

# Mainsheet

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
Port Arthur Yacht Club

INCORPORATED

560 PLEASURE ISLAND BLVD. #79

PORT ARTHUR, TX 77640

CLUBHOUSE (409) 985-3751

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**MAY**

**2005**

## **COMMODORE'S COMMENTS**

Well it looks like we have really sprung into motion this spring getting ready for an eventful summer. The Thursday Night Race series is off to a great start with an impressive turnout of racers and the new cruiser division. Not to mention a very successful Fred Grund Long Distance Race, even if the cruisers couldn't find all of the marks to round! We had a great time at Esther's Restaurant for an impromptu cruise/social. I am glad to see such great interest in the club activities from membership. A great time has been had by all who have attended any of the events.

Now let's keep that great momentum going into May. We ended April and start this month with the annual trip to Lake Charles for Contraband Days finishing up on the 8<sup>th</sup>. The 5<sup>th</sup> starts the second Thursday Night Race Series. Later in the month on the 21<sup>st</sup> is the Summer Olympic Regatta held in conjunction with the ever popular annual Crawfish Boil. If you don't make it out for a day of racing on the lake I know you will want to come out for the tasty mud bugs! Finally the end of the month a possible yet unnamed destination for a cruise is possible for the Memorial Day weekend. As usual be sure to check inside for all of the details on the events for the month.

*See you on the water,  
Mike...*

## **Bon Voyage to September Morn**

Don Price, s/v *September Morn*, plans to depart PAYC on Friday, April 29 for points south. Weather permitting, he and Robert Martinez will head offshore for New Orleans or Mobile Bay. Don will remain on the northern Gulf Coast until about July 1 when he will be joined by Peggy, his former wife. That's a story in itself! Summer will be spent on the northern Gulf Coast near the Tenn-Tom Waterway for protection during the hurricane season. After several months on the Florida coast and several months in the islands, Don and Peggy will head for South America.

PAYC extends best wishes to Don and crew for a wonderful cruising experience.

## **Where in the World is *Touché*?**

Ed and Sandy Ludwig, s/v *Touché*, are weathered in at Norman Island in the British Virgins for some minor boat repairs. They are traveling with three other boats and are having a great time. Their assessment of island-hopping is "We really enjoyed the Bahamas; Luperon was great; Puerto Rico we could pass up, but Culebra was nice; St. Thomas is way too crowded and not that great; but St. John was *really* nice and we would go back if we could afford land there. The British Virgins are beautiful with clear water and good snorkeling, but the people aren't very friendly." Future plans are to stay in Trinidad at a marina from July 1st until October.

To Ed and Sandy: Thanks for keeping in touch. PAYC members are living their cruising dreams vicariously through you!

## Port Arthur Yacht Club Board Meeting April 19, 2005

Members present were Mike Wise, Terrell Adkisson, Alan Aldredge, Steve Swanson, Pat & Suzie O'Quinn, Butch Neely, Gene Kohrman, Glenn Thibodeaux, Carolyn Worsham, Paul Vera, & Jack Moser.

### Treasurer's Report:

Main Checking:	\$11,092.05
Money Market:	\$12,278.72
Improvement CD (02/25/06)	\$11,949.50
Improvement CD (09/11/05)	\$28,118.05
Lease Renewal CD:	\$27,068.95
Self Insurance CD:	\$14,459.17
Self Insure CD (05/14/05)	\$46,194.04

### Harbormaster:

No Report

### Membership:

The board voted several new members in this session, including W.T & Donna Ainsworth, Charles & Lisa Seat, Michael & Brenda Ward, & Larry Hevrin. Milton Bell has requested a resignation in order to save the club money on the delivery of their newsletter, etc; however the board is going to consider delaying the request and possibly vote Milton Bell in as an honorary member. Milton served as the architect for the clubhouse that we all treasure and use today.

### Racing:

Paul reviewed the success of our most recent Long Distance Race, the Fred Grund LD Race, which had a great turnout & is also excited with this season's turnout of racers for our Thursday Night Racing. Mr. Vera would like to continue to enlist new racers for our racing program. We all know the "old" racers could use a little competition. A reminder is given that our annual Summer Olympic Regatta is coming up on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

### House & Grounds:

Butch Neely has graciously marked off a few areas near the clubhouse for the addition of some proposed trees. Terrill Adkisson made a motion that Butch continue the process by planting a few trees, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat O'Quinn. These trees will be long term trees such as oak and will not obstruct our wonderful view of the marina. Screen doors for the clubhouse have been purchased and a work party has been

organized to install these on Saturday – April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### Cruising/Socials:

There has been a TBA cruise announced for May 28<sup>th</sup> (This date may change). The destination tentatively is Taylor's Bayou, which is an old favorite. The first weekend of Contraband starts at the end of April, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> gathering starting on the first weekend in May. On May 21<sup>st</sup> we will have our crawfish boil at the screenhouse. Please contact Suzie O'Quinn at [socials@payc.us](mailto:socials@payc.us) with the number of attendees in your party by May 7th if at all possible.

### Safety:

Here is a schedule of upcoming safety related events:

***Coast Guard Boat Inspections – April 23<sup>rd</sup>***

***Safe Boating Course – June 18<sup>th</sup>***

***Red Cross First Aid Training – July 30<sup>th</sup>***

***C.P.R. Training Course – August 20<sup>th</sup>***

### Junior Sailing:

It has been rumored that Terrill Adkisson is still working on a top secret Sailing Simulator. Paul Vera is attending an out of town event on May 28<sup>th</sup> with a few of our Junior Sailors, to be held at Lakewood Yacht Club.

### Old Business:

Jack Moser addressed the board with the most recent news regarding our attempt at a Lease Renewal with the Pleasure Island Commission. While there are several things in the club's favor for an early extension of the lease renewal, several current members on the P.I.C. are still in disagreement regarding the lease renewal. At this time, the P.I.C. has put the matter to the side for a later review. The board would like to thank Jack Moser and Bob Brammer for their vigilant work on this proposal.

### New Business:

No new business at this time.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

**Steve Swanson**, Secretary of the PAYC  
[secretary@payc.us](mailto:secretary@payc.us)

## **KNOTHEADS**

"ON THE ROAD AGAIN", as Willie Nelson would sing it. PAYC had two Knotheads racing the San Jacinto Regatta at Lakewood Yacht Club: Kori Vigil and Chris Wooley braved the high winds and monster boat traffic to fair pretty good for their first time away from friendly surroundings. Chris (with a cast on his broken leg) finished 6<sup>th</sup> out of 10 boats behind Kori who was scored 5<sup>th</sup> place. Chris sailed very well; he got around great for a kid with a broken leg. As for Kori, it was very frustrating for us to watch him do so well and then lose it in the end. But let me tell you KK and I sat him down between races Sunday and calmly explained to him what he was doing wrong. First Race he got a fourth and then the magic started. With his parents onboard *Bout Time* we witnessed a 1<sup>st</sup> place nail biting, shaking our heads finish by Kori. Let me tell you it is a wonderful thing to see an excited kid hollering "I won," his first win on the circuit. The next race he finished 2<sup>nd</sup>. I hope he continues because he looks like he will do well on the circuit.

I would like to thank Glenn and Janice Thibodeaux and Billy Woolley for going the extra step for getting them out on the water and racing.

Please send me a self-addressed envelope so I can get your registration and medical release forms for the Junior Camp to held on the June 30, July 1,2,3 (Paul Vera, 3701 Russell, Groves 77619).

*May 29 - Sunday Afternoon will be "Bring a Friend to Sail Day"; we will get started at around 2 p.m.*

## **RACING**

As I look over the results of our racing program, the thing that stands out is the number of people who have joined in on the fun. Mark Hallquist, Mike Givens, Russ Test, Mike Gill, Carl Nutt, Alan Aldredge, Billy Woolley, Andy Green, Sam Showalter, Mike Wise, and Erv Marchand have all made a showing out on the race courses.

Four different classes make for a great competition: Racing Class (RC), Cruiser Class (CC), Multi-Hull Class (MC) and the Board Boat Class (BC). We have had every class represented on Lake Sabine, and there is nothing like racing with other people on your level. In setting up classes I am not limiting people to racing but opening the door to competition with those who are on the same level of sailing. In turn, talking up your class gets more boats out on the water and of course more excitement.

Thursday Night Racing (TNR) for April is coming to an end with 3 races sailed out of 4. It has been very, very exciting. The Racing Class starts have been intense with Ken Ruddy, Richard Hughes, and Bill Worsham getting after each other. This series will come down to the last race to see who takes the series, and with a throw out the pressure is really on to do well. Bob Peck made a showing and actually was on time – good job, Bob! For the first time Russ Myers sailed alone on his C&C 27-3, he had a decent finish.

As for the Cruiser Class, I thought the racers were intense – wrong! In the last TNR Mike Gill, Alan Aldredge, and Carl Nutt finished within 7 seconds of each other. Try blowing a horn, a whistle, and taking time all within those 7 seconds! As for the Cruiser's lay lines to "I" mark....well let's just say the lay line does not start at Garrison Ridge??? Guess who won the race – Mark Hallquist on his Venture 21. Good job, Mark; keep it up.

In our first Multi-Hull class with Erv Marchand aboard a Hobie 18 and Andy Green aboard an F-27, Erv squeaked out in front of Andy to take the win using a corrected Portsmouth Rating.

### **Events for May:**

4 Thursday Night Racers on May 5, 12, 19, and 26 with 1 throw out after 4 races.

Summer Regatta on May 21 – Skippers' meeting at 1 p.m.

*Flying the Lima Flag,*

*Paul Vera*

## **2005 J-Boat Roundup**

The 2005 J-Boat Roundup and Rodeo attracted thirty-eight J-Boats at HYC on March 5-6. PAYC's Bill Worsham (the younger) and crew won the J-24 fleet aboard *Flood Tip*. Bill (the elder) crewed on the second place J-100. Congratulations to both Bills!

## **PAYC Celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

On May 18, 1965, twenty-four gentlemen signed the Articles of Incorporation creating Port Arthur Yacht Club, Inc., a club formed to encourage and stimulate yacht sailing and racing on Sabine Lake. Don Boring was elected as the first commodore. Of the original twenty-four only two are still on the PAYC roster – John Ardoin and Lowry Freeman.

Located on Pleasure Island, the original facilities consisted of a palm frond-roofed “Aloha Hut,” a few boat stalls, and a hand-cranked boat hoist. The first improvements were flooring, roofing, and screening for the Aloha Hut. One of the most successful regattas occurred in 1973 when 63 Geary 18s, Lightnings, Thistles, Flying Scots, Windmills, catamarans, and cruisers from Lake Charles, Shreveport, Houston, Seabrook, Beaumont, and Orange competed.

As PAYC members began purchasing keel boats, the need for additional slips arose. The City of Port Arthur would not allocate money for the capital improvements; PAYC had no official lease on the property; and Bobby LeBlanc, Pleasure Island Director, had no funds for improving the marina. George Lohmann, a PAYC member, personally signed a \$100,000 note to fund construction of modern stalls. The rent from the stalls was used to repay him. PAYC contributed \$12,000 raised from member assessments to build the bulkhead in front of the existing clubhouse. In 1974 PAYC was granted a 40-year lease by the City of Port Arthur on the two fingers of land called A-B Finger and C-D Finger. As a result of Mr. Lohmann’s efforts and the granting of the lease, the City of Port Arthur had a modern marina and PAYC members had a permanent home and modern slips.

In 1977 a Building Committee was formed to plan for a clubhouse. Milton Bell, PAYC member and architect, drew the plans. To finance the clubhouse, debentures were sold to PAYC members. In effect, PAYC borrowed from its own membership with the members getting the interest that normally would have been paid to a lending institution – a win-win situation for both the club and its members. The \$100,000 building as constructed did not have air conditioning or heating; however, in the next few years air conditioning, heating, kitchen equipment, and a front room were added to the original structure. In 1996 the original Aloha Hut was replaced with a metal-roofed screenhouse.

Membership increased from the original 24 members in 1965 to a peak of 230 members in 1982. Boat ownership moved from trailerable board boats in the ‘60s to keel boats for families by the ‘80s. Over the years the faces have changed, but the interest in sailing is still the attraction to PAYC. Active racing, junior sailing, cruising, and social programs continue from year to year. The annual TSA Mardi Gras Regatta draws young sailors from across the state, and PAYC attracts cruisers from many ports. PAYC has enjoyed strong leadership and participation from its members during its first 40 years. Happy birthday, PAYC!

## **A Note of Thanks**

Thanks to all who give voluntarily of their time and energies to improve PAYC’s facilities. **Butch Neely** and friends completed the plumbing project for the screenhouse; **Butch Neely** “rounded-up” all of the weeds around the clubhouse and is in the process of planting oak trees on the property; **Butch Neely, Alan Aldredge, and Pat O’Quinn** replaced the screen doors on the clubhouse while **Susie O’Quinn** pulled weeds from the flower beds; **Gene Kohrmann** arranged for the boat inspections by the Coast Guard Auxiliary; **Jack Painton** spruced up the PAYC street sign; **Paul Vera** maintains ‘*Bout Time*, the club chase boat; **David and Di Sims** keep both the clubhouse and screenhouse in pristine condition; and the **Pleasure Island Commission** keeps our grounds mowed. This is just a short list of members who contribute to the success of PAYC. When you see them or anyone else helping in our volunteer organization, give them a pat on the back!

## **Socials**

I would like to thank everyone that came out to Esther's for the social on April 9th. We had a fantastic turnout. There were 40 members and guests present, and all appeared to have a good time. Those of us who sailed encountered a few problems getting in, but once there we enjoyed the conversation and great food.

Now, our next social will be the Crawfish Boil on May 21st. This is usually one of our socials that is attended by a large group of our members and sailors. Arrangements have been made for the crawfish boil, but we need you to email or call with how many people in your group will be attending so we will be sure and have plenty of crawfish for everyone. **Please RSVP by May 7 at [socials@payc.us](mailto:socials@payc.us) or by phone 782-1071 or 755-2353.**

And, as always, come by one Saturday or Sunday morning to the Yacht Club and check out our breakfast group.

*See ya, Susie*

## Cruising

Since we have an extra hour of daylight in the evenings, all should be happy and on the water. We have a cruise to Offat's Bayou in Galveston on Memorial Day weekend, May 28-30. This should be a good sail to Galveston returning via the ICW, wind direction permitting. Why not plan on a 1400 hr Friday, the 27<sup>th</sup> departure and return at daylight Monday, the 31 of May. Some members are opting for a Taylor Bayou Cruise that weekend.

Please write this down on your calendar: Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of June - USCG Auxiliary, Safe Boating Course...and if you are not aware, many boating insurance companies give a 10-15% discount upon completion of the course.

Now folks, if you missed the ESTHER'S Restaurant Social/Cruise, shame on you. I counted 44 present; 39 signed the roster. Many a skinny water tales have been told, and a few nicknames were given. The magic Cruise number must be 14 and 4. Reason being, once again 14 were onboard 4 sailboats. OK, you stink-pot power boaters, again, WHERE WERE YOU? We definitely needed your assistance, but nada, no PAYC power boats to the rescue of the skinny-waters and y'all know how those blow-boaters are! And the vittles, divine they be . . .

Alvin Adams of the local USCG Auxiliary completed six Safe Boat Checks (a USCG Auxiliary recreational vessel safety inspection) for Don Price, Richard Hughes, Carl Nutt, Pat O'Quinn, Michael Player, and David Sims.

S/V *September Morn* (Don Price) has gone CRUISING. He intends on laying over the hurricane season up the Tom-Bigby Waterway or the Tampa Bay area, then south to the islands. May the winds be fair and the seas kind to *September Morn*, Don and the Old Man (the black cat). Yes, we will miss the Old Man. Don...well what do you expect from a Yankee....

Website of the month: <http://www.bruzelius.info/Nautica/Nautica.html>

*See you on the water,  
Gene Kofrman*

## Web Resources for Sailors (from the February issue of *Practical Sailor*)

### Weather

[www.poletopole.org](http://www.poletopole.org) – an incredible weather site; type 29.86 for LAT and -93.92 for LON for local observations from the Southeast Texas Regional Airport (no forecasts)

[www.weather.unisys.com](http://www.weather.unisys.com) – in-depth weather data and forecasts (continental, not marine forecasts)

[www.wunderground.com/MAR/](http://www.wunderground.com/MAR/) – for any marine forecast or [www.wunderground.com/MAR/buoy/SRST2.html](http://www.wunderground.com/MAR/buoy/SRST2.html) – for the Sabine Buoy

### Mapping

[www.marineplanner.com](http://www.marineplanner.com) – to view nautical charts online; some content requires a subscription

[www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov) – full chart catalog; lists critical chart updates

### References and Education

[www.briontoss.com](http://www.briontoss.com) – rigging articles, newsletters, monthly brain-teaser, online forum

[www.grogon.com/knot](http://www.grogon.com/knot) – animated instruction on knot-tying – a really cool site!

[na.northsails.com/Cruising\\_Sails/SolutionsForSailors.htm](http://na.northsails.com/Cruising_Sails/SolutionsForSailors.htm) – thoughtful answers to cruisers' questions

### Cruising Guides

[www.usual-suspects-sailing.com](http://www.usual-suspects-sailing.com) – detailed descriptions of Caribbean cruising including vendors for commodities like ice

[www.noonsite.com](http://www.noonsite.com) – (cited earlier by Gene) essential information for bluewater cruisers

### Chartering

[www.sailonline.com](http://www.sailonline.com) – everything relating to chartering and its industry

### Online Communities

[www.cruisersforum.com](http://www.cruisersforum.com) – a vibrant online community

### Other Practical Sites

[www.webshots.com](http://www.webshots.com) – free online photo album

[www.time.gov](http://www.time.gov) – the official US time

[www.localendar.com](http://www.localendar.com) – free private, password-protected calendar to share with others

[www.tinyurl.com](http://www.tinyurl.com) – free tool for shortening long web addresses for emailing

## Upcoming Events:

- **Safe Boating Course at PAYC Clubhouse- Saturday - June 18th, 2005**
- **Red Cross First Aid Training - Saturday - July 30th, 2005**
- **CPR Training Course - Saturday - August 20th, 2005**

**THANKS** to Gene Kofrman, PAYC Cruising Director, for lining up these events.

Port Arthur Yacht Club  
560 Pleasure Island Blvd. #79  
Port Arthur, TX 77640

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING: TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2005 – PAYC CLUBHOUSE**

If you'd like a copy of the current PAYC roster, email [roster@payc.us](mailto:roster@payc.us) and request one. Any member who would like to move from U. S. Mail delivery to email delivery (or vice versa) can do so by sending an email to [mainsheet@payc.us](mailto:mainsheet@payc.us)

**2005 PAYC Officers**

<b>COMMODORE</b>	Mike Wise ( <a href="mailto:commodore@payc.us">commodore@payc.us</a> )
<b>VICE COMMODORE</b>	Patrick O'Quinn ( <a href="mailto:vicecommodore@payc.us">vicecommodore@payc.us</a> )
<b>TREASURER</b>	Alan Aldredge ( <a href="mailto:treasurer@payc.us">treasurer@payc.us</a> )
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Steve Swanson ( <a href="mailto:secretary@payc.us">secretary@payc.us</a> )
<b>MAINSHEET EDITORS</b>	Martin Novich / Carolyn Worsham ( <a href="mailto:mainsheet@payc.us">mainsheet@payc.us</a> )
<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>	Martin Novich, Paul Vera, Gary King, Terrell Adkisson, and Glenn Thibodeaux
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	Butch Neely, Pam King, and Terrell Adkisson
<b>HARBORMASTER</b>	Gary King (985-5737 or 728-8095 or <a href="mailto:harbormaster@payc.us">harbormaster@payc.us</a> )

**PAYC Yachts For Sale**

**(Call or email Martin Novich to list your vessel or have it removed from this list)**

D37	1980 Bristol 29.2	Alan Mickelson	409-420-0088 ( <a href="mailto:mickelsonscuba@att.net">mickelsonscuba@att.net</a> )
C38	Catalina 42	Jim Bell	409-796-1711/729-2266
B44	Bayliner 25	Debi Adams	409-962-6296
D02	Ranger 29	Al Hebert	409-722-2048
Pvt	Catalina 25	Steve Lowe	903-561-0599
B31	E03 North American 23	Paul Bronson	409-724-1302