

"The Rhumb Line"

96 Planning Meeting

Commodore Paul Serra opened the meeting with some important issues relating to the future of the PYC. A dozen or so members were in attendance and they got right to business. The amount of money to be spent on a deck was set at \$400.00 (curr. bal. + \$900).

The next topic of discussion was the incorporation of the PYC and insurance for regattas. These items have gone to committee (2/10/96) and then to a general membership meeting (2/24/96). Also at that time a "volunteer" attorney will be present to help with questions and details.

On the insurance side the cost would be no less than \$365 and could run as high as \$665. The main thrust of coverage would be to protect the club/officers/race comm. - etc. from a suit for an "on-the-water" RACE incident. The rest of the time the PYC is not liable for non-race activities were we do not dictate things like course, routes, starts, times etc. At the higher rate we could pick up "on-shore" liability for activities at Serendipity, Railroad Park, etc. (Ray, it would not cover "6-pack" charter captains) (oh! 6-pack does not refer to alcohol content).

Roberta took membership dues from those in attendance. The social calendar was next on Ray's list. The basic PYC calendar was accepted with the addition of two more cruising activities. Also it was suggested that activities for "NON-RACERS" be planned to coincide with the Mariner Fleet races and when all was done, both groups could meet in the afternoon for on shore dining. Everyone seemed to want more fun cruises or races, with "eats & drinks" when the sailing is done.

Bob Swan gave out a copy of a humorous look at the "Mark Boat Management" and a book on ideas for wooden decks. Ray offered his "super dooper saw" for the work day. Discussion then ensued on the best way to "moon" our lost member Ron Little (now residing in Calif.) The PRT race calendar and youth training calendar was updated by Warren. And Warren recruited committee boats for three of his open events.

Several other items such as US Sailing membership, T-Shirts, seminars, new membership form were covered. Warren also announce that pending final approval, (from harbor channel owners) Serendipity was to build a "board-boat" dock, at the PYC point. This will be something like a wide carpeted ramp that boats could be pulled up on when not in use. GOOD WORK! guys, now the rest of you - get involved and share in the fun.

Apology for late "Rhumb-Line"

The newsletter has been going out like molasses in winter. Sorry if anyone missed a meeting, but I have been covered up with a variety of projects from work to family. It seems my feeble brain loses track in the chaos and I forget simple things like stamping envelopes and carrying them to the post office. I'm am working on a change which may help, but bear with us. In my defense, you should know that the PYC meets on the 3rd Saturday of month, Jan. - Dec. in Serendipity, for business and fun. That is easy to remember and you never know, the newsletter might get put on the pony express instead of the US Postal express (or are they one in the same??)

Important Dates

2/10, 9am- Committee Meeting for PYC "Inc" & Ins.

2/17, 10am- Member's Pgrm Computer Charts/Nav.

2/24, 10am- Member Meeting on Inc. & Ins.

15th Century Sailors

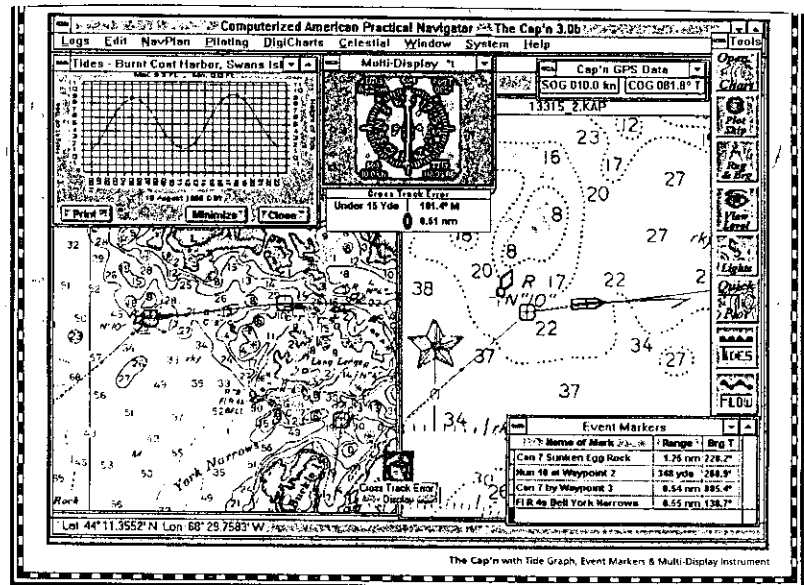
Several of us were missing at the Jan. meeting, as we have embarked on a training mission with the Columbus Fleet in Corpus Christi. Warren, Roberta, Lane, Willie Younger and David Fant have signed on to learn how to crew the Caravel "Nina". This is a six weekend program and we'll miss the next meeting, but after the first class I think it will be worth it. After being there awhile, the thing that struck me was how spartan and harsh a long voyage would have been on these vessels. Christopher Columbus was the only person on the three ships who had a cabin, everyone else was out in the elements. (It's good to be the boss) Also the only light on these ships was a large lantern, high on the stern of the Santa Maria. The captains of the Nina and Pinta had this one light to follow and keep the fleet together. I'm sure the seas did not remain calm and this task was a prime concern during high seas. So far we've crawled all over the two ships dry docked at the museum and studied the rigging and control lines. There is a whole new vocabulary for the orders we will soon be taking from Fleet Captain Hiott. The class consists of some 25 souls taking this trip back in time. We were divided into four groups after the classroom, for hands on activities. Our group was fortunate enough to have Spain's representative Jose Antonio Barrera as the instructor. Jose Antonio also was aboard the Santa Maria when the fleet made the voyage from Spain to the Americas in the fall of 1991. Well I had better get back to studying - they tell me that if you mess up on this ship, your just thrown over board. More later as the adventure unfolds.

Feb. 17th PYC Meeting

This is the big one, each year the "members program" meeting turns out the biggest attendance. This year the program will be about SeaTech's system and software CAP'N. This is a complete computerized navigation system using the new NOAA computerized charts. The system also handles log book, float plan, record keeping, tides & currents, celestial, GPS interface functions. And as an add-on you can have instrument interface, GPS waypoint saver & route loader, light list, world port reporter, Gazetteer of Undersea Features, world wide tides, enhanced

tide graphs. Come see what the wonders of technology has brought to boating.

*** Don't miss the meeting on February 17th, Saturday at 10:00 am, Serendipity's REC-Hall.**



US Sail: Level 1, Dingy Instructor's Class

Warren Pierce wanted to remind those of you who were wanting to take this class in August, to get your app in by 2/10/96. They need to book this class with US Sailing now, in order to make the 96 calendar. This training will certify you to teach sailing at the entry level and upgrade our Red Cross designation to a more professional status. If you are interested but did not get the info. call Warren Pierce at 1-800-457-2403. This activity is separate of the PYC and supports the youth sail training program of the Matagorda County 4H SeaMasters.

Dues Must BE IN by 2/17

Please send your PYC renewal in by the next meeting or pay at the Feb 17th meeting. We need to order our shirts and caps. Also if you do not renew on time you'll miss out on the "Laminated" membership card. If you are not sure of your status call Lane (409-245-1669) or Roberta (512-972-3609), as some paid in 95 for 96. Thank you for your support of our PYC.