

The Davis Island Yacht Club Welcomes Members & Directors Change of Watch Meeting March 7-9, 2025

27°54.47N - 082°27.09W



Dear FCYC Members

On behalf of the Officers, Board of Directors, and Davis Island Yacht club members, I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to FCYC for the March 7-9, 2025 meeting. We look forward to hosting the Florida Council of Yacht Clubs meeting at DIYC for the first time.

"Smooth seas never made a skilled sailor." - Franklin D. Roosevelt

We invite you to join us on Friday night for a Taste of Tampa below deck and enjoy the best views in all of Tampa Bay. We have a special guided tour of the Tampa History Museum on Saturday morning. Afterward, an optional lunch is arranged at the Columbia Café on the Riverwalk. Please find the complete agenda of planned activities attached. I won't repeat it here, but I'd like to share a bit about our club and what makes us unique.

The Davis Island Yacht Club is well-known as the "Sailingest Club in the South." Every single member is required to be a sailor, which is the number one requirement for membership. We are a down-to-earth, tight-knit family united by our love of sailing. We have a unique "do it yourself" culture at our club. We often say that DIYC also stands for "Do It Yourself Club". We hold work parties at least quarterly to perform maintenance or make improvements around the club. These work parties give us a chance to get to know each other better, encourage participation, and instill a sense of pride in taking care of our club. You will see evidence of our "Do it Yourself" spirit throughout the weekend. We are a family that works together to make our club a home away from home.

The dress code for most dining events is casual, except for the formal dinner on Saturday evening, which requires yacht club formal. For the meetings, we ask that you wear your FCYC dress attire. We welcome members from all FCYC clubs, but due to limited space, priority for this event will be given to Officers, Executive Committee members, Directors, Past FCYC Commodores, and their significant other. It's important to note that all reservations and cancellations must be emailed to FCYC@diyc.org

Please remember to submit all reservations in writing using the enclosed forms. These forms should include all the required information and can be submitted via email or mail. The deadline for submission is the close of business on Friday, February 21. For more information about our Club, please visit our website at www.diyc.org. You can find hotel recommendations and information on the enclosed sheet.

Hosting this general meeting is an honor, and we are delighted to open our doors and welcome you as our guest to the club.

Sincerely, Robert Tintera
Commodore
2024-2025 Watch

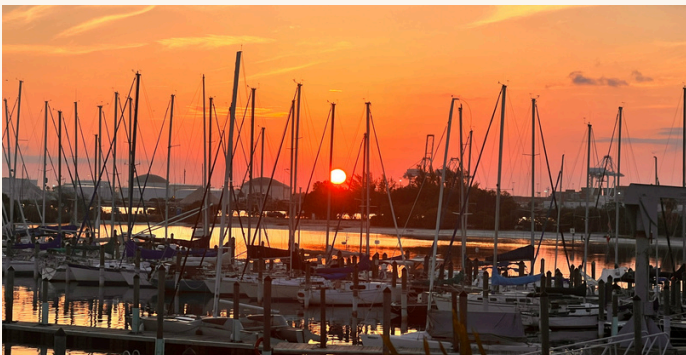
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Travel Logistics



Car Arrival

Exit 1-275 at Ashley Street. Proceed south to Kennedy Boulevard and turn right. Proceed over the bridge to the first traffic light which is Hyde Park Avenue then turn left. Continue straight to the Davis Islands bridge which turns into Davis Boulevard and veer right at the fork onto West Davis Boulevard. Continue to the traffic circle. Yield and continue straight onto Severn Avenue. The Yacht Club is at the terminus of Severn Ave.



Contacts

FCYC Director:
Chris & Colleen Jones are the contacts for this event. 813-503-6919
The email to be used for this event only is: FCYC@diyc.org

Davis Island Yacht Club
315 Severn Ave
Tampa, FL 33606
office@diyc.org
813 251-1158
General Manager:
Sandra Soto-Cintron



Boat Arrival

The recent hurricanes severely damaged one of our three main docks, so regrettably we do not currently have slips for visiting guests. We are actively trying to remedy this situation and may have last-minute updates. However, the Tampa Convention Center Marina (on the Riverwalk & convenient to hotels) does have slips available.

TCC Marina may be reached by phone at 813-444-7728, 7 days a week, 10:00am to sunset. Or you can email them at TampaCCMarina@gmail.com.

Accommodations



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- Hyatt Place/Hyatt House
325 N. Florida Ave (4.3 miles from DIYC) (813) 616-1234
- Embassy Suites by Hilton Tampa Downtown Convention Center
513 S. Florida Ave (4.0 miles from DIYC) (813) 769-8300
- Tampa Marriott Water Street
700 S. Florida Ave (4.0 miles from DIYC) (813) 221-4900
- JW Marriott Tampa Water Street
505 Water Street (4.0 miles from DIYC) (813) 221-4950
- The Tampa EDITION
Water Street (4.2 miles from DIYC) (813) 221-4600
- The Westin Tampa Waterside, FL 33602
725 S. Harbour Island Blvd (4.2 miles from DIYC) (813) 229-5000
- Hilton Tampa Downtown
211 N. Tampa Street (4.0 miles from DIYC) (813) 204-3000
- ALOFT Tampa Downtown
100 W. Kennedy Blvd. (4.1 miles from DIYC) (813) 898-8000
- Hotel Tampa Riverwalk
200 N. Ashley Drive (4.0 miles from DIYC) (813) 223-2222
- Courtyard By Marriott Tampa Downtown
102 E. Cass Street (4.4 miles from DIYC) (813) 229-1100
- Le Méridien Tampa, The Courthouse
601 N. Florida Ave (4.5 miles from DIYC) (813) 221-9555
- Residence Inn Tampa Downtown
101 E. Tyler Street (4.3 miles from DIYC) (813) 221-4224
- The Floridan Palace Hotel
905 N. Florida Ave (4.6 miles from DIYC) (813) 225-1700
- The Barrymore Hotel Tampa Riverwalk
111 W. Fortune Street (4.7 miles from DIYC) (813) 223-1351
- Home2 Suites Channel District
1155 E. Kennedy Blvd. (4.8 miles from DIYC) (813) 525-9900

Schedule of Events

DIYC Culture: Kindly place your orders at the walk-up counter. The coffee, tea, and water stations, as well as setups and cleanup, are all self-serve. We kindly ask that you take your dishes and glassware to the bus station after your meal.

Friday March 7th

1500 - 1830	Registration	Regatta Room
1800 - 1900	Cocktails	Regatta Bar
1900 - 2130	Taste of Tampa	Pavilion and Deck



Saturday March 8th

0900 - 1130	Brunch - à la carte	Main Dining Room
0900 - 1230	Registration	Regatta Room
1000 - 1130	Tampa History Museum	Riverwalk
1145 - 1330	Columbia Café Lunch	Riverwalk
1200 - 1300	Directors Lunch	Main Dining Room
1300 - 1400	Directors Meeting	Regatta Room
1400 - 1500	Guest Speaker	Regatta Room
1500 - 1600	General Meeting	Regatta Room
1800 - 1900	Cocktails	Main Dining Room Bar
1900 - 2130	Dinner Dance	Main Dining Room

Sunday March 9th

0900 - 1500	Brunch - à la carte	Main Dining Room
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FCYC CHANGE OF WATCH MEETING A TASTE OF TAMPA



The culinary history of the Tampa Bay area is a vibrant blend of diverse cultural influences, making it a true melting pot of flavors. From the iconic Cuban sandwich, born from the rich immigrant history of Cuban, Spanish, and Italian workers in Ybor City, to the fresh Gulf seafood that graces local tables, Tampa's food scene reflects its unique heritage. The city's vibrant Latin and Caribbean influences, combined with Southern comfort cuisine, create a rich tapestry of dishes that define the region. "Taste of Tampa" will showcase these culinary traditions, offering an unforgettable experience for food lovers to savor the best of the Bay. The menu will include Croquettes & Empanadas, an Ybor City Salad Station, a Cuban Martini Station, a West Tampa Beef Station, and classic desserts such as Guava Pastries & Quesitos.



Dining at the Club

A Taste of Tampa Friday, March 7th

Join us to celebrate the culinary history of our city. DIYC has the most beautiful views of Tampa Bay right from the water's edge. We will serve delicious Cuban favorites.

Taste of Tampa

Paella, Croquets & Empanadas

Ybor City Salad Station

1933 DIYC Salad

Cuban Martini Station

Mojo Pork, Arroz Morro, Black Beans, Crispy Plantain Chips

West Tampa Beef Station

Ropa Vieja, White Rice, Sweet Plantains

Guava Pastries & Quesitos

Casual Dress

Cocktails 1800 - 1900

Dinner 1900 - 2130

Live Music

\$35.00++ per person



Directors Lunch Buffet Saturday, March 8th

Menu

Spring Minestrone Soup

DIYC Chicken Salad Croissant Sandwich

Ultimate Veggie Ciabatta Sandwich

Roasted Vegetables, Olive Tapenade, Fresh Arugula

Hearty Roast Beef Wrap

Top Round of Beef, Provolone Cheese,
Caramelized Onions, Fresh Spinach

Home made potato chips & Pasta

Primavera

\$20.00 ++ per person



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Dining at the Club

Dinner Dance & Awards Saturday, March 8th

Join us for a festive celebration as we mark the transition into the new Watch. Enjoy delicious food, along with an entertaining DJ and lively dancing!

Menu

Spring Mixed Salad
Radicchio and spring mix, caramelized bleu cheese, toasted walnuts, pickled red onions, fresh pomegranate & mandarin oranges.

Duo of Braised Short Rib & Grilled Shrimp
Red wine braised short rib and grilled shrimp, starch and vegetable du jour

Assorted Mini Desserts

The dress code for the evening is FCYC yacht club uniform or cocktail attire.



Sunday Brunch Sunday, March 9th

Join us in the main dining room for our members Sunday Brunch. There are many brunch items to choose from off the menu. Dress is casual.

DIYC Culture: Kindly place your orders at the walk-up counter. The coffee, tea, and water station, as well as setups and cleanup, are all self-serve. We kindly ask that you take your dishes and glassware to the bus station after your meal.



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When DP Davis developed Davis Islands, he formed a Davis Islands Yacht Club with Ceasar Irsch, his "Director of Activities" as Commodore. For several years (1925 & 1926) they sponsored a regatta for power boats, one class of which was known as The Tampa Babies – mahogany "725 Cubic inch runabouts". Apparently, the Club ceased to function when the land bust occurred, but the idea didn't die.

History of the Sailingest Club in the South

In the early 1930's, the sailors in Tampa had developed a sailboat class known as the "Tampa Bay 16-Footer". There were no restrictions as to equipment, sails, hiking boards, etc., except that the boat could not exceed 16 feet. The sailboat became one of the first class boats raced in Tampa Bay and resulted in some of the keenest competition in our history. This group of sailors called themselves the Tampa Sailing Squadron.

In 1933 the group was chartered as The Tampa Sailing Squadron and by a coin toss, Bobbie C. Davis was "elected" the first Commodore. One of its early locations was the caretaker's cottage behind the Davis Island Tennis Court.

In 1935 the Sailing Squadron moved to Marjory Park and on August 15, 1941, it changed its name to Davis Island Yacht Club. In 1935 the Club began the sponsorship of the first long distance coastal sailing race on the West Coast of Florida, the "Egmont Key Race". It has been run annually since 1935 except for the war years.

In 1942 the Club ceased to function actively as all the members had answered the call of their country to serve in World War II and the Clubhouse was leased to the Coast Guard. It was approximately 1946 before the Club began to function again.

In the mid 1940's, Davis Island Yacht Club undertook the sponsorship of two major regattas-the Gasparilla Regatta and the Thanksgiving Regatta and today the Thanksgiving Regatta is one of the largest class regattas sponsored on the West Coast of Florida. In 1947, Lightning Fleet #164 constructed some docks in the Seaplane Basin and they were the first docks for sailing located there. In the late 1940's DIYC had obtained some lots from the city on the end of Davis Island to eventually build a clubhouse on the location.

In 1955, after much negotiation with the City of Tampa, including legislation in Tallahassee in order for the land and water surrounding it be available for sailing activities, they traded those lots for a lease from the City of Tampa for the strip of land on the south end of the Seaplane Basin for a club house. After a bond issue to fund the construction, the Clubhouse was completed in 1956 on the southern tip of Davis Islands.





In 1960, after a second bond issue and retirement of the first bond issue, more construction was planned. The facilities at DIYC underwent a major expansion adding the present swimming pool, seawall and the initial docks at the Club as well as enlarging the kitchen facilities. Since then porches were added, the bar was expanded, the docks and dry slips were expanded, and two hoists were added, one with a floating dock. Over time, the Club's lease with the city was renegotiated and it now extends to 2041.

In the late 1980's and beyond, DIYC began hosting some new sailing events. In 1989, the Old Shoe Regatta began, a single-handed, no-class regatta. DIYC began hosting the Morgan Invasion in 2006, a regatta organized around boats designed by Charley Morgan. 2010 saw both the first Hangover Bowl, a regatta scheduled for January 1st, and the resurrection of the Tampa to Ft. Myers distance race. In 2013, DIYC hosted the first Hospice Cup in conjunction with the 28th Annual Morgan Invasion and raised \$100,000 in 2024.

In 2002 it became apparent that the existing Clubhouse would have to be replaced. As a result, a Building Committee was formed, plans were drawn up and financing was obtained. The existing Clubhouse was torn down in October 2003, a triple-wide trailer was moved in for temporary quarters and the groundbreaking ceremony for the new building was held on November 7, 2003. On October 22, 2004 the new Clubhouse was dedicated.

In 2005, construction on the Tiki Bar and the Regatta Room was completed. The Regatta room is used as a classroom, for regatta registration and as a meeting room. The Tiki Bar was removed after a few years and construction on the Regatta Bar and Pavilion area was completed in 2013. The extension for the bottom land lease on the DIYC property was signed in 2007 and a scoring hut was built out on the point. In 2015, a ramp for dinghy sailing on the Point was built and the floating docks were expanded and refurbished. Then in 2016, 8 slips on 'B' dock and 20 slips on 'C' dock were added along with power pods for electric and water.

DIYC member Jeff Linton received the 2007 US Sailing Rolex Yachtsman of the Year Award after winning the Lightning World Championship as well as other prestigious competitions. In 2011, The National Sailing Hall of Fame was formed with DIYC as one of the founding members.

In 2014, the first club launch Guardian was decommissioned and replaced with an Island Hopper 30 pilot house, Guardian II. The transom from Guardian, was mounted on the side of the clubhouse in December 2016 where the Tiki Bar stood. It is dedicated to the members that built her and the do-it-yourself spirit of the club.



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From conquistadors to cattle ranchers, the Tampa Bay History Center is home to the Touchton Map Library, Columbia Café, and a collection of 90,000 historical artifacts. Join us on Saturday from 1000 to 1130 for \$12 a person.

Treasure Seekers, Pirates, Conquistadors, & Shipwrecks:

A guided tour of the Tampa History Center in Downtown Tampa on the Riverwalk



Explore Florida's history with a tour featuring a 60-foot, 18th-century pirate ship, showcasing explorers, conquistadors, and pirates like Hernando de Soto, "Calico" Jack Rackham, and Anne Bonny. Learn about the perilous waters where treasure-laden ships sank and discover artifacts from the 1600s. **A highlight is the Mapping the American Sea exhibit, featuring a rare 1524 map that is the first to show Florida and the Gulf of Mexico accurately, marking a major achievement in cartography.** Conclude with a visit to the Touchton Map Library, home to thousands of historical maps.

A taste of History

Optional lunch at The Columbia Café in the Tampa History Center - Riverwalk

Join us for an a la carte lunch after the tour at 1145. Located at the Tampa Bay History Center on the Riverwalk, the Columbia Café brings the charm and flavor of the original Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City. Founded in 1905 by Cuban immigrant Casimiro Hernandez Sr., the Columbia is Florida's oldest restaurant and the world's largest Spanish restaurant. Enjoy Spanish- and Cuban-inspired classics like the "1905" Salad, Chicken and Yellow Rice "Ybor," and the Cuban Sandwich, all served in a space featuring historic touches, including chairs from Tampa's first air-conditioned dining room. The Columbia Café is still family-owned by the Hernandez Gonzmart family. **Reservations with the group are required.**

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Merlin Yacht Racing
Sailing The Dream

Guest Speaker

Chip Merlin & Crew of Merlin Yacht Racing

Conceived by a Wizard, Hatched in a Chicken Coop, Flying Fast and Fun, Merlin was born for the Transpac!

Join some of the crew of the iconic Merlin and the owner, Chip Merlin, to hear stories of racing to Cuba, Mexico, Pensacola, Bermuda, and of course, Hawaii. The presentation will be interactive and engaging.

The team was established in 2017 after Chip Merlin, a Tampa based attorney and DIYC member, purchased the iconic sailboat from Bill Lee, the ship's creator. Chip has done quite a bit of east coast sailing, mostly in Annapolis, Maryland and Mobile, Alabama. His most recent program being the B-32 "Chips All In" sailing out of the Davis Island Yacht Club.

With the new crew, the boat sailed in its first race from St. Petersburg to Habana, Cuba, on February 26, 2018 and was first In Line Honours and first in its class.

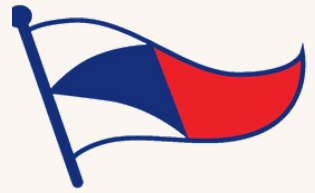
Merlin Yacht Racing brings innovation and nostalgia to the sport of sailboat racing. With the boat weighing 24,000 pounds, a beam of 12 feet, and a sail area of 1,800 square feet, the hours of engineering that were spent to create the Merlin in 1977 made sailing a large ultralight-displacement boat something special – the motto "Fast is Fun" lives on.

Merlin represents the boundless enthusiasm of the seventies and the mystique of unconquered waters of today.

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Florida Council of Yacht Clubs Change of Watch Meeting Reservation Form

March 7-9, 2025



1315 Severn Avenue
Tampa, FL 33606
(813) 251-1158 (Office)
FCYC@diyc.org

Member's Name Last, First, Title (if applicable)	Spouse's Or Guest's Name Last, First	Club Member #	Cellphone #	Friday	Saturday			Sunday	
				Dinner Taste of Tampa \$35++	History Museum Trip \$12	Columbia Café Lunch a la Carte*	DIYC Buffet Lunch \$20++	DIYC Dinner Dance \$55++	Sunday Brunch at the Club a la Carte

Please note any allergies or food preferences

Deadline: This form must be received no later than Friday, February 21, 2025.

Cancellations must be received by Friday, February 21, 2025.

Please be aware: The Tampa History Museum tour has limited availability and is filled on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date and time of reservation.

*If attending the Directors meeting, the Columbia Café lunch will be difficult time-wise due to the location

Please return to:
FCYC@diyc.org
(Reservations are accepted only at this address)

Call Colleen Jones with any questions about reservations or the meeting at 813-503-6919.

Club Manager or Director

Club