



The "Tell Tale"

The Point Yacht Club

Newsletter
August 2002

P.O. Box 218
Gulf Shores, AL 36547

Message from the Commodore -

Randy C. Fitzgibbons, Sr.

The past month has been extremely busy! I can't begin to thank all the people who have contributed so much toward helping our club become more involved and more visible.

Our Fast Women Regatta was a success and most importantly has exposed us to more female sailors, many who are looking forward to competing next year and bringing more friends with them. Sail Camp had more kids than ever before with forty-seven participating. Thanks to the tremendous effort of Brett Holk we had the boats and supplies needed to put on a grand showing. We even got television coverage when Darwin Singleton of WPML - NBC 15 came down to do his 'Here's Darwin' segment.

The Point Yacht Club may be small in some ways but we are large in the ways that are important. We have participation, we have people who care and people who make sure that when they work on something it is first class. We were at Pensacola Beach Yacht Club for the 'Race For The Roses' and a young man asked what club we were from. When I said 'The Point' he said, "Ah, the clubhouse in the sand, where your toes dig into the sand and you're only a step from the water". His comment made me very proud as I saw a certain little gleam in his eye that told me he was just a little envious. Thanks for helping to put that gleam there.

Sail Camp 2002 -

As this newsletter was going to press, Sail Camp 2002 was still going strong. Forty-seven area children signed up for the weeklong program, proof that there is tremendous interest and potential for future programs. The kids started the first day with instruction on knot tying, rigging the boats and turn over drills. Before 5:00 on the first day they were all out actually sailing, testament to our fine instructors Jessie Parkinson and Jay Miller. These young men handled their job with skill and dedication, making sure that each child was involved.

This was our second year to partner with the City of Orange Beach to produce this program. The city provided use of the site, two wave-runners and two lifeguards on duty with us for the entire program, picnic tables, soft drinks and some snacks. We appreciate all their efforts toward making it a great week and we thank the Mayor & Council for their enthusiastic support of this program! We also want to acknowledge Vision Bank, First Gulf Bank and AmSouth Bank for their monetary support that helped with refreshments & our Friday cookout.

Members were out in force making sure that details were being handled. A crew of ten worked on getting the boats ready on the Saturday before the program began and also made sure the grounds were ready. Several members ran chase boats all week making sure everyone was getting the hang of sailing while others helped out doing registration, handing out soft drinks and snacks and any other of the myriad of little tasks that needed to be done. Many thanks to everyone who helped!

Fast Women Regatta -

This year's Fast Women Regatta was very different from past events. By partnering with Navy Yacht Club & Pensacola Beach Yacht Club to create a perpetual trophy for the women's three race series, we hoped to generate a little more excitement for our sailors. We feel we accomplished our mission as this year's race had twelve boats participating. We even had a boat from as far away as New Orleans. We truly appreciate the effort put forth by those who traveled so far to race with us.

Our grounds crew did a great job of setting up tents, tables, chairs and a nice area for our band to play. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate and we had to make a last minute decision (while the rain was pouring down in buckets) to move the party inside the Cove. After a mad scramble and help from many, we were able to pull off the dinner and awards ceremony. Again, proof that PtYC members jump in and get the job done!

PtYC had a great showing in the awards as well. Our ladies won 1st place in all classes. Here's how they did:

Spinnaker-Class A, 1st Place - Cuda Been Paris, Molly Klass
Spinnaker-Class B, 1st Place - Riptide, Linda McGonigal
Non-Spinnaker-Class C, 1st Place - Otter, Sara Nelson
Non-Spinnaker-Class C, 3rd Place - Clewless, Merle Murphy

Women's Tri-Race Series Trophy

After the successful kick-off of the tri-race series at the Fast Women Regatta, a delegation of PtYC members attended the Navy Yacht Club's Bikini Cup on July 20th. Four of the boats that participated in Fast Women went on to compete in that event. Our very own Cuda Been Paris, skippered by Pam Rowell finished at 2nd Place in Spinnaker Fleet. At this point Cuda Been Paris was looking real good in the points standing toward the overall trophy following their 1st Place at Fast Women.

The following week found more PtYC members in Pensacola Beach for the Race For The Roses on July 27th. This is really a set of races over a two-day period, with two races on Saturday and one on Sunday. Three of the boats that originally raced in Fast Women were still competing for the trophy. At the end of the day Saturday, Cuda Been Paris still held a .04 lead over their closest competition. Sunday's race was delayed for a time due to bad weather, but then got underway. After a cloud burst and wind direction changes, the race committee altered the course. Shortly thereafter, the committee decided to abandon the Sunday race and let the scores of the previous day stand as the results. **Cuda Been Paris brought the trophy back to the Point Yacht Club!**

It was an exciting three weeks, with many ups and downs. New friendships were made and enthusiasm was created toward future events. It was especially rewarding to work with the Commodores of our sister clubs, Claude Mullen of Navy Yacht Club and Al Green of Pensacola Beach Yacht Club. Both clubs made us feel a part of their events and were totally gracious and accommodating in every way.

We've started an exciting new chapter in PtYC's history, as it was our club who initiated this new series and now because we had members who were willing to follow in through to its completion, we have a new trophy to display. Congratulations to the crewmembers who worked over the three weeks to bring it home!



**Fast Women
Southwest**

Great Race!

**Good Food!
Good Music!
Good Friends!**

Pam Rowell & Molly Klass are presented with the perpetual trophy by PtYC Commodore Randy Fitzgibbons.

Molly skippered for Fast Women & Roses and Pam skippered for Bikini Cup



LOO WOW BEACH PARTY

(PTyc mEMBERS pARY)

Saturday, August 10th

4:00 p.m. – Until

The Usual Place



Getting there - For those that can't come by boat, please call John at 980-1460 to make arrangements to get on to Ono Island & get directions.

What to Wear - Swimsuits, of course. We're planning water games (among others) and it will be hot so a quick dip will be refreshing.

What to Bring - Your own beer, soft drinks & water, beach towels, canvas chairs & noodles. The club is providing the main course, side dishes and five gallons of rum punch. To help out you could bring chips, dips, fruit, desserts or your favorite beach party specialty.

Who to Call – If you have any questions, call Commodore Randy Fitzgibbons at 979-7311.

Lost Bay Regatta – September 14th

As all our other activities have been going on this summer, we've had that one big event ever present in our thoughts...LOST BAY REGATTA. We're moving into the crunch time for putting all the details together and need the help of many members to guarantee its success. Our next planning meeting will be Monday, August 5th, 5:30 p.m. at Mexico Rock in Orange Beach. If we divide the duties it will be a fun event for everyone.

Something special that has never happened before with this event... we applied for an Event Enhancement Grant from the Alabama Gulf Coast Convention & Visitor Bureau. We received the grant and will be able to use the funds to possibly upgrade our entertainment and do some professionally produced publicity. The CVB is working with us to design posters and mailers that will be used to get our message out.

We look forward to your help in making the 16th Annual Lost Bay Regatta the best ever!

Point Yacht Club Web Site

Visit our club web address at www.pointyachtclub.org to find out about races, results & happenings within the club. Newsletters are also available on the site just in case you misplace yours during the month. Our Web Master, Bill Smart, encourages your input as he continues to build the site into what our membership wants it to be. Check it out!

Calendar of Events -

August -

5 **Lost Bay Planning, 5:30 – Mexico Rock**
8 **Board of Directors Meeting, 5:30 p.m.**
10 **LOO WOW Beach Party**
31 **Lipton Series BWYC - Capdeville**

September

12 **Board of Directors Meeting, 5:30 p.m.**
12 **Membership Meeting, 7:00 p.m.**
14 **Lost Bay Regatta**
28&29 **Wadewitz FYC – Capdeville**

Newsletter Information -

If you have articles, pictures or other items you would like to submit for the newsletter, please contact Jeanne Fitzgibbons at 251-968-7200 or email jeanne@gulfel.com All materials need to be in by the 20th of the month. *Thanks!!*

2002 Club Officers –

Randy Fitzgibbons – Commodore

979-7311

Brett Holk – Rear Commodore

981-4532

John Shaw – Vice Commodore

980-1460

Randy Simmons – Treasurer

967-1306

Joan States Davidson – Secretary

981-4934

Eric Nelson – Fleet Captain

980-5440 or 225-635-3470

Board Members –

Jon Weyand – 987-5711

Phil Turner – 949-6198

Jack Minish – 981-4584

Steve McGonigal – 981-6321

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