

December 2002



# The Nauti News

## Homestead Yacht Club

### Our 16th Year of Boating Fun

---

#### Commodore's Letter

By the time that you read this, we will still be looking forward to Turkeys in Key Largo - a/k/a A Mayer Thanksgiving. The club will be visiting the Pilot House marina in Key Largo for the weekend. Jan & George Mayer will once again chair the event and conduct the annual deep frying of the turkeys. I confess that until I attended my first HYC Thanksgiving in Plantation I didn't even know that this could be done, or should be done, But, it can and it should. To George & Jan goes, in advance, a heartfelt Thank You for yet another job well done.

The December meeting has been moved to the second Monday - December 9th. The meals will all be half price!! But, as is often the case, there is a catch. Each couple should bring a Holiday gift to exchange that evening and the gift should not be valued at more than \$13. Haven't exactly figured out how the exchange is to take place, but it may involve the leftover 50-50 drawing tickets. So come and join the last HYC monthly meeting of 2002 - half priced meals and you'll leave with a gift besides!!

Bill Clemons is the incoming Commodore for the 2003 year. I am sure that he will be seeking volunteers to chair the various events during the course of the year. If you can spare the time - volunteer!! - and contact Bill C. to see when and where and what needs to be done.

Thirty five shopping days until Christmas! Forty two days until New Year's. Forty four days until the 'Canes play in the Fiesta Bowl. Fifty seven days until the 2003 Change of Watch Party - at the Redlands on January 18th. Details will be out shortly. More music, food, and fun.

I'd like to extend Seasons Greetings from Carol & myself to the entire membership of the Homestead Yacht Club. May all your wishes come true and your blessings be plenty.

Whatever you do on the water has to be fun! Until next time, keep the wind at your back.

Commodore Bob



## **December 2002**

### **Editor's Note**

Included in this newsletter is an article about visiting the Dry Tortugas and Fort Jefferson. Hopefully you will find it interesting and helpful in the event you make such a trip. Thanks to Larry Roesch for providing some of the photos used in the item.

Remember that previous newsletters as well as membership renewal forms are available on our web site at: [www.homesteadyachtclub.com](http://www.homesteadyachtclub.com)

Bill Zinn [sunbil@aol.com](mailto:sunbil@aol.com)

### **Its Renewal Time Again**

& Time is getting short

It's that time of year to renew your membership and the end of the year is getting closer. I know its hard to believe but another year has gone by, but for just a measly \$60 you can have another great year with the Homestead Yacht Club. So please get those dues in now. Early renewal will ensure that next years rosters can be prepared and all of our members will receive their copy in a timely manner. Remember to fill your membership renewal applications in completely so that all of your information can be updated. Next year promises to be another great year of boating fun with HYC!!!!!!

Bill Clemons [LindaCtoo@cs.com](mailto:LindaCtoo@cs.com)

### **Next Club Meeting**

The December club meeting will be on the second Monday of the month, December 9th, at the Redland Country Club. The menu will be Ham or Roast Beef, with all the usual fixins. Bring a wrapped gift, preferably with a nautical theme and valued at not more than \$13.00, and your dinners will be half price. Confirm reservations with Carol Timmons at 305-431-5479 or [carols\\_crew@adelphia.net](mailto:carols_crew@adelphia.net)

### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Minutes of Homestead Bayfront Yacht Club Monday, November 4, 2002.

Commodore Bob Timmons called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

The minutes from last month's meeting were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Jan Mayer presented the treasurer's report for November, which showed an ending balance of \$5,050.57. She reported the following income for November: 50/50 October \$40.00; Oktoberfest \$50.00. Expenses for November were as follows: Art Muina for the Oktoberfest party \$836.98; two guest dinners \$26.00; newsletter expenses \$83.07; flowers (Sunshine Committee) \$50.59. Total expenses for November were \$996.64.

Bill Zinn, newsletter Editor, reported that anyone who did not receive a newsletter may pick one up at the bar.

## **December 2002**

Park Liaison Buzz was absent.

Bill Clemens had no new membership news to report.

Sunshine Committee member Monica Adams was absent. Commodore Bob Timmons reported that Angie Ficken's mother passed away and flowers were sent by the club. Art Thornton is making a speedy recovery from recent surgery. Dee Riley became a Grandmother this month. Congratulations Dee! Please call or e-mail Monica with any news.

Ship's Store Manager Chuck Burnitz was absent; the store will reopen at the next meeting.

Carol Timmons, our temporary telephone coordinator, had nothing new to report. We still need this position filled for the coming year. Please volunteer—this is a great opportunity for new members to get acquainted!

New Business:

Thanks were extended to Art and Maria Muina for an outstanding job with the Oktoberfest celebration held at Homestead Bayfront Park's pavilion.

Officer nominations for the new bridge were accepted: Bill Clemons / Commodore; George McDermot / Vice; Teresa Dean / Secretary; Charlene Powell / Treasurer .

The Change of Watch will be held at the Redland Country Club on January 18, 2003.

Jan Mayer announced that there are five boats signed up for the Thanksgiving turkey fry to be held at the Pilot House in Key Largo. The turkeys will be served on Friday so that members can enjoy Thanksgiving Day with their families. Jan asked that each boat bring a side dish and appetizer. There will be a \$5.00 fee for members. Please contact Jan Mayer A.S.A.P. for reservations as slips are still available.

Nothing is planned as yet for the Key Largo boat parade on December 21<sup>st</sup>. It was suggested that maybe another club member volunteer and put a group together for the parade. No decision was reached.

Dinners will be offered at half-price at the next meeting. Each couple was asked to bring a \$13.00 wrapped gift to the meeting. Please contact the Commodore for details.

Linda Clemons suggested we take some time at the next meeting to set an agenda for next year.

Aida Geronimo won the 50-50 drawing.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Teresa Dean, Secretary

### **For Sale**

1998 SEADOO GTXL  
WAVERUNNER  
With Cover and Trailer

Top of the Line 3 Seater for Sport / Cruise  
New Pistons, Rings, Carbs and Pump Rebuilt  
Runs Great 170 hours  
\$4000 Call: 305-248-2845

## December 2002

### Dry Tortugas

Following Fantasy Fest in Key West last month, Sharkay and Instedda visited the Dry Tortugas and Fort Jefferson. If you have never been there, it is well worth the trip and the following information is provided in the hopes that it will be helpful to anyone planning such a trip.

The trip over to the Dry Tortugas from Key West was pleasant and enjoyable. We traveled south of the Marquesas Keys and Rebecca Shoal and then northwest between Iowa Rock and Hospital Key. The channel between Fort Jefferson and Bush Key was filled in some time ago by a storm and thus you have to enter the anchorage area via the channel west of the Fort. The anchorage area is directly in front of the Fort entrance and their dock (not for use by private boaters). While anchors hold well in the anchorage area, it can be a bit rough as we found out our first night there, with lots of rocking and rolling. However, our second night was not bad at all.

Fort Jefferson is an impressive facility. The visitor's center contains

considerable historical information about the Fort and there is a very good video/slide show presentation. You can then take a well laid out self guided tour of the facility, which includes a walk along the top of the Fort and a great view of the surrounding area. One word of caution, when you use your dingy to go from your boat to the Fort, beach it to the right of the dock, between the dock and the sea plane parking area. While there are no signs telling you to do this, if you use one of the empty boat slips

to the left of the dock, you may wind up having to go see the head Ranger to retrieve the keys to your dingy and receive a lecture on why you should not use those slips, as Captains George and Larry had to do.

Loggerhead Key, with it's light house, is located just west of Fort Jefferson and is well worth a visit. We went there by dingy with no problems. It was a bit too rough to snorkel on the Windjammer wreck located southwest of Loggerhead Key as we had planned, but we were able to visit the beautiful beach on the west side of the Key.

On our trip back from Dry Tortugas, we discovered that what we had



## **December 2002**

heard about the channel between Fort Jefferson and Rebecca Shoals sometimes being very rough was true. Even with all of the bridge windows closed, many of us still got pretty wet and it was not what you would call a fun crossing. For the return we went north of Rebecca and the Marquesas Keys, to the channel northwest of Key West. Once we passed north of Rebecca Shoals, it flattened out a bit and the remainder of the return trip was fine.

One word of caution, the waters around the lower Keys and the Marquesas Keys are loaded with crab/lobster traps. Luckily we only had to stop once to remove line from one of Sharkay's props.



Ranger explaining dingy parking rules to Capts George and Larry



Moat around Fort Jefferson and the path to Bush Key (right center)

## **Swimming Aid**



Some have rubber Duckies  
others have rubber Horsies

**December 2002**

**Homestead Bayfront Park Yacht Club  
2003 Membership Renewal Form**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Captian's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mate's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Other Phone (name/location)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Other Phone (name/location)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**E-Mail Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Vessel

Power\_\_\_\_ Sail\_\_\_\_

Size: Length\_\_\_\_\_ Beam\_\_\_\_\_ Draft\_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Dock & Slip\_\_\_\_\_  
Marina name/Home/Trailer

**Mail this form along with your \$60.00 check made payable  
to Homestead Yacht Club**

**to:**

Bill Clemons, Membership Chairperson  
662 SE 22nd Drive  
Homestead, Fl 33033-5204