

RIGGING & EQUIPMENT

Do you have old sails in your basement or sails you know you'll never use again? You can give new life to an old sail and recycle it with **Sea Bags**. Through their Sail Trade Program, the process of donating a sail is easy. And for every usable sail, they offer customers a Sea Bags product in trade.

Go to seabags.com for all the details, but basically you contact them and describe your sail. They can arrange to pick up your sail or pay to have it shipped to them. Or you can drop it off at any of their retail stores. They have stores in Saugatuck, Harbor Springs, Charlevoix, and Traverse City, Michigan.

Once they receive your sail, they evaluate the size and condition to determine the trade. They make each trade as advantageous to customers as possible and will even make your trade from the sail you've donated. Sail bags can be made to celebrate a wedding, birthday, or just your boat.

There is no sail that is too small or too far away. Sea Bags has reclaimed over 700 tons of sails since they started and in 2020, took in nearly 7,100 sails that would have otherwise gone to a landfill.

Fleet 21 South

No, we do not have an official Fleet 21 South. But we have so many past and present Fleet members in and around Punta Gorda, Florida that we call ourselves that. Recently many of us got together (along with friends we've added along the way) to celebrate the end of season here and the start of the exodus back to Lake Michigan. As with any sailing outing, the weather did not cooperate! The one rainy day in three months forced us out of Ponce De Leon park and into Ed Kita and Kathy Cusimano's home. We still got to enjoy musical entertainment and even though the sun did not shine, a bag piper appeared at sunset for the traditional piping down the sun.

CYA

Following are highlights of the CYA March 24th meeting as reported by Jim Graham.

Ben Alden, representative of Westrec-Suntex (the two companies [merged in February](#)), reported:

- Harbors open May 1 and repairs from significant ice damage are now underway at Montrose and 31st Street, with Belmont, Diversey and other harbors to follow. He noted that Diversey Harbor's A, B and C docks need work.
- Smelt Season starts April 1, a sport seen mostly around Montrose Harbor. I believe it lasts through the end of April.
- Slips and moorings are still available at Diversey and 31st Street harbors, with a much more limited supply of space sizes available at Montrose, Belmont and Burnham.
- Lake levels are forecast to be down from last year.

Upcoming events:

- Sail GP, Navy Pier, June 18-19, tickets on sale now.

