

Padre Island Yacht Club

Docklines

November 2004

Vol. 20, No. 10



Port Isabel Cruise

By Gene Knight

First and foremost Barbara and Mern Williams with brother John of *September Song* deserve great thanks from all of us for flawlessly scheduling, rescheduling and coordinating the shifting marina reservations for the participants. The cruise south was delayed a bit by the weather. This caused the midweek departures to happen on Friday. The predawn departure (by one of us) and the sunrise departure of the balance of the flotilla were rewarded by a fifteen-knot norther that had sailboats seeing trawler speeds (nine knots). The flotilla included *September Song*, with Mern and Barbara Williams and brother John, *Whatever*, with Cooper Woodring and Ann, *Wind Shadow*, with Beverly and Chuck Hoffman accompanied by Al and Carole Woll and finally *Wind Dancer* with yours truly and my wife Gail. It was an even split of power and sail. *September Song* completed the trip down on Friday. The remainder of us made it in two legs.

The first leg of the trip ended at Port Mansfield at the El Jefe marina. The slips were new and vacant. The winds increased as we docked (as always). After the flurry of lines and boat parking, the Captains and Crew participated in an arrival cocktail with an assortment of hors-d'oeuvres. We had the facility to ourselves and enjoyed the evening on the covered patio overlooking the parade of fishing boats. Whatever took the point position Saturday at nine-ish and led the group south.

The second leg south is scenic, with light barge traffic and lots of dolphins. Gail took about two thousand marginal dolphin pictures. Someday we will find one to pose for the camera. The favorable wind strengthened to fifteen knots. Arrival at Port Isabel included a call from *September Song* that confirmed slips and water depths and preparations for happy hour.

The arrival at Port Isabel involves passing under the Bridge and a decision. The local power boaters recommended a shortcut to save about thirty minutes and avoid the Long Island Swing Bridge. However, the shortcut seems to have power lines that are thirty-nine feet, a bad omen to sailors. Cooper on our point boat chose the "scenic route" through the swing bridge, around Long Island, south of town, and over to the Marina. The Swing Bridge operator did not respond on his advertised channel (13). Fortunately, Cooper eventually found him on Chan-



nel 12 and the bridge magically opened. We did not scold the operator for his error as he was the last hurdle to the awaiting happy hour and our only escape on the return trip.

The boats arrived at Sea Ranch with *September Song* crew assisting the dockage. The short piers made it necessary to back the boats into the slips. The helmsmen earned their cocktails that day (as the wind strengthened). The afternoon social hour blended into a perfect evening with dinner at the Sea Ranch Restaurant. Sunday, some of us played tourist. The Island Community is replete with high-rise Condos, raked beaches, and shops. Coming back from a fun trip is tough to end. Looking forward to the next one.

New Year's Eve—Casino Night Planned

Mark your calendar now! Back by popular demand, PIYC will hold our Casino Night again this year. The gala event will have everything to make for a great New Year's Eve party. There will be fabulous prizes and lots of Black Jack and popcorn. This is an easy way to go to Vegas and never go over the bridge.

The Commodore's Column

Commodore Jerry McCracken



New Lease In Negotiations

The holiday season is upon us with many activities. For starters, there will be Thanksgiving dinner at the club. In December, it's decorating the tree and white elephant gift exchange. The La Posada boat parade is always a hit with lots of parties. Bev Hoffman is organizing the parade this year so call her if you can help. Don't forget Christmas dinner on Christmas day. To kick off the new year it the New Years Eve party. Please check the Docklines for details for all the activities.

On October 13, 2004 a meeting was held with Skip Noe, City Manager, Mark Scott and two representatives from the Parks & Recreations Department to start negotiations on the new lease expiring next year. Representing PIYC was Dave Walls, Bill Boyd & Jerry McCracken. We told the city we would like to have a 20 year lease with a 15 year option. We should have more information by the annual meeting. With a new lease in place our Building Committee can continue with plans to present to the membership next year. This committee has worked very hard and should be commended for a job well done. They have posted some plans for your consideration and welcome your input.

With the possibility of a new long term lease and the need to plan for our club, I am proposing the following change in our Bylaws. This change will allow for the development of a Long Range Plan and provides for reviews and changes as needed to address the needs of the club.

Article VIII Committees and Appointive Offices Section 7 currently reads:

The Long Range Planning Committee shall consist of the Commodore and previous Commodores of the Club

ho are willing to serve. The Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee shall be appointed by the Commodore. The Committee shall be responsible, at the invitation of the Commodore, for providing recommendations to the Board about matters pertaining to long range goals and planning for the Club. The Committee shall also be responsible for annual review and recommendation of the Bylaws. The Executive Board retains responsibility for accepting, modifying, or rejecting the ideas which result. Ex-officio members may be added temporarily to provide specialized expertise relevant to the projects under consideration.

With input from the Board and several members, the Proposed Changes has been reworded to read as follows:

Proposed Change

The Long Range Planning Committee shall consist of seven members of which two shall be past commodores. The LRPC shall be appointed by the Board. The Chairman of the LRPC shall be appointed by the Commodore. The committee shall serve a two year term. The first year, three members will serve a one year term. The Committee shall be responsible, for providing recommendations to the Board about matters pertaining to long range goals and planning for the Club. The Committee shall also be responsible for annual review and recommendation of the Bylaws. The Board retains responsibility for accepting, modifying, or rejecting the ideas which result. Ex-officio members may be added temporarily to provide specialized expertise relevant to the projects under consideration.

Please come to the Annual Meeting on November 19, 2004 and plan the future of our club.

Docklines

Published monthly by the Padre Island Yacht Club, 13402 Whitecap Blvd., Corpus Christi TX 78418, telephone 949-2248. On the web: <http://www.piyc.org> Mailing address: 14493 S. Padre Island Dr., Suite A, PMB 342, Corpus Christi TX 78428.

Club Officers: Commodore Jerry McCracken, 949-7277; Vice Commodore Dave Walls, 949-7351; Treasurer Bill Boyd, 949-7132; Secretary Kathy Coker, 949-1056; Social Director Katharine Robison, 949-0405; Cruising Director Bruce Nunez, 949-9885; Rear Commodore Jim Baker, 949-1506; Information Director Maddrey Reader, 949-8324; Past Commodore Bev Hoffman, 949-7551;

Send items, photos and ads for publication in Docklines to piycedit@stx.rr.com

Sent items for Club Scrapbook to Historian Maggie Westgate, 949-1460 mwestgate@stx.rr.com.

The social scene

By Katharine Robinson-Social Director



I'm heartsick that I will miss the Halloween Party. However, I know with Lynn Loveless and Jaki Boyd as your chair persons for the evening you will have a fun time.

Thank you to Lynn, Jaki and your helpers. Your hard work and great ideas will make for a wonderful, fun filled night.

Upcoming events include our Annual Fall Clean up on Saturday November 6th. Come work a lot (or a little) and enjoy a steak dinner with good friends.

November 20th is the Chili Cook-Off with James Hillegeist as chair -949-4881.

November 25th at 4:00 p.m. is our Thanksgiving Dinner with Mary Whitely as chair—949-8669

December 4th at 7:00 p.m. is the White Elephant Gift Exchange and decorating the club.
Be sure to mark you calendars for these events.

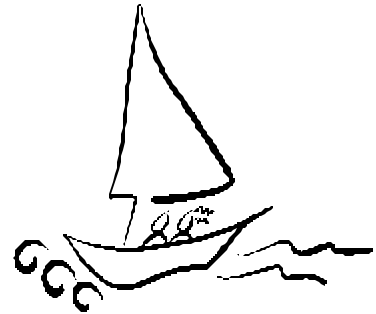
Annual Meeting Agenda

Call to Order

- Determination of Quorum
- Approval of Minutes April 30, 2004
- Financial Report
- Election of 2005 Executive Board and Directors
 - Commodore – Dave Walls
 - Vice Commodore – Bill Boyd
 - Rear Commodore – Peggy Fairey
 - Secretary – Maddrey Reader
 - Treasurer – Gaylor Heemink
 - Social Director – Debbie Loven
 - Cruising Director – Mern Williams
 - Information Director – Vickie Nunez
 - Immediate Past Commodore – Jerry McCracken
- Capital Improvement Projects
- New Business
- Announcements
- Adjournment

The Wheelhouse will remain closed until the meeting is over. We expect a short meeting. Support your incoming officers and new Board of Directors by your attendance.

To New Members in 2004



The Board and Past Commodores invite you to an informational new member pot luck dinner on Thursday, November 4th, at the Yacht Club. This is your chance to meet the past commodores and the Board and to get to know how the club works. Come prepared to ask questions and have a pleasant evening.

Please bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert to share. The board and past commodores will bring salad or meat-based dishes. Social hour will begin at 6:30 and dinner at 7:00.

Please RSVP to Jim Baker (949-1506) or Beverly Hoffman (949-7551)



Wheelhouse Notes and More

Vice Commodore Dave Walls

If you are a dues paying member of the Padre Island Yacht Club, you actually own a small piece of the facilities, and as such, each member should treat the club as their own personal property. We have many members that make repairs, clean up, replace and do general maintenance without being asked.

Bruce Nunez making emergency electrical repairs on the docks on a Sunday afternoon; Steve Spoonmore taking our gate opener home, repairing it and reinstalling it in working condition; Gaylor Heemink taking all of the downstairs tables home and repairing and tightening the legs etc; Jack Simonis installing lights on the docks; Ray and Diane Smith cleaning up and decorating the Palapa; Rick Wilson repairing plumbing leaks and electrical switches on Saturday afternoon. There are many more that are too numerous to name. These members make my job a lot easier and for that I thank each and every one.

Annual Fall Clean Up

The Fall Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 6th. Volunteers come out at 9:00 AM and we clean the building inside and out, trim bushes, clean outside building and make any repairs needed. There will be sign up sheets at the Friday night cocktail hour, you don't have to sign up to help, just show up. We are usually all done by noon, then the fun begins.

Bill and Rosanne Millroy have donated enough steaks to feed the entire club. That's right, we are having a steak dinner, with baked potatoes and salad. If everyone brings a dessert we would appreciate it.

Thank you Bill and Rosanne for your contribution.

INVITATION TO A CREEPY PARTY

Who: Padre Island Yacht Club Members and Guests
Where: PIYC Club, Upstairs
When: Saturday, October 30, 7:00 P.M.
What: The Halloween Gala Event of the Season

You are requested to wear a costume. This year's theme is "Dress like a Song Title," but liberties may be taken and masqueraders may use any musical theme, character, singer, etc. Please keep your costume a secret as our first mixer will be to guess each other's song. There will be exquisite prizes for costumes, games, and karaoke!

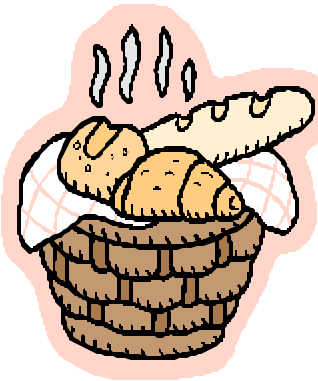
Please bring your favorite hors d'oeuvres or finger foods to share. There will be libations – a punch with a "punch," a punch without a "punch," and of course, our regular bar will be open (with the regular donations). Please bring music – tapes or CDs for dancing to the bewitching hour.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Padre Island Yacht Club will again have a Thanksgiving potluck dinner for members who will not be with their families for the holiday. The dinner is scheduled for 4 pm on Thursday, Nov.25 at the clubhouse.

Mary Whitley is coordinating the event. Please call her to check what dishes are needed and offer your help in setting up or cleaning up. Her telephone number is 949-8669, or e-mail her at srxrr78418@yahoo.com.

The Wheelhouse will not be open for mixed drinks. However, beer, wine and soft drinks will be available.



Thanks again,
Mary

October Bunko results

Refreshments Furnished By: Irene Walls

Most Bunkos- Neva Sundvahl
Most Wins - Jutta Cox
2nd Most Wins - Carol Woll
Boobie (Most Losses) - Cissy Day
First Bunko - Neva Sundvahl
Last Bunko - Neva Sundvahl

Next Bunko will be held on November 3, 2004 at 2PM at the Yacht Club. Please join us! This game is easy to learn and fun to play!

New Members

Welcome Aboard!



By Rear Commodore—Jim Baker

It is great to be able to welcome new members to the club and its activities. Please extend the hand of fellowship to:

Bob and Jennie Verrett, 15330 Key Largo Court, 949-2639, when on the island, live at 6 Wedgewood Ct., Sugarland, TX 77478, 281-491-7217. Bob, a Halliburton retiree, has his own consulting organization. The Verretts enjoy hunting, fishing, boating and golf. They hope to find fun and friendship at the club. They own a 19-foot powerboat. Email address: bobverrett@alltel.net.

Bob and Jan Gholston, 13545 Catamaran Drive, 949-9910 or 949-9952, email: Robert.gholston@unisys.com. Bob is an IT project manager and Jan is a wholesale jewelry manager. Their last home was in Flower Mound, Texas. Water sports, especially on their 18-foot-six-inch Boston Whaler, named "Timeout," give them pleasure and they look forward to club social activities.

As we get to know our new neighbors, let's remember to invite them to a PIYC event or just a Friday night get-together. It will be a nice way for newcomers to feel more welcome and maybe decide to join as members.

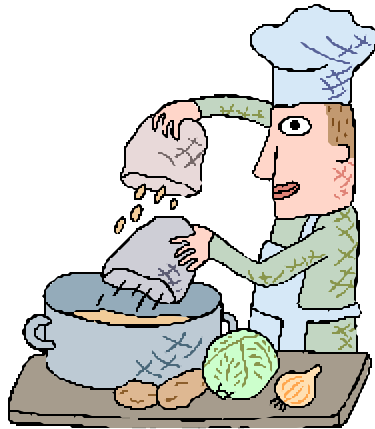


Chili Cook-Off and Tail Gate Party

Think you make a killer pot of chili? Do the neighbors beg you to: A) show off your culinary expertise with that special mixture of beef, pork, chilies and who-knows-what else, or B) Beg you not to use your mixture to gas everyone in a 5 block area?

If "A" is the overwhelming (pun intended) choice, then come enter the Annual PIYC Chili Cook-Off and Tailgate Contest to be held Saturday, November 20th!! This will be the perfect opportunity to impress everyone with that award winning concoction you're so famous for.

Along with cookin' up your chili, there's the chance to show your spirit for your favorite football/baseball/hockey/soccer/curling team or decorating sense in the form of a Tailgate Party, that will be located in the parking lot of the Club (weather permitting, of course)



There will be Prizes awarded for several categories in the Chili Cook-off, and for the Tailgaters.

Rules for the Cook-off will available at the Clubhouse, along with a sign-up sheet. Contact James Hillegeist at 949-4881 for any questions you might have. Also, if you'd like to help, contact him, he'll put you to work

The fun and festivities will begin at around 4:00pm Nov. 20th, and go until everyone has eaten, drank, and partied to their hearts content, or the heartburn has run everybody home. There will be keg beer, and the bar will be open (with the normal donations).

PARTY INFORMATION

WHEN: Saturday, November 20th, 4:00pm till ?? Judging will be around 6:00 pm.

WHERE: PIYC, Tailgating in the Parking lot (weather permitting), Chili Cooking both in the parking lot and downstairs, Eating, fun, and frivolity will be everywhere.

AWARDS: Some in the Chili Cook-off, and some for the Tailgaters.

WHAT TO BRING: Any side dishes you think will go with chili. Cornbread will be provided by several of the lovely and talented ladies of the Club.

INVITATION

BON VOYAGE TO THE DANOFSKYS

Regretfully, Dick and Bettye Danofsky will be leaving us and moving to Florida. Their departure date is November 17th. We would like to honor them and say "goodbye" and "bon voyage" at the Club on Saturday, November 13th. We are asking that you bring an appetizer to share. The Danofskys have been members of P.I.Y.C. since 1995. Dick is a past commodore and Bettye has served on the Board and numerous committees.

Where: P.I.Y.C. Club

Date: Saturday, November 13

Time: 4:00 – 6:00 P.M.

For additional information contact one of the hostesses;

Hostesses;

Jaki Boyd

Peg Fairey

Bev Hoffman

Dorcas Payne

Jan Roehrig

Cook's Notes

By Dorcas Payne

Rave reviews in abundance was heard in reference to the Oktoberfest Blue Plate. This very special German food menu featured Bratwursts with red cabbage, Sauerkraut, German potato salad, applesauce, and apple turnovers with ice cream for dessert. All the planning, shopping, preparation and serving were under the very capable direction of David and Maddrey Reader. Assisting the Readers were Bill and Jacque Boyd, Deb Collins, and Bonnie Wilson. Together they fed 80 hungry members the rich Germanic cuisine. Cleanup is a part of hosting such an event, and "kudos" to those thoughtful members who showed up in the kitchen to help out. Danke Sehr! (Thank you very much) to our host chefs and assistant chefs for making October a *Feast*.



Photography by Maggie Westgate

COMING UP IN NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER BLUE PLATE
November 12, 2004
7:00: P.M.
Cost \$5.00 per person-

HOST CHEFS

Steven and Carol Jean Spoonemore
Carol Woll

THE MENU

Santa Fe Stew
Salad
Cornbread
Dessert

A PERFECT COOLER WEATHER MENU

DON'T MISS IT!!!

Greetings from Illusion

This up date from Illusion came in back in late July, But, the report about "Luna" is an eye opener. It's always good to hear from our cruising members.
Editor

Illusion is having a great summer on the west coast of Vancouver Island in British Columbia. Few boats cruise this area but we have met several that are circumnavigating the island, almost six hundred miles. There are several sounds on the West coast, each with many islands and inlets to explore. Gifts from the sea....crabs, oysters and most recently salmon are abundant. We love watching the whales but like them to keep their distance.

This account of Luna, the whale, was sent to us by Eric and Sherry aboard *Dolphin*, a Monk trawler. We traveled with them a good bit AFTER they left Nootka Sound. We turned around at Hesquiat Harbor Boat Basin so did not get to Nootka to see Luna, an Orca whale...OK with us. When we were in Hot Springs Cove we met a 'whale-hugger'....a woman sail-boater who has 'bonded' with Luna. She makes frequent trips up to visit Luna and is spearheading efforts to protect him and keep him in Nootka. Here is Eric from *Dolphin's* account of Luna.

After turning around on Wednesday, we decided to adventure up one of the northern inlets of Nootka Sound. Our passage around Bligh Island to that area brought us face to face with Luna in a not so wide channel. He was harassing a sailboat by butting up against its starboard side.

We passed aft of the boat and slowed down to observe what was going on. He spotted us and came along side. Moments later he was pushing against our starboard quarter, and ducking down trying to get under our swim step. He gave up after about 5 minutes and took after another sailboat that was coming down the channel in the opposite direction.

He did a number on that boat. He banged on the rudder and knocked the tiller out of the boaters grasp. The rudder swung over and the tiller ("handle" that swings the rudder) was broken in the process. Luna kept pushing the boat about. A Native boat setup a tow, and Luna banged and bumped them around while they made their way to a dock. He had lots of fun lifting the dinghy they were towing clear of the water. When they were tying up to the dock, Luna pushed the sailboat 6 feet up on the dock, resulting in the abrading of the gel coat from the bow back.

Luna is evidently a control creature. He has damaged the rudders of many boats, and delights in

moving them about as he pleases. There have been many reports of him trapping boats against the shoreline. He even has taken on Coast Guard boats.

Sherry and I are concerned for all the kayakers that



will try to get here to see him. He is a dangerous threat. Locals say that it is going to take someone being killed before the government will step in.

Plans to move him are on hold. The Natives claim that he represents their sacred past. If he were moved to his family pod in the San Juan Islands, he would really be a problem. He is only 4 years old, but weighs in at around 2000 pounds. That's a lot of force banging on boats.

Enjoy the cruising waters of South Texas. Bernice and Gene aboard **ILLUSION**



Photography by Maggie Westgate

Farewell and best wishes to Paul and Liz Hlavaty in their new endeavor in Oklahoma! They will be missed by everyone at the Yacht Club, along with the Mah Jong Gang and Mens Coffee Hour. A farewell was held for them on Friday, October 22nd at the Yacht Club

PIYC Plans 2004 La Posada Boat Parades

This year Padre Island celebrates the 30th annual La Posada lighted boat parades and the 20th year the Padre Island Yacht Club has been an active participant. The dates for the 2004 parades are Friday, December 10 and Saturday, December 11. About six years ago, the TOYS FOR TOTS program was added to the La Posada Parade by Richard and Trudy Harter. In 1998, the Padre Island Yacht Club accepted the primary responsibility for the planning and execution of the parades.

Beverly Hoffman, (949-7551) 2003 PIYC Past Commodore, is the 2004 Parade Chairperson and PIYC members are rallying to provide workshops, host the La Posada Open House, organize and participate in the parades, and collect toys along the parade routes. By now, you have probably read the La Posada information in the North Padre Island Moon and/or the 78418 Grapevine, but PIYC extends a special invitation to our members encouraging them to participate.

2004 La Posada Schedule:

Saturday, November 13 and November 20, 10 A.M. – Free workshops at the Padre Island Yacht Club, These sessions on boat lighting and decoration are especially helpful to **first-time entrants**. Bret Tanner and Rick Wilson will each host a workshop.

Thursday, December 9, 7:30 P.M. – Skippers' Meeting at the Padre Island Yacht Club

Friday, December 10, 8:00 P.M. - La Posada in the Galleon Bay-Commodores area (Marshalling begins at 7:30 P.M.)

Saturday, December 11, 6:00 P.M.– La Posada Open House at the PIYC, parade viewing from the PIYC deck. PIYC members to provide cookies and punch., La Posada in the Caravel/Cartegena/Whitecap/Hawksnest Bay areas (Marshalling at the Caravelle ramp area begins at 5:30 P.M.)

Sunday, December 12, 2-5 P.M. – Fiesta de la Posada (Awards/Community Celebration) at the Briscoe Pavilion at Bob Hall Pier, \$5 per person

Who Can Participate? – Anyone with an engine-powered boat and a little Christmas Spirit! The following types of boats are needed:

1. Three or four large decorated “mother” boats to carry the toys collected.
2. Several smaller “collector” boats to actually collect the toys from boat docks where people are handing off toys from the land. These can be decorated or not.
3. Smaller “safety” boats to make sure the parade stays organized and boats are not endangering other vessels or themselves.
4. Decorated boats, large or small, to participate in the parades.

PIYC would like all boats to participate both nights if possible. 1st and 2nd place trophies will be awarded in the following categories: Most Traditional, Most Joyful, Most Island Spirit, and a special category this year, Most Patriotic. There will be a Fleet Award for the Best Overall. There is no limit on the number of decorated boats which can participate. Please call Beverly Hoffman (949-7551) to participate. Informational pamphlets, registration forms, parade routes, and other information will be forthcoming.

Last year was a record breaking year. PIYC collected 3,735 toys from the Padre Island community, which was **number 1 in the nation for group donations**. Another record for the number of parade participants was set with 30 glittering boats, 13 of them from PIYC, cruising in the canals. In the 30th year of La Posada, PIYC would like to break these records again!