

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

From the Commodore's Perch

Commodore Paul Vera – 409-963-3525

Recap of TSA Mardi Gras Regatta: Our thirteenth Mardi Gras Youth Regatta is behind us and on its way to being put to bed. This year was a trying one due to the unstable weather and the fact that a lot of people were in new positions. We paid close attention to the weather on Saturday, and when it broke in the early afternoon we were ready to get the kids on the water. The boats left the ramp and were able to sail two or three races. Sunday we were on the water at 1030. With horns blowing, races got underway in picture-perfect conditions, and every fleet made it to the throw-out stage of five or more races for the weekend.

Thanks to those who headed up the three lines. Make no mistake – y'all are national caliber PROs.

- Martin Novich**– Optimist Green Fleet– 6 boats
- Russ Myers**– Laser Radial Fleet –7 boats
- Ricky Richardson**– Optimist Red, White, and Blue Fleets – 31 boats

Café O'Quinn did a fabulous job with the food. The brisket just melted in your mouth, and combined with the baked beans and homemade potato salad it might have been the best-ever dinner. Man, it was good – there's no place like PAYC!

The list of volunteers is a long one, so if you see a club member in a yellow 2012 Mardi Gras T-shirt, please give them a big "thank you." This year they earned it big-time. Once again, thank you very much for all the help of each club member and non-member.

Recent Donation: You might notice that a new big-screen TV appeared in the clubhouse. The TV was donated by several members. Thanks!



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MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 3, 17, 24 - Olympic Regatta #1; Light the Pit (3/3 and 3/24)
- March 10 - Louisiana Lighthouse Cruise
- March 13 - PAYC General and Board Meetings
- March 15, 22, 29 - Thursday Night Series #1
- March 17 - St. Patrick's Day Social
- March 31-April 1 - Spindletop Mulihull Regatta

Miscellaneous Items: (1) An order will be placed soon for PAYC burgees, so see a board member if you're interested. (2) An upcoming big-time project is the repair of the stalls in the women's bathroom. Many have already contributed time to the project, but there is more work to be done. (3) A drainage project is in the planning stage. (4) Hopefully the floating docks will arrive next month, and all of our PAYC boats can return to the marina once and for all.

Upcoming Events: Thursday Night Races begin on Mar 15, and the Spindletop Multihull Regatta is scheduled for Mar 31. Stay tuned for information about Junior Camp.



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

For What It's Worth...

Snippets from *Sail Magazine*, March 2012

Sandpaper Files – Do you find yourself hunting around your boat or garage for sandpaper of a specific grit? Buy a plastic accordion file organizer with multiple pockets and a cover with an elastic closure. It is perfectly sized to hold full sheets of standard-size sandpaper. Label each pocket



with the grit count, and store full sheets and as well as bits and pieces of unused sandpaper in the appropriate pockets. The result? No more hunting around in multiple locations at project time!

Sailhandling – Getting a sail cover on and off a mainsail is often harder than it should be. Here's a solution. When taking the cover off, start at the mast and work back to the end of the boom.

Unbutton the fasteners one by one as you neatly flake the cover back on itself so there's never any loose fabric for the wind to catch. When you're done, you'll have a neat slab of material that's easy to roll up and stow away. Reverse the process to cover your sail. Start at the back of the boom and unroll the cover as you move forward, buttoning the fasteners underneath as you go. Once you're in the habit of doing this, you'll never curse your sail cover again when the wind gets blustery!

A Safer Way to Plug In – The SmartPlug was developed several years ago following some boat fires. It represents a substantial improvement in safety over conventional shorepower connections;



however, it will not fit into an existing dockside outlet. Nevertheless, it makes sense to put a SmartPlug on the boat end of your shorepower cord and install a matching inlet on your boat to significantly decrease the threat of a fire. Once many boat owners have SmartPlugs on the boat end of the cord, marina operators should feel compelled to make the switch on their end. For more information, visit smartplug.com.

Flotsam and Jetsam

Carolyn Worsham

PAYC's Wall of Honor – Rumor has it that post-like clean-up efforts almost saw all of the plaques denoting PAYC's award winners make it to the trash can. Thanks to **Chuck and Marilee Devenzio** and **John and Ginger Ardoin**, the plaques



have been restored to better-than-original condition. Kudos to all for preserving our past!

PAYC Socials – If you've missed the recent socials produced, directed, and decorated by **Songa Gremillion**, you've missed some good times on the island. There's no end to her creativity. Don't miss the upcoming St. Patrick's Day Social on Mar 17. Watch for details via email.



Valentine's Social – Deena serenaded Mike with *Any Man of Mine* *Better Walk the Line*; decorations included a revolving disco ball and wrapped poles; Songa, Ruth, Deena, Ettie, Annette, and Carolyn did the Chicken Dance; Bobby won a door prize.

Out of sight of land the sailor feels safe. It is the beach that worries him.

--C. G. Davis

Highlights from Late-1995 at PAYC

Compiled from Past *Mainsheets*

July – Commodore **Dennis Warren** reported that 13–15 yachts were racing in the Thursday night races and about 45 were enjoying covered dishes afterwards. Cruise director **Quincy Prestridge** reported on the two-week cruise to Corpus Christi enjoyed by *Hawk 6* (**Gordon and Linda Thibodeaux**), *Merganser* (**Gary and Pam King**), and *Passages* (**Quincy and Janis Prestridge**). A capital expenditure ballot for \$12,000 to replace the broken hoist was presented to the membership. The Krewe of Junkanoo, an island Mardi Gras krewe, was born.

August – The first All-Woman Cruise to Garrison Ridge was a success. Three boats and 16 women enjoyed a day across the lake. All slips on B, C, and D were full of PAYC boats, and the PIC was asked to remove non-PAYC boats from E. Six skippers competed in the Single Hander's Long Distance Race – **Bill Worsham, Hyman Taylor, Al Hebert, Jack Painton, Phil Guidry, and Susan Cherry**. The "Red Hot Regatta, Fiesta, and Ice Cream Social" at the screen house was a big success. Thirteen yachts headed for the 18-Mile Light for a "Photo Cruise." The big seas kept 14 from reaching the light; however, the party afterwards at the Channel Inn was enjoyed by all.

September–December – Six boats made the Labor Day Cruise to Offatt's Bayou. Quincy reported that thirty-eight cruisers logged over 6,244 miles SAFELY in 1995. This included ferrying two boats – *Ocean Condor* (recently purchased by **Butch Neely**) and *Dream Maker* (recently purchased by **George and Beverly Broussard**) – from Tampa Bay to PAYC.

Why Salt Is Not Good for Sails

The sharp edges of salt crystals can weaken any sail fabric. Also, salt is hygroscopic - that is, it absorbs water - so salty sails stored below deck or in a storage space will attract moisture which can lead to mildew.

To eliminate salt, rinse the sails several times with clean, fresh water and dry before storing.

Socials

Songa Gremillion, Socials Director

Light the Pit – Do you have dinner plans for Saturday nights in March? Bring your favorite "grillable" item and a side dish and join other PAYC members and islanders after the Olympic Regatta races on Mar 3 and 24 (whether or not you race). The grill will be hot by 1800.

St. Patrick's Day Social – Green beer, leprechauns, lucky clovers, Irish stew – expect all and more at the **St. Patrick's Day Social on Saturday, Mar 17**. Watch your email for details.

Racing

Russ Myers – Race Director

Hello everyone,

We held Moonlight Race #1 on Feb 4. The rain stopped just in time to allow the diehard racers to get their boats ready and go for a nice sail. Here are the results:

- 1 – Ken Ruddy
- 2 – Russ Myers
- 3 – Richard Hughes

In March will we hold Olympic Regatta #1 on Mar 3, 17, and 24 following the 1400 Skippers' Meetings. We will "light the pit" after the races on Mar 3 and 24, so bring something to throw on the pit.

The Thursday Night Series #1 starts up on Mar 15 with a Skippers' Meeting at 1800. Thursday night races are great opportunities for both racers and cruisers to get out on the water.

Hope to see you on the water...



Optis in the Pleasure Island Marina for the TSA Regatta

Cruising

Greg Lynd, Cruising Director

The calendar has been set, and the first cruise is scheduled for Mar 10. On that morning we will hold a Captains' Meeting at 1000 and then proceed to the Louisiana Lighthouse. Last summer a group of us made the trip hoping to anchor, take *'Bout Time* to shore, and then make a short walk to the lighthouse. Boy, were we surprised! You don't just walk up to the lighthouse... especially during the summer, when the saltgrass is tall and the snakes and gators are lively. Ok, did I scare you away? Now you know why we made this a winter trip!

Our plan is to take boots and walk across the shorter, alligator-less, snake-free saltgrass to the lighthouse. We'll check the tide and precipitation to see that the marsh isn't full of water. If the tide is very high or the marsh is holding too much water, we'll plan to kayak/dinghy behind the lighthouse via lighthouse bayou.

Hope to see you then...

Message from the Treasurer

Alan Aldredge .../).

The first quarter billing was sent out in late January, so if you did not receive your copy or have any questions or corrections, please leave a phone message (409-356-6253) or send an email to treasurer@payc.us. The second quarter billing will be sent out at the end of March to members who are still paying the initiation fee. Per PAYC By-Laws, "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."

The Motion of the Wind

The wind "veers" when it changes in a clockwise direction and "backs" when it changes in a counterclockwise direction. A northeast wind, therefore, backs to the northwest and veers to the southeast.

Minutes for February 14, 2012

Attendees: (Board) Paul Vera, Mike Wise, Alan Aldridge, Art Lynd, Russ Myers, Daniel Tatum; **(Members)** Ronnie Sonnier, Johnny Otto, John Ardoin, Chuck Devenzio, Ted Mahavier, Ricky Richardson, Butch Neely, Bob Brammer

Membership: Al Vincent and Mike Vaughn resigned. Discussion of research into Bill Gregory's standing with the club. Roy Coward is in good standing.

Treasurer:

PIC Report: There was not a quorum to proceed with the meeting.

Harbor Master: New slips should be delivered in a few weeks; no set date discussed. Discussion of holes on A and B rows becoming larger.

House and Grounds: New light bulbs have been installed around the club along with new air filters. The commodore's office has a new ceiling. The women's bathroom stalls need new doors. The ground fault electrical outlet in the ice machine area is now working.

Racing: Ken Ruty won the moonlight race on Feb 4. Thursday night racing starts Mar 15, 22, and 29. The first Olympic regatta of the year starts Mar 3, 17, 24.

Socials: The Valentine's Sock Hop is Feb 25

Cruising: 10 am skippers meeting on Mar 10 for a Lighthouse Cruise.

Junior Sailing: TSA regatta is Feb 18-19.

Old Business: Budget was approved.

New Business: Power squadron Change of Watch is Mar 2. PAYC members are more than welcome to attend. *About Time* is in need of a new battery, and also has fuel problem. Discussion of possible remedies for *About Time*.

Name

Port Arthur Yacht Club, Inc.
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Officers for 2012

[Paul Vera](#), Commodore

Rear Commodore

[Mike Wise](#), Vice Commodore

[Wayne McEwen](#), Secretary

[Alan Aldredge](#), Treasurer

Motto

PAYC - The Fun Spot of
Southeast Texas

PAYC is on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://payc.us>

Board of Directors for 2012:

Ken Rutty, Daniel Tatum, Art Lynd, Steve Swanson, and
Russ Myers (Past Commodore)

Trustees (with Term Expiration Year):

Carolyn Worsham ('12), Ken Rutty ('13), and Bob Brammer ('14),

Honorary Memberships:

John and Ginger Ardoin (Charter Member)

Jim and Beth Kincaid

Gary and Pam King

Jack and Jo Ann Moser

Pat and Susie O'Quinn

Harbormaster:

[Russ Myers](#)

Mainsheet/Website:

[Carolyn Worsham](#)

Reserving the PAYC Clubhouse (Members Only):

Email clubhouse@payc.us or contact a club officer.

Next General/Board Meeting:

Tuesday, March 13, 2012, 1900, PAYC Clubhouse

Request a PAYC Roster:

Email roster@payc.us.

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