

THE HELMSMAN

Vol. 19, Number 3 - March 2016

OCALA BOAT CLUB **P.O. Box 777, Ocala, FL 34478** **(a non profit organization)**

Regular meeting 3rd Monday of each month
6:30 p.m. — Clubhouse, Ray Wayside Park
(Boat Basin at the Bridge, E. Hwy 40)

OFFICERS - YEAR 2016

Commodore	David Rossiter	(369-9639)
Vice Commodore	Chuck Lemon	(438-3345)
Cruise Master	Chuck Boyett	(291-2079)
Secretary	Flo Hoffman	(687-1011)
Purser	Molly Lemon	(438-3345)
Past Commodore	Bill Hodge	(347-3688)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Executive Board comprises the above listed officers, plus the following Directors:

Dick Charron	(288-1935)	Andrea Rossiter	(369-9639)
Nancy Smith	(687-8133)	Charlie Parkinson	(248-891-5448)
Louise Jensen	(624-3941)	John Beach	(727-271-1731)

Editor: Molly Lemon (438-3345)
E-MAIL: ocalaboatclub@cox.net



UPCOMING EVENTS



March 2016

Monday, March 21

Membership Meeting: Clubhouse at 6:30pm

***Friday, March 25**

Land Cruise: Eaton's Sandbar Beach Grill. Lake Weir. 11am
(note * day change)

April 2016

Monday, April 4

Board Meeting: Clubhouse at 6:30pm

Saturday, April 9

Water Cruise: Crazy Gators in Eustis. Boats will depart from club house boat ramp at 8:30am

***Wednesday, April 13**

Club House Spring Cleaning 9:00 am

***Thursday, April 14**

Club House Spring Cleaning 9:00am

(note * day change)

Monday, April 18

Membership Meeting: Clubhouse at 6:30pm

Tuesday, April 26

Land/Water Cruise: O'keefe's Irish Pub in Tavares. Lunch at 12:30pm. Venetian Cove to Lake Dora Seaplane base.

May 2016

Monday, May 2

Board Meeting: Clubhouse at 6:30pm

Saturday, April 7

Land/Water Cruise: Bluewater Bay restaurant in Melrose. Lunch 11:30am. Cruise, fish on Lake Santa Fe and Little Lake Santa Fe.

Monday, April 16

Membership Meeting: Clubhouse at 6:30pm

Tuesday, April 24

Land/Water Cruise: Three Bananas restaurant in Crescent City. Lunch 11:30am. Cruise, fish on Lake Crescent. Water access to St. Johns river.

A **RED** date denotes a change of date for this activity.





COMMODORE'S CORNER

There isn't a Commodore's Corner this month.

Commodore David Rossiter

drossiter@frii.com

Important Changes Made to Monthly OBC Membership Meetings

The monthly OBC Membership Meetings are among the best attended and successful events sponsored by our Club. Who can resist the savory dishes and desserts amidst such friendly people and comfortable surroundings? To accommodate a growing membership and expanded meeting agenda, OBC leaders would like to try a new meeting schedule effective as of the next meeting on March 21. **The new schedule is: 6 pm – Social Time; 6:30 pm – Potluck Supper; 7:00pm – OBC Speaker and Meeting.**

In addition, the potluck dinner serving area has been moved from the kitchen to the dining room. This new arrangement, designed by Kitchen Duty Chair, Louise Jensen, greatly expedites people flow, dinner service and kitchen cleanup. She has also added dedicated recycling bins for plastic cups, bottles and utensils as well as other eligible recyclables. If you have not yet signed up for your month of kitchen duty, be sure to do so at the next meeting. Kudos to Louise for these improvements!

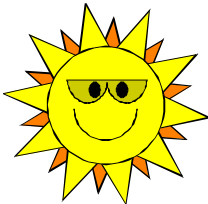
John Beach has taken over as Chair of the OBC Entertainment & Program Committee. This is a huge job requiring the full support of the membership. John needs our help in recommending new speakers and carrying out monthly meeting programs and activities. To volunteer, please contact John at (727) 271-1731 or F1beach2@yahoo.com.

We hope to see you all at the next Membership meeting on March 21.



Knots & Notes

- Income for February was \$4,958.



Sunshine Wishes for Members

Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers –

Health Issues
Joann Beach
Gail Bradley
Vince Druding
Cheri Lee



OBC Helmsman Needs a New Editor

I have been putting the Helmsman together for several years now and I would like to find a member that would like to take it over. It takes a few hours a month to write and arrange the newsletter. Only six people get a mailed copy so the printing can be done at home on a printer and the rest of the members receive a PDF copy through email. If you are interested in helping with or taking over the Helmsman please call me at 438-3345.

OBC Info Table @ Miller's Boat Show & Fishing Expo - Bill Hodge, Project Organizer

A cadre of members signed up to man the OBC info table at Miller's annual 3-day event on March 11-13. The Boat Show is a great opportunity to get OBC's name and info out to boating enthusiasts in the Ocala area and adjoining counties. Many current OBC members were recruited into the Club at this event. Members working this year's show were: Bill Hodge, Chuck Boyett, Charlie Parkinson, Joann Holmes, John Beach, Tom and Jan Ulmer and David and Andrea Rossiter.

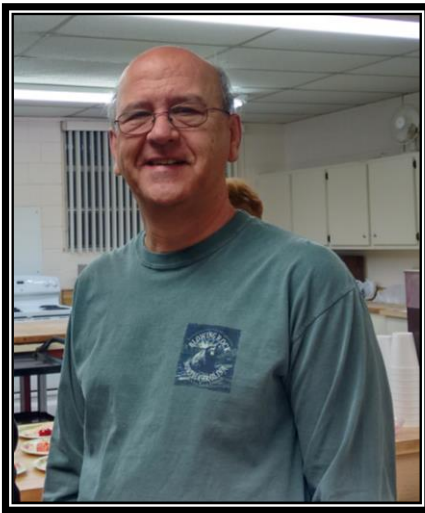


Chuck Boyett, Joann Holmes, John Beach & Charlie Parkinson at the Miller Boat Show

New OBC Kayak Group Launched

The recently formed OBC Kayak Group undertook its maiden paddle on February 18 with a two+ hour trip down the Silver River. Willie Clayton, Louise Jensen and Mike Groves made OBC history as the first members to venture into the motor-less propelled world of water craft adventure during a float sanctioned by the Club. The group formed as part of the growing appeal among water lovers for easy and affordable options for getting out on the water. Willy and Louise had tried kayaking for the first time last year when they signed up for the Marion County Division of Parks and Recreation program of kayak outings. For a flat fee, the program provided them with a group float down the Silver River which included the rental of a kayak, transport to put-in and from takeout points and an expert paddler/guide to help them with safety, paddling tips and river info. "I was new to kayaking but having everything provided and expert guides in front and back made it easy and I felt safe", said Louise. Willy liked it so much, she is seriously thinking of getting her own kayak. "I went because a friend invited me but I fell in love with it and have done several paddles since."

The OBC Kayak Group plans to continue participating in the Parks and Recreation kayak program because of the convenience it offers members in getting introduced to the sport. The next paddle is scheduled for March 19 down the Crystal River. As OBC members become more proficient and invested in kayaking, the group can consider venturing out on its own for future trips. Current members of the group in addition to Willie, Louise and Mike are Alice Belcher, Ruth Lincoln, David and Andrea Rossiter. For more info and to participate in the OBC Kayak Group, contact Willie Clayton at (352) 816-1878. Information on Marion County kayaking events can be found at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/ocalamarioncounty/activity>.



New Member Mike Groves

Where are you from? I am originally from Detroit Michigan and came to Florida with my parents in January of 1960.

What are your boating interests? I love the water. I have a 21' Tahoe Q7i sport/fishing boat and 12' Eagle Talon kayak. Love to water ski, tube, fish and just boating in general.

How have you gotten involved in OBC to date? I have assisted with membership and landscape days as well as a couple of land cruises to area restaurants. I am on the committee for renewing the Ray Wayside Park dock adjacent to OBC.

What have you enjoyed most? I have enjoyed most of all meeting the members of OBC and forming new acquaintances and friends.

Do you have any ideas to improve OBC? I have suggested a possible game night which could be once a month or every couple of months and could include outside games as well. Would like to suggest contacting Eaton's Beach and Gator Joes to display some sort of OBC information/membership. Suggest breaking down the needed maintenance work into a couple of committees such as a Painting Committee and Cleanup/restoration committee.

OBC Membership Committee News

The new OBC Membership Committee is up and running and ready to meet current and new member needs for Club info and other useful resources. Please contact these Committee Members:

- Committee Chair, Tom Ulmer, for changes in contact info/updated member rosters, nametags, club or boating info and application forms. Tom can be reached at (352) 307-8226 or tulmer5393@gmail.com.
 - Willie Clayton for the Club's Sunshine activities. If you have any info about OBC members who are under the weather or have experienced a loss in their families, please contact Willie at (352) 816-1878 so that she can reach out to them..
 - Jan Ulmer and Andrea Rossiter for Club news. If you have info and photos on Club members and activities we can report in the Club Newsletter. Jan can be reached at (352) 208-7655 or janice.ulmer@yahoo.com; Andrea at (303) 333-4223 or arossiter@frii.com
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OBC Members at Work: Landscaping Project - Jan Hodge, Project Organizer

A group of 14 volunteers showed up at the Ocala Boat Clubhouse on February 13th to work together all morning to improve our clubhouse. While everyone pitched in on a variety of tasks, members formed teams to get all of the many chores done. Dick Charron brought his trailer with a garden tractor and two wagons for moving many truckloads of sand and dirt to fill many holes around the property. Bill Hodge, Allan Jensen, John Beach, and David Rossiter shoveled the dirt into the wagons and then into the low spots.

Meanwhile Louise Jensen balanced on a ladder washing the upper wall of windows while Christine Parkinson and Joann Holmes worked on the lower windows. Jan Hodge washed the outside windows and laughingly pointed out the spots Louise missed.

Gary Bergland drew on his farming background in Iowa to level the garden bed and then dig holes for Andrea Rossiter who planted 30 Coontie plants in front of the wall of windows. Mike Groves shaped and placed concrete blocks on the sides of the new planting areas.

Charlie Parkinson used his chain saw to trim and remove limbs around the air conditioners Alice Belcher and Ruth Lincoln inserted new green slats into the chain-link fence.

When the morning was over, everyone said they enjoyed the camaraderie of working with fellow members and felt they had made a contribution to the appearance, longevity and our enjoyment of the clubhouse. **Thank you one and all!**



MetroCrime Prevention of Florida Teaches Safety

At the OBC Membership Meeting on February 15 Mr. Joseph Pine, a security consultant and volunteer with Metro Crime Prevention of Florida, discussed identity theft, purse and wallet snatching, hurricane safety, carjacking, Medicare and grandchildren scams. Mr. Pine answered questions from members encouraging everyone to take steps to protect themselves by using a home security system, being alert when you are out, and carrying pepper spray.

Florida Springsfest – March 19 & 20, 2016

Now celebrating its 13th year, Florida Springsfest (formerly Marion County Springs Festival) combines entertainment and educational activities for the whole family to spread awareness and increase understanding of Florida's unique natural resources, such as freshwater springs.

In addition to glass-bottom boat tours, the park offers ranger programs, guest speakers, scientists and researchers, exhibitors and vendors, live music, silent auction, student art show and contest, and special this year, Sea Hunt Forever Divers wearing period-correct SCUBA gear, including double hoses and vintage regulators, will re-enacting scenes from the Sea Hunt television series starring Lloyd Bridges. Over 100 episodes of the series were filmed at Silver Springs.

Enter the park through the main entrance located at 5656 East Silver Springs Boulevard (State Road 40). The festival is free with regular park admission of \$8 per vehicle, up to 8 people (extra passengers \$2 per person).



Virginia Schachle Druding

Virginia Schachle was born in Gettysburg, PA, on April 3, 1949. She moved to Pensacola, FL, as a child. She was raised on a farm with 11 siblings. She was married to Joe Flowers for over 40 years. They had five children.

She is survived by her five children, 14 grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. She worked all over the country as a construction supervisor. More recently she graduated from Fortis University with a 3.98 average. It was the second highest grade point average in the class with a degree in Medical

Office Administration.

She loved people, animals, and the great outdoors. She took the USCG Captain Course and along with three men out of 28 passed on the first try. A few years ago she met and married Captain Vince Druding of Awareness Adventures. She loved cruising the river with people. Three years ago she was diagnosed with ovarian Cancer. She fought it with surgery and chemo with the help of Shands UF Hospital. She lost the battle Sunday, January 24, 2016. There will be a memorial cruise on Silver River planned at a later date.



Captain Vince Druding Holds Memorial Cruise

On March 15, OBC member and Past Commodore Vince Druding hosted a memorial cruise for his recently deceased wife, Ginny. Among participants were OBC members, Past Commodore Willy Comas, Ann and Howard Vandenburg and other friends. Commodore David Rossiter took the photo.