

Florida Council of Yacht Clubs

Bob Thomas
FCYC Director

Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club, located on the north shore of the Peace river, hosted the July 10th 2010 FCYC General Meeting.

The Director's meeting was called to order at 1300 by Commodore Stanley. Thirty-three of the thirty-six clubs were in attendance. Past Commodores present were Benson, Bogue, Broadway, Ferguson, Hardy, Larson and Riley.

VC McDaniel stated that the FCYC Tri-folds and Guides to the Clubs by Land and Water can be downloaded directly from the FCYC website.

Government Affairs Chairman Perlet reported that the Federal EPA is still working on questions relating to ethanol/gasoline blended fuel and expects to issue final regulations by the end of the summer.

Guest speaker Wayne Sallade, Director of the Charlotte County Office of Emergency Management spoke about the oil spill, how the cleanup is being managed and the potential impact of the spill in the Gulf with emphasis on the Florida coast and complications that might ensue from a hurricane in the spill area. He reminded us that we had seven land strikes in two years including four storms in six weeks in 2004. Interestingly, from 1900 to 1950 there were far more hurricanes and more intense hurricanes than in the next sixty years including the 2004/2005 events. The website to get to NOAA Extreme Weather information sheet was sent to all directors.

A number of summer club closings were announced. Clubs should always be called before visiting.

Sailing Committee

Capt. John O'Leary
Chairman

"Deck there! Squadron of Sonars... ESC jacks flyin'... all canvass haulin'"

"Where away?" From the Officer of the Watch...

"Port quarter... coming sou' sou'west down the Caloosa"

"Bearing?" From the bosun's mate.

"Looks like they're makin' for the Royal Palm Yacht Club.

"Bosun!" bellowed the officer... "Have all hands stand down. They're friendlies."

"Aye, aye, Sir."

And now, through a new grand maritime alliance between the RPYC and the Edison Sailing Center (ESC), those very same Sonars will be available to any members, whether old salts or novices, who would like to try their hands at sailing them. By

- Venice, September 12th to 28th, docks are closed – Venice has been given permission to add 22 new docks.
- Naples Sailing, Closed in September, docks remain open
- Bradenton, Open all summer

It was requested that part of the next General Meeting be devoted to an open discussion of membership issues and various methods employed to improve membership. This will be placed on the agenda for September 18th.

The next General Meeting will be held at the Halifax River Yacht Club on September 18th.

the way, the Sonar is a 23' sloop rigged boat with a large open cockpit that will accommodate sailors and instructors and all requisite safety gear.

For those of you who may remember, what is today the ESC was originally chartered as the Royal Palm Sailing Club, an off-shoot of the RPYC. So it is entirely appropriate that our two organizations come back together for the mutual benefit of all members. In that regard, when you see them around the club, please give a sincere "welcome home" to Stephanie and Ross Webb who are the principals of the ESC and newly returning members of Royal Palm.

Our early plans include the launch of a "Sunset Sailing" program on a couple of Tuesday evenings in October, and possibly a couple in November as well. Another initiative will be a sailing camp for youngsters during the summer of 2011. In short, the opportunities are many and limited only by our imagination and enthusiasm.

It is our objective to have more definitive information by the next issue of the *Wheelhouse News*, and a schedule of monthly meetings for the newly chartered Sailing Committee. In the meantime, we would love to have early input, comments or suggestions from the membership; and, needless to say, volunteers for the Committee will all be welcomed. For more information, please call John O'Leary at 239-540-4405 (Home) or 239-898-4490 (Mobile).



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