

November 2012

THE BREEZE

Monthly Publication for Wildwood Yacht Club

Wildwood
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Commodore Scott Mannion

On October 12th members and guests attended the wake to say goodbye to the 2012 boating season. Thank you Jacob for another great party.

As everyone is aware Superstorm Sandy affected millions of people on the east coast and that includes W.W.Y.C. Although nowhere near the devastation to New York or New Jersey our clubhouse and kitchen suffered damage. The strong winds out of the Northeast pelted the clubhouse. With the waves going over the roof, water worked its way in through the seams and saturated the clubhouse and kitchen. The pontoon boat's outboard ended up at the bottom of the harbor, there was damage to the plumbing that runs along the rocks and we are missing a few boards from our guest dock. I want to thank Frank Soltesz, Luke Wiskes, Joe Ferrara and Jacob Bulk for their help in cleaning up which turned into an all day effort. I also want to thank Mario Milicic for bringing down his duck boat to pull out our half sunken pontoon and Chuck Lehman who went down during the storm and went the extra distance to tie up a boat that had broken loose from the dock. It's members like these that make our Club the great Club that it is.

As always, our meetings are the second Monday of each month held at the Paradise Island Saloon on Babbitt at 7:00 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Vice Commodore Frank Soltesz

I AM DISSAPOINTED

Wildwood is a Yacht Club. It is NOT a marina. What does this statement have to do with the fact that I am disappointed?

I had a problem with my fishing boat that I keep on the North docks. Muskrats made a home; more commonly called a nest in the well between the motor mount and the inner transom. It was a pretty nice nest as nests go if you are a muskrat. Sticks, old plastic bags, aquatic plants and other debris were fashioned into comfortable living space. They were disappointed with me when I started to dismantle the nest. I could tell as they dove into the water, the tail resembling a middle finger followed them into the water. Evidently they needed more nesting material for construction before they were forced from their home so they chewed through the transducer wires to my loran fish finder, nibbled on the battery cable to the motor, shredded the cover of my out board motor as well as the mooring cover of the boat to fabricate a more suitable living environment. The way I figure it about \$250.00 in additional nesting material!

Now I am not disappointed with the muskrat because we as boaters have encroached on their environment. I am disappointed with any club member who walked by my boat

Frank Soltesz Continued

on the docks and didn't call me to warn me about a potential problem. We all have a substantial investment in the boats that we own and as a yacht club member have a responsibility to look out for each other. If you see something that does not look right pick up a phone to make someone aware that there may be a problem. I am sure that it is in the by-laws. If it isn't it should be.

Unfortunately I was also disappointed with the wake. I was not disappointed with the food, beverage and cake that Rear Commodore Jacob Bulk took care of nor the desserts that other members provided. They were enjoyed several times over as those in attendance would gladly point out to those who failed to attend. It was the last social event of the boating season and many members failed to take advantage of it and that is why I am disappointed.

So as the summer draws to a close and we anticipate the summer of 2013 let's think about how we can do more to involve ourselves in more of the club activities. As the sayings go "build it and they will come." "Try it you'll like it." We have tried to build a club that you would like by continually improving the facilities. Now it is up to you to try it. If you do I know that you will like it. I do!

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House Chairman

P/C Joe Ferrara

Unfortunately last week our little paradise on the lake was assaulted by hurricane Sandy. There was some damage and a lot of cleanup to be done.

The roof could not handle the horizontal rain and waves pounding it for two days and we had wet carpets, a semi submerged pontoon with the motor being tossed in the lake. The other pontoon suffering a bit of damage to the rails also, but all in all not as bad as it appeared it was going to be watching from the shore on Monday!

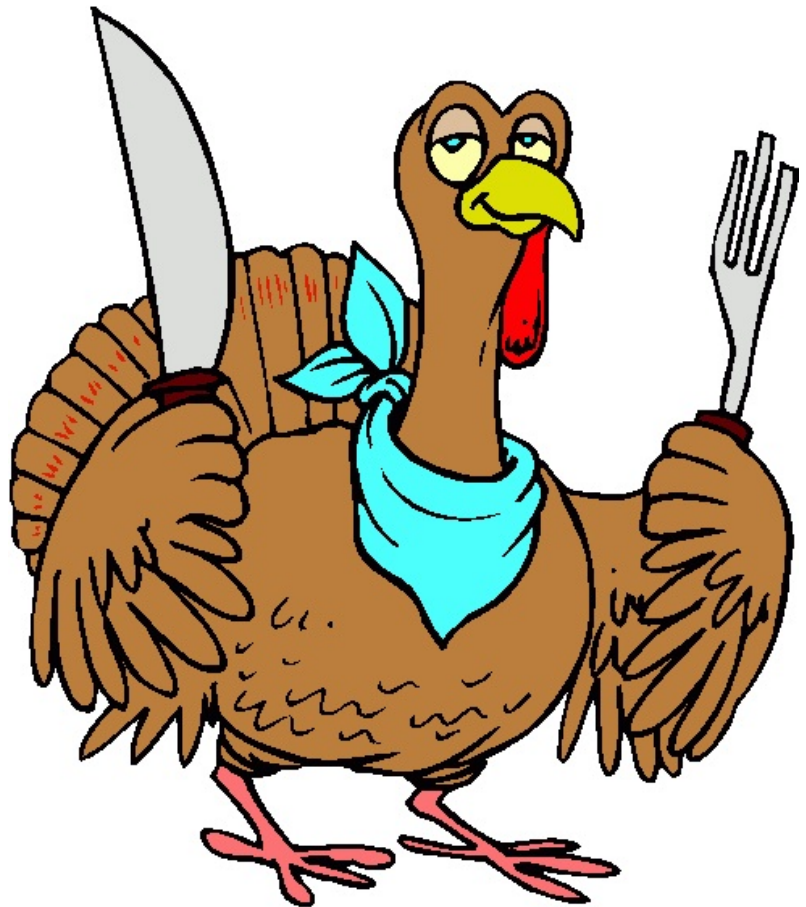
The real problem for me (the house chairman of this fine organization) was the lack of participation in the clean up. It took 5 or 6 of us all day the following Saturday to clean up the mess and to salvage carpet and equipment. An email went out for help to the entire club...I understand some people work Saturday but two of those guys were there after work to help out.

Please keep in mind that the 5 or 6 who were there are the same guys who are going to have to hear all the excuses for work hours that were not completed for 2012. Put yourself in our shoes.

On a good note...a big thank you goes out to Mario and Daina for coming down after a full day at work and launching their duck boat one hour before sundown to tow the pontoon boats over to the ramp and pull them out for the year. It sure was a real tearjerker seeing them two lovebirds with cheese puffs in hand in an actual running boat.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Monthly Meeting
Paradise Island Saloon
Monday, 11/12, 7:00 PM



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!