

— WRYCC —

PILOT'S LOG

— Your Monthly Newsletter —

FEBRUARY 2026 ISSUE



FROM THE HELM



Greetings WRYCC Mates,

Our first hosting event in January 2026 came off without a hitch. All in part to the Dream Team of WRYCC. We were overjoyed to host the Bayview Yacht Club. We were their 1st stop of their four-stop tour. What a way to begin an awesome Saturday afternoon at the Farm on Grosse Ile. Special thanks to the Board Members who showed up and showed out. Jon Allen, Laura Allen, Dawn Lang, Steve Jakubik, Don Ledbetter, Terri Marie, James Mabson, Don Conroy, Karyn Selle, Scott Selle, Rana Michelle, Doug (Rana's guest),

Ron Elliott, and Michele Konarski to name a few. Thanks, Brian, for making our setup easier.

I had the exciting pleasure of being Kidnapped by BYC and whisked away to two more Clubs on the island, Elba Mar and Ford. I ran out of steam and could not make it to Sun Seekers. I was treated well while making new friendships and memories. More fun and exciting events are being planned and awaiting your support and participation.

Commodore Sharon

FROM THE MID-SHIP



Ahoy members and friends!

We are off to a great start in 2026. As the weather will hopefully be getting warmer, I hope to see more of our members at the meetings and Club gatherings. Member involvement gives your Board more directions to plan activities that we can all enjoy together. Please check the website calendar for upcoming events.

Lady Terri and I will be attending some upcoming Commodore's Balls representing WRYCC. We are also excited to be involved in the planning for our Commodore Sharon's upcoming Ball in

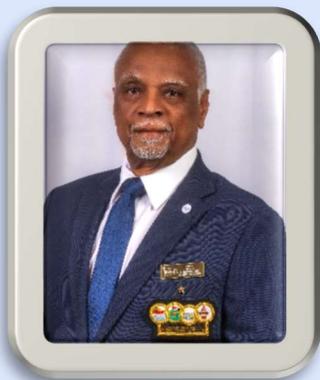
April. This is a fun event, and we hope to see our members participate and enjoy celebrating Sharon and our Club.

We are also looking forward to attending the Annual AYC weekend events and their Ball at the Marriott in Romulus. This is a fun event where multiple clubs get involved. It is a great event to see members and friends, as well as meet new people and make new friends from other Clubs.

Hope to see you soon!

V/C Don Ledbetter

FROM THE REAR



AHOY MATES,

Just wanted to express my gratitude for all those who participated in the Bay View visitation. What fun.

Next month will begin the 4-week process of our popcorn fundraiser. I encourage all club members to participate. This is something you can do sitting on your couch. Ez Peezy.

Also, let us not forget that February is Black History month.

Did you know...

- **Oliver L. Brown:** Patented an improved "Life Preserver" (U.S. Patent 1,241,972) in 1917, a critical safety device for all boaters.
- **Captain William "Bill" Pinkney (b. 1935):** In 1992, he became the **first African American to sail solo around the world via the five southern capes**. His voyage was an educational project, inspiring countless young people.

Safe and happy boating to all and as usual,

PEACE AND LOVE.

Rear Commodore JD

Secretary



Your new Board is off to a strong start. We've been working closely with the Commodore, and together we're exploring a number of new and exciting event ideas for the upcoming season. Our shared goal is to create opportunities for every member to enjoy the club, the river, and the camaraderie that makes WRYCC special.

The By-Laws Committee has also begun its work. We've met and are well underway with a full review of the By-Laws. We anticipate having a draft ready for the Board's review within the next four to six weeks.

This winter has been a tough one, and like many of you, I'm looking forward to warm weather, sunshine, and a great summer at the West River Yacht & Cruising Club.

Respectfully,

Bob Lang

Secretary, WRYCC

I-LYA Delegate



Ahoy Mates!

I am looking forward to attending our Spring meeting in March and Lady Terri and I are planning for the summer Regatta in Put-In-Bay in July. If you can make it to this Regatta, Put-In-Bay is always a fun time and what better way to spend time there with your friends and fellow Club members!

I-LYA Delegate – V/C Donny Ledbetter

Entertainment & Member at Large



Happy February!

We kicked off the year with an awesome January, highlighted by hosting Bay View Yacht Club on their bus trip to visit us—and what a blast it was! The music was pumping, the pizza was on point, beverages were flowing, and the camaraderie was absolutely fantastic. It was one of those days that reminds us why we love being part of this club.

While our January membership meeting didn't see as large a turnout as we hoped, we suspect the cold front that rolled through may have played a part. To keep things comfortable (and fun!) for our members, we've decided to shift winter meetings to an **every-other-month schedule**. That means **no meeting in February**, but don't worry—you can stay up to date on everything happening through our website, Facebook, and club emails.

The big February highlight is AYC Weekend at the Sheraton in Romulus! This is always a stand-out event, complete with themed hospitality rooms, nonstop entertainment, live bands, cocktail parties, the ball, and the chance to mingle with friends from across the AYC & I-LYA family. If you've never attended before, this might be the year to jump in—just remember, **tickets must be purchased in advance**.

Behind the scenes, the Ball Committee and Cookbook Committee are hard at work planning and creating—exciting things are coming! Looking ahead, March brings March Madness Popcorn Sales and the I-LYA Spring Meeting. And who knows... a fun event or even a bus trip may be popping up soon. We're also still locking in a night for Bingo Night, so stay tuned!

Save the date: April 17th for our Commodore's Ball held at Arnaldo's. We will have discounted pricing for our West River members, invites will be emailed out the end of February.

Our Texas Hold 'Em Fundraising Event is just around the corner, and we still have a few time slots to fill! If you're able to lend a hand, we'd love your help. Please use the links below to sign up for a shift. As a bonus, volunteers earn **\$2 per hour worked**, which will be applied toward your **2027 membership renewal**—a win-win! Thank you for supporting the club and helping make this event a success. We couldn't do it without you!

April sign up - <https://volunteersignup.org/RJJQW>

May sign up - <https://volunteersignup.org/P9X9K>

If you're interested in joining a committee or getting more involved in any way, please reach out to a board member—we'd love to have you and are happy to help you jump in.

Until then, stay warm, keep dreaming of sunshine, and **think summer on the water!**

Speaking of summer, we just reserved a campsite at South Bass Island State Park for the I-LYA powerboat regatta. At the time we reserved our site, they had plenty available and they also have cabins and yurts for rent as well. Something to keep in mind if you want to go but are not traveling by boat.

Entertainment & Member at Large – P/C Dawn Shoemaker

Discount Code for BOAT US ~ GA80969Y



February 8th – P/C Michele Konarski

February 17th – Debra Ann Sebastain

February 22nd – Commodore Sharon

February 22nd – Walter Ward



FUNDRAISER

All proceeds go towards
WRYCC V/C Donny Ledbetter's
2027 Commodore's Ball

Double Good POPCORN Fundraiser



POP INTO MARCH MADNESS

More information
coming soon!



THINK SUMMER

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

RAFT OFF DATES FOR 2026 WEATHER PERMITTING

June 19th - 21st

July 17th - 19th

August 14th - 16th

September 4th - 7th



Let's make this a summer of fun and great memories.

No boat, no problem. We are making arrangements with our captains to shuttle our members out for the day, and some have offered accommodations for those wishing to stay the weekend.

More information to come.

Please contact V/C Donny Ledbetter 734-231-4859 if you are planning to attend or need transportation.

The poster features a vibrant orange and yellow background with tropical illustrations. On the left, a wooden tiki mug is filled with a drink, topped with a red straw, a strawberry, and pineapple slices. On the right, a colorful tiki mask with a wide smile is visible. The text is arranged in a central, bold font.

Tiki BOAT PARTY

JUNE 28

12:25 PM

\$45 PER PERSON

MUST PRE-PAY

Cash - Check - Venmo or Zelle

- 2 hours of fun on the water.
- Bring a snack to share.
- Bring your own drinks & cocktails. Small coolers are welcomed.
- Bathroom onboard.
- No Smoking onboard.
- Must Sign Detroit Cycle Boat Waiver
- Non Refundable
- Have Fun!

PARKING INFORMATION

150 Old St Jean St, Detroit, MI 48214

Parking in City lot \$15 per car.

Arrive 15 minutes early.

Questions Contact Dawn Shoemaker 734-347-2085

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	WRYCC Board Meeting 5:30 PM				AYC Weekend	AYC Weekend
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
AYC Weekend	AYC Meeting			Launch Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser		

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	WRYCC Membership Meeting 6:30 PM		Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser	Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser	Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser	Double Good Popcorn Fundraiser
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	AYC Meeting				I-LYA Spring Meeting Weekend	I-LYA Spring Meeting Weekend
29	30	31				
I-LYA Spring Meeting Weekend						

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				Texas Hold-Em Fundraiser	Texas Hold-Em Fundraiser	Texas Hold-Em Fundraiser
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Texas Hold-Em Fundraiser					WRYCC Commodore's Ball Arnaldo's	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	WRYCC Membership Meeting 6:30 PM					
26	27	28	29			
	AYC Meeting					