

Welcome Ian Chandley Our New MBYC Commodore



Ian Chandley

I was born in Kingston in 1968 and was introduced to the sea at an early age by my father, who was an avid sailor. Most of my early memories center around power boating, but I was introduced to sailing at age 8, taking a sailing course at the Royal Jamaica Yacht Club in the virtually indestructible Mirror dinghies and immediately fell in love with racing.

In 1979, I was part of the largest team of Junior Sailors chosen to represent Jamaica at the Caribbean Junior Sailing Championships in Barbados – 16 sailors in all. While we did not distinguish our beloved Jamaica much beyond the back of the fleet, we had tremendous fun and it was our first exposure to sailing in open water.

The following year, I started to sail Mirror dinghies in Montego Bay with my skipper, John Ralston, on his boat Jo-Jo. We would load up Jo-Jo onto the back of his father's Nissan pickup, pile blankets, pillows, snacks and a transistor radio underneath the boat, and scramble in for the 4 hour ride to MoBay. One learns about true friendship when sailing in close quarters, but those rides to MoBay REALLY tested.....

Several years later, I began to sail around Jamaica onboard Picante, a Kingston based Cal 2-30, to the MoBay Easter Regatta, where "Picante's" sole mission was to beat "that pregnant bullfrog" (aka, "Kaper"). The racing was intense, the cussing was fun and camaraderie between the clubs was great. MBYC also holds a special place in my heart as this was where I met my wife, Laura, when sailing on Douglas Graham's boat, "Gallivant". She literally fell into my arms climbing aboard and the rest is history! We are the proud parents of a 10 year daughter, Rachael, who is an avid equestrienne, and who would love to learn to sail, but just does not have the time because horses come first!!

I have sailed in long distance races around Jamaica and on Lake Ontario, participated in regattas with up to 350 keelboats ranging from J-24's to 70' IOR racers. I have found that there is an amazing camaraderie and fellowship among sailors, no matter where in the world I go.

I am a Project Manager, but spent many of my formative years in the hospitality industry, culminating in Laura's and my move to Montego Bay in 2000 to be part of the Ritz Carlton opening team. I left the hospitality industry in 2003 to return to my first love, construction, where I have remained.

My "Grand Vision" for the club is for it to develop it into the social center of Montego Bay, a place where people can escape from life's daily challenges; a place where families can be relaxed and their children safe; a place where people go to meet their friends, make new friends, and have fun. This means looking at diversifying the activities currently offered and perhaps adding new ones: there is a movement to add a squash court and an additional tennis court. While these additions may not "fit in" with what the yacht club's primary offering is about, other clubs in the region offer activities different from boating in order to involve people who may not want to boat, but still enjoy the ambience and/or location of the club. Clubs are places where people who share similar interests gather to meet one another and enjoy those interests, and they are only successful when they have an active, participative membership.

The club is facing several challenges that are holding back its potential: they are financial, reputational and infrastructural. All three are interrelated. The club, as with any entity, needs money to pay bills and invest in order to keep providing what its "customers" (i.e. members) want and expect. This has been somewhat hampered by large receivables, due primarily to members not paying docking and other fees. I am confident that the club management team, Judith Dear and Heather Vernon, will make inroads into resolving this issue over the next 3 months. The receivables are, however, only one part of the problem. The club's rates are extremely reasonable, something that visitors constantly comment on, so a review of the rates members pay, and the cost structures underlying those rates will start within the next 6 weeks.

The club's reputation within the Montego Bay community is one of select exclusivity; a reputation that I believe is hurting the club. People join clubs to participate in shared activities, but those activities should be fun and welcoming so that members can tell every one of their friends who may one day become members. A great salesman once told me, the "the worst reputation to have is NO reputation. A good reputation makes my job easy; a bad reputation can be turned around to make the customer a lifelong client; but having NO reputation requires more money and effort than the other two combined". I believe that with the amazing committee, management team and concessionaire that the club now has in place, it will begin to achieve wonderful things.

The last challenge the club is facing is infrastructural. In order to attract new members and increase member participation, the club needs to invest in facilities that people want – racquet courts and a gymnasium are such examples. A committee has been set up to develop a long term development plan for the club, a plan that will address maintenance issues, cost reduction measures and improvement of services to name a few.

On behalf of the management and committee, I thank the members for entrusting us with YOUR club to make it the best club! We look forward to your participation and ideas.

Easter Regatta Youth Sailing Award Zoe Knowles



We are proud to announce that the amazing Zoe Knowles was awarded the trophy for Youth Sailor of the Year at the Easter Regatta prize giving ceremony last month. Zoe's enthusiasm for sailing, her dedication to the sport, her "can do" attitude and her solid sailing skills all contributed to her receiving this richly deserved award.

Zoe is also a regular and valued crew member on Renegade. You're a lucky skipper Richard! Congratulations from all of us on your award Zoe. You've definitely earned it!



Allan Jay Williams received the All Comer's trophy for racing with Billy Thompson on one of the Dragons, Snarl. Allan Jay helmed and Billy crewed. Well done AJ!

RJYC Round Jamaica Cruise Adventure



In the wake of the annual Round Jamaica Easter Cruise where 2 boats were lost – Tai Pan and Pegasus, both sailing independently from the fleet at the time of their respective incidents - Alan Ross, the cruise organizer together with the fleet skippers, have determined that some valuable lessons may be learned from reviewing the events of the trip.

With Alan's permission, I am sharing with you his sage and compelling message to skippers of the boats who participated in the RJYC cruise, and to some of our MBYC sailors.

Fellow cruisers

Well, some time has passed, and a few things have started functioning as they used to before we set off on what turned out to be an epic or eventful or even tragic cruise. I don't think some bits will ever recover their pre-cruise condition. But I'm always hopeful. In the meantime, my feet and my hands still hurt like hell! Now, why is that?

And, some habits die hard. Come sundown I still look

around to see if the Moose is up and Harry's Bar is open. It's a bad habit. But I'm hopeful the treatment will help, and I'll make a full recovery...

And now for the serious bit -

I feel strongly that there are some lessons to be learned from this cruise, lessons that could be of help to all of us, lessons that will ensure the continuing safety and delight of the annual Easter Cruise, and which may help the next cruise organizer. I don't know what these lessons are, but they are probably tucked away inside all of us ready to be teased out in free and open discussion.

And, of course, two boats have been tragically lost, although all who were on them at the time they got into difficulties are safe and well. Plenty of people have asked me questions that I simply don't know the answers to. So I feel it's right that we review the whole cruise, from planning to execution, from destinations to communication, from safety to decision-making. The aim is to improve our sailing, to improve our boats, to improve our preparation and to learn from the mistakes we made as well as the things we did well. It's an opportunity also to thank those who helped the fleet and those who helped individuals when they needed it. And, of course, it's an opportunity for those skippers and crew challenged by unexpected events, to describe the events as they unfolded and the decisions they took.

So, I'd like to invite you all to an informal REVIEW of the Easter Cruise. Bring members of your crew as well if you think they can add to the discussion.

Alan Ross

Note: The "Moose" and "Harry's Bar" that Alan refers to are the moose flag and the "Harry Hirsch" yacht in the photo.

Sailing Calendar

<http://www.mobayyachtclub.com/>

May

- Saturday, May 11th – MBYC J22 Lady Skipper Evening Series - Series 2 Day 1
- Saturday, May 25th – RJYC MBYC J22 Clash 2 – 6 Races
- Sunday, May 26th – RJYC MBYC J22 Clash 2 – 6 Races

June

- Sunday, June 2nd – MBYC J22 Lady Skipper Evening Series – Series 2 Day 2

- Saturday, June 29th – MBYC The Great Yacht Race All Comers Series -Day 1
- Sunday, June 30th – MBYC J22 Bogue Lagoon Race Series – Series 3 Day 1

Nina and Defender Host US Visitors



On Wednesday afternoon, April 23rd, Winston Dear on Nina and Jim Wilson on Defender graciously hosted a group of 10 US visitors on their J22s. The group, who are members of the Santa Monica and Santa Barbara Yacht Clubs in California, was staying in Reading and had asked Judith it would be possible to "go for a sail". Judith put out the word and Winston and Jim were happy to oblige. A wonderful afternoon of sailing was had by all. Thanks to Winston and Jim for their hospitality.



The visitors were most appreciative of the opportunity to sail with our members and gave us burgees from their home clubs. MBYC reciprocated with the MBYC burgee for both the Santa Monica and Santa Barbara clubs. So if you're ever in Santa Monica or Santa Barbara



MBYC The Great Yacht Race

All Comers

Saturday, June 29th and Sunday, June 30th will be the first of two racing series combining an All Comers race with a J22 race. The series is being organized by Winston Dear and all races would finish at the Wharf House.

“I am thinking that we could incorporate an ALL COMERS RACE from the yacht club (staggered start) to the first Bogue Lagoon Channel mark. We would finish the cruisers there and the J22's can go on to finish their race as planned. The Cruisers would then be able to start their motors and go through the channel to their overnight mooring in the Bogue Lagoon. Everybody would then converge on the Wharf House for the Sunday parties.”

“We have not tied down the social activities at Wharf House yet. The kids are a very important part of the club and we should encourage activities for them. If they are going I have arranged for the boats to be berthed at the Wharf House. Linda Dear is organizing a Treasure Hunt for them whereby the clues can only be accessed by boat!”

The second part of the series will be held Saturday, July 13th and Sunday, July 14th. If you are interested in participating in this very exciting series, please contact Judith Dear, Club Manager, for more information.

Twenty Two on a '22!



Can you recall when and why this photo was taken?

Best/funniest/most complete/most creative answer, including the name of the boat, its skipper, and the names of everyone on board, will be included in the June Newsletter, along with the name of the person who got it right!

Send your response to: carolesmall@shaw.ca

Passages and Scuttlebutt

We're trying out a new in the newsletter; **Passages and Scuttlebutt**. Our aim is to record and share the celebrations, visits, comings, passings and goings of our members and their families. We also want to dish up the newsy bits and goings on around the club.

If you have anything you'd like to include in this section, please email me with the information at carolesmall@shaw.ca.

Club Manager's Report

Judith Dear

MBYC – COMMITTEES 2013-2014

To oversee and ensure the financial viability and effective operation of the MBYC, Commodore Ian Chandley has appointed the following committees with the associated areas of responsibility:

Finance- Noel Harty, Jo Meany and Elizabeth Scotton

- revenue sources
- cost management
- fee review
- fundraising (in conjunction with the Social Committee)
- liability
- insurance review

Articles & Bye-Laws - Winston Dear, Ian Chandley, Lyn Langford, Bob Mallasch, Simon Clarke and Noel Harty

- update Articles and Bye-Laws to reflect current needs of MBYC

Capital Development- Ian Chandley, Winston Dear, Lyn Langford, Noel Harty and Jim Wilson

- dock upgrades (utility boxes, supply, restriction etc)
- tennis/squash court, members' Pavilion on roof
- bury overhead electrical supply wires
- explore solar/wind electrical generation options
- small boat racks
- laundry facilities
- cost reduction investments
- lobby and washroom upgrades
- boat repair area
- gymnasium
- survey of club boundaries and plan

Social and Membership Recruitment - Sasha Hossman, Tanique Ventura, Julie Knowles and Nigel Knowles

- members' entertainment
- tournaments - tennis, fishing etc.
- summer camps
- fundraisers
- re-sign lapsed members
- raise MBYC profile amongst professional community
- reinvigorate current but not active membership
- recruit new membership

Boating (Power and Sail)- Sasha Hossman, Nigel Knowles and Carolyn Barrett

- safety officer
- boat owner needs
- boat owner responsibilities
- boating activities for the year

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE – Saturday, June 15, 2013

The social and membership committee is planning a membership drive to be held on Saturday, June 15th at the MBYC premises. They will be asking that all areas of the club membership, such as, fishing, junior sailing, sailing, boating and social participate.

Floyd Logan will be running a mini tennis clinic as one of the features and plans are being made to entertain the children of all ages who are not interested in sailing.

Each member is asked to bring a prospective person/family to the club where we would showcase our facilities.

More information will be sent to you as soon their plans are confirmed. In the mean time, please email your valued suggestions to Judith@mobayyachtclub.com.

FAMILY FUN DAY – Sunday, July 14, 2013

The social and membership committee is planning a family fun day for members at the Wharf House on Sunday, July 14th in conjunction with the second part of the Great Yacht Race series. Information will be made available to members as soon the planning is complete and details are available.

MOTHER'S DAY CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH May 12, 2013

Treat Mom to a Champagne Brunch at the club, Robbie's Seahorse Grill, on Sunday, May 12th, from 10:30 am to 2 pm. Cost is \$2750 (plus GCT) per person and a

complementary Mimosa is included. Kids 10 and under eat for half price!

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND BYE-LAWS

Your committee is reviewing this very important area of the club's operation. As soon as this is completed, an EGM will be called.

UPDATING ACCOUNTING SYSTEM

Josephine Meany is assisting Heather Vernon in updating the club's accounting system.

POOL TABLE

One of our members kindly donated an amazing pool table lamp. The pool table has been cleaned and will be balanced soon. Once we have completed this exercise, we plan to have a pool tournament.

SKITTLE TABLE

Can anyone assist us in repairing/upgrading the table we have? It would be such an asset for the young people to enjoy. Just to clarify, children are not allowed, by law, to be in the bar area.

TABLE TENNIS

Does any member have a table tennis table that they would like to donate to the club? Again for the young people!!!

Outstanding Fees and Charges

At the recent AGMs, the issue of our accounts receivable due to outstanding fees and charges owing by members was raised. The current overdue accounts receivable over 90 days totals approximately \$3.5 million dollars (Jamaican). A significant portion of this debt is attributable to outstanding dock charges.

This liability represents a staggering debt for our small club to carry. It means that we are severely constrained in our efforts to initiate capital improvements, keep the club and its infrastructure in good repair, pay salaries and even pay ongoing expenses.

On behalf of all our paying members, it is our intention to vigorously pursue this debt with those who are in arrears. With legal and other advice, the Committee and I will be putting together a plan for this initiative over the next month. One of the ideas we are considering is publishing the names of the individuals who are chronically in arrears together with the amounts owed.

The Commodore, the Club and the Committee are appealing to those individuals who are in arrears with their fees and charges to please come into the club as soon as possible and arrange to pay their debts.

Dockmaster's Report

David Lewis

Greetings from the dock. April was the first month of the official handover of the dock. I would like to thank Mr. Lyons for "showing me the ropes" over the past months. His experience, patience, and intimate knowledge of boats have always kept members and visitors feeling safe and at home at The Montego Bay Yacht Club. I intend to work toward establishing that level of confidence among members.

Launch Event

The exciting event for the month was the launching of C'est La Vie, a sailboat owned by member Giorgio Rusconi. The operation began at approximately 0700 in the trailer yard where C'est La Vie was hoisted by a fifty ton crane and placed, ever so carefully, on a "low-boy" tractor trailer. The tractor then transported C'est La Vie to the launch ramp with the crane following to the bulkhead adjacent to the ramp. After the sailboat was hoisted and lowered, again with great care, into the water the mast was stepped with the assistance of the crane and riggings attached. By 1700 she was floating happily in a slip on the dock. The operation took place without incidence and with help from many volunteers. A special thanks to Mr. Brian Langford and Mr. Clifton Hylton for their help that day.

Dock Comings and Goings

April brought eighteen transient boats to the Club, all sailboats, the majority of which moored out on anchor. Those that moored on the dock stayed for extended periods. The Executive Committee and Club management are working towards maximizing space on the dock, and members' future cooperation is anticipated.

Fuel Sales

The Club sold 4630 liters of diesel and 2500 liters of petroleum last month. I encourage all members to purchase fuel from the Club as it is difficult to provide the service without generating enough revenue.

Dinghies

There have been a few problems involving dinghies on and around the dock. Members, please remember that dinghies are only to be left in designated areas and that unauthorized use of other members' property is strictly prohibited. Let us all work together to foster a feeling of community on the dock.

Sailing Quote

"A tourist remains an outsider throughout his visit; but a sailor is part of the local scene from the moment he arrives."

-Anne Davison