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Editor: Lisa Kelley
leezer45@yahoo.com

The Bowsprit

Commodore, Ed Bonner + Vice Commodore, Larry Haas + Rear Commodore, Walter Crawford

Commodore's Comments ... January 2008

Another busy Christmas and New Years have come and gone. What remains are a variety of special memories of the sights and sounds of the abundant number of BYC year-end activities and the wonderful and caring people we shared them with.

We also remember those special members and friends that passed away in 2007. They are recalled with love and a deep appreciation for their willingness to share themselves with us over the years. They often played essential roles in our personal lives and in the history of the BYC ... they will be deeply missed.

2007 was a year of growth in our Membership numbers. Our Cruising activity participation remained high and our Social committees continued to provide first class entertainment and dining experiences for all of us. Another pleasant surprise took place in our revitalized racing program which garnered greatly increased member interest and many positive comments from scores of local sailing club members. Most important is the fact that for the first time in several years a complete package of social and sailing activities became available at the BYC that had something for everyone to enjoy. Suffice it to say that with the arrival of our current package of programs little if anything more is needed for the club to retain and attract new members. The solid triple-base of social, cruising and fun racing should see our yacht club flourish well into the future.

New members are important to any club. Turnover, for a variety of reasons, causes us to be continually vigilant in our quest for new people to join us. That responsibility is shared by all members. Each of us is in a position to influence others that might have an interest in becoming a new BYC member, as we are often the first people approached on that subject. If we are excited about our club it is likely that other sailors will take notice. Asking them to come visit us at one of our weekend dinners, as our guests, is a perfect way for them to see us at our best. It is a good bet that after spending an evening with our enthusiastic members a great many of these interested sailors will make application for BYC membership. Bottom line ... well thought out and executed club programs and satisfied members lead to increased member retention and participation. And that leads to increased membership numbers. It all works together.

I greatly appreciate the outpouring of support from the many special people who lent me a hand in carrying out my duties this past year. Your sound suggestions and sincere wishes for success in refining our fun racing program were especially appreciated. Thank you, all.

In closing ... My accepting the responsibility of being your Commodore for 2008 will be another challenge that I will tackle 24/7 with measured enthusiasm and a strong commitment to do my best. If there is anything I or other members can assist you with to make your BYC experience more rewarding, please let us know.

There will be bumps in the road ahead, but, together, we will overcome them and only grow stronger in the process. Between us we have all that is necessary to make 2008 a memorable year for all BYC members ... one that will be looked back on with pride by those we served and by all who rolled up their sleeves and willingly lent us a hand.

Bev and I wish each of you a remarkable new year.

Warm regards,

Dr Ed Bonner
Commodore

Bay Yacht Club PO Box 404 Lawrence St. T-Head Corpus Christi, TX 78403 Ph: 361-884-8310

BYC People and Events ...

The AEP Texas Harbor Lights Festival competition saw our BYC Ship One Sea Scouts capturing 1st Place in the Sailboat Class and Best Overall in the Boat Parade for 2007. That took a remarkable amount of work on the part of the junior sailors and their diligent and multi-talented leaders, Phyllis and Jerry Vaughn. Well done everyone. All BYC is proud of your special efforts.

The BYC Christmas Toys for Tots campaign was a huge success for both the givers and those who received the gifts. Thanks go to all of you who contributed to this worthy campaign supported by the BYC.

The Vice Commodore's New Year's Eve Party was a fine success with some 58 people attending the party and most stayed for the entire evening. The hourly Champagne and Toasts were a real hit as were the always welcome door prizes. And, an impromptu Majic show left all of us in amazement. Hostess Bev Bonner prepared a delightful array of tasty snacks that lasted right up until Midnight when the last meatball was whisked away by a hungry party person. Thank you, Bev, and helpers from all of us. This was a truly grand BYC evening to remember and a member participation success of the first order.

The January 1st Past Commodores Breakfast always ushers in the new season of activities at BYC. Judging from all the hungry and smiling members sharing breakfast, 2008 is going to continue the participation successes that all of our events shared in 2007. Joining us at the party were past Commodore's Charlie Orr ('78) and Chuck Kernick ('81) and their wives, JoAnn and Judy. They all seemed very happy to be visiting their old BYC friends even if only for a few hours.

The cooks for this year's breakfast were: Hal Peterson, Ed Klash, Bob McNeill, Joe Blair, Jerry Vaughn, Phyllis Vaughn, Jake Jacobsen, D.B. Kline, Jim Whitworth and Larry Frank. Thank you all for your fine efforts. What a grand BYC Tradition this event has become over the years.

Karl and Jan Stein have given up their membership in BYC and CCYC. We hope that when they return from their year of cruising that they will consider being a part of BYC once again. We wish them a safe and happy voyage.

Many of you will be glad to hear that fun Cruising Class sailboat racing is solidly back on board at the BYC as a regular sailing program. It is hoped that you will enjoy this year's mix of events. Of special note is the fact that the majority of our race dates will now be "open" to participation with our neighboring sailing club members for the first time in nearly 10 years. Come join in the fun and see for yourself.

Membership notes ... December saw us welcome two new couples to BYC membership. Johnny & Cynthia Huddleston and Patrick & Kathy David are now a part of the BYC family. Both couples are looking forward to sharing our sailing and social activities in 2008. A warm BYC welcome aboard to all of you.



NEW YEAR EVE'S PARTY COUPLES



**BYC PAST COMMODORE'S
BREAKFAST**

Racing

The 2008 racing schedule offers a variety of events. Yachts from neighbor clubs will be invited to compete in three BYC Top Gun Saturday morning races plus the Memorial Day and Turkey Day Regattas.

The TDR, Port A Race, Lighthouse Race and Round the Bay Race count for Coastal Bend Cup points. Our Saint Patrick Day Race and Commodore's Cup (a.k.a., drag-race-to-Bahia) are exclusively for BYC members. Four of the races are point-to-point. Our members can race, cruise or drive to the destination for after-race festivities and the associated telling-of-tall-tales. The Saturday races are a continuation of Commodore Ed's "Top Gun" races of last year. The format is a two or three hour round-the-buoys race in the morning followed by lunch and camaraderie at the downtown watering hole of our choice. What could be better? More on each event as the date approaches.

Our races are intended to be stress free and fun. If you have never raced your yacht before, consider joining us on the starting line.

Date	Event	Host
Mar 15	St Patrick's Day Race	BYC
Apr 12	BYC Saturday Series	BYC
Apr 26 - 27	Port Aransas Race (CBC)	CCYC
May 17	Memorial Day Regatta	BYC
Jun 14	BYC Saturday Series	BYC
Jul 19	Lighthouse Race (CBC)	RYC
Aug 2 & 3	Navy Regatta	CCYC / BYC
Aug 30	Commodore's Cup	BYC
Sep 27	Round the Bay Race (CBC)	PIYC
Sep 30	Offshore Race	RYC
Oct 18	BYC Saturday Series	BYC
Nov 15	Turkey Day Regatta (CBC)	BYC



Cruisin' & Schmoozin'

"They ask me what I like about Texas." The fact that we can go sailing in January is a good place to start.

We're looking forward to another wonderful year of sailing/motoring the beautiful waters of the Texas Coastal Bend. (A momentary pause to reflect on our poor brethren who have chosen to live in a place that is not conducive to year round sailing.)

We will be posting the BYC Cruise Schedule soon so everyone can mark their calendar. I have added some additional cruises to this year's calendar, and I am looking for volunteers to be "Host Boat" (aka Mother Ship) as well as your input regarding upcoming cruises.

So let's get it started with the BYC Frost Bite Cruise to Port Aransas on January 26th & 27th. This has always been a roll of the dice weather wise; but a fun excursion none the less. For the "water way cruisers" you will want to make reservations for a dock at the Port A. municipal marina. For the "land cruisers" please come over to the marina and join in the fun (maybe help shuttle the boat dwellers to or from dinner).

We will be dining at the locally famous Jay's Seafood and Spaghetti Works around 18:00 (That's 6:00 p.m.) I will post the cruise on the board for RSVP's so I can give Jay an approximate head count.

"That's why we wander and follow La Vie Dansante."

Ron Hebert
BYC Cruise Dude
S / V La Vie Dansante



A Very Few Words From the Past Commodore

Hello all. By now you have hopefully recovered from the "joys of Christmas Spirit, The excesses of New Years, and taken down the decorations. I'm just assuming that we all had a good time at the V.C.'s New Years Party and nobody was poisoned at the Past Commodores Breakfast.

My last "official" acts as an officer of BYC is to host the upcoming Installation Banquet at the Officer's Club at the Naval Air Station. Please plan on being there to show how you look dressed up and to welcome the new officers and directors to their duties. We will meet the new Chair people for the various committees that make out club the place we want to play. We have mailed out the invitations and if for some reason you haven't received yours.....Please let us know at either jjandji@nctv.com, or 830-693-5119. Please also take the time to RSVP to the same places as we need to inform the caterers and the Navy just who is going to be trying to get thru the gate.

I want to thank all the members, new and long standing alike for all the help and understanding afforded me and Jenny during our tenure as Commodore and Ms Commodore during 2006. When asked if I would consider running for that office, I told the "committee" that I was honored but they would probably be better served by a local member instead of a still working nut that lived 230 miles away. I was told that I would get plenty of help, and I have from everyone. I told them that I didn't want to screw up everything and be remembered as the worst Commodore in memory, but maybe the most entertaining. They promised that I probably wouldn't be the worst ever. You will have to judge the entertainment value. I have had a lot of fun acting the part of titular leader of one of the most generous and fun loving peoples that I have crossed paths with in my life. I will continue to be a constant fixture at the club and be involved with the Board of Directors for 08 and in the care/repair/maintenance of our club.

Come out and play often, come out and sail with us whenever you can. There is always room on the Honky Voodoo for a few more and don't be shy about asking for a ride.

Past Commodore,
Jake Jacobsen
S/V Honky Voodoo

BYC 2008 VICE COMMODORE'S NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY



BYC Calendar of Events

January 2008

Jan 1 – 8:00 am Past Commodore’s Breakfast

Jan 5—5:30 pm Board Meeting.

Jan 12 – 6:00 Installation Party at NAS

Jan 26—BYC Frost Bite Cruise to Port Aransas
Jan 27—Return Home

February 2008

February 2 - Board Meeting and BYC Din-

BYC Valentines Day Dinner Party

Feb 23-24—Port “A” Cruise

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