Lake Charles Yacht Club

The Tacking Times Newsletter
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2020 Board members
Commodore: Ralph Unglaube    Rear Commodore: Richard Doss    Vice Commodore: Justin Hill
Treasurer: Sheron Faulk    Secretary: Laura Gayfield    Newsletter: Bob Dilmore
Race: Stuart Thibodeaux    Harbor: Scott Cesar    Grounds: OPEN    Social: Summer Rice

News

Hurricane Laura was a force to be reckoned with, leaving a wide path of destruction throughout Southwest Louisiana. And what hurricane Laura did not destroy, hurricane Delta did its best to level the rest. While most of us are dealing with repairs to our own homes, the Lake Charles Yacht Club received a devastating blow with the entire upper floor completely destroyed, and the rest of the structure badly damaged.

There are ongoing discussions with the insurance company, and plans are underway to rebuild the LCYC better than it was before. This will require a great effort from the board members to plan and coordinate, but it will also take a great effort from the club members to help with clean up and rebuild efforts, as well as voicing ideas and opinions to help guide the reshaping of our yacht club. Together we can rebuild the Lake Charles Yacht Club better than it was before.
Notice of Cleanup Day and Boat Demolition:
Saturday November 14 at 8:00am

With the devastation brought by hurricane Laura, there is a considerable amount of building debris that needs to be removed from the property. In addition, any boats and trailers left on the property during the storm incurred varying amounts of damage. The Yacht Club will supply three roll off dumpsters and some power equipment to aid in this effort. Volunteer help is needed to help this go quickly and smoothly, so please come out and help with the rebuild effort of our new club. Prong tools such as sawzalls, sledge, pry bars, flat blade shovels, push brooms, and if you have them, tractors with attachments. The better equipped we are to get this done, the quicker and safer this should go. Please come equipped with steel toe boots, gloves, safety glasses and ear plugs. The BBQ pit will be used to feed the helpers, so if you can’t work construction, come help feed the troops.

Part of the cleanup effort will be to demolish and remove boats and trailers damaged in the storm. **If you plan on keeping, repairing and maintaining a boat or trailer that you have on the premises, it is imperative that you notify the board and mark your boat so that it is not demolished.** Better yet, show up for the work day so there is no chance of your boat being demolished against your will. Upon cleanup of the facility, it should be safe to return and secure any boats that were removed from the property prior to the storms. Claim your spot early!

Below is a series of pictures of boats and trailers that have significant damage and are being considered for removal. Please help by identifying your boat and letting the board know if you want it demolished, or if you want to keep, repair and maintain your boat or trailer. Please note that if we do not hear from you, we will make our best judgement call as to what to do with the boat, which may include removal from the premises.
Club Fleet

Due to the severity of the storms, most of the club boats have been destroyed with the exception of the Sunfish fleet. Scott Louviere and Charlie McAlister were gracious enough to bring trailers and move the Sunfish out of harm’s way before the storms hit. The sails and the masts for the Sunfish were stored on the upper level of the clubhouse…which was destroyed. The sails remained, but are wet and have some exposure to the sun. They are currently drying out and will be evaluated. The masts were blown off the upper deck, but are reportedly still on the premises. Rudders and dagger boards have been found and are being counted and evaluated.

It is the intent of the club to first focus primarily on repairing and expanding the Sunfish fleet so that we can achieve a strong class fleet for racing. As repairs to the club and grounds are completed, there will be discussions on how best to expand the club boats. The board will entertain all suggestions for what members might like to see for future club boats.

The committee/rescue boat and motor were stolen shortly after the storm. The board is discussing replacing this boat. If any club members have a boat or motor that they would like to donate for the cause, please let a board member know and it will be put to good use.
Christmas Party:
Friday December 18, 6:00pm – 10:00pm

After all the stress of the hurricanes, Covid, and 2020 in general, we all deserve a chance to unwind and have a meal and some drinks with friends. Our social director Summer Rice has organized a Christmas Party dinner with a plated meal at the Charleston Ballroom downtown, with decorations for the Holidays. This should be a great venue for us all to get together, relax, and toast the Christmas Season and the end of 2020! Dinner is provided by the Yacht Club, and there will be a cash bar, and entertainment from the Flip-Flop Man. So dress up for the party and bring your dancing shoes. Children are welcome. If you care to participate, bring a white elephant gift up to $20, but please no gag gifts.

The Charleston Ballroom is located at 900 Ryan St. Please RSVP Summer Rice by Dec. 1 with either a YES or a NO, but don’t leave her hanging. You can text or call Summer at (337) 660-1722.

Fund Raiser

The weekend of October 24th the Port Arthur Yacht club hosted a fundraiser to help the LCYC get back on its feet after the storms. PAYC hosted the event and invited the Houston Yacht Club (HYC) and the Texas Mariners Cruising Association (TMCA) to help co-host the event. This was a full weekend party and fundraiser with slip fees, meal and drink fees, raffles and a split the pot going towards the Lake Charles Yacht Club rebuild efforts. Breakfast, lunch and dinner were served with live entertainment and dancing. This was extremely well organized and a well-attended event. Please extend a warm Thank You to those organizations for stepping up and helping out. We are blessed to have friends and neighboring organizations such as this that go the extra mile to help their fellow sailors. Money from the fundraiser was significant and greatly appreciated.