

# SAILOR'S LOG

**APRIL 2024**

**RACING  
CRUISING  
EVENTS**



**SIX PACK SERIES FINALE  
MARCH 2**

[stluciesailclub.org](http://stluciesailclub.org)  
Incorporated April 4, 1975

# COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow members and sailing enthusiasts! Welcome to the April Sailor's Log.

We are only a couple of weeks into Spring, which officially began on March 19<sup>th</sup> with the **Spring Equinox**, the day when the sun crossed the equator heading our way. Longer days and cool evenings make it ideal to be outside enjoying the breeze in your hair and warmth of the sun. It's a great time to be in Florida!



COMMODORE  
CRAIG TAYLOR

Attendance at the last few meetings has been great. The general opinion is that our March meeting was the largest in recent memory. It's great to see so many friendly faces and new members.

## Fun events are planned for April:

You can test your memory muscles on Trivia night or indulge on margaritas and dinner with fellow members. Check the calendar on our website for dates and be on the lookout for additional information.

Race Captain Jack Molinelli currently has two races scheduled for April, a **Six Pack Series** race on April 6<sup>th</sup>, and the always fun **Spring Fling Regatta** on the 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have a boat but don't plan to race, I encourage our skippers to invite friends and new members out for a nice afternoon sail. An unhurried sunset sail can't be beat this time of year. Our boats are happier when sailing and so are we, so let's get out there!

Looking ahead, some of you may be considering a cruise to the **Bahamas** before we get into hurricane season. April, May, and early June offer generally good weather and there still are many boats in popular anchorages for company. Even a trip to the closest island, **Bimini**, offers much to do. The near Bahamas, including the **Abacos** and **Berry Islands**, are great for cruising, diving, fishing, hiking and more. The best part is they all are only 2-4 days from home, depending of course on the weather. If a handful of you would like to get together, I'd be happy to share.

Cheers!  
Craig

*“Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than those you did. So, throw off the bowlines. Sail away from safe harbor. Catch the wind in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.” - Mark Twain*



**CRUISE TO NO WHERE MARCH 10**



**DON ELLIS REGATTA MARCH 16**




**CHILI COOKOFF MARCH 24**

# A P R I L

## EVENTS CALENDAR

**1** SLSC CLUB 7pm  
MONTHLY MEETING  
TREASURE COAST UNITARIAN CHURCH  
21 SE Central Pkwy, Stuart

**6** SIX PACK RACE 12pm  
NORTH FORK OF THE ST LUCIE RIVER  
NOON Start

**11**   
APPLEBEES 7pm  
10501 S U.S. Hwy 1, Port St. Lucie

**13** BEER CAN RACE 12pm  
NORTH FORK OF THE ST LUCIE RIVER  
NOON Start 2 pm

**20** SPRING FLING REGATTA 12pm  
NORTH FORK OF THE ST LUCIE RIVER  
NOON Start

**23** SLSC BRIDGE MEETING 7pm

**A  
P  
R  
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L**

# EVENTS CALENDAR

**25 SAILING & MARGARITAS 6:30pm**  
SAVE THE DATE... DETAILS TO COME



**27 BEER CAN RACE 12pm**  
NORTH FORK OF THE ST LUCIE RIVER  
NOON Start 2 pm



## MAY 4TH & 5TH OCEAN REGATTA

A 2 Day Joint Regatta with the Fort Pierce (FPYC) and Melbourne (MYC) Yacht clubs

**who:** SLSC, FPYC & MYC

**what:** OCEAN REGATTA

**when:** Weekend of May 4-5

**where:** Fort Pierce

**Saturday May 4th**

18 mile Ocean Race

Pursuit Start

**Sunday May 5th**

8-10mile Ocean Race

Pursuit Start

**why:** *Why Knot?*

**how:** Come By Sailboat  
or Car

## Ways to Help!



SLSC Director  
Openings

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Seeking a volunteer to manage **Social Media** and **Promotions** for the club. Experience with Facebook and public relations helpful.

### **SHIP'S STORE**

Looking for fun way to interact and get to know all the members? This might be an ideal opportunity for you! You'll need good **organizational & accounting skills** to manage our **Ship's Store**.

Duties include purchasing, set-up and selling merchandise to SLSC Members at our meetings and online (in the future). Handling cash and credit transactions.

### **ASSISTANT EDITOR**

If you are a talented writer, have experience creating newsletters or putting together creative documents, the club can use your assistance. Must be computer savvy!

All fun and rewarding opportunities...

**YOU CAN MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE!**

If you would like more details or wish to apply for any of the positions above, contact:

**Commodore  
Craig Taylor**  
[craig.taylor7@gmail.com](mailto:craig.taylor7@gmail.com)

VOLUNTEER

You're Invited!

## Circle Bay Yacht & Sailing Club

Monthly Meeting

**Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**



**Guest Speaker**

### **Congressman Brian Mast**

Representative Brian Mast, a decorated Army veteran, has been instrumental in obtaining legislation and funding to:

- **Fight harmful algae blooms in our waterways**
- **Protect seniors from fraud**
- **Protect Veteran's healthcare benefits**
- **Replace the aging St. Lucie River railroad bridge**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH 7PM**  
**CBYC CLUBHOUSE**  
**1950 SW PALM CITY RD., STUART**

*This meeting will be open to all Circle Bay residents, their guests and members of the St. Lucie Sailing club.*



# WINTER SIX PACK FINALE' MAR 2

## SHOO FLY TAKES THE WIN!



Racing Captain **Jack Molinelli** presents the "winning" six pack to **Steve Piquet** "Shoo Fly".

**Jack Molinelli** got 2nd place "My Weigh"



**Larry Bryant** came in 3rd place with "Whisper".



**Congrats to all!**

### Winter Six Pack, Race 6 - Cruiser Results

Finish Position	Boat	PHRF	Start Deficit	Finish Time	Time To Previous	Time To Winner
1	Shoo Fly	207	00:02	1:38:14		
2	My Weigh	144	00:10	1:45:38	7:24	7:24
3	Talley Oh!	132	00:21	1:46:48	1:10	8:34
4	Fair Winds	258	01:01	1:50:26	3:38	12:12
5	Wild Rice	207				
6	La Tortuga Azul	331				
7	Vega	227	01:16	2:00:32	10:06	22:18
8	Guinevere	180	02:02	2:20:04	19:32	41:50
9	Cuzin	245	07:12	2:43:40	23:36	1:05:26
10	Breathless	227	02:26	2:44:00	20	1:05:46

### Winter Six Pack, Race 6 - Sonar Results

Position	Boat	PHRF (S)	Start Deficit	Finish Time	Time To Winner	Time To Previous
1	Go Daddy O	174				
2	Echo	174				
3	Amazing Grace	174				



Photos by ANNIE & JAY SEELEY



**"TOP O' THE EVENING TO YOU"**  
Refreshments were served up in style by **Donna and Bill Derney**



**50/50 WINNER STEVE PIKUET**



**Kathy Taylor manages the Ship's Store**



## SLSC MEETING MAR 4



(L to R) **Tom Whittington and Dan Romence** of MIATC

Dan Romence gave us an excellent presentation on his efforts to work with myriad agencies to keep access for boaters through the FEC railroad bridge in Stuart. Dan is with the Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast (MIATC). He is pictured here with Tom Whittington, President MIATC.

### THE WINNERS ARE:

Congrats to the Winners of the **SWEETHEART REGATTA** (Pictured L to R) Alan Gardener accepting for **Ann Vance** - Amazing Grace and **Terry Talley** - Talley Oh!



### HERB CAREY/CHUCK READ REGATTA 1st Place

**CRUISING**  
*Jack Molinelli*  
*My Weigh*

**SONAR**  
*Dave Ottaviani*  
*Go Daddy O*





**T**hey must have been singing  
**“Rain, Rain, Go Away”**  
 ... because it did just that!

## SAIL TO NOWHERE MAR 10



### Rain Didn't Spoil the Day

What started out as a dismal, cloudy, raining day, turned out to be a fine day for a sail!

16 members braved the pouring rain when they arrived and were rewarded with an enjoyable two hour sail. By the time they got back to the marina to share snacks, the sun was out. .

### Thank you to our Boat Captains and the organizers:

Dave Knepper **“Fair Winds”**  
 Steve Chalmers **“Guinevere”**  
 Chip Cramer **“Flyin’ Shoes”**  
 Richard Gordon **“Rhino”**



Photos by ANNIE & JAY SEELEY





# SAIL TO NOWHERE MAR 10



Photos by ANNIE & JAY SEELEY

# RACING RULES

## Stick with the Basics



The racing rules of sailing can be very complex and difficult to figure out sometimes, and some of the rules require making judgments.

For example, in a previous column when we talked about “**the zone**” around a mark, it involves a judgment of when a lead boat is three boat lengths from the mark. But there is **one basic rule** that should be very easy to understand. It’s usually referred to as “**port-starboard.**”

This rule, simply put, says that a boat on **starboard tack** has **right-of-way** over a boat on port tack. Like most of the other rules, the boat on starboard tack (the wind coming over the starboard side of the boat) does not have to do anything other than sail its desired course.

The boat on **port tack** must “**keep clear**” of the boat on starboard tack. The rule places responsibility to keep clear squarely on the **port tack boat**. If the port tack boat tries to cross in front of the starboard tack boat but forces the starboard tacker to change course or take evasive action to avoid contact, the port tack boat has violated the rule and the starboard tack boat can protest.

The port tack boat should take its penalty turns or withdraw from the race if it recognizes that it broke the rules.

The racing rules are intended to keep everyone safe on the course and to allow for fair competition.

**So keep it simple and stick to the rules.**

# WILD APRICOT | TIPS

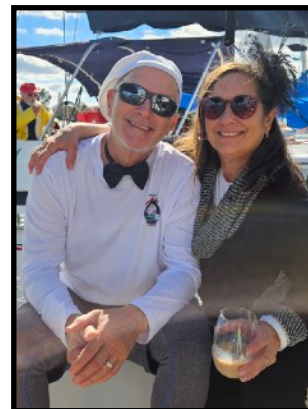
## CHECK YOUR SPAM (JUNK) EMAIL FOLDER

If you think you may not be getting email announcements from St. Lucie Sailing Club, check your spam folder for messages from [StlucieSailingClub2@wildapricot.org](mailto:StlucieSailingClub2@wildapricot.org) with the sender as St Lucie Sailing Club.

Different email clients/applications identify spam messages in various ways such as the subject line or sender address. It has happened to me.

In case you do find messages from the Club in your spam folder, mark the message and sender as safe and it should prevent the problem from occurring in the future.

## KEN MILNER WEBMASTER



## GUEST SPEAKERS

We are planning our speaker calendar for the remainder of the year and we would love your input about **individuals, organizations** and **programs** that are related to sailing! Please email our Rear Commodore, **Kevin Kirwin** at [kmbike@yahoo.com](mailto:kmbike@yahoo.com) with your idea - please include the contact information of the speaker and the topic. Kevin will contact them and take it from there.



# RACING SCUTTLEBUTT

**NOTE:** The results table has been updated to correct errors made and announced at the afterparty. In the text, **red shows changes to the original** based on the corrected results. Finally, some “observations” about “clumping” can be found at the end.

Light air racing is its own art form: the game changes from "using the wind everyone has to scamper down the course", to "hopping from scarce and barely visible puff to puff, hoping you find some that your competition doesn't". That change is what defined the character and determined the outcome of the **Don Ellis Regatta**.

Warm, dry and overcast, it was a pleasant enough day. **And we had a record turnout!**

## 17 BOATS STARTED THE RACE:

1 Sonar (Amazing Grace) and 16 Cruisers (Cuzin, Fair Winds, Flyin Shoes', Guinevere, La Tortuga Azul, Missing La Rue, My Weigh, Never Better, Rhino, Shoofly, Synergy4, Talley Oh!, Vega, Whisper, Wild Rice and William Bligh). **WoW!!!!**

The light breeze was out of the SW and while there was a glimmer of a steadiness to it in the early legs, it quickly became a game of “reading the ripples”: Getting the most out of the puff you were in and, most importantly, trying to anticipate where the next puff would magically appear. Needless to say, this is a nerve wracking and frustrating game, a game made worse by the dreadfully slow progress up the course.

Slowness that led to a very long race (almost 3 hours) and one where the “**45 minute**” rule came into play – that rule says that the race ends 45 minutes after the first boat finishes and thus, any boat still on the course is automatically **DNF** (did not finish).

**Whisper** and **Shoofly** both got a small jump on the fleet at the start – that small jump enabled them to stay in clear air and avoid the “**dirty air**” and “**room at the mark**” yelling mayhem of the crowded arrivals at the first two marks – indeed, by the time the rest of the fleet arrived at G1 (the second mark), they had opened up a substantial lead.

Similarly, **Amazing Grace**, the only Sonar, used its quickness and nimbleness to avoid the worst of the crowding, find clear air and get ahead of the pack.

Rather than filling this page with the misery and woes of the next three hours of puff-hopping, I'll cut to the chase: first of all, our Race Committee wisely decided to shorten the course, lopping the last mark and roughly .8nm off the course before the first boat finished. Next, recognizing they weren't going to make it to the finish before the 45-minute limit,

## Five boats withdrew from the race:

Cuzin, Fair Winds, Guinevere, La Tortuga Azul and Vega.

As to the finishers, **Whisper** did a great job **ghosting** her way from puff to puff, crossing the line first, with **Amazing Grace** was 29 seconds behind her and **Shoofly** another 7 minutes behind her.

## Then there is approximately a 32 minute gap to the remaining boats.

All in all, 1 Sonar and 11 Cruisers finished with the last Cruiser finishing 41 minutes after Whisper.

Of course, being a gang start, the handicaps come into play and the final results were **Shoofly in 1<sup>st</sup>**, **Whisper 2<sup>nd</sup>** (1:49 behind in corrected time) and **William Bligh 3<sup>rd</sup>** (**25 corrected mins later**).

BTW: If anyone is interested, here is a link to some useful [light air sailing tips](#).

*... continued on the next page.*



RACING CAPTAIN  
**JACK MOLINELLI**

# RACING SCUTTLEBUTT

Many congratulations to all the participants and many thanks to the Race Committee: **Clay Benjamin** (PRO), **Mark Stall** (Flags), **Nancy Stall** (Recorder/Timer), **Lynn Strauss** (Recorder), **Vivian Chanau** (Backup Recorder), **George and Betty Trieber** for the use of “Cheshire Cat” as our RC Boat, and **Darren Kirkland** and **Chip Cramer** for placing the marks.

Without your gracious volunteerism we couldn't have enabled all those masochistic crews to get out there and compete in what was undoubtedly an excruciatingly difficult day.

**Here are the detailed results:**

Don Ellis Regatta - Cruiser Fleet Results									
Finish Position	Boat	Skipper(s)	PHRF (S)	PHRF (NS)	Start Deficit	Finish Time	Corrected Finish	Time To Previous	Time To Winner
1	Shoo Fly	Steve Pickuet	201	220	12	2:15:30 PM	1:54:14 PM		
2	Whisper	Larry Bryant	101	121		2:08:14 PM	1:56:33 PM	0:01:49	0:01:49
3	William Bligh	Mike Mattin	270	290	2:02	2:48:55 PM	2:20:53 PM	0:25:11	0:27:00
4	Talley Oh!	Terry Talley	279	297	40	2:50:50 PM	2:22:08 PM	0:01:17	0:28:17
5	Missing La Rue	James Keelan	267	288		2:50:28 PM	2:22:38 PM	0:00:27	0:28:44
6	Flyin Shoes	Chip Cramer	168	190	1:14	2:48:18 PM	2:29:56 PM	0:06:49	0:35:33
7	Wild Rice	Richard Rice	192	207	25	2:50:02 PM	2:30:02 PM	0:00:11	0:35:44
8	My Weigh	Jack Molinelli	132	152	38	2:48:15 PM	2:33:34 PM	0:03:15	0:38:59
9	Never Better	Kevin Kerwin	132	151	1:56	2:48:20 PM	2:33:45 PM	0:00:11	0:39:10
10	Rhino	Richard Gordon	174	195		2:51:23 PM	2:34:34 PM	0:00:56	0:40:06
11	Synergy4	Craig Taylor	132	153		2:50:21 PM	2:35:34 PM	0:00:54	0:41:00
DNF	Fair Winds	Dave Knepper	225	245	1:02				
DNF	Guinevere	Stevet Chalmers	192	213	1:20				
DNF	Vega	Steve Weinstein	159	180	22				
DNF	Cuzin	Chris Cusimano	309	331	57				
DNF	La Tortuga Azul	Darren Kirkland	207	227					

**There are interesting “clumps” in the corrected time results:**

- The first clump, Shoofly and Whisper, likely benefited greatly by sailing “**alone**” and staying in clear air for the whole race. The rest of the boats spent a lot more time interacting with one another (hence slowing each other down) as the race progressed.
- About 25 minutes after them, the second clump is the three light/small boats (William Bligh, Talley-Oh! and Missing La Rue) – they all finished within 44 seconds of one another.
- About 6 Minutes later, the third clump is Wild Rice getting edged out by 11 seconds by Flyin’ Shoes.
- About 3 minutes later, the last Clump finished within about 60 seconds (My Weigh, Never Better, Rhino, Synerg4).



# DON ELLIS REGATTA

MAR 16



Photos by ANNIE & JAY SEELEY



ON THE COMMITTEE BOAT  
"CHESHIRE CAT"

# DON ELLIS REGATTA

## MAR 16

**NOT SURE** what's happening here...  
Sleeping on the job? Bored from the slow pace of the race?  
Committee Member **St. Patty's Shenanigans!**



Photos by ANNIE & JAY SEELEY



# DON ELLIS REGATTA

MAR 16



Hmmm..... HIT OR MISS??



Photos by ANNIE & JAY SEELEY



# DON ELLIS REGATTA

MAR 16



Photos by ANNIE & JAY SEELEY





# DON ELLIS REGATTA

## *After Party*



Photos by ANNIE & JAY SEELEY



1ST PLACE: "SHOO-FLY"  
CAPTAIN STEVE PIKUET



2ND PLACE: "WHISPER" CAPTAIN LARRY BRYANT & CREW

# DON ELLIS REGATTA

## *After Party*



Photos by ANNIE & JAY SEELEY



**1ST PLACE: RENEGADES**



**2ND PLACE: OUTRIGGERS**



**3RD PLACE: OBSCURA**

# Trivia? NIGHT?

MARCH 14, 2024

We had four teams from SLSC and one enthusiastic group that made up "The Bar" team join in this month's quest for knowledge and bragging rights.

Many "answer runners" made the statement "this is a long shot" when turning in answers throughout the night. Rounds 1 and 2 kept everyone in tight competition, but by round 3 the group spread out. Those that were leading fell behind and those that were steady held on. Betting big on the bonuses and getting them right helped a long-time time group of regulars get back on the podium. Thanks everyone for another great night with our club!!!

See ya next month!

- 1st Place: RENEGADES**
- 2nd Place: OUTRIGGERS**
- 3rd Place: OBSCURA**
- 4th Place: CRUISERS**
- 5th Place: "THE BAR"**

**TIFFANY  
JORDAN**  
Trivia Host





**CHILI  
COOK-  
OFF**

March 24th



**BEST CHILI  
Jacquelyn Caramma**



Photos by ANNIE SEELEY



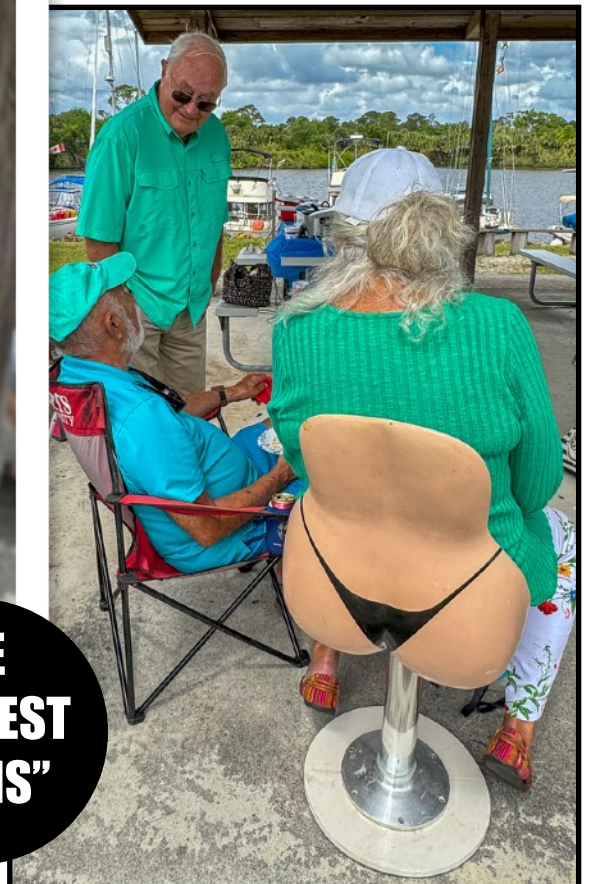
March 24th



**BEST COSTUME**



**TIE FOR BEST "BUNS"**





**CHILI  
COOK-  
OFF**

March 24th



## 2024 BRIDGE

Craig Taylor	<b>COMMODORE</b>
James Arthur	<b>VICE COMMODORE</b>
Kevin Kirwin	<b>REAR COMMODORE</b>
Darren Kirkland	<b>PAST COMMODORE</b>
Debbie Arthur	<b>TREASURER</b>
Carolyn Zytaruk-Dugger	<b>SECRETARY</b>
Dave Knepper	<b>FLEET CAPTAIN</b>
Jack Molinelli	<b>RACE CAPTAIN</b>
Linda Magda	<b>SOCIAL CAPTAIN</b>
Joe Sawyer	<b>FACILITY CAPTAIN &amp; REFRESHMENTS</b>

## 2024 DIRECTORS

Open	<b>SHIP STORE</b>
Open	<b>FACEBOOK</b>
Jan Cusimano	<b>SHIP'S LOG</b>
Ken Milner	<b>WEBMASTER</b>

## 2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Asta Poirier	<b>SPECIAL EVENTS</b>
Jay & Annie Seeley	<b>PHOTOGRAPHERS</b>
Mynders Glover	<b>MATCH-UP</b>
Sandy Kirschner	<b>ROSTER</b>