



The Jib Sheet

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE PUNTA GORDA SAILING CLUB

Volume 14 Issue 7

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July, 2009

From Your Commodore : Sarah Buck

BANG, ZOOM, WHOOSH, POP- Welcome to July, Sailors! As we sail into the balmy summer, many exciting events are unfolding on the Harbor.

Our Racing Captain **Tom Scott** has planned top notch racing on Sundays. **Dennis Peck** has "small boat" racing on Wednesdays and Saturday afternoons. And Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club has challenged us to a Wednesday 15:25 start on racing. This is every Wednesday evening with competitors invited to an "after race" party at Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club. Contact **Martin Holland** at martinh@ldreeves.com for the Notice Of Race (NOR) or check the PGSC website for a link. As Punta Gorda Sailing Club was founded as a racing club, we hope our members will try their skills in these great events.



Another project of the Punta Gorda Sailing Club are the plans for a new Water Sports Activities Center (WAC). The June PGSC Meeting featured **Jon Shattuck** who described efforts to grow the small boat & youth sailing in our Harbor. **Dennis Peck** has created a very successful program and the proposed project will work hand in hand with Dennis to further create small boat sailing. As of June, the Punta Gorda City Council was very impressed with the WAC presentation. Let your voice be heard by going to www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us to let City Council know our support of this project. Shreve Park, the site proposed for the WAC, is one of the few remaining areas for small watercraft to launch from the beach. No jumping off of the seawalls! This will be essential for our future sailors as our community grows. Please show your support. If you would like to see the presentation of the WAC please contact me at sarahcommodore@hotmail.com or 941-276-4647.

Keeping a Weather Eye...

Sarah Buck

Punta Gorda Sailing Club

2009 Officers

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Rich Hulet
Vice Commodore

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Lots of COOL STUFF

For sale at
BARGAIN PRICES!



Vice Commodores



We would like to thank **Jon Shattuck** for his presentation at last month's PGSC meeting regarding Shreve Park and the Punta Gorda Waterfront Development Committee. Hopefully between Jon's efforts as well as those of many others including our own **Dennis Peck**, this long journey to keep sailing on the harbor will be successful.



Ed

Rich

HELP—Ed and I will be both be unavailable for the July 8th PGSC meeting. We need a Volunteer to do our job for the evening which includes setting up for the meeting, bringing soda & water and close-up afterwards. It's really easy—if I can do it, anyone can. Any takers, call me at 815-7588.

We are closing in on our last after-race picnic for which we have volunteer cooks. If you want to sign-up to cook, contact Rich Hulet. The after race-picnic for Race # 5, July 12th is cancelled. We will have pizzas for the picnic for Race # 6, Rich will get those and organize. The rest of the races will be announced in the August Jib Sheet.

Summer's here, Stay cool, and Dodge those storms!!

Ed Brauer & Rich Hulet

Fleet Captain—Racing

Last months' article dealt with some tips on getting your boat into the best shape possible to race. This month, I'd like to share some seldom discussed steps we can individually take to further improve our racing.

As sports go, sailboat racing is surprisingly complex. New racers are often intimidated by all the "stuff" we are supposed to know in order to compete. Those who have been racing for decades can do a lot to help ease new racers into our circle. Conversely, we can sometimes unintentionally do things that will send our newbie racers packing and vowing to never race again.

How we behave on the water has a big effect on how well we will grow our new competitors. While winning is fine, close competition is where the fun is *really* at. And, close competition is something we must *actively* develop. We won't *really* develop close competition by manipulating ratings, shuffling fleets, or buying too much "stuff". Rather, we need to nurture new racers and help build their skills. "Skilled" racers are what truly makes for close competition.

(see *Racing*, Page 4)



Small Boat Sailing
Every Wed, Noon

PGSC Coming Attractions— July

July 8	PGSC Monthly Meeting, 7 pm. <i>Punta Gorda Isles Civic Assoc, 2001 Shreve</i>
July 12	Summer Series Race #5
July 18,19	'Tween Waters Cruise
July 26	Summer Series Race #6



"Tune-Up" Every Saturday, Noon
Charlotte Harbor

Rear Commodore



One of the responsibilities for the Rear Commodore, as outlined in the PGSC Bylaws, is Communications. This includes the Jib Sheet and Membership communications. I am very fortunate to have absolutely outstanding support in both of these areas, so I won't say any more except THANKS! to **Bill and Vicki Welsch** for editing the Jib Sheet and to **Mary and Bob Anderson** for printing and mailing the newsletter to those PGSC members who elect to receive this document via US Mail. Thanks as well to **Judy Tessier** and **Gail Rimoshytus** for their outstanding efforts with membership.

What I want to talk about a bit more is electronic communications; specifically e-mail. It appears that almost everyone today uses the internet and e-mail to some extent. It is not quite as common as the telephone, but getting close. As you may know, the Club does not have any sort of official e-mail policy, standard distribution lists, or e-mail coordination. Each officer or event leader is left to herself or himself to create e-mail address lists and send out messages. While this works reasonably well for many purposes, there are a couple of recurring problem areas.

One problem is the content of the address lists. It is pretty easy to set up a list for communication about, say, a weekend cruise. The people who signed up on a sheet at the monthly meeting get added to the e-mail list. It is a bit trickier to create and maintain a list for racing, since the number of racers seems to change each week, and even some non-racers want to keep informed. It becomes very difficult to create a list for general PGSC news and announcements. Some people want everything by e-mail; some want nothing by e-mail.

Another problem area is that many e-mail messages include all of the addresses out in clear view. This leads to the proliferation of messages when people hit "reply to all". In some of the exchanges about racing earlier this year I received close to 100 messages, most of which were simply copies of a reply. Some e-mail programs allow the creation of blind address lists, but some of the more popular one, such as Outlook Express, apparently do not allow the creation of blind lists.

The question for the PGSC membership becomes, "What do you want to do about it?" Potential answers range (at least) from "nothing" to "create an e-mail czar". I am not recommending anything except a bit of discussion among the membership. If you have any thoughts on this topic please contact me or any other board member. If there is enough interest in making a change in our policy we will attempt to pull together a proposal for further discussion and approval by the membership.

Gene Fuller

Don't Forget! Please bring non-perishable food items to our PGSC membership meetings. We will pass the food on to the Remnant Seed Food Bank to help those in need.



New PGSC Laminated Name Tags!

(All PGSC members receive, as part of their membership, a clear plastic name tag with a paper insert. Thanks to the efforts of Bob and Estellita August, laminated name tags are also available for a small charge)

Order yours now! - Cost: \$6.50
Contact: Bob & Estellita August
mslady4now@aol.com





Co - Secretaries



Judy

Here I am (Judy) in the cold, wet North while my co-secretary Gail is enjoying the sunny Florida weather. All I can say is I'm glad its June, not January, or we would be having heavy snow . I hope that all our summer residents are volunteering for after race parties, it's a great way to make new friends. Happy Fourth of July! Remember to show your Pride in our country, it's the best one around . Have a great summer.

Gail

Judy Tessier & Gail Rimoshytus



Treasurer

I wanted to remind everyone that the PGSC is a participating group member of Boat US. This entitles our members to a discounted membership in Boat US. Feel free to contact me or another PGSC officer and we will provide you with our group number.

Jerry Haller

(From Racing, Page 2)

At the risk of offending the sensibilities and competitive nature of some of our experienced racers, I freely admit to routinely exercising a double-standard on the race course. I do not try to use aggressive tactics and maneuvers against newbie's or less experienced racers. It's unnecessary for me to do so, and I don't want to add to their nervousness, foment uncertainty, or detract from their voyage of discovery. If I unnecessarily intimidate and otherwise roll over our newest racers, they may simply choose to quit racing. So, it's far better for me to *help* them become better racers so that they WILL be able to beat me someday. However, let an experienced fellow - say someone like **Bill Curtis** - come within 10 minutes of me, and the gloves are off! I always enjoy racing against **Bill Curtis** because he can often beat me, and I can sometimes beat him. We've actually worked at that. How? By sharing information and critiquing each other regularly. When **Bill Curtis** beats me, he makes an effort to try and tell me why, and when I beat him I do the same. Last year, we developed our own unique competition. And that leads to my next point...

If we are going to grow our sport and increase our competition, we need to more freely share all we know, and learn all we can. We should not play "*I've got a secret*" when others are left scratching their head at what happened on the race course - we need to more freely share ideas, techniques, and tips. By doing this, we can raise the overall level of our competition, and help our less experienced racers get up to speed. If I notice that somebody's sail trim looks off, or their tactics are odd, or some other item aboard catches my attention, I'm going to try and communicate that to the other skipper. Others (folks like **Bill Curtis**) will do the same for me. Fact is, we all *need* strong competition so that we can sail better. And, as I've mentioned, I often try to exercise some restraint and patience when sailing against our newest racers. When I elect to "ease up" a bit on a newbie on the race course, I'll try to talk with them afterward and explain what I could have done to them, and what they could have done back to me as well, and why it all matters. I'll know they've learned something when they push me over the line early, or they beat me to the first mark, or actually correct out ahead of me. And once they do that, I'm really excited...

...It means I can finally begin to treat them like ... **Bill Curtis** --"UP! UP! UP! UP! UP!"J

Sail On!

Small Boat Sailing

First, I would like to thank all of those folks that came out for the **Hibiscus Cup**. A special note of thanks to those that assisted me in running the event, we couldn't have done it without you guys and gals. You made this happen and hats off to you!

I understand the times we are in so I will call the turnout a success even if the wind fought us all the way on this one. It would have been nice to have a bit more wind during the regatta but the conditions certainly tested the skill of each competitor.

In other news, by the time you get this, our first class for the summer will be over but I am looking forward to having another session this year.

We have been having a better turn out lately for our afternoon sailing on Wednesdays. My intention is to start Wednesday morning class again this summer. This will enable our regular sailing to begin earlier so we can take advantage of the early morning breezes. I will keep you posted on this as to when I will start the morning class.



Dennis Peck



Hibiscus Cup Highlights

(photos courtesy of Shelly Pond)



Congratulations to *Hibiscus Cup* winners!

One Design (Sunfish) Fleet

First: Phil Mewhinney
Second: Rick Pantall
Third: Mike Busher

Portsmouth Fleet

First: Phil Mewhinney
Second: Rick Pantall
Third: Kyle Pond



Brenda & Chuck



Sandi & Chuck

Cruising Co-Captains

The annual Palm Island cruise took place on Father's Day Weekend. Fourteen boats made their way down the harbor and up the ICW to Palm Island Marina. There was little wind, but we all had a nice motor cruise.

Friday afternoon was spent around the pool. Happy Hour was a nice prelude for dinner at Rum Bay restaurant. After dinner, the hardiest revelers were ready for a poolside night cap.

Saturday was spent around the pool with lots of card playing and libations. That evening, we were treated with a fine BBQ including pork tenderloin and chicken. After dinner, we played a trivia game provided by **Noel Hyde**. A few of us could blame our mediocre performance on brains being robbed of blood being used for digestion.

On Sunday, we headed home after an enjoyable weekend. A big thanks goes out to cruise leaders **Bob and Mary Anderson** for a job well done. (Thanks to **Sue Cleverly** for the great pictures!)



Brenda & Chuck Cordis / Sandi and Chuck Witzke

FUTURE CRUISES INCLUDE:



July 17-18

'TWEEN WATERS CRUISE
Captain: Wally Wicks

August 8-9

"Good Times" Cruise to Navigator Grille
Details to follow

September 19-20

Burnt Store Marina
Captain needed

Member Ads

Nautical Items to sell? Send your ad to jibsheet@pgscweb.com

Walker Bay 8' Dinghy PRICE REDUCED



Row, sail, or motor this Walker Bay Dinghy. Includes oars, oar locks, and the makings of a sail kit. West Marine retail cost is \$ 879 for the

boat, plus \$939 for a sail kit for a total cost of \$1818 plus tax. The sailing equipment included (rudder, tiller, lee board, mast, boom, hardware, sail and sail bag) are from another boat but can be modified for this Walker Bay. Walker Bay produces High Impact Marine Composite (HIMC) hulls formulated to be impact resistant and UV protected. The hull has a "Wheel in the keel" for ease of moving by one person. Price: **\$399**

941-505-7485

Looking For Volunteer Crew

Help bring **Vela Navis** home! Puerto Rico to Punta Gorda (or individual legs via Dominican Republic-Turks & Caicos-Bahamas-FL.)

Must have blue water experience & registered with BCBP and have Local Boater Option. Time frame: mid-October/November (depending on Hurricane activity in Caribbean). Also looking for charts/cruising guides for itinerary. Contact :

Mitch Schlitt @ 941-575-1294

Wanted

Experienced sailors for day sailing (not racing) on Charlotte Harbor.

Please call Marv Marcus at:
613-2912

CANADIAN BUILT TANZER 7.5 (HULL #152)-RACER/POCKET



New Tohatsu 9.8 hp, 4-stroke engine (long shaft). New battery; Compass/depth/speedo; Reconditioned sails; 150% roller furler genoa; Extra Sails; Bimini; New custom sunbrella boom tent; West Marine "mini-dinghy" w/ electric motor; Sleeps 4, headroom of 5+ feet. Enclosed head with porta-potty; Sink; Ground tackle; Life jackets & safety equipment;

ASKING \$5,500.00

CONTACT PGSC MEMBER MITCH SCHLITT FOR MORE DETAILS:
941-575-1294/516-319-0242

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Size: 35"-52"

Seven stands in all, including one V-top

\$350

Contact Dayton Dorey

941-380-1124 or dmdorey@comcast.net

Item	Model	Height	Ship	Net
753251	MB-0	41"-58"	76 lbs	112.99
NESTABLE SAILBOAT STANDS				
Available in V-top or Flat swivel. Please specify when ordering.				
753262	SB-4	74"-36"	82 lbs	\$122.99
753261	SB-3	35"-52"	39 lbs	127.99
753260	SB-2	48"-65"	46 lbs	127.99
753259	SB-1	64"-79"	54 lbs	132.99
753258	SB-0	79"-96"	62 lbs	147.99

