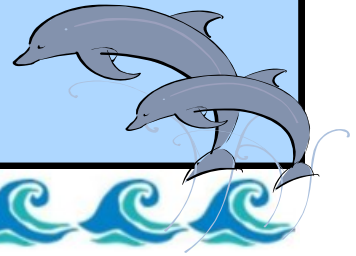


Nautical Notes



Vol. XV Number 11

A Publication of the Mariners of PGI

November 2023



**Barry Franzino Jr.,
Commodore**

Welcome Mariners,

Now that the weather is a bit cooler, and our friends are returning from their travels up north it's time to enjoy the reason

we live in paradise. Our social on Wednesday at the Sheraton four points was well attended. Everyone was excited about being back to Punta Gorda. Our welcome back Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, November 5. We have planned a wonderful event with good food, good friends, and beautiful weather. Ponce Park never disappoints.

We have lots of events scheduled for November and December. Cruises, social events and opportunities to earn participation credits. Check the website and sign up. Our Change of Watch is scheduled for January 6, 2024. If you haven't signed up, please do so. We need to know numbers to prepare for this wonderful gala. Cindy and her committee have done a great job on planning this Change of Watch. Remember this is the Mariners hallmark event. (no jackets or ties).

Welcome back to paradise. See you on the water.



**Paul Baird,
Cruise Director**

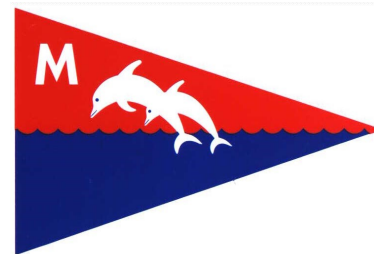
We just had a great raft up in Sunset Lake on Sunday. There were seven boats, thirteen people and lots of food.

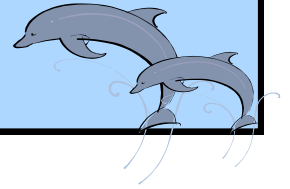
We have some nice cruises coming up for the last two months of 2023. To mention a few, we have a two-night cruise to Tween-Waters, a lunch cruise to The Pink Elephant and one to The Green Flash. We also have the Points North Cruise in early December with five destinations. Check the calendar for a complete and current list.

The marina at South Seas has re-opened. They don't have many amenities open yet but because of that they have discounted their rate to two dollars a foot. We will hopefully be able to have a cruise there in December.

We need cruise leaders for many cruises. If you volunteer, you get an anchor embroidered onto your burgee.

See you out on the water!





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MIKE GULER, Proofreader

Editor's Note: direct contact information for all Mariners is located on the [website](http://www.marinersofpgi.org) : www.marinersofpgi.org

Click [here](#) to view the Social Calendar and Sign-Up!

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FACEBOOK Page [Mariners of PGI](#)

Meetings

General Membership

PGICA, 2001 Shreve St.
4th Monday at 7 p.m. (except December)

Board

PGICA, 2001 Shreve Street
4th Monday at 9 a.m. All members are welcome.

November Birthdays

11/1 Connie DiLillo
11/3 Joyce McCandless
11/3 Audrey Bruning
11/3 Mike Scharpf
11/9 Debby Dehmel
11/10 Michael Guler
11/16 Kip Conner
11/16 Julie Conte
11/19 Jeff Peltier
11/21 Peter Guille
11/22 Marijane Truting

If you or anyone
you know is ill
or in need of some
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Lynne Matthews
sunshine@marinersofpgi.org



Happy Birthday!

**Education Director****Mike Guler****November 27 General Membership Meeting**

Our favorite game show host, Richard Northrup, will be conducting the ever-popular Nautical Trivia Contest. He says to come prepared wearing your nautical thinking cap. Awe inspiring boating knowledge to be had! The defending champ, Brad Betting, will be the Mariner to beat. Only one champion will take home bragging rights and the prize money!

Excerpts from the Boater's Alliance October Meeting**I. City Report**

Mayor Matthews

- The City started repairing seawalls while awaiting FEMA formal approval. A letter is being sent to Congressman Steube and Senator Rubio requesting assistance in moving FEMA on the hurricane projects.
- The current City Manager has over the last three years enabled the city to meet and exceed the recommended 16.7% reserve. Punta Gorda's reserves are currently at approximately 25% emergency reserves, and excess reserves may be used for one time projects, including hurricane restorations.
- The Halloween celebration will return this year. Marion from Shreve to 41 will be closed and Retta will have one lane open, plus all cross streets in between Marion and Retta closed for safety for the trick or treaters.
- City's Comprehensive Plan is reviewed and updated every 7 years. The new Comprehensive Plan has been submitted to the state for review and upon approval will become effective. The updated Land Development Regulations (LDRs) that will also take effect at that time include:
 - ◇ Architectural requirements
 - ◇ Landscaping requirements
 - ◇ Setback restrictions
 - ◇ Parking requirements based on the building size
 - ◇ Height requirements including base flood elevation and maximum limits
 - ◇ Density is restricted to 50 units per acre (reduced from the original 60 units per acre) in the City Center district

Having the LDRs in place means there will be no more exceptions or variances outside the established criteria.

- There is a joint meeting scheduled with the City and the County Commissioners November 21 at 1 p.m. at the Murdock Administration Center in Port Charlotte. Two items slated for discussion include day docks and parking at the event center. Attendees are welcome.

II. Police Report

Officer Russell

Due to staffing shortages the marine officer is not currently full time on the water. There are 21 active marine volunteers. Two dedicated slips have been identified at Lashley Marina and lifts are to be installed for the designated boats.

III. Marine Advisory Report

Bob Hickey

MAC report given by John Welsh.

- Grant application forms should go out soon and need to be submitted in January for consideration.
- Discussions regarding Sunseekers request for permission to dredge a marina off their property does not appear to be possible currently.
- Boaters Alliance and the City of Punta Gorda currently have strong representation on the MAC. Each year the MAC distributes between one and two million dollars in the form of grants for marine related requests. If your organization has a marine related project, they can submit a grant request. Some grants require a 50/50 split. The requestor must provide 50% of the funds requested, however, the volunteer hours provided by the organization members can count toward to 50% requirements.

(see page 4 Education Director)



Education Director (continued from page 3)

Mike Guler

IV. Upcoming City/County Meeting

John Welsh

Upcoming City/County meeting is scheduled for November 21 at the Murdock Administration Center in Port Charlotte. Members are invited to attend and voice their opinion on day docks.

V. Future of The Boaters Alliance

John Welsh

The future of Boaters Alliance depends on volunteers for the Board. Without volunteers the Boaters Alliance will cease to exist. Please go to your various member organization and ask for their support and seek volunteers to take the helm of this worthwhile organization.

VI. Holiday Party

John Welsh

A holiday party is in the planning stage and targeting early December. All representatives for member organizations and their respective Commodores/Presidents are invited. Government representatives will also be invited giving everyone the opportunity to meet and greet.

VII. Old Business:

Day Docks – The seawall behind the Event Center must be replaced/repared before the day docks can be installed. No timeline has been established for the process to begin.

VIII. New Business:

IX. Adjourn

Splice the Main Brace!

Vice Commodore

Bobby Conte



The year is rushing to its conclusion. We only have a few activities left in 2023. Cruising over the last few years has been hit and miss. First Covid then strong winds from the east have made for turbulent seas at best. As Covid subsides, the winds slow down and the waters cool, getting out on the water should be a weekly activity. I am looking forward to 2024 as we expand our cruising activities. Hopefully we can add new types of boating activities. We started by adding day cruising, Four-to-Five-hour cruising that includes a stop for lunch and gas. Each month we will be going a little further north or south along the intercoastal. Learning more about the area (restaurants and fuel) and increasing the use of navigation tools. After the first of the year, we will be adding some competition boating both sail and power. Time trial for our sail boats and poker runs for power boaters, fishing tournaments both flat and in the gulf. We might include entrance fees with 50/50

winner take all to help with club finances. Sandbar sun-n-fun day, family, and friend's cruise to picnic's (bring your neighbor or the grandkids). All this along with our regular boating and social activities. The New Year looks bright for The Mariners of PGI.

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Nautical Notes



Social Director

Cindy Verhoven



Our annual Welcome Back Picnic will be held again at Ponce Pavilion on Sunday, November 5 from 3 to 6 p.m. We always look forward to seeing everyone at the beginning of the Season! This year's event will be hosted by Shawna Flanders and the Social Committee is appreciative of everyone who chips in to help make the event a success.

Our annual Change of Watch/Gala will be held on January 6, 2024 at the Twin Isles Country Club from 6 to 10 p.m. and is on our website for signup now. The event will feature the tropical steel drum sounds of John Patti and the upbeat tempo of Jeff Hughes from Tropical Avenue. The theme this year is "Changes in Latitude" and the ladies will be sporting long colorful Caribbean dresses—and no tuxedos required for the men! Twin Isles will present us with delicious plated dinners and offer us a Mariner Signature Drink, which we will call "Changes in Attitudes!". The

Gala is our biggest event of the year that you don't want to miss!

Both of our November and December Lunch With the Ladies have been planned and are on the website for signup now. Joyce McCandless will host the luncheon on November 16 at the cool venue of Sting Rays Bar and Grill at Muscle Car City. Cyndee Grifo will host a Gal's Holiday Potluck Lunch on December 15 in her home on Deborah Drive. In addition to sharing delicious food, the ladies will ring in the Holidays with a fun gift exchange.

The Mariners will also hold their last quarterly Dinner for Eight in November. The event hosted by Julie Conte has become popular with the Mariners this year having three households hosting dinner for eight this quarter.

Although the monthly breakfast at Tamiami Tavern just started last month, it is sure to become popular this Season. It's always the time for good food with great friends!

Please also don't forget if you want to burn off some of those calories you consumed while having fun, you can join the Mariner Walkie Talkies every Friday at 9 a.m. at the Harborwalk!

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Membership Director

Suzanne Martin



Well it's fall, at least that is what the calendar tells us...

Nothing new to report.

Just a reminder that dues will be collected in Jan. If you'd like to get them done now just send them to me at 2224 Via Veneto Dr. Punta Gorda 33950. The dues are still just \$35 per couple.

Shout out to Laurie Betting, she mailed her 2024 dues in already! Thank you, Laurie and Brad!!

See y'all at the welcome back picnic!

Joke time...

5 ants moved into an apartment, 5 more joined them the next day....

Now they are tenants. 😊😊

Does your "View the Crew" photo need updating?

Let us know, and at the next general meeting we will have a club photographer available before the meeting to take updated photos of our members. Just email neditor@marinersofpgi.org.

If your photo needs to be updated, stop by and have a new one taken!

- ✓ Lifting, Surveys & Transports
- ✓ Engine Repair/Maintenance
- ✓ Fiberglass/Imron/Gelcoat
- ✓ Bottom Paint

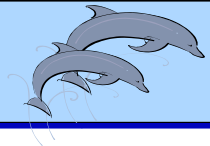


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Mariners Cruising



Upcoming Cruises

[Isles YC Lunch Cruise, Nov. 7, 2023](#)

[Tween Waters Overnight Cruise, Nov. 10-11, 2023](#)

[Village Brewhouse Lunch Cruise, Nov. 13, 2023](#) ***

[Pink Elephant Lunch Cruise, Nov. 17, 2023](#) ***

[Pelican Bay Anchor-out, Nov. 18, 2023](#) ***

[Last Sunday of the Month Sunset Lake Raft-up, Nov. 26, 2023](#) ***

[Green Flash Lunch Cruise, Dec. 1, 2023](#) ***

[Points North Hop On Hop Off Cruise, Dec. 4, 2023](#) **WAIT LISTED**

[New Year's Eve Fishermen's Village Anchor-Out, Dec. 31, 2023](#) ***

PLEASE NOTE: " *** " after the name of the cruise = Need Cruise Leaders

(More cruises to be determined)....



Upcoming and Reoccurring Social Events

[Happy Hour every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m., at Four Points Sheraton Library](#)

[Pickleball \(summer hours\) every Tuesday & Thursday at South County Park from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Contact Mick Whitney](#)

[Outdoor Social Gathering at Gilchrist Park, Thursday at 5 p.m. Contact Dennis Barkow](#)

[Boys, Bullseyes, Breakfast, Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Contact Jim Lanza](#)

[Mariner Walkie Talkies every Friday at 9 a.m. at Fishermen's Village to walk the Harborwalk.](#)
Don't forget your bottled water and sunscreen! Call Cindy Verhoven with any questions.

[Tamiami Tavern Monthly Breakfast, November 5 then December 3](#)

[Welcome Back Picnic, Nov. 5, 2023](#)

[Lunch with the Ladies, November 16, 2023](#)

[Dinner for Eight](#)

[Gal's Holiday Potluck Lunch, Dec. 15, 2023](#)

[Mariner Change of Watch, Jan. 6, 2024](#)



Lunch with the Ladies, October 11

Patti Conner

The October's Lunch with the Ladies was on October 11 at Ginger Dim Sum hosted by Patti Conner.

November's Lunch with the Ladies will be on November 16 at Stingray's Bar And Grill at Muscle Car City hosted by Joyce McCandless.



Dinner For Eight, November 3

Dave Buchanan and Phyllis Williams





Last Sunday of the Month Sunset Lake Raft-up, October 29

Mike and Beth Guler

It was windy, but once we had two anchors down and our raft-up of seven boats was secure we proceeded to layout a feast of hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Some folks were just back from their summer escapes with stories to tell. It seems like we just got started partying then it was 5 p.m. and time to head to our respective docks. Another fun and successful raft-up in the books!

