



Palacios Yacht Club Newsletter

Located At Serendipity Marina

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"The Rhumb Line"

RACE NEWS:

July 3rd the "3rd Annual INDEPENDENCE REGATTA" was held and we had eight boats in attendance. This was also race #3 and #4 of our summer series. We had a beautiful day and just about perfect winds. Our thanks to Warren Pierce who helped set the course up, also to Allen McClendon and Kevin Kenard for crewing the committee boat. Race #3 was exciting, with the participants running in a tight group for most of the race. We received comments from shore about the "close" action and their good view of it. In race #4 the wind picked up a bit and scattered the fleet around the course.

RESULTS RACE #3: 1. Jack Hollister; 2. Steve Wilburn; 3. Charles Smithey; 4. Tim Hall; 5. John Benson; 6. Ed Wilkinson; 7. Bob Fellingham; 8. Chad Davenport

RESULTS RACE #4: 1. Jack Hollister; 2. Bob Fellingham; 3. Tim Hall; 4. Charles Smithey; 5. Ed Wilkinson

STANDINGS AFTER 4 RACES: 1. Hollister; 2. Hall; 3. (tie) Smithey & Fellingham; 4. Wilkinson; 5. Gangluff

RACE NOTICE:

The last two races of the Summer Series will be held on **AUGUST 14, 1993** at 1:00pm at our usual starting area. There will be two races, for those who have missed races now is the time to make up. We'll see you at the "REC HALL" for skipper's meeting 10:30.

Club News

* Please note that our 2nd batch of T-Shirts are in and were to be distributed at the Port Lavaca cruise. I'll have them at the races 8/14/93 or you can call me in Bay City to pick yours up. If you have not joined yet please get your application in as half of these shirts are already spoken for.
* RE: BOAT/US, if you are a Palacios Yacht Club Member and are planning to join Boat/US. We have a group number. If you put this on your new app. or on a renewal you annual dues will be \$8.50. This is the cheapest rate available and you get it for belonging to the PYC. Call me for our #. (409-245-1669 or 245-4658)

PORT LAVACA CRUISE

Basically did not happen. Although one of our intrepid number did trailer to Port Lavaca from Victoria, the rest of the bunch were unaccounted for. Teresa & I arrived at 9:25am and met with Mike & Becky Cole of *Bolongo* and Eddie Sacco with crew, for his Pacific Seacraft 20', Craig Hlavinka. It was determined that no others were going to join us and the wind was a little strong for a comfortable journey there and back. Calls were made and plans were laid, for our small group to BBQ at Serendipity. Charles Smithey and Merlyn drove it to enjoy the evening at the club house. Hope we can have more social activities there.

LABOR DAY REGATTA

If you are interested in helping out at the 3rd annual Palacios Labor Day Regatta please call me, or I'll call you. We will be needing help both on and off the water. There will be "experts" in charge but we need extra hands for these coordinators. Also this is a training event for our members who have never run a sailboat race. Next year will be bigger and better, and we will have this event under our full control, so everyone needs a little practical experience. Volunteer for choice jobs today or be drafted.

Lane (409-245-1669)

PYC LAKE DAY - AUG. 21

We have planned to go to Lake Texanna on the 3rd weekend of August for a change of pace. Bring your innertube, raft, small boat, dinghy, or trailerable for fun on the lake. BBQ plate to be served @ \$5.00 each Sat evening. Call Charles Smithey (NOW!) 512-573-7896 to order your meal. And for over night plans call Brekenridge Park 512-782-7145 for reservations in marina or campsites.

Race Tips!

I know some of you have heard me talk about the count down timer on my watch helping us get to the line on time. Well I thought I would give some more tips (with all my vast experience ha ha hahahaha). Any way there are some things that will help you if you are new to racing.

#1 the count down timer: set it for 10 minutes and start it when the 1st flag (white) goes up on the committee boat. At 6 mins. remaining this flag will go down, then at 5 mins. the 2nd flag (blue) will go up. When there is 1 min. remaining the 2nd flag goes down and when that has passed the 3rd flag (RED) goes up and you can GO! This will give you a benchmark so you always know time till start and what the flags are to be doing.

#2 practice runs at the line: position yourself near the committee boat prior to the 1st flag. When the flag goes up use the first 5 minutes making practice runs at the line and with the last 5 set your self up for the final attack. Watch the other boats and protect your wind.

#3 practice sailing to a fixed point: if you cannot sail from point A to point B, then you will have trouble positioning your boat near the committee boat much less the start line. Pick a set of crab traps or some other fixed object in the bay and make runs at it. Practice sailing past your point of reference on both port and starboard from various angles to the wind. Keep these runs short and have one of the crew call out elapsed time as you go to and from.

#4 swing keels: if you have them lift them on the down wind runs you will pick up speed. Although this may not fit in the international yacht racing rules it does fit in our club rules. Where a larger boat with a fixed keel may have better upwind on you can make up lost ground on a down wind run and the PHRF handicapping will take care of the rest.
* balance your boat on down wind runs.

#5 trim sails: practice trimming the sail during tacks so that it is completed prior to the wind filling the sail on your new tack. It is easier to let out sail than trim back in.

Share your successes with the club as we all get better so does the action. And it is proven that a better racer makes a better sailor for all your journeys.

PHOTOS ?

If you have been taking pictures at our activities please pick out your favorite and send them in for the *Rhumb Line* as most photos copy well and spice up the letter. Thanks for all your support, LANE



Regalos de Dios - PYC Races July 3rd

F27

For those who were at the July races we were treated with the site of a Coursair Marine F27 trimaran plying the waters of *Tres Palacios Bay*. I had demoed one of these boats with my brother-in-law a few years ago and our average speed that day was 17 knots. After the races we took a spin at about 15 knots. The dealer, Richard Clarey of La Vida Starships (Irving, TX), said he had his wife Helen, "really enjoyed the bay and would plan a return trip". Maybe we can have an F-race.

