

August 2002



The Nauti News

Homestead Yacht Club

Our 16th Year of Boating Fun

HYC Celebrates the 4th



Monica Adams and Jan Mayer celebrate July 4th in the Bahamas

Commodore's Letter

Haven't heard anything momentous about the trip to the Bahamas, so I am assuming that all boats and all captains and all mates returned safely - no missing props or shafts or whatever else.

On August 10th we're having a half day party at Alabama Jack's on Card Sound Road in Key Largo. You can come by car, you can come by boat, you can come by motorcycle, but the party starts at high noon and ends whenever. The band plays from 2:00 - 5:00 and dancing is required. You can order off the menu and each couple will run it's own tab. Phyllis is going to serve her world famous conch fritters, so however you get there, come hungry. Lance said that if anyone wants to come via "big boat" that he will run a shuttle service between the anchorage and the restaurant. If you can't come to the meeting on Aug 5th, **please call me at 305-431-5479 and let me know how many people will be coming.** There is no charge, but we'd like at least a vague idea of how many people will be there.

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Coming soon to a yacht club near you - September Hawk's Cay, Oktoberfest at Homestead Marina, Thanksgiving at Plantation??, and the December Boat Parade in Key Largo.

We are still in need of a volunteer from the club to take care of the monthly phone/mail list, which consists primarily of determining how many people will be attending the meeting at the Redland Country Club each month, and then letting the caterer know how many to prepare for. The pay is not so good, but the good news is that there is some amount of work to do. The major benefit both for the volunteer and the club is to enjoy a sense of contributing to the success of your yacht club.



Please Note: The Sept meeting will be on the 9th

Commodore Bob

Next Club Meeting

The next HYC meeting will be on Monday, August 5th at the Redland Country Club. Menu is your choice of Chicken Parmesan or Shrimp Primavera. Please make your reservations and indicate your choice for dinner with Carol Timmons at 305-254-7663 or carols_crew@mindspring.com

Editor's Note

Thanks to John & Monica Adams and Bill & Linda Clemons for sending me some photos from the Club's event in the Bahamas. Their photos have been posted to the Photoisland web site and some have been included in this newsletter. Thanks also to Steve Bell for his "Best of..." article.

Remember, if you have photos or information that you feel would be of interest to other members, please get it to me and I will do my best to include it in the next newsletter.

If you are not receiving email notifications of the club meetings, the posting of club photos, or the electronic version of the newsletter, it may be because we do not have your correct email address. Simply send me an email and I will see that you are included in club email list.

Bill Zinn sunbil@aol.com

New Members

Please add the following new members to your roster and welcome them to the club:

Tim & Dawn Kressly 19750 SW 302 St Homestead, Fl 33030 305-248-2845
Their 26' power boat is trailered from home.

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Minutes of July Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM.

Teresa Dean was on vacation and the minutes were taken by Carol Timmons. Minutes of last months meeting were accepted as printed in the Newsletter.

A Thank You was extended to the Kline's and Cowan's for the June outing to Key Largo. A good time was had by all in attendance.

Old business:

Treasures report, Jan Mayer: The beginning balance was \$5837.40. There was \$829.00 income from the June 50/50, the Key Largo Outing, the Bimini BBQ and new membership. Expenses for the Newsletter, two guest dinners, Coconuts restaurant and the Key Largo event were \$614.15. The ending balance is \$6052.25.

Sunshine Chairman, Monica Adams, was on vacation: Angie Ficken's mother has passed away.

Membership Chairman, Bill Clemons, was on vacation: No report.

Newsletter, Bill Zinn: Nothing to report.

Ships store, Chuck and Dodi Burnitz: Not in attendance.

Park Liaison, Buz Strandhagen: On vacation.

Telephone Coordinator, Barb Kelly: Announced that she was resigning her position and has resigned from the yacht club. Commodore Bob Timmons stated that she would be greatly missed and asked for a volunteer to take over as Telephone Coordinator.

New business:

The September meeting will be on September 9 because September 1 is Labor Day and the yacht club is having an event at Hawk's Cay that weekend.

The August outing is a dingy/small boat trip to Alabama Jacks at Noon on August 10. Lance will provide rides to anyone who anchors out and needs a ride to the restaurant. Phyllis will be serving her delicious Conch Fritters. Drinks/lunch are on your own tab. The Commodore asked for a show of hands of those who were planning on attending and it looks like there will be a good turnout.

September is Hawks Cay for Labor Day week-end. George McDermot put a sign-up sheet on each table for a head count. The dinner plans and cost will be presented at the next meeting.

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Oktober Fest - Art and Maria Muina volunteered to chair this event.

Since the meeting was on Art Muina's 50th birthday, Maria brought a cake and the members helped him to celebrate.

50/50 drawing was held and the winner of \$30.50 was Art and Maria's daughter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Club's Bahama Event



Additional photos are posted to the Photoisland web site. To view them, go to www.photoisland.com, use visitor log in: sunbil and password: hyc then select album: Bahamas2002.

The Best of...The Upper Keys

Three Bells recently cruised the upper keys and, as usual, came home with not much money and lots of opinions. The following chart lists some, for what they are worth. All establishments are accessible by small boat.

As you can see, Smuggler's cove has the most entries. It recently changed hands and has an excellent chef named Lupe. Try it if you're there.

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The Best	Establishment	Location	Comments
Planter's Punch	Banana Hut at Smuggler's Cove	S. side Snake Creek Bridge Bayside	Weekends Only
Conch Chowder 1	Smuggler's Cove	S. side Snake Creek Bridge Bayside	
Conch Chowder 2	Big Conch	S. side Snake Creek Bridge Oceanside	
Conch Chowder 3	Lorelei's	Islamorada outside Little Basin	
Cracked Conch	Smuggler's Cove	S. side Snake Creek Bridge Bayside	Unique Preparation
Sauteed Conch	Papa Joe's	S. tip Upper Matecumbe at Bridge	"Cracked Conch" on
Fish Sandwich	Holiday Isle	Islamorada	Grilled
Restaurant \$\$\$	Pierre's	Little Basin - Islamorada	Superb
Restaurant \$\$	Morada Bay	Little Basin - Islamorada	Excellent
Restaurant \$	Smuggler's Cove	S. side Snake Creek Bridge Bayside	Good Quality - Best Value



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Hurricane Hunters

by Bill Zinn

In preparation for this hurricane season, the Hurricane Hunters, based in Biloxi, Mississippi, recently deployed two of their C-130 aircraft to Homestead to conduct training flights. Our friend, who flies with the



Bill & Sandy at Hurrican Hunter C-130

Hurricane Hunters as a dropsonde operator, offered Sandy and I a tour of one of the aircraft, which we of course accepted. The first thing that strikes you upon entering the aircraft is the fact that there is nothing fancy about the inside of these aircraft. Half of the cargo bay is filled with a fuel tank, which gives them an additional two hours of flight time. The planes have of course been slightly modified to accommodate the weather officer, dropsonde operator and weather observer positions, but other than that, they are basic C-130 aircraft. Our friend's dropsonde operator's position is located

in the rear of the aircraft, not the smoothest place to ride in rough weather. His job is to place the dropsonde capsules into the launch tube and launch them when told to do so by the weather officer. He then monitors and records the data sent back to the aircraft by the capsule. The dropsonde capsules are loaded with instruments which measure, among other things, the barometric pressure and wind speed at various elevations as it descends, on a parachute, through the hurricane. What we found very interesting is the fact that the dropsondes they use now, have GPS instrumentation which is used to compute wind speeds, basically the same way that the GPS on your boat computes the speed of your boat. Information from the dropsonde is sent back to the operator on the aircraft who prepares it for the weather officer to send it to the Hurricane Center here in Miami. While our friend, who has been flying with the Hunters for over five years, loves his job, Sandy and I quickly concluded that it was not our idea of a fun way to spend your spare time, but at the same time, we have a new appreciation for the fact that others do it to help keep us safe during the Hurricane Season.



Dropsonde position with launch tube



Fuel tank, on left, in cargo bay