

PAYC MAINSHEET

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

Commodore Art Lynd

One year has passed since Hurricane Ike visited our area. Reminders of its devastation are still amongst us. We lost boats, property, and PAYC members.

Our local authorities continue to move slowly forward to get our island back to normal.

Meanwhile, many PAYC members have donated their time to refurbish our clubhouse and patch up some of the boat slips. New members join each month as we attempt to return to the pre-Ike days; however, we have one ongoing issue that continues to be a major concern for many of the 40+ boats that we now have in the marina. Summer is here, and we still do not have electricity to the boat slips. Many people stay on their boats, and many come for the weekend. Some have used their personal initiative and funds and now have power.

Our landlord (PIC) said that they will not provide any temporary power, and they continue to be elusive on their plans. The PAYC board made efforts earlier this year to restore power to our slips, but we, the members, could not come together on how to do this. Since then, a few individuals have taken it upon themselves to set up their own source of electrical power.

Today many of our boat owners want to set up temporary power but need assistance in doing so. The board has now come up with a proposal to give everyone the opportunity to have temporary power. The few boat owners that do not want the power will not be forced to have it; however, the majority that do desire electricity, need the club's support as a whole, to make it happen. I'm addressing all club members including those that don't have a



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Commodore's Corner	1
The Five Commandments of Anchoring	2
Cruising	2
From the Secretary's Desk	3
Racing and Junior Sailing	3
Proposal to Help Members with Cost of Slip Electricity	4
PAYC Elections for 2010	4
Flotsam and Jetsam	4
PAYC Island Celebration	5
Answers to Nautical Trivia	5

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sep 3, 10, 17, 24 - Staggered Start Thursday Night Series #2
Sep 5-7 - Labor Day Weekend Cruise
Sep 8 - PAYC Regular and Board Meetings
Sep 12 - Island Cup Olympic Regatta #3
Sep 19 - PAYC Island Celebration Social
Sep 19-20 - Spindletop Division 6 Regatta
Sep 23 - Deadline for October Mainsheet Articles

NAUTICAL TRIVIA

1. What was the medium of choice of the first recorded anchors?
2. What invention provided mechanical advantage for retrieving boat anchors?

boat any more or plan to get one later. *We need your support.* I'm speaking to the ones who have their boat at another marina or their house and may already have electric power. *We need your support.* I'm addressing those few that have power at our marina. *We need your support.* It's time to band together and resolve the issue of setting up temporary electricity to our boat slips.

We can do that by voting "yes" on the proposal to provide up to \$12,000 toward supplying electric power. This will give everyone an opportunity for temporary electrical hook-ups. PAYC can afford this amount. We set a time limit on claiming a percentage of this money, and if all the money is not used by Oct 31, 2009, the balance will be

withdrawn and placed back into our general funds. The \$12,000 would go toward electricians' labor and wire, underground PVC pipes, and breaker boxes. Club volunteers continue to do some of the digging. After power is available, it will be up to the individual boat owners to pay their monthly bill.

It may be another year or more before our boats are back in their new stalls that PIC "plans" to rebuild. We have the resources to better our club, attract new members, and keep current members. Let's use these resources to support our club. As commodore, I urge you to promote the future of our club by supporting this proposal. A vote will be taken at the General Meeting on Sep 8.

The Five Commandments of Anchoring

From an article by Lenny Rudow in the Sep 2009 edition of *Texas Fish & Game (TF&G)*

1. **Thou shalt not ever anchor from the stern.** The end of the boat to which the anchor line is secured will be facing the waves and pulled down by hundreds of pounds of pressure. Which end do you want facing the waves?
2. **Thou shalt never throw the anchor.** Violating this rule probably won't sink a boat, but there is too much potential for injury to a boater. Simple lower the anchor in a controlled manner.
3. **Keep thy hands away from yon cleats.** If an anchor line is strong enough to secure a couple of tons, your fingers don't stand a chance.
4. **Thou shalt use the right tool for the job.** Here are the suggested anchors for various bottoms:
Danforth – mud and sand
Plow – grass and soft mud or sand
Grappling – shell or rock bottom
Bruce – soft bottom, designed to swing 360°
5. **Thou shalt have scope and chain.** Scope (ratio of line length to water depth) should be no less than 5:1. A 6–8' shot of chain is recommended.

Cruising

Mike Wise

We are finally getting some relief from the heat! Last month 6 boats made the trip up the Neches River to Beaumont. Scheduling conflicts did not allow me to make the trip, but I understand that a great time was had by all.

This month our only scheduled cruise is to Galveston over the long Labor Day Weekend. Work on the new causeway bridge is going well, and we may see completion by the end of this year.

[Editor's Note: See *FLOTSAM AND JETSAM* for more information about the Causeway Bridge.] In the meantime the swing bridge operation seems to be functional, but they are catering more to the bridge completion than marine traffic as I understand it. So that leaves us with only the Thousand Foot Cut as an egress from the lake. We all know what time this adds to any trip when we want to go the other way! We will have a Skippers' Meeting Thursday night, Sep 3, to determine if anyone wants to make the extended journey.

Randy Palmero suggested at the last General Meeting that we look at some alternate easterly destinations to avoid the causeway construction. That sounds like a great idea to me, and I am open to suggestions. The casinos were discussed but can be expensive for overnight docking. I do know that Bridge Point Yacht Center is open to transients and only charges \$1.00 per foot per night with power. I hear that our beloved PAYC East is not back up to full speed for visitors, so that leaves that destination out.

Fall is about to be upon us, and the weather will be cooling down for some really nice cruising weather. Again, if anyone has some ideas for cruising destinations avoiding the causeway, let's hear 'em and let's go!

Until next month, keep on cruisin'...

From the Secretary's Desk

Ricky Richardson (409-882-4847)

August has been a busy month for me, not allowing much time for sailing or fishing. That seems to be my story for this year; surely 2010 will have more time on the water in store for me. The wind has been good this summer, and I hope you have had a chance to get out and enjoy it.

Electrical issues are being placed before the membership for a vote at the Sep 8 meeting. I will be sending out the proposal and ballot through email. I encourage you to make the General Meeting for this vote. If you can't attend the meeting, you can simply reply to the forthcoming proposal to me at secretary@payc.us with your vote, stating your name and indicating your approval or disapproval of the proposal.

The Spindletop Division 6 regatta is coming up on Sep 19-20, and I need some people to help out with this event. If you would like to help, contact me at secretary@payc.us or 409-882-4847.

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.

Racing

Paul Vera (409-363-3898)

Staggered Start Thursdays (SST) are up and sailing, with 5 to 6 boats participating each week. This is a less intense type of sailing, but there are some intense moments towards the end of the race as boats start to overtake each other. Attend the short

Skippers' Meeting at 6 p.m. at the clubhouse to get the course to be sailed and the start time for each boat design. The higher-rated boats start first.

Olympic #2 was sailed by **Mike Gill** and **Art Lynd**. I (**Paul Vera** on *Bonnie Blue*) got to follow the fleet and see **Mike Gill** take line honors on **Art Lynd** to win the regatta.

Six boats participated in the 10.7 mile Fred Grund Long Distance Race. In the Cruiser Division **Darrell Reeves**, **Ted Mahavier**, and **Art Lynd** finished 1-2-3. This was Darrell's first win of the year. In the Racing Division, **Ken Rutty** sailed solo to a victory over **Paul Vera** and **Richard Hughes**. It was a good race that lasted more than 3 hours for some.

The Island Cup Regatta will be held on Sep 12. The Skippers' meeting begins at 1000 at the club house. We will also continue the SSTs in September. The Spindletop Multihull Regatta is back on Sep 19-20. We will need volunteers to help with this regatta. Contact Ricky Richardson.

Man invented the slowest form of transportation, sailboats, and then decided to race them.

-- Anonymous (contributed by Richard Spinney)

Junior Sailing

Paul Vera (409-363-3898)

Good news! Plans are in the works for PAYC's new floating dock to replace the docks that we lost in Hurricane Ike. The Board has agreed to get the dock built and ready to go for next spring's youth regatta and next summer's sailing camp. I am in the early phase of material procurement, and I will be working with PAYC's membership to build the dock as cost effectively as possible. We will be on a tight schedule to get it done. Be ready – we will need every screw gun and hammer in the club to get this dock built!

The PAYC Top Gun Trophy was renamed the Jimmie Fontenot Top Gun Memorial Trophy.

Proposal to Help Members With Cost of Slip Electricity

The following proposal will be put up for vote at the Sep 8 General Meeting:

Port Arthur Yacht Club will provide up to \$12,000.00 out of the Operating Funds to be distributed by the board for use by club members to help offset the cost of getting electricity to the slips. Members who have spent money on electricity or who have invoices for payment have until Oct 31, 2009, to be eligible for consideration of a percentage of the available funds that PAYC will provide. On Nov 1, 2009, the totals of the invoices and receipts will be calculated and a percentage will be derived to give to the members who have turned in receipts.

Vote at the meeting, by email (send your name and "Approve" or Disapprove" to secretary@payc.us), or by mailing this ballot to PAYC (must be signed).

Approve Disapprove

Name

PAYC Elections for 2010

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

October Mainsheet – nominations for officers, directors, and honor awards will be published

October Meeting – committee nominations will be presented and floor nominations will be taken

November Mainsheet – all nominations will be published

November Meeting – the election will be held

December 15 – terms of office begin

The PAYC By-Laws in their entirety can be found at payc.us/by-laws.htm.

Flotsam and Jetsam

Carolyn Worsham

- **Sabine Lake Hot Spots for Fishing Sailors** – Here are the Sabine Lake hot spots as noted by TF&G:
 1. **Green's Bayou** (N28°49.417, W93°50.499) for redfish on live bait or soft plastics
 2. **North Levee Road** (N29°54.194, W93°52.316) for speckled trout on soft plastics
 3. **West Jetty** (N29°39.681, W93°49.978) for flounder on live bait and soft plastics
- **Pleasure Island Report** – (1) Bids will be opened on Sep 1 to replace marina fences. (2) Stallion Inc. was awarded the bid to remove debris in the marina water. Work will begin the first week in Sep. The PIC will request assistance from PAYC to temporarily move some boats. (3) The PIC hopes to have marina upgrade designs to share with PAYC for input and suggestions in Oct. (4) The PIC will replace the fueling facility and pump out station. [*Editor's note – Thanks to Jimmy Dike for the monthly updates.*]
- **FEMA Funds for Dock Replacement** – TF&G (Sep '09) reported that FEMA has obligated more than \$2.7M in Public Assistance Grants to replace four of eight docks in the PI Marina. The first award (\$1.4M) will go toward B & C; a second (\$1.3M) will help replace D & E.
- **Louisiana Causeway Bridge Report** – The bad news is that the swing bridge is permanently out of commission for boaters. The good news is that the new bridge should be completed by Nov 1 and no longer will boaters be dependent on the swing bridge. Hooray!
- **Jimmy Buffett** – Don't miss any opportunity to see Jimmy Buffett in concert! Bill and I recently went to 'Summerzcool' in Chicago where Jimmy entertained 30-40,000 Parrotheads. What fun!

I don't know who named them swells. There's nothing swell about them. They should have named them awfuls!

--Hugo Vihlen, *The Stormy Voyage of Father's Day*

PAYC ISLAND CELEBRATION

PAYC Social hosted by Bill and Carolyn Worsham



When: Saturday, September 19, 6:30 p.m.

Where: PAYC

Why: Celebrate Island Life with old and new friends

With Whom: Past and Present PAYC members; Island Residents, Spindletop Regatta Participants

What to Wear: Island attire, of course!

Please join us in celebration of life on Pleasure Island. We will provide fajitas and sangria. Please bring the following based on your last name:

A-D – Bean or rice dish and a 6-pack of cold beer

E-J – Dessert and a 6-pack of soft drinks

K-O – Chip/Dip and a 6-pack of beer

P-S – Guacamole or salsa and sour cream and a 6-pack of soft drinks

T-Z – Fruit or veggie tray and a 6-pack of beer

There's no agenda – it's just time for a party. We'll have a band for dancing, and tables for games. Come join the fun. Expect reminders by email!

Please also bring the following:

- 4"x6" photos of PAYC activities or fun times on the Island (labeled on back with year and names)
- Copies of *Mainsheets* prior to 2004 to replace history that was destroyed by you-know-who!

Please RSVP by Sep 15 to mainsheet@payc.us, but don't let failure to RSVP keep you from coming.

Save the Date – Sep 19th!

PAYC Island Celebration
6:30 p.m.

Welcome Aboard!

New members Donald and Carmen Pollock call Texas City home; however, their Vagabond 47' (temporarily in Seabrook) lives at PAYC. Don has lots of blue-water sailing under his belt.

Answers to Nautical Trivia

What was the medium of choice of the first recorded anchors?

Stone was the medium of choice because it was readily available, had weight, and could be drilled for a mooring line. The earliest known anchors are from the Sea of Galilee. When Jesus proclaimed, "I am the anchor..." he knew the value of these life-saving mooring devices.

Hemp ropes treated with bitumen or petroleum products were used for early anchor lines. The anchor stones were in the form of disks with a hole in the center, and the anchor line was passed through the hole.

What invention provided mechanical advantage for retrieving boat anchors?

The windlass, invented before the time of Christ, provided mechanical advantage for retrieving the ship's anchor. The relative ease of pulling up the anchor and subsequent development of more efficient anchors made it possible for vessels to sail into previously uncharted waters.

Which anchor is appropriate for which bottom? (See p.2.)



Danforth



Plow



Grappling



Bruce

Have you caught the sailing bug??? It's a creature that chews through one's back pocket, then through one's wallet, then bites the first available skin.

---- Anonymous (contributed by Richard Spinney)

Name
Port Arthur Yacht Club, Inc.
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Port Arthur, TX 77640

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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>

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

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, September 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.

