

August 2003

The Nauti News



Homestead Yacht Club

Our 17th Year of Boating Fun

COMMODORE'S CORNER

Hi everyone. Well the year is half over and we have had a lot of fun but we still have a lot of fun left.

The trip to Bimini was a big success. Adia did an excellent job arranging everything for a great event. The trip over was very nice with just a light chop on the rollers but the wind picked up once we were there and never quit blowing. The Bimini Beach Club was as nice as ever and we even had Stevie S live in concert in the lounge. A Club member even went native after dancing to Stevie S and grew dreadlocks. On the 4th of July we had a great meal with so much food that we even served the Black Point Yacht Club with a large plate of cracked conch. Instedda joined the group on Saturday and we had a combination barbeque on the patio. Some of the members decided to do tequila shots and it was good thing that the pool was there so they could cool off. There was a DJ playing on the patio and everybody was dancing, with our resident Rasta man doing most of the dancing. With the wind blowing, a few boats decided to stay to await better conditions for their return and their crews flew back home. The rest of us braved the waves on Sunday. The return trip wasn't as bad as feared and we all made it home safely. I have heard from a few members that customs wasn't at all friendly to them and searched their boats looking thru everything. We cleared at Matheson and were in and out in just minutes with only a few how do you do's.

We need a few more members to sign up for the August 9th trip to Sunset Harbor; Bob Cowan is planning a steak BBQ for Saturday and a Brunch sendoff for Sunday. We always have a good time in Miami Beach so yall come now ya hear.

That's all from me for now, so may your winds be light and your seas smooth.

Commodore Bill



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Editor's Note

Thanks to Bill Clemons and Art Muina for providing some of the pictures they took during the Club event at Bimini. Some of them are included in this Newsletter and all are posted on the Photo Island web site.

Don't forget to visit our web site at: www.homesteadyachtclub.com now and then. Information about the club, upcoming events, previous issues of the Newsletter, etc are posted there.

Bill Zinn, sunbil@aol.com

Next Club Meeting

The August Club meeting will be held on August 4th at the Redland Country Club. Please remember to confirm your attendance with Ely so that she can provide the Country Club with a accurate head count for dinner. Either email her at: EDDYELY@aol.com or phone her at: 305-270-1527

Bahamas Cruising Permit Fees Increased

As everyone who went to Bimini for the Club event already knows, the Government of the Bahamas unexpectedly raised the fee for the cruising permit that must be purchased when you enter the Bahamas. The fee, which several years ago was raised to \$100, was recently raised to \$150 for boats up to 35 feet and to \$300 for boats over 35 feet. Details of the increase and related subjects have been addressed in recent items in both the Miami Herald and Southern Boating magazine. The one Herald item, which by the way quotes the opinion of HYC member Debbie Justice, points out that a web site to protest the increases has been created by Florida boaters at www.boycottbahams.com. The site contains some interesting info/comments and is worth a visit. The Southern Boating item discusses the fee increases and also quotes a Bahamas Ministry of Tourism spokesperson as stating that the individual Customs official who clears you into the Bahamas has "the discretion to grant a stay of as long as eight months or as short as 30 days." If the permit is for a shorter period than you need, you must go back to the Customs office where you entered the Bahamas to request an extension. The item also states that the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism has asked boat owners to email comments regarding the permit costs to: kgomez@Bahamas.com or rtresco@Bahamas.com. The item also points out that the chances of getting the fees reduced are probably slim to none.

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Welcome New Members

Please extend a welcome to new members Irene Murray and Mike Richardson. Their sailboat "Baikal" is in slip D-14 at Homestead.

Minutes of July Homestead Yacht Club Meeting

Commodore Bill Clemons called meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. on July 7, 2003. Bill apologized for the confusion surrounding the fish fry. The chairman for the event was very busy being a very new daddy. Due to baby duty and a mosquito alert issued for the marina, the fish fry was postponed. It will be rescheduled at a later date.

Minutes for last meeting were corrected to read that the previous outing was held at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club and not Bahia Mar. Corrected minutes accepted as appearing in the newsletter.

Charlene Powell presented the treasurer's report. She shows a beginning balance of \$6408.49, income of \$292.00 from membership dues, 50/50 for April and June, and ship's store. Expenses ...breakfast at Coral Ridge \$122.00 and sunshine club \$110.22 for a total of \$232.22 Ending balance \$6468.27.

Olga and Bob Hernandez, new members, were presented with their burgee.

Buz Strandhagen, park liaison: Buz presented a letter/petition, prepared by Bob Cowan, to protest any rate increase being considered by Dade County marinas. Bob's concerns represent the Matheson Yacht Club as well as Homestead's. Several people in attendance signed the letter. Buz further reported that Jeannie is still having health problem and not around the marina. Angel is walking the docks. Buz has asked that marina personnel be more aware of any boats that appear to be in trouble, as in sinking. Judy Love asked if the rumors of a 10% rate increase were true and Bill Clemons assured her that this seems to be just speculation.

No reports on the web site or newsletter as Larry Roesch and Bill Zinn were both out of town and did not attend this meeting.

Commodore Clemons presented the fishing tournament awards. Heroildo Geronimo took LARGEST FISH with a 12 pound 3 ounce Bull Dolphin and Mario Espineira LARGEST CATCH. He and his crew brought in approximately 60 pounds of fish. Congratulations to both proud fishermen.

Carole Timmons, Sunshine Committee, says NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS.

The 4th of July in Bimini was wonderful. Commodore Clemons reported that Aida and Geronimo did a wonderful job on this event. Stevie S. appeared and sang, tequila shots warmed everyone up enough to take advantage of the pool and many new stories were created. A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL.

Bob Cowan says we need ten boats signed up for Sunset Harbor to get the \$1.75 a foot rate. It is scheduled for Aug. 8.9 and 10th. Cost is \$10.00 per person and includes dinner on Saturday night and eye openers on Sunday.

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For the September Labor Day outing at Hawk's Cay, we have 18 slips reserved. Cost is \$25.00 per person and covers dinner Saturday night and brunch on Sunday.

50/50 won by Linda Clemons.

Next meeting will be on Aug. 4th.

Submitted by Claire Strandhagen for Teresa Dean

Immigration Reenter Requirement

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requirement for boaters reentering the US after visiting a foreign port to check in with an Immigration office in person was again addressed in a recent Miami Herald item. According to the article, U.S. Rep Mark Foley of Palm Beach recently received a letter from the DHS assistant secretary for legislative affairs which states that they are looking at various way to relax this requirement. Among the things being considered are the issuing of seasonal permits to "trusted travelers" which would permit check in via phone rather than in person and the installation of two-way videophones at various marinas to facilitate phone check in. While this sounds encouraging, there was no indication of plans for changes in the near future. EDITORS NOTE: What is really scary is the fact that the Assistant Secretary's letter states, "given the heightened security concerns and the necessity of strong and effective border controls, any alternative inspection process for small boaters must first be secure." If the people in charge at DHS actually think that requiring boaters to drive to the nearest Immigration office to check in has really increased security, then we are in worse trouble than I thought.

Bimini Event Photos



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Additional photos are posted on the Photo Island web site. To view them, go to:
www.photoisland.com Use guest ID: sunbil and Password: hyc

Sunshine News

Once again, No News is Good News. If you have any news relative to the health or welfare of Club members or their families, please let Carol Timmons know at 305-254-7663 or carols_Crew@adelphia.net

Future Club Events

Sunset Harbor

on

Weekend of Aug 9-10

Contact Bob Cowan for additional details and reservations

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HAWKS CAY
on
LABOR DAY WEEKEND

The following is a the list of boats currently signed up
and their scheduled arrival dates:

Larry Roesch	Sharkay	8/29/03
George Mayer	Instedda	8/29/03
Bill Clemons	Linda C too	8/29/03
Benjamin Mantilla	Benjamin's Cruiser	8/29/03
Dwayne Powell	Charley Girl	8/29/03
Jerry Cline	Prop Job	8/30/03
George McDermot	Sandpiper	8/29/03
Charlie Sammarco	Ups & Downs	8/29/03
Ted Newlan	Cruzana	8/29/03
Mario Espineira	Wave Tamer	8/29/03
Ken Coffey	Ouyana	8/29/03
Barry Snipes	Fin-Alley	8/30/03
Deiter Herber	Volare	8/29/03
Roger North	Our Retreat	8/30/03
Wilfredo Podron	Cojimar	8/30/03
Stan Scherer	Our Joy	8/27/03
Adia Geronimo	Sea's the Day	8/30/03
Ed Prats	Gear Up	8/30/03
Nestor Hernandez	Dragon Lines	8/29/03

Call the Dock Masters office at 1-888-443-6393 to confirm

There is room at the docks for one more boat and hotel rooms are still available. You can call the number above to reserve a room. I need a head count of people for the dinner Saturday night, including anyone driving down. You can email or call me. Thanks Bill Clemons