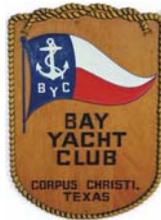


April 2006
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The



Bowsprit

Commodore, Ed Klash + Vice Commodore, Jake Jacobson + Rear Commodore, Jerry Vaughn



It was a great learning experience!

Joe Blair's negotiations of the Sunfish accrue from the city are nearing to an end. Jerry Vaughn is in the process of engineering the placement of the sunfish barge and racks at the west end of our barge.



Commodore's Quill



March was a feisty month:

The wind 10 -15 mph was great we thought for Hal Peterson's BYC race until we hit the bay. Christa, my granddaughter, and I, of course, were the last off on the start. As we passed through the gap, we started to pick up speed and were gaining on the other boats ahead of us. We were neck to neck with Valhalla when everything went awry in our boat. The Microwave and TV were tossed out on the cabin floor as the wind became squirrely, picked up to 30, and gusting somewhere to 36 mph. About 5 minutes later the jib canvas cover was unraveling. We said "That is it!" rolled up the jib and headed back, not attempting to finish the course.



As we passed the finish line, Hal bellowed, "You are in first!" not knowing that we did not finish the laps. I yelled back, "I am a forfeit". Other racers turned about because of the high winds and other problems. Only the Sea Scouts of Ship One and Windswept finished the race. Anyway I was first across the finish line, "no award". Awards were also presented to racers for other adulterated reasons why they did not complete the race. Hal, you need to make peace with Aeolus, the wind God!

Big thanks go out to Judge Blackmon and the Sea Scouts for having me in their Sunfish class and to Zeus, "the God of sky and thunder" letting us have good weather for the four day lessons. Christa and I, along with Yusef Hafez and Sean Bolster signed up for the lessons that were sponsored by Ship One. The four day classes were taught by Judge Blackmon and Sea Scouts Keith Bass, Michelle Pyle and Alita Austin, who were very adept in teaching us. We were taught sailing rules of the water, points of sailing, took swimming tests, and taught up-righting an overturned boat. We also learned about the rigging, maintenance, leaving the dock, we ran drills sailing the sunfish, tacking, jibing, and retrieving a person overboard and more. The last day we received a certification record book verifying our skills.



About Dinners and Socials:

A big hand goes out to Phyllis & Jerry Vaughn for the Irish day dinner social and decorations. I say that Phyllis makes the best Irish stew and Irish coffee in the state of Texas. We even had a decorated potato contest. I want to thank the judges for taking bribes.

A warm welcome to our new members.



Steve & Ann Bolin



Roger & Pauline



See you all onboard. Ed Klash



Sassy Cat cruising to Crab N

A Few Words From the V.C.

by Jake Jacobsen

If not to all of Corpus Christi, at least to the Bay Yacht Club, there is a new meaning to "March Madness". Nine boats, full of intrepid sailors, ventured out for the start of the March Madness race, but only two boats survived to see the end of the race. Best that can be said, "No animals were injured during this event." Thankfully only pride and some equipment suffered any damage. Truth be known, Jim and Sylvia Whitworth came to the line disguised as a Chinese laundry, and Larry Franks ripped his main to justify the new one (conveniently on order) to Carla. All in all, nobody got hurt and it was a good showing followed by good food and good company. Oh yes, the other significant "equipment failure" resulted in the Commodore surrendering his flag to the sea. Neptune has another trophy.

We have acquired several new members through the high pressure recruiting by several of our members. We should all try to make them feel welcome and keep them included in all our activities. I'm sure if we think about our non-club acquaintances, we can come up with a few more that have no idea that they really want to join our club

Friday Night Dinners

by Sharon Blair

Wow! What a great Valentine's Party. Carla really had a wonderful meal with Hal doing the meat and Carla, Larry, and Sharon Peterson working on the rest. What a joy to come to the club and have such an elegant party! The decorations were fabulous and a wonderful time was had by everyone. Thank you Carla, Hal, Sharon P. and Larry

The Mardi Gras dinner was an experience to remember. The menu was extensive and very delicious. All the food was made from scratch and presented beautifully! We even learned something about the tradition of Fat Tuesday and what the food represents. Thank you Heberts and Earwoods for a wonderful theme dinner that we won't soon forget.

Everybody had the "luck of the Irish" when they attended the St. Patrick's Day Social put on by Phyllis Vaughn. With decorations, great Irish stew, soda bread, salad and dessert, dinner was an Irish delight. Fun was had by all during the potato decorating contest. Thank you Phyllis for another great party at the BYC.

Susie and Ed Klash served a wonderful dinner of grilled pork chops, sweet potatoes, hot corn, salad and dessert March 3rd. It was great. Thank you Susie and Ed. Susie sure deserved cook of the year didn't she!

On Saturday, March 11 Ron Chiles grilled his famous fajitas with onions and bell peppers. What a treat to have such a fantastic meal after the ill-fated race. Thanks Ron for all your hard work.

APRIL DINNERS

April 7 No cook yet.

April 14 Jo-Anne McNeill will be making quiches and pasta salad for Good Friday. Some of the quiches will be meatless.

April 22 Cruise to Off the Hook; no Friday night dinner.

April 29 Jake and Jenny will be cooking pork and all the fixin's.

If you haven't cooked yet, be sure to volunteer. Your club needs you.

Nuttin' To Do In Corpus Christi?

by Robert Blackmon

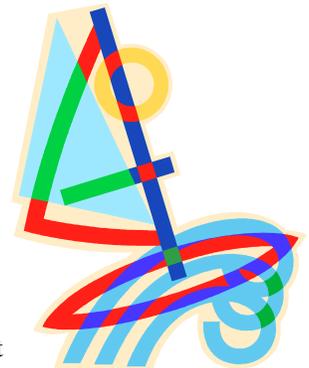
Fickle weather. Did you put your winter togs away a few days before Spring sprung? I did, on faith. Then, as if on cue, the weather went grey, cold, windy, as in "no sailing." Greenhouse? 100 year cycle? Is the cap melting? Fickle weather.

Nonetheless, notwithstanding, however, anyway, we got some sail time in between fronts. A couple of MORFs, a Saturday afternoon club race (muy windy), the following Saturday afternoon (mas windy), and four good days in a row of Sunfishing, plus two marina environmental reclamation evolutions (marina trash pickups), and some general messing around in boats. Not too bad for March. Any March.

Two new crew members: one you know, one you don't. Christa Razor, BYC student member, FB Junior, big band member, big boat and now small boat sailor. Ed's granddaughter. Then, the new kid on the water: Yusuf Hafez (Sef to his friends), King Sophomore, band type, and soccer player. He has not missed a sail since joining early March.

Spring Break at the beach? No, at the Marina. Keith Bass, Michelle Pyle, Alita Austin - all BYC YYYs, gave up their beach time to teach new crew members the fine art of handling Sunfish. Passing on what they've been taught by others, so to speak.

Weather could not have been better, that week. New Sunfish sailors Sef Hafez, Sean Bolster, Christa Razor and Commodore Ed Klash took to the waters - did the whole thing, from swim tests, set up and take down, turn-overs and recovery, straight line sailing, tacking and jibbing, even some repairs - and are now SHIP ONE small boat handlers.



So there. That's what S1's been up to.

From the Chief Maintenance Hand

by Jerry Vaughn

The Club has purchased a 16 foot by 32 foot barge at an auction held by the Marina for the enormous sum of \$50. This new wooden barge will be moored at the west end of the BYC barge and will be used to store the Sunfish sailboats that we hope to get on long term loan from the Marina. According to Marina Superintendent Peter Davidson, we will not have to pay slip rent for the barge.

There has been a lot of discussion between Jake Jacobson, Dick Frenzel, Ed Klash and me about methods of mooring the barge to ensure that it doesn't get under the BYC barge rake (the sloped end) and that it stays where we want it, no matter what the weather – hurricanes expected.

I'll be contacting several of you to aid and assist in preparing the barge for our use. As soon as the Marina personnel remove the Sunfish and their racks from the barge, we'll have to come up with a method of strengthening the center where it presently sags and then, do the actual work. Jake and I will be getting material and welding standoff brackets to the BYC barge and we'll probably need some help. After the Marina people tow the barge into position, I'll need some carpenters to design and build a launching ramp at one end of the wooden barge and some stairs to allow access from the steel to the wooden barge. I'm not at all bashful about approaching members to help and I'll probably send out more than one all hands e-mail about the work. Please don't be bashful about coming down and getting your hands dirty. Even if you can't do much manual labor, "go-fers" are always welcome to run errands, get forgotten or misplaced tools, fetch cold drinks, etc.



BYC members enjoying their meal at Crab N—the prize at the end of the trail...



Windswept out cruisin'

Cruise Scheduled

by Jim Whitworth – Cruise Chairman

Get ready for a fun cruise to "Off the Hook", a friendly restaurant with good food and lots of room for us to party just south of Rockport. The dates are Saturday and Sunday, April 22 and 23. Take your guitar and we can sing to the rafters again. To get there, go up the ICW and turn left at Marker #12, go past the haul-out yard and turn right to tie up at the restaurant.

For those going by land yacht, dinner will be at 6 p.m. Take the new bypass to skip Aransas Pass, turn right on 16th street and go until you see the big blue building "Mackport Marina". Turn in there to go to the restaurant at 161 Cove Harbor. If you get lost, the phone for Off the Hook is (361) 729-8300.

Crab N Cruise

by Jerry Vaughn

The March Cruise to Crab N, between Aransas Pass and Rockport, went very well. Eight boats made the trip in light winds and mild temperatures. The only possible glitch was the wind coming right down the Corpus Christi Ship Channel, causing all of the boats to have to motor. Once they cleared the channel, it was a beam reach all the rest of the way. The boats making the journey were Hail Columbia, Windswept, Honky Voodoo, La Vie Dansante, Home Free Too, Brigadoon, Kiva and Sassy Cat. Some of the boats carried guests and some had BYC members without boats or ones who had to get back home that night.

The cruisers and other members who drove over, enjoyed the fellowship on the dock behind the restaurant till about 6 when everyone trooped inside. There were just short of 40 members and guests, totally filling the room set aside for us. As usual, Crab N gave us good food, good service, and the libations desired. After the dinner, Steve and Marilyn Oakley opened up their hot tub for the cruisers and then, Sunday morning, served breakfast, including screwdrivers and bloody Marys. Again, a big thank you to the Oakleys for their hospitality.

March Winds Regatta

by Hal Petersen

The 2006 BYC March Winds Regatta was held the afternoon of Saturday, March 11. Nine boats belonging to members of the Bay Yacht Club participated in this prestigious event. These were Hail Columbia, Cloud 9, Honky Voodoo, Calamari, Daytripper, Windswept, Susie Q, Valhalla and NoETA.

Aside from the fact that almost everyone ruined his or her boat, I think we had a good time! Seriously, the raced lived-up to its name! During the race the winds increased to the mid to upper 20s with gust into the 30s. I know at least three boats which had their sails torn. The Sea Scouts even had their masthead light blown-off!

Of the nine boats that started the race, only two skippers successfully completed the course. These were Larry Frank on Windswept, who was awarded first place in the "Fast Class", and Judge Blackmon with the Sea Scouts who won first place in the "Half-Fast Class". Other trophies were presented to the skippers who came up with the best sob stories about why they couldn't complete the course. Al Sondern on Valhalla and Jim & Sylvia Whitworth on Hail Columbia were the winners of these awards.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gilbert Franke and Joe Blair for helping me with the race and Ron Chiles for cooking the delicious fajitas. Without good help it would be impossible to put on a good event! I would also like to encourage the people who tore their sails to get them replaced or repaired with outdelay, as the next race is scheduled for May 13. It will be known as the "MOTHER OF ALL RACES", in honor of Mother's Day.



Sea Scouts are teaching BYC members, and others, to sail the newly acquired Sunfish. The first class included, left to right: Chance Justice, Instructor Michelle Pyle, Commodore Ed Klash, Instructor Keith Bass, Sef Hafez, Christa Rasor, Instructor Alita Austin, Sean Bolster.



Hungry club members queue up for a memorable St. Patt's Day feast.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

By Jerry Vaughn

A great meal was served up by Phyllis, beginning with Irish stew, complemented with a salad and soda bread. Dessert was lime bars. All of this was topped off with Irish coffee made with real Bushmill's Irish whiskey for those who cared to indulge. The Club had been well decorated by Phyllis before the festivities.

There were four entries in the "Decorate a Potato" contest. Judges Jerry and Hal had a hard time deciding on a winner, even though both of them got a big hug from a young, good looking contestant and Hal was offered a \$10 bribe for first place from a member who hadn't even entered the contest. The judges finally came to the conclusion that every entry deserved first place. (This does keep losers from hurting the judges.) The prize for each winner was a free Friday night meal for two.

The party was still going strong when your correspondent left the Club about 9:30 that evening.



BYC Calendar of Events

April 2006

April 7—Dinner

April 14—Dinner

April 21—No Dinner

April 29—Dinner

April 2 Bay Spin 3:00 pm
 April 6 Watershore Advisory Meeting 5:30 pm at the Boaters' Facility
 April 10 Board Meeting 6:00 pm
 April 11 Ship One 5:30 to 7:00 pm
 April 16 Easter
 April 22 Cruise to Off the Hook
 April 29 Dinner and General Membership Meeting



May 2006

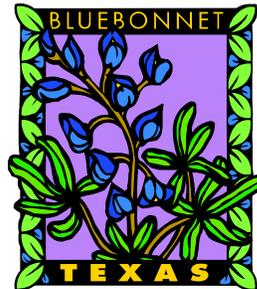
May 5—Dinner

May 12 —Dinner

May 19 -Dinner

May 26 —No Dinner—
Cruise

May 1 Board Meeting 6:00 pm
 May 4 Watershore Advisory 5:30 pm Boaters' Facility
 May 7 Bay Spin 3:00 pm
 May 9 Ship One 5:30—7:00 pm
 May 13 BYC Race
 May 21 USPS Classes—Boaters' Facility
 May 26 Cruise to Port O'Connor
 May 28 On to Key Allegro
 May 29 Memorial Day



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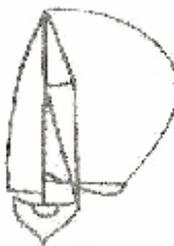
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