

BOWSPRIT 2012

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Walter Crawford—Commodore

Commodore's Watch

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Commodore's Watch, Bowsprit, May 2012

The Bay Yacht Club is thriving with more activities than we can all do, several new members, and it is so exciting. Please join me in thanking each and every Committee Chairperson, and the committee members that are producing the Club's activities and related enthusiasm.

The Poker and Bunco participation is increasing, and the Poker group decided to add the Bunco night to the schedule to give "hubbies" something to do when the spouses are playing Bunco. Turns out to be a pretty good idea as the girls seem to do a spread of food to kill for, and it's only snacks. None the less, the guys seem to be happy with a bowl of popcorn and a beer(S) and maybe a sneaky sampling of the special snacks. The new projector and screen are getting a good work out and large participation for movie nights. We may have to invest in a "surround sound system", popcorn machine, poker tables, etc. to support these new activities.

Several members participated in the Port A race, and the "ladies at the helm" return race on Sunday. The cruise for this month to Shamrock Cove had to be cancelled due to nearly gale force winds - bummer. The education program this month was fog signals, mooring, docking, and generally maneuvering techniques. It is amazing how much can be learned by both novice and seasoned sailors. The planning and participation for the Greek Islands charter sail this summer is coming right along with two yachts now full of enthusiastic sailors. There is still time to fill a third vessel. . .

The General Membership meeting was well attended and unanimous votes were cast for all subjects presented. Please welcome and congratulate Melissa Bowen as a "lifetime" member of the Bay Yacht Club. The membership unanimously supported the Clubhouse relocation committee plan to move the Clubhouse to the Lawrence Street T-Head where the Marina offices were, and to fund the program with available war chest cash and 10yr. notes to club members. The next step is the Marine Advisory Committee presentation first week of May.

The May Schedule of Activities is quite full and we will hopefully have better sailing winds to support the BYC Series #1 Race, the monthly cruise which is associated with the first ever (I think) Cruise Week, and the Pier Party. We will also have the traditional Mother's Day Social, dinners, movies, Bunco, Poker.

Thanks to everyone for making the Bay Yacht Club enjoyable, entertaining, and educational to all members. Please be sure to regularly check the calendar of events on the website, www.BayYachtClub.org.

See you on the water, the piers, and at the Clubhouse.

Cheers,
Walt
Commodore
S/V Endless Summer

Rear Commodore/Membership News

From the Rear Commodore:

A change of pace for you, I will take this opportunity to float an idea to the membership that I have discussed with several members.

For all who own boats, we find ourselves irregularly in need of specialty tools that will only be used once or twice. Purchasing these tools is costly and then we store them for the next infrequent use or loan.

Ultimately, I would like to ask the club to begin purchasing some of the more exotic items. However, prior to doing so, I would like to compile a list of specialty tools owned by members who are interested in loaning them. It goes without saying, if you borrow a tool from any source and it falls overboard (you know the two bounce program) YOU will replace it.

I will compile and publish the member owned list and then ask all to suggest additions. Our more experienced repair specialist will have a better idea than I will as to what might be needed. I usually use channel locks and vice grips until someone advises there is a tool made to do what you are doing.

So here is the start: I have a sailrite snap and grommet tool for the list.

Email SpenceChip@aol.com with your contribution.

A tool loaning program can only be of benefit to our membership and possibly a selling point for new members.

BYC Bunco/Poker Night ** Apr 25



The 2012 Calendar
of Events is now
posted on the BYC
website.

[Check It Out!](#)

We had a group of 11 ladies to play Bunco this month! We were a pretty noisy bunch as usual!! I think we may have stolen Kerry from the Poker group! She won 11 out of 16 games and got \$20.00 !! Judy was the next big winner of \$14.00 with the most Buncos! We had really really good snacks too!! If you have not been playing with the group, you have been missing a lot of fun .
Our next Bunco date will be May 16th. Put it on your calendar!
I will send a reminder as the time draws near. Let's try for 4 tables with NO Ghost next month!!

Cynthia Huddleston

April 25th proved to be an exciting end of the month for Poker Night. Walt was down to his last 15 cents. He went all in and won; he then play out a Grand Finale winning the last hand over Sharon Blair to beat her two Jacks with four Fives. Andy Horner placed first, Walt Crawford, second, and Chip Spence, playing for the first time, came in third. Jim Whitworth, Ben Blair, also ran to round out a game with five players. Poker night comes twice a month now. Being on the second Tuesday of the month and the second game of the month is on the same night as Bunco. The women bring much better snacks than the men. So come and try your luck; it really is fun.

Warm Regards, Joe Blair

BYC Cruise from Athens ** Aug 2012

BYC CRUISE TO GREECE

by Jim Whitworth, Charter Cruise Chairman

As Charter Cruise Chairman, I've enjoyed setting up a charter for anyone interested. The plan is that we fly to Athens, then there will be a 30 minute taxi ride to the marina where we will check out our sailboat. The charter will be Saturday to Saturday, August 25 to September 1, 2012.

The cost is just under \$2000 per cabin (for two people). Getting there can be with miles on your airline, or check out Turkish Airline, as they may have the best price for air tickets. We plan to sail with Sunsail Yacht Charters, a reputable international company. You can check them out at www.sunsail.com to see the boats available and more information about the area. If we get enough people to sign up, we can get more boats and make it a regatta. Sylvia and I have chartered with BYC members twice to the British Virgin Islands and once to the Grenadines, and everyone has had a wonderful time each time. We've also chartered with Captains in Turkey and Australia, and enjoyed the experience.

So far we have three people for sure, and two more have cleared their calendars and are working on their miles. Non-members of BYC are encouraged to come too. A bare-boat charter just means that you get a nice, new sailboat with lots of extras, everything works (or they will fix it), and there is no hired captain or crew. We will do all the sailing, cooking, and housekeeping. The general plan will be to get up in the morning, admire the beautiful water and scenery, have breakfast on the boat, decide which beautiful island to visit next, then pull anchor and sail a few hours (like to Port A or closer) to the next island, where we will swim, shop, check out the local activities, have cocktails in the cockpit, and either fix dinner on board or have dinner at a local restaurant. Then sleep in our comfortable cabin for the night. Repeat.

So if you are interested or want more information, call Jim Whitworth at 215-27325 or e-mail at jimwhit@hotmail.com. I'll be happy to talk with you.

Wine tasting social ** Mar 31

The wine tasting social was a big hit! We toured Italy, France, US, Australia and Chile tasting both wine and food from each country. Everyone had their own favorites! The watermelon with feta cheese from Australia and the Chilean artichoke and jalapeño dips were the favorites in the food category. Watch your calendars for beer tasting in the fall.

Our next social event will Mother's Day, wonder what the guys have in store to treat us gals?



Upcoming Events!

- May 1 Poker Night
- May 5 Rockport Nautical Flea Market
- May 5 Pier Party
- May 12 BYC Series Race
- May 12 Mothers Day Social
- May 16th Bunco/Poker Wednesday
- May 19-20 Lighthouse Regatta Cruise
- May 21-25 Cruise Week
- May 26-27 Spinnaker Hole Cruise
- Wed Nights MORF Races

Safety Corner

In my flying days, I learned a lot from a column in FLYING magazine called “I learned about flying from...”

Well, the similarities between flying and sailing are remarkable. As much as I learned from the mistakes of others in my aviation days, I am learning as much or more hearing about and witnessing the mistakes of others in the sailing community. But never fear, I am perfectly capable of making huge, costly mistakes without the help of others.

That is the goal of this article, to help you. I would never do THAT, you say. Well, I hope not, learn from me.

On a somewhat benign Valentine’s Day, BYC was sponsoring a race. The crew I had recruited, three Naval Aviators, looked at the weather and had decided they needed to spend their morning studying aviation stuff instead of tinkering with light wind and reduced visibility (they knew how to read the weather forecasts). This is where my adventure starts. I arrived for the skipper’s meeting and had generally decided I wasn’t going to take Starfish out. Then I met a new sailor in town and he said he would sail with me. I will call him “Fred” to protect the innocent. Fred said he had some sailing experience and being a novice myself, I will take any experience I can find. I always brief my crew that if we do well, they get the credit and if we don’t, it is my fault. This day was no exception.

Fred and I prepped for the start and with a North wind picking up, it made tacking in the breakwater a requirement. We tacked several times and traversed between Joe’s Crab Shack and the pump out area several times. All looked in order. I dutifully, shut down my iron ginny at 4 minutes prior to the start flag as directed. Only later did I learn that the rule only means you cannot use propulsion, engine on and in neutral is permissible. As our start time neared, Starfish was on the western side of the breakwater setting up for a tack to the east and the start line. This is where the trouble began. I got slow in the tack and fell into irons. No problem, been there, done that. Starfish lost all headway and began to drift astern, no problem. I expected the bow to fall off and we would gibe around and try it again. But NOOO, this time, as we turn 90 degrees to the wind, Starfish found immediate headway, but I had no steerage. Never fear there is a concrete wall about 100 feet in front of us. Fred, hollered to start the engine and I looked down to do so. Key On, press starter button, and nothing happens. Oh, I forgot, I put the transmission in reverse for less drag, (remember, I’m a jet pilot and know about drag). But the engine won’t start in reverse. About the time I shifted to neutral, we impacted the wall. I didn’t think it was too hard. But little did I know. Fred went and looked at the bow and said, “Yep, you hit it. “



I turned over the helm and went to look for myself, wow! This is what I saw: Looks pretty bad, that’s what I thought. Ok, Back to the dock and back it in?; no, that is the chicken way out. I can take it. But I really got it. My first



whoop’ n I took like a man when I called Brenda and told her what happened. My second came when I wasn’t smart enough to heed Chris Colley’s advice and cover it up BEFORE Brenda saw it. Oh, well, I can take it. But for how long?

Today is March 27th, and the pain is over. Look at her now. ALL is better.

What did I learn?

Don’t sail, especially race short-handed.

Practice with your crew.

Don’t shut down the engine too early, put it in neutral.

When in irons in close quarters, RELEASE all the sheets.

Starfish is back in her slip, fresh bottom paint, polished hull and spic n span on the outside. I still have a few projects below.

Just in time for the Spring season, we (read that Brenda and I) will be looking for new adventures. What other “problem solving opportunities” will we find or create?

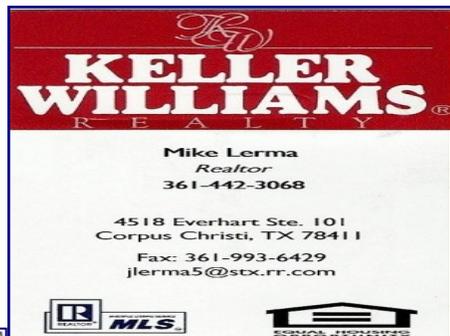
AS FOR NOW, I’m grounded from racing Brenda’s half of the boat. So if you need a crewman who is not totally inept, but has his moments, call me. (Thanks Chip Spence!)

May 2012

29 First quarter BYC Cruise	30	01 BYC Poker Night	02 MORF Race, 6:00 PM	03 Board Meeting	04	05 Rockport Nautical Flea Market Pier Party Social
06 Full moon	07	08	09 MORF Race, 6:00 PM	10	11	12 Last quarter BYC Series Race 1 Mother's Day Social
13	14	15	16 MORF Race, 6:00 PM	17	18	19 Lighthouse Regatta RYC Cruise Weekend
20 New moon Lighthouse Regatta RYC Cruise Weekend	21 Cruise Week	22 Cruise Week	23 Cruise Week MORF Race, 6:00 PM	24 Cruise Week	25 Cruise Week	26 Cruise to Spinnaker Hole
27 Cruise to Spinnaker Hole	28 First quarter Cruise to Spinnaker Hole	29	30 MORF Race, 6:00 PM	31	1 Friday Dinner	2



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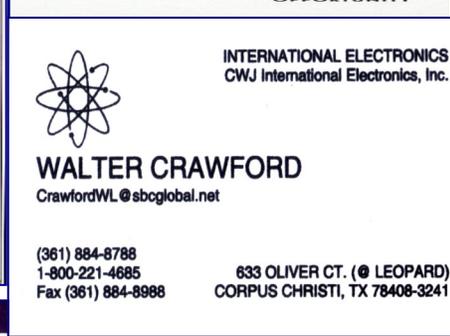


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