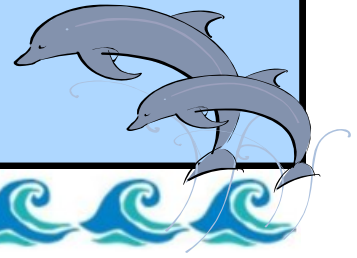


Nautical Notes



Vol. XVI Number 1

A Publication of the Mariners of PGI

January 2024



**Bobby Conte,
Commodore**

A New Year has begun along with new horizons for The Mariners of PGI.

It's January 1, 2024, and I am sitting in my office printing the

Programs for the Change of Watch thinking of our last year's boating experiences. There are a few boating resolutions I made last year that I just didn't get around to completing and plan to complete them this year. I hope you have some boating resolutions to complete as well. Our Club has been through some lean boating the last few years due to COVID, hurricanes and other tropical weather. Let's get back at the helm and do some serious boating and socializing.

I have been to a few club activities since I was nominated to be your Commodore and have been flooded with great member ideas for cruising, new activities, updating existing rules, ideas of how to attract new members, and how to bring back old members. Other ideas suggested are having cruises that don't involve food and instead include other activities such as races, sand bar gatherings, bring your neighbor for some sightseeing, new member greeting dinners, new member pairing with senior member lunch cruise, and member craft shows. The refreshing and invigorating part of this is many of the ideas are from your new 2024 Board members. This is going to be an exciting year for the Mariners of PGI and I foresee a club with membership and activity wait lists.

We are going to start right off with a Board sponsored "Eat Before We Meet" for our January meeting. If the weather permits a North ICW information/sightseeing cruise and a new member/senior member or member/friend Lunch Cruise will happen shortly.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the January "Eat Before We Meet" (BYOB) and hope you're as excited as I am about this upcoming year.



**Tom Martin,
Cruise Director**

Happy New Year! Now get those decorations put away, update the charts, and get that boat ready for a fun new year of cruising! December is always a busy month, and sometimes

cruising takes a back seat to the holidays and travel, but we had some great cruises to close out the year.

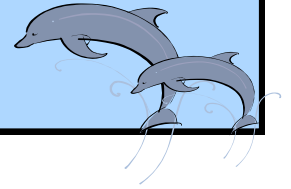
Six boats and twelve Mariners braved some fog on the Points North hop-on hop-off, with stops at Don Pedro, Sarasota, St Pete, and Venice. On the trip for some or all of the cruise were the Wiens, Whichers, Barkows, Gulers, Conners, and Mankins. Many thanks to Dennis Barkow for leading this cruise.

Another lunch cruise had twelve Mariners meeting for lunch at Riviera on the 30th - always a fun time there and some great food.

Intrepid Mariner's Mike & Beth Guler, Brad & Laurie Betting, Alan Singleton & Shawna Flanders, and June & Robert Toothaker anchored out on New Year's Eve to watch the fireworks at Fishville, with more rafting up the next day for lunch. Thanks to the Gulers for leading the New Years Eve Overnight Anchorage and the Bettings for leading the New Years Day Cruise - and to Laurie for the great writeup and pictures below:

"New Year's Day 2024 Lunch Raft Up
Mariners who participated in the January 1st Charlotte Harbor Lunch Raft Up had a Howling good time. Original plans were for those who participated in the December 31st overnight anchorage to be able to also secure a 2024 cruise credit by rafting up for a January 1st lunch aboard Betting's vessel Driftwood. Three boats grew to five then seven boats. A total of fourteen Mariners - Gulers, Toothakers, Northrups, Tracie Goin and Paul Baird, Shawna Flanders and Alan Singleton, and new members Jacqueline Kerr and Anthony Sa - joined Brad and Laurie and their new pup Dakota. Dakota made three new friends as Toothakers dog Dory, Guler's dog Genny, and Tracie and Paul's dog Sadie all joined the fun. There were a number of big firsts. Dakota and Genny are turf trained for doing their business! Gulers and Bettings are ecstatic! Bettings thank Dennis Cessari for his great advice. Missing were Alan and Shawna's dog Milo, and Richard and Peggy's dogs Salty and Stormy.

(see page 3 Cruise Director)



Mariners of PGI Board of Directors

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Editor's Note: I will confirm, via e-mail, receipt of each NN submission. If you do not receive confirmation, PLEASE contact me.

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!

January Birthdays

1/2 Helene Gordon
1/3 John Giangarra
1/3 Bernice Hinkelman
1/7 Carol Goldenberg
1/9 Keith Feather
1/12 William Wymer
1/13 Arthur Bruning
1/15 Jennifer Ross
1/15 Rosie Rissel
1/23 Chuck Pohle
1/23 David Deignan
1/23 Jim Dutcher
1/23 Pete Verhoven
1/24 Carlo San Giorgio
1/25 Cyndee Grifo
1/29 Judi Whitcher

LYNNE MATTHEWS, Sunshine Committee
sunshine@marinersofpgi.org

DON LEITCH, Webmaster
webmaster@marinersofpgi.org

TRACIE GOIN, Ship's Store
store@marinersofpgi.org

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.

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





Cruise Director (continued from page 1)

Tom Martin

The weather was perfect, the food was wonderful and abundant, but most importantly, the friendships were deepened and new ones formed."

January has lots of opportunities for cruises - talk these up with your friends and consider being a cruise leader!

January 12 Pelican Bay - join the crew either for just this one night anchored out, or plan to also spend the next night at...

January 13 Tween Waters Resort

January 19 Tarpon Lodge lunch cruise - a great restaurant and fun trip! Please let me know ASAP if you plan to come, and how many will be attending.

January 24 - Poker Run! High stakes on Charlotte Harbor (ok... \$10 entry to be split 50/50 between the club and the winner!) Find different spots in the harbor, pick up a playing card at each, and end up at Burnt Store for lunch and determination of the winner. Sign up early so we have a count for slips!

January 26 Boca Grande overnight - This will be a nice overnight with docktails and dinner at one of the nearby restaurants, and some of you may want to spend a second night either here or anchored out nearby. The next day join the lunch cruise...

January 27 Boca Grande lunch cruise - A nice destination for the day trippers - join the overnight crew at 11:00 for lunch at Miller's Dockside - we'll plan to be ready for seating at 11:30. I need to know how many boats for slips and headcount for lunch, for both the overnights that plan to stay for lunch and the ones joining us - please let me know by January 20 at the very latest.

I look forward to being your Cruise Director for 2024 - just don't expect any champagne fountains or musical acts - though Karaoke and wine tasting may be on the menu sometime! Most marinas are back in good shape (finally) after Ian repairs, snowbirds have returned, and the new board has some great plans for changes which should increase participation in cruising - longer day cruises to hone navigation skills and local knowledge (and enjoy a great lunch of course), spur of the moment cruising on that perfect weather day, some racing (ok not all races are cruises, but some cruises sure could be races), and of course visits to marinas and restaurants new to most of us. We will have monthly meetings to plan a couple months or more ahead, and I welcome any of you that would like to be on the Cruise Committee, and also urge any of you to join us at these meetings as often as you like to float new ideas for places and things to do.

I also ask any of you planning to join one of the many cruises to sign up as soon as you can - especially for the overnights. Marinas will be busier than ever this year, as many are reopening after repairs. It's important that we give them the courtesy of as much advance notice as possible.

SAVE THE DATE and clear your calendar - Burnt Store Marina will be welcoming us back for the annual "Regatta" in April - we have ten slips reserved for those early birds checking in April 11, leaving April 14, and an additional fifteen slips for those arriving April 12, leaving April 14. This is always a highlight of the year, and you can look forward to lots of fun events and great fellowship. **Reservations this year will be made individually through Dockwa and should be made as soon as you are able to. Please note in the comments section that you are with Mariners.** Stay tuned for more info on all the fun activities!

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Nautical Notes



Education Director

Alan Singleton



Hello fellow Mariners, my name is Alan Singleton and I am the new Education Director for 2024. I am looking forward to a great 2024 for all of us in the Mariners. Like most of you, I have been a casual boater for many years. Being a native Floridian I have owned boats from skiff size to a 36 foot Express. My experience is mostly from Tampa Bay down to the Florida Keys. I have very limited cruising experience but a lot of fishing and partying experience with friends and family. I hope to provide meaningful presentations that will be of interest to all, but I can't do that unless I get input from you on what information/education you would like to see on a monthly basis. Here is my personal email address: al.singleton@yahoo.com. Please feel free to drop me your suggestions and hopefully we can use them to create our presentations.

Social Director

Ruth Sines-Dutcher



The Mariners are all looking forward to an exciting year of boating in sunny Florida and I am looking forward to helping plan a great year of fun activities on land!

We have already set a date for the Knot So Nauti Regatta - to be held at Burnt Store Marina April 12, 13 and 14. I am pleased to announce Brad and Laurie Betting will be hosting this year's event and they have some GREAT activities planned! Some boats will arrive early on Thursday, and some will wait and RACE down on Friday! We are looking forward to friends joining us by car for activities they would like to join - especially dinner and dancing at Cass Cay Saturday evening.

Lunch with the Ladies will continue this year with our first luncheon being held at The Peace River Botanical Gardens on January 16 - hosted by June Prosser-Toothaker and Judy Droitcour. Sign up available on our website. We would like to have most months planned well in advance with Patti Conner volunteering to coordinate those efforts.

Lots of other fun ideas are on the agenda and the first meeting of the Social Committee will take place on January 11 at 10 a.m. - all are welcome to join with ideas or for a chance to volunteer to lead an activity and help make this year one of the best ever for the Mariners.



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Membership Director

Joan Erickson



We currently have 183 Mariners members, including Jacqueline Kerr and Arthur Ar, who joined in the past month. Jacqueline and Arthur will be introduced at our January meeting. In the meantime, please welcome them at our weekly Happy Hours.

I look forward to a busy 2024, cruising and joining in activities with our awesome club members.

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!

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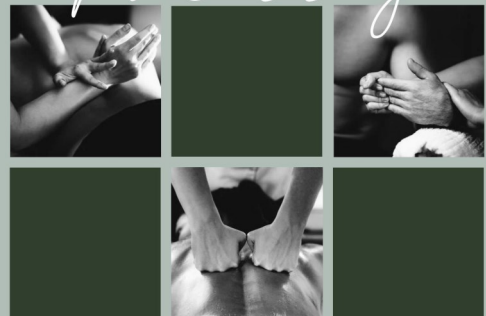
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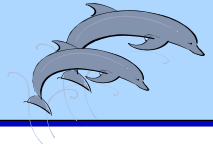
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Mariners Cruising



Upcoming Cruises

[Pelican Bay Anchor-Out, Jan. 12, 2024](#) ***

[Tween Waters Overnight Cruise, Jan. 13, 2024](#) ***

[Riviera Bar & Grill Lunch Cruise, Jan. 16, 2024](#) ***

[Tarpon Lodge Lunch Cruise, Jan. 19, 2024](#) ***

[Poker Run, Jan. 24, 2024](#)

[Boca Grande Marina & Millers Dockside Marina Overnight Cruise, Jan. 26, 2024](#) ***

[Boca Grande Marina Millers Lunch Cruise, Jan. 27, 2024](#) ***

[Mariner Regatta, Apr. 12-14, 2024](#)



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 \(winter hours\) every Tuesday & Thursday at South County Park from 8:30-10:30 a.m.](#) Contact Mick Whitney
[Also every Thursday at South County Park from 2 to 4 p.m.](#) Contact Laurie Betting

[Outdoor Social Gathering at Gilchrist Park, Thursday at 4 to 6 p.m.](#) Contact Dennis Barkow

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

[Tamiami Tavern Monthly Breakfast, Feb. 4, 2024](#)

[Dinner for Eight](#)

[Lunch with the Ladies in the Garden, Jan. 16, 2024](#)

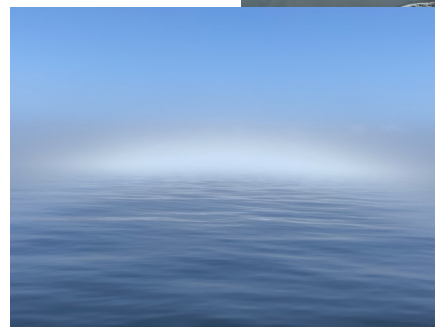
[Snack Before We Meet, Jan. 22, 2024](#)

Nautical Notes



Points North Hop On Hop Off Cruise, December 4

Carol and Dennis Barkow





Mariners Gals Holiday Lunch, December 15

Cyndee Grifo

Wow, the ladies were all decked out in their Christmas attire to attend the ladies holiday feast. Jim Grifo was the designated bartender and MC for the gift exchange. All the lefts and rights in the gift exchange story kept the moment filled with giggles.





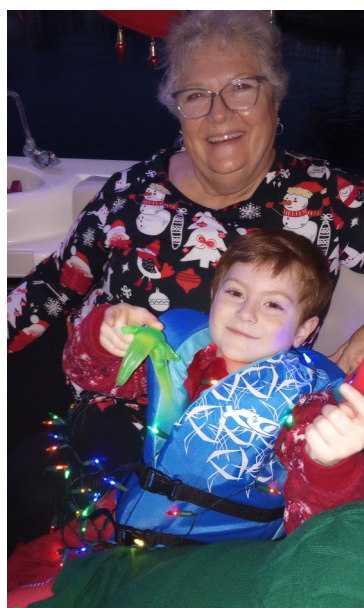
2023 PGICA Christmas Boat Parade, December 23

Laurie Betting

Driftwood made her maiden appearance in the 2023 PGICA Christmas Boat Parade. This is certainly the start of more to come!

Many Mariners contributed to her successful voyage. Susan Hills donated dolphins and a sleigh made by Russ. Dennis and Carol Barkow along with daughter Jenny Underwood performed a variety of tasks from climbing on the hardtop and securing Santa to pulling together costumes and downloading music and ensuring the audio system packed a punch. Bill Rissel and Ken Sulla and Dennis Barkow can tie wrap strings of lights in record time. Richard Northrup and Bill Rissel ensured we safely left and returned to dock by manning the slidemoors. Robert and June Toothaker and Ken and Deb Sulla were our wavers and dancers on the mid deck. Rosie Rissel, daughter Val and SIL Ted were entertained by the magic of 5-year-old Neil. In fact, we all were! We were most impressed by the number of spectators. Empty lots were packed. House parties were in full swing. We appreciated the sound check from Nancy and Bill Eggert and the great videos and pictures from Shawna Flanders and Dawn Hebeisen.

Brad and I tucked into bed with a smile on our faces and have already started to plan for the next parade.



Nautical Notes



Past Happy Hour Bartenders, Mike and Jess

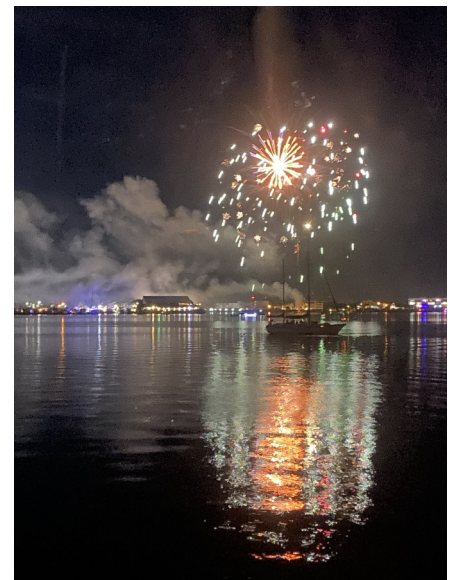
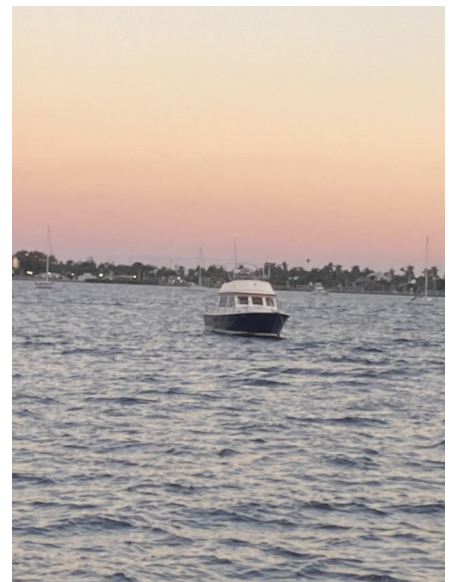


Riviera Lunch Cruise, December 30
Shawna Flanders and Alan Singleton



New Years Eve Anchor Out, December 31

Beth and Mike Guler

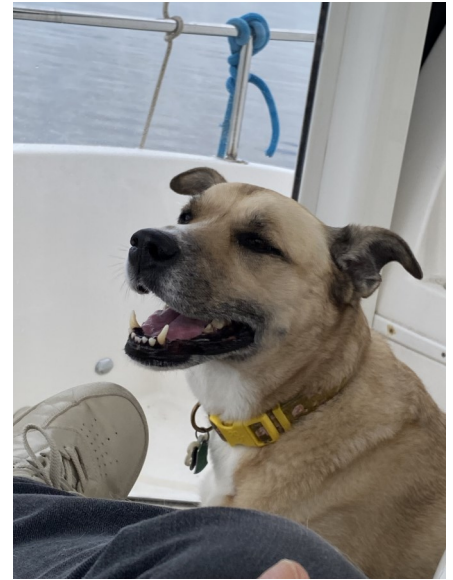


Nautical Notes



New Years Day Lunch Raft-up, January 1

Laurie and Brad Betting





Change of Watch, January 6

Michele Sharp



2024 Board



2023 Board

