



The Nauti News Homestead Yacht Club

34 years of boating and social fun

www.homesteadyachclub.com

December 2019

Volume 34, Number 10

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Letter from the Commodore

This will be my last item as Commodore, so I will keep it very brief.

First a thank you to everyone who helped make 2019 a successful year. A special thanks goes to my bridge for keeping me out of trouble. Hopefully you will give Commodore Dave lots of support during 2020.

A bit of local news: It has been announced that annual passes for the Card Sound toll bridge are now available. Cost for the annual pass is "only" \$370.

Sandy and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Commodore Bill



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Zinn

Vice Commodore:
Dave Guiliani

Secretary: Claire
Strandhagen

Treasurer: Linda
Wood

Chairpersons

Membership Dave
Guiliani

Park Liaison: Buz
Strandhagen

Roster: Sandy Zinn

Sunshine: Teresa
Dean

Meeting
Coordinator: Linda
Wood

Newsletter: Annie
Kokenge

Web Master: Larry
Roesch



Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Cmdr. Bill at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes from last meeting accepted as appeared in newsletter.
Reports;

Newsletter...Everything good.

Claudia let us know that the marina is getting new gates on the docks and will be using key cards instead of a key for entrance.

Roster: Please let Sandy know of any changes so she can get rosters ready for next year. **REMINDER**....dues are due for next year, \$75.00 for family and \$50.00 for single.

Meeting coordinator: Linda says everything good.

Change of watch: Cmdr. Bill says...."still working on it, looking at Redland Country Club but nothing for sure.

Treasurer's report: Beginning balance \$2,931, ending balance \$2,834.07 Full report elsewhere in newsletter.

No decision yet on meeting in January.

Chip thanked Cmdr.. for stepping up and taking job for next year.

Meeting closed at 7:15 pm.

50/50 won by Mario and he donated the \$40.00 to the club.

Respectfully submitted, Claire Strandhagen, Secretary



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Treasurer Report

Beginning Balance August 31, 2019

\$ 2,931.87

INCOME:

November 50/50	\$30.00
T Thanksgiving dinner – members	130.00
- a guest paid	25.60
Membership payment	75.00

INCOME 260.60

EXPENSES:

Thanksgiving dinner – Capri 358.40

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 358.40

Ending Balance November 31, 2019

\$ 2,834.07

SUBMITTED BY: Linda Wood, Treasurer



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Dues

Club Dues

It is Club membership renewal time again. Dues have been slightly increased and there will be two types of membership, family/household and single person. Also, memberships for new members will be prorated based on time of year they join. Following are the prorated dues schedules:

Family/Household

Jan, Feb	\$75
Mar, Apr, May	\$70
Jun, Jul, Aug	\$60
Sep, Oct, Nov	\$50
Dec	\$115 (membership for Dec and following year)

Single Person

Jan, Feb	\$50
Mar, Apr, May	\$45
Jun, Jul, Aug	\$40
Sep, Oct, Nov	\$30
Dec	\$75 (membership for Dec and following year)

NOTE: Renewing members pay full yearly membership fee (\$75 or \$50)



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2019 Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 19	Change of Watch	Members	Capri Rest
February 4	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest
February 17	Membership Drive	Dave G	Homestead Bayfront Park
March 4	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest
March 16	Tour Fruit & Spice	Linda W	Fruit & Spice
April 1	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest
April 13	Bayanza Cleanup	Annie K	Biscayne Natl Park
May 6	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest
May 17	Marina Social	Dave G	Homestead Marina
June 3	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest
June 15	Raft-up 11:00 am	Adams, Casanave, Kokenge, Dean	Billy's Point
August 5	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest
August 17	Raft-up 11:00 am	Adams, Casanave, Kokenge, Dean	by Univ docks
Sept 9	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest
Sept 28	Miami Spice		Schnebly Winery
October 7	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest
October 19	Film		Biscayne Natl Park
November 4	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest
December 2	Dinner Meeting		Capri Rest

Club meetings are held each month on the first Monday of the month at the Capri Restaurant, 935 N Krome Avenue, Homestead, FL. There is a social time and dinner (6:00 pm) prior to the meeting which begins promptly at 7:00 pm. Members are notified of the meeting location and any changes via email and/or phone.



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Keys History

The Story Behind Toilet Seat Cut

Toilet Seat Cut, a bona fide tourist attraction, is in the waters of Florida Bay around mile marker 90 in Islamorada. About 250 decorated toilet seats line a 60-foot-wide manmade channel near mangrove islands and seagrass flats enabling boat travel between the western end of Plantation Key and the eastern end. A five-foot-tall pirate and mailbox are part of the decorations planted in the marl as well

Cheryl Lamp shed light on the history of the useful shortcut, verified by a longtime Florida Keys family, the Wrenns, who have a street named after them near Coral Shores High School.

A Miami-based architect, Vernon D. Lamp, built a second home in 1956 on three lots in the Plantation Key Colony neighborhood of the Keys. He enjoyed fishing and was a member of the Miami Rod and Reel Club. His children, Steven and Cheryl, loved coming to the Keys. They participated in the Elks Lodge sailing races, and Cheryl recalled going to Rusty's Bait and Tackle, which doesn't exist anymore, and collecting starfish and sea urchins from the Bay and painting some of them to sell to tourists. Ted Williams, baseball hall of famer, was a guest at the Lamp's "Key House," as they called it.

When Vernon departed in his boat from his home on Coconut Palm Boulevard to have dinner at the Plantation Yacht Harbor at mile marker 87 bayside, he grew tired of having to take a long, slow and circuitous journey out to Cow Pens to get to the restaurant that was a mere three miles away as the crow flies. So, little by little, he carved a throughway in the wavering seagrass on the flat close to his neighborhood.

According to his daughter, Cheryl, her father attached a 50 horsepower motor to his boat named "Bucktail" and dredged through the grassy flat. With persistence, he eventually created a five-to-six-foot wide channel, wide enough for a small johnboat or flats skiff to motor through. Then, he added posts to mark the way.



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In 1960, along came Hurricane Donna, which passed over the Florida Keys. On one of the posts that Lamp had installed in his cut, a nail jutted out, and after the storm had passed, Lamp motored through his favorite shortcut and received a surprise. On that nail hung the rim of a toilet seat. There had been much damage in the Keys, and household belongings like this toilet seat simply blew away in the storm. "He washed it, disinfected it, painted it and hung it right back where it had landed after Donna," Cheryl said. "My father had a sense of humor."

Tom Wrenn graduated from Coral Shores High School in 1966 when it was one building for Kindergarten through 12th grades and was friends with Steven Lamp. "There were 39 kids in my graduating class," he recalled.

"Vernon was an absolute character. He was a teaser. He put that toilet seat with no hinges on one side of the cut and the toilet seat lid on the other end so he could find his way home after dark with a spotlight. Back then, there was no protection for the seagrass like there is now.



In the 60s, it was only wide enough for a single propeller. Every time, I went back to the Keys after moving to New York in 1971, it kept getting wider and more elaborate. It's a tourist attraction now."

Keys residents and visitors quietly commemorate events like birthdays, weddings and spring break by hanging toilet seats now. It is not legal, but that hasn't stopped the tradition that began 56 years ago.