

PAYC MAINSHEET

Port Arthur Yacht Club, 410 Pleasure Island Blvd., Port Arthur, TX 77640

Web site address: payc.us Email address: payc@payc.us

Commodore's Corner

Commodore Art Lynd

Mainsheet: When Steve Swanson stepped down as *Mainsheet* editor, I asked Carolyn Worsham to return and be our *Mainsheet* editor once again. She has been doing an excellent job on the PAYC website and I feel that she will continue the superb job that Steve has done these past few years on our *Mainsheet*. Thank you, Steve. Thank you, Carolyn.

Power to Slips: Our special meeting went well, and I want to thank everyone for an excellent turn out. Although we did not vote on money to get electrical power, we did decide to compose a letter to PIC requesting written permission to set up temporary electrical hook-ups and water. I presented it to the PIC, and Jimmy Dike wrote us a letter giving us permission. So we are moving forward on the power issue.

Lease Agreement: The issue on the Lease agreement is on hold again. We still have four years to work on this matter. The lawyer hired by the PAYC board stated that he believed that our contract is solid and that the PIC is obligated to uphold their agreement and cannot chase us off due to hurricane damage.

Junior Sailing Allocation: The money we were requesting to help rebuild our pram fleet due to Ike was reduced to \$5,000, but the proposal passed at that amount. Paul Vera has already started spending this money wisely. I want to remind everyone that our mission is "to encourage yachting" and one objective is "to Initiate and maintain a junior yacht sailing and racing



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Commodore's Corner	1
Cruising	2
Racing	2
Junior Sailing	3
Passing the Mainsheet Torch	3
From Here and There...	4
Making Ocean Racing Safer	4
From the Secretary's Desk	5
Answers to Nautical Trivia	5

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2-3, 9-10 - Contraband Cruise to Lake Charles
 May 7, 14, 21, 28 - Thursday Night Series #3
 May 9 - Full Moon Race/Cruise
 May 12 - PAYC General and Board Meetings
 May 21 - The captain of the bark *Georgina* reported a 50-foot sea serpent in the Indian Ocean in 1877
 May 23-25 - Dieter Junge Race/Cruise to Galveston
 May 26 - Deadline for June Mainsheet Articles

program." The junior sailing program is doing just that. We need more club boats to support junior sailing. If anyone knows of a small sailboat that someone may want to donate or sell to our club, please contact Paul Vera or me.

Geocaching Event: The Geocaching event was a success. PAYC rented the clubhouse to 45 people visiting our facility from as far as 140 miles away. Bill Worsham was sponsor to families and couples of all ages that came to participate. The weather was windy and gloomy, but luckily the rain held off until near the end of the event.

Geocachers traveled from one end of Pleasure Island to the other with their noses down on their high tech GPS's. Stomping through the mud and around the snakes, they were very enthused to find

their treasures. The game was invented by computer guys to get their fellow workers out of the office and workshops to enjoy the outdoors. It worked, and everyone had fun. I invited the Geocachers to participate in our annual PAYC treasure hunt, and many expressed an interest.

Upcoming Treasure Hunt: PAYC's Third Annual Treasure hunt will take place on **July 18 on Sabine Lake**. I'm hoping to get a total of ten boats; more would even be better. This year everyone will get to be pirates. Water balloons will be color coded according to the teams. I'm shooting for 5 teams (2 boats per team). The treasure chest will be back with its gold coins, and the rules of the game have continued to evolve. The shirts will be red and short sleeved. Start making plans to be part of this fun event.

Good News: We have a lot happening down here at the club. Construction of new slips is slow because of the debris in the marina, but boats are returning to the marina. New members continue to join each month. Club activities continue. Spirits are rising higher, and sailing lives on.

Come join in the fun!

Cruising

Mike Wise

I hope everyone rested up and worked on their boats last month because we have a busy cruising month here in May!

We start off with the annual **Contraband Days Cruise to Lake Charles**. That takes up the first two weekends and overlaps the **Full Moon Race/Cruise** on Saturday the 9th. A quick call to Bridge Point Yacht Center in Lake Charles was informative. They have transient slips, but their Contraband Days availability varies. Their overnight fees are \$1.00 per foot with power. For more information on the Bridge Point Yacht Center, check out their web site:

<http://www.bridgepointyachtcenter.com/>

Finishing out the month over the long Memorial Day Weekend is the **Dieter Junge Offshore Galveston Race/Cruise**, another annual event. Another call, this time to the Galveston Yacht Basin, proved productive as well. They are for the most part back up and operational. There is plenty of space available on the concrete barrier wall we all know and love, but there are also numerous slips to be had considering their own loss of boats. The docking fees are \$1.00 per foot without power and \$2.00 per foot with shore power.

So there is no excuse not to get out and cruise this month. We have interesting destinations and safe harbors when we arrive!

As for June we are looking a little light with only a Full Moon Race/Cruise slated for the 6th. It looks like we may have to come up with an impromptu cruise for June!

The Skippers' Meetings for the Contraband Days Cruise and the Dieter Junge Cruise will be on the Thursday prior to the cruise.

Until next month, keep on cruisin'...

Special Note from John Ardoin: Our friends on River Road in Lake Charles called to let us know they would love to have some of the PAYC cruisers come to River Road. They have about 100 feet of dock space available. If you need more info, give me a call at 409-749-4714.

Racing

Paul Vera

We have been on a roll of either no wind are too much wind as mother nature is truly working overtime to create very harsh conditions this spring. We will prevail, however, and we will be in for a great year.

Olympic #1 was sailed, and 4 boats made it out in 30+ wind gusts and winds averaging a little over 18 knots. Ken Rutty retired before the first start with a broken rudder. The PAYC rule requiring a working motor for racers paid off for Ken -- all he had to do was drop sails and motor in. Without a motor we would have had to stop everything and assist him to make sure he made it in safely.

Results for Olympic #1: Bill Worsham – 1; Richard Hughes – 2; Martin Novich/Paul Vera – 3; Ken Rutty – DNS...and *thanks* to Russ Myers for a “sickening” day as race committee in the rough seas!

Our Thursday Night Races have been hit hard by the weather conditions. We have had more races canceled this year than any other year since I have been involved in racing. But we will get through these heavy weather days and we will become better sailors from them.

Race Management: We really need someone who enjoys being out on the water to keep track of the boats, start the races, and keep our times for Thursday Night (and other) races. If you would like to volunteer, please give me a call at 363-3898.

Upcoming Racing Events:

May 7, 14, 21, 28 – Thursday Night Series #3
(Skippers’ Meetings at 1800 hours)

May 9 – Full Moon Race/Cruise
(Skippers’ Meeting at 1800 hours)

May 23–25 – Dieter Junge Offshore Race to Galveston. We will be updating announcements at the Thursday Night Races.
(Skippers’ Meeting on Thu, May 21 at 1800 hours?)

Come on out, and let’s create some memories!

Paul’s Nautical Trivia:

What is a barque? Ever heard of a baggywrinkle? Find the answers elsewhere in this *Mainsheet*.

Junior Sailing

Paul Vera



Pre-Ike Junior Sailing on Sabine Lake

We are still looking at the condition of our marina, and it is not good. With lots of debris in the water and a major issue with alligators and snakes, it is still a no-go for junior sailing this year. But -- and this is a big “but” -- the club has provided some money to replace equipment that we lost to Hurricane Ike, and with the boats we put together we are making plans to relocate. What does this mean? Well, we might find another venue for junior sailing. The challenge is finding the right place. Please keep a close eye on the *Mainsheet*. I have started the great search for a great place for great PAYC kids to sail!

Passing the Mainsheet Torch

Carolyn Worsham

Steve Swanson stepped up to the plate in mid-2006 and accepted the position of *Mainsheet* editor in addition to his position of PAYC secretary. He faithfully produced a creative, monthly publication for PAYC for three years. Thank you, thank you, thank you, Steve!

In accepting the position, I am attempting to fill Steve’s really big shoes. As many of you know, I work out-of-state, so I’ll be producing a long-distance *Mainsheet*. That means I am dependent

on others to feed material to me. Thanks in advance to all who do!

I'll be experimenting with various formats for a few months. Please let me know what you like and don't like. This is **your Mainsheet**. Contact me at mainsheet@payc.us.

Please also let me know of any members who are not receiving the *Mainsheet*.

From here and there...

Contributed by Carolyn Worsham

- Are you looking for a special gift for Mothers' Day or Fathers' Day? Burkett's Jewelry (near the Schooner) carries a set of four Screencraft Tileworks coasters with a portion of the nautical chart showing Pleasure Island, Sabine Lake, and the surrounding area. They're a "must-have" for every PAYC member and Pleasure Island lover! A set sells for \$46.95.
- Pick up food and drink and gasoline at Jep's or Sharky's, and use the marine services at Bo'Sun's Landing. Pleasure Island businesses need our support.
- Enjoy the PAYC facilities, even during this recovery period. Participate in the planned social, cruising, and racing activities, and express appreciation to those who are working to restore the amenities Ike took from us. Contact a PAYC officer to find out how you can become a part of the solution to both short and long-term problems.
- Did Ike leave you boatless? Pleasure Island offers other recreational opportunities – fishing, crabbing, geocaching, disc golfing, picnicking, biking, walking, etc. Come out and try a new outdoor activity while enjoying the clean air.
- Gene Kohrman has information about programs offered by the Coast Guard Auxiliary that can in many cases reduce boating insurance. Email harbormaster@payc.us for more information.

Making Ocean Racing Safer

Contributed by Carolyn Worsham

This is a synopsis of a recent meeting between the San Francisco Coast Guard, the Yacht Racing Association (YRA), and various California yacht clubs. It's unlikely that the same requirements will apply in the same timeframe for the Gulf of Mexico, but it behooves us to know what is happening elsewhere.

- All ocean races will require Coast Guard permits.
- Better communications between the Coast Guard and race organizers will be required. All organizations running ocean races must call the Coast Guard at the start, at the finish (accounting for all boats that started, whether they finished or dropped out), and every four hours while the race is underway. Identification sheets, including a description and photo of the boat, names and ages of all crew, etc. will be required.
- A Coast Guard cutter will be in the ocean for every local ocean race.
- The Coast Guard will draft a regulation requiring EPIRBs on ocean races starting in 2010.

The Coast Guard position was 'help us help you.' In response to questions regarding PLBs (personal locator beacons), DSC (digital selective calling) buttons on VHF's, etc., the answer was almost always "Anything that makes you safer is a good thing."

The bottom line is there are no panaceas when it comes to safety. No one system is going to insure your survival every time; however, the more systems you have that are working at peak efficiency, the better the chances are that you will live to tell about any emergency that does occur.

**"ANYTHING THAT MAKES YOU SAFER
IS A GOOD THING."**

From the Secretary's Desk

Ricky Richardson

April has been a busy month for me. No time for sailing results in not much fun. Repairs to my flooded home are in full swing, and I'm only able to squeeze in a race here and there. My next adventure might be Slip-to-Ship on Memorial Day weekend in Ocean Springs, MS, and following that will be the Dash during the Great Texas event on Fathers' Day weekend. All the rest of my time is divided between work to keep the bills paid, remodeling my home, Haley's graduation and school events, and keeping my wife happy. Pris has always been the easy one since she doesn't require much. I am very blessed to have such a good wife who puts Haley and me above everything else. She even lets me take a break now and then to go racing! I had to decline running the races this year due to projects at home, so Paul Vera is looking for help. Please contact him at 363-3898.

You have an opportunity to introduce new business by emailing it to secretary@payc.us. The motion will be placed on the agenda and sent to the membership a week before the meeting. If you place something on the agenda, you or your designate will need to be at the meeting to make the motion and get a second before it becomes business before the membership. The benefits of a written motion are to give advance notice of business to be brought before the membership and to let the board know what is important to you. A written motion is encouraged but not required; all new business is welcomed during the call for New Business.

Suzy O'Quinn and Russ Myers have membership cards ready for the May General Meeting. Also Jim Pearson has renewed our membership with the Yachting Club of America (www.ycaol.com). The "Members Only" section requires a User ID and Password. Email a request to secretary@payc.us.

Special Notice: Email secretary@payc.us for a copy of the minutes of the April business meeting. The membership voted in the April meeting to discontinue publishing the minutes in the *Mainsheet*.

Nautical Trivia Answers

Contributed by Paul Vera



The barque-rigged Elissa entering Port Galveston

By the end of the 18th century, **barque** (also known as bark or barc) came to refer to any vessel with a sail plan of three (or more) masts with fore-and-aft sails on the aftermost mast and square sails on all other masts. Barques were the workhorses in the mid 19th century as they attained passages that nearly matched full rigged ships but could operate with smaller crews as there were fewer of the labor-intensive square sails.



Baggywrinkle

Baggywrinkle is a soft covering for cables (or any other obstructions) to reduce sail chafe. It provides a softer wearing surface for the sail. Baggywrinkle is made from short pieces of yarn cut from old lines. Two parallel lengths of marline are stretched between fixed points, and the lengths of yarn are attached using a hitch called a "railroad sennit." This creates a long, shaggy fringe which, when the marline is wound around a cable, becomes a large hairy cylinder.

Name

Port Arthur Yacht Club, Inc.
410 Pleasure Island Blvd.
Port Arthur, TX 77640

Email

payc@payc.us

Officers

[Art Lynd](#), Commodore
[Russ Myers](#), Vice Commodore
[Ricky Richardson](#), Secretary
[Jim Pearson](#), Treasurer

Motto

PAYC - The Fun Spot of
Southeast Texas

PAYC is on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://payc.us>

Board of Directors:

Alan Aldredge, Chuck Devenzio, Butch Neely, Mike Wise, and
Mark Hallquist (Past Commodore)

Trustees:

Sam Showalter, Ken Rutt, and Eric Phelan

Harbormaster:

[Gene Kohrman](#)

Mainsheet/Website:

[Carolyn Worsham](#)

Reserving the PAYC Clubhouse (Members Only):

Email clubhouse@payc.us or contact a club officer. Visit payc.us for a reservation application after the date is cleared.

Next General/Board Meeting:

Tuesday, May 12, 2009, 7:00 p.m., PAYC Clubhouse
Board Meeting immediately follows the General Meeting.

Request for PAYC Roster:

Email roster@payc.us.

Mainsheet Delivery:

Email mainsheet@payc.us or contact the PAYC Secretary to move from USPO delivery to email delivery or vice versa.

Port Arthur Yacht Club
410 Pleasure Island Blvd.
Port Arthur, TX 77640

