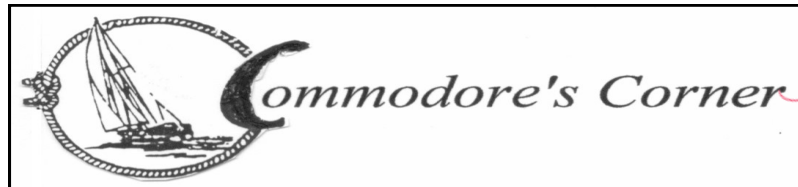




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THE MONTHLY LOG OF THE HUDSON BEACH YACHT CLUB

Volume XXXX Number 1 January, 2026



*Commodore's Corner*

Happy  
New Year

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Greetings from your new Commodore and the 2026 Officers and Directors! Please remember that the board is here to serve you, the club, and the members. If there are any suggestions or comments, talk to me or one of the other board members... we welcome your input!

A "Thank You" to the 2025 Board for a great job last year. It was a tough year for many members as they recovered from hurricanes Helene and Milton. Hopefully most are now fully back to normal by now! Kudos to the social committee and to all of our members who provided the delicious potluck items for our Change of Watch meeting (and cleaned up afterwards)!

I'm excited for our club in 2026! We have several new Board members who have hit the ground running already, and as a result we now have the Calendar and Tide Charts ready to distribute. You will be getting a copy in your email if you haven't already, and paper copies will be available at our February meeting. Without stealing any of their thunder, I can tell you that the board has planned for a very full year of racing, kayaking, and social events.

We've had quite a few membership renewals to date, and I would encourage everyone who has not yet renewed to do so as soon as possible so that we can create and distribute our 2026 Member Directory sooner rather than later. And if we don't have your picture on file for the directory, please send one to our Membership Director Valery Strauss, or we can take one of you at our February meeting. Membership renewals are still only \$50.00 (cheap)! Please review the calendar and the web site for upcoming events since they'll be starting very quickly!

And while it wasn't announced at our January meeting, we will have a NAUTICAL AUCTION (of sorts) at our February meeting. So bring in all of your unwanted or no longer needed nautical themed items that are cluttering your garage or storage unit to our February meeting. You can either price them or take "best offer", and either pocket the proceeds or donate them to the club. The only stipulation is that if they don't sell, you must take them back home with you after the meeting, so price them accordingly!

In closing, if you have any friends, neighbors, or countrymen who might be interested in joining our club, or just seeing what it's all about, please invite them to one of our upcoming meetings or refer them to our website. And please plan on participating in as many of our upcoming events as you can! I will pledge to do my best to measure up to the excellent boards we have had in the past. and to make this a great year for the club. While I have some big shoes to fill, I look forward to having a great year in 2026!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Guy".

Guy Colson

Commodore



## **HBYC General Meeting Minutes, January 6, 2026**

Commodore Bill Elliott opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag at 7:35 pm. He then brought up 2025 Board Members and handed gavel to Guy Colson, incoming Commodore. Guy thanked them for their service and asked the departing members to sit down. He asked the new 2026 board members to come forward to accept their positions: Chris Michaux – Purser, Valery Strauss – Membership, and Lori Murton – continuing Webmaster, Sue Perry – Social, Dean Perry – Publications, Jackie Kerschbaum – Publicity, John Dering- Finance, Eric Glaser – Racing, Hessel Dijkstra - Kayak. Mitch Lairmore – Vice Commodore (absent) and Nancy Colson – Yeoman (absent),

The ringing of 8 Bells significance was explained by Guy as a naval time keeping for shifts. We do it to remember those who passed in the last year: Bill Roberts in January and Don Himes in April.

He also thanked the members for their generosity at Christmas for the toy collection.

Minutes of December 2-2025 General Meeting were approved for Yeoman Jackie Kerschbaum.

Valery Strauss, Membership reported no guests and she listed the Birthdays and Anniversaries for the month of January. Renewals are coming in. She also is looking to get cooperation between HBYC and the Sea Ranch community for events to strengthen both clubs. She reminded us they have a \$6 Pancake Breakfast on the second Saturday of the month and Farm Market on Sunday. Please join at these neighborhood events.

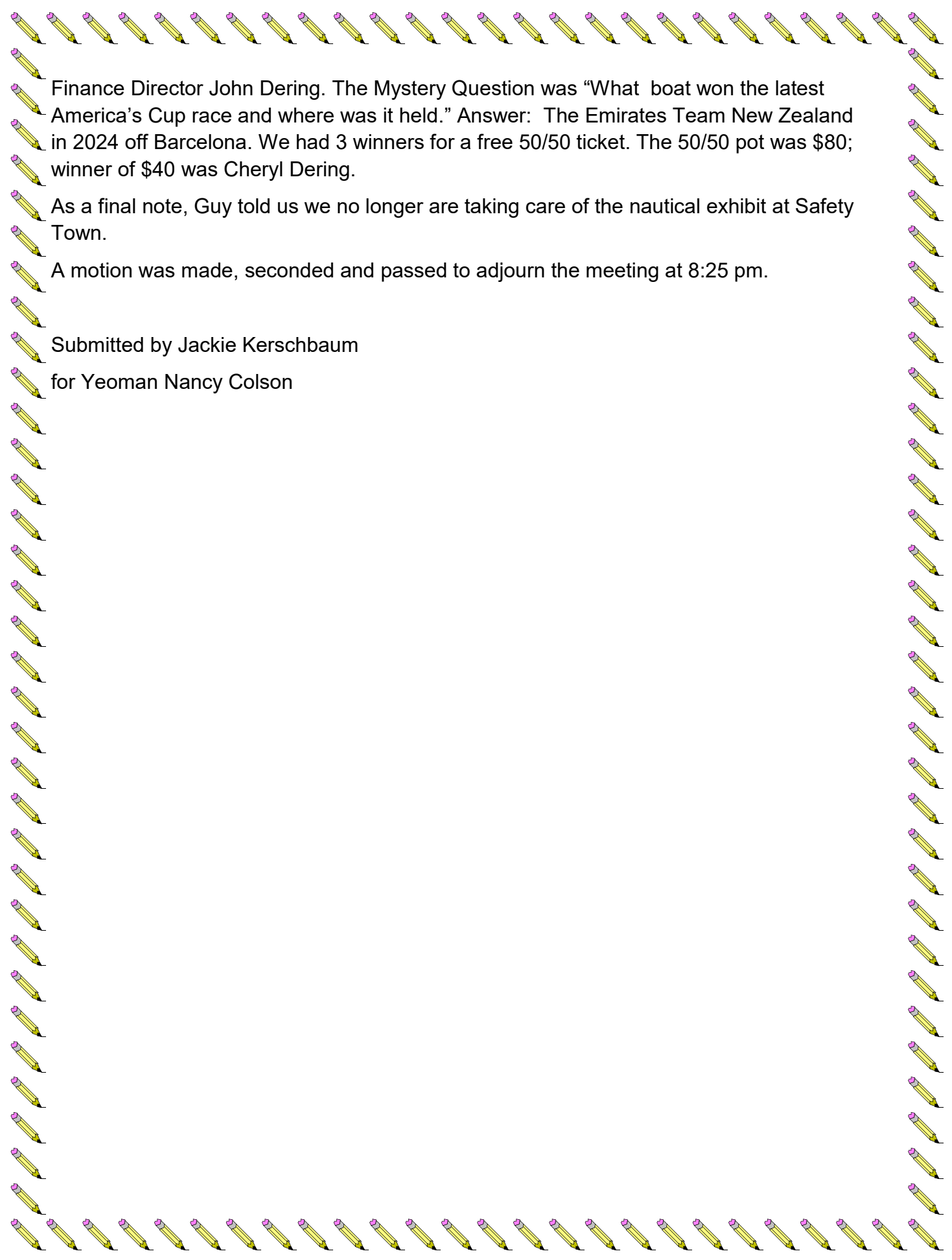
Chris Michaux, Purser reported \$2,376.63 in bank and \$646.25 in cash box. She has membership cards.

Sue Perry, Social told us the next general meeting is on Tuesday, February 3. A few snacks would be great. Birthday Dinner for January is Thursday 1/15/26 at the Port Richey Carrabba's Restaurant, 6pm. Sign up please.

Finance John Dering reported he has hats, burgees, visors and coffee cups are plentiful. 50/50 pot is \$80. The winner is Cheryl Dering \$40

Racing Director Eric Glaser has set 6 races for this year, 3 in spring and 3 in fall. The first race is February 22. Before the General Meeting on February 3rd, he will hold an information meeting for any people who are interested in learning about racing or taking part in it.

Kayak Director Hessel Dijkstra has a trip scheduled for Saturday, January 17th. After breakfast at Beacon Woods Café, a short drive to Tarpon Springs takes us to Craig Park. Lunch after will be decided by folks on the trip.



Finance Director John Dering. The Mystery Question was “What boat won the latest America’s Cup race and where was it held.” Answer: The Emirates Team New Zealand in 2024 off Barcelona. We had 3 winners for a free 50/50 ticket. The 50/50 pot was \$80; winner of \$40 was Cheryl Dering.

As a final note, Guy told us we no longer are taking care of the nautical exhibit at Safety Town.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm.

Submitted by Jackie Kerschbaum  
for Yeoman Nancy Colson

## "8 BELLS" CEREMONY



On ships, each day is divided into 6 four-hour intervals. The ship's bell was sounded at the end of each half hour during the four-hour interval, with one strike for each successive half hour, up to 8 strikes (8 bells) at the end of the 4 hour period. The bell was struck in a pattern of pairs for easier counting, with the odd bell at the end of the sequence.

The ships crew was divided into between two to four groups called "watches". Each watch would take its turn for 4 hours, performing essential activities such as manning the helm, navigating, and keeping a lookout. When the bell was stuck 8 times, it would mark the end of the sailors 4 hour watch (8 bells).



It has been an HBYC tradition that at the end of each year, we ring "8 bells" in memory of members who have passed away during the past year, to signify the end of their "watch", and that they may now rest in peace.

Gene Micheau had lead the 8-Bells ceremony for many years. Sadly, Gene passed away in 2021. Guy Colson has now been leading this ceremony for us.

During 2025 we said good-bye to the following members, and sounded 8 bells in their memory. We hold these member in our hearts and prayers.

**BILL ROBERTS** (January)

**DON HIMES** (April) : HBYC Past Commodore 2007, 2014, 2021  
HBYC Vice Commodore 2025

## January 2026 Membership Report

### Birthdays for January:

- 1/3 Joan Berends
- 1/6 Shawn Rodel
- 1/10 Hessel Dijkstra
- 1/15 Sandy Mooney
- 1/18 Marianne Lucas
- 1/19 Susan Perry
- 1/31 Tanya Hamilton



### Wedding Anniversaries for January:

- 1/16 Ed and Nancy Huberts



Dues: If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership for 2026! See "myhbyc.com" for information regarding on-line renewal and payments.

*Valery Strauss*

Membership Director

# Social Committee Report – January 2026

Hello members,

This is a new year and the social committee has plans to keep many of the clubs traditions and hopefully try a few new events. My hope is that you will come and join us, and have as much fun as we have had in the past.

Staying with one of our traditions, we had a potluck dinner before our January meeting. The food was plentiful and delicious. There is always a great variety.

The Birthday/Anniversary Dinner will be at Carrabba's in Port Richey, on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. If you did not sign up at the meeting, and you would like to join us, please contact me by the 11<sup>th</sup>. I will need a correct count to call in a reservation.

A sincere thank you to all the members that help set up before the meeting and clean up after. Many hands make light work.

We will be bowling on January 11<sup>th</sup> at Lane Glo North. We meet there at 6PM. We may not be the best bowlers, but we certainly have a good time being bad. If you are interested in joining our small group, please call Toni ahead of time.

If you would like to bring a dessert to share at our February meeting, I would greatly appreciate it. I will be absent at this meeting due to surgery.

Wishing you all a safe and happy New Year.

*Sue Perry*

Social Director



# Bowling January 11th



**LANE GLO NORTH-6PM**

Contact Toni Elliott at 727-831-5683



# MEET US AT CARRABBA'S



Dinner is at 6PM, on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Carrabba's is located at 10110 U.S. 19 in Port Richey.

Please let me know if you will be attending by January 11<sup>th</sup>.  
I have to confirm reservations with the restaurant.

Sue Perry 518-821-0109 or email: [gelineaulpn@gmail.com](mailto:gelineaulpn@gmail.com)

## Racing Report - January 2026

It's that time of year!! The days are getting longer and the temperatures are beginning to warm. With that said, I'm sure everyone is eager to get back out on the water and do some racing.

On February 3, prior to our general membership meeting, we will have our 2026 HBYC racing season meeting. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. All captains, crew and those interested in crewing are encouraged to attend. We will cover topics such as; the 2026 calendar, entry fees and registration, courses, awards and post race get togethers.

Our Season Opener Race will be held on Sunday, February 22.

*Eric Glaser*

HBYC Race Director

# Kayaking

## 2026 HBYC Kayaking Schedule

January 17 - Craig Park Tarpon Springs

February 14 - Homosassa Springs

March 14 - Brasher Park New Port Richey

April 11 - Chassahowitzka River

May 16 - Silver Springs

June 13 - Bayport Park to Jenkin's Creek Park

July 18 - Weedon Island Preserve

August 15 - No Event

September 19 - Coastal Cleanup

October 17 - Weeki-Wache Springs

November 14 - Crystal River

December 12 - No Event

## **Kayak Trip January 17 Tarpon Springs**

Meet at 8AM at Beacon Wood's Family Restaurant parking lot. 12362 US-19, Hudson, FL 34667

Put-in & Take out at the boat ramp of Craig Park. The ramp is opposite 105 S Springs Blvd Tarpon Springs.

No rentals available.

A kayak tour through the residential bayous and Anclote River. We have a chance to see Manatees and dolphins in Bayou Crystal Lake bordering Craig park.

Lunch, we have two choices:

Rusty Bellies Waterfront Grill has been chosen for lunch as they have ample parking in the busy touristy Sponge Docks area. They have a great view over the river from their deck. Please note, this restaurant has mainly sea food and prices have gone up recently.

As alternative if the majority chooses we could have a picnic in Craig Park.

If you didn't sign up at the Meeting, Contact Hessel Dijkstra at 727-271-6335 or email: [hesseldyk@gmail.com](mailto:hesseldyk@gmail.com)

## FOR SAIL / WANTED/MISCELLANEOUS

### Mystery Question:

What US President famously popularized the phrase:

"A rising tide lifts all boats"

Contact Commodore Guy Colson with the correct answer for a free 50/50 ticket.

203-586-9033 or email: noslocg@yahoo.com

### Next General Meeting

Tuesday, February 3,  
Sea Ranch Civic Association Clubhouse

6:30 Racing Meeting  
7:30 General Meeting

### Next Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 7:00 PM  
Location: TBD

Boat Deliveries, Sailing Lessons, and miscellaneous boat works at a reasonable price.

Call Captain Mike Nunes at 908-887-3685 or email MikeJNunes@aol.com

## FOR SALE

**HBYC Cruising Guide:** This is a guide to HBYC member's favorite anchorages in South Florida. It includes color charts, directions and information about the anchorages. A PDF version of the guide is available for free for HBYC members. A printed color hard copy is available for \$10 each. Contact Guy Colson if you would like a hard copy of the guide or a link to the PDF version.



**Post Office Box 6152**

**Hudson, FL 34674-6152**

**Guy Colson, Commodore**

Meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Sea Ranch  
Clubhouse, 13711 Veronica Drive, Hudson, FL 34667

[www.myhbyc.com](http://www.myhbyc.com)