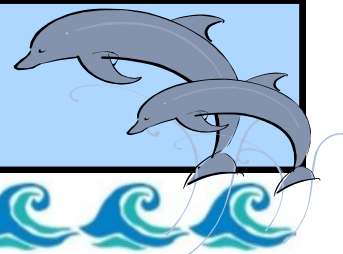


Nautical Notes



Vol. XVI Number 3

A Publication of the Mariners of PGI

March 2024



**Bobby Conte,
Commodore**

Another month of growth and new activities for us Mariners. If you missed last month's meeting you missed some of the best baked desserts ever to come out of the oven. The club also lowered the

three-day posting for cruise credit to twenty-four hours. This will give way for "Pop-Up cruises and other activities when the weather is most conducive. One new activity this month was "The Search for The Fountian of Youth" followed by a relaxing dinner at Lashley's. The search was led by our own fearless explorer June Toothaker. The safari was designed by the same company that gave us the Escape Room. I will not tell you anything about the safari except it was a fun afternoon with some Punta Gorda history, lots of searching and some walking in our great outdoors. This is something you will have to experience for yourself. It is well worth an afternoon of your time.

This month will bring another Poker Run and a "Captain's meeting for the North ICW exploration cruise, along with a few new social activities, mentoring and a special Dinner for Eight for new members. Check the Facebook Page along with the Monday News Blast for more information.

Lots of Exciting stuff happening with the Mariners. See you at the Wednesday Social at Penny's, and once again join us for "coffee and" before our next meeting to hear all that is happening. The "coffee and" will be baked goods for sale, conversation, etc.

Weather is warming up and the wind is slowing down. Get out on the waters and enjoy!



**Tom Martin,
Cruise Director**

February 25 saw Mariners cruising back to Sunset Lake on the last Sunday of the month for the traditional raft up. Enjoying the camaraderie and beautiful weather were Dennis and Shirla Cesari

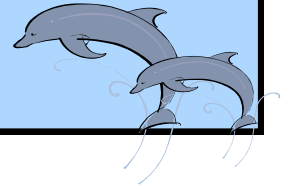
(cruise leaders), Peter Guille and Joyce McCandless, Jim Hebeisen and Dawn Hayworth, Richard and Peggy Northrup, Kate and Bill Albers, Glen and Cathy Mayer, Michael and Crystal Mankin, Greg and Jeri Julian, Andrew and Judy Droitcour, and June and Robert Toothaker. Join us on the last Sunday of each month for this popular get together.

On February 27, lunch at Cabbage Key was enjoyed by Dennis and Carol Barkow (cruise leaders), Frank and Sue Scharpf, Tom and Suzanne Martin, and June Prosser-Toothaker. The Scharpf's departed the day before and anchored in Pelican Bay for the night. The Feathers sailed down early in the morning, and the Barkows and Martins arrived in plenty of time to snare two prime tables on the patio. It was a fine day for power or sail boating, with good winds, light seas, sun and high 70's. The restaurant was packed, with a line all the way down the stairs. It was a fine cruise with our Mariner friends!

In March, we have some great cruise opportunities. On March 1, we'll be searching for the diary of Ponce DeLeon, hoping it might have clues leading us to the fountain of youth. If you see some Mariners at the next meeting that appear many years younger, you'll know we found it! Find it or not, we'll recharge after the search with snacks and drinks at Laishley's. On March 7, Paul Baird has invited us to lunch at Isles Yacht Club, which was a very popular event last time. We're heading back to the Riviera Grille on the March 13, then to Conte's dock on the March 16 for lunch. Our next overnight trip will be on the hook at Don Pedro on March 21, followed by a journey up the ICW to Marina Jack in Sarasota where we'll stay the following two nights (22nd and 23rd). We'll round out the month with another Sunset Lake raft up on March 31.

In April we look forward to the annual regatta at Burnt Store Marina, starting with a lunch cruise on the day before on March 11. The social committee has a weekend full of fun activities planned - you don't want to miss this one.

(see page 3 Cruise Director)



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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.

March Birthdays

3/4 Michael Gordon

3/8 Wayne Sharp

3/10 Dennis O'Brien

3/11 Peter Demas

3/17 Stephen Gordon

3/18 Shawna Flanders

3/22 Mark Witcher

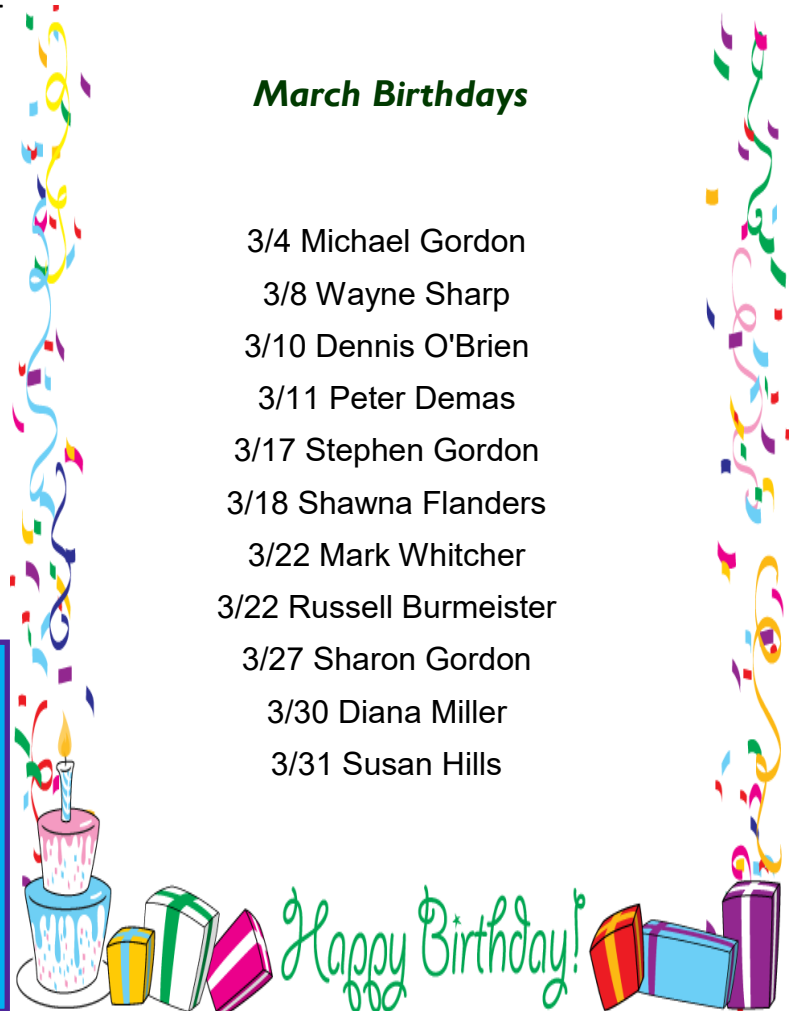
3/22 Russell Burmeister

3/27 Sharon Gordon

3/30 Diana Miller

3/31 Susan Hills

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



Happy Birthday!



Cruise Director (continued from page 1)

Tom Martin

There are still some slips available for March 12 and 13 - get on Dockwa and grab one if you haven't already!

The warm weather has returned and its prime time for cruising - we'd love to have you join us! As always, let us know if you have some ideas for a day cruise or overnight - we are always looking for new places to go.

Education Director

Alan Singleton



Thanks to Bill Eggert for the enjoyable presentation on the waterways of France from a trip Nancy and Bill took several years ago on their friend's boat. It was a very enjoyable and entertaining experience for the club.

For March's education presentation, I (Alan Singleton) will provide information on Sharrow Propellers. They are relatively new technology that have several advantages over conventional props.

For April, Mike Guler has volunteered to present on their trip to view the total solar eclipse happening next month.

Notes from this month's Boater Alliance meeting on 2/15/2024

The significant discussion in this month's meeting was on the maintenance and repair of the Weather Station in Charlotte Harbor. The Peace River Sail and Power Squadron has been taking care of it in the past but is struggling to get someone out to take care of it. Since the failure rate on the equipment is high and the equipment is getting older the Peace River Sail and Power Squadron will begin to look at a more reliable replacement.

Day Docks – Still need a seawall replacement plan before any planning for the Day Docks.

Vessel Pump Out – The existing pump out boat only works during the week and there is discussion on getting it to switch one of its weekdays to pump out on a weekend day.

The Mayor and the City Manager were not able to attend this meeting so they will update us next month.

February General Membership Meeting





Social Director

Ruth Sines



Good morning-

February was more chilly and rainy than usual but the Mariners found lots of reasons to continue to have fun together. We decided to move our Wednesday evening Happy Hour to Penny's Diner- from 5 to 7 p.m. and it has been well attended for the past two weeks. We (members of the Social Committee) are looking forward to hearing from members positive, negative or other about your experience.

Don't forget we continue to gather for brunch at 10 a.m. on the first Sunday of the month- sign up on the web page so reservations can be made. Thursday evenings are the gatherings at Gilchrist Park from 4 to 6 p.m. - great chance for casual conversation with gorgeous sunsets! BYOB and a chair- all are welcome. Boys, Bullseyes and Breakfast continues on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. - contact Jim Lanza - I am sure they would love to have gentlemen join just for breakfast if they don't care to participate in target practice. Dinner for Eight continues to be held with sign ups available on the website.

Last chance to sign up for the Downtown Hoedown on March 7.

Several Mariners joined Jim and me for an interesting adventure at Solomon's Castle. The artwork is quirky and fun, the cars were beautiful, and we all enjoyed a lovely and tasty lunch under the trees with a nice chance to become better acquainted with fellow Mariners - Dennis and Carol Barkow, Sue Hills, Patti and Bruce Edgecomb.

Lunch with the Ladies was hosted by Carol Barkow in February and well attended with 18 ladies enjoying a delicious lunch at Waterside Table at Sunseeker Resort. In March Sue Hills will host the Ladies on the 19th at FK Your Diet- a generous portion of proceeds are donated to several worthy causes in the area (such as Foster Kids- thus the name...) Please sign up on the webpage.

And guess what- since we finally have some warm weather- Let's Go ICE SKATING!!!!- Laurie Betting and Peter Guille will be hosting a fun skating day on March 9 from noon to 1:30 - \$10 ice time, \$3 skate rentals. Lunch to follow at a location TBD. Peter and Laurie are both well experienced and available to anyone needing assistance. Please sign up on the webpage.

We are all looking forward to the Naughty Oar Knot Regatta April 12 to 14. We still have slips available but please sign up soon! They are going fast! We also look forward to Mariners attending by car - please go ahead and sign up so we have an accurate head count.

Have fun out there and please contact me with ideas for adventures with the Mariners.

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Membership Director



We have 153 current members, including four new members who joined in February. They are Julie & Gary Towers and Mike & Nicole Ross. Please welcome the Towers and Rosses by including them in cruises and social events.



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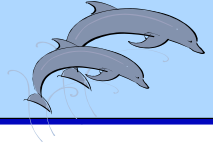
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Mariners Cruising



___Upcoming Cruises

[Lunch Cruise to the Isles YC., Mar. 7, 2024](#)

[Riviera Bar & Grill Lunch Cruise, Mar. 13, 2024 ***](#)

[Lunch / Raft-up Cruise to Conte's, Mar. 16, 2024](#)

[Don Pedro Anchor-out, Overnight Cruise, Mar. 21, 2024](#)

[Marina Jack Overnight Cruise, Mar. 22-24, 2024](#)

[Last Sunday of the Month Sunset Lake Raft-Up, Mar. 31, 2024 ***](#)

[Laishley Marina / Celtic Ray Lunch Cruise, Apr. 1, 2024](#)

[Burnt Store Lunch Cruise, Apr. 11, 2024](#)

[Nauti Oar Knot Regatta, Apr. 12-14, 2024](#)

[Naples City Dock Hop On / Hop Off Cruise, Apr. 29 – May 3, 2024 ***](#)

[Points North Cruise, June TBD ***](#)



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

(More cruises to be determined)....

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!



Upcoming and Reoccurring Social Events

Happy Hour every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m., at Four Points Sheraton Library

Pickleball (winter hours) every Tuesday at South County Park from 8-10 a.m. Contact Laurie Betting
Also every Thursday at South County Park from 2 to 4 p.m.

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, Apr. 7, 2024

Dinner for Eight

Downtown Hoedown at Laishley Park, Mar. 7, 2024

Annual Peter Guille Pickleball Tournament, Mar. 7 & Mar. 28, 2024

Let's Go Skating, Mar. 9, 2024

Lunch with the Ladies, Mar. 19, 2024

Nauti Oar Knot Regatta, Apr. 12-14, 2024

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Solomon's Castle Lunch, February 15

Ruth Sines-Dutcher & Jim Dutcher





Shawna & Alan, February 24

Shawna and Alan officially exchanged vows in Tarpon Springs last month. Please congratulate them the next time you see them.



Last Sunday of the Month Sunset Lake Raft-Up Cruise, Feb. 25

Dennis and Shirla Cesari were the cruise leaders for the Sunset Lake Raft-Up in February. Seven boats participated and the weather was perfect!



Even
Ruth's
parents
join in
the
boating
fun!





Mariners Lunch With The Ladies, February 28

The February Lunch With The Ladies was at Waterside Table Restaurant in Sunseekers overlooking Charlotte Harbor and the pool, and was hosted by Carol Barkow. The food was wonderful and the wait staff made the meal enjoyable.

On March 19 Lunch With The Ladies will be hosted by Susan Hills at FK Your Diet. This restaurant gives 5% of their revenue back to local charities.

