

Commodore's Corner.....
I'm going to take some publishing license and change the format a little to see what advantage/dis-advantage comes with folding and mailing a slightly different document. Bear with me... If you don't like it, keep quiet.....if you do let me know?

The Yacht Club has begun the year with a slight lull in participation. Bob F. tells me that he was virtually alone for the man overboard refresher on the 15th of March. Guess everyone knows it all and doesn't need the practice? Guess again.....**Remember that we begin our competition on the 19th of April.....Everyone is looking at Pam and Laura to set the pace. If you aren't interested in racing we will still enjoy your participation and swapping tales at the clubhouse in the evening.....**

STSA has picked up two more races for the season. The United States Sunfish Master's will be held in Palacios on September 20th & 21st....The US Sailing Association Area F Alter Cup Trials will be held on June 28th & 29th. Anyone wishing to participate, including being the Committee Boat please let me know at the office (512)972-3066 or 800-457-2403.
Nina's visit was a real treat for everyone involved. Sure thank all the volunteers for their time and effort. Didn't know we had that many erstwhile 15th Century Sailors around but we sure did!!!!

You can always enroll in the sail training on the 15th Century Ships in Corpus Christi by calling Jose Antonio Barrera at (512)882-1232 or come by the office for details.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

April 19th - PYC Board Boat Races IOAM Skipper's Meeting at the Clubhouse/1PM Race Time (Yellow Flag) 1997 - 2000 Racing Rules

April 26th & 27th Texas Catamaran Championships & Palacios Briding Classic (all on the bayfront)

May 2nd & 3rd - Kiwanis Charity Regatta

May 16th - PYC Board Boat Races

May 24th, 25th, 26th - AMBR Around Matagorda Bay Rendezvous

STSA NEWS.....

I want to thank Charles Smiley and Willie Younger for their assistance in rigging the new sails, masts and spars on the fleet. Multiply your problems by 16 and you will have an estimate of the maintenance involved in the boats. Thanks are very much in order for the Skipper's who turned out for our

annual Youth Day on the Bay the 29th of April. Lane, Jack, Charles, Laura, Willie, Lee Edward, Craig, Roberta, Donna, Bob F. and I had a great time and we really had a good turn out considering the weather. Lee Edward's son Jason and his friend John had a chance to try out the newest addition to our youth fleet a Hobie 14 Turbo with the excellent tutoring of Laura. Thanks guys & gals, I couldn't do it without the high caliber of professionals that volunteer to help promote the life sport of sailing.
Thanks to Terry Mosier for the donation of a Vagabond 14 and Hobie Turbo 14 for the Youth Fleet. With a set of sails for the Vagabond we will be in great shape for a new season of sailing classes.

SERENDIPITY NEWS.....

Work on the harbor area between the Bay House and the Dog Walk will commence on May 1st, 1997. If you happen to have a trailer on the west side of the marina it will have to be moved by mid-April. Also the gas station and pumpout station will be closed during construction so make your plans accordingly.
The entire area will be reconfigured with only 150' of length remaining by the gas pumps. The remainder will be turned into shallow water habitat and should be a pleasant addition to the Park.
Please don't forget to stop by the office and pick up your wind shield decal. It is really making it simpler to tell who belongs and who doesn't! Tell Vic & Gentle and Jim & Linda thanks for the job they are

doing in making things happen around here!

Sailing Instructor News:

April class has been canceled due to a lack of registrations. If you know of anyone wanting to take lessons, call and let me know.

We will schedule private lessons if time and instructors permit. Must plan these ahead of time. Some of us can get off during the week to teach!

The rest of the summer schedule still stands as printed:

June 19-22 Girl Scout Sail Camp (need instructors)

July 7 - 10 Adult/Youth Sailing Class (need instructors)

July 19,20,26,27 Girl Scout Sail Camp (need instructors)

August 2,3,9,10 Adult/Youth Sailing Class (need instructors)

Potential Instructors: Let me know your pertinent information...If we can get eight or more students US Sailing will come to Palacios to give the certification program. Cost is \$200 each for a full week of instructor training.

97' AMBR

On May 23rd the cruiser will gather at Serendipity for the 5th annual Around Matagorda Bay Rendezvous (AMBR). The first night, Friday, we will have our meal in Palacios. Saturday morning we will head for Port Lavaca and Sunday we sail for Port O'Connor. Monday we return to home ports or as

some in the past have done, use this as a kick off for a longer cruise. This year's registration will only include orders for t-shirts, we will contact the various restaurants and arrange for special meals and you will pay as you go. Forms will be available at Serendipity and mailed to past participants. If you need one call Warren, Roberta or Lane. Join us for some great sailing (or motoring), see most or all of the bay and (the best part) enjoy some great meals and fellowship. Don't for get the fun starts Friday the 23rd and continues through 26th.

1997 Race Season:

BANG! We'll soon hear the gun, or horn, for the first start of the PVC small boat race schedule. April 19th at 1:00, on Rail Road Park beach. This year's schedule: **IS THE SAME AS BEFORE!** Every third Saturday of each month, the PVC will hold races at 1:00pm. After the races (approx. 4:30) we'll go to the club house (and our new deck), fire up the BBQ pit and enjoy dinner (bring your own meat). As for the races, we are planning to start near the pier and or have the RC on the pier. This will simplify our RC operations and hopefully draw some spectators out. Get those boats prepared and meet at the RR Park beach.

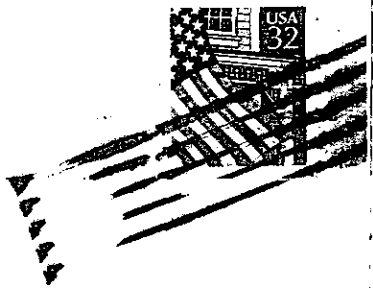
DOLPHIN SR. NATIONALS:

Will be held on June 6,7,8 at Lake Conroe. Charles Smithey will be mailing the forms out to renew your membership, to be eligible to race. For our local and regional Dolphin SR racers, there will be three opportunities to tune up before the nationals. PVC races April 19th, Kiwanis Charity Regatta May 3rd/4th

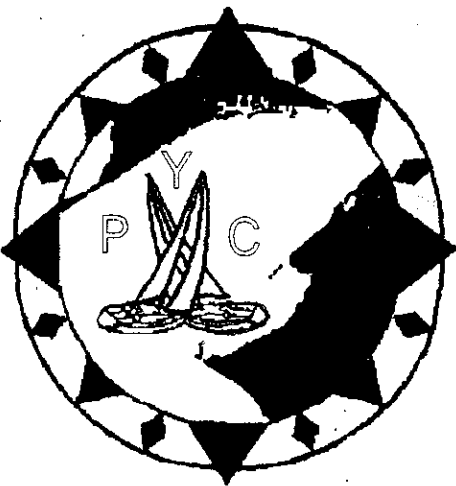
an PVC races May 17th. There is a class for every skill level: A is for the "big" trophy winners and championship titles (The Whole Enchilada), B fleet racers are more experienced but have not trophy-ed at the nationals and the C fleet is for novice racers that need experience before being thrown in with the sharks. A trophy place in the C fleet moves you up to the B fleet. Dolphin SR, 30+ years and still going.

MUMAS VISIT TO PALACIOS:

The trip to Palacios was more like a delivery than a voyage. BUTT the trip back was more eventful. First, we left at the crack of dawn. I mean literally at sunrise, the colors were spectacular if this was a color publication we'd have the cover of the century. Later that day we docked at the Belle site. The captain and the director-of-digs exchanged flags in ceremony. The "crews" got to inspect each others vessel. And some of the archeologist tried to stow away and go with us. Again we had to motor down the ditch, but arrived in Port Aransas at 10:00pm. With time to burn, the captain ordered us offshore and set sail. We spent a bout 6 hours sailing on the moon lit gulf, in and around wells and anchored ships. I checked the GPS and advised the watch that at current course and speed we could return to Matagorda Bay before sunset. The idea didn't spark any interest, so I offered coordinates to the Yucatan, then went to sleep. Back on deck for our watch, we are motoring up the Corpus Christi channel in dead calm and under a full moon. There was phosphorescence in the water visible in our wake and the comet off our stern. What a cruise!



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