



# Pyrate News

The 14th day of January in the year Two Thousand and Twenty Three, Mill Town, Florida

**3...2...1...Happy New Year!!**



Once again the Blackwater Pyrates joyfully celebrated the arrival of 2023 (all be it a little early). Additionally, no accidents were reported. I guess that in itself calls for celebration.

The Red Solo Cup Drop is a Pyrate tradition that dates back to the early years of the Blackwater Pyrates. Usually, the event called for a few adventurous Pyrates to find their way into precarious situations. Specifically, some of our wilder wenches (who will remain nameless) have been renamed "ditch wenches."

If anyone needs more information concerning those historical (and hysterical) events, I request that you look elsewhere since this Captain prefers to stay alive. Needless to say, those legendary Pyrates have set the bar rather high (or low depending who is measuring).

This year's event was an absolute success with the celebrations beginning early in the evening with dinner and socializing at Big Al and Woody's residence. The fireworks once again were spectacular and everyone is looking forward to next year's event.

# Merry Christmas 2022



Another Christmas has come and gone, and the Blackwater Pyrates once again stepped up to help prepare and serve dinner at the Milton Community Center.

This annual event is driven by Ginny Hinton (Gin Rummy) and the Santa Rosa County Extension Services Office. Recently, the Blackwater Pyrates have become a major contributor in volunteering services for Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners. It is a pleasure to serve and everyone has fun giving back.





# Merry Christmas 2022



Above and Left: The crowd gathered for Christmas dinner, socializing and Bingo at the annual Santa Rosa County Extension Services Christmas Dinner at the Milton Community Center.



Right: Milton City Council Member, Jeff Snow talks with and thanks the Blackwater Pyrates who volunteered on Christmas Day to serve the Santa Rosa community.





# Merry Christmas 2022



Three Turkeys preparing more turkey for Christmas Dinner



Milton City Council Member, Jeff Snow  
with Vixen and Two Noodles



Captain Lucky and Coop enjoying Christmas



# 2023 Polar Plunge



If you have never participated in the Annual Pensacola Beach Polar Plunge, you really don't know what you're missing. At least that's what these "adventurous" Pyrates have told me.

Every year this group of Pyrates join hundreds of other like minded individuals and make the plunge on New Years Day.

Personally, I would never jump or walk into the water at this time of year. But I applaud their hmmm...let's call it intestinal fortitude. It is an adventure like none other, but it is one that is celebrated around the world.

If you think about it, getting into the January water in the Pensacola Florida area is a whole lot better than in Alaska. So keep enjoying the event,

and I will keep enjoying my warm living room and watching a football game.

I know it takes a little "antifreeze" in order to properly enjoy the event, but everyone has their own way of celebrating the new year. You be you!

This event draws a very large crowd of both participants and observers every year. It is a free event and everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Our Blackwater Pyrate participants are always looking for additional polar bears to take the plunge.





# Tales from the Duck Pond



Duck Committee Members during the "Duck Count." Taking the picture (not shown) is Duck Committee Chairperson Terra

This is a new addition to the Blackwater Pyrate's Newsletter. We will be using this column to keep you informed of what the Duck Committee accomplishes each month.

We had our 1st meeting of 2023 on January 10th . We got a lot accomplished including a list of upcoming events in which we will be adopting out ducks! The Krewe of Airship Pyrates are having an event kicking off Mardi Gras at Jernigan's Landing and have asked that we set up to adopt out ducks on Friday and Saturday, February 3rd & 4th.

We will use the Tales from the Duck Pond in future newsletters to keep you apprised of important dates coming up in the following month. We will also be regularly posting this on the Members Only Facebook Page.

REMEMBER: The Great Mill Town Duck Race is our ONLY fundraiser and we need everyone's participation to make it a success.

SasSea the Duck Diva

# (Not) Change of Command

For those of you who may have been in hibernation, every two years the Blackwater Pyrates hold an election for the next Captain. In November 2022, we held our election and Captain Lucky was reelected for another two years.

Although a “New” Captain was not elected, it was highly recommended by the Crew that we have an event celebrating the successes of the previous two years (2021-2022). In order to avoid the possibility of a mutiny, a celebration was scheduled and approximately 60-70 Pyrates attended.

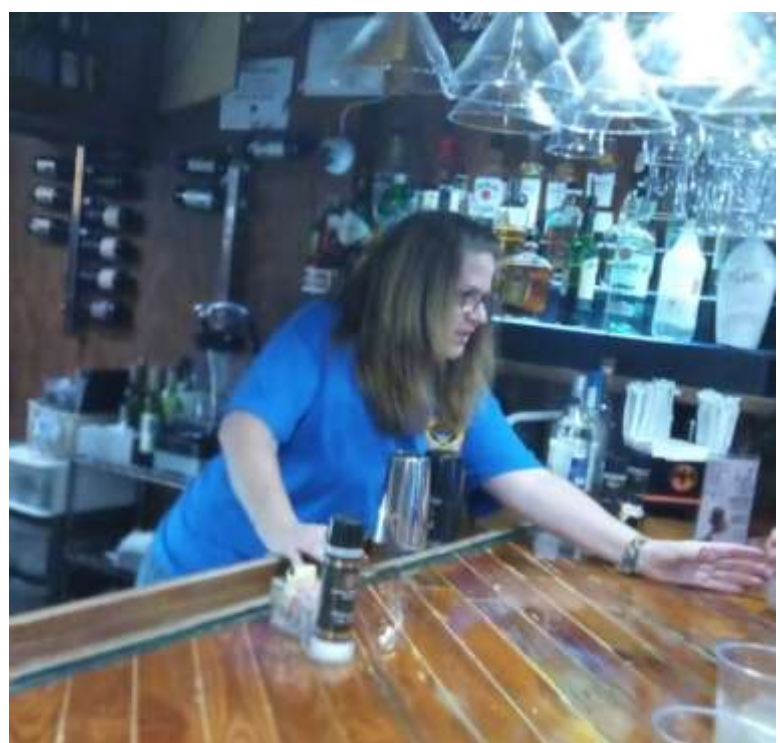
The event was dedicated to the volunteers who stepped up to be the leaders of the Blackwater Pyrates during the previous 2 years. Those Pyrate leaders were the sole reason that this organization was able to continue moving forward and as the Captain, I wanted to thank everyone who stepped up to drive the ship.

The Captain can only steer the ship and try to keep it from hitting obstacles or running aground. The Crew drives the ship, and we are only successful because of those Crew members who step up to help lead this group. The Captain is only as strong as his Crew, and I wanted to take the time to recognize all of the leaders who helped make the last two years a success for the Blackwater Pyrates.

Each of the volunteers who were present were recognized during the event and presented with backpack coolers containing the Blackwater Pyrate logo. Additionally, it was time to recognize a couple of Pyrates who are always there in the background. Swamp Yankee and Groette (Paul and Pam Kilmartin) volunteered to have the celebration at the Blackwater Bistro after closing on Sunday afternoon, and I wanted to recognize their generosity.



Capt. Lucky thanks Groette and Swamp Yankee



Eveline keeps the Pyrates in line and in adult beverages



# (Not) Change of Command

Pictured around this page are only a few of the volunteer leaders who were recognized at the (Not) Change of Command.



Top: Capt Lucky and Barnacle Bailey  
Bottom: Deacon Blues

Above: Capt Lucky and Terra  
Below: Big Al



Half Noodle (Jax) and 2 Noodles—Identical Twins





# Blackwater Pyrates 2023

January	February	March	April
8 (Not) Change of Command 11 Scholarship Mtg 12 Booty Council 18 General Mtg	4 Milton Mardis Gras Parade – Krewe of Airship Pirates 4 Mardis Gras Flotilla - POLT 9 Booty Council 15 General Mtg	4-5 Renaissance Fair – Duck Adoptions 8 Safety Mtg 9 Booty Council 15 General Mtg – Crew Duck Adoptions Begin 18 WWSRE	8 Poker Run 12 Safety Mtg 13 Booty Council 19 General Mtg 22 River Clean Up/Earth Day * 29 New Member Party
May	June	July	August
10 Safety Mtg 11 Booty Council 17 General Mtg 20 Boater Safety Week* Blessing of the Fleet USCG Boat Insp ? Boater Safety Class	3 Lighted Boat Parade in Ward Basin 14 Safety Mtg 15 Booty Council 21 General Mtg Duck adoption paperwork and \$\$\$ due	4 Great Mill Town Duck Race*** 8 Blues Cruise 12 Safety Mtg 13 Booty Council 19 General Mtg- Membership Dues	5 Lighted Boat Parade 9 Scholarship Mtg 10 Booty Council 16 General Mtg 19 Destin Crawl
September	October	November	December
13 Safety Mtg 14 Booty Council & Scholarship Mtg 16 Upper River Clean Up * 20 General Mtg 23 History Lecture*	7 Skull Island Retreat 12 Booty Council 14 Oktoberfest 18 General Mtg- Scholarship Award 20/21 Ghost Walk	4 Blues Cruise 8 Safety Mtg 9 Booty Council 15 General Mtg	1 Christmas Lighted Boat Parade 6 Budget Meeting 13 Caroling with the Pyrates 31 Red Solo Cup

\*Core Mission      Revised January 12, 2023      \*\*\*All Crew Participation





*Thank you 2022 Sponsors*

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*The  
Great Mill Town  
Duck Race*





*Thank you 2022 Sponsors*

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*The  
Great Mill Town  
Duck Race*



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Weddings



*The  
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Leek Small Engine  
Ollies Neighborhood Grill  
Oops Alley - Pace  
Oscity Labs – Brewton  
Mason's Restaurant  
McCombs Electric Htg & A/C

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*The  
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## **Helmsman Level \$100**

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