



Montego Bay Yacht Club 'Sloop News'

January 2017

COMMODORE'S REPORT



Nigel Knowles

Happy New Year to all our members and friends at Montego Bay Yacht Club! 2017 looks like it could be a very active and exciting year for our club if our first 2 months are any indication of things to come.

We start off in February with our amazing Pineapple Cup race, covering the 811 nautical miles from Miami to the finish line in Montego Bay. The race starts in less than a month on Friday, Feb 3rd with the first boats expected to arrive Sunday evening or Monday. Hopefully that winning boat will be our very own, and very new Montego Bay Yacht Club entry of *Moementum*, Fredrik Moe's rather beautiful new 60 ft Catamaran, sailing with 5 crew from Mobay, one from Kingston and a very experienced South African captain named "Lucky". Let's hope his name is a great omen for us and our success.

The fleet of 17 boats (and maybe more to be registered by the time the race starts) will be arriving during the week. All boats should be in by Thursday, February 9th in time for the awards dinner on the 10th. The spectacle of these various sized yachts sprinting downwind to the finish line by MBJ is quite a sight. In addition to the awards dinner, social activities are planned to welcome the 180 or more sailors with their families and friends at the club.

Live tracking will be available for all boats during the race. You can follow their progress via the Pineapple Cup website, and hopefully MBYC website too (am still working on that one).

Following on from these Pineapple Cup happenings we will have the boats departing, with a few taking part in the inaugural Cuba Cup. That race starts from MBYC and sees the entrants racing to Havana for the first time in our club's history. This time around the Cuba Cup is likely to be small, but it is an event that we can continue to build on, making our new Western Caribbean series a great winter escape for racers from North America and beyond.



Montego Bay Yacht Club 'Sloop News'

January 2017

I look forward to seeing all our members get involved in these prestigious and world famous MBYC events. We will need volunteers and hosts to assist and guide our visiting boat crews, and to participate in and enjoy the social gatherings that we will be announcing shortly. Details about these positions will be provided soon and sign up sheets are on the club bulletin board. Please sign up or let the office know if you can volunteer so we can find a suitable activity for you to get involved in.

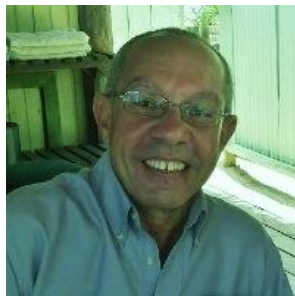
For those of you who were not able to join us on our Christmas members' lunch, you definitely missed a fun afternoon with loads of members turning out. Santa was a big hit, handing out presents to a group of very excited children. A super time was had by all. It really was a hoot – thank you and well done Santa!

Also you should be aware that Hard Rock has now opened and MBYC members receive various discounts (which we hope are more than anyone else gets) so that you can be sure your membership is worth so much more than just belonging to our lovely club. Remember that there are plenty of other third party benefits such as discounts on items like car rental, tyres, cinema tickets, extra points at certain stores, etc. More details are available in the office. Why not invite a friend to join and share in our facilities and the restaurant discount at Sea horse Grill? They may just love it. I certainly do!

We're hoping to see you during the Pineapple Cup, if not sooner.

Cheers, Nige

MBYC MANAGER'S REPORT



Taddy Tavares, Club Manager
Happy New Year!

PROGRESS OF CLUB UPGRADES

Efforts are now underway to improve the speed of the internet in the club as well as on the dock. It seems that former connections were not re-done after alterations for the tournament. Some minor equipment will also be upgraded to achieve enhancements.



Montego Bay Yacht Club 'Sloop News' January 2017

EVENTS, FUNCTIONS, EXHIBITIONS

Plans are now in high gear for the biennial MBYC Pineapple Cup Race scheduled for Feb. 3- 10, 2017, only a few weeks away. The Club extends invitations to members or non-members who wish to volunteer as Duty or Radio Log officers from Feb. 6 – 9 and also partake in the festivities of this highly esteemed event.

Soon to be released is the J22 Racing Schedule Calendar of Events for 2017. Aspiring sailors welcome and are encouraged to join a J22 Sail Team.

The annual members' Xmas lunch hosted by the Montego Bay Yacht Club on Dec. 18th was a great gathering of friends and family just before Christmas. Thanks to Santa Claus, (Jim Kelly, who graciously agreed to don the festive attire) for greeting the children on the dock via his boat-sleigh and distributing gifts to all the children who attended.

The Seahorse Grill laid out a Christmas Day Dinner Buffet on December 31; also a New Year's Eve Dinner with set menu and live background music. Diners who attended say the Chef 'pulled out all the stops' and excellent food was enjoyed by all.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON PHOTOS





Montego Bay Yacht Club 'Sloop News' January 2017



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.