

PAYC MAINSHEET

Port Arthur Yacht Club, 410 Pleasure Island Blvd., Port Arthur, TX 77640
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Commodore's Corner

Commodore Russ Myers

I am looking forward to serving as commodore for the next year. We should be able to complete the remainder of our Ike repairs in 2010. Former commodores **Mark Hallquist** and **Art Lynd** have already taken care of the major problems; all I have to do is take care of the minor ones. I will schedule work parties during the year to complete our repairs. Of course it goes without saying that we are still waiting on PIC and FEMA to award a contract on the much-needed marina repairs.

PAYC will host the TSA Youth and Spindletop Division 6 Regattas in 2010. **Paul Vera** and **Ricky Richardson** will be looking for volunteers to help with these regattas.

At this time I have not selected all of my committee chairmen. Hopefully by the next *Mainsheet* I will be able to publish the list.

Results of 2010 Officer Election

Commodore: Russ Myers

Vice Commodore: Paul Vera

Secretary: Ricky Richardson

Treasurer: Jim Pearson

Assistant Treasurer: Alan Aldredge

Trustee: Steve Swanson

Board: Larry Lognion, Paul Morgan, Pat O'Quinn, Mike Wise, Art Lynd (Past Commodore)

Terms of office begin at the December meeting.

Whenever your preparations for sea are poor, the sea worms its way in and finds the problems.

-- USN Rear Admiral Francis Stokes



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DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 4 - Long Distance Race #4 and Jack Painton Cup for Cruisers
- Dec 8 - PAYC General and Board Meetings
- Dec 12 - Tree Trimming Party at PAYC (7 p.m.)
- Dec 20 - Race Rules Meeting for 2010 (6 p.m. and 7 p.m.)

NAUTICAL TRIVIA

1. What is the greatest threat to sailors in the winter months?
2. When is it cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey?

Flotsam and Jetsam

Carolyn Worsham

- The tentative opening date for the Louisiana Causeway Bridge is Dec 1. When the bridge span is opened for vehicular traffic, the swing bridge will be opened for boat traffic.
- Did you know that your PAYC membership card provides reciprocity privileges at yacht clubs across the country? It works at nearby Houston YC and Lakewood LC as well as Annapolis YC to the east and St. Francis YC to the west.
- Do you have any *Mainsheets* from 1968 to 2003? If I can borrow your copies, I will scan them to recapture the rich history of PAYC. I promise to return them to you.

Cruising

Mike Wise

November was a slow month for cruises. The planned overnight raft-up turned into a varied day of sailing with about nine boats enjoying some great sailing with sunshine, fair winds, and moderate temperatures. In the evening delicious meals and good fellowship were enjoyed.

December has no scheduled cruises; however there is the possibility of an impromptu boat parade in conjunction with the Tree Trimming on Dec 12. Get out there and decorate your boat! We will see what we have on that evening, and maybe have some fun with it! There is also the invitation from Jennie Ware with the Beaumont YC to participate in the City of Beaumont's boat parade on Dec 5. Contact Jennie at bayouslug@aol.com.

It has been a pretty slow year in the cruising department, but considering we are recovering from two hurricanes, it is pretty impressive! Members are repairing damage on salvaged boats, sprucing up newly-acquired boats, or still looking for that next boat. As individuals and a club, many great things have been accomplished, but we are still in the midst of restoration. The club house is getting back to normal, but many projects need to be completed. The marina is a long way from where it needs to be, but we have power to many of the slips. Boats are going back in the water as they are repaired or acquired, and we have attracted several new members. PAYC is a great group of people who love the sport, the art, the hobby, and the sailing way of life whether for pleasure or competition.

It has been a pleasure and honor to serve PAYC for the last seven years – as commodore, board member, and cruising chair. I look forward to the club's growth in 2010. For now and as always I will see you on the water and...

Until next month, keep on cruisin'...

From the Secretary's Desk

Ricky Richardson (409-882-4847)

The votes are counted, and I'm looking forward to working with a new Commodore, Vice Commodore, and new Board members. This year has gone by quickly, and we have passed the hurricane season without damage. We are still working on Ike damage though, and I hope that we are able to put a finish on the items on the clubhouse this year. I'm not sure where we are going with the marina rebuild, but the Pleasure Island Commission has asked for our comments concerning that issue and a marina committee was formed by **Art Lynd**, Past Commodore. It's my hope that we follow through and influence the marina rebuild process for the benefit of our members.

There is a scheduled racing meeting set for Dec 21 (6PM for a preliminary discussion; 7PM for the meeting). All members are encouraged to attend and express their concerns and desires concerning racing at PAYC for next year. I'm interested in starting a dinghy class for racing lasers next year; if anyone else is interested, please contact me at secretary@payc.us. PAYC has the equipment, and I would love to get out and have fun with them.

If you would like to make a motion at the General Meeting, simply write it down and email it to secretary@payc.us. I will be happy to put it on the agenda for you.

Reminder – Tree Trimming Social and White Elephant Gift Exchange

Date: Saturday, Dec 12, 7 p.m.

Bring a snack, your drinks, and a White Elephant Gift and come join the fun!



P.S. Don't forget to decorate your boat!

Top Ten Rules When Buying a Boat

Captain Fred Greenfield is a veteran sailor of over 60 years who has built boats small and large. Read his article at www.sailingandboatingadvice.com.

1. Don't buy a wooden boat.
2. Look at 100 boats before you choose one.
3. Look for water in the boat.
4. Test the rigidity of the deck.
5. Make sure that the 12-volt system has a master isolator switch.
6. Start the engine. "If the engine is gasoline, my advice is to pass!"
7. Check the sails. Early in the day before the wind comes up, run the sails.
8. Verify vital systems.
9. Make sure that you are comfortable in the boat.
10. Be sure you can afford your "dreamboat."

Junior Sailing

Paul Vera – 409-363-3898 (cell)

It's happening! The dock parts are on the way, and by this time next month we will hopefully have a new floating dock. **Randy Palmero, Alan Aldredge, Ted Mahavier, Russ Myers**, and I will meet to discuss the dock design.

PAYC will host the Mardi Gras Youth Regatta on Feb 13-14. We will need all the volunteers we can get – a cooking team, shore team, registration team, and enough people and equipment to run 3 separate race courses. Please join us and make a memory that will last a life time.

It's time to look for PAYC juniors who want to race in the Mardi Gras Regatta. Please let me know if you know someone who wants to give it a try and I will try my best to get him/her ready for it.

*When the sun's at his back and the wind's in his face
It's just him and wheel
He wouldn't take a million for the way it makes him feel
Boats – Vessels of freedom – Harbors of healing – Boats
-- from *Boats*, a Kenny Chesney hit*

Racing

Paul Vera – 409-363-3898 (cell)

Four boats competed in the Olympic Regatta with **Richard Hughes** topping **Ken Rutty, Bill Worsham, and Paul Vera**.

My thoughts about this regatta: I found out why they call the boom a boom. I was by myself and rigged for light air – wrong – heavy air and out of control 90% percent of the time; not fun; retired from regatta; way too much for the turtle. I did, however, see 3 sailors go after each other and have a great time.

*[Art Lynd shared this observation about the regatta: I raced with **Richard Hughes** today against **Bill Worsham**. Bill was by himself, and I want to tell you that he is an awesome sailor. It was a fun day.]*

The annual PAYC race rules meeting will be conducted on Monday Dec 21. We will discuss our racing program and consider adjustments for improvement. Please attend – your input is needed.

The LROTY (Last Race of the Year) will be held on Dec 5 with a 1000 Skippers' Meeting. The **Jack Painton Cup** is up for grabs for the Cruiser Fleet on the same date and time, so get out there and drink some beer and make Jack smile!

From the Galley

Link provided by Gene Kohrman

If you enjoy slow-cooked crock pot meals, here is an index to all of the recipes you could every need!

<http://www.50plusfriends.com/cookbook/crockpot/index-5b.html>

(Move beyond the legal mumbo-jumbo regarding copyright infringement for using "Crock Pot" to find the links to the recipes.)

*The sea, the great unifier, is man's only hope.
Now, as never before, the old phrase has a literal meaning: We are all in the same boat.
-- Jacques Cousteau*

Marina Health and Safety

Darrell Irvin, PAYC Member and Epidemiologist
Southeast Texans have easy access to Gulf Coast waters. Sabine Lake, a 90,000 acre estuary, is formed by the confluence of the Sabine and Neches Rivers joining runoff water from rainstorms and storm drains; discharge water from sewage and industrial plants; natural putrifaction from marsh water; and tidal salt water from the Gulf of Mexico. Sabine Lake simmers in the summer heat and approaches freezing during the winter months.

This cauldron is a habitat for shrimp, fish, and oysters, and it supports boating, fishing, and swimming. The EPA mandates that the nation's waters be fishable and swimmable, and the Texas Clean Water Act provides criteria for contact recreation, activities where there is a potential to immerse your head and ingest the water.

How is "fishable and swimmable" measured? It is based on an acceptable risk level for infections or gastroenteritis caused by "things" in the water – not post-hurricane items like old cars and boats; rather, Total Coliform Bacteria, i.e., diluted raw sewage. *E. Coli*, *echovirus*, *hepatitis*, etc. can survive conventional sewage treatment and live in seawater for a few days to weeks, dependent on the temperature and salinity. Coastal shellfish, filter feeders, can concentrate viruses and bacteria to the level of active contamination.

Awareness of health risks and consequences could save your life. Prevention is the best policy. If an open wound comes into contact with seawater, flush it with an antiseptic, wash it with clean water and soap, and use an antiseptic. Take additional precautions if you have a chronic illness such as diabetes or if you are immunocompromised.

Contact your health care provider immediately if symptoms seem to get worse after exposure to seawater through ingestion or injury. Remember that simple precautions could save your life!

Answers to Nautical Trivia

1. What is the greatest threat to sailors in the winter months? Hypothermia. The particular risks include:

- Cold and windy weather – windy conditions speed heat loss (wind chill)
- Failing to wear suitable clothing and equipment
- Getting wet – water conducts heat away from the body 25 times faster than air
- Fatigue and exhaustion
- Dehydration – fluid levels, fluid loss and heat loss are interconnected
- Inadequate food intake
- Lack of knowledge – alcohol causes vasodilation which aggravates heat loss

2. When is it cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey? On old war ships it was necessary to keep a supply of cannon balls near the cannon. Preventing them from rolling about the deck was a problem. The best method was to stack them as a square-based pyramid with one ball resting on four which rested on nine which rested on sixteen. Thus, 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area next to the cannon. Preventing the bottom layer from rolling from under the others was the next problem. The solution was a metal plate with 16 round indentations called a Monkey. If this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution was to make them of brass – hence, Brass Monkeys. Because brass contracts more and faster than iron when the temperature drops, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the Monkey. At that point, it was cold enough to freeze the balls off a Brass Monkey.

And all this time, you thought that was just a vulgar expression, didn't you?

[Editor's Note: After further investigation, there is some question of the true origin of the term, but I'm sticking with what's printed here!]

Minutes for Nov 10, 2009

Combined General and Board Meeting Minutes

Board Attendees: Art Lynd; Russ Myers; Ricky Richardson; Mike Wise; Alan Aldredge; Chuck Devenzio

Members: Paul Vera, Larry Lognion, John Ardoin

Treasurer's Report: (Request a Treasurer's Report from secretary@payc.us.)

Membership: Russ reported that Kirk Wickizer has changed his membership status from Associate to Active; he now owns a day sailor.

Racing: US Sailing Symposium is coming to Clear Lake the first week in February.

Olympic #3 races will be held on Nov 14 with Ricky Richardson serving as Principal Race Officer; skippers' meeting at 10AM.

A race meeting for next years schedule is set for Dec 21 with the preliminary discussion at 6PM and the meeting held at 7PM. All members are welcome to come.

Junior Sailing: Paul Vera reported floating dock material will be ordered.

House & Grounds: Alan Aldredge will get door knobs for the offices.

Cruising: There were 9 boats out last Saturday. PAYC has a parade scheduled for Dec 12. Anyone wishing to decorate a boat for the parade is invited.

Socials: Dec 12 Tree Trimming Party with White Elephant gifts distributed.

New Business: John Ardoin reported that Fred Holder wants to donate a trailer to the Youth Program. Alan Aldredge moved and Mike Wise seconded to accept the donation. Paul will write a letter of appreciation.



Thanksgiving Dinner at PAYC

Provided by Motiva Enterprises

Verna Rutherford, External Affairs Manager for Motiva Enterprises, hosted an early Thanksgiving Dinner for Pleasure Island Residents and PAYC members on Wednesday, Nov 18. Over 90 gathered in the PAYC clubhouse to enjoy food, fellowship, and a short presentation highlighting Motiva's expansion project and commitment to our community. Thanks, Motiva, for a great evening!



PAYC is alive and well, but how can you contribute to its even better health? Talk it up among your boating friends – if each member brought in only one new member...just do the math! Invite friends out for a day of pleasure sailing or racing. Attend the planned events. Host holiday and family parties at PAYC – at just \$100 for clubhouse rental, it's a great deal.

And if you're behind with your PAYC dues, please catch up ASAP. Contact Jim Pearson or Alan Aldredge (treasurer@payc.us) if you have any questions about your invoice or need to make payment arrangements. Remember that invoices for the first half of 2010 will arrive soon after the first of the year.

Name

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

Telephone

409-356-6253

Email

payc@payc.us

Officers

[Russ Myers](#), Commodore
[Paul Vera](#), Vice Commodore
[Ricky Richardson](#), Secretary
[Jim Pearson](#), Treasurer
[Alan Aldredge](#), Asst. Treasurer

Motto

PAYC - The Fun Spot of
Southeast Texas

PAYC is on the Web!

Visit us at:
[*http://payc.us*](http://payc.us)

Board of Directors:

Larry Lognion, Paul Morgan, Pat O'Quinn, Mike Wise,
Art Lynd (Past Commodore)

Trustees:

Eric Phelan, Ken Ruddy, and Steve Swanson

Co-Harbormasters:

[Gene Kohrman](#) and [Paul Morgan](#)

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, December 8, 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.

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