

PAYC MAINSHEET

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

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Commodore's Corner

Commodore Art Lynd

I would like to welcome **Mike Gill** to the board. He has served in the past and will do a fine job.

Farley Fontenot would like to sponsor a trophy in memory of his father, **Jimmie Fontenot**, who passed away earlier this year. At our August meeting we will consider adding Jimmie's name to the Top Gun trophy that is presented yearly to the best overall racer. Jimmie was a PAYC charter member, past commodore, and author to our bylaws.

Progress is slowly being made on the Island. The sunken boats in the marina and the shipwrecks on the levee behind the marina are finally gone; however, reminders of Ike still linger. Be patient.

My effort to collect from **Total Oil Refinery** for our junior sailing has finally paid off. A check for \$500 was handed to me on July 21. Ms. Payne at Total suggested that we try for more money the first part of next year. Thank you, Total Oil Refinery, for your generosity and community response.

Thanks also to **Russ Myers** and **Paul Morgan** for the work on the clubhouse air conditioner.

July was a busy month. This commodore picnic was great. Volleyball and a sailboat ride were outside; card games, socializing, and dancing were inside. *Second Wind* was outstanding, and the decorations and food were enjoyed by about forty people. After dark, seven boats enjoyed fireworks from the lake. What a fabulous display! Due to dry conditions and strong winds, the grassy area on the north end of the island caught fire and burned all night. No harm or personal damage was reported.

I'd like to invite all of you to join our adventure up



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AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Aug 6, 13, 20, 27 - Staggered Start Thursday Night Series #5
- Aug 8 - Olympic Regatta #2
- Aug 11 - PAYC Regular and Board Meetings
- Aug 15 - Beaumont Riverfront Cruise
- Aug 15 - *Texas*, the first American steel-hulled battleship, was commissioned in 1895.
- Aug 22 - Fred Grund Long Distance Race #2
- Aug 21 - Deadline for September Mainsheet Articles

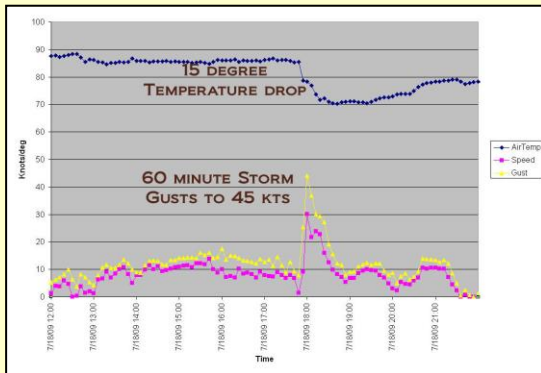
NAUTICAL TRIVIA

- How many US Navy ships have borne the name *USS Texas*?
- What are some *Battleship Texas* "firsts?"

the Neches River on August 15. We will sail up the river, have dinner on Crocket Street, listen to a band or two, and return to PAYC on August 16.

The Third Annual PAYC Treasure Hunt was a huge success. 9 boats participated and 4 watched. The treasure was won by the team of **Larry Lognion** and crew on *Chesapeake* and **Mike Gill** and crew on *Deena Ann*. There were plenty of water balloons unused. The big guy upstairs dropped a big water balloon and gave each boat a chance to practice survival skills under adverse weather conditions. The winds were clocked at up to 45 mph for just under an hour; this allowed the team with the treasure to go unchallenged. The excitement continued into the night. All had stories to tell...

The Third Annual PAYC Treasure Hunt



The stats confirmed the reports from sailors. Conditions were initially optimal, and the competition was fierce. Then participants were ordered to race for safety. Here are edited versions of a few reports. The full content is on the web.

Mike Gill, Winner – The treasure hunt was a great adventure. Deena programmed the GPS, and we were close hauled. The rest of the fleet headed south, and we wondered if Deena entered the wrong numbers. Freddy, our crew, asked, "Should we enter the numbers for the last clue?" I told him to stay on course.

Chesapeake, our sister ship, was close behind. As we neared Johnson's Bayou, we called to see if they were ready to launch the ultimate treasure-finding vessel, but she was having headsail problems. We could see her heading north along with our hope of finding the treasure. We were close to the treasure, so we entered the bayou under sail. We dropped the main, reefed the headsail, and slowly started into the mouth. We went aground, started the motor, eased back, and tried again. There were some fishermen on the bank wondering what we were doing. Deena was calling out clues, and Freddy was looking along the shore. Freddy said, "There is the plank – it has to be there!" Freddy jumped off, swam to shore, walked the plank, stooped over, and came up with a treasure chest. There were cheers from shore and from the *Deena Ann*.

We called *Chesapeake* and made plans to pass over the treasure. *Deena Ann* ducked her stern, came along *Chesapeake's* leeward side, and passed the treasure. Then we were on to our next stop, but it wasn't looking good because the fleet was waiting. Preparations were being made to protect the mother ship.

After the excitement of getting the treasure and planning for its safety, our next challenge was to race back to the slip before bad weather hit. Sails and anchor were dropped and things below were put away. It was rough with winds gusting up to fifty. We waited out the storm and headed back to claim our victory.

It was a fun day. We're looking forward to next year's treasure hunt.

Ann Lynd – Excited hunters busily combed quiet shores on a perfect Saturday afternoon. When word came about a weather system, all Fleets were ordered to the Marina. I wish I had a picture of the surprised faces when they saw what was coming. We thought we'd beat the storm, but NOBODY made it. The cold wind and waves overpowered our motor, so we were forced to anchor, batten down, and go below. With the sails down, soaking wet, life jackets up to our necks, we sat in the cabin and jawed on the radio. Everything was off the deck that could fly off. The wind-driven rain cut like knives, lightning hit all around, and waves crashed into the *Seahawk*. We rode out the storm like we were on a Disneyland roller coaster (free of charge of course). All fleets eventually made it back to the marina. There were minor boat damages and of course a few green faces, but, we had funnnnnnn! Thanks for the surprise, GOD. God throws water balloons too.....

Bill Worsham – The forecast at noon was a 30% chance of showers with two cells N of Lufkin. Teamed with Mike Wise, the treasure hunt began with a 12 mph SE wind. Crew Mike Pedigo and André Rosales clocked us at 6.3 mph to windward – what a day! We found our anchorage, the guys rowed to the cache behind Blue Buck Point, and they returned with a wine bottle in hand and mud from head to toe. We tied off the dinghy, raised the anchor, reported to Mike Wise, and headed north. Across the lake there were darkening

skies. We enjoyed a great wing-and-wing run, but the dying wind and clouds signaled it was time to get the sails stowed and throw out the anchor. The temperature dropped 15 degrees with a NW wind at 20 mph eventually building to gusts of 50–60. After 15 minutes, we noticed the buoys were traveling NW. Fifteen minutes later we put up the storm jib to release the anchor pressure. Then the dinghy began to fly, eventually settling half full of water. When the lightning and rain subsided, we cut the anchor rode and had a beautiful reach back. Thanks, Richard Briggs, for welcoming us and for notifying PACE that we were safe. It has been 25 years since an occluded front caught us in Galveston Bay in the Lakewood YC Shoe Regatta storm. On that occasion, it was midnight before all 150 boats were located. The 2009 PAYC Treasure Hunt fleet had all returned safely by 8 p.m., and a great time was had by all. Thanks, Art

Jim Pearson – Racing toward the safety of the marina, we had little fuel in our tank, and the motor kept capitating. We had taken our sails down before the storm and thought that we might anchor; however, I had put the anchor in the dock box. Our GPS told us where we were, but it quit about the time we saw the outer pilings, and the motor ran out of fuel as we pulled into the slip. Timing is everything!

Greg Lynd – *Faith* was teamed with *Wenonah*. Jim and I mastered a plan of action – we had 3 boys and 3 kayaks, so we gave in to their requests to paddle into the inland location and back (tough decision).

When we left the pilings, our heading was almost directly into the wind. An awesome sight was seeing 9–10 boats fanned out over several miles. With the Commodore's boat, *Seahawk*, another sailboat or two, and a couple of power boats, it was the most PAYC boats I have seen on Sabine Lake at one time.

We decided to send two kayaks into the bayou and one after the GPS on *Wenonah*. The kayakers decided not to go for the GPS. After drifting around, fending off harassments from *Panacea* (Gene just ain't right), and communicating with *Wenonah*, the boys returned carrying a wine bottle. After discussions with the Pearsons about "Ain't Right" Gene's bribe, we decided to head toward the coordinates for clue number two.

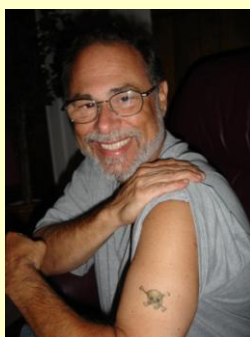
After about 5 minutes we were informed about the weather. As we looked north we were astounded at the sight and immediately turned toward the marina. After a couple of miles while monitoring the VHF, we decided to drop anchor. By then it was raining hard with a consistent strong wind.

Faith rode the waves well. The crew went below until it got too hot. Looking back, we noticed that one of the kayaks was under water (but still tied). After 45 minutes the rained slowed, so we pulled the kayak topside, pulled up the anchor, and headed home. Ruth hung in well and was only a slight shade of green.

We motored the final 2.5 miles back to the marina with buckets full of water balloons, wet clothes, a dirty cabin and hungry boys. What an awesome time! We can't wait for the Fourth Annual Treasure Hunt!



Annette, the Pirate



André, the Pirate



Aaarrgghh! – the Teams

From the Secretary's Desk

Ricky Richardson

July is almost gone and I haven't put my rig in the waters of Sabine Lake yet, and it looks like I may not get to either. I enjoyed a fabulous meal and some good company at the Commodore's Picnic.

Mike Givens invited Pris and me out on the Moonlight Race. We made the run to the J Platform and returned just in time to catch the fireworks put on by the City of Port Arthur. It was good to get out and enjoy the fun at the clubhouse.

I've been able to make the Thursday Night races recently, catching rides with whomever would have me. I've been on a different boat almost every trip this month. I count sailing a monohull as good experience, and for me learning something new is always good. I appreciate **Mike Givins**, **Mike Gill**, and **Richard Hughes** for allowing me to join them on their Thursday Night excursions. This brings me to a point: if you want to learn something about sailing, there are skippers who are looking for some help. Show up at the skippers' meeting on Thursday at 6PM and tell people you're looking for a ride, I'm pretty sure you will get a ride and a good sailing experience out of it.

The Spindletop Division 6 regatta is coming up on September 19th and 20th, and I need some people to help out with this event. If you would like to help, contact me at secretary@payc.us or 882-4847. Thanks to those members who have always come through for this event in the past. Make sure I know you want to help out so I have a good idea of where to place the volunteers.

Reminders – Email secretary@payc.us...

- for a copy of the PAYC meeting minutes.
- for a User ID and Password for the Yachting Club of America (www.ycaol.com).
- to present a motion for the General Meeting.

Also, get your PAYC membership card from Ricky Richardson at the General Meeting.

From the Galley

Carolyn Worsham

Do you have any recipes you'd like to share? Here are a couple of my favorites.

Black Bean and Corn Salad

2 ears of corn, kernels cut off
 1 can of black beans, drained
 ¼ C purple onion, diced
 ¾ C poblano pepper, diced
 2 large tomatoes, diced with seeds removed
 1 /8 C cilantro, chopped
 1 T olive oil
 1 T red wine vinegar
 ¼ t cumin
 Juice of 1 lime
 Salt and pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients. Serves 4.

Chili with a Kick

1 /4 C vegetable oil
 2 onions, chopped
 2 cloves garlic, minced
 2 lbs. ground beef
 1 can (1 lb 12 oz) tomatoes, semi-drained
 1 can (1 lb 11 oz) red kidney beans, semi-drained
 1/2 c kahlua
 1/4 c chopped parsley
 3 T chili powder
 1 T tomato paste
 2 t salt
 1 t red cayenne pepper
 1 t cumin powder
 1 t dried marjoram leaves, crushed
 1 t dried oregano leaves, crushed
 Garnishes: grated cheese and chopped onion

Sauté onions and garlic in oil. Add meat and brown. Add remaining ingredients and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, partially covered, for 45 minutes. Garnish with cheese and onion. Serves 6.

Racing

Paul Vera

Thursday Night Races are coming to an end after one of the most contested five-month series in recent club history. Our next series of races will be Staggered Start Thursday (SST) races, with earlier start times for the higher-rated boats. Considering the handicaps, under ideal conditions all boats should finish at the same time. The SST races will continue until it gets too dark to sail.

It's hot, very hot. Keep drinking lots of water, not beer. Water will make you feel a lot better too.

Safety tip: You might think about applying the emergency brake when you park your car at the marina. Just ask one of club members what happens when you hear a click and see a car or truck heading down to your boat.

Junior Sailing

Paul Vera

Thank you very much, **Rob Hood**, for donating Tyler's Optimist and the "FJ." PAYC will certainly put them to good use.

Thanks also to **Ted Mahavier** for repairing one of the Optimist prams. He did a great job. I can't thank the membership enough for providing the leadership to rebuild our devastated pram fleet.

Our next project is to build a floating dock. I am working with our Board of Directors on a schedule so the dock will be ready for use at our 2010 youth regatta. I will keep you informed.

Cruising

Mike Wise

July was a hot one! This has been one of the hottest summers in quite a long time. Despite the heat, the July 4th Commodore's Picnic was a great success. The Full Moon Race/Cruise had two racers out to race but no competing cruisers. That

is not to say that they were all sticking as close to the cold air conditioning as I was! We had quite a few boats venture out to brave the wind and waves to view the fireworks show from the lake.

The Garrison Ridge cruise was a completely different story. The skippers' meeting was scheduled for 0900, and the Cruising Chair was the only skipper to show! This worked great, considering the work that I really needed to be doing on the boat. It turned out to be a "let's all go aloft" day. **Paul Morgan** was hoisted atop his mast to install some new standing rigging. I assisted **Larry Lognion** replacing a halyard on his boat. My assistance led to Larry ascending my mast to take care of several projects I had aloft. Thanks again, Larry!!!

August is hopefully not going to be a hot one, like seven inches from the midday sun! We only have one cruise on the calendar, so get ready for the annual Beaumont Riverfront Park Cruise. I contacted the city, and the power to the docks has been repaired. They have three power boxes with two 30-amp and two 20-amp plugs at each. It is usually a hot trip even when there is no heat wave, but it is always a fun one. The skippers' meeting will be Saturday morning in the clubhouse at 0900.

Just because August is a light cruising month, don't let that stop you from getting ready for the September Labor Day Galveston Cruise. I'll have more on this event next month.

Until next month, keep on cruisin'...

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do....Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

-- Mark Twain

Vigorous health is at the bottom of the enthusiastic enjoyment of yachting.

-- John "Rob Roy" MacGregor

Flotsam and Jetsam

Carolyn Worsham

- **Ted Mehavier** was misquoted in the *Beaumont Enterprise* in an article as saying he wouldn't dock his boat at PAYC. That couldn't be farther from the truth – Ted is a proud, active PAYC member. His Cape Dory 28 will be back at PAYC as soon as time (and electricity) permits.
- New members **Ronnie and Songa Gremillion** are spearheading the formation of a local US Power Squadron (to be named the Sabine Sail and Power Squadron). The kick-off party will be held Saturday, 29-Aug, 1400 hours, at the PI Commission. Contact Songa at 409-548-3125 or songa.gremillion@yahoo.com. You don't have to own a boat --just have to like boating!!
- Do you need some motivation to get off the couch and out on the water? Download *Where the Boat Leaves From* by the Zac Brown Band.
- **Farley Fontenot** and family have graciously donated a trophy to the PAYC racing program in memory of **Jimmie Fontenot**, Farley's father and former PAYC Commodore, who died this spring. One of Bill's earliest PAYC memories is of Farley and Jimmie match-racing Flying Scots in Lake Sabine. Thanks, Farley and family!
- **Pleasure Island Report** – (1) A contract was awarded to remove all debris in the water. Work will begin 05-Aug. (2) The bid packet for the marina rebuild should be complete in four weeks. (3) All Island roads are scheduled to be resurfaced. (4) The fueling facility will be replaced next summer. (5) Bidding is coming up for 5' black vinyl fencing and gates around the marina.
- **Louisiana Causeway Bridge Report** – The bridge is out of commission for boaters. There is no speculation on when it will be functional again. Thanks, **Gary LeBlanc**, for keeping PAYC and other boaters informed.

Welcome Aboard!

Welcome to PAYC's newest members, **John and Jamie Scales** and their sons **Taylor, Mason, and Mathew**. John and family sail *Thursday*, a 25' Watkins, and are interested in cruising, social, and junior sailing events.

Answers to Nautical Trivia

How many US Navy ships have borne the name *USS Texas*? Four. The first, the Navy's first battleship, served from 1895–1911. The second (BB-35), the oldest remaining dreadnought battleship, served in WW1 and WW2. The third (CGN-39) was the second Virginia-class nuclear-guided missile cruiser. The fourth (SSN-775) was the second Virginia-class nuclear attack submarine.

What are some Battleship Texas "firsts?" BB-35 was the first US battleship (1) to mount anti-aircraft guns, (2) to control gunfire with directors and range-keepers, (3) to launch an aircraft, (4) to become a permanent museum ship, and (5) to be designated a US National Historic Landmark. Watch an informative video at

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/newsmedia/videos/state_park/gulf_coast/battleship_texas.phtml



USS Texas at San Jacinto State Park, Oct-06

Name

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

Telephone

409-356-6253

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, Mike Gill, Mike Wise, and
Mark Hallquist (Past Commodore)

Trustees:

Sam Showalter, Ken Rutty, 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, August 11, 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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