

PAYC MAINSHEET

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

Website: payc.us Email: payc@payc.us Telephone: 409-356-6253

Commodore's Corner

Commodore Art Lynd

We had a good turnout for the September General Meeting. Members were very responsive to the proposal for temporary electricity. Although there was well-intentioned opposition from some who were concerned about the club's financial status, the proposal passed by 30-8. The members voiced their desire to get power to slips supported by club funds. This proposal has already stepped up the number of boat owners that will enjoy electricity.

As I write this column, we have two sections of the club slips with electrical power. These members got back what PIC provided prior to Ike. "Way to go, guys." Soon we will have three more sections completed, providing 90% of our current boats with access to power. (About 10% don't want the temporary power.) Special thanks go to **John Ardoin, Butch Neely, Pat O'Quinn, and Paul Morgan** for making this happen. I want to make one point clear: the group with electrical power before the proposal was passed is eligible for an equal percentage of the money that the club allocated.

I met with **Jimmy Dike**, PIC Director, concerning the new marina proposal. Copies of the three drawings presented to PIC are in the PAYC clubhouse on my office door. Jimmy stressed that PIC is in the early stages of consideration, and these three proposals are subject to modification. I appreciate Jimmy's efforts to keep us up-to-date. The meeting reassured me that our members made the right decision on the proposal to get electrical power back to the members through the PAYC.

Boats were recently shuffled to accommodate the heavy equipment brought in to remove the sunken



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OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct 3 - Full Moon Race/Cruise
- Oct 7 - Workers on the Sabine Bank Lighthouse were ordered into the open-top caisson during a sudden 1905 storm. All survived.
- Oct 10 - Game Night (Watch for details via email.)
- Oct 13 - PAYC Regular and Board Meetings
- Oct 26 - Deadline for November Mainsheet Articles

NAUTICAL TRIVIA

1. How many Texas lighthouses are still standing?
2. What PAYC member's great-grandfather and grandfather served as lighthouse keepers?

debris blocking boat slips and channels. Several anchors were recovered. Let me know if you are missing one. Special thanks go to **Paul Morgan, Gene Kohrman, and Pat O'Quinn** for coordinating this boat shuffle and to **Larry Lognion, Darrell Irvin, Annette Lynd** and others for assisting.

Members continue to dedicate their efforts to the Ike recovery. **Pat and Susie O'Quinn** and **Paul Morgan** spent several hours one afternoon painting our club kitchen. **Chuck Devenzio** and **John Ardoin** trimmed the club grounds. **Steve Swanson** repaired our club computer with spare parts he had on hand. Special thanks to each of you!

September 19 was a special day for PAYC. First, PAYC hosted the Spindletop Multihull Regatta. With 5 boats competing, we had about 15 guests over

the weekend. I look forward to next year's regatta when I'm sure we will have more participants. On Saturday night, these sailors were joined by other sailors when **Carolyn and Bill Worsham** hosted a PAYC Island Celebration. What a great turnout! Cars and trucks flooded the entire parking lot. Current members, past members, friends and residents of the Island, and regatta participants – all came together for one big party.

The fajitas, sangria, and food were excellent. The ten-piece band *Time Travelers* played music from the past three decades and sounded fabulous. Old friends were rejoined, and new friends were made. Just one year ago the only occupants of the PAYC clubhouse were dead fish, dead birds, live poisonous snakes, one alligator, and one sailboat with her bow through the bay window. The celebration of recovery from Hurricane Ike raised the spirits of our sailors. I'm thankful to everyone for the progress we have made. To those of you that were there to clean up after Ike and didn't make the recent celebration, we celebrated for you. Great job, Carolyn and Bill.

Cruising

Mike Wise

We are winding up a very interesting year – the year after Hurricane Ike! It has been a slow year for cruising due to loss of boats, repairing boats, or getting used to new boats. It is great to see that the PAYC sailing spirit perseveres. We are slowly building the number of boats in the marina – even gaining new members who are bringing in new boats or purchasing Ike-damaged boats to repair and sail.

September only had one cruise on the calendar. Due to many factors like the Causeway Bridge being inoperable no one made the annual Labor Day Cruise to Galveston. I can't say I blame anyone for not wanting to make the trek through the Thousand Foot Cut and around the island to get to

the Gulf and then having to do it again to get back home.

This month we have a Full Moon Race/Cruise on the 3rd. That Skippers' Meeting is scheduled for 1800 prior to the start. Even though *Race* comes before *Cruise* in the name, it is a great opportunity to get out on the water and sail the lake under a full moon. We know the racers will be out there; let's see how many cruisers we can get out on the water (and I don't mean just the "racing cruisers"). As always, there will be plenty of stories to share after the last boat makes it in.

The other cruising event slated for this month is the 18-Mile Light Race/Cruise, but it has been cancelled due to the bridge inoperability. After a phone call to the local TX DOT office I was informed that that scheduled completion of the new bridge is late January; however, the project engineer was not in the office, so Carolyn's November 1st date may be more accurate. We will all be watching this project closely in the coming months, anticipating the completion for an easier southern exit from the lake.

Having said all of this, if anyone has any other cruising destination ideas, let's hear them!

A note ahead for November: there is a marina raft up scheduled for the 7th. There is no excuse not to make a raft up! It's in the marina, and with the weather we have in November you can swim there.

I am also thinking about a Christmas Boat Parade in conjunction with our December 12th Tree Trimming social. Decorate your boats in the spirit of the season.

Until next month, keep on cruisin'...

Sailing days...are as perishable as airplane seats. Once unused, they're gone forever. When you don't sail on a sunny afternoon with a good breeze, it doesn't go into some celestial savings account to gather interest until you're ready to cast off.

-- Chris Caswell, *Sailing*, 12-Feb-09

From the Secretary's Desk

Ricky Richardson (409-882-4847)

The Spindletop Multihull was a success, thanks to the efforts of our many volunteers. **Russ Myers** was able to get four races in on Saturday in some light shifting winds. **Art Lynd, Greg Lynd, Ruth,** and **Paul Vera** were out there filling in the gaps for Russ. Because of the light air there was no need for rescue boats, but the shifting winds kept the Race Committee busy enough. In the third race **Tommy Tyrone** and I were on the windward tack in a one lap race, and halfway to the mark we pulled out the chute for a downwind sprint to the windward pin.

Bill and Carolyn Worsham put on an excellent social event Saturday night that was enjoyed by all. **Tom Sutton**, a visiting regatta participant, stated that this was the best 5-boat regatta he had ever attended. Thanks to Bill and Carolyn and the help that they brought to make this event a happening.

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.

Junior Sailing

Paul Vera (409-363-3898)

It's a go – we will be holding our 10th Mardi Gras Regatta at PAYC on Feb 13-14, 2010! That means PAYC needs to get ready for a 40-60 boat regatta, a mainstay of the PAYC junior sailing program. No other PAYC event has brought as much satisfaction for those who participate or as much praise from other yacht clubs who bring their juniors to race. Please keep an ear out. We will need help from everybody.

The date for building the floating dock is still up in the air, but I am thinking late October or early November when the cold fronts start moving in.

Racing

Paul Vera (409-363-3898)

Bad News – The inclement weather affected racing participation in September. The Island Cup was a prime example – bad weather, no wind, and no people. The 18-Mile Light Long Distance Race, scheduled for Oct 17, has been cancelled because the Louisiana Causeway Bridge is out.

Good News – As always, we will move forward. The Moonlight Race will be held on Oct 3 (Skippers' Meeting at 6 p.m.). Other upcoming races include a buoy race on Nov 17 (Skippers' Meeting at 10 a.m.) and the "LROTY" long distance race on Dec 5 (Skippers Meeting at 10 a.m.).

That's it on the racing front. Congrats to **Ricky Richardson** for having his cat buddies come to PAYC for the year's first-and-only outside regatta.

No more expensive way of going really slowly has been invented by man than sailing.

-- Gary Mull

PAYC 40 Years Ago

From 1967-68 *Mainsheets*

John Ardoin resurrected some old *Mainsheets*. It's interesting how history tends to repeat itself!

1. The bridge was fixed, broken, fixed, broken. It was a different bridge, but the story was the same.
2. Electricity was in the news. Members were running lines to the point (our screenhouse site).
3. Racing handicaps and courses generated lively "discussions" because the O-O-A-K fleet was attempting to race displacement boats against planing boats. (It took a while for me to figure out that O-O-A-K stands for one-of-a-kind!)
4. The "trophy bash" at the Port Arthur Country Club was eagerly anticipated by all. Cost – \$3.75!
... and there are more snippets for next month.

2010 Officer/Board Election

Nominating Committee: Art Lynd, Mike Wise, Paul Vera, and Mike Gill

October Meeting – take floor nominations

November Mainsheet – publish all nominations

November Meeting – hold the election

December 15 – begin terms of office

Nominees for Officers

Commodore: Russ Myers

Vice Commodore: Paul Vera, Randy Palmero

Secretary: Ricky Richardson

Treasurer: _____ **Trustee:** _____

Board Member (as Past Commodore): Art Lynd

Nominees for Board (vote for four):

Alan Aldredge	Ted Mahavier
Scott Bryson	Paul Morgan
Chuck Devenzio	Pat O'Quinn
Mike Gill	Jim Pearson
Songa Gremillion	Mike Tagert
Larry Lognion	Mike Wise

2009 Honor Award Selection

Novice of the Year

Criteria: Is a new sailor (less than one year as member of PAYC); shows a willingness to accept responsibilities in promoting club activities; demonstrates improved sailing abilities through participation in major and minor sailing activities both in the lake and offshore

Nominees: Greg Lynd, Mike Tagert, Scott Bryson, Darrell Reeves

Yachtsman of the Year

Criteria: Participates in club activities at a high level; demonstrates sailing skills and ability through participation in sailing activities; gets along well with others; shows a willingness to accept leadership roles in promoting club activities

Nominees: Paul Vera, Art Lynd, Pat O'Quinn

John Blair Memorial

Criteria: Provides outstanding service to the club

Nominees: Paul Morgan, Pat O'Quinn, Butch Neely, Chuck Devenzio, Art Lynd

Skipper of the Year: Vic Scalco Memorial

Criteria: Participates in a majority of club racing activities; demonstrates racing skills and abilities by placing well in a fleet or class; displays good sportsmanship and a positive competitive attitude.

Nominees: Ken Rutty, Richard Hughes, Paul Vera

Racing Crewperson of the Year

Criteria: Crews in many races either as a crewperson on their boat or as a "fill-in" on another boat; demonstrates ability and skills in handling sails in various weather conditions; exhibits a positive attitude toward the skipper and crews of other boats; demonstrates an ability to withstand the harsh atmosphere of a racing boat; is willing to return time and again to develop winning skills required by a winning crew on a winning boat

Nominees: Russ Myers, Kirk Wickizer, Robert Latimer, Ricky Richardson

Cruiser of the Year – Chilton O'Brien Memorial

Criteria: Participates actively in the cruising program of PAYC; promotes PAYC not only in the club but in other ports as well; is recognized as a sailor

Nominees: Art Lynd, Greg Lynd, Mike Gill, Pat O'Quinn, Charlie Seat, Butch Neely, Sam Showalter, Karey Amick, Larry Lognion

Cruising Crewperson of the Year

Criteria: Participates actively in the cruising program of PAYC; exhibits a positive attitude toward the skipper; is recognized as promoting PAYC not only in the club but in other ports as well.

Nominees: Ann Lynd, Ricky Richardson, Deena Gill

The PAYC By-Laws in their entirety can be found on the website at <http://payc.us/by-laws.htm>.

Flotsam and Jetsam

Carolyn Worsham

- Did you catch the 12-Sep *PA News* article about PAYC members **Don and Dixie Jennings**? Their Sabine Pass home suffered extensive damage in both Rita and Ike; however, they've recovered from both and are happy to be back at home.
- Thanks to all who helped with or participated in the PAYC Island Celebration. It was all I hoped for it to be – a special opportunity to celebrate Island life with friends. Let's do it more often!
- 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.
- **Fishing Hotspots** (per TF&G, Oct-09)
Madame Johnson Bayou for specs and redfish;
N29 58.920', W93 47.135' for specs and redfish

Elementary Knots and Use

From the *1999 Mariner's Book of Days*

Figure-of-eight knot – to prevent a line from running out of a block or fairlead

Square or reef knot – to join two lengths of line together of equal thickness

Sheet or becket bend – to join two lengths of line together of unequal thickness

Sheepshank – to temporarily shorten a line

Round turn and two half hitches; clove hitch – to join the end of a line to an object

Bowline – to put a temporary eye in the end of a line

It is far better to understand rope and its care and to thoroughly understand a few useful knots (in darkness, ice, or snow) than it is to know several hundred knots only slightly.

--Carl Lane

Welcome Aboard!

New member John Sheppard and family live in Groves and own a T-Trap 32' powerboat. They are interested in cruising and socials. Welcome!

Answers to Nautical Trivia

1. How many Texas lighthouses are still standing?

Five are still standing – Aransas Pass (Lydia Ann), Bolivar Point, Halfmoon Reef, Matagorda Island, and Point Isabel. Two have been lost to the elements since 2000 – Galveston Jetty and Sabine Bank. The Sabine Pass Lighthouse, only 11.4 miles from PAYC, is technically a Louisiana lighthouse. Only two – Lydia Ann and Matagorda Island – still have working lights. The Fresnel lens for the Sabine Bank Lighthouse is displayed at the Museum of the Gulf Coast, and its light tower is displayed at Dick Dowling Park in Sabine Pass.



*Lydia Ann
(Aransas)*

*Bolivar
Point*

*Halfmoon
Reef*

*Matagorda
Island*

*Point
Isabel*

2. What PAYC member's great-grandfather and grandfather served as lighthouse keepers?

Matt Teller's grandfather, Charles Martin Teller, was the last keeper of Halfmoon Reef Lighthouse and is quoted in *Lighthouses of Texas* by T. Lindsay Baker. When the keeper program was discontinued, C. M. transferred to the Coast Guard station in Sabine Pass. That's how Matt's family came to be residents of the area and Matt came to be a PAYC member!

Just as it takes wind to propel our sailboats, it takes money to provide our programs. If you're behind with your PAYC dues, please catch up ASAP! PAYC By-Laws state that "Billing shall be made by the first of the month due and payment due by the first of the following month. Payment not received by the due date shall be considered past due." Contact Jim Pearson (treasurer@payc.us) if you have any questions.

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*](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

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, October 13, 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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