



# Montego Bay Yacht Club 'Sloop News'

## December 2016

### COMMODORE'S REPORT



**Nigel Knowles**

Ho Ho Ho, Christmas will soon be upon us and Santa will be checking his list (twice) to find out who has been naughty or nice. Let's hope all our members are on the good list and that Christmas and the New Year bring to all of you good cheer, family fun times and blessings for 2017.



As you may have seen via our website we have had the sad passing of one of our club's members, Gene Drummond, granddaughter of Walter Fletcher, one of the club's founding members. Gene was the life and soul of the club whenever she was there, and always the key guest at sailing regattas and awards events, enthusiastically giving out trophies and gongs as our very own VIP. Gene also personally designed and created the highly valued **Hunter Cup** that is awarded each Easter to the member who has contributed the most effort and support to the club in the past year. It is an honour to all those who deservedly receive it and we will ensure that Gene's legacy is remembered by awarding the trophy every year. Our condolences go out to all of Gene's family and so many dear friends.

She will be truly missed by all who knew her. Grant Drummond has written a short piece in remembrance of his mother and it appears later in this newsletter.

I hope that many of you have already booked for the fun Members Lunch at the club on the 18<sup>th</sup> December. It was such a great success last year, as well as being a fabulous social gathering. Of course Santa will be making an appearance and enthralling the children too, so I suggest you book your places for this soiree before we sell out of tickets.

We have just completed our immensely enjoyable Jamin International J22 sailing regatta with three teams coming from Cayman Islands and one from Canada to test and challenge the skills of the Jamaican crews. From Jamaica we were pleased to welcome two Kingston boats, in addition to the three J22's representing our MBYC home team. It was a great event which you can read more about later in this newsletter, with guests and locals having a blast both on and off of



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the water. A very social and hard racing weekend was enjoyed by all. For a great write up, including an exciting play by play of the action and fabulous photos of the Jamin regatta follow this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/73ix63p6vp73vw5/Jamin%202016%20write%20up.docx?dl=0>

As you should be aware we are fast approaching our Biannual Pineapple Cup race next February which will be followed by the brand NEW Cuba Cup starting from our club. We have 16 boats entered and more promised for the Main Pineapple Cup race from Miami to Montego Bay. Cuba Cup has fewer boats which is to be expected on an inaugural event like this, but the word is spreading and we expect more boats to join us over the next 2 months. You can keep fully up-to-date on all that is happening via our web site and dedicated Pineapple Cup face book page; <https://www.facebook.com/PineappleCupMontegoBayRace> . Soon we will be looking for volunteers to assist us in the receiving of boats and crews, nerve centre operations and social event support, so please keep your diaries clear for helping, taking part in and enjoying the 33<sup>rd</sup> Pineapple cup race from February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017.

In closing I must thank our great staff and committee for all the hard work they have put into our club in 2016. I hope we can keep improving and moving forward to even greater things for the Montego Bay Yacht Club in 2017.

Have a very Happy Christmas and I wish you all a very prosperous 2017 when it comes.

Cheers, Nige

### Members' Christmas Lunch, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Santa at the Montego Bay Yacht Club Members Xmas Lunch**

12.30 Christmas Lunch  
2.30 Santa Arrives by boat\*

Adults J\$3,500 inc GCT  
Children J\$1,825 inc GCT  
Advanced Reservations required

\*Please drop off Childs wrapped Santa Gift by Saturday 17th

For more information call: 979 8038  
979 8650/551 6475

**CHRISTMAS MENU  
Sunday 18th December 2016**

*Salads*

Mixed Green Salad With Arugula, Red Onion,, Granny Smith Apple, Mint & Candied Walnuts With Pineapple Poppyseed Dressing  
Potato Salad With Roasted Bell Peppers, Crimini Mushrooms & Bacon With Herb Dressing  
Cauliflower, Zucchini, Broccoli & Grape Tomato Salad

*Entrees*

Roast Beef, Citrus, Carrot & Feta With Melon Vinaigrette  
Moroccan Spiced Rubbed Beef Rib Eye With Peppercorn Dijon Cream Sauce  
Baked Sugar Cured Ham With Mango-Rum Glaze  
Herb Roast Turkey With Traditional Stuffing With Sausages & Dried Fruits  
Baked Salmon with Crispy Herb Parmesan Crust  
Spicy Sautéed Shrimp With Tomato, Garlic, Ginger -Soy  
Medley Of Seasonal Vegetables With Sweet & Sour Dill Sauce  
Candied Sweet Potato With Marshmallows & Pecan Crust

*Dessert*

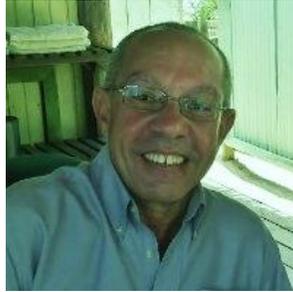
Platter of Fresh Fruits in Season  
Assortment of Christmas Pastries



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### MBYC MANAGER'S REPORT



**Taddy Tavares, Club Manager**  
**'Tis the Season ..... Happy, Merry!**

### PROGRESS OF CLUB UPGRADES

With just a few more aspects to be completed, the Almond Room will have a fresher look. The walls have been painted and 4 new fans supplied by the Seahorse Grill were installed. This will make the room much cooler and more comfortable to attract more potential meetings and functions.

While on the project of painting, the Committee Room will not be neglected, as it too will get fresh coats of paint.

Plans are now being discussed to relocate the garbage disposal bin to a more accessible area, particularly for the truck and to enclose it with a gate to make the garbage less visible in the parking lot.

### EVENTS, FUNCTIONS, EXHIBITIONS

The annual members' Christmas lunch hosted by the Montego Bay Yacht Club will be held on Sun. Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Reservations necessary, by the latest, Fri. Dec. 16th. Cost: adults \$3,500; children \$1,825 – prices include G.C.T. Santa wishes to remind parents that all wrapped presents must be delivered by Sat. Dec. 17. There will also be the usual informal stalls selling puddings, jellies, clothing, jewelry and tableware.

The Seahorse Grill will offer a Christmas Day Dinner Buffet from 3:00 – 10:00 p.m. and on December 31, Seahorse Grill will also offer a New Year's Eve Dinner with set menu and live background music. Menus and prices will be posted to your mailing list very soon.

This Saturday, Rohan Benitez on *Sea Mix*, caught a very large marlin several miles off Montego Bay. It is estimated to have weighed approximately 557 lbs.!! The national record holds at 592 lbs.



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The J22 JAMIN Regatta was a huge success on the week-end of Dec. 2-4. A special thanks to PJ Stewart who donated the perpetual trophy for this and future JAMIN races. And much gratitude to Frank May and Peter Harper for donating the general trophies. Commodore Nigel Knowles exchanged the MBYC burgee with Michelle Riordan of the Nepean Sailing Club at the awards ceremony.

### JAMIN PHOTOS





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### **IN MEMORY OF MY MOTHER, GENE DRUMMOND** **Grant Drummond**

Gene Agnes Drummond (nee Fletcher) was born on Fort Street, Montego Bay on August 11, 1930. Today the Fletcher home still stands and now houses a restaurant/nightclub called MoBay Proper. Her grandfather, Walter Fletcher, was the founding member of the yacht club, along with his family, Robert, Leslie, Miss Ann and David and Gene. She lived in Jamaica and was an active sailor with her brother David as well as running an efficient galley while aboard her parents' sloop Ranger and then Koho.

At the age of 15 Gene was sent to Canada to attend Mount Allison University to study fine arts. After graduating she found a job at the early IBM Company coding punch cards. While in Toronto she met Terry Drummond who later became her husband.

Gene had three children, David Ross Drummond, Stanley Grant Drummond and Ann Louise Drummond, now Ann Perry.

Gene was a creative person who loved to work with her hands. She was an accomplished weaver, leather and silver artist. Her love ended up being silver jewelry making and she was awarded several finishes in national competitions and contracted to make pieces for the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton Ontario. Gene was also contracted by the national government of Canada to teach Native Canadians the art of jewellery making.

As Gene got older, her ability to see properly interfered with her ability to make the high quality jewelry she had in the past, but by no means did it hinder her creativity. Anyone who knew Gene would attest to her unique way of seeing things and her fun, energetic and creative way of doing whatever she embarked upon.

One of Gene's greatest loves was sailing and she never missed an opportunity to spend time on Phil and Julia's boat, *Diva*.



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Gene passed away on November 29, 2016. She was much loved and will be very much missed by her family and many friends.



### SEPTEMBER 2016 MBYC MARLIN FISHING TOURNAMENT Bobby Stewart



Once again this year, the last week of September saw the start of the 56th Montego Bay Yacht Club Marlin Tournament which, in the last 2 years, has launched to the top and become recognized by all as the pre-eminent tournament event on the island. We are pleased extend our thanks, once again, to our presenting headline sponsors, Digicel Business and Appleton Estate Rum. Not only did Appleton Estate lend their wonderful spirit to all aspects of the event, but Digicel Business also took the time to install a truly amazing hi-speed Internet service to the docks and club-house for the week of the tournament.

Demand for the event continues to grow with up to 48 teams requesting space on the dock for the week of fishing – in the end, sadly, not all could be accommodated, due to space. However, on September 21<sup>st</sup>, right



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on time at 7:30am, it was a beautiful sight to see the 37 competing boats gun their engines and head for the horizon at the starter flare, fired by Commodore Nigel Knowles. Weather conditions were lovely, and some boats found it hard to resist stopping for a swim at the end of the day, before returning to the club.

After an 18 year absence, we were thrilled to welcome Dr. Guy Harvey back to the MBYC docks for this year's running of the event, having apparently been very pleased at the recent overhaul and turnaround of the event. Guy and his family fished on **Oh Reely**, and he also brought along his videographer to record some of the event. The day before, Guy also gave an excellent presentation to the competitors and the crowds on the very latest research and knowledge on conservation and tracking of game fish such as Marlin.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to Guy Harvey for his very generous sponsorship of the tournament fishing shirts this year, which are without doubt the finest shirts we have handed out to our visiting teams to date! Also taking the time to check out our event this year was the editor-in-chief of Marlin Magazine, Mr Andrew Cox – whose coverage you can see in their January issue, which hit the newsstands last week. Also in attendance was Mr Bill Boyce, a figurehead of sport fishing television, who you can readily search for online, and who is producing video coverage of the event.

The fishing shirts weren't the only thing that was tops again this year. Those who managed to see or experience part of the event would have noticed that the production values and execution quality were the highest in the history of this important MBYC tournament, thanks to our new partnership with Main Event Entertainment Group Ltd. The quality showed at every turn, with LED screens above the docks, behind the stage, and even at the beach, as well as bespoke tents and seating at the awards ceremony.

Most importantly, despite this level of execution, we were still able to reduce the spend on many parts of the execution of the event, resulting in a significant profit to the club this year, the best that I personally know of to date. We look forward to continuing this trend in the future.

The fishing was a bit slower this year than for the last two years – I guess you can't have a record catch every year, or they wouldn't call it fishing! 16 Marlin were scored, 15 of which were releases, and 1 of which was brought to the scales. Once again we had a significant number of visiting boats from both Cayman and Kingston. Our Haitian friends flew via Miami especially for the event, and fished with Fair Prospect, after their boat **Jwilavi**, became unavailable for the event. That's dedication!

The winning team this year was **Trading Time** from Cayman, with 800 Points and two Blue Marlin releases. This was their second consecutive year of participating in the MBYC tournament. Second place was secured by **Insatiable**, also with 800 points, and third place was filled by **Stew Fish II**, who also brought in one of their Marlin, which won heaviest Marlin at 372 pounds.



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This year, we made a change to recognize the top ten teams by Marlin points, and full details of these winners, as well as all the other prizes awarded for the other tournament categories, can be found on the club's new website for the tournament, which launches this week at [www.MoBayMarlin.com](http://www.MoBayMarlin.com)

We'd like to extend our special thanks to the Associate sponsors who, along with our headline sponsors Digicel Business and Appleton Estate, contributed significant support in financial, product and logistical terms, to make the event a success this year. They are: BMW, Caribbean Airlines, FFK Insurance, JPS (who kindly connected our new power transformer for the docks), Main Event Entertainment, NCB Capital Markets, Sandals Resorts, Secrets Resorts, and Yamaha Jamaica (who provided a nice new engine for the MBYC club boat).

Other supporting sponsors include Fontana Pharmacy, KFC (who also provided meals for the canoe fishermen), Megamart, Phase 3 (who streamed the prize giving live on Facebook), and Nirvana Magazine (who, along with help from Cap'n Alexander-Knipp, also built the new tournament website, and is now producing the tournament magazine).

And, of course, while it is impossible to name everyone personally, I would be remiss if I did not recognize and show great appreciation for everyone that played a part and helped make the tournament great! From the dedicated staff at the club, to the members and the committee, with special mentions to Heather, Zeirain, Dawson, Denise, Cathy Charley and Bryan Langford. In addition, we are truly grateful for those who volunteered their time and flew in from Trinidad and Cayman to help execute the event: Current and former heads of the TTGFA, Marylin Sheppard, and Reginald and Brenda Mac Lean, as well as, from Cayman, Donna Sjostrom.

We look forward to you enjoying the event again next year, and to maintaining the momentum in making this the best event of its kind, as well as a continuing positive contribution to the club.





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The MBYC Newsletter is compiled, edited and published by Carole Small with the invaluable contributions and help of many others. Please send your newsletter comments, photos and contributions to [carolesmall@shaw.ca](mailto:carolesmall@shaw.ca).