 5:30 p.m., come down with your cool

beverage and enjoy the show!!

Since the Commodore has covered the Race for the Roses (the female-only regatta which was their 20-year celebration this year) in Pensacola Beach, I will simply add my thanks to all those that participated, loaned their boats, supported all of us while we were racing and otherwise contributed to the overall spirit of the day. All the crews really appreciated the support that the FWYC gave us.



Racing for that rose can be tiring!

Another female-only regatta, the GYA Knost was held on August 11 at Pass Christian YC. The teams that went over to race sailed hard and faced tough competition. It has been a great effort for these ladies to practice with two completely different types of boats for two different types of regattas and be ready for the races. I well know that most everything else is second to last on your list of things to do. Coming to the club, getting the boats ready and spending hours on the water is fun but it does take time. Your club appreciates all of your dedication and giving of your time.

Four reminders of events coming up in the next two months.

1. Bluewater Bay vs. Fort Walton Yacht Club annual race is September 8th. Wish your club good luck as we prepare to hand on to the traveling trophy.

2. Buy, Sell Trade your marine parts, equipment, etc is set for September 22nd from 9:00 to 12:00 a.m. Faye Black has accepted the challenge of putting it all together. So pack your items in a box, call Faye to rent a space, and bring it all down on Saturday a.m.
3. Trimaran Showdown Regatta, September 29th & 30th. This should be a great race with all the Big Boats and great skippers.
4. Poker Run with Marion Bushey running the show with co-worker, Pat Gross will be a fun day, October 6th.

Phyllis Seaton, Fleet Captain

**FISHING TOURNAMENT
REMINDER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**REGISTRATION FORMS
AND INFO FOR THE
FISHING TOURNEY IS ON
THE CLUB WEBSITE.
CHECK IT OUT AND GET
READY TO WIN BIG.**

HAPPY LABOR DAY

**WELL, A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO ALL
OF YOU OF YOU WHO ARE KEEPING
EVERYTHING AND I MEAN EVERYTHING
CROSSED AND KEEPING ANY OF "THOSE
THINGS" FROM COMING THIS WAY. I DO
NOT WANT TO EVEN SAY THE 'WORD.' KEEP
UP KNELLING, THINGS CROSSED, LIGHTING
CANDLES, THROWING COINS IN A FOUNTAIN,
WHAT-EVER, DON'T STOP!**

**STAY ALERT AND READY. THANKS FOR
YOUR HELP. (ATHY JONES, HURRICANE
CHAIRMAN**

DON'T DROP YOUR GUARD

OR LAUGH TOO HARD

MISSED BY DEAN

COULD'VE BEEN MEAN

Bruma Shave

**SHARI SEATON HAS AN
IMPORTANT
REMINDER, SO
LISTEN**



Please do not leave trailers or vessels in dry storage without proper identification. FWYC Stickers are required on all vessels and trailers while on the property.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO
ATTEND

GALA ART AUCTION

to benefit the
EMERALD COAST SAILLING
ASSOCIATION
and their YOUTH SAILING
PROGRAM

(a 501 (c) (3) charity)
DATE: SUNDAY, 23 SEPT 07
TIME: 4:00PM TO 7:00PM
AT FORT WALTON YACHT CLUB
180 Ferry Road N.E., Ft.
Walton Beach

Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and
champagne

cash bar available:

smart casual dress

SELECTED PIECES WILL BE
AVAILABLE

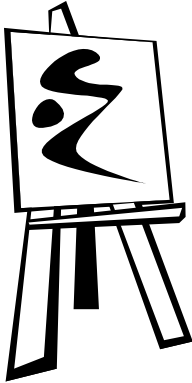
FOR VIEWING AT FWYC DURING
THE

WEEK PRIOR TO THE AUCTION:

CHECK

AT THE OFFICE OR
PHONE: 850-244-
2033

Payment may be
made by cash or
check.



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



FWYC Junior Page
September 2007

Junior Chairman

As of August, one person has stepped up to embrace the challenge of Junior Chairman. That person is a relatively new member with a young child herself.

And the winner is: ASHLEY SUKALSKI.

Jennifer & I will be aided Ashley as she needs it. Any ideas, suggestions or comments can be directed at Ashley or one of us.

THANKS ASHLEY!

Junior Movie Night

September 21 marks the next movie night. Come one, Come all! We will be ordering food at 6:00pm, with the movie starting at 7:00pm.

Junior Kudos

Congrats to Steffi Zwarg on her 2nd place in the South Carolina Yacht Club's Spars Wars Regatta Opti Blue fleet.

Speaking of Opti sailing, Steffi's dad, Carl, has organized a regular Opti practice group for Saturday mornings at the YC from 9 to 12. For more information, contact Carl Zwarg or George Goodall.

Junior Activities

Sailing Events

September 8-9	Back to School Regatta	Pontchartrain YC
September 9	Summer Series – Portsmouth	FWYC
September 16	Small Boat Challenge – Portsmouth	FWYC
September 29-30	Wadewitz Regatta	Fairhope YC
October 7	Summer Series – Portsmouth	FWYC
October 21	Summer Series – Portsmouth	FWYC
October 20	Schreck Regatta	Pensacola YC

Other Events

September 21	Junior Movie Night	FWYC
October 19	Junior Movie Night	FWYC

For more info, please call or email:
Sam & Jennifer Grant * 850-650-0869 * samuel.grant@cox.net * dadrem@cox.net