



# *the* **BAYLINES**

*a newsletter publication of the*

## **Marco Bay Yacht Club**

*December 2015*

**Hello .... Member**

### **Commodore's Message:**

Wow! Forty years ago last week, Thanksgiving week, Linda and I drove our new Ford pickup truck with a cap over the back and three young boys looking out the cap's window over the new Jolly bridge after paying a 25 cent toll. We dropped our baggage at my Dad's condo we headed for the beach (now Tigertail). We drove our truck right onto the beach! There were only a few fisherman way down the beach and it was absolutely beautiful. We waded waist deep feeling with our feet for whelks. I was a bit ahead when I turned and saw a dorsal fin approaching the children from behind. I screamed "shark, shark, shark!!" My whole family had apparently gone deaf. By the way, the movie, "Jaws" had just come out. At last my calm wife looked up and said "dolphin, dear". I went up to the truck and took a nap. That was a long time ago, but 7 years before that great trip, the island's first yacht club was created and became Marco Bay Yacht Club.

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Back to the present, our Welcome Back Party/ Annual Meeting at Ciao Bella was attended by 90 members. The slate of candidates chosen by the Nominating Committee was elected unanimously. We are thankful for these members who are willing to give of their time and

talents.

Vice Commodore Vern Graham met with me on Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, after much struggle, he has decided he cannot take on the Commodore's position in 2016. I hope that when circumstances are different he may be able to serve, as I feel he would make a fine Commodore. I am very pleased to say that Rear Commodore Bob Boland has agreed to step up to the Commodore's position, and Rear Commodore Frank Mulligan will advance to the Vice Commodore's position.

Our November 30<sup>th</sup> Monday Madness at C.J.'s will be the last one in 2015. There will NOT be a December Mad Monday because it's such a busy time, and many members travel for the holidays. Our gala Holiday Party will be December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Hideaway Beach Club. This is always a great way to get into the holiday spirit. Speaking of spirit, the "Christmas Island Style" street parade is December 12<sup>th</sup>. Frank and Marianne Mulligan have graciously volunteered their boat, trailer, and yard so that MBYC can have a presence in the parade. Please sign up to help. Set up will be during the day Saturday and clean up on Sunday.

VERY IMPORTANT! If you have not yet returned your renewal application, please do so as soon as possible. We need to have the club roster printed and ready for distribution at the Commodore's Ball on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Please save that date, January 16, 2016 for MBYC's Change of Watch and Commodore's Ball. This is the premier event of the MBYC year. You'll find your invitation in this issue of the Baylines.

As Linda and I head north to celebrate Christmas with family, we want to wish all of you very special friends a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a joyous, safe season.

Focus on the horizon with great anticipation.

**Commodore *Al Saunders***

## Past Event Articles:

*see all of the Event Picture Portfolios on the website*

### Hamilton Harbor Cruise



After what seemed like 40 days and nights of rain, on the night before the luncheon, I panicked. I called our Commander, Al Saunders, to see if he could help with the weather. Al said "no problem". The next morning, upon opening my sleepy eyes, I noticed from my bed that the sun was peeking between the clouds and the waters were calm.

Commodore Al came through. A great boating day!!

We started out with 12 boats signed up and ended with only 2 boats, captained by Charlie Skillern and Randy Southard. Charlie took the Gulf and Randy and I took the Intercoastal waterway. Since Randy and I were by ourselves, we excitedly prepared Bloody Marys with pickle juice, (my recipe), and jumbo shrimp (Randy's recipe).

The luncheon, as usual, was a feast. We had 34 club members attending. For dessert, everyone ate the sinful, freshly baked cookies. Then we all left for home to take a well deserved nap.

Thank you all !!!

What the Heck.

## Welcome Back Party



On November 12th, 90 members of the MBYC welcomed each other back to Marco with a wonderful dinner at Ciao Bella Restaurant. The evening started with an hour long Happy Hour where everyone mingled and greeted each other. We were all "happy" when the restaurant extended the Happy Hour for the entire evening.

Commodore Al Saunders welcomed everyone and asked Chaplin Alan Sandlin to lead us in prayer. After prayer, Commodore Al introduced the candidates for the positions of Rear Commodore and directors. They were Frank Mulligan – Rear Commodore, Doug Baille, Mike Brown, Joe Sheehan, Bob White for the class of 2018. As there were no other nominations Commodore Al asked for a motion to have the secretary cast one vote for the slate of candidates. Alan Sandlin made the motion, it was seconded by Dianne Kernan, and all were in favor. Paul Krueger was appointed to fill Frank Mulligan's unexpired term. Commodore Al thanked Frank Mulligan for volunteering his boat, trailer, and yard, for the Christmas Island Style street parade. All kind of helpers are needed.

Mike Brown spoke about the Fleet Captain's Auction, which will be March 4th. Commodore Al thanked Social Chair Marianne Mulligan and Dianne Kernan for planning the Welcome Back Party. Marianne reminded all that the Holiday Party was fast approaching.

A wonderful dinner was presented by the staff of the restaurant. A trio of appetizers consisting of Stuffed Mushrooms, Eggplant Rollatine, and Bruschetta were served, followed by a choice of four entrees: Chicken Parmigiana, Salmon Piccata, Famous Stuffed Pork Chop and Lasagna. The dinner finale was a choice between Key Lime Pie and Tiramisu. A good time was had by all.

Welcome back Everyone!



## Marathon Cruise and Key West (NOT!)



Friday morning dawned with bright sunshine and almost flat seas as 8 Marco Bay Yacht Club boats set out for Faro Blanco Marina Resort on Marathon Key. It was, perhaps, one of our finest days on the water. (This part of the article is being written on the second day of our trip, so we hope the seas hold out for the rest of the trip). The Herndons on TenneSea Waltz started out early in the morning and were the first to arrive. They were followed by the "fast" boats led by the Cooks on Cookin' and included the Gelfands on My Turn, the Skillerns on Sea Ya'll and the Mounts on Nauti Buoy. Shortly after they were docked, the Browns on Therapy III and Sachers on Sachmo arrived. The final boat, the Kernans on Wanderer V, completed our boating group. We were joined shortly after by Shirley Southard and Kerry Heckenlaible who drove down. Their husbands hitchhiked

down on Wanderer V and Sea Ya'll.

After a rocky start with the marina personnel who were nice enough to give us our slip assignments days ahead of time, and then proceeded to change them over and over again right up to when we arrived at the dock (please don't ask Brent about it), things were finally straightened out, we were all docked close together, and a magical night began.

Unbeknownst to us, the marina owners were sponsoring a promotional weekend event run by Super Yachts to introduce the beautifully, totally redone marina and resort to boating brokers and owners returning from the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show, and invited all of us to take part in all of the events. The evening started with drinks and gourmet passed hors d'oeuvres under a beautiful tent complete with chandeliers, white tablecloths and lovely centerpieces. Shortly thereafter a 6 piece band started entertaining us. Dinner at 8 consisted of fried whole fish, key lime chicken, paella with lobster tails, side dishes, salads, etc. etc. etc.

Some of our ladies were called upon to help the bandleader start a circa 1950's Johnson outboard motor which had been converted to a margarita machine. For more to this story, you'll have to ask Paula or Jo Ann. The marina staff and the other participants were all very friendly and we were again invited to partake of all the weekend events.

Bob Herndon, Barry Gelfand & John Kernan signed up for the next day's fishing tournament and came in second place with 83+ pounds of Amberjack, Dolphin and Tripletail, all 3 of them having a successful day. They were awarded a plaque and a beautiful large painting, both of which they re-awarded to their boat captain. They were nice enough to share the fish with the rest of us. Paula and Judy signed up for wave runner rides but the seas were a bit rough on Saturday afternoon and they decided to chill out instead.

The ladies all enjoyed breakfast and then shopping right in the marina building at a Trunk Show featuring clothing, hats, sunglasses, jewelry, snakeskin accessories and Lucite items. Lunch was a burger barbecue with all the trimmings, followed mid-afternoon by finger sandwiches, fruit skewers, and mini desserts. The bar was open the entire day.

Some of us had an early dinner at Barracuda Grill, several couples went to Keys Fisheries for stone crab claws (a tradition for some) and others took part in the marina cocktail hour and hors d'oeuvres. We were all back in time to do a Yacht Crawl tour, of some magnificent boats from the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show, while entertained on the dock with steel drums and rum punch and more hors d'oeuvres on the yachts. For those who hadn't had dinner, a plated dinner was served and followed by a casino night. It was a late night for some of us, way past Marco midnight!

Sunday morning was cloudy. We all enjoyed the final event of the Marina Weekend, a delicious brunch, then walked a short distance and enjoyed an educational tour of The Turtle Hospital, a wonderful organization that rescues, rehabilitates and releases Sea Turtles back into the Gulf. The rain began as we returned to the boats and we all spent a relaxing, lazy afternoon. Dinner was at the Hideaway Café on Grassy Key for all 20 of

us. Noisy but delicious characterized our dinner which was, nevertheless, enjoyed by all.

Due to the weather and sea forecast for late in the week, the 3 boats that planned to go on to Key West cancelled that part of the trip and decided to remain in Marathon. Our land cruiser with the Southards and Heckenlaibles returned to Marco on Monday. We were glad that they joined us for the weekend and hope they had as much fun as we did having them.

Monday and Tuesday afternoons found the remaining ladies playing canasta and Mah Jongg and most of the men playing Mexican Train dominoes in a lovely room at our disposal in the marina building. Monday dinner for 10 was right there in the marina restaurant, the Lighthouse Grill, while the other 6 went for an "all things conch" dinner and a movie.

Our farewell dinner Tuesday night was a short taxi ride away to Frank's Grill, a storefront Italian and Fish restaurant that proved excellent (both the dinners and the cannolis, which were taken back to the boats) and will certainly be on our list for our next trip to Marathon.

Wanderer V and TenneSea Waltz returned to Marco on Tuesday and the rest of our boats returned on Wednesday. While the seas weren't flat as they had been on our cruise down, they were not bad....except for the multitude of crab pots we needed to dodge for most of the trip. It seemed like the number of crab pots multiplied during our stay in Marathon. (If we could only get Bob Herndon to eat fewer stone crab claws, we could probably get the fishermen to pull up a good number of the crab pots on our routes!!)

Faro Blanco Marina is a wonderful destination for both boaters and those desiring to explore the Keys by land. There is a hotel right on the grounds as well as several other hotels nearby for our land cruisers. The captains enjoyed the fact that, other than fuel, dockage charges (which were a bit high), and their first mates' shopping purchases, they had no other costs for most of the weekend. All food and beverages (Friday evening through brunch on Sunday) were compliments of Faro Blanco, an unexpected and pleasant surprise.

All in all, this proved to be one of our most memorable and enjoyable cruises. Thanks to our cruise team for all their planning for months prior to the trip as well as on site.

(Be sure to see accompanying photos and on the website.)

Cindy Brown

## November Madness



It was a perfect late afternoon for a cocktail party at C.J.'s gazebo. MBYCers were in fine fiddle. Of course, being at a marina always makes us feel great. There was a good crowd, at least three past commodores, some new members, and some prospective members, as well as the oldies but goodies. Ship's Store was open for business, featuring a new sports shirt.

Our next Mad Monday will be in January the place to be announced.

We thank C.J.'s for having us.



## Future Event Flyers:

click on any [Flyer Title](#) on the website open the Event

### Commodore's Ball



*Commodore Al Saunders & Mrs. Linda Saunders*

*Cordially invite you to*

*The Marco Bay Yacht Club*

*Commodore's Ball – Change of Watch*

*Hideaway Beach Club*

*Saturday, January 16, 2016*

*6:00 PM – Cocktails*

*7:00 PM – Dinner*

***Menu***

*Butler Passed Hors d'oeuvres*

*Filet Mignon & Grouper Oscar stuffed with Crabmeat*

*Potato & Vegetable*

*Bananas Foster's Station and Ice Cream, Coffee and Tea*

***Member's Cost \$70.00***

***Guest Cost \$85.00 (excluding Family Members)***

*Cash Bar (tax & gratuity included in drink prices)*

*Valet Parking included in cost*

*Dress Code – Black Tie or Club uniform*

***Entertainment by the Brylcreams***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please seat me with \_\_\_\_\_ (we will try to honor requests, but not guaranteed)

# of Members attending \_\_\_\_\_ # of Guest attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

***Make checks payable to MBYC – no checks accepted after January 10, 2016***

***Send reservation and check to: Marianne Mulligan, 832 S. Heathwood Dr., Marco Island FL 34145***

## [MBYC 2016 Cruising Schedule](#)

### *MBYC 2016 CRUISING SCHEDULE*

The Cruise Team has updated the extended cruise schedule for the first half of the 2016 cruise season. The October and November 2015 cruises are behind us but there are still five extended cruises this season. All of the dates, and most of the marinas, have been finalized for the cruises listed below:

January 4 – 7 to South Seas

January 7 – 11 to Boca Grande Marina

February 12 - 15 to Palm Island Marina

February 15 – 19 to Marina Jack

February 19 – 22 to Twin Dolphin Marina

February 22 – 25 to Crow's Nest

March 11 - 15 to Tarpon Point Marina (First Group of 10 Boats)

March 15 – 19 to Tarpon Point Marina (Second Group of 10 Boats)

April 13 - 28 on Loop Cruise across Lake Okeechobee and thru the Keys

May 11 -15 to Pink Shell Marina

Most cruises are set up so that you can partake of the entire cruise or choose to just do part of the itinerary. While we all frown upon any boat traveling alone, usually we have several boats wishing to only do part of a cruise, as well as having some who wish to extend for several days.

Please look over the cruise options and let us know if you are interested in joining any of the cruises so we can add you to the list of fun.

While most cruises fill up quickly, there are normally cancellations and, up to now, we have always been able to accommodate all who wish to join in.



























To sign up for a cruise please contact Mike Brown at: [mikebrownvd@gmail.com](mailto:mikebrownvd@gmail.com) or Brent Cook at: [Brent@Brentcook.net](mailto:Brent@Brentcook.net). Cruising is the best way to make new friends, enjoy the camaraderie, see new places, enjoy the favorite old ones.....and enjoy time on the beautiful waters.

Looking forward to cruising with you.

Your MBYC Cruise Team

## Events Calendar:

*Go to the website Calendar,  
then click on Event date to open the Event info & Flyer  
Flyers opened from the website Calendar will be printable.*

December, 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Holiday Party :: Thursday, December 03, 2015</li><li> Marco Island Boat Parade :: Saturday, December 05, 2015</li><li> Hanukkah Begins :: Sunday, December 06, 2015</li><li> Board Meeting :: Tuesday, December 08, 2015</li><li> Marco Island Street Parade :: Saturday, December 12, 2015</li><li> Christmas :: Friday, December 25, 2015</li><li> No Mad Monday :: Monday, December 28, 2015</li></ul>
January, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> New Year's Day :: Friday, January 01, 2016</li><li> South Seas Cruise :: Monday, January 04, 2016</li><li> Boca Grande Marina Cruise :: Thursday, January 07, 2016</li><li> Board Meeting :: Tuesday, January 12, 2016</li><li> Commodore's Ball :: Saturday, January 16, 2016</li><li> Commodore's Ball at Hideaway :: Saturday, January 16, 2016</li><li> Presentation of the Fleet :: Saturday, January 30, 2016</li></ul>
February, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Board Meeting :: Tuesday, February 09, 2016</li><li> Palm Island Cruise :: Friday, February 12, 2016</li><li> Marina Jack (Sarasota) Cruise :: Monday, February 15, 2016</li><li> Twin Dolphin (Bradenton) Cruise :: Friday, February 19, 2016</li><li> Crow's Nest (Venice) Cruise :: Monday, February 22, 2016</li></ul>
March, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Board Meeting :: Tuesday, March 08, 2016</li><li> Tarpon Point (Group 1) Cruise :: Friday, March 11, 2016</li><li> Tarpon Point (Group 2) Cruise :: Tuesday, March 15, 2016</li></ul>
April, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Board Meeting :: Tuesday, April 12, 2016</li><li> Loop Cruise :: Wednesday, April 13, 2016</li></ul>
May, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Board Meeting :: Tuesday, May 10, 2016</li><li> Last Hurrah Cruise to Pink Shell :: Wednesday, May 11, 2016</li></ul>



# Marco Bay Yacht Club

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