

March 2008  
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www.bayyachtclub.org  
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# The Bowsprit

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



## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS ... March 2008

Greetings everyone!

February was a busy month and much planning on the repairs to the clubhouse is underway. Rear Commodore Walt Crawford and many BYC volunteers stand ready to get to work as soon as a thorough diagnosis of our actual needs has been completed. The clubhouse repairs will provide many of you with an opportunity to show us what you can do with your mechanical and decorating talents. So, limber up your muscles for some fun rebuilding and redecorating this spring at the BYC. The load will be lighter on everyone for your lending a hand.

The St Valentines Day wine tasting party and art auction was both enjoyable and informative. The finger food was excellent and the club added a few hundred dollars to the treasury. As the newer members are becoming aware, the BYC is alive with sailing and social programs that are designed to suit almost everyone. As a result, more and more members are attending almost all of our activities. Bottom line ... The BYC family is growing closer together and increasing in number. There can be no more accurate indicator that the BYC is holding the right course for the times we live in.

Fast forward to the PIYC cruise this past weekend. I had the pleasure of sailing over and back with our BYC "Cruise Dude", Ron Hebert, aboard *La Vie Dansante*. I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of the sailing (and motoring) and the delightful party atmosphere of this memorable cruise weekend. Suffice it to say that the PIYC's legendary hospitality was most agreeably on display all weekend. We will share two more weekends with our PIYC friends this year. Try to join us for these events if you can. And, check out Ron's article for more details on the PIYC cruise weekend and more.

March 15<sup>th</sup> is the date for the 2008 BYC St. Patrick's Day Regatta. For those of you with a penchant for friendly Cruising Class yachting competition, this first BYC racing event of the year will be a must-attend activity. Members of all experience levels that would like to crew will find many suitable positions available at every event.

Race Chairman, Jim Robertson, has drawn up an exciting schedule of 7 BYC races this season. There will be 3 Saturday morning "Top Gun" events with post race downtown lunches and 4 regular regattas with silver trophies and a post-race dinner at the club or race destination.

2008 is going to be another landmark year for BYC and for all our members. We are seeing increased attendance at our social and our sailing functions this spring and this should lead to ever increasing numbers of new members as the year unwinds.

Keep in mind that each of us is a member of the BYC Membership Committee. I hear so often that our enthusiasm for our club is apparent in our conversations with non-members looking for a special yacht club to be a part of. It is this pride of being a BYC member that comes across as we talk with people. Our passion builds interest in our club and in the wide array of activities that we provide. Keep up the good work ... and pat yourself on the back every time you introduce a guest or a potential new member at one of our dinners. After all, "it's your effort that makes all we share possible."

Ed Bonner  
BYC Commodore  
S/V Thunder Chicken

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## BYC PEOPLE AND EVENTS ... March 2008

- The Butler's have a new cruising sailboat to enjoy and it had its first cruise outing at last weeks PIYC cruise and party. The boat is a Beneteau 331 and is named *Eau de Vie*. Richard and Terry really had her moving upwind on Saturday morning and were pointing with the best of them. Congratulations to the both of you.
- Hal Peterson has a new jib on *Warrior* and he is all smiles when asked how it performed upwind last Saturday morning. The fact that he was the first boat to arrive is another indication that he is serious about his racing this year.
- Sharon Blair is recovering nicely from her recent operation and Joe says she will be out running around BYC with the best of them in no time.
- Chip and Brenda Spence have their eyes firmly focused on a larger boat and thus their fine sailing Pearson 303, *Chip N Dip* is up for sale.
- Brenda Spence and Judy Crawford are always on the lookout for cooks to show off their culinary talents. This is a fun way of sharing your favorite recipes with your fellow members who are always appreciative of everyone's efforts.
- Kudos to Chris Colley for tackling the job of sprucing up the BYC front door. He is determined to overcome the wind and the sprinkles in order to complete his varnishing duties in the weeks ahead. If Ms Gracie's teak is any indicator, we are going to love the final result. Thanks Chris!
- New door locks are going to be added to the two downstairs wooden doors later this spring. The new combination will be sent to each of you when the time comes. Changing door lock combinations every year or two is one way of doing our part to protect our club and make it more secure.
- The City Marina is in the final stages of implementing a new surveillance system to add further security for our boats and our clubhouse. After that is up and working, a new electronic pass card system will be installed on all marina gates that is tied to the camera system. We will keep you informed on their progress.
- Bev Bonner is getting her 2008 photo album started and the photos will be ready for viewing in a few weeks from now.
- Along that line ... I would like to thank everyone who has been forwarding emailed photos of our parties and weekend events this spring. The number and quality has been just excellent and provides our Bowsprit editor and our Historian with lots of photos to choose from.
- Have you noticed the new City Marina flagpole located in the center of the Lawrence St. T-Head near the seawall? It can be seen from Shoreline and just sparkles in the sunlight. This was a gift to the Marina from several old time sailors who added a few conditions as to its use. One of these conditions prevents any commercial or yacht club flags to fly on it, which is a bit of a disappointment to some of us. Nevertheless, it will carry our nation's flag, our state flag and several marina flags. Additional landscaping and cement work is planned this spring.
- Thanks to Bob and K Jack for acting as the anchor boat at the Spinnaker Hole last weekend. *Rima* supported the rafting-up of *La Vie Dansante* and *Eau de Vie*. In addition, they graciously gave me a complete tour of the boat and added additional historical information that I greatly enjoyed. Thank you both.
- Another thanks goes out to Larry and Carla Frank for the "refreshing" dinghy ride from the Spinnaker Hole to the PIYC dock. There is nothing like a refreshing wave over the bow from a speeding power boat to wake up your senses.
- The Membership numbers for this month read: Active-59, Student-5, Cruising-8, Life-1 and the Kelly's were awarded an Honorary status by the Board last month, which brings our totals to 75 memberships.

Note: If you have any BYC related newsy tidbits that are fit to print, please forward them to me by the middle of every month. I will make every effort to see that they get into the Bowsprit ... sooner or later. If anyone cares to take over this fun column, please call and let's discuss your ideas.

Ed Bonner





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## St. Patrick's Day Race March 15, 1008

The Club's 2008 racing season will kick-off with the St. Patrick's day race on Saturday, March 15. The race will start at 1:30 p.m. off the Lawrence Street "T" head and last approximately 3 hours. An Irish theme dinner and trophy presentation will follow. Without a doubt, Captain Keg will ensure the beverages are plentiful and appropriately tinted.

The race will be non-spinnaker 150 class open to any Club member. If enough boats come out to play, we'll divide the fleet into "A" and "B" classes based on PHRF handicap. So skippers, organize your crews and plan on a memorable day on the bay and evening at the club.

Folks who want to crew may show up at the BYC about noon on March 15th and we'll find you a spot. This is a terrific way for people with little racing experience to become familiar with this exciting sport. If you can pull on a rope and more-or-less tell the "pointy end" from the "flatty end", you qualify! Don't be shy. I expect as many as a dozen boats may enter, so rest assured we'll find a place for everyone. Just bring a cheerful spirit and a change of clothes so that you can enjoy the party in dry comfort and make some memories ... that's all there is to it.

For those who prefer to be spectators, bleachers at the Start-Finish line provide just the spot to catch all the action and watch the seagulls and pelicans diving for a snack. Bring binoculars, sunscreen and a camera for photos. Sailboat racing does not get any closer to the spectators than it does in Corpus Christi.

I hope to see all of you at the BYC on March 15th for this event. Registration 12:00 to 12:30 followed immediately by the Skipper's meeting.

Oh, I almost forgot. Be sure to bring something with an Irish theme to wear at the dinner party and awards presentation. Everyone is Irish at least one day out of the year. Right? Let's make the most of it.

*Slainte!*

Jim O'Robertson  
BYC Race Chairman

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## Ship One Update

This year began with the BYC Installation of Officers Banquet where our own Andrew Kramer was awarded the Young Yachtsman Of The Year award. There were three crew members and their families in attendance. With the onset of winter and water temperatures dropping more time has been spent on Calamari. Everyone's skills have been improving and the new sailors have figured out a sloop won't turtle like a Sunfish.

We welcome aboard new member Tyler Rudy. He is a student at King High School where he plays golf. Tyler also enjoys paint ball but sailing is quickly taking precedence. He appears to be a natural on the helm.

At our February Crew Meeting it was decided we would change our regular monthly meeting to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. We will be doing most of our sailing and Marina service hours on Sunday afternoons for the month of March. During Spring Break we will probably be at the dock everyday. One of those days will be an all day fishing trip on NoETA.



Phyllis Vaughn  
NoETA

## CRUISIN' MARCH 2008

*“Somewhere; out on the sea. Somewhere; waiting for me.  
My lover stands on golden sands, and watches the ships as they go sailing.”*

Once again, the weather could not have been better for the BYC voyage to join with our “Brethren of the Coast” (PIYC). I believe that the good weather we have had for our cruises this year has been a test; and as long as we take advantage of it with huge turn outs our luck will hold out. (And they say that sailors are a superstitious lot.)

With an excellent showing of members from the BYC by both land and sea, the gathering could not have been finer; with our host providing for our every need on both Saturday and Sunday. The smorgasbord of food and drink for both dinner and breakfast was outstanding. The only thing that made it better was the camaraderie of like minded people as ourselves. (I guess that now the PIYC is aware that I am battling to overcome my fear of making a fool of myself in public.)

A special BYC tip of the hat and salute to the PIYC and especially to Charlene and Augie for working with me on this event. We are looking forward to our joint cruise on September 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> as well as our reciprocal gathering in October.

The mighty vessels of the BYC fleet making the journey to the island included: *Concerto, Eau de Vie, Honky Voodoo, La Vie Dansante, Mango Moon, Ms. Gracie, Perfect Partner, Ragtime, Rima, Warrior, and, Wind Swept.* With half of the fleet anchoring in Spinnaker Hole, the group of dinghies making the run to the dock looked like some sort of commando raid. Again, the weather could not have been much better for sleeping on a boat. I know that out on the hook, I laid in my cockpit enjoying several glasses of wine, watching the clouds moving past the full moon, and listening to the sounds of crickets, frogs, and the distant horns of the drilling platforms that lay offshore. What a night. (Perhaps we will do an “anchor out” there this fall.)

The weather was so nice that John Huddleston of *Concerto* decided (or should I say, he had it decided for him) to go for a swim on Sunday morning. (Those darn mullets; always playing practical jokes like pulling your anchor trip line under your boat.) Hey John, just in case you didn't check before you went in (I know I wouldn't have for fear of it stopping me), I turned on my instruments while you were in the water; it was a refreshing 65.8 Deg.

This brings me to upcoming events. Clear your schedule for the next BYC cruise on March 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> to Crab-N at City by the Sea. This has always been a fun trip and a great dining experience. The one thing I would like to see different this year is **more boats**. (Remember my hypothesis regarding the good weather; let's not jinks it.) Yes I'm aware it's a small dock. That's why rafting up was invented. Let's show them what the BYC is made of and let's take over the place with all flags flying. “Yo Ho. Yo Ho. A pirate's life for me.”

*Ron Hebert  
S/V La Vie Dansante*



### RIMA





# St. Patrick's Day Bash Sat. March 15



Put on your green and come to the club for some Irish Stew and a lot of fun. Dinner will be topped off with dessert and Irish coffee.

Bring a picture of yourself over 5years old and include six obscure facts about yourself on the back. Everyone will be trying to guess the identity of the person in the picture. Scuttlebutt has it that there will be singing of traditional Irish songs and prizes for a variety of things. This should be a lot of fun so make plans to be there.

## MARDI GRAS 2008



**RON AND JO HEBERT AND BEAUTIFUL GRANDDDAUGHTER**



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"THE JOKER"**

## MORE PIYC PHOTOS!!!!!!!!!!!!



Bob & Rita



Warrior - First to Arrive Saburday



Ron Hobert & Jenny Jackson



Carla Frank & Cynthia Huddleston

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## BYC History



Left to Right: Former BYC Members Bob Forest , his wife Past Commodore Charlene Forest and Bill & Peggy Fairey.

Bob Forest designed the Bay Yacht Club Plaque and sent the plans to a Navy friend stationed in the Philippines who had the full size Plaque hand carved. That Plaque was mounted on the outside of the old BYC clubhouse and took a beating in the elements. It was finished off by hurricane Allen in 1980. Sometime later, Bill & Peggy Fairey visited the PI and had the new and improved plaque carved and shipped back.

Three smaller plaques were also made during their visit. Bill & Peggy have the one in the picture and Charlene & Bob the second. It is not known who has the third plaque.

As a matter of interest, the small plaques cost \$5.00 each to make.

By D.B. Kline

# BYC Calendar of Events

## March 2008

1 March—BYC Dinner

7 March—BYC Fish Fry

15 March —BYC Irish Dinner



1st— BYC Board Meeting, 5:30 PM  
 7th —BYC Fish Fry Dinner  
 9th— Daylight Savings Time Begins  
 17th— St Patricks Day  
 15th— BYC St Patricks Day Regatta  
 20th— Spring Begins  
 21st— Good Friday  
 29th—Cruise to Crab “N”

## April 2008

5 April— Dinner

12 April— Pier Party

19 April General Membership Dinner

25 April --Dinner

5th— BYC Board Meeting, 5:30 PM  
 12th—BYC Top Gun Race  
 19th —General Membership Meeting, 6:00 PM  
 24th/25th/26th/27th — Texas International Boat Show



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