



# THE HARBOR CRIER

DUNEDIN BOAT CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 18, Issue 2, February 2024



# Commodore Corner...

Ahoy! The **Mardi Gras Float** building was a great success and is one of the best events we have in the boat Club to build friendships and really get to know people the old-fashioned way, by working with them. The parade will be past when you read this, if you have never been to the Dunedin Mardi Gras Parade, one of the largest in the country, you missed a great time. To all the great Boat Club members who helped build the Float and all who marched in the parade... a job well done. Now let's start planning for next year!

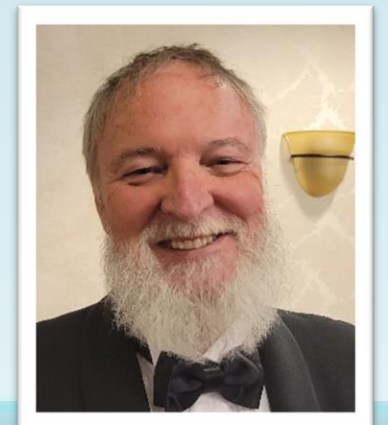
**Our General Membership Meeting is February 19<sup>th</sup>.** Jack will be there early for the key exchange. Then **Jude Zentmeyer** is going to be our speaker, so do plan on coming to listen and learn about all her sailing adventures, it is going to be a great program.

Saturday Feb 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 will be the **Blessing of Fleet**. Check with Chris Benson if your boat needs this or you would like to participate, please go online to our website, and get the full details. That same afternoon Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>, 200pm to 3:35pm the **Hope Spot Festival** will be in the park and their great film 'Mission Blue' will be shown at the Boat Club House, all members are welcome, and it is FREE.

The 2nd annual **Burning of the Socks and Sunset Happy Hour** is coming Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm to 8:30pm. This is FREE event that Bill and Kathy Goocher are hosting. Come on by and bring your old winter socks, burn 'em, and enjoy the sunset with all your friends. Welcome in the summer season the correct way. See further details on our website!

At our meeting we will also be awarding our checks to the local charities for the year. The Sheriff's Youth Ranch, Dunedin Cares and Dunedin Youth Sailing will be in attendance plus Dunedin Community Sailing Center will be present.

**Terry Hopkins, Commodore**  
[commodore@dunedinboatclub.org](mailto:commodore@dunedinboatclub.org)



# Vice Commodore...

## FEBRUARY MEETING SPEAKER

This month's speaker is our own Dunedin Boat Club member Jude Zentmeyer.

- ✓ Born and raised in Hershey PA
- ✓ Started sailing in Quantico VA
- ✓ Owned a 24 ft sailboat in Tampa
- ✓ Her bluewater sailing began in Boot Harbor, Marathon on a 37 Tayana. The Brit owner and Jude sailed the FL Keys, Cuba, Grand Cayman, Isla Mujeres.

She is a life long adventurer!! She was featured in Novembers Harbor Crier.



**Craig Polito, Vice Commodore**



# Key Exchange



**IT IS THE KEY EXCHANGE TIME OF THE YEAR!!!**

The key exchange for 2024 will begin prior to the February 19, 2024 General Meeting. The key exchange will start at 5:30 PM. Bring your old key and exchange it for your 2024 replacement key. After that date you can only get a new key at board meetings on the first Monday of the month or at the General meetings on the third Monday of the month.

**NOTE 1: Your old key will no longer work after this meeting.**

**NOTE 2: If you lost your old key, there will be \$5.00 replacement fee.**

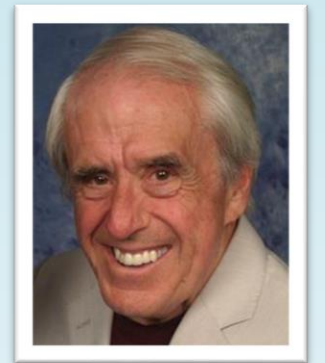
As always, the new key will operate ONLY the east (marina side) door. When you lock the building, lock the west door from the INSIDE and lock the east door with the KEY.

If you have not yet renewed, the annual membership dues for this year are:

Family Membership - \$ 125.00

Single Membership - \$ 105.00

See you there!



**Jack “Key Man” Mallard, Purser**

# Mardi Gras 2024...



A special thanks to Lynn Olson and Bill Bibbens as Co-Chairing the creation of this year's float. Thank you to Mark Jordon for towing the float, and all the volunteers who made it happen! What a fantastic event.

# Social Committee...

Hello Shipmates,

The DBC Social Program is really off to a great start this year!

Our **2024 Change of Watch** was amazing. The Blue Gavel hosted the event and they put together an event that was first rate! We had a great tribute dinner, then came awards that really highlighted our Club and the incredible Members. Dancing ended the event.

Next up with the **Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser** for our DBC 2024 Mardi Gras Float. Capt. Ron Kinkead and his Cigar Conclave pals really did an outstanding job with the dinner. When you combine great food, great drinks and a great chef... ya can't go wrong. On a serious note, Capt. Ron told everyone that this is absolutely the last year he is going to be the chef for the DBC Spaghetti Dinner. (He says that every year!) so let's take his statement seriously and really praise him for the great job he does.

Oh, I wanted to tell everyone how proud I was of them, because when the Spaghetti Dinner was ending... EVERYONE PITCHED IN AND HELP CLEAN UP THE CLUB.

Sending out a BIG THANKS FOR EVERYONE GETTING INVOLVED AT THE END OF THE EVENT.

There has been a group of Members that have been working very hard each weekend on the 2024 **Mardi Gras Float**. I have seen the pictures and the float looks fantastic. Our beautiful Mardi Gras Float is a tribute to the dedication and artistic skills of the DBC Membership. WELL DONE FLOAT CREW!!!

**Butch Cole, Social Chair**



# Social Committee...

The **Mardi Gras Parade Float** is the jewel of the DBC Events. It is an event that makes history every year. This year's float is one of the best ever! The Wizard of Odd theme will astound the crowds. We all had fun marchin' and throwin' beads during the parade.

**Blessing Of the Fleet.** This is a DBC annual event that you can attend and have your boat blessed. The Host of the Event is our special Chris Benson and our own Paster Whitney will officiate. Meet at the DBC Clubhouse Saturday February 17th. The event starts at 9am.

Just when you think that you have had too much fun....we hit you with a surprise! The **Burning of the Socks and Sunset Happy Hour!** This will be the second year we have done this fun event at the DBC. If this is anything like last year.....all I can say is your sock drawer will never be the same. Bring those old socks that you only wear when nobody is lookin' and burn them on the firepit at the DBC Clubhouse. This pagan ritual signals the coming of Spring and as an added benefit...it keeps the mosquito population down around the Clubhouse. So come on down on March 9th and have a smoking good time with your DBC Shipmates.

For details on DBC Events, log into the DBC Website and navigate to the Calendar of Events Page.

WOW! This is so much fun....I think I need to take a nap and get ready for all this action!!!



# Kayaking...

## Weedon Island Preserve - Mangrove Tunnels (Rentals Available)

This is a 3-4 mile path through large mangrove tunnels, with a 1 mile open water paddle back to the start point. Total trip: 3 - 3.5 hours. If you've never been through the Weedon Island Mangroves, I highly recommend joining us. It's a wonderful experience!

Bring your lunch and drinks with you.

Please register for this event using the blue "Register" button on the [event page](#). All attendees are required to register. I will send information of changes only to those that have registered.

Rentals will launch at 10:30 AM to meet up with the others who will launch by 10:45 AM. The address for both rental and self launch: 1800 Weedon Dr NE, St. Petersburg



### **KAYAK RENTALS:**

Single and tandem kayaks can be rented from Ecomersion at <https://ecomersion.com/weedon-island-kayak-rentals/> Their phone is 727-509-7629. Please reserve for 4 hours. It is up to you to rent and to cancel (48 hour cancellation notice for full refund). Rentals are a 10 minute paddle from the 'launch your own' site.



# Blessing of the Fleet...

February 17<sup>th</sup>  
This Saturday, 9-12

**Please join us for our annual Blessing of the Fleet!!**

This year's Blessing of the Fleet will be **February 17<sup>th</sup>, this Saturday, 9-12**, with Pastor Whitney Burton-Smith, from the Church of the Good Shepherd, officiating.

- All members are invited to participate in this event.
- We are offering both in-person blessings as well as virtual blessings.
- This event will take place rain or shine!
- Following the blessing of the boats, we will honor members that passed away in the past year, and have a blessing of the Clubhouse and DBC members.

If you would like to have your boat blessed,  
please signup via the [blue "Register" button on our website.](#)

**NOTE: Online signup is requested for both in person and virtual blessings.**

- **In-Person Blessings:** For in-person blessings, please meet at the Clubhouse at the designated time. If your boat is not located in the Dunedin Marina, please bring a picture of your boat with you to the Clubhouse or make arrangements with the harbor master for temporary mooring.
- **Virtual Blessing:** For those unable to attend in person, please email a picture of your boat to Chris Benson and she will have your boat blessed during the virtual blessings. Be sure to include your name and boat name in the email so Chris can match you to the online registration.

*We hope to see you there!!*



The **Blessing of the Fleet** is a tradition that began centuries ago in Mediterranean fishing communities. The practice began predominantly Catholic, but is now practiced by all Christians as a blessing from the local priest and pastors that is meant to ensure a safe and bountiful season.

In most ports, the event was brought by immigrants who held strongly to their Christian religious beliefs. The events that are part of the ritual vary by community and range from a simple ceremony to a multi-day festival including a church service, Parades, Pageantry, Dancing, Feasting, and Contests.

# Cruising Corner...



## Recent Cruises

### Cruising Group Planning Meeting and Cookout

The Cruising Group Spring Planning meeting and Cookout was held Feb. 4 at the clubhouse. About 30 members got together and discussed possible cruising events for the upcoming year and enjoyed the cookout following the meeting. A big thank you to Bill Goocher and Harold Schomaker for cooking the burgers and brats.

## Cruising Group News

**Cruising Chat Group:** Don't forget to join in on the DBC Cruising conversations. Instructions on how to join the Cruising Chat Group are posted on the Cruising Group Forum page, click [here](#).

**Cruising Group Co-Chair:** We are looking for a co-chair for the Cruising Committee willing to help plan and organize day-trip type boating activities for the club. Co-chairs are not expected to lead every event. They simply need to plan new activities and support members willing to act a cruise leaders for the events. If you are interested contact Gary Shellenberger or Terry Hopkins.



# Cruising Corner...

## Upcoming Boating Activities:

- **Feb. 24-25, 2024. Clearwater Sea-Blues Festival** Day-cruise or Overnight cruise. Come by boat or car. Stay for a few hours or stay overnight. Happy Hour aboard *The Best of Times* Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> from 2pm to 4pm. Free live music from 2pm to 10pm both days in Coachman Park. Craft beer, wine and seafood available. Details are on the website.
- **Mar./Apr. 2024.** Cruising south for 4 to 5 weeks to the Dry Tortugas or the Keys. Join *The Best of Times* and *Sea View Play* for all of the cruise or any part of it. More details as they are available. If interested contact Gary Shellenberger
- **May 8 thru May 16, 2024.** Cruising north to Crystal River again this year. More details as they are available. If interested contact Gary Shellenberger
- **June 8, 2024 Island Party.** More details as they are available.
- **Nov. 29, 2024. Commodore's Annual Thanksgiving Cruise** to Caladesi. More details as they are available.
- **Tour of the Anclote Lighthouse?** If interested in leading this event, contact Gary Shellenberger
- **Day Trip to Caladesi or Three Rooker Bar?** If interested in leading this event, contact Gary Shellenberger
- **Other?** We need volunteers to lead whatever boating event you want to have. Day trip to the beach or overnight to a marina. Whatever you want to do on your boat is always more fun with friends. We will help you organize it, get it on the calendar and promote it. Let us know what you want to do and when you want to do it.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact me directly.

**Gary Shellenberger**  
**Cruising Committee Chair**



# Race Committee...

We had the first race of the 2024 Spring Gulf Series on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Eight boats competed and we had nice winds to give the racers a great day. On the water. Our next Gulf Series race is March 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Pass-A-Grille, is March 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is this WFPHRF Boat of the Year race which is co-sponsored by DBC and CYC. The race is from Clearwater Pass to Pass-A-Grille. Skippers meeting is at CYC on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Dinner and Awards will be at the SPYC-PAG Club immediately follow the race. For those that are interested in joining us for dinner at St. Pete Yacht Club in Pass-A-Grille, you can sign up on the DBC website. Dinner will include; pizza bar, salads, and cookies.

Clearwater Yacht Club is hosting Gulf Coast Championships, Part of the 2024 ILCA North American Grand Prix Series. Check in for competitors is the evening of March 8th at the Sailing Center. Race days are March 9 – 10. They are expecting over 100 boats and are looking for volunteers on and off the water (including beach support as many from DBC volunteered for in the US Open in previous years). It is very exciting to participate in these large regattas and I encourage anyone that is interested to volunteer. If you are interested in volunteering please send your name, cell and email address to or Susie Nolan (CYC) 203-843-4250.

A new Race Class has been added to the Spring and Fall Gulf Series, a “Fun” Class. The “Fun” class will not need a WFPHRF and will start their sequence following the rated classes. Anyone interested (competitors do NOT need to be a DBC member) in joining in on the “Fun”, please contact me directly.



**Amy Gau**

*Race Committee Chair, [abgau@sbcglobal.net](mailto:abgau@sbcglobal.net), 262.227.6466*

# Membership...

We have two new members to introduce this month: Julie and Scott Church of Dunedin. Please keep a welcoming eye out for them.

About seven other applicants are currently working their way through the membership process, including by volunteering for their Good of the Club activity. Remember when you did your GOTC? Volunteering is such a great way to make and cement friendships. Do so again!

If you haven't paid your dues to renew your membership, please be sure to do so by our Feb. 19 meeting. After that, your membership will become delinquent. If that happens, there's another process for reinstatement. No one wants that!

And if you've ordered a name tag and have yet to pick it up, come and get it on Feb. 19. My bag is bulging!



***Julie and Scott Church***



**Rosemary O'Hara**  
*Membership Committee Chairperson*

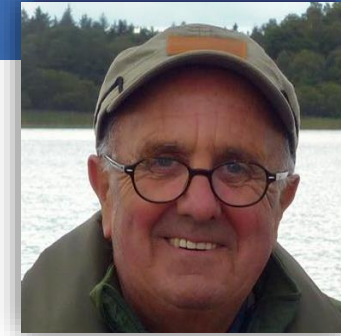
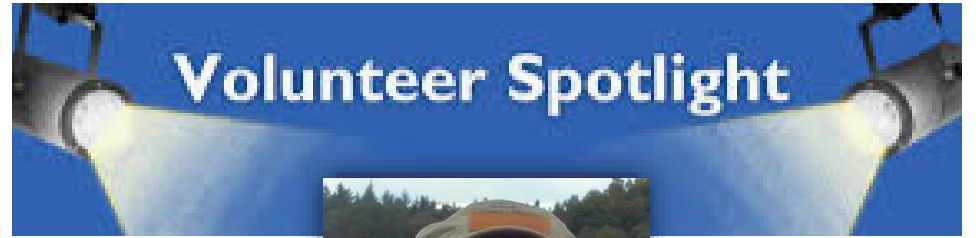
# Volunteers...

Volunteer now for the fun event Burning of the Socks and Sunset Happy Hour coming up Saturday, March 9th, 2024. Please sign up on our Volunteer Page at the DBC Website.

Volunteer Chair send any inquiries about volunteering to [volunteer@dunedinboatclub.org](mailto:volunteer@dunedinboatclub.org)



**Cindy Cole**  
*Volunteer Committee Chair*



*We are proud to announce the*  
**DBC Volunteer of the Month for February.**

It is our own **John Roseman!**

John is a part time resident of Dunedin and has been a Dunedin Boat Club member since 2017. John and his wife Leslie are from Dunblane, Scotland. John has always stepped up to volunteer whenever the Club needs help. His involvement makes all our events fun and happy. He has worked endlessly on our amazing Mardi Gras Float Wizard of Odd.

Thank you, John, for making everything fun and we love your smile and scotch whisky.

# Book Club...

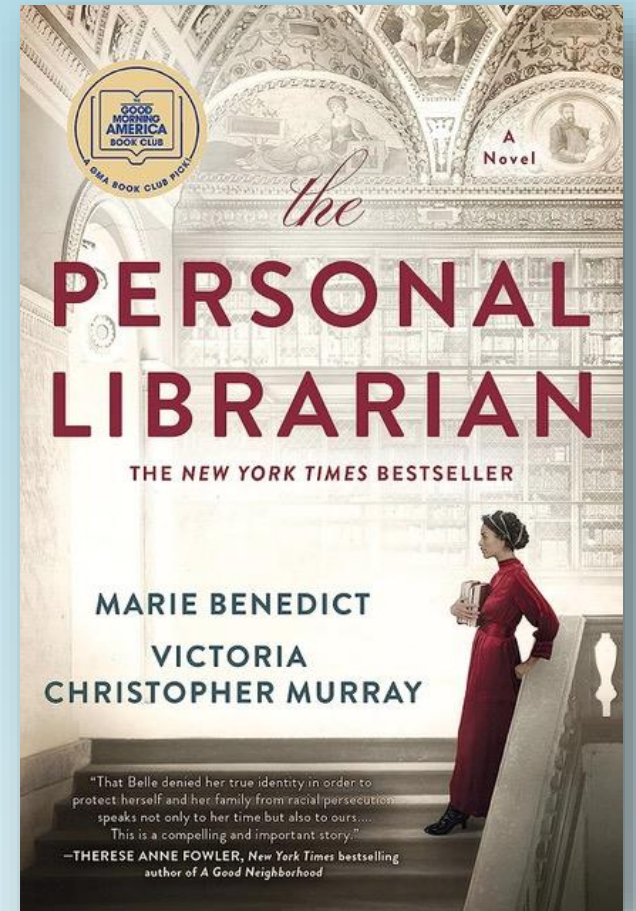
The Book Club's next meeting is Wed., March 13, at 7pm. Sign up on the Event section of the Boat Club website.

The book selection is "The Personal Librarian," by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray.

Belle da Costa Greene, was a Black American woman hired by J. P. Morgan to curate his collection of rare manuscripts, books, and artwork for his Pierpont Morgan Library. She becomes a fixture in New York City society and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world. But Belle's secret is she's the daughter of Richard Greener, the first Black graduate of Harvard and a well-known advocate for equality. This is the story of an extraordinary woman, famous for her intellect, style, and wit that recounts the lengths she must go to preserve her carefully crafted white identity.



**Sharon Grimshaw,**  
*Book Club Chairperson, sgrimshaw983@gmail.com*



For more reading inspiration checkout our book list:  
<https://dunedinboatclub.org/bookclub>

# Social Committee...

**SAVE THE DATE**



MEGAN BOSI  
ROCK-A-BYE  
(CO-ED)  
BABY  
SHOWER

---

23 MARCH 2024

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1 - 4 P M

DUNEDIN BOAT CLUB

*Senior DJ*

The poster features a central illustration of a boombox with two large speakers and a cassette slot. The background is a tropical scene with palm trees and a sunset sky. The text is in a clean, sans-serif font, with the event name in white and the date and time in a lighter color. The location is at the bottom in a larger font.





# Fishing Report...



Fishing in between the cold fronts when the wind dies down and the sun is out to warm up the water is producing fish. Make sure the tide is moving and fish drop offs by grass beds or oyster beds to find the fish. We caught the fish pictured using jigs with paddle tails. Trout and an occasional red fish will take these lures. Please remember to wet your hands before handling trout to release, failure to do so can cause the protective slime layer to come off allowing disease to kill these fish.

Now is the time to find sheephead around dock pilings, bridges, rocky areas and oyster beds. Use a strong number 1 or 2 hook and shrimps or fiddler crabs to catch these fish. These fish are great fighters and great to eat due to their crustacean diet.

Get out there and catch some fresh seafood!



**Howard Metts,**  
*Fishing Committee Chair*  
[whmetts@yahoo.com](mailto:whmetts@yahoo.com),  
727-631-4191





# SHIP'S STORE

Dunedin Boat Club

Ship Store will be open an hour before DBC meetings which are always the third Monday in January, February, March, May, June, July and September. Fall dates will be determined at a later date. We will hold a Friday night Sunset Sale on April 12th.

We have sweatshirts for these chilly winter days/nights, polo shirts, tank tops, t-shirts and other clothing for both men and women. We also sell hats and visors to complete your outfits

Shot glasses, wine glasses, floating keychains, stainless steel tumblers, fuzzies for bottles or cans and blankets and decorative pillows. Just to name a few of the wide variety of DBC items we have in our Ship Store.

Stop by sometime to say hi, browse and buy yourself something new!



**Jeri Elliston Jeanne Blain and Irene Brandenberger,**  
*Ship Store Committee*



# Blood Drive...

**March 27th**

Schedule through  
One Blood

Marina Parking Lot,  
Across from  
Olde Bay Cafe

As part of our ongoing commitment to our local community the Dunedin Boat Club is sponsoring a Blood Drive.

During last year's blood drives One Blood received 29 Donations and helped save the lives of 87 patients.

Our dates for 2024 are listed below and are posted on the website. Links to register will be provided closer to the event.

**Next event - May 22, August 14, October 30**



# DBC Business Marketplace...

Business Card  
3.5 x 2 - \$25

Double Business  
7x4 - \$50



- Three-hour Sunset Charter - \$300
- Four-hour Half Day Charter - \$350
- Eight-hour Charter - \$700
- Overnight/multi day offered

*Come sail away aboard Wind Star, a 41' sailing vessel located in Dunedin Marina. We specialize in personalized sailing experiences for up to six people. We are lifelong Dunedin residents and Boat Club members. We can also accommodate you if you are interested in participating in boat club activities such as cruising trip.*

**Book one of our trips or contact us for more information. Our web site is <http://windstarsailingdunedin.com>. Or call 727-304-5110.**

## NEW ADS

Please support our Boat Club advertisers if you have a need for their services.

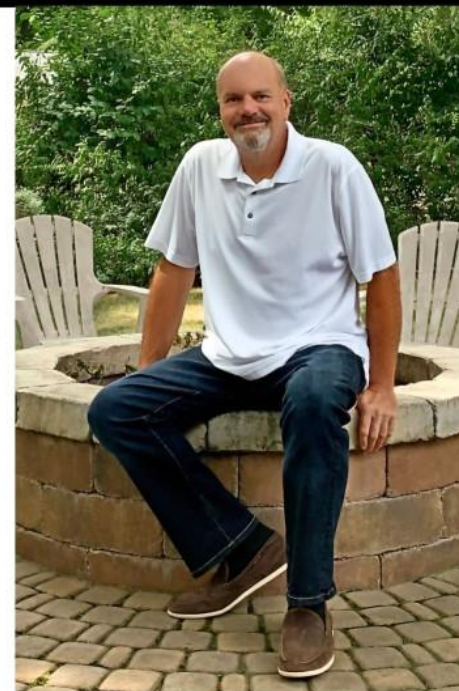
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