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**The Party Line**

*Lenny Beckett*

**July 4th Family Party Was Really Cool**

We would like to thank Paul and Sally Wakefield and Ed and Carol Hakkila for hosting the July 4<sup>th</sup> family party. Although the weather was unbearably hot (and smoky), Paul and Ed managed to brave it and grill some delicious chicken. The hot dry weather resulted in the cancellation of the Melbourne fireworks, as well as our normal outdoor activities. About thirty-five people attended and enjoyed the good food in spite of the hot weather.

**July 25th Shipwreck Party a Smashing Success**

About seventy-five castaways gathered at MYC on July 25<sup>th</sup> to enjoy grilled swordfish and steel band music at Rachele Ross's fabulous Shipwreck Party. The ballroom was decorated with palm trees, a beach, and an island settlement. Entertainment included a steel band, Gilligan's Island trivia, hermit crab races and a costume contest. Brenda Shadbolt won the award for the most innovative costume, with her Ecstasy fire outfit. Mike and Dee Wilson won the best theme costume, with their Thurston Howell III and Luvy costumes (photos, pg 5). Thanks much to Rachele Ross and her helpers: Jack and Jacki Leahy, Mike and Tammy Petrick, Mike and Patti Henry, and Stu and Brenda Shadbolt. A special thanks to Mike and Tammy, who donated the charcoal and other supplies left over from their wedding celebration. Again, a great party by Rachele!

**Pizza Raftup Consumed 16 Large Pizzas**

If you weren't out on the water Friday night, August 7, for the Moonlight Raft-Up, you missed a good one. Once again the weather cooperated for an MYC event. Every night during the week, big thunderstorms pounded Melbourne. But on Friday night, they lurked in the distance. The raft-up started building about 7pm, with Beckett's *Island Time* as anchor boat. By the time the pizzas were delivered to the Melbourne Beach Pier at 8pm, there were 5 boats nestled on each side of *Island Time*. The pizza was hot, the beer cold, and the tunes good. Many thanks to Pete and Sally Anderson, who took care of counting noses, collecting money, and getting 16 hot pizzas to the dock at Melbourne Beach Pier.

**Pasta Potluck Planned for August 21st (TGIF)**

Joan and Keener Smathers will be hosting a pasta potluck on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. Bring a pasta dish to share and Joan will provide

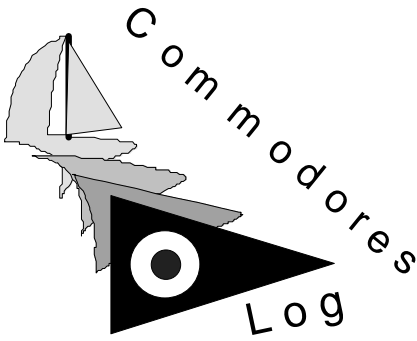
**Event Calendar:**

**AUG**

- 5 General Mtg 7:30
- 7 Friday Rum Race  
Moonlight Raft-Up
- 21 Friday Rum Race  
Pasta Potluck

**SEP**

- 2 General Mtg 7:30
- 4 Friday Rum Race
- 4-7 Labor Day Cruise  
(Kennedy Pt YC?)
- 18 Last Friday Rum Race
- 26-27 20th Annual  
Mermaid Regatta



Now that the summer is coming to a close, and hopefully the weather will be cooling down soon, the club's Fall activities will be cranking up (regattas, cruising, burn-its, parties, etc.). We are always in need of volunteers to support these events, so if you see something coming up that you are interested in, please volunteer. I can guarantee that you will find it a rewarding and fun thing to do! We are always up for new ideas, so send some our way, if you have any.

Just a point of interest. As you all may know, we put in an answering machine several months ago. We have recently been averaging 4-5 calls a week inquiring about the Club. One woman saw the article about the youth sailing classes and was interested in getting her children in the program. I've also had many calls about the Rum Races from non-members, and calls requesting general information about club membership.

If you haven't seen Dave Noble lately, it is because he has been off vacationing and buying some Prams for our youth program. Dave and Sari Wakefield continue to do a good job. Their next program is scheduled for intermediate and advanced lessons, but if you know of any young people interested in a beginning class, have them contact Dave. Again, great job, Dave and Sari!

The Captain's Cove Condo Association (next door to the club) has asked that club members parking in the upper lot on the east side be careful of pulling in too far and

*(Continued from page 1)*

salad, bread and desert. See detailed 'ad' on the back page.

### **Labor Day Cruise Needs a Leader**

Jacki Leahy, who is our semi-official Cruise Director, may have to work Labor Day Weekend. Right now there are loose plans afoot to 'cruise' to Kennedy Point Yacht Club in Titusville. Never one to shirk her responsibilities, Jacki is checking with KPYC, but this cruise really needs an Admiral to finalize plans and organize social activities. Jacki will supply advice and guidance. Any volunteers? Contact Jacki if you're interested.

### **Put the 20th Annual Mermaid on Your Calendar - Sep. 26-27th**

Rachele Ross just realized that this year's Mermaid Regatta will be the 20th one. Any excuse for a party, right? Seriously, folks, this is an event that we should really celebrate. We'd like to see more participants and more races, and of course, more men cooking and serving! If you're interested in helping to plan, promote, or put on the Mermaid Regatta, contact Rachele or Fleet Captain Bob Sowden.

- Lenny Beckett

**H**ello fleet! The next MYC race is the 20th Annual Mermaid Regatta, is scheduled for Sunday, Sep 27. This regatta is always a success because the MEN of the club pitch in to support the ladies. So come on men, and show how much you appreciate the ladies! Please let me know if you would like to help, because I'll need it! *(Ed Note: In late-breaking news, Rachele Ross is campaigning for a bigger-than-normal 'do' for the Mermaid Regatta...and Rachele nearly always gets her way).*

The rum races are still going strong. Thanks, Stu Shadbolt!

- Bob Sowden, Fleet Captain

bumping their new aluminum fence. Our curbs don't extend far enough out away from the fence to stop long-nosed cars from bumping into it. Curb stops to remedy this problem are in the works, but in the meantime, please be careful.

The Seawall project has been delayed slightly due scheduling problems with the contractor, but should be moving forward soon. The Dock Electric project has been finalized and approved by the Board, and will be completed this Fall. We owe many thanks to Floyd Bryan and helpers for all the work they've done.

In case you don't know, long-time club member Marilyn Moulton has been in the hospital and is now at Sea Pines getting some rehab. If you're over that way, stop by and say hello. Her family is absent at this time, and I'm sure some visitors would be a big boost. Get well soon, Marilyn! We're looking forward to seeing you around the club again soon.

See you on the water...

- Gus Williams

## Notes on Hurricane Prep for MYC Boats

- Courtesy of Jack Bibb

Following is a list of things you can do to your boat to make it better able to withstand high winds while tied up at MYC docks (or anywhere).

**Face North to East:** In the Melbourne area, hurricane force winds will come from the north and east 99% of the time. We are extremely well protected from south and west winds. Tie your boat facing north to east so the bow will be into the prevailing wind. If this is not possible, be sure you have adequate dock lines on the north & east, and adequate fenders to the south and west. Your stern facing into the hurricane force wind creates 2-3 times the wind load as your bow — because the stern is flat.

**Adequate Clearance:** If your boat normally lies one foot or less from a dock or another boat, RE-TIE IT so there is adequate clearance for your boat to move side to side and front to back in the slip, taking up all slack in each direction and still not hitting dock or adjacent boat. If you can't quite get it set right, put out a lot of fenders - just tie them on well so they won't get blown away.

**Rig Spring Lines:** Run from a windward piling or dock to a cleat as far to the opposite end of the boat as possible. Make these lines as long as possible so they can stretch and act as shock absorbers. This eases the wind gust shock loads on the piling as well as the boat. This also allows room for rising water. All boats at MYC docks should have at least one spring line; two must be rigged for winds like we had with Erin. Use three strand nylon dock lines.

**Bow and Stern Lines:** Assuming your boat is facing to windward, there should be lines running from your bow cleat to both sides to hold it squarely in your slip. DOUBLE UP these bow lines to help stop the violent side-to-side motion caused by the high winds. The second lines should be tied slightly looser than the main bow lines to allow for rising water. Likewise, cross your stern lines so they are as long as possible while still holding your boat in the center of your slip. Longer lines accommodate rising water.

**Dock Line Size:** For boats 25' or less 3/8" line is barely adequate. For boats 25' to 35' - 1/2" dock line is adequate. For 35' to 44' use 5/8" to 3/4".

**Allow for Rising Water:** At our docks normal water levels fluctuate about 1-1/2 ft. In heavy storms and hurricanes, the water level can rise to level with the dock deck. Make all your dock lines as long as practical so your boat can rise with the water and not be "held down" by too short lines.

**Masts:** Adjust your boat backward or forward so your mast is at least 2-3 feet in front of or behind your neighbors' masts - so when the boats roll with wave action, the masts won't hit. Lash your boom(s) to the deck or rig a triangle bridge from the end of the boom to cleats or stanchions.

**Canvas:** Remove roller furling jibs BEFORE the wind rises. Remove Mains too, or wrap them securely inside the cover on the boom. Remove Bimini's, or at least fold them down and lash them securely. Also, remove anything that can flap, rattle or vibrate. High winds will destroy or remove anything loose.

**Chafing Gear:** Make sure lines running thru chocks are protected with rubber hose or commercially available chafe protectors. Chafe is one of the leading causes for boat loss in hurricanes.

**Extra Lines:** Leave extra dock lines in an UNLOCKED lazette in case they are needed later by Good Samaritans who watch out for boats and docks during storms.

**Fuel, Batteries:** You should have at least a half-full tank, and your batteries should be charged so that if you have to make a run for cover somewhere else, these essentials won't cause a last minute panic.

**Anchors:** Again - just in case - have at least two GOOD anchors aboard, ready for use, with at least 100 feet of 1/2" minimum line on each.

**Insurance:** Make sure your premiums are paid up!

**Dock Power:** Should be turned off before water level reaches dock deck level.

**Remember McCallister's Maxim:** *OVERKILL IS JUST ABOUT RIGHT!*

## Bulletin Board

### Please 'bus' Your Own Table at TGIF

TGIF is a do-it-yourself affair. When you get ready to leave, make sure all the empties and trash get trashed—not left on the table. The late-stayers at TGIF are continually getting stuck with cleaning up after everyone.

### MYC Has a Home Page!

Check out the results of Brent Saunders' efforts to set up a MYC Home Page on the Internet.

[www.dataflowsys.com/myc](http://www.dataflowsys.com/myc)

Way to go, Brent!

### Thanks to Dock Party-ers

Our Director of Docks, Floyd Bryan, would like to extend a thanks to all those that helped with the work on the docks on Saturday, July 11.

### Got a contribution for the newsletter?

Drop it off in the box marked 'Newsletter' in the MYC kitchen, bring it to the membership meeting (PC format floppy or print-out), or (best) e-mail it to:

[MYC@dataflowsys.com](mailto:MYC@dataflowsys.com)

Make sure you include your name and phone number, so we can call if we have questions.

### Questions?

See Newsletter Editor phone numbers on the front page.

## Our First Bahamas Cruise

- Stu Shadbolt

Brenda and I recently got back from a three-week cruise in the Abacos aboard our 30, the *Yankee Rebel*. On our first voyage to the Bahamas we discovered what most MYC cruisers already know, i.e. within a long day's sail from Florida's east coast are some of the most pristine cruising grounds anywhere.

We'd talked about making this trip for the seven years we've owned our boat. I continued pressing the issue until Brenda's initial, catatonic reaction mellowed to a fatalistic acquiescence.

Her one condition, which I quickly recognized as wise and timely, was that we would go with someone who's been there and knows what they're doing. (The subliminal message was that someone would also be able to assist her hapless husband if emergency repairs were required).

We couldn't have found a better couple of tour guides. **Jerry** and **Rachele Ross** have made this trip a dozen times, typically with tyros in tow. They never tired, (or if they did, never showed it) of our bow in their wake, a constant, nearby neighbor at all anchorages or endless questions from *Yankee Rebel* to *Sleighride* about waypoints, shoals, anchorages, weather, rpm settings or how to get the stink from a mound of conch shells collecting in our cockpit.

The cruise was a GREAT adventure; one we'll never forget. It was HOT (as it was here on the mainland) and SAIL NAKED became more than a bumper snicker. When the comfort index Vs temperature approximates a normal blood pressure reading, modesty gives way to survival! On the other hand the squalls were few - only three or four stormy nights plus one beaut of a thunderstorm on the way back to Fort Pierce (which came close to an apocalyptic experience).

With us on this voyage were **Mike** and **Dee Wilson** and their son, **Craig**, on their 32-Bayfield cutter, *Avalon*. Mike's a professor of aeronautics at Florida Tech who heard about the trip from Rachele. We hope we'll be seeing more of them around the MYC.

As many of you are aware, Jerry's a world-class organizer. Rachele, is only slightly less structured. In fact, the day before we left I found Jerry at the end of our docks throwing stones at the seagulls. When I asked what he was doing he replied, "I'm getting ready for our trip and don't want to leave one tern unstoned."

His TEN PAGES of printed instructions should go on the shelf at West Marine next to the other Bahama guides. If you're new at this game, as we were, the BEST way to prepare for a trip across is to follow his advice TO THE LETTER. That includes loading on at least ONE-HUNDRED AND TWENTY 16-ounce bottles of water! (Whether or not you also load FOUR CASES of beer is optional.) But the water was essential.

As was the camaraderie. At Green Turtle Cay the seven of us joined **Chris** and **Sue Reynolds** and **Lenny** and **Sherry Becket** who had been touring the Abacos (as had our **Commodore Gus** and his wife, **Mary**). We met at Roosters' Rest. If you've never been there, imagine one of those places your mother wouldn't let you go when you were a teenager. But the band was loud enough to make carrying a conversation unnecessary if not impossible, the light so dim even I looked good, and the local rum strong enough to pickle frogs.

We weren't the only MYCers in the Abacos. **Brent Saunders** and **Grant Marcher** were there for Abaco Race Week, though they didn't race the beautiful Hunter Legend. (Grant very accommodatingly gave up his bunk to **Laurie** who flew over for the sail home). **Mike** and **Bobbie Huck** took their Grand Banks trawler to serve as Race Committee and **Mike Silverman** on his Merit 28, *Falcon*, wound up third overall in the week's racing .... first underall in the week's partying.

Am I glad we finally made it to the Bahamas? Am I glad we had Jerry and Rachele to follow? Am I glad Chris and Sue had radar and that decadent device, AIR CONDTI ONI NG, on their boat? **AM I A TURTLE?**



The Board has approved one application for resident membership this month, which was presented and published in July. We would like to welcome to MYC:

**RICHARD (DICK) AND  
MICHELINE (RUSTI) NICHOLS**  
*Sponsor: Roy Owens*

When you see Dick and Rusti at the club, please welcome them to MYC.

## New Members

At this time we have one new application for resident membership:

**CLARKE AND JANICE WALKER**  
*Sponsor: Chet and Harriet Pruszynski*

Clarke and Janice live at 20 West End Lane in Sebastian, Florida. They are both X-ray Technicians.

The Walkers own a Hunter 30 (Yeah!!)

## Advanced Sailing Class Starts Aug 20

August 20th will be the start of the second youth sailing class. This next class is for youths who have completed the beginning sailing class, or who have prior small-boat sailing experience. This class will emphasize on more advanced sailing, such as racing techniques and tactics. Plans are to separate the Optimist and Sunfish boats into two different groups.

The classes will run Thursday nights 6pm to 8pm and Saturdays 9am till 2pm. The kids will spend most of the time on the water, learning boat handling and racing rules. Who knows, maybe we'll have a nice competitive fleet for the Fall Regatta.

Contact Dave Nobel or myself to sign up. - Sari Wakefield



named Katie Lee. They are very interested in learning more about sailing and sharing those all too loved sailing experiences with the rest of us. Sounds like we need to start a Hunter 30 Fleet in the near future!

Both Clarke and Janice have visited MYC for happy hours and participated in some Rum Races with Chet and Harriet. Having survived those activi-

ties they decided they would like to join us and be a part of the club.

Again, thanks for all your support this year. We have some great new members! Remember if you know of someone who's interested in finding out more about us, please let me know and I'll contact them.

Casting off for now... - Faye Bitzer

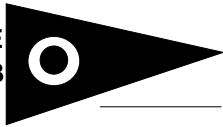
### Photo

Brenda Shadbolt as a  
Carnival Cruise Line Laundry Lady  
"Most Original"

### Photo

Guests Mike and Dee Wilson as  
Thurston Howell III and Luvy  
"Best Costume"

MELBOURNE  
YACHT CLUB



1202 E. RIVER DR. MELBOURNE, FL 32901

*The Tell Tale is the official newsletter of the Melbourne Yacht Club. Deadline for submissions is the first Wednesday of the month. All MYC members are encouraged to submit articles or notices of interest to the Club.*

**FIRST  
CLASS  
MAIL**

