

BYC, 2007

**LAST YEAR'S BANQUET WAS HELD AT THE BASE, JUST FOR OLD TIMES SAKE,
OR MAYBE, TO HONOR AN OUT-OF-TOWN COMMODORE, JAKE.**

**YES, JAKE JACOBSON IS A MAN THAT SHOWED US MANY TALENTS,
AND IT TOOK MOST OF THEM JUST TO KEEP THE CLUB IN BALANCE.**

**HE HELPED RUN THE BYC ON AN EVEN KEEL.
I WOULDN'T HAVE MINDED IF WE WERE SAILING ON A SLIGHT HEEL.**

**JAKE'S METHOD OF COMMUNICATION IS NOT FOR THE BIRDS,
EVEN THOUGH IN THE BOWSPRIT, IT SAYS HE IS A MAN OF FEW WORDS.**

**HIS WRITTEN FORM CERTAINLY HAS STYLE,
AND THEN, IN HIS FACIAL EXPRESSION, THERE IS HIS SMILE.**

**SO, ALL IN ALL, JAKE'S COMMODORESHIP WAS REALLY OKAY.
ACTUALLY, BETTER THAN THAT, A TOTAL HURRAY.**

**MOSTLY, THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE SUGGESTS WHO SHOULD BE ELECTED.
BUT IN 1980, OFF THE FLOOR WAS HOW THE VICE COMMODORE WAS SELECTED.**

**AND IN THAT YEAR ED BONNER WAS HIS NAME.
HE AND THE 2007 VICE COMMODORE ARE THE SAME.**

**IT IS NOT OFTEN WHEN THE SAME PERSON HOLDS A TOP POSITION TWICE.
AND BOTH TIMES, ED WANTED IT AND WASN'T THAT NICE?**

**NOW, LET'S LOOK AT WHO WAS ELECTED AS THE 2008 COMMODORE,
IT IS ED BONNER AND HE WAS AGAIN ELECTED OFF THE FLOOR.**

**HOW DID THAT HAPPEN? DID A GROUP OF MEMBERS MAKE A MISTAKE?
YES, POSSIBLY, AND THEIR LEADER'S NAME WAS JAKE.**

**HEY, BUT, REALLY, EVERYTHING TURNED OUT JUST FINE,
AND MAYBE, THIS WAS ALL DONE BY JAKE'S DESIGN.**

**THE COOK OF THE 2006 YEAR WAS BILL CARRUTHERS, A SHOO-IN.
BY VOTING FOR HIMSELF SIX TIMES, HE MADE THE COMPETITION THIN.**

**BILL'S CLAIM TO FAME WAS A GREEN BEAN CASSOROLE WITH A SIRLION ROAST.
IT WAS A MEAL THAT UPON ANYONE COULD BOAST.**

**BRENDA STOCKTON RECEIVED THE COMMODORE'S TROPHY IN ABSENTEE.
IT WAS A DECISION THAT ON EVERYONE COULD AGREE.**

**JUDGE BLACKMON RECEIVED THE TERRY HARKRIDER AWARD.
WHAT HE DID WAS A MIXTURE OF HAVING FUN AND BEING HARD.**

**JERRY AND PHYLLIS TOOK OVER THE TEACHING OF THE SEA SCOUTS.
IT WAS COMPLICATED WITH ALL THOSE INS AND OUTS.**

AND LAST YEAR'S CRUISER OF THE YEAR WAS JIM AND MARTHA ISBELL.
THEIR TRIP FROM FLORIDA TO TEXAS TOOK QUITE A SPELL.

WHEN YOU ARE YOUNG YOU DON'T HAVE TIME FOR A TRIP LIKE THIS.
WHEN YOU ARE RETIRED IT IS SOMETHING YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO MISS.

IF SOMEHOW YOU CAN HAVE A FLEXABLE TIME TABLE,
THAT WILL HELP YOU HAVE A SAFE TRIP THAT'S MORE PLEASANT AND STABLE.

THE BYC'S SECRETARY WAS MELISSA BOWEN AND STILL IS.
TAKE NOTE OF THAT, BECAUSE AFTERWARDS THERE MAY BE A QUIZ.

THE TREASURER IN 2007 IS AGAIN THE TREASURER OF 2008.
IT IS BOB MCNEILL AND HE DOES THIS JOB GREAT.

DOES JAKE ALSO WANT TO BE THE COMMODORE OF THIS NEXT YEAR?
HE'S GOT ANOTHER POSITION TO GO TO AND THAT WILL BE HIS NEW CAREER.

THE POSITION WILL BE A PAST COMMODORE AND HE JOINS AN ELITE GROUP.
THERE WILL BE NEW DUTIES FOR HIM AND ENOUGH TIME TO RECOOP.

I CAN'T THINK OF A COMMODORE WHO COULD NOT MAKE THIS DESCENT,
AND HERE IS WHERE IT HAPPENS, THE LONG WAITED EVENT.

LAST YEAR WE LOST JOANNE MCNEILL, A WOMAN WE LOVED DEARLY.
SHE WAS ONE OF US AND WE WILL MISS HER SINCERELY.

AS IN MOST CLUBS THERE ARE THINGS GOING ON THAT YOU DON'T SEE.
THINGS THAT THROUGH COMMITTEES AND VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT BE.

WE COME AND SEE THE EFFECT OF THE ACTIONS OF A SELECTED FEW.
AS TO HOW IT ALL COMES ABOUT, MANY PEOPLE DON'T HAVE A CLUE.

SO, I WANT TO THANK ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE INVOLVED.
THOSE WHO TAKE ALL THE PROBLEMS AND MAKE THEM SOLVED.

IN 1970 FROM HURRICANE CELIA, WAS A GOOD STORM TO GO HIDE,
AND IN 1980 FROM HURRICANE ALLEN WE HAD AN EIGHT- FOOT TIDE.

THIS YEAR, WE HAD THREATS BUT THEY MISSED US AGAIN.
SO WE CAN BEST DESCRIBE OUR SITUATION AS A WIN-WIN.

FROM 1972, WHAT IS THE ONE THING THAT HAS CONSISTANTLY GROWN?
OUR AGES? YES, BUT IT'S THE SIZE OF OUR BOATS, THAT WE OWN.

THERE AREN'T MANY CRUISING BOATS IN THE CLUB THAT ARE SMALL.
THOSE WHO HAD A SMALL SLOOP, NOW MIGHT HAVE A LARGE YAWL.

AND WITH THE INCREASED LENGTH, MAYBE CAME AN INCREASED DRAFT.
BUT THINK OF ALL THE AMMENITIES OF THAT LARGER CRAFT.

AIR CONDITIONING, REFRIGERATION, HOT SHOWERS, LARGE BUNKS, HEAD ROOM.
SURELY, ALL THE ABOVE OUT WEIGHS THE SOMETIMES HEADACHES, I ASSUME.

HOWEVER, THE LARGER THE BOAT, THE MORE YOU SEE IT TIED AT THE PIER.
THAT THE SMALLER ONES ARE EASIER TO GET UNDERWAY IS PERFECTLY CLEAR.

**IN 2007, THE CLUB BECAME THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OLD.
AT THE START, MANY WEREN'T SURE HOW ALL OF THIS WAS GOING TO ENFOLD.**

**THERE ARE ONLY A FEW MEMBERS IN THE CLUB, WHO WERE THERE IN 1972.
LIKE, MY WIFE WHOSE MEMBERSHIP NUMBER WAS 15, SOMETHING I KNEW.**

**HAL PETERSON HAS BEEN REINOVATING HIS CAL 35.
AND THE TIME OF ITS READINESS WAS FINALLY TO ARRIVE.**

**I WAS OUT IN THE BLUFF AND WENT BY PAUL EARL'S BOAT YARD.
I SAW A BIG MAST OUT THERE AND SAW PAUL WORKING ON IT HARD.**

**PAUL SAID IT WAS HAL'S MAST AND IT WAS ABOUT READY TO GO.
PAUL'S WORK IS EXCELLENT. THIS IS ALSO SOMETHING THAT I KNOW.**

**I COULD JUST IMAGINE THIS WAS A MAJOR STEP IN MAKING WARRIOR READY.
SHORTLY AFTER THAT, HAL'S BOAT WAS SITTING IN THE SLIP LOOKING STEADY.**

**HERE IS A RACING STORY (MEMORIAL DAY) & IT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO YOU.
IT HAPPENED TO JAKE, BUT I BET THAT'S SOMETHING YOU KNEW.**

**AS JAKE MADE A GREAT START AND WAS JUST ABOUT TO CLEAR THE GAP,
HE LOOKED DOWN TO PLOT THE FIRST MARK FROM HIS RACING MAP.**

**THAT IS WHEN HE REMEMBERED IT WAS BACK IN THE CLUB ON A CHAIR,
AND THE POSITION OF THE FIRST MARK WAS..... WHERE?**

**SO, JAKE JUST HEADED OUT INTO THE BAY,
MEANWHILE, THE FLEET HEADED OUT A DIFFERENT WAY.**

**OH, WELL, FOLLOW THE LEADER, EXCEPT EARLIER THAT WAS HIM.
OKAY, FINE. FOLLOW THE NEW LEADER AND MAKE SURE THE SAIL IS IN TRIM.**

**ABOUT THE CRAB INN CRUISE, LET ME PUT YOU WISE.
THERE IS NO ELECTRICITY AVAILABLE THERE, SO YOU HAVE TO IMPROVISE.**

**BUT THERE IS GREAT FOOD THERE, ALONG WITH GOOD FELLOWSHIP
AND OVERALL, MAKING IT IS A GREAT CRUISING TRIP.**

**PROVIDED OF COURSE YOU DON'T GET BLOWN AWAY.
OVER FIVE BOATS MADE LAST YEAR'S CRUISE THAT DAY.**

**HEY, LET'S TALK ABOUT THE TEXAS INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW.
THEY HAVE A TEN-YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE CITY. DID YOU KNOW?**

**THEY WILL COME BACK FOR NINE MORE YEARS,
AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THEY WILL WANT VOLUNTEERS.**

**NOW THE CITY, MARINA, AND SOME ORGANIZERS WANT TO THANK US.
I THINK THERE WERE SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS, SOMETHING TO DISCUSS.**

**BUT IT SEEMED LIKE WE DID MORE THAN OUR SHARE OF THE WORK.
AND WE COULDN'T HELP IT IF SOMEONE WAS A JERK.**

**SOMEONE WAS TRYING TO FREE US UP FROM WHAT WE WERE ASKED TO DO.
THE QUESTION IS WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN ON YEAR NUMBER TWO?
I THINK WE WILL DO THE SAME BECAUSE THAT IS WHO WE ARE.
OUR RATING ON VOLUNTEERING IS A FIVE-STAR.**

**DID EVERYONE RECEIVE ED KLASH'S PIT BULL STORY BY EMAIL?
HE SAID IT TOOK PLACE IN FLOUR BLUFF AND IT WAS QUITE A TALE.**

**THE COMMODORE'S CUP? THE RACE WAS CANCELLED DUE TO CALM WEATHER.
THERE WAS HARDLY ENOUGH WIND OUT THERE TO BLOW A FEATHER.**

**AFTER TWO HOURS OF "RACING", THE FLEET WAS ONLY HALF WAY THERE.
SO, THEY PUT ON THEIR MOTORS AND THEY DID IT WITH FLAIR.**

**FINALLY, SUSAN II, PUT UP A CHUTE & HEADED OFF IN ANOTHER DIRECTION.
GOOD EXPERIENCE FROM IT, BUT LATER HAD TO MAKE A COURSE CORRECTION.**

**JAKE DIDN'T TRY FOR THE COMMODORES CUP, BUT HE TRIED ANOTHER THRILL.
THAT WAS COOKING AT THE INGLESIDE MARINA ON AN OPEN FACED GRILL.**

**THE FIRST PROBLEM WAS CHOOSING THE RIGHT PIT OR WRONG PIT.
HE IMMEDIATELY GOT INTO AN AGRUMENT WITH A LOCAL OVER IT.**

**HEY, NO MATTER. THERE WERE OTHER PITS TO CHOOSE FROM.
JUST GET STARTED ELSEWHERE AND HAVE A DRINK OF COOKING RUM.**

**ED BONNER OFTEN RACES WITH DAVID WILSON, ONCE A BYC MEMBER.
AS TO WHEN THAT ONCE WAS, NO ONE CAN CLEARLY REMEMBER.**

**SUCH A RACE WAS THE HARVEST MOON REGATTA FROM GALVESTON TO PORT A.
OTHER BOATS GOING WERE GRAY WOLF, WAVE DANCER, AND SUSAN II THAT DAY.**

**ACTUALLY THERE WERE OVER 250 BOATS TAKING PART IN THAT RACE.
MOST OF THE TIME, THESE YACHTS WERE MAKING A SLOW PACE.**

**ED AND DAVID WILSON'S GREAT CREW FINISHED SECOND IN CLASS D,
AND THEY ALSO FINISHED TENTH OVERALL IN THE ORC.**

**THE FRANK'S, ON GREY WOLF, FINISHED 14TH IN THE PINK CRUISING CLASS.
THAT WAS PRETTY GOOD WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE RACING MASS.**

**MAYBE WAVE DANCER AND SUSAN II WERE TESTING THE WATERS, SO TO SPEAK.
THEY DIDN'T FINISH, BUT I THINK THEY WERE WORKING ON THEIR TECHNIQUE.**

**JUST REMEMBER, THERE ARE BOAT OWNERS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A CREW.
WHETHER IT IS RACING OR CRUISING...WHATEVER YOU LIKE TO DO.**

**FOR CRUISING, THE BLAIRS ARE LOOKING FOR A CREW TO SAIL WITH THEM,
AND YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO KNOW HOW TO SWIM.**

**THE BONNERS AND CRAWFORDS REALLY LIKE TO RACE.
YOU CAN SAIL WITH THEM AND DO MORE THAN TAKE UP SPACE.**

**JUST SAY RACING. SAY IT AND SOME PEOPLE GO OFF IN A PANIC.
IT IS A TOUGH CHOICE. RACE OR BE ON THE TITANIC.**

WITH THE TITANIC, BACK AT THE DOCK YOU COULD ARRIVE,
BUT WITH RACING, WHO KNOWS IF YOU ARE GOING TO SURVIVE.
HEY, DON'T LISTEN TO ME. ED BONNER HAS TRIED TO MAKE RACING FUN,
AND IT ISN'T FOR A SELECTED FEW. IT IS FOR EVERYONE.

SO TO HELP GET THE BYC BOAT RACING STARTED AGAIN,
ED SAID YOU WOULD ENJOY IT IF YOU WOULD JUST BEGIN.

AND TO HELP, FAST EDDIE WILL SOMETIMES RACE WITH YOU.
FOR ED BONNER, IT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

THERE WAS A PARTY WHERE THE SUNFISH WERE THE MAIN EVENT.
LARRY HASS, THE REAR COMMODORE, ROLLED OUT HIS INTENT.

HIS RACE WAS BETTER KNOWN AS THE MILITARY SWEEP.
HEINER GAUTSCHI, REPRESENTING THE SWISS AIRFORCE, WON FIRST TO KEEP.

THERE WAS A CRUISE TO SHAMROCK COVE WITH THE WIND ON THE NOSE.
THE OPTIONS: SAIL BY TACKING ACROSS OR PUT THE MOTOR ON, I SUPPOSE.

THERE WAS SOME BAD WEATHER, BUT THE ANCHORAGE WAS GRAND.
A TRIP ASHORE WAS TAKEN TO THE BACK SIDE OF PADRE ISLAND'S SAND.

THERE IS FERNANDO CANTU CRUISING AROUND ON FOXEY ON THE GULF COAST.
IF YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE THIS, YOU TOO CAN BOAST.

IF NOT, YOU COULD PLAN A CRUISE OF YOUR OWN.
YOU COULD DO IT ONCE YOUR SAILING EXPERIENCE HAS GROWN.

AH, THE MEMBERSHIP, WE GAINED SOME AND LOST SOME, TOO.
IT IS ALL PART OF THE SITUATION THAT WE GO THROUGH.

WE NOW HAVE LOTS OF SAILBOATS WITH A FEW POWER BOATS.
IT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER SO LONG AS WHAT YOU HAVE FLOATS.

I ASKED JOE BLAIR ABOUT THE NAVY REGATTA AND HOW IT DID RATE.
AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION HE FINALLY SUMMERIZED BY SAYING IT WAS GREAT.

I THINK IT WAS IN AUGUST WHEN I INSULTED THE MAIN COOK.
I HAD COME ON THE PIER B ON AN ERRAND AND TO TAKE A LOOK.

THAT IS WHEN I HAPPENED TO RUN INTO THAT NIGHT'S COOK, LARRY HASS.
HE SAID HE WOULD BE INSULTED IF I WEREN'T THERE & IT WOULD BE A LOSS.

I GUESS IT WAS A LOSS, BECAUSE I COULDN'T STAY.
I REMEMBERED IT, BUT DON'T KNOW IF HE REMEMBERED THAT DAY.

PAT AND GWEN KELLY SOLD THEIR PEARSON TO CHIP & BRENDA SPENCE.
MOVING THE BOAT TO THE MARINA FROM PADRE ISLAND MADE SENSE.

AS WELL AS CHANGING THE NAME FROM SOURJOURN III TO CHIP & DIP
AS TO WHO IS THE DIP, I THINK IT IS A SUBJECT I WILL FOR NOW SKIP.

CHIP SPENCE TOLD ME THE PEARSON 303 NOW SEEMS A BIT SMALL.
HEY, IF HE WANTS A LARGER BOAT, IT IS HIS CALL.

HE HAS BEEN LOOKING AT THE ELISSA OR MAYBE A CATALINA 36.
HE'LL GET EITHER ONE OR THE OTHER, WHATEVER HE PICKS.

IN SEPTEMBER, ANOTHER LIGHT AIR RACE STARTED OUT ON THE BAY.
THE FACT IS IT'S A LOT HARDER TO RACE IN LIGHT WINDS IS NOT HEARSAY.

IN OCTOBER WAS THE LAST TOP GUN RACE THAT ENDED WITH A MEAL
SIX RACERS APPROACHED THIS RACE WITH ZEAL.

IT WAS HAL PETERSON WHO CAME IN THE FIRST POSITION.
AND JIM ROBERTSON CAME IN SECOND IN A CLOSE CONDITION.

JAKE CAME IN FIFTH, BUT HE DIDN'T COME IN LAST.
I FIGURE THERE WAS AT LEAST ONE BOAT THAT HE PASSED.

AND JUST IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD.
IT WAS ED BONNER SAILING WITH LARRY FRANK THAT CAME IN THIRD.

THAT JUST LEAVES THE FOURTH POSITION, IF YOU HAVE BEEN KEEPING TRACK.
MARK HILLER ON ODAYCIOUS FILLED UP THE SLACK.

I TALKED TO A MEMBER OF THE PIYC THAT SAILED TO THE BYC.
HE SAID HE GOT A GREAT DEAL ON A SLIP, EVEN FLEW HIS BURGEE.

HE HAD A GREAT SAIL OVER, HAD A GREAT TIME THERE.
HE HAD TO MOTOR BACK BECAUSE OF THE LIGHT AND HEAD-ON AIR.

HIS NAME WAS BOB FOREST, WHOSE WIFE IS CHARLENE.
THEY ARE FORMER MEMBERS, ONE A COMMODORE, WHO MADE THE SCENE.

CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF, THE DYNAMIC DOU IS NOT ROBIN & BATMAN.
IT IS HAL PETERSON AND DEITER JURGENS, COOKING WITH A PLAN.

WHEN WE ELECTED NEW CLUB OFFICERS, THAT IS THE NIGHT THEY STRUCK.
I DON'T THINK IT WAS BROILED LOBSTER OR EVEN ROAST DUCK.

BUT IT WAS POTATOES WITH GRAVY AND MUNICH STYLED ROAST PORK.
SO DELICIOUS, SO TENDER, YOU COULD EAT IT WITH A FORK.

BRENDA STOCKTON MOVED TO HOUSTON FOR A ST. THOMAS MARRIAGE VOW.
LISA KELLY HAS BECOME THE BOWSPRIT EDITOR NOW.

AND FOR BACKUP, THEY ALWAYS CAN DEPEND ON DESOND BARTHAMEW KLINE.
FOR NEW SELECTED EDITORS, HE IS THEIR LIFELINE.

NOW I'M NOT SAYING THAT STEVE BOLIN LOOKS GOOD IN A DRESS.
BUT ON A NOVEMBER DINNER HIM WEARING AN APRON..WELL..THAT..YES.

HE SERVED UP MEATLOAF, SALAD, AND MACARONNI WITH CHEESE.
YOU COULD GET THE MACARRONI IN A HOT OR HOTTER VERSION, IF YOU PLEASE.

THE DINNER RON HERBERT PREPARED WAS JUMBOLIA, EXCELLENT NO DOUBT.
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A SMALL CROWD, THEY STILL RAN OUT.

ON THE LIGHTHOUSE CRUISE SEVERAL SAILORS LEFT EARLY FRIDAY AFTERNOON.
IN NOVEMBER THERE IS NOT THE SAME DAYLIGHT AS THERE IS IN JUNE.

**IN 2006, IT WAS TOO WINDY & IN 2007 WE HAD LACK OF WIND OR TOO MUCH RAIN.
AS FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE CRUISE IT WAS THE BEST WEATHER WE COULD OBTAIN.**

**WHEN IT COMES TO ANCHORING IN THE CHANNEL CALLED LYDIA ANN,
WELL, MOST DEFINITELY, YOU NEED A PLAN.**

**THERE WAS AN EBB TIDE DURING DINNER WITH A CROSS WIND BLOWING,
AND THE NINE BOATS THAT ANCHORED THERE MADE A SHOWING.**

**TEN, IF YOU ADD THE MCKAYS POWER BOAT WHO FERRIED PEOPLE THERE.
AND ABOUT DINNER, IT WAS A MEAL THAT HAL PETERSON MOSTLY DID PREPARE.**

**BY 4:30PM MOST HAD DEPARTED & GONE TO THE PORT ARANSAS TOWN.
ONLY E. GANT'S PENELOPE WAS STILL ANCHORED THERE AT SUNDOWN.**

**THE NEXT DAY, HE AND HAL PETERSON'S WARRIOR, SAILED UP TO ROCKPORT.
ABOUT THIS CRUISE, HAL AND SHARON HAD ONLY GOOD THINGS TO REPORT.**

**THANK-YOU PHYLLIS VAUGHN FOR MAKING THE LIGHTHOUSE CRUISE POSSIBLE,
BECAUSE SOME PEOPLE WERE BEGINNING TO THINK IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE.**

**JAKE & JENNY'S CHRISTMAS PARTY WAS ALL YOU WOULD EXPECT IT TO BE.
WONDERFUL GIFTS, GREAT FOOD, HAPPY FRIENDS, AND A TALL CHRISTMAS TREE.**

**I STARTED OFF THINGS, AS I HAD TRADED WITH SOMEONE FOR NUMBER ONE.
I OPENED UP A PORABLE VACUMN CLEANER TO SHOW HOW IT WAS DONE.**

**SOMEWHERE DOWN THE LINE I LOST I, BUT GAINED IT BACK
AS FAR AS OPENING PRESENTS, THAT IS SOMETHING I DIDN'T LACK.**

**QUENTEN COOK WALKED AWAY WITH A BOTTLE IN EACH HAND,
THEY WERE THE PERFECT GIFTS, AS I UNDERSTAND.**

**THE ISBELLS GAINED AND LOST MANY TIMES, MY FRIEND,
BUT THEY WOUND UP WITH A BOTTLE OF CROWN ROYAL AT THE END.**

**CROWN ROYAL IS NOT THE SAME DRINK AS ROYAL CROWN.
ONE BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO IS HOW THEY GO DOWN.**

**SOMEONE OPENED A GIFT HAVING THE MAKINGS OF A GIMLET WITH GIN.
NICE SUMMER DRINK, BUT IN THE WINTER, LESS SEVEN-UP GOES IN.**

**THE CHAMPION OF GAINING AND LOOSING WAS CARL MCKAY.
I THINK HE WOUND UP WITH TRUFFLES, FINALLY TO STAY.**

**WHEN YOU CONSIDER ALL THE GIFTS, OPENED BY CARL, I THINK.
IT WAS JUST TOO BAD THAT HE DIDN'T WIND UP WITH SOMETHING TO DRINK.**

**HIS WIFE, MARY JANE, TOOK A CHRISTMAS PILLOW FROM BOB JACK.
TOO BAD BOB, BUT "K'S" DRINKABLE GIFT PUT YOU ON THE RIGHT TRACK.**

**RALPH BOWEN OPENED UP A STAINLESS FLASH LIGHT.
YOU KNOW, TO FIND HIS WAY HOME IN THE DARK OF NIGHT.**

HE LATER LOST IT. BUT HIS WIFE, MELISSA, GOT IT BACK FOR HIM.
A HUSBAND AND WIFE WORKING TOGETHER MADE IT WORK FOR THEM.

AS A TREAT, WE ALSO HEARD THEODORE, SIMON, AND ALVIN SING ANEW.
KNOWING ALL THREE NAMES OF THE SINGING CHIPMONKS MIGHT DATE YOU.

JOHN FOWLER GOT WIND CHIMES, BUT WHERE WERE THEY GOING TO BE HUNG?
WHEN WERE WE GOING TO HEAR THEM, IF THEY RUNG?

HAD JOHN PLANNED WHERE THEY MIGHT BE DISPLAYED?
IF IT WAS ON HIS BOAT AT ANCHOR, SOME CRUISERS MIGHT BE DISMAYED.

SAILING STRAIGHT FROM TEXAS TO FLORIDA IS CALLED A CROSSING.
SOMETIMES, IT CAN BE A NICE SAIL, OR SOMETIMES, YOU TAKE A TOSSING.

DEPENDING HOW YOU GO, IT IS ABOUT A 600-MILE NAUTICAL RUN.
DURING IT, LET'S HOPE THERE IS LESS FEAR AND A WHOLE LOT OF FUN.

THREE YACHTOWNERS MADE SUCH A TRIP IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.
IT IS A VOYAGE THEY WILL FOREVER TALK ABOUT AND REMEMBER.

ONE SUCH SAILOR WAS LYNN WALTON ABOARD HIS YACHT, THE SUSAN II.
IT ALWAYS HELPS TO SAIL WITH AN ADDITIONAL SEASONED CREW.

ONE SUCH VETERAN WAS CHIP SPENCE, AN ESTABLISHED OLD SALT.
AND ANOTHER PERSON I KNEW FROM SAN ANTONIO CALLED WALT.

WALT IS FROM LITHUANIA AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS.
HIS LAST NAME IS AS COMPLICATED AS IT SEEMS.

TWO DAYS OUT IT WAS NOTED THAT A ROPE HAD FOULED SUSAN II'S PROP.
WELL, AT THIS POINT, THERE WERE PLENTY OF PLACES OUT THERE TO STOP.

IN THE GULF WHEN IN TWO FEET OF WATER, YOU ARE PART OF THE FOOD CHAIN.
IF OVER YOUR HEAD, THE SAME TRUTH BECOMES CLEARLY PLAIN.

LYNN COMPLETELY STRIPPED AND DOVE IN, KNIFE BY HIS SIDE.
IT SEEMED THERE WERE TWO REMORAS THERE ALONG FOR THE RIDE.

A REMORA IS A FISH THAT SWIMS JUST UNDERNEATH OR BESIDE A SHARK.
NO BIG GUYS THERE, BUT ONE OF THE REMORAS DECIDED TO MAKE HIS MARK.

ONE OF THEM BIT LYNN ON THE TIP OF A PARTICULAR TENDER PLACE.
YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE LOOK ON LYNN'S FACE.

HE CUT THE ROPE AND PUT ON A SWIMSUIT, AS WELL.
THIS WILL ALWAYS BE AN INTERESTING STORY TO TELL.

WHEN NOW FISHING, LYNN WILL ALWAYS KNOW WHAT TO USE FOR BAIT.
HE CAN CATCH FISH RIGHT AWAY AND WON'T HAVE TO WAIT.

ST. PETERSBURG AND PORT ARANSAS ARE ON THE SAME LATTITUDE.
BUT ONCE ARRIVING, DUE TO MANY REASONS, YOU TAKE ON A NEW ATTITUDE.

IN FLORIDA, LYNN'S WIFE, SUSAN, JOINED THIS EPIC ON HAND.
HERE THE WATER IS CRYSTAL CLEAR WITH BEACHES OF BEAUTIFUL WHITE SAND.

**SAILING ALONG WAS BILL AND PAM CARRUTHERS ON THEIR PASSPORT 42.
STEVE STAKELY AND CHRIS COLLEY WERE PART OF WAVE DANCER'S REVIEW.**

**ALSO BILL AND PAM'S PIRATE DOG, OTIS, COMPLETED THE CREW'S LIST.
IF THEY HAD GONE WITHOUT HIM, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN SORELY MISSED.**

**ALSO MAKING A CROSSING, WERE THE STEINS, KARL AND JAN.
SAILING DIRECTLY TO KEY WEST WAS PART OF THEIR PLAN.**

**NOW, AS THEY ENJOY THEIR CRUISES AND THE ADVENTURE MOUNTS,
THEIR STORIES ENTERTAIN US, AS WE HEAR THEIR ACCOUNTS.**

**FOR MANY OF US. THIS KIND OF TRIP IS ONE WE WON'T BE MAKING,
BUT WE ENJOY THE CARRUTHERS, WALTONS, AND STEINS DOING THE TAKING.**

**WE GOT A MERRY CHRISTMAS GREETING FROM THE GROUP AT KEY WEST.
YOU CAN ALMOST SEE THEM THERE AS THEY TOAST LIFE'S BEST.**

**OVER 55 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE NEW YEAR'S EVE AFFAIR.
I AM GOING TO MAKE A LEAP OF FAITH AND SAY THAT ED BONNER WAS THERE.**

**HE BETTER HAVE BEEN, BECAUSE ED AND HIS WIFE, BEV, HAD PUT IT ON.
OVER FOUR HOURS OF PARTY TIME WAS THROWN.**

**NORMALLY, THE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY IS VERY LONG LASTING.
AND WHILE IT IS GOING ON, THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO FASTING.**

**THE AMAZING MR. ED IS A VERY CAPABLE PERSON, BUT HE IS JUST ONE MAN.
HE CAN'T RUN THIS CLUB ALONE, NO ONE CAN.**

**HE'S GOT SOME HELP, BUT HE CAN USE SOME MORE.
THE PAY'S BAD, BUT THE BENEFITS AND THE VIEW, YOU CAN'T IGNORE.**

**ONE THING THAT IS CERTAIN IS WE ARE NOW IN THE YEAR OF 2008.
AND THIS CLUB AND ALL WHO ARE IN IT IS SOMETHING TO APPRECIATE.**

**WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY, BUT WE HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO.
WHAT I SAY NOW IS..... ON WITH THE SHOW.**

TOM ARNOLD, 2007