

**Commodore's Corner**

From: Comm. Paul Serra

Ahoy Matte's.....

The 1996 Sailing Season has started out cold and slow ..... our busy schedules have kept us from gathering around the club house and *Tres Palacios Bay* to practice our skills and tell a tale or two.

Initiatives, such as incorporating the PYC into a non-profit organization, have not progressed as rapidly as I would like... however our busy schedules have kept us from taking the final plunge. I do see this as something that can greatly benefit the membership by limiting our personal liability when engaged in the Club's activities as well as our benefiting by taking advantage of various tax benefits available to all non-profit organizations. With Warren's assistance, the goal is to finalize out plans for submittal by the end of April.....

I look forward to seeing each of you at our next PYC meeting (4/20/96), or out enjoying the soon to be ideal sailing weather.

---

**PYC CALENDAR - UP COMING EVENTS!**

- 4/20/96 First races of 1996! **The Mariner Fleet** will hold the first 3 races of the 96' season. 1st Start will be at 1:00pm and will be preceded by a skipper's meeting at 10:30am at the PYC club house.
- 4/21/96 **Dolphin Fleet**, will race! at 1:00pm, having gotten off to a bumpy start I hope you guys will make a better showing this month. See you on the beach in Palacios.
- 4/27/96 Texas Catamaran Championships. This is a fun weekend for watching sailing. Come on down, or volunteer to help Warren and the PRT, get in close on the action.
- 5/4/96 Kiwanis Charity Regatta - PYC Dolphin SR's to participate, two days of racing with Saturday activities, at Pavilion Pier, to include silent auction, dinner and dance over the water. Call Lane for more details 409-245-1669 or 409-245-4658.
- 5/25-27/96 3rd Annual A.M.B.R. - don't forget Memorial Day weekend, the PYC Around Matagorda Bay Rendezvous. This is a fun cruise with great suppers in Palacios, Port Lavaca and Port O'Connor.



***The Rhumb Line***

***Palacios Yacht Club***

458 Commerce

Palacios, TX 77465

## **MOB!**

The weather was "kind-of" off color and a bit windless early Saturday. Several boats did attend our second, Man Over Board program and drills. Bob put on the program at 10:30, discussing a few of the various techniques used to return to a lost crew member and retrieve them. At 1:00 they meet on the water to practice picking up a pair of life-jackets tied to four one-gallon jugs filled with water. This idea came from a Hobie Cat fleet who used to practice with an overboard life jacket. The organizers decided they were only learning pickup an object on the fly (10 knots). So they put out a weighted dummy and the first guy that came by, snagged the "MOB" and was jerked off the bcalck of his cat. You must to come to a stop in order to control the situation. If you did not make our program, practice this on your own some time as it is a skill you can use for life. This maneuver could take some time to complete, by practicing your crew can understand that they may be in the water for a while. At the Columbus Fleet Crew Training Class, we were advised that if any of us fell off the *Nina* we would be in the water for 30 minutes or more. (Food for thought, stay safe..... and stay on board!) *And for the politically correct, (Roberta) we call it "Man Over Board" because my GPS does not have a PITW (Person In The Water) button on it.*

---

## **Dolphin Fleet - No Start?**

I was sick Friday and Saturday so I missed the MOB drills. Feeling a bit better Sunday I drove down to watch the start of the "small" boat activities. Much to my dismay there were no boats at Rail Road Park Beach. I sat for awhile, wondering what might have prevented everyone from showing up, when a Buccaneer came in off the bay. The couple on this boat, from Austin, said they heard that only three boats could make it and there wasn't much wind (at 9:00am?), so they canceled. We'll you guys who could make it sure missed the day. When I arrived at 1:30 there was a good breeze blowing, the bay was "PYC Green" and the sun was shining. Also those able to sail could have scored and cost the rest of us a DNS. (Thanks for the reprieve) If I hadn't felt so weak, I would have gone and borrowed a boat, a more perfect day for sailing could not have been had. I drove around to see if anyone else was in town and found reporters from the Victoria Advocate down to cover the races (sorry guys). They said they would be back to cover the catamaran races! Later, I met Allen Olinger a new PYC member from Lake Jackson, he drove over to participate but had to return home with a dry boat. Our race captain Craig Hlavinka was down with his Venture 21. He and Letta and Joe did go sailing at about 3:00. Rick Gangluff was down checking on his boat and enjoying the day with a St. Patty's cool one. Up on the north end of East Bay, I saw Julie Riccio and friend sailing a Dolphin/Panther(?). And Warren reported that he and Roberta went out about 4:30 for an evening sail. All you slackers get ready for next time, April 21st.

---

## **Hobie Mid-Spring Classic**

What was once the Hobie's "Mid-Summer Classic" (July) was changed this year to the spring. Lindsey & I finished T-Ball Saturday and headed to Palacios. Upon arriving we found 40 boats just left the beach for the first race. The winds were barely "light & variable". When the start flag went up the horn was almost drowned out by the skippers hollering for "room" and "right-of-way". The next two races were favored with better wind. The race committee set the leeward mark close to shore and the spectators on the pier and jetties had plenty of up-close action to view. Sunday brought big changes with a front that shifted the wind to the north. Wind speeds were recorded from 15 mph to gusty 25 mph. Some skippers decided to skip the day as some minor equipment breakdowns took their toll. The weather took care of a few more and by the last race only sixteen of the original forty made the start line. Warren was kept busy in *Pookie* (as the only chase boat) with the cats turning over more on Sunday. The next big, open cat event is April 27th-28th, the Texas Catamaran Championship.

---

## **Kiwanis Charity Regatta May 4th & 5th**

We received registrations from the sunfish fleet for this event, so we decided to enter the Dolphin SR's. Any of you skippers with Dolphin SR's can get in a fun regatta prior to the June Nationals. If interested, call Lane at 409-245-1669 or 245-4658 for registration information. The deadline is April the 15th.

---

## **T-Shirts - Hats - Dues**

OK this is really the last and final call, really! Since the news letter has been delayed the past two months and the past meetings were "snaf-foed", we will finalize the PYC id's and clothing orders this month and distribute in May. See you at the first races; (Mariners) April 20th and (Dolphin) 21st.