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a newsletter publication of the

Marco Bay Yacht Club FEBRUARY 2024

Hello Members,

Commodore's Message

We are soaring into 2024. MBYC started the year off in style with activities both on and off the water. We ended the month with the Commodore's Ball. This event is always a special time as we celebrate the Change of Watch.

One slight twist for this year is that I will be staying around for a second year. January is a time when I get to thank all of those who contribute to making this club so wonderful for all to enjoy. The list of thank you is long, and I would like to take a moment to make sure we recognize each of the people who stepped up in 2023. The good news for me is that many more people are joining the team for next year and I look forward to a successful 2024. 2023 Thanks go out to:

- Charlie Erker Vice Commodore
- Paul Schneeberger Rear Commodore
- David Doolittle Treasurer
- Deb Lowell Secretary
- David Cox Director
- John Taylor Directors
- Brent Cook Fleet Captain
- Steve Stark Director and Day Fleet Captain
- Bob Gagnon Communications and Web
- Bonnie Pilat Director and Social Activities
- Stan Pilat Director
- Dan Lowell Web, Roster, Photographer and more
- Holly Erker Parade Logistics
- Brad Shaw Public Relations
- Judy Sacher Membership, Canasta
- Kelly Rogers Company Store, Tree Lighting
- Sally Orth First Mates, Mexican Train and more
- Kathy Stark Community Outreach, Meals of Hope
- Sylvia Doolittle Tree Lighting
- Frank Mulligan Poker
- Cheryl Coffin Baylines
- Alan Sandlin Chaplain

Linda Gagnon Commodore

Commodore's Ball 2024



Under a magnificent sunset at Hideaway Beach Club the Marco Bay Yacht Club held their 50th ANNUAL CHANGE OF WATCH on January 25, 2024. Highlights of Commodore Linda Gagnon's message included that the club had welcomed 13 new members this past year, the largest gain in many years.

2023 was a wonderful year with many activities including community events, long range cruisers, day boating events, major parties and social gatherings and lots of games!

After the commodore's message a delicious dinner was served followed by music by Kellee Kaysee and dancing throughout a very enjoyable night.

First Mates Mah Jongg January 2024



In 2023 we introduced a regular Mah Jongg game and offered training to those who wished to learn how to play this tile game. I am pleased to report that we have had several graduates of that training! Congratulations to Margi White, Kathy Stark, Dianne Tarr, Mary Shaw, Candice Thomas, Jo Baille, Jean Taylor.

Captains Thursday Breakfast January 2024



Captains of the MBYC fleet are routinely found at the Marco Island Hoots on Thursday mornings around 7:00 AM. Rumor has it that there was a recent celebration as one of them observed a seminal birthday. You are cordially invited to join in the fellowship and comradery.

Monday Madness January 2024



Due to inclement weather, the Star Bar at CJ's was closed for the evening, so we retreated inside, where it was nice and warm. Lydia decided to use Monday Madness as the venue of a surprise birthday party for Paul. It was indeed a surprise, he just didn't understand why Lydia was so insistent that they attend Monday Madness, until they arrived. I'm certain that certain members managed to wangle more than one coupon for cocktails.

More than 30 members, involved in numerous lively conversations, were packed into the inside bar area. We had a terrific time in spite of the weather outside.

We're looking forward to warmer weather for February Madness on the 26th.

See you there

First Mates Canasta January 19, 2024



Many of our First Mates meet Friday at 12:15 pm at the local Marco Island Jewish Synagogue to play Triple Canasta. This event is hosted by Judy Sacher. At our game on January 19, 2024 we honored Judy for organizing and facilitating Canasta every week. Judy was presented with a gift basket and restaurant gift card. Thanks again to Judy for hosting our fun "Canasta Fridays"!

Page 8 of 13 Coastal Breeze - Jetting Through The 10K Islands



Coastal-Breeze-Jetski-Jan-2024-v2-BIG

Check out our short videos of rides in Palm Bay and Blackwater River at https://marcobayyachtclub.com/category/activities/boating/jetski/

www.coastalbreezenews.com

Marco Bay Yacht Club Jets Through 10,000 Islands

Submitted

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Body The Marco Bay Yacht Club (MBYC) Jet Ski Special Interest group is back in action for the 2024 season.

Riders have already been out with both the "rabbits" (the fast riders) and the "tortoises" (the slow riders).

The rabbits weave a mind-bending flight through the labyrinth of mangroves from Marco Island to the Everglades National Park border, testing the limits of personal watercraft (PWC) access.

Rabbits ride to Seminole Park on Tamiami Trail, sometimes seeing an alligator or two, through remote channels and rivers as far from the Gulf as one can safely ride, often in channels not much wider than a PWC.

The tortoises take a slower stroll through some of the same channels to enjoy more of the view and serenity of this amazing area, almost becoming one with the mangroves. A tortoise ride does not cover as much territory as the rabbits and is the recommended group for those with limited to no PWC experience or those who do not crave extreme exhilaration.

Both groups typically stop at one of the islands off Gullivan Bay for a short break. The average ride time is about three hours. MBYC Craig Cats can also participate in





the tortoise runs.

MBYC member Bob Gagnon teaches a PWC safety course for the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Riding in the mangroves has unique risks, and this course covers those risks in detail. Gagnon covers a wide variety of fundamental topics specific to PWC operation and a section specific to riding deep into the mangroves south of Marco Island.

See the Flotilla 95 website for more info and course times.

https://wow.uscgaux.info/content. php?unit=070-09-05&category=boatingcourses

To learn more about Marco Bay Yacht club, go to https://marcobayyachtclub. com.



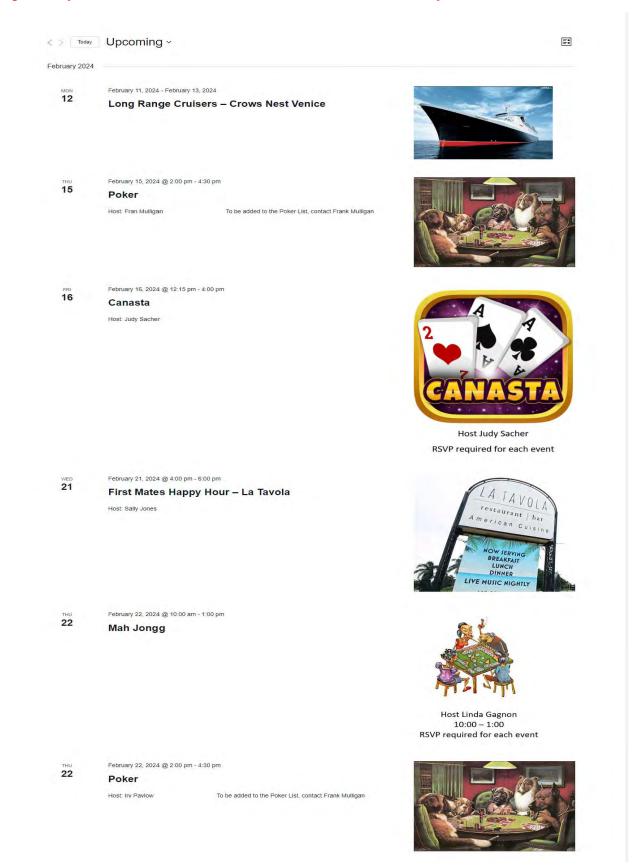
Submitted Photos

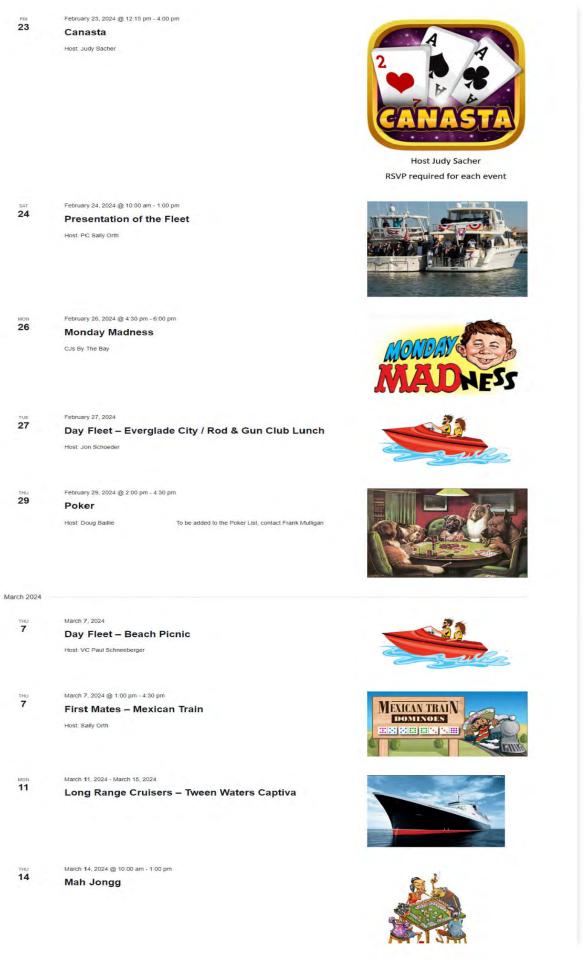
Bob Gagnon teaching personal watercraft safety for the US Coast Guard Auxiliary at Caxambas Park.



Events Calendar > <u>Click Here</u>

Go to the Events Calendar on the website with live links, then click on Event date to open the Event info & Flyer Flyers opened from the website Calendar will be printable.

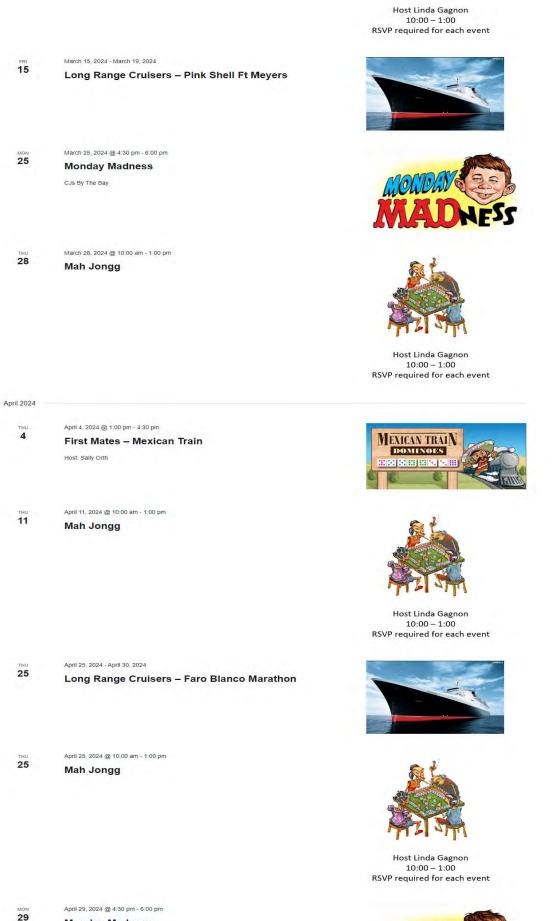




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Monday Madness

ADD AND AND ADD

February 11, 2024

TUE 30 April 30, 2024 - May 4, 2024 Long Range Cruisers – Hawks Cay Duck Key

C Previous Events

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Next Events

Subscribe to calendar 🐱