

Tiller Tales

Gulf Stream Sailing club - June/July 2010

From The Helm

Summer is here and this one has been a bit breezier than normal. We sailed in Race 3 with 15-21 knot winds and had a frolicking good time. Summer is the cruising season for many of our boat owners. Summer is time to take the boat and head to the Bay for an extended weekend, the Keys for a week or to the Bahamas for a few weeks or months of cruising. Some of our club members headed for the Chesapeake or even Maine for extended cruising. I hope everyone who gets out has safe but eventful journeys and make new friends and memories.

The Coast Guard and Marine Patrol have been watchful of boats coming out of the Bahamas, Bimini is under close scrutiny. Don't be surprised when the Coast Guard approaches you in Port Everglades and ask for your itinerary. We listened to many boats being hailed out of Bimini and asked to stop or slow down and provide travel details. The Coast Guard and Marine Police can board you so play it safe and make sure to take advantage of a free vessel safety check performed by John or Bev Schaefer.

Many of our club members have joined because they want to learn to sail or they want to get out and sail and have limited experience. I have been asked by some of the non boat owners, "How can I get on a boat". My response to that question is multi layered. I would first suggest that the best place to learn to sail is at the Lake in Hollywood. We have a beautiful location and good boats to learn on. The Lake is open every Saturday from 9am-3 pm and there is always someone knowledgeable there. We also have adult learn to sail classes throughout the year. Learning to sail on a small boat that you can control with your own 2 hands and body weight is a much more pleasant experience than being rail meat and grinding sails on a 12,000 – 40,000 lb. boat. You will also learn faster on a small boat than you will on a large boat. You also need to take the boat owners perspective and realize that the more "in training" people they have on board, the higher the chance of

Officers

Commodore.....Astrid Hunton

Vice Commodore...John Gehrig

Rear Commodore...Lee Williams

Treasurer.....Linda Gosset

Secretary.....Janis Walkow

Governing Board

Bernie Gartner

Larry Littell

Doris White

Committees

Membership

Shirley Kaplan

Nancy Marsh

Chuck Swinghammer

Crusing Fleet.....Open

Ocean RaceOpen

Lake (Learn to Sail, etc)Luis Oliveira

SocialOpen

PROChris Woolsey

GSC BABY PICTURE MATCHING CONTEST

We have only two male and two female entries so far. That is no contest. So PLEASE send us your entries. We need a picture of you as a child or infant and an adult picture to guess as the same person. The entries so far look really difficult so lets get this thing going !!!

From The Helm (continued)

accidents occurring. I can attest to this when I ran into a large metal object due to trying to tell inexperienced crew to do a job instead of just driving. Luckily nothing but my ego was hurt.

Beer cans are also a great time to get out on peoples boats. Beer can races are usually casual races and everyone is just out for a good time. Check out the website and your email for the Beer Can race schedule.

The last thing I tell new and current members is “talk to the boat owners, talk to the flag officers”. If you want to come out sailing, introduce yourself, get a phone number from the owner and call them. Most owners will take you out for a race or Sunday sail but we also don’t always keep everyone’s names and numbers handy.

We have a great flag and great volunteers this year. We want to see the club be vibrant and active in our own events and in the community. Please make an effort to come out for the July events: full moon Beer can July 24, Sunday sail July 25, Bar B Que the afternoon of July 25, Beer can July 31. And plan to attend the August events: Beer Can August 7, Beach Bash August 14 and Ladies Skipper Beer Can August 28.

Make sure you mark your calendars for September 25 for the Boathalon. You can participate by sailboat, power boat, canoe, dingy, paddle boat. If it floats it will work. The Boathalon is a great event and always fun so plan to participate. If you don’t have a boat but want to help, talk to a committee member at the August meeting or send an email to the Commodore.

Astrid Hunton - Commodore

Gulfstream Sailing Club - S/V Commotion

Ladies skipper race- August 28

The skipper/captain/ helmsperson must be a female (does not have to be an owner) and there must be at least one other female crew mate on board racing. The rest of the crew can be male. Quite a few of our active sailing boats are sailed in part by females, as the clubs 3rd female commodore in 54 years; I want to see our ladies out on the water showing their sailing knowledge. Mark the date on your calendar and plan on being on a boat.

Beach Bash, \$5 donation per club member, \$10 for guests. Food and drink all day, 11:30 to 5pm. Come out and have a great day on the beach at the home of Mike and Jan Rush. The party address is 3032 N Atlantic Blvd, Fort Lauderdale fl.

Watch for emails concerning the party

Please add more to the beach bash description if someone didn’t already send a write up.

Boathalon

Saturday, Sept 25, 2010- Bingo! That is the date.

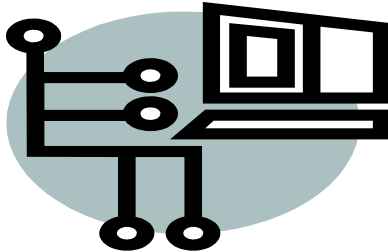
Mark your calendars and prepare for a rocking good time. Can you dance, can you sing, do you know the words to Gilligan’s Island? Do you know where the mermaid is? How good are your skills at navigating?

Come to the August meeting to get your hints for the Boathalon

Notes From the Editor

Lots of stories of adventure in the Bahamas, thoughtful info from Madame Commodore and our Lake Captain. The first burgee contest entry. The Club is collecting DVDs for our service men and women , who are stuck in the desert working 12 hr days to start moving tons of equipment from Iraq for the troop draw down. Bring them to the mtgs and Thursday socials at Rendevous. Christeen Pozniak is collecting miles or monetary donations for a trip to the southern Louisiana coast for ProjectSmileSayCheese to help communities affected by the oil spill. See www.ProjectSmileSayCheese.webs.com Or contact ProjectSayCheese@aol.com or 561-846-1914. We had great weather (with just a few sprinkles) at the 3rd annual Walkow's Post Bahamas Party, now know as the Walkow's July Pool Party. We had twenty six GSC members enjoy good conversation as well as great food on our pool deck just off Las Olas Blvd. Thanks to all who helped make this a great afternoon.

Franz J. Walkow - Your Editor



Welcome Aboard New Members - Nancy Marsh

Jim Newman 954559.0621 (racing, cruising, crewing, membership)

Michael Sawzak *Serenity* 954.854.6612 (racing, cruising, crewing, party host, Tiller Tales, publicity)

Alberto and Tersita Salcedo-Marin 954.217.2247 (cruising, sailing instruction)

Giorgina and Scott Lowen 954.389.8581 (racing, lake, cruising, crewing, social, membership)

Chris Feierabend 561.307.1524 (cruising, crewing, race committee, Tiller Tales)

Juan Miguel Borrás and Alejandra Quintero 954.443.9533 (cruising race, race party, calendar)

“Welcome Aboard!” to our newest members-we look forward to seeing you on the water and at our events!

The New Gulfstream Classified

For Sale — 1978 35 Ft Pearson Sloop “PHANTASIA”

Call Clive on 954-830-8855 or e-mail treeacat@aol.com

One of our members, Mike Kadir Ulkealan has a **dock for rent**. It is behind a private home with plenty of parking space in the Seven Isles section of Fort Lauderdale. He has sixty feet of dock space , it is on the Middle River, last house on the canal. Asking \$500 per month plus water and electric. Address is 2435 Aqua Vista Blvd. Go through the Las Olas bridge and the 17th Street bridge and you are going out the Port Evergaldes inlet. He can be reached at 954-663-6003 or ulkealan@aol.com

Burgee in Cracker P's - Jim & Betty Lou Webb

When visiting the Abacos, look for the Gulfstream burgee now hanging in Cracker P's in Lubbers



Quarters across from Tahiti Beach. We donated our burgee to Cracker P's on Friday July 9th while sailing the Abacos on a chartered Sunsail yacht accompanied by our good friends Mike Limuti and Marilyn Mammano.

We sailed from July 2 to July 10, enjoying the 4th of July at Nippers and Grabbers on Great Guana. We also had a wonderful swim and dinner at Abaco Inn and great snorkeling at Sandy Cay and Mermaid Reef. In addition to visiting Hope Town and Man-O-War Cay, we attended the race party at the Sea Spray Marina on Elbow Cay which included a terrific Junkanoo. Although we didn't run into too many Gulfstream club members while there, we did host some members of the Stuart

Sailing Club for drinks and snacks on our boat on the 4th. Maybe next year we can join in the races.

Boatathon - September 25th !!! Event Leaders - Shelly Kinder and Janice Forte

Be sure to mark your colanders for September 25th. It promises to be a fun filled day of drinking, bribery, trivia and all that the boatathon has to offer. We are looking forward to a fun filled event to



support Gulfstream Sailing Club. Attached is a picture of our crew from last year, you can guess what the theme was. This years theme will be radically different. Shelly40

Open Letter to GSC — Volunteers to Improve the Lake Programs **Luis Oliveira - Lake Captain**

The learn to sail programs at the Lake both youth and adult can be a major source of new members for the Club, particularly the kids program that throughout the years has had a much larger participation than the adult program.

However to capitalize on this possible source of new members the program must have a more solid organization behind it that project stability and continuity.

The objective of this article is to give you an idea, from my point of view, of what it takes to manage the kids learn to sail program in the hopes that someone will join me in improving it.

The following is an outline of the different tasks to be done or delegated by the person in charge of the program.

Advertising

Communicating with Parents

Class Registration

Coordinate any Schedule Changes or additions with the Instructor

Coordinate Barbeque with Donna French

Advertising – We presently have two banners in the process of being hung by the City and Jim Cunningham is handling it; also Donna French has volunteer to write an article for the Lakes HOA publication that comes out every three months. Both of these have yielded good results in the past and they might be all we need to keep our classes full.

Communicating with Parents – This involves e-mailing people the schedule and any other information they may need about the program, as well as some phone calls. Also on registration days talk with the parents and tell them about the program and the Club as a whole.

Class Registration – It involves being at the Lake for about an hour from 9:00 to 10:00 AM on the registration days set by the schedule to register the kids for the upcoming class.

Coordination of Schedules with instructor – Changes and adjustments always happen and they have to be communicated to the instructor and sometimes to the parents.

Barbeque – On the last day of each class we put together a barbeque for the kids and parents and Donna French has volunteered to handle them as she has done it in the past, all it needs to be done is to inform Donna of the dates. At least one club member should be present to give the kids a pep talk as we hand out their certificates and promote the club to the parents.

If you are considering volunteering please remember that you are not going to be alone, the program does not have to be ran by only one person and I take all the initial phone calls and e-mails as my phone number and e-mail is on the City of Hollywood website, the Club's website and the LTS schedule.

If a number of people do little bit of work each we will have a very successful sailing club.

SHIPS LOG - Full Deck's First Trip

To the Bahamas - John Gehrig

Chapter 1

Full Deck has finally headed for the Bahamas! Barbara and I were so excited to be making our first voyage to the beautiful blue green waters of the Bahamas. After Barbara spent many days of shopping for, cooking and preparing 30 days worth of food and I checked out and fixed the broken systems on Full Deck, we departed Ft Lauderdale on Thursday, June 10th slightly before 07:00 on an eastward course toward Bimini and the Bahamas Bank. We motor-sailed the entire trip with a slight northerly breeze crossing the Gulfstream and passing North Rock on the Bahamas Bank at 14:30. We departed the Bank and entered the Northwest Channel around midnight, and had a beautiful dark moonless trip to Nassau on New Providence Island arriving around 07:00 on Friday. We docked at Nassau Harbor Club Marina and cleared Customs and Immigration, getting a 90 day visa for \$300. We went to the Arawak Fish Fry (a group of 15 or more restaurants where the locals hang) for dinner, and had conch salad at 2 different restaurants. At the second place we watched Big Daddy chop and prepare our salad to order. All of the Bahamian people that we met were so friendly. On Saturday June 12th we departed the pier in Nassau finally finding diesel fuel at the third marina we entered. The first marina was out, and the second had a broken pump. We motored into a 5 knot headwind to the Exuma Bank where we dodged the coral heads in the Yellow Bank, arriving at Norman's Cay around 16:30. We rendezvoused with our friends Al and Linda aboard their Sparkman & Stevens yawl Bonnie. We all dined together on Full Deck.

On Sunday June 13th Al took us by dinghy to explore Norman's Island. We walked the beach to MacDuff's Restaurant (shack), crossed the airfield, and explored many abandoned buildings on the island. We also had a wonderful view of the cut on the other

side of the island. Al and I spent the afternoon repairing the windlass on Full Deck. We all dined together on Bonnie and had a great game of dominoes after dinner.

On Monday June 14th Full Deck and Bonnie departed Norman's Cay under motor at 08:30, arriving at Shroud Cay at 10:30. We all snorkeled at two different places seeing some great coral with many fish and lobster. We had a great dinner on Bonnie followed by some very competitive dominoes.

On Tuesday June 15th we took our dinghies through a wonderful deserted cut on Shroud Cay to the ocean side where we climbed the hill at Camp Driftwood, swam, snorkeled the rocks, and had lunch under a group of Australian pine trees. It was unbelievable to know that we were the only people on this pristine white sand beach. The highlight of the day was when we were snorkeling and Barbara bumped head on into a nurse shark which seemed to be as surprised as she was at the strange encounter. Barbara tried to defy gravity and leap into the dinghy, and the shark dove under Linda, who was also surprised to see a shark heading in her direction. As we took our dinghies back to the boats, the current getting back to the bank side was extreme and on the nose. We snorkeled some more coral, and all dined on Full Deck.

On Wednesday June 16th we left Shroud Cay at 08:00 with an 8-10 knot breeze at 100-120 degrees. The sail down to Sampson Cay was a delightful port tack favored beat, and we all arrived in the greenest water that I have ever seen at 16:00. Another beautiful day in the Bahamas!

Chapter 2

On Thursday June 17th we had an easy day taking the dinghy to Sampson Cay Yacht Club and then around to the ocean side and finally beaching at our own private beach with gazebo for a relaxing swim. Later that day, Al called and invited me to join him on a trip to the yacht club to watch his beloved Celtics take on the Lakers in the NBA final championship game. The bar staff would not air the game claiming that they needed \$100 from the bar patrons to pay for the

SHIPS LOG - Full Deck (continued)

game. Finally, just before halftime they relented and aired the game, and Al and I were able to witness his beloved Celtics blow a 13 point second half lead to lose by two.

On Friday June 18th Barbara relaxed on the boat in the morning while Linda, Al and I took a dinghy ride to their favorite place on Little Majors Spot. We visited "Linda's" house on a deserted (in the summer) private Cay complete with deserted house (in the summer), private beach, hilltop gazebo, and coral beach with tons of flotsam. Al relaxed in the gazebo while Linda and I foraged for flotsam treasures and collected sea salt from the coral for spa body washes and salting our food. Around 13:00 we motored the sailboats a short distance to Staniel Cay and anchored in the lee of Big Majors Spot arriving at 14:00. We followed Al and Linda to Staniel Cay by dinghy and shopped for groceries at the Isles General Store, the Blue Palm Store and the Pink Pearl Store. Friday is the day that the supply boat arrives from Nassau and is the best day to buy groceries. We then went to the Staniel Cay Yacht Club for a rum punch and conch bits and conch fritters. In the evening Barbara and I swam around the boat and then had a great pasta dinner on Bonnie.

On Saturday June 19th Linda, Al, Barbara, and I got up early and snorkeled the famous Thunderball Cave. The interior of the cave is like a small grotto with an opening at the top where the sun shines through creating a spectacular view down into the water. After lunch, Barbara and I took a short dinghy ride to Big Majors Spot to witness four of the infamous cruiser-friendly pigs swim out to the tourist boats to be fed carrots and bread. It was hilarious; they looked like ducks begging for food except they were huge pigs. After petting the overfed critters, we took a dinghy ride with Al and Linda back to "Linda's" house on Little Majors Spot and swam, relaxed in the gazebo, searched the flotsam, and collected more sea salt. Barbara asked me to teach her how to drive the dinghy today, and other than one time when she ran into the back of the sailboat when

. Around 20:30 we dined on Full Deck and played a game of Pigs and two practice hands of Scopas (an Italian card game which Al learned from his grandfather).

On Sunday June 20th we celebrated Father's Day by calling Jeff and Bill and Barbara's Dad. We are going to hole up here in the protection of Staniel Cay for the arrival of the tropical low pressure system tonight and tomorrow morning. The prediction is for squalls through Thursday, and with the hot and dry weather that we have been experiencing, some (but not too much) rain will be welcome. Happy Father's Day to everyone!

Cap'n John

Chapter 3

On Sunday June 20th we celebrated Father's Day by calling Jeff and Bill and Barbara's Dad. We holed up here in the protection of Big Majors Spot in anticipation of the arrival of the tropical low pressure system tonight and tomorrow morning. The prediction is for squalls through Thursday, and with the hot and dry weather that we have been experiencing, some (but not too much) rain will be welcome. Barbara and Linda took a dinghy excursion to an island on the ocean near North Gaulin Cay. They had a great girls' day, and Linda gave Barbara private dinghy driving lessons. That night we dined on Bonnie with Al and Linda and their friends Lee & Carol Gwatkin who have been cruising in their Grand Banks trawler Our Destiny with their two golden retrievers named Ellie & Sandy. Happy Father's Day to everyone!

Monday June 21st just doesn't seem like a Monday here in paradise. The weather forecast was a pleasant surprise this morning, with winds and rain not expected to peak until later in the week. We made email contact with Commotion (Ross and Astrid) who finally made it to Nassau with In Sync and Permanent Vacation. They all plan to go to Norman Cay tomorrow if the easterly winds are not too strong. We plan to sail north with Bonnie to meet them, and then

SHIPS LOG - Full Deck Chapter 3 (continued)

Bonnie plans to continue on to Ft Lauderdale this weekend after spending two months in the Bahamas. Barbara and I tried to swim the coral in Thunderball Cave again this morning, but the current was too strong. We spent the rest of the day relaxing and swimming, and dined on Full Deck with Al and Linda. The dominoes game was extremely well played.

Tuesday June 22nd Barbara, Linda and I made the dinghy trip to Staniel Cay to buy produce, but there wasn't much left. Lee and Carol invited us all to join them on their trawler for a trip to Rachel's Bubble Bath located on the northern tip of Compass Cay. We motored up the Exuma Bank and stopped to check the Decca Station (dismantled US Military Station) on Pipe Cay. We then visited Rachael's Bubble Bath which is created by waves from the ocean funneling through a narrow channel and crashing over rocks to create foam and bubbles in a pond on the bank side of the



SV Commotion , Full Deck and InSynch at Warderwick Wells

rocks. The sensation was fantastic, and we all had sore sides from laughing so hard. We returned to our anchorage via the channel in Pipe Creek, which is one of the most colorful and scenic creeks in the Bahamas. We finally got some of the promised squalls shortly before we returned to our anchorage at Big Majors Spot.

On Wednesday June 23rd as we headed north, both Bonnie and Full Deck had a wonderful five hour beam reach sail, hitting 8 knots using only genoas. We anchored in the south anchorage at Shroud Cay and finally made contact with Commotion who had sailed from Nassau to

Norman Cay on Monday. We had the last supper and dominoes game with Al and Linda on Bonnie. I also proved once and for all why nobody wants to be my partner in dominoes. Also we called our son Bill to wish him a Happy 30th Birthday, and he gave us the big news that he and Jenna are engaged. We are so excited for them!

Thursday June 24th we said goodbye to Bonnie who set sail for Nassau and hello to Commotion (Ross & Astrid), Permanent Vacation (John & Beverly and Peter & Brenda) and In Sync (Lee & Tina), who were leaving Norman Cay and headed for Warderick Wells Cay. The day started poorly when, during a squall, the anchor locker door slammed into my funny bone causing bleeding. I then smashed my thumb while adjusting the jib lead just before the clew ring completely ripped out of the Genoa, which is our only headsail on the boat. After furling the useless Genoa, I realized that I had also made a charting error after bumping the bottom and beating a hasty retreat. We finally rendezvoused with the other boats, arrived safely in Warderick Wells, took a mooring, and breathed

SHIPS LOG - Full Deck Chapter 3

a sigh of relief. Late in the afternoon we took a great hike to Boo Boo Hill and the Blow Rocks. The air from the Blow Rocks would blow your hat 50 feet in the air, and they made a really spooky sound. Boo Boo Hill is a great vantage point of all the nearby cays and a spot where boaters from all over place pieces of memorabilia identifying themselves and their craft. Later that night, we had cocktails on Commotion with Ross, Astrid, Lee and Tina.

Friday June 25th TGIF (for some reason that I can't remember). We departed Warderick Wells and headed south for Pipe Creek. Full Deck was reaching at 6.5 knots using only the mainsail (since we no longer have a usable Genoa), but as we gradually rounded the cays and the wind got closer to the nose we slowed to 5.5 knots in 18 to 20 knots of wind and chop. We finally motored the last 3 miles into the wind and again bumped the bottom on the way into Pipe Creek (at low tide). While looking for an anchorage, we managed to run aground on a sandbar, and had to wait about 3 hours for the tide to rise before finally floating and getting anchored. We will have to do better at reading the water and using the depth sounder to determine the depth rather than our keel. Astrid and Ross came by on their dinghy and took Barbara for a scenic ride while I waited for Full Deck to float again. Good plan because Barbara came back much calmer than when she left. We enjoyed a beautiful sunset and almost full moonrise during happy hour on Permanent Vacation.

Saturday June 26th In the morning we all (except Tina who stayed home cooking) enjoyed snorkeling the beautiful reefs in Pipe Creek. Using the dinghies, we pulled each other over the reef because the current was too strong to swim. For lunch we all went to In Sync for a full course pork roast luncheon complete with Bahamas beans and rice which Tina had prepared. We then climbed in the dinghies and followed Ross and Astrid to Rocky Dundas which is a Cay with two wonderful caves complete with stalactites and stalagmites. We snorkeled on the colorful reef outside Rocky Dundas. We then stopped at Fowl Cay for another snorkel where we spotted a very large barracuda. We visited the white sandy beach at Fowl Cay, toured the Compass Cay Marina, and returned to our anchorage. Barbara and I took on Astrid and Ross in a late afternoon game of Padunk (much like bocce ball) on the flats which are dry at low water, and then they joined us on Full Deck for a spectacular sunset/full moonrise happy hour.

Sunday June 27th Barbara prepared a wonderful Sunday brunch, and we spent the rest of the morning relaxing and reading. The whole crowd decided to be hunter/gatherers and go foraging for conch. Astrid gave me a lesson in conch hunting, and we found 4 good sized specimens. We returned to Permanent Vacation where Ross was giving Lee lessons in conch cracking and cleaning on the dinghy platform. This process attracted a good sized nurse shark which really got Tina's attention. I have not seen her in the water since. I managed to crack 8 conchs and clean 6 of them, and they are in the refrigerator waiting to become conch salad tonight. The general consensus of us neophyte conch hunters is that it is a lot of work for a little meat, and that conch salad at restaurants makes more sense. Permanent Vacation arranged an evening beach party complete with umbrellas, tables, chairs, barbeque pit, and all the fixings for a cook your own dinner. The after dinner fire was large and bright.

Captain John - S/V Full Deck

Report June 7, Al Dironand Linda Johnson aboard SV *Bonnie*

Linda and I are at Little bell Island in the Bahama Sea and Land Park, Exuma. The breeze is light from the south, the sky is a bright, cloudless blue, and the water is crystal clear everywhere we go. The water is 80 to 90 degrees depending on where we swim.

We walked the high ridge on the island and admired the sculpted scraggs in relief against the azure sea. The tropic birds dazzled us swooping from the cliffs. It is hot in the sun, so we found a small cave chiseled into a cliff by the waves and sat in its cool shade to rest. After a bit, Linda relaxed further back into the cave and looked around into a near nook and directly into the eyes of a nesting tropic bird silently observing the intruders. She did not move, but on making eye contact, let out a loud hissing; we quietly left her to her cliffside hideaway.

Same day, same Island, different place, we swam the reef on the end of Councu Cut. There were three other moored boats in sight, but not one person to be seen. The reef was our private wonderland. After 30 or 40 minutes in the water, a myriad of fish, and colorful corals, we got a bit chilly and headed for a nearby beach...again totally vacant.

Most of the Casurinas in the Land and Sea Park have been removed as exotics (not native), but this particular beach still has a line of casurinas offering filtered breezy shade. We beached the dinghy, took a swim in our private pool and rested in the shade on the soft needles. The wind whispered through the canopy lulling us into a comfortable doze.

We woke to the long succession of harmonies of a Bahama mockingbird directly overhead and the comforting visage of our beloved blue yawl, *Bonnie*, dancing on her mooring. Life is good AND no bugs.



S/V *Bonnie* and Full Deck in the Bahamas