

March 2003



The Nauti News

Homestead Yacht Club

Our 17th Year of Boating Fun

COMMODORE'S CORNER

Well we just completed our first club function for the year and what a function it was! Besides Annabelle out doing her self on the Jambalaya (George helped some), everyone brought great side dishes and desserts. Like always there was never enough to eat (not)!! Larry did his normal fabulous job of being DJ and everyone said the selection of songs couldn't have been better. There was dancing in the street and in the parking spaces. We even got two new members when they saw how much fun everyone was having.

I think that this is a sign of things to come. I just want to thank everyone that helped to make this so successful.

Next month Dee is planning a really great outing to No Name Harbor, so y'all come ya hear!

Until next time may your winds be light and your seas smooth.

Commodore Bill



Next Club Meeting

The next meeting of the Homestead Yacht Club will be on Monday, March 3rd at the Redland Country Club. Choices for dinner are Chicken Parmesan or Lasagna Ziti, with Caesar Salad, Veggies, desert, etc. Make your reservations and dinner selection with Ely Pratt as soon as possible.

Editor's Note

Thanks to the sponsors of future club events for providing an input to be included in the Newsletter. It certainly makes things easier and is appreciated.

Also, for the benefit of our new members and as a reminder to other members, information about the club, future events, past Newsletter, etc can be found on the Club's web site at: www.homesteadyachtclub.com

Again, thanks for all the support... Bill Zinn sunbil@aol.com

March 2003

City of Miami increases Marina slip fees

On February 12, Club member Dwayne Powell was notified by the City of Miami that the fee for the slip where he was keeping his sail boat, at Dinner Key Marina, was being raised from \$450 to over \$850. This action prompted the following item from Dwayne:

SHORTAGE OF DOCKAGE SPACE JUSTIFIES INCREASE?

By Dwayne Powell

The Wednesday, February 19, 2003 Miami Herald quotes Miami City Commissioner Johnny Winton as follows:

“ Shortage of dockage space is exactly why the increase is justified. I don't think it's fair for the rest of the citizens of the city to have a public facility where we are undercharging people. If they don't have a choice, then that doesn't mean we are ripping you off” Commissioner Winton is referring to the recent almost doubling of rates at Dinner Key Marina with a two- week notice to its patrons. Certainly, no one would question a marina's right to charge a fair rate. Most people probably do not see any reason to shed tears over a bunch of yacht owners.

However, there are no Trumps, Kennedys or Rockefellers at Dinner Key Marina but instead the large majority are hard working individuals who live on a budget. A large number have lived on their boat at Dinner Key Marina for decades. Many work in the marina industry- marine mechanics, boat repairs, sail makers, shrimpers. Many live and work at the marina. Some are retired and living on a fixed income.

I respectfully disagree with Commissioner Winton. Frankly, I question whether the increase in rates is legal but whether it is legal or not it is a rip off and it is wrong. I considered mentioning unethical but I will let you come to your own conclusion on ethics. Miami City Mayor Diaz is a partner in Monty's which charges an outrageous rate for its dockage. In addition, the new private Grove Key Marina, which the city sold to a private company, has high rates. Now with the increase in the Dinner Key Marina rates boaters have a choice of high rates. Wow! That is brilliant!

I urge you to consider voicing your disapproval of the Dinner Key rip off by writing a letter to the Miami Herald or send a short e-mail to HeraldEd@herald.com.

Why should you worry? Well, first if you are a boater in Dade County you will probably be next. It could be increased dockage or ramp fees at county parks. It may be increased costs in bait or work on your boat. It may not have anything to do with boats. Politicians understand public opinion. Take a few minutes and voice yours or pay later.

For the record Charlene and I have moved “Charley Girl’ back to the marina we first fell in love with-Homestead Bayfront.

Editors Note: In a February 19th article regarding the fee increases, the Miami Herald pointed out that two private marinas in the area charge as much as \$620 and \$936 per month and then stated, “The six marinas owned by Miami-Dade County charge roughly \$400 a month.” Think that might give the County Commission an idea?

Boat US-West Marine

In January, Boat US announced that they have sold their retail store and catalog sales operations to West Marine. Other Boat US services such as their insurance, marina discounts, and emergency towing will not change as a result of this action.

March 2003

Please Make the Following New Members feel Welcome



Nestor & Monica
Hernandez

Don & Dianne
Sapp

Hugo Diaz &
Pauline Debeche

Bill & Jules
O'Brien

Sunshine News

Everyone was happy to see Charlene Powell at the last meeting after her surgery.

On February 19, Judy Love suffered a heart attack. After time in the Homestead and South Miami hospitals, she was released to go home on the 23rd. We wish her well and a speedy recovery. Flowers were sent to her.

If you hear news about a club member's health, please either call me at 305-254-7663 or email me at Carols_Crew@Adelphia.net Thanks
Keep the sun shining, Carol Timmons

Lobster Season Options Discussed

According to a recent article in the Miami Herald, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission recently held a series of public meetings seeking comments on proposed management options for lobster in South Florida. Among the options proposed by the Commission are: A special \$10 mini-season permit for lobster hunters in the Keys, increased enforcement of the six lobsters per person per day bag limit, more effort to prohibit divers from placing objects in the water to create lobster habitats, and Setting commercial dive trip limits. The meetings were held between February 18th and 20th in Key West, Marathon, and at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Lejeune Rd in Miami. The outcome of the meetings was not reported by the Herald; however, the Keys News reported that the general sentiment of the Key West meeting was, Lets Get Rid of Mini Season. Considering the meeting locations, it would appear as though the Commission feels that no one in the Cutler Ridge, Homestead, or Key Largo areas is interested in the taking of lobsters.

March 2003

February Dock Party Photos



Additional Photos are posted on the Photo Island web site.
Go to: www.photoisland.com Use guest ID: sunbil and password: hyc

Minutes of Last Club Meeting

Commodore Bill Clemons called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. on Monday, February 3, 2003.

The minutes from the December meeting were accepted as printed in the newsletter. Because of the change of watch, there was no meeting in January.

Charlene Powell presented the amended treasurer's report for December, which showed an ending balance of \$5,643.57. She reported the following income for December: 50/50 November \$40.00; Dues \$540.00; Thanksgiving \$105.00 Expenses for December were \$92.00 for Thanksgiving.

Bill Zinn, newsletter Editor, reported that members who have not yet renewed need to do so tonight or they will not be listed in the 2003 member directory. Please contact Bill or Sandy if your e-mail changes or you have anything to add to the newsletter.

Park Liaison Buz Strandhagen reported that the Homestead Bayfront Park and Marina issued two free Miami Boat show tickets to each slip occupant.

March 2003

Sunshine Committee member Carol Timmons was not in attendance. Flowers were sent to Charlene Powell. Please call or e-mail Carol with any news.

Ship's Store reported that there is a BIG sale going on at the meeting and many items are available at a reduced price so please check the inventory and make a purchase!.

Membership Committee chairman George Mayer reported we now have thirty-four paid members and fourteen former members who have not yet renewed or paid their dues. Guests Don and Diane Sapp were introduced. Bugees were presented to Nestor and Monica Hernandez and Hugo and Pauline Diaz. Welcome aboard!

Telephone Coordinator, Elisa Prats, reported that everything is going smoothly. She was thanked for doing a good job.

New Business:

Our next event will be on Saturday, February 22 at the beginning of "C" dock at 3:00 p.m. at Homestead Bayfront Marina. Sign up sheets are on each table and club members should either bring an appetizer or dessert. Jambalaya New Orleans will be cooked by Annie and George McDermot. Larry Roesch has volunteered to serve as DJ. Should be another fun event.

The next event to be discussed was the outing to Boca Chita Key which has been moved to April 5th. Bill Zinn stated that the pavilion has been reserved for Saturday and encouraged those who wish to attend to arrive on April 4th to get anchorage on the wall as it is on a first come basis and costs \$15.00. Boaters can raft up two-deep. The question of operating generators was brought up and will be addressed at the next meeting.

The remainder of the meeting was spent reviewing the proposed schedule of events for 2003. Several events still need a sponsor so check with the commodore or club's web site if you can help out.

The Change of Watch was held at the Redland Country Club on January 18, 2003 and a round of applause was given for those who helped orchestrate another successful event.

Linda Clemons won the 50-50 of \$56.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Teresa Dean, Secretary

2003 Club Rosters

The new 2003 Club Rosters will be distributed at the Club meeting on March 3rd. Rosters will be mailed later in the month to members who do not attend the meeting. Each club membership receives one copy of the roster. Additional copies are available; however, since the club must pay to have the rosters printed, there is a \$2.00 charge for each additional copy of the roster.

March 2003

Week ending Friday, April 26, 2003



Trip to Naples - Tin City

Planned Itinerary

- You can arrive in Naples on Friday or Saturday
- Friday Night you are on your own for dinner
- Saturday at noon - Dinghy ride to tour the intercoastal, and beach for a picnic
- Saturday evening - Club dinner at a chosen restaurant
- Sunday - on your own.

Stay at Comfort Inn - Phone (239) 649-5800 Price: \$65.99 (City View) - \$75.99 (Water view) daily - Hotel has small pool, pool side bar and can provide dockage for dinghies - with arrangements in advance.

Half Day deckboat/pontoon boat rentals, to carry 10-12 people, are available for \$145-\$195.

Dinning in the area ranges from formal to casual with a wide price range.

A decision regarding boat rental and location of the Club dinner will be made at the March Club meeting.

Activities you can do on your own: Seminole Casino in Immokalee, Florida, Tin City (Shopping, bars and restaurants), and the Naples Zoo.

Full details, regarding boat rentals and restaurant choices will be provided, along with sign up sheets, at the March 3rd Club meeting, or contact George/Annabelle McDermot.