

Commodore's Corner

From: Paul

We are officially PYC Inc. (Non-profit) The paper work is back from the Great State of Texas and we are set to revise our direction and intents. We are planning to have the Dolphin Fleet races on Saturday, June 15th with a club social to follow that afternoon. At this time the club and board will meet to review the by-laws and plan for the PRT inclusion in the PYC. We will call everyone to finalize the social. lhh.

NOTICE:

The PYC shirts and caps are in. If you ordered one you can pick them up from Roberta or at our next meeting (since no one was at May's). Also you should find enclosed, the 96 ID card with this issue.

PYC Club House Deck.

We still have plans to build a nice deck out in front of the "club house". This would make a great eating place and relaxing spot to watch the sunset on the bay. Lets set the date and get to work. Need a few laborers with power tools and we'd be set.

PYC CALENDAR - UP COMING EVENTS!

- 6/3/96 PRT's Start Sailing Right - Youth Class. This is Warren's 1st class for 1996. Many more to come, if you'd like to enroll someone call Warren at 800-457-2403.
- 6/8-9/96 LASER Gulf Coast Master's Championship. This should be a major event for PRT/PYC and Palacios. We could use all the help we can get, so call if you want to work a chase boat, or help the race committee.
- 6/15/96 Dolphin Fleet Races (Saturday!) Mariner races postponed till further notice. The small boats will move to Saturday and continue it's competitive series.
- 6/21-23/96 DOLPHIN SR NATIONALS, Thanks to the efforts of Charles Smithy, we have the honor of hosting the NDSCA's Nationals this year. Get your Dolphin SR out and tune up for some fun. There will be a tune-up race Friday and the real racing on Saturday and Sunday. Plan on some good eats Saturday night. See you on the beach in Palacios.
- 6/29-30/96 AREA F Alter Cup - Multihull Championship. DON'T MISS THE LAST "CAT" RACES FOR THIS YEAR. Another major event brought to Palacios by Warren Pierce.
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The Rhumb Line

Palacios Yacht Club

458 Commerce

Palacios, TX 77465

Kiwanis Charity Regatta

The weather has been constant on the weekends, with high winds and overcast skies. On the first weekend of May the Bay City Kiwanis hosted a charity regatta. Twenty five boats took the challenge including 470's, Sunfish, Dolphin SR and our first Laser class. All activity was based on the Pavilion Pier, a historic landmark on the bay since 1904. Saturday the RC got two races off before noon, so they gave the racers a one hour break. Most went to the Fire Station BBQ then returned to battle the wind, waves and competition. The 470's and Lasers were having so much fun that they continued to sail after the 3rd race. That evening everyone gathered on the pier for a silent auction, dinner and a dance. Tarps were erected to block the wind and the Pavilion became a peaceful place to lounge after the days hard work. Dinner was great with fish and shrimp as the main course, our DJ seemed to know the mood and worked through his collection with all the right tunes. Sunday brought no change in the conditions so the RC got an early start and about half of each class made the start. Breakdowns and fatigue plagued the Dolphin SR fleet, 2/3's the class opted to stay on the beach. Charles Smithey, the leader as of three races could relax on the beach and still not be bumped from first also elected to remain ashore. That made it easy for me take second and get on with regatta business. The awards ceremony held a 12:30 brought us together for the last activity on the pier. Custom wooden trophies were handed to the winners and thank-you's were extended to those making this charity weekend a success.

Mariner Fleet Fizzle

On Saturday May 18th after much hardship and lack of sleep, I hitched up the M26 and picked up dad to attend the Mariner Fleet races. Upon arriving at 10:40am, RC Craig Hlavinka informed me that he had seen no boats or skippers. We waited until 12:15pm, Craig rechecked the ramp one more time and we went to lunch. We have only had one race weekend since October 95. It seems the big boats are no longer interested in racing, may be it is time to plan some cruises??? It takes alot of effort to get a RC together and these people do not want to show up for nothing. Our resources are limited and if twice burned, we won't get them back. So, as of May 96 all Mariner Fleet races are postponed until further notice. We do have several of the small boat fleet wanting to race, so the "Dolphin Fleet" races will be held on the 3rd Saturday of each mo. You guys with "big boats", go out and get you a small day sailor and join us for some races. If interest warrants, we will plan a couple of "big" boat championships each year, out in Matagorda Bay so that the deep draft boats could race. Your input would be greatly appreciated on this matter. Also Shirts and caps were available to be picked up. See you next month.

THE ANNUAL DAY ON THE BAY - Intro to Sailing!

Warren Pierce reported that they gave rides to over forty kids on Sunday the 19th. Everyone had a great time and more demand was generated for the "Sail Right" classes. Thanks to all the skippers who helped make this possible.

1996 A.M.B.R.

Affectionately renamed to the Voyage of the Damned, it started with me nearly breaking my rudder on the ramp. Fifteen boats registered, it looked like a promising weekend. Friday night we had chicken fried steak and looked at pictures of "following seas" last October. When the wind decided to over-cooperate the next morning, only eight left port. It was a breezy run, but with reefed main and working jib, we nearly matched the 95' Halloween run. Once in Port Lavaca, even with all the changes in Nautical Landings they made us feel welcome as usual and served up a great fajita dinner. That evening many were discussing the monthly slip rates, as NOAA announced that the wind would "continue its on shore flow" (that means to 25mph with gusts). Sunday morning four hardy vessels left at 6:00am to "beat" the wind. HA!, it met us at marker #66 right on the nose. We tacked the channel, dodging a Formosa tanker and upon making #52 we began to sail on the west side to POC. Somewhere north of Indianola, near Le Salle's monument, something caused my center board to break free. My first warning was the loud thump, Thump, THUMP from the board swinging side to side on it's cable. Water pressure caused the cable to break before I could slow the boat. When I saw the cable I thought the board was just in the down position. After tacking several times, we were still next to ol' Sieur de La Salle. We dropped sail and motored the shoreline to POC. When we arrived at St. Christopher's Haven, I swam under to tie a line on the board - SURPRISE! no board. &##%! Other vessels began arriving with tales of their adventures and we consoled our selves that dinner at the Spot would be worth it. Several of the others left boats behind, drove down and we met at the restaurant. What a meal it was better than I remembered. Fried Flounder Filets & Boiled Shrimp with all the trimmings (all you could eat). We had to walk back to the docks to work off some of the feed. We watched the "boat ramp" show that evening then hit the bunks. Monday with winds up and skies blackening we got out of harbor and ran for Palacios. I hit a spoil bank (should have known it was there) & finished off my rudder. So we motored 3.5 hours steering with the out board. Whew! Back in Palacios cleaned the boat and went home. Call me when the winds drops - to 0.