

THE MARK

March, 2009

Vol. XXXX, No. 3

Commodore's Comments

Carl Bjerregaard

Big boat racing begins Saturday, March 7. Line up that crew and commit to the Spring Series. Win or lose you'll be glad you did, because Mother Nature presents us racers with a unique challenge. No two races are alike. Wind speed, wind direction, puffs, lulls, the other boats' actions, tides, currents – they all present problems that are fun to try and solve. How to best approach these constantly changing factors to efficiently and quickly move around a set course is a rewarding experience. All on board have boat handling responsibilities and contribute observations and ideas for sailing decisions

If you're thinking of giving racing a try, pick up your phone and call Frank Hankins, our vice commodore or any club skipper. Sailors are always looking for help and are also always eager to teach anyone who'd like to learn.

Racing hones up anyone's sailing skills, which can also be a safety factor. So, get on the phone, get that crew, and get on the water. Racing is certainly one of those times when the more, the merrier is especially true.

Depending on tides, the series always includes one or two throw out races for those who have to work or have other commitments.

Whatever the weather, you and your crew will enjoy the water and afterward, you'll all enjoy the 'buck a beer' gathering at the clubhouse.

Far more formal than the 'buck a beer' will be the March 28th Commodore's Ball. Being at the Club worked out so well last year, that we'll be there again, this time with the new porch carpeting instead of a heater. We're planning another great meal with a fine band. If you're a Shell Pointer, invite a good friend to use your spare room.

COMMODORE'S BALL
28 March 2009
Clubhouse

Social - 1830
Dinner - 1930
Dancing After Dinner
\$38/person

Vice Commodore's Corner

Frank Hankins

We have had some spectacular days for sailing in February, but unfortunately not on Valentine's Day, when we cancelled the couples' race. Hopefully, March will be better, as we start off "like a lion" with the 1st, 2nd and maybe 3rd PHRF races on the first two Saturdays of the month. Then we have the Spring Opening and the board sailors' Wind Ceremonies on the 21st. The last Saturday has the Commodore's Ball scheduled, so every weekend has ABYC events.

We have several new members this year, so again, if you see someone around the club you haven't seen before, introduce yourselves and make them feel welcome.

The Club boats are all sailable now, so give me (or Carl) a call if you want to take one out, and we, or any qualified member, can show you the ropes. We have finished the panel replacements on the equipment trailer and the inside has been adapted to handle all the "stuff," sails, masts, booms, assorted gear, and motors, that used
(continued on page 2)

MEETING NOTICE
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Saturday, 07 March 2009
Clubhouse
1800 - Social
1900 - Dinner
1945 - Meeting
2000 - Program

This issue:

Reports	1-3
Electronic Publication	4
Miscellaneous	5
Racing Notices/Results	6
Calendar	7
Canoe Trip Report	7

(VC Report - continued)

to collect in the ice room and parking lot. Keys are available to members to access the gear needed for the boats. March is a good month for wind, so come on out and sail with us.

Sr. Board Member Report - Program Information

David O'Hara

The February membership meeting program was on exploring caves and the equipment used. The Florida Wild Mammals Association will give a presentation at the March meeting and will have animals for us to see. This should be very interesting.

Commodores' Ball Information

Members will be receiving a formal invitation to the event. Please respond to the RSVP request so the Club will know how many persons for which to make preparations.

There will be finger food, a fine dinner, and dancing for those who wish to do so.

COME AND ENJOY!

Scribe's Corner

C. Henry Depew

The Member's Directory/ Handbook is available. Copies are at the clubhouse. Please check off your name when you take one from the box.

Jr. Board Member Report - Social Information

Lorna Tweedie

High winds and downpours on Valentine's Day determined that sailing races would not take place. However, the weather did not dampen the spirit of those attending the evening's Valentine Dinner Social. Talk and laughter "bounced" around the room as did some of the more energetic dancers. This even after certain circumstances caused the cancellation of the band! A lesser cost per person will be reflected on your next statement, a plus!

At dinner, folks dined on Terriyaki Beef, salad with pears and dried cranberries, and last of all, a beautifully decorated chocolate cake with strawberry mousse! All this was preceded by tasty hors d'oeuvres. And, would you believe? Table décor featured small green plants with "heart blossoms"! All in all, it was a very nice Valentine celebration.

You just can't miss these great ABYC social events. The next, following the February 28th CIA, will be the St. Patrick's Day Murphy Regatta on March 14th. Following the racing, a cook-out will be held under the Club building. You may be seeing green as the beverage is dispensed! More details are coming.

A highlight of March, also, is the Commodore's Ball on Saturday, March 28th. It is a special occasion to honor past commodores and their valuable contribution of overseeing the functioning and operation of the ABYC during their year in office. It is the year's one very special social, this year presented by Commodore, Carl Bjerregaard. There will be dinner and dancing and semi-formal attire is suggested. Be sure to mark this event on your calendar.

Volunteers are still needed to help with ABYC socials and CIA'S. Please offer your help.

Finally, many thanks go to Gordon and Pat Renovitch, Nell Johnston, Joeann Vesecky, and Frank Hankins for their most gracious help for the Valentine social. Their help setting up, serving, cleaning dishes, procuring food and reminding members is greatly appreciated!

Purser's Report

Maxine Glenn

If you have any questions concerning your monthly bill, please contact me at:

mbg1215@netzero.net

The Club's monthly financial report is in a notebook in the Clubhouse.

Seaworthy Going Electronic

Starting with the July '09 issue, *Seaworthy* (BOATUS insurance magazine) will be available in electronic format. Hard copy will cost \$10/year. For more information go to:

boatus.com/insurance

Also, make sure they have your correct e-mail address.

Rear Commodore's Corner

Ed Fries

Something needs to be done? Dock/slip questions? Want to help maintain the clubhouse/grounds? Give me a call - 591-4620

ABYC BOARD MEETING

Summary Minutes

Please be aware that the minutes upon which this summary is based have not been approved by the Board. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, but errors may inadvertently be present.

The Board met on Feb. 7th at Commodore Carl Bjerregaards' residence at Shell Pont at 3:30 PM.

Prior to the start of the formal meeting, Lynn Groves (Chair of Smith Regatta) presented a report on the status of the preparations for the event at the end of April. At present, there are plans for a "fun event" Friday afternoon/evening followed by the formal events on Saturday and Sunday. The possible classes involved include Windriders, Holders, Hobbies, Sunfish, Puffins, and PHRF boats. ABYC members who are not sailing are needed for RC boats and land side activities.

Following Lynn's report and a discussion of ABYC commitment to the Regatta, Carl called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM. Present were:

Carl Bjerregaard	Henry Depew
Frank Hankins	Lorna Tweedie
David O'Hara	Phil Werndli

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed. Carl wants to make sure that the GYA Flying Scot races are included in the next issue.

Scribe - Henry Depew

Presented to Phil a donation from Larry Fuchs to Apalachee Sailing as a thank you to ABYC for the use of the clubhouse.

The suggestion by the Editor to go electronic with *The MARK* was discussed. We have two (maybe three) members without e-mail or access to the Internet. At present, the newsletter costs about \$1,100 a year for printing and postage. The suggestion is to print 10-15 copies for distribution and be available at

the clubhouse. This matter will be raised at the February membership meeting, proposed in the March issue of *The MARK*, and a referendum will be held at the March Membership meeting on the subject.

VC - Frank Hankins

We have an applicant in process and have lost one member.

FSU Sailing would like to hold a high-performance race day and have requested ABYC's assistance. Frank has suggested they consider holding the event as part of the Smith Regatta.

The Drascombe will be on a trailer ready to go. It will be stored at Frank's residence. The Kestrel needs to be pulled and new bottom paint. A "Holder Workday" is being planned to get all the boats operational.

The Valentine's Day race is set with the Johnston's agreeing to be RC.

Phil has agreed to try the *Democrat's* "Community Calendar" as a way to promote the PHRF and Puffin races.

RC & Purser

While the meeting was in progress, a phone call was received that the waterline on the dock was leaking. The shutoff valve was identified so the water could be turned off.

The "Dock Agreement" for those renting slips was accepted for distribution.

Carl reported that refinancing ABYC's mortgage was possible. Phil made a motion seconded by Frank that Carl be authorized to continue negotiations with Wakulla Bank for a lower interest rate. The motion passed.

Sr. Board - David O'Hara

The February program will be on cave exploration (dry land, not scuba). The March program will be on scallops.

David will be the contact for the canoe/kayak event on the 28th.

Jr. Board - Lorna Tweedie

The Valentine's Social is set and we are planning the Murphy Regatta activities. There is the ongoing need for CIA sponsors.

Old Business

Frank proposed the establishment of a "Phone Tree". It was decided to have each Board member call 10 members and remind them of the Valentine's Day activities.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted
C. Henry Depew - Scribe

February Membership Meeting Report

Twenty-five (25) members and guests gathered for the covered dish dinner. Following dessert, the meeting was called to order by Commodore Bjerregaard at 7:58 PM. The first item of business was a request by the Editor for the membership to consider going electronic for *The MARK*. It was suggested that notice be sent to the membership that the issue was available for downloading as some e-mail providers stop attachments. The question will be further discussed at the March meeting.

Frank reported on the status of the ABYC boats and noted that there will be a "work day" on the Holders.

David O'Hara will be the contact for the planned canoe/kayak trip on the 21st.

Carl reported on the possibility of refinancing ABYC's mortgage with Wakulla Bank.

Lorna reminded those present
(continued on page 4)

(Membership - continued)
of the Valentine's day race and social. She had a sign up sheet for the social.

There was a discussion of activities for the Smith Regatta. We plan to hold a "fun race" Friday afternoon/evening. Moses Turner requested help in the fund raising activities for the Regatta.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 for the excellent program by David O'Hara on cave exploration and the equipment used therefor.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Henry Depew - Scribe

IMPORTANT NOTICE
To those who coordinated or attended the beach gathering for Kate, please see if you can locate the bell that hung over the bar at ABYC. It may not be monetarily valuable, but it has much sentimental value and is wanted and needed at the Clubhouse.



Notes And Hints From Near And Far

C. Henry Depew

Among the items of cave exploration equipment that David O'Hara demonstrated at the February meeting's program was the use of a plastic garbage bag to conserve body heat while awaiting rescue if trapped in a cave for some reason. This trick is usable on a boat during cold weather and you have a need to stay warm. You make a hole in the "bottom" of the bag for your head and pull the bag on over you. You will be protected, to some extent, from the wind and the plastic will hold in your body heat.

A long time back, I started subscribing to boating magazines that took my interest. Along the way, some came as gifts and some were promotions that did not stop. Some were short lived, some lasted a number of years, and some continue to this day. I think the present count is twenty or so marine-related publications a month (most get read/skimmed).

Three of the magazines I receive present a very interesting picture of the world of commercial boating. Granted, *Marine News* is biased toward the industry, but many of the articles might be of interest to those who use the water for recreational purposes. If you are a business person, you might want to look at the article in the Jan. '09 issue (p. 22) on calculating the financial status of your business. I am not in any business, but the material was very informative. In a like manner, *National Fisherman*, provides a view on the commercial fishing industry and its trials and tribulations. The publication also carried information on new technologies that might be of interest to the rest of us (such as
(continued on page 5)

The Electronic MARK

C. Henry Depew - Editor

I am proposing that The MARK be distributed via the Internet either as an e-mail attachment (in PDF format), read on-line or downloaded from our web site (ABYConline.org).

The reason for the proposal is to save money. At present, the estimated cost for printing and postage is:

Postage

115 * 0.42 = 48.30
48.30 * 12 = 579.60

Printing

39.15 * 12 = 469.80

Est. Total = 1,049.40

The reason I use "estimated" in the above is that some issues cost more to print (more pages) and the actual number mailed out varies. By in large, you can consider that the monthly newsletter costs equal that of two full member's dues. I should also note that the postage will go up two-cents a copy in May, 2009

While electronic distribution costs ABYC nothing, there is the

cost to you, the member, if you want to print out the six (6) or eight (8) pages in terms of paper and ink. There is also the problem of some e-mail servers either will not accept attachments or limit the size of attachments that will be accepted.

One suggestion was that we print out copies and leave them at the clubhouse for you to pick up, if you do not want the electronic option. This approach would save a good deal of money in terms of the postage cost, but would be inconvenient to our out-of-town members.

I am open to suggestions of workable alternatives and would like a discussion and referendum vote at the March meeting by those present.

(Hints & Notes - continued)

hybrid gensets to power the boat at low speeds). Then, there is the *Marine Business Journal* devoted to boating, marinas, and the supporting service industry. If you want to calculate the impact of a marina on the surrounding area's financial picture take a look at marinaeconomics.com and the interactive system they have provided. Each of the above publications are probably not standard reading for those who enjoy boating, but they provide an insight as to what the commercial side of the water is doing, their problems, their impact on the recreational boating public, and some possible solutions to identified areas of concern..

Another informative publication, *Messing About In Boats*, is just the ticket for small boat enthusiasts. The publication is full of ideas, projects, personal trip reports, and other information that just does not seem to appear in the popular boating press.

MARK Advertising

Business Card size ads are available at a cost of \$20 per ad, per issue. Camera-ready copy for the ads should be e-mailed to sisu26@nettally.com or mailed to
C. Henry Depew
3312 West Lake Shore Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Scuttlebutt

Marcia Bjerregaard

1. A cask or butt with an opening for a dipper (often tied to the mainmast) 2. rumor or gossip

So, far, it's been six weeks longer than Steve Dunham expected to be out of commission, but at least he's close to home now. He's in Tallahassee, but only immediate family can visit. He can take a few short phone calls at 219-6822.

Members have been asking why the Millers haven't been around. Charles' father was very ill this summer and passed away this fall. They've been remodeling his house for rental/sale. Lately, Julia's father has been not doing well and they've had to move him to a more secure facility down south. We keep them in our hearts, as they go through a difficult time and hope to see them at the Club soon.

Were you part of the 30 folks who surprised Lorna at the Ming Tree to celebrate her birthday? They had a great celebration concluding with a super chocolate cake.

And speaking of birthdays, Frank Hankins is giving his mother quite a party to celebrate her 100th birthday.

EXERCISE CLASS - 1000-1030 every MWF at the clubhouse - \$5 each time you come

Boating Emergency Numbers

CG PC	850/234-4228
CG Yankeetown	352/447-6900
CGA St. Marks	850/906-0540
or	893-5137
CGA Shell Pt	850/926-2606

**2009 Stephen C. Smith
Regatta**

April 24, 25, 26, 2009

Lynn Groves

Mark Your Calendars and Save the Date!!

ABYC TRADITIONS**tradition noun**

1) an inherited or established way of thinking, feeling, or doing
(Editor's Note: This column will address various ABYC traditions as space permits.)

During March of each year, ABYC holds a "Spring Opening" around the Spring Equinox (March 20, 2009). Some yacht clubs get very formal, while others are sort-of-formal. ABYC is one of the sort-of-formal crowd. In the past, we have had a champagne brunch (with all the "fixins"), Sunday go-to-meeting clothing, and the rest. We have also just gathered together at 10:00 AM, raised the flags, and called in a day. Who knows what this year will bring for the occasion? Come and find out.

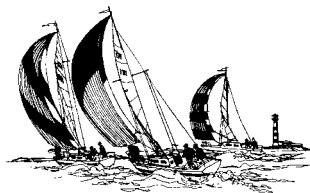
The "Murphy Regatta" is a fun race (or two) held close to St. Patrick's Day honoring our former members (the Murphys) and St. Patrick (green beer after the race). Along with some club members, Mr. Murphy had the distinction of bringing his boat into Shell Point from Cedar Key in a swirling fog followed by a freezing night (rope rigging and docks froze). He sailed his boat with glee and he and his wife were wonderful people. So, come out on the 14th and have a fun race day.

PHRF Information

The PHRF races are open to any boat with a PHRF rating. If your boat does not have a rating, contact Carl Bjerregaard. The schedule of races is based on the tide. Race days are:

March 7	April 25/26
March 14	May 9
March 21	June 6
April 4	June 20
April 18	

Skippers' meeting is at the clubhouse at 10:30 AM. Come out and enjoy a day on the bay.

**GYA SCHEDULE**

Springtime brings more racing than just our ABYC races. Our membership in the Gulf Yachting Association gives us many opportunities to compete against new folks on the water and make new friends ashore.

ABYC members are welcomed to take their boats and sail in GYA races. The nearby GYA races in Flying Scots are June 6 & 7 in Panama City July 11 & 12 in Ft. Walton Beach Sept. 26 & 27 in Fairhope Oct 24 & 25 in Pensacola

There are also many PHRF races in which we may compete. Their schedule and the complete Flying Scot schedule can be found at:

gya.org/schedule/schedule2009.

Call 926-7835 and join the fun.

Puffin Race Results

Beth Hamilton

The first Puffin Race of the 2009 series was held Saturday January 31, 2009. The race was held in the basin, with sunny skies and gusty winds. There were several equipment failures and while not everyone stayed dry, they did all stay in their boats - no swimming this time! Thanks go to Jim McGill for providing the committee boat and to Lorna Tweedie and Jane Fletcher who joined me to work as race committee. Thanks also to Ivor Groves for getting the race marks out for race day. Next race day is Saturday February 28.

1. Dave - FSU student
2. Carl Bjerregaard
3. Sue Ross
4. John Hamilton
5. Al Fletcher
6. Marcia Bjerregaard
7. Lynn Groves
8. Austen - FSU Student
9. Jim McGill
10. Don Reeder

It is regatta time!

Leah Chapin

Although the dates for the regatta are **24th - 26th of April**, this is the time for those of us behind the scene to begin our hard work.

Once again I have taken on the task of Auction Chairperson. As many of you know this is one of our events within the Regatta and one of our events for fund raising. Our Auction has really become one the great places to showcase our local artists. For those of you who in the past have contributed **THANK YOU** and for those of you thinking this is to be your year **THANK YOU**. We welcome all other donations too.

We have made a little change this year to better maximize our

donations. We request that all donations be received before April 13, 2009. This will better give our volunteers time to catalog our donations. By receiving these donations earlier we can feature them on our website and at the Regatta. You may call my cell number 212-7753 for pickup.

The regatta is a fun time for all; we hope to see everyone on the water and on the land. Remember as we are having our fun, we are also raising funds for **American Cancer Society**.

Valentine's Day Report

There was wind, a high tide, and the RC was ready to fly the flags. However, the racers decided to stay at the dock rather than have a "fun sail" in the cold rain. The party that night made up for the earlier disappointment.

Remember -

ABYC's mailing address is:
P.O. BOX 1830
Crawfordville, FL 32326

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 PHRF 1030 Board - 1530 Membership - 1800-
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Murphy Regatta - 1030 Cook-out - 1800
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Spring Opening - 0930 PHRF - 1030
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Commodore's Ball - 1830-
29	30	31				

March, 2009

Canoe/Kayak Activity Report

David O'Hara

The Feb 21 canoe trip met at the clubhouse where we considered various options due to strong winds. I knew of Lost Creek west of Crawfordville being down in protected banks, so we decided to go there. We had Marcia and Carl Bjerregaard, David, Kathy and Katie OHara, Frank and Patty Hankins. The launch point was a little tough. You either had to carry the boats about 100 yards or lower them down a steep bank but it worked out.

The creek was flowing fast due to recent rains. My memory of it 30 yrs. ago was that the water does not normally flow fast. It is pretty

tannin stained water flowing out of swamps in NW Leon County into a sink southwest of Crawfordville. It has been dye traced to Spring Creek. It has many beautiful white sand bars and numerous snags and logs to pull the boats over. The fast water was very interesting. The creek has high banks flowing through piney woods and normally you cannot see over the banks.

There are only a couple of houses on the west side and the creek is astonishingly clean with almost no trash in the water. We went upstream for a couple of hours and then came back quickly. I highly recommend this pretty little creek.

This trip was so much fun for

us that I will discuss another trip at the next meeting.



ABYC UPCOMING EVENTS - 2009

March

- Sat. 7 PHRF Race - 1030 - Clubhouse
Board Meeting - 1530-1730
Monthly Meeting - Clubhouse
- Sat. 14 Murphy Regatta - 1030 - Clubhouse
Cook-out/Social - 1800 - Clubhouse
- Sat. 21 Spring Opening - 0930 - Clubhouse
PHRF Race - 1030 - Clubhouse
- Sat. 28 Commodore's Ball - 1830 - Clubhouse

April

- Sat. 4 PHRF Race - 1030 - Clubhouse
Board Meeting - 1530-1730
Monthly Meeting - Clubhouse
- Sat. 11 Dinghy Race - 1300
- Sat. 18 PHRF Race - 1030 - Clubhouse
Adult Sailing Class
- Fri. 24 Fun Race - TBA
- Sat./Sun 25-26 - Smith Regatta



ABYC PHONE NUMBER
850/926-7775

NOTE: The above calendar is valid as of the print date. For up-dates/changes consult the Expanded Calendar at ABYC's web site (ABYConline.org).

The MARK March, 2009

Apalachee Bay Yacht Club

Commodore:	Carl Bjerregaard	926-7835
Vice Commodore:	Frank Hankins	926-9484
Rear Commodore:	Ed Fries	591-4620
Purser:	Maxine Glenn	926-5024
Scribe:	C Henry Depew	386-1665
Sr. Board Member:	David O'Hara	668-7810
Jr. Board Member:	Lorna Tweedie	926-8309
Past Commodore:	Phil Wernkli	386-7646

Web:

<http://ABYConline.org>

Mark Email and Address:

sisu26@nettally.com or

3312 West Lake Shore Dr.

Tallahassee, FL 32312

BOATU.S. group number:

GA81150Y

FIRST CLASS MAIL