



FROM THE HELM COMMODORE NAN WALKER

Has Spring actually arrived on Amelia Island?! I don't know about you, but I am glad it is finally warming up and my toes are getting some fresh air and sand between them. Now it is time to get ready to get out and enjoy being on or near the water. That means being prepared, educated, and ready to have a safe boating season. Check out Michael's column for great resources. And, it seems to be appropriate to host our special speaker, Jim Bollenbacher, JD, EMT-Pm FP-C, Nassau County Medical Center's Lead Instructor at our March meeting. He will give us a brief talk about the importance of CPR training and AHA's Hands-Only program which simplifies CPR for lay people and eliminates the need for mouth-to-mouth breathing. He will be following up with a FREE class on March 27th 4:30-5:30pm at KAC. Check out the website for more details and to RSVP (space is limited). And, you can always stay after to enjoy one of the best sunsets in town! Some of us hung out after the Oyster Roast and saw a huge eagle – a great end to a great event. A big shout out to Ed Spang for providing the biggest, juiciest oysters I have ever seen in addition to all the other great food members contributed.

At our last leadership meeting we took a hard look at the Club's financials in comparison to previous years and realize that we need to make sure that we keep the club financially strong to provide strong support for our race program, river clean up initiative, and member special events. At that time, we were 11 members down so that is revenue we have to make up, or recruit new members. *Check to make sure your membership has not lapsed.* I was already encouraged to see new members at last month's events so keep bringing in your boating lover friends. Memberships starting in July will increase to \$75 from \$50, holiday party prices may need to be increased, and we will work on watching/controlling expenses.

We will also be looking for support for the 26th annual St. Mary's River Clean-Up Sponsorship on April 27th with a **50/50 raffle at the March meeting** or you can always make a donation.

Thanks again for all the support and encouragement I have received from past board members & members and look forward to continuing to strengthen the AISC community.



VICE COMMODORE BOB CANON

The Club started the year with its first meeting and potluck on February 6th. The Kraft Club was undergoing renovations as it will be for the next couple of months, but it did not hamper the fellowship and great food. The February race offered a unique three race format on the 17th under challenging conditions that did not deter the seven participants. Sailors throughout history have had a reputation for toughing it out! The Oyster Roast on the 24th was another great success thanks to Ed Spang. The winds that afternoon were from the west at 20 Kts and gusts to 26 leaving some sailors wishing they were out on the water some glad they were not!

I am still making progress with updating our history records. Former Commodore Joe Blanchard passed me a thumb drive he compiled with records of many of our missing years.

We will be posting in the Scuttlebutt the occasional Blast from the Past articles consisting of interesting items and race reports from the last 40 years.

Here is a snippet of a letter from the owner of 'Sandpiper' in 2002 regarding Fernandina Harbor Marina slip increase:

'I am going to decline your generous offer to stay in your marina at an overall 20% increase in wet slip rates. I believe \$4,300 a year to park a 34-foot sailboat in the Fernandina Beach marina with limited facilities for its tenants and no access in or out of the marina at low tide for 5-foot draft sailboats borders on the ridiculous.

I moved here in 1984 and the rate was \$2/foot with no electricity charge. For that I got a slip, shoreside 120v power and shoreside bathroom and shower facilities. Now you want \$8.90/foot plus \$20 per month for 120v shore power with the same amenities. The electric meter at my slip indicates 120v \$60/year. In addition, you are installing additional 36-foot slips directly behind my dock with will make it extremely hazardous for a sailboat to get in or out of their slip in any kind of deteriorating weather.'...

NOTE: Today's rate is \$25/foot monthly (\$7,200/year for 34-footer+ electric) and still have many of the same problems.



REAR COMMODORE MICHAEL KIEHNE

Spring is coming and with that the next boating season is on our doorstep. Some of you have already started into the season. But when is spring 2024? It is different in a leap year? When is the vernal equinox?

Good news! Thanks to 2024 being a leap year, spring starts a day earlier. Sort of. Here is everything you need to know about spring 2024.

When exactly does spring 2024 begin?

According to Time and Date, spring 2024 starts at 11:06 p.m. EDT on March 19.

When is the first day of spring?

Spring begins on March 19 in 2024. Usually, it's March 20 or 21, but because it's a leap year and February gets an extra day, the season moves up a little on the calendar. Either way, it'll be a little over a week after Daylight saving time.

With that we might think about what needs to be checked and done to prepare for the season. Boat US has published a comprehensive **Spring Commissioning Checklist**

<https://ameliaislandsailingclub.wildapricot.org/resources/Documents/Scuttlebutt/2024/March%202024/Spring%20Boat%20Commissioning%20Checklist%20%20BoatUS.pdf>

and Practical Boater has published a helpful **Boating Safety Checklist**.

<https://ameliaislandsailingclub.wildapricot.org/resources/Documents/Scuttlebutt/2024/March%202024/Spring%20Boat%20Safety%20Checklist.pdf>

Both checklists complement each other and might be known. Nevertheless, a refresher never hurts. Both checklists are attached below - take a look.

In addition, you might need to recharge or replace a life vest. The attached video from Carpe Diem Sailing is worth watching and the attached report from **Life of Sailing - 6 Best Life Jackets for Sailing 2024** can give you some useful inside if you need to purchase a new Life Jacket.

Inflatable PDF Inspection and Re- arm

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjbyUH8u5TY>

6 Best Life Jackets for Sailing 2024

<https://www.lifeofsailing.com/post/best-life-jackets-for-sailing>



Treasurer
Fred Eichmann



AISC TREASURER'S REPORT

February 24, 2024

Checking Account Beginning Balance	1/29/2024	\$ 5,585.42
Add: Deposits		1,360.00
Subtract: Expenses		<u>(182.74)</u>
Checking Account Ending Balance	2/24/2024	\$ 6,762.68
Income/Deposits		
Member Dues		\$1,300.00
Oyster Roast Guests		<u>60.00</u>
		\$1,360.00
Payments/Expenses		
Merchant Bank Fees		\$71.49
KAC Rental		50.00
State Registration		<u>61.25</u>
		\$182.74

Note: Total 50/50 Raffle proceeds in checking account - \$81.00

Here is our current membership count...

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL as of 2/27	
Active Members (Family Bundle)	58
Lapsed Members (Family Bundle)	19
New Members:	5
Brand, Rene	
Deeb, Alison	
Haines, Mark	
Jones, Tony & Cindy	
Stark, Arthur	

We welcome our new members for 2024!

Ask your friends if they remembered to renew for 2024



AISC CLUB RACING
NORM WENTWORTH



The second race day of the 2024 season was held on Saturday, February 17 in Cumberland Sound. Seven boats raced all three races, involving 24 sailors. Sailing a different format than usual, there were three shorter 2.4 nautical mile length races rather than the normal single long race of approximately 9 nautical miles. The weather was drab and drizzly with periods of light rain, and cool with temps reaching the high 50s. Winds from the West were light and variable in the range of 5-10 knots.

The PHRF adjusted results of the three individual races were tallied to determine the overall winner of the day. The crew on each boat contribute significantly to their results, and the finish places of the boats and their helmsperson are listed below. Complete results and the newspaper article are available on the AISC website [2024 Racing](#) page, with pictures on the [Photos](#) page. Post-race camaraderie and stories of the day were shared on the dock beside "Misty" at Tiger Point Marina.

1. "Tiger Tale" - Beneteau First 36.7 - Bill Kavanaugh
2. "Misty" - Baltic 35 - Fred Eichmann - in two of the three races, only 47 and 54 seconds behind "Tiger Tale"
3. "Valkyrie" - J/105 - Justin Pelham-Webb
4. "Miss Marsha" - Harbor 25 - Steve Boice
5. "Salty Sally" - Hunter 336 - Gary Sanders
6. "Morning Glory" - Catalina 355 - Norm Wentworth
7. "Juliana" - Beneteau Oceanis 331 - Colleen Gerke

The 2024 Racing Season is off to a great start, with monthly opportunities to get out on the water with your sailboat or as crew on one of the racing sailboats or the Race Committee Boat. Announcement of each upcoming race is sent via AISC email a couple of weeks before the race. Let's see if we can get 10 boats racing for the next races.

The races and dates for the next several months are listed below. As a reminder, all boats should obtain or renew their PHRF Certificates for 2024 from North Florida Sailing Association. Applications are available from the NFSA website at sailjax.com. Also, registration is now open for the

annual [Saint Augustine Race Week](#) (SARW), which consists of three ocean races for the larger boats on April 11-13. Currently there are 21 boats registered, including "Morning Glory" and "Valkyrie" from AISC.

- Saturday, Mar 16 - AISC 2024 Race #3
- Thurs, Fri, Sat, April 11-13 - SARW Ocean Races, registration required
- Saturday, Apr 27 - AISC 2024 Race #4
- Saturday, May 18 - Annual Coastal Cup Race from Amelia Island to St. Simons Island
- Saturday, Jun 15 - AISC 2024 Race #5

Landside –
Sandy Kurtius

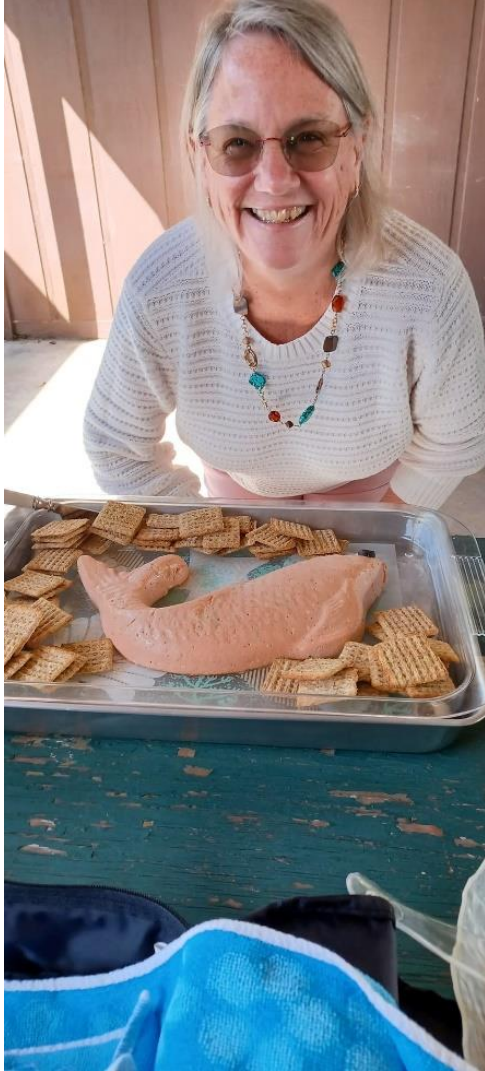


We had a great time at the oyster roast with beautiful weather and a good turnout of members and guests. Special thanks to Ed Spang, our oyster chef, and to everyone who helped.

Our next potluck will be on Tuesday, March 5th. We can't pass up the opportunity to celebrate a little early for St Patrick's Day so Irish dishes will be the theme.

Members with last name starting with A-L please bring main dishes.
Members with last name starting with M-Z please bring sides and dessert.

Here are a few shots from the oyster roast...







Quartermaster –

Stan Jackson



This month Stan interviews himself!!!

<https://ameliaislandsailingclub.wildapricot.org/resources/Documents/Scuttlebutt/2024/March%202024/stan%20stan%20interview.m4a>

We will have AISC merchandise for sale at the March meeting... burgees (\$30), Hats (\$18), assorted shirts (some discounted!). Show your Amelia Island Sailing Club pride!

**SCUTTLEBUTT EDITOR
TOM FLIEGER**



GOOD NEWS! IF YOU ARE READING THIS, YOU MIGHT WIN A PRIZE AT THE NEXT MEETING! JUST EMAIL ME AT tom.flieger@outlook.com

AND PUT YOUR NAME IN THE COMMENTS FIELD. TO CHOOSE A WINNER ONE NAME WILL BE RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM THE EMAILS I RECEIVE.

Comments/Suggestions?

Please email tom.flieger@outlook.com or text me at 973-703-6877

If you have seen something that you think would be of interest to the membership, please send it to me and I will see if it can be published in a future edition of Scuttlebutt.



Amelia Island Sailing Club Membership Application

In order to ensure accurate, current information ALL members are requested to complete the application

Name(s): _____ ; _____
Last, First Last, First

Cell phone(s): _____ ; _____

Home phone(s): _____ ; _____

Email: _____ ; _____

Mailing Address: _____

Boat Name: _____ Builder & Length: _____, _____ ft

Marina, berth, or storage location: _____

What interests, experiences, qualifications or accomplishments would you share relative to sailing or boating?

Which AISC activities do you have an interest? (check as many as you like)

Cruising _____ Racing _____ Social Events _____ Boat Crew _____

Which AISC activities would you like to learn about or volunteer?

Cruising _____ Racing _____ Social Events _____ Boat Crew _____

Other Interests/Comments _____

Waiver: in consideration of the Amelia Island Sailing Club's (AISC) acceptance of my application for membership, I hereby waive, release, and discharge any and all claims against the AISC for damages, personal injuries, or property damage which subsequently accrue to me by reason of my participation in any activity (including without limitation, yacht races, cruises, and social events) sponsored by the AISC.

NOTE: APPLICATION CANNOT PROCEED WITHOUT YOUR SIGNATURE(S)

Signature(s): _____ ; _____
Signature - date Signature - date

Please return this application and the \$100 annual membership fee to:
AISC Membership Committee
PO Box 16143
Fernandina Beach, FL 32035