



# TOWLINE

Hernando Beach Yacht Club

March 2020

## Commodore's Corner



**Commodore Patti Ames**

## Patrick McGrory

With a heavy heart, I write this March Commodore's Corner. Our dear friend and longtime HBYC member, Patrick McGrory, passed away during the late afternoon of February 23 at the Sturgill Hospice Care Center.

His obituary is on page 7, but words alone cannot truly describe this in-

credible man that we have all grown to love.

Many HBYC Members attended the visitation held at Downing Funeral Home on February 27 and the Funeral Mass held at St. Theresa Catholic Church on February 28.

Following the Funeral Mass, Belle, her family and friends along with Club Members gathered at the Yacht Club to celebrate the life of Patrick McGrory. We shared many stories as we laughed and cried

*We shared many stories as we laughed and cried together, and shared our pain together.*

together and shared our pain together. As we shared our memories, we all acknowledged that we are different now because Patrick was here.

Our hearts and arms reached out to Belle and her devastating loss of the man she met when she was 16 years old and was married to for 60 years. I read once that "The journey of



Patrick and Belle McGrory

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# 2020 Bridge and Board Members

## Bridge Members

### Commodore

P/C Patti Ames  
206-919-8921

### Vice Commodore

Susan Myers  
845-551-9346

### Rear Commodore

Ralph Kennedy  
813-480-3015

### Fleet Captain

Dennis O'Keefe  
352-442-4942

### Treasurer

Terry Lemmons  
352-600-2580

### Secretary

Judie Kennedy  
813-469-6191

### Asst. Secretary/ Treasurer

VACANT

## Committee Chairs

### Budget and Finance

Terry Lemmons

### Membership:

VACANT

### Planning

Jim Secrest

### Building and Grounds

Ralph Kennedy

### Ways & Means/Social

Susan Myers

## Board Members

- P/C Mike Belshaw  
352-683-0537
- Rose Procopio  
352-540-0395
- Donna Savage  
352-382-0205
- Lidia Verdon  
352-556-5691
- P/C Dick Weichman  
352-597-2535
- P/C Aaron Nangle, Immediate Past Commodore  
727-916-0001

## Life Members

- P/C & Mrs. Don Bendickson
- P/C Sally Cosenza
- Mrs. Betty Ferguson
- Mrs. Jan Johnson
- Mrs. Stella Kelly
- P/C Bill & P/C Carmen Lavin
- P/C Dan McCann
- P/C Hank Quattro
- P/C Jim Secrest
- Mrs. Nancy Tooman
- P/C Dick Weichman

## Appointed

### Bar Manager

Susan Myers

### Bartenders

Susan Myers,  
Rose Procopio,  
Patti Ames (back-up)

### Kitchen Manager

Susan Myers

### Rental Manager

Rose Procopio

### Chaplain

Stella De Jesus-Kelly

### Dock Master

Dennis O'Keefe

### Roster

Terry Lemmons

### Historian

VACANT

### Towline

Terrence Dunne

### Web Master

Fred Ganz



# February/March News & Events

## February Events

The Club held three fun and successful events in February:

- **Annual Super Bowl Party** Sunday, February 2, see p. 6
- **Valentine's Dinner Dance** Wednesday, February 12, see p. 8
- **Dinner and Entertainment Featuring JoJo Jones** Wednesday, February 26

The Valentine's Dinner Dance included a lovely dinner coordinated by **Patti Ames** and **Lidia Verdon** and catered by the **Zig Zag Scallop** restaurant. The Club had 24 people in attendance and entertainment featuring **DJ Jay**.

The Club looked beautiful for Valentine's Day, as you can see by the photos on page 8.

The grand finale of the month was a **Sonny's BBQ Rib Dinner** coordinated by **Mike Belshaw** and entertainment featuring **JoJo Jones**. The Club had 70 people in attendance and everyone had a great time.

In addition to our February events, we



Jo Jo Jones performed at the Club Feb 26th

gained three new members in February.

Please join me in welcoming **Matt Hoover** and **Mike** and **Maria Hlista** to our Club. Matt Hoover and the Hlista's are also renting the last two open slips for their boats.

## March Events

On Wednesday, March 11, we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day Dinner at the Club with Corned Beef and Cabbage prepared by our own Susan Myers. Be sure to wear your GREEN!

We will have a **Fabulous Fajita Dinner** on Wednesday, March 25, catered by **Cody's Road House** and coordinated by **Aaron Nangle**. Following dinner, we will all play **Big Bucks Bingo!**

You could be the big winner so join the fun.

## Tuesday March 3

### BUNCO



- 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm at the HBYC
- If you are interested in playing, there is still room for people to fill in when someone cannot make it
- Contact Lidia Verdon:  
[idverdon@gmail.com](mailto:idverdon@gmail.com)

## Wednesday March 11



## ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

*Corned Beef and Cabbage prepared by Susan Myers*

- Doors Open 5:30 pm
- Dinner 6:30 pm.

*Be sure to wear your green!*

## Monday March 9

### BOARD MEETING

6:00 pm. Members welcome

## Wednesday March 25



## FABULOUS FAJITA DINNER

Catered by Cody's Roadhouse

- Doors Open 5:30 pm
- Dinner 6:30 pm.
- Bingo 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Member Profile

# Lidia Verdon

Lidia was born in Barcelona, Spain, and grew up amidst the brutal aftermath of the Spanish Civil War. As a young woman seeking opportunity, she emigrated from Spain to America on a four-year scholarship to **New York University**.



**NYU**

At NYU she majored in European languages and American History. As a student, she worked a variety of jobs to support herself and quickly learned English. (She is also fluent in Spanish, Catalan,

and Portuguese, with some French and Italian.)

**Marriage**

While still in school she met the man who would become her husband. They were married and had three children, all boys.

At this time Lidia worked as a translator for a medical trade journal and also worked as a guide at the **Smithsonian Institute** in New York City.

**Tragedy**

A few years later, Lidia's life changed drastically when her husband passed away and she was left with three little boys to raise by herself.

She needed a job that paid more and when she heard about a health and exercise company that was coming to New York, **Gloria Marshall Figure Salons**, she applied and was hired.

In just a few months she was a store manager and, a year later, a supervisor of five stores at five different locations.

**Love**

At this time, she met the love of her life and remarried. The man was a wonderful husband and father to her children, Lidia says, and by then, with family life settled, it was time to pursue other interests.

**Tiffany & Co.**

Lidia went back to school and earned certifications in **Gemology** and **Diamondology**, then took a job in New York City's diamond district in mid-town Manhattan.

**Diamondology/Gemology**

*Diamondology is a branch of gemology that deals specifically with diamonds, typically for the purpose of increasing a diamond buyer's knowledge of a diamond under consideration for purchase.*

*Gemology is the scientific study of gemstones. In ancient times, and even today, gemstones have been considered universal talismans of wealth and power.*



On the way: 18-year-old Lidia Verdon sailing to America

Later, with more experience, she took a job at **Tiffany & Co.** on New York's Fifth Avenue.

**Florida**

A few years later, Lidia decided to move to Florida and make the state her home. She went to work for **Jared and Kay** jewelers for the next 15 years and it was from there she retired.

New Members

# Terry & Melly Martin



**Terry Martin**

Terry Martin was born in Clearwater, FL, and graduated from **Clearwater High School** in 1958. While in high school, Terry was on the swimming, golf, and football teams.

After high school, he attended **The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina**, for two years and was a member of the Citadel's swimming team.

Terry transferred from the Citadel to the **University of Tennessee** and graduated with a **Bachelor of Science** degree in 1968.

After graduation, he was employed by the **State of Florida** as a high school teacher, teaching **Science and Drivers Education**. He also coached basketball, football, and track in various middle schools and high schools in Central Florida.

Leaving teaching, he originated and developed with the State of Florida the

first wellness program at **Zephyrhills Corrections Institution**. He retired from the State of Florida after 30 years and went back to college at the **University of South Florida** where he received a **Masters Degree in Adult Education**.

Terry has four children from previous marriages. He remarried in 1981 and is now married to his spouse Melly Martin for 39 years.

**Melly Martin**

Melly Martin was born in Tampa, Florida and graduated from the **Old Jefferson High School** in 1962. After graduation *(cont. on p.7)*

# Jeff & Jill Prindle

Jeff and Jill met in the fall of 2003. They dated for five years and married on March 25, 2008. They blended their families together and became like the **Brady Bunch**. Jeff and Jill moved to **Spring Hill, FL**, in September, 2017.

**Jill Prindle**

Jill was born December 4, 1958, in Cleveland, Ohio.

She graduated from **Trinity Catholic High School** in 1977 and worked in the dental industry for five years, either in sales or as a hygienist. She took a break from work to raise her three children: Jessica, Jeremy, and Jillian.

In 1998, with her children were in their teens, Jill took a job with the

growing **Progressive Corporation**, one of the largest providers of car insurance in America. She worked at the main corporate center in Mayfield, Ohio and now works remotely from home. The Progressive Corporation allows employees anywhere in the country to work from home.

In June of last year, Jill was finally given the title **Grandma**, as the Prindles welcomed their first grandchild Jagger.

Growing up Jill's favorite thing was going to concerts. If you asked her she'd probably say she's seen them all live.

**Jeff Prindle**

Jeff was born April 21, 1966, in Cleveland, Ohio.

He graduated in 1984 from Lake Catholic



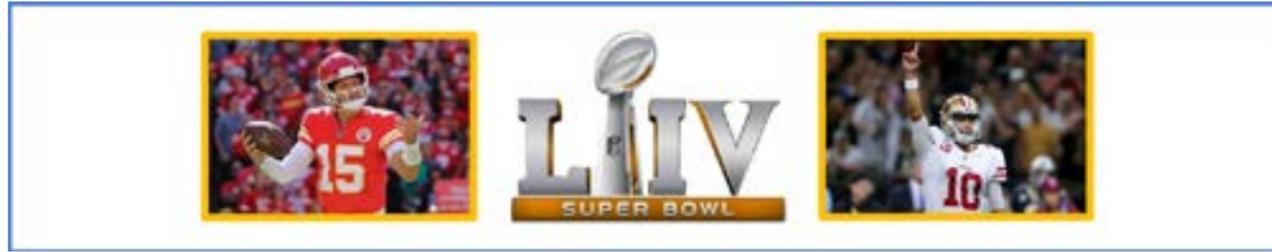
High School and went to **Hocking Technical College** for one year before deciding it was not for him.

On November 5, 1985, he joined the **Ohio Army National Guard** in Painesville, Ohio, and was assigned to the **107th Armored Cavalry** as a **19K Armor Crewman**. (19K refers to the **M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank**). He served for 12 years as an M1 tanker.

Jeff has two children, his son Alex and daughter Devin.

*(cont. on p.7)*

# HBYC ANNUAL SUPER BOWL PARTY



I would like to thank everyone for making our Super Bowl party a huge success.

We had 33 people in attendance, and I think almost everyone was rooting for the Kansas City Chiefs!

Thanks to **Rose Procopio, Donna Savage, Suzanne Lemmons** and **John Ames** for helping me arranging the tables, make our centerpieces, and blow up over 100 balloons to create a fun atmosphere for the game.

Susan Myers and Tom Owen de-

serve a BIG Thank You for preparing our yummy **Game Day Buffet!** We only had 2 entries this year for the chicken wing contest, but they were both delicious. Thank you **Dick and Donna**, and **Carol and Hank**.

Even though **Bill and Ann Vogel** were unable to attend the Game, they were there in spirit by once again providing us with a beautiful cake and Bill's betting board. Susan and Tom added two more betting boards and we filled them all. Congratulations go out to **Stella**

**Kelly, Jim Kelly, Nancy Tooman, Jill Prindle, Stu Lamont** (Susan Myer's friend) and **Skippy** (Susan's dog) for being the big winners. Everyone enjoyed our annual Commercial **BINGO** competition with 12 people winning free drinks served by our wonderful bartender **Rose Procopio**, who did a great job as always!

Last but not least, congratulations to the 2020 Superbowl Champions, the Kansas City Chiefs and their fans. It was a great game and a wonderful group of friends to share it with.

*Patti Ames*

## March Anniversaries

March 13, 2008  
Jeff & Jill Prindle

## March Birthdays

- March 23  
Melly Martin
- March 27  
Dan McCann

## Farewell

# Patrick McGrory

01/31/33 – 02/28/2020

Patrick was born January 31, 1933 in Glasgow, Scotland.

He graduated at 14, became a **Carpenter Apprentice**, and served in Britain's **Royal Air Force**.

Patrick met his future wife Isabella in Scotland when they were both 16 years old. Patrick always called her Belle.

Patrick came to the United States in 1959, to Brooklyn, NY. Belle followed 2 months later and they were



### Terry & Mellie Martin (cont. from p.5)

she attended business college and graduated in 1964.

After various clerical jobs, she worked as a **Program Assistant** with the **United States Department of Agriculture**. She retired from the USDA after 30 years.

Melly has three daughters from a previous marriage. Together, Terry and Melly have 7 children, 14 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren.

The couple enjoys golfing, fishing, and socializing with friends.

After living in Spring Lake, FL and Dade City, FL, they settled in Hernando Beach in 2018 (and they love it here!!!)

Terry and Melly Martin attend the **Aripeka Baptist Church**.

married on **Boxing Day**, December 26, 1959.

In New York City, Patrick worked as a **Master Carpenter** for **Knickerbocker Construction** and later for **JP Morgan & Co.**

Patrick and Belle moved to Florida in 1995.

Patrick liked to golf. He loved to sing and to work with

wood. He could make anything, all he needed was some wood and his tools. He never started a job he

### Jeff & Jill Prindle (cont. from p.5.)

Jeff has worked since 1987 in the **Plumbing Industry** to present to clients either wholesale or in the field. He currently works at **Pasco Pipe Supply** in Hudson, FL, doing sales and purchasing.

The main reason Jeff and Jill Prindle joined the Yacht club is to socialize and eventually get a boat.

Family members have either started or been in Yacht clubs since 1941, with Jeff's great grandfather starting the **Chagrin yacht club (Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club, Lake Erie)**.

Jeff's other grandfather was the **Commodore** at the Chagrin yacht club for a few years, so Jeff knows what to expect at the Hernando Beach Yacht Club — like-minded people getting together to just have fun.

couldn't finish .

He and Belle joined the HBVC in 2001. They also belong to the **Knights of Columbus** and the **Hernando Beach Club**

Patrick is survived by his loving wife Belle, his son Sean, and grandchildren Andrew, Cassidy, Robert, and Sean Michael.

He is also survived by over 20 nieces and nephews.

### Commodore's Corner

(cont. from p.1)

grief is long and those who walk it should not have to walk it alone".

In times like these nothing takes the place of family and friends. Belle was lovingly surrounded by her family and friends that day at the Yacht Club. Patrick loved this Yacht Club and so it was a perfect place for us to honor this man who touched so many lives.



I will close with my favorite Irish

May the road rise to meet you,

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm on your face,

May the rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

*Patti Ames*



# St. Valentine's Day Dance



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