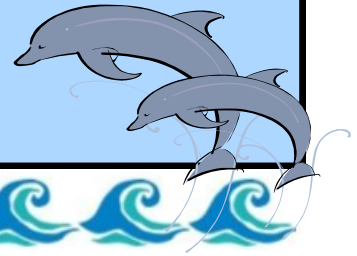


Nautical Notes



Vol. XVI Number 4 A Publication of the Mariners of PGI

April 2024



**Bobby Conte,
Commodore**

This coming month has one of the Mariners' best events: the Regatta/Gathering of the Fleet/ Nauti-Oar-Knot. Whatever name suits you best, it's going to be a great weekend. Laurie Betting and

crew have activities planned throughout the weekend. In fact, there is so much going on you can start Thursday with a lunch cruise and stay the night. On Sat start your day having Breakfast with the Commodore; then on to Noonish Burgers, Dogs and fixings lunch; and finish with dinner and dancing. Barry and Sandy will kick off the Progressive Dock Breakfast on Sunday serving Barry's infamous Bloody Mary's. There will be lots of laughs with the Knot So Newlywed Game, boat races, even an afternoon doggy date time. There is something for everyone. Come by boat, come by car, just come, and enjoy being with your fellow Mariner friends.

Another activity that's been in the years of making is finally going to take place this month, exploration of the northern Intra Coastal Waterway. Kip Conner is going to be our guide up the intracoastal pointing out Restaurants, fuel stops, and points of interest as we go along. Before we shove off be sure to set up your navigation system to accept Way Points along the way for futures reference. The captain's meeting will be the May 1.

If you missed the meeting Monday night the three days wait for "Cruise Credit" was changed to twenty-four hours. If the weather looks good tomorrow, or the next day, and you want to take a cruise to your favorite sand bar or restaurant, send out a text to all the "Cruise Pop-Up" club members via the Stack App and if three members sign up you all will get a cruise credit.



**Tom Martin,
Cruise Director**

Late February and March gave us some good weather for cruising. We had ten boats at Sunset Lake for a raft up, five boats at Cabbage Key for lunch (thanks Dennis Barkow!), three boats at Lashley

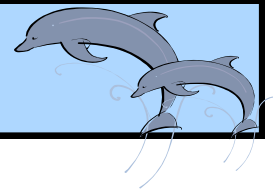
for the Ponce DeLeon "Hunt for the Fountain of Youth" (thanks June Prosser-Toothaker and Suzanne Martin!), six boats at Isles Yacht Club for lunch (thanks Paul Baird!), six boats at Riviera Grill for lunch, four boats at Don Pedro / Palm Harbor (thanks Michael Mankin!), and five boats at the Conte's Dock for lunch (thanks Bobby and Julie!). Our only washout was the cruise to Don Pedro / Marina Jack - Friday was rain, rain, rain, and lots of wind. We'll plan to reschedule that one in May.

April has some nice cruises on the books with lots of signups already. Of course, the highlight will be the Nauti Oar Knot regatta at Burnt Store - if you haven't signed up yet now is the time! We'll be having fun from Thursday through Sunday - join us by car or boat. Other cruises planned are to Celtic Ray for lunch, a Pelican Bay anchor out, Burnt Store for lunch, and a longer cruise to Marco Island with some great stops on the way down and back. This longer cruise has many opportunities to join the crew on the way down or back if you're not ready to commit to the entire cruise. Check out the details for all the cruises on the web page.

We really appreciate when members propose a cruise to their favorite places - leading a cruise is really easier than you might think. Or, suggest a place and time, and let the cruise committee plan it for you. If you'd like to attend any of the cruise planning meetings, please let me know - all are welcome.

We'd like to find out if there are some Mariner day boaters that would like us to plan an overnight to a place with accommodations - for example Tween Waters on Captiva, Pink Shell on Ft Myers Beach, or other marinas with affiliated resorts. These are very nice resorts with pools, spas, beaches and more - a bit more pricey than the Holiday Inn, but a nice resort experience. Check out rates on the websites and let us know if you might be interested.

Keep those boats out on the water where they're happiest - whether for a few hours, a day, or a night or more - join us for a cruise!



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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.

April Birthdays

4/6 Sue Scharpf

4/7 Gary DiLillo

4/12 Richard Franciose

4/13 Tracie Goin

4/14 Carol Barkow

4/18 Sara Burmeister

4/18 Cheryl O'Brien

4/19 Ann Gordon

4/23 Julie Scharpf

4/29 Ken Rolland

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



Happy Birthday!





Education Director

Alan Singleton



El Niño versus La Niña and what to expect in 2024

El Niño—the warm phase of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation ("ENSO") climate pattern—continues in the tropical Pacific, but the atmospheric part of the pattern is weakening. Conditions are likely to shift to ENSO-neutral by April-June 2024, and the odds of La Niña developing in June-August 2024 have risen to 55%.

Article from NOAA:

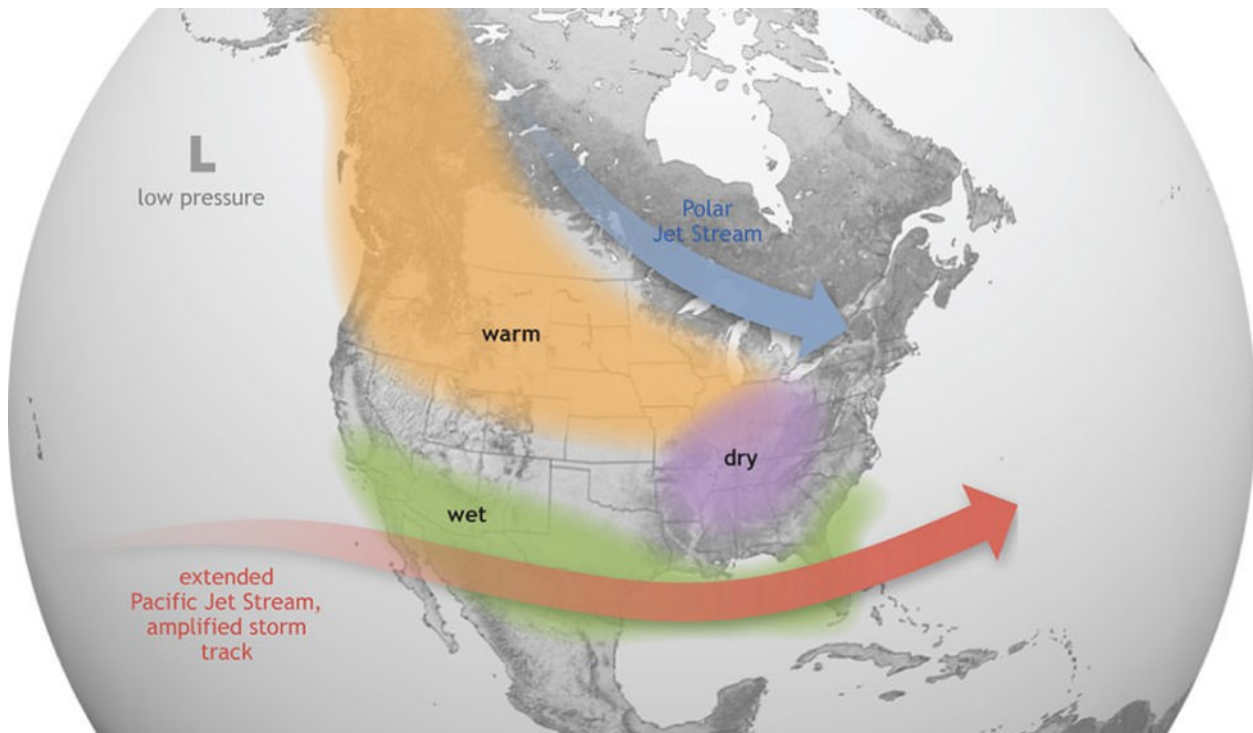
During normal conditions in the Pacific Ocean, [trade winds](#) blow west along the equator, taking warm water from South America towards Asia. To replace that warm water, cold water rises from the depths — a process called [upwelling](#). El Niño and La Niña are two opposing climate patterns that break these normal conditions. Scientists call these phenomena the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) cycle. El Niño and La Niña can both have [global impacts](#) on weather, [wildfires](#), [ecosystems](#), and economies. Episodes of El Niño and La Niña typically last nine to 12 months but can sometimes last for years. El Niño and La Niña events occur every two to seven years, on average, but they don't occur on a regular schedule. Generally, El Niño occurs more frequently than La Niña.

El Niño

During El Niño, trade winds weaken. Warm water is pushed back east, toward the west coast of the Americas.

El Niño means Little Boy in Spanish. South American fishermen first noticed periods of unusually warm water in the Pacific Ocean in the 1600s. The full name they used was El Niño de Navidad, because El Niño typically peaks around December.

El Niño can [affect our weather significantly](#). The warmer waters cause the Pacific jet stream to move south of its neutral position. With this shift, areas in the northern U.S. and Canada are dryer and warmer than usual. But in the U.S. Gulf Coast and Southeast, these periods are wetter than usual and have increased flooding.



El Niño causes the Pacific jet stream to move south and spread further east. During winter, this leads to wetter conditions than usual in the Southern U.S. and warmer and drier conditions in the North.

(see page 4 Education Director)

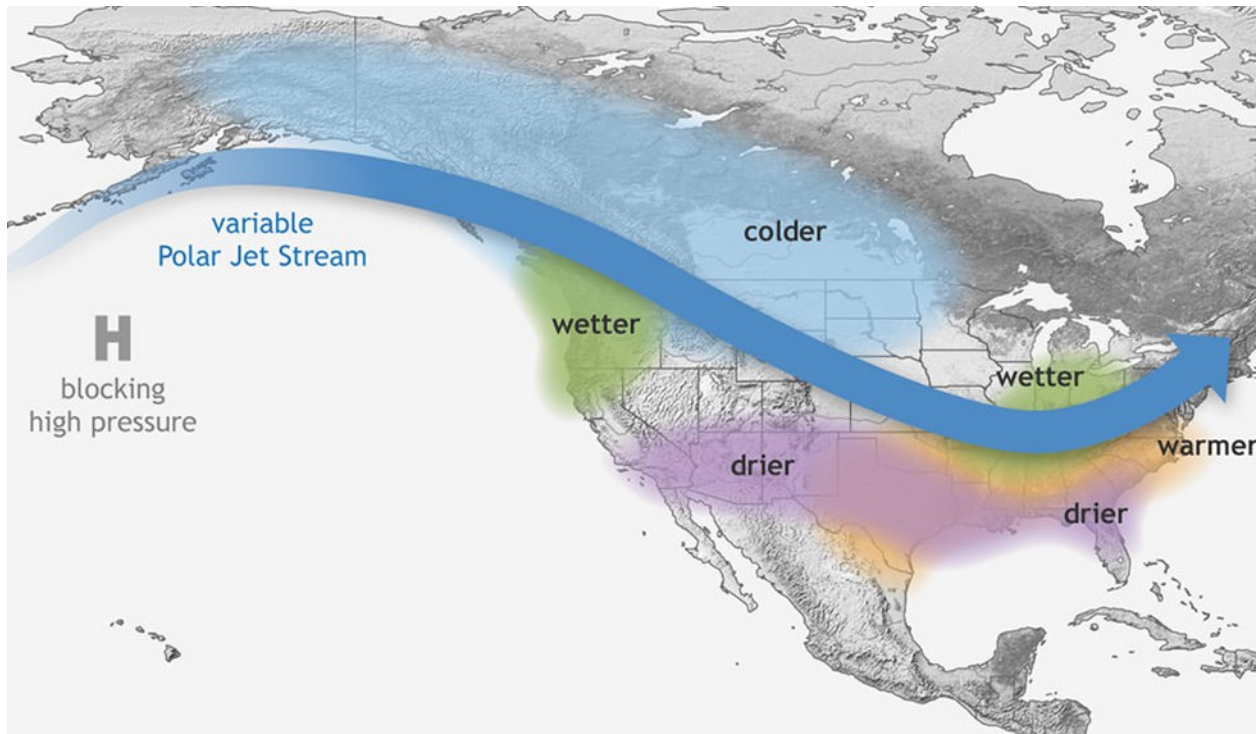


El Niño also has a strong effect on marine life off the Pacific coast. During normal conditions, upwelling brings water from the depths to the surface; this water is cold and nutrient rich. During El Niño, upwelling weakens or stops altogether. Without the nutrients from the deep, there are [fewer phytoplankton off the coast](#). This affects fish that eat phytoplankton and, in turn, affects everything that eats fish. The warmer waters can also bring tropical species, like yellowtail and albacore tuna, into areas that are normally too cold.

La Niña

La Niña means Little Girl in Spanish. La Niña is also sometimes called El Viejo, anti-El Niño, or simply "a cold event." La Niña has the opposite effect of El Niño. During La Niña events, trade winds are even stronger than usual, pushing more warm water toward Asia. Off the west coast of the Americas, upwelling increases, bringing cold, nutrient-rich water to the surface.

These cold waters in the Pacific push the jet stream northward. This tends to lead to drought in the southern U.S. and heavy rains and flooding in the Pacific Northwest and Canada. During a La Niña year, winter temperatures are warmer than normal in the South and cooler than normal in the North. La Niña can also lead to a [more severe hurricane season](#).



La Niña causes the jet stream to move northward and to weaken over the eastern Pacific. During La Niña winters, the South sees warmer and drier conditions than usual. The North and Canada tend to be wetter and colder.

During La Niña, waters off the Pacific coast are colder and contain more nutrients than usual. This environment supports more marine life and attracts more cold-water species, like squid and salmon, to places like the California coast.



Social Director

Ruth Sines-Dutcher



March was a busy month with Happy Hour continuing every Wednesday evening. After talking with many members and gathering opinions the Social Committee has decided to stay at Penny's for the foreseeable future. We are grateful they allow us to bring our own "salty snacks"- donations for this voluntarily donated snack are being added to our Eat Before We Meet funds- all to defray the cost of the Commodore's Ball next January. We are also looking forward to Penny's adding the option of outside seating with a canopy cover in the near future.

The Committee continues to work toward the goal of keeping the cost of the Ball- to be held at the Isles Yacht Club- to approximately \$50-\$55. Your attendance and participation in events throughout the year- including Happy Hour and Eat Before We Meet- will help our club achieve this goal.

Committee member Joyce McCandless continues to spearhead efforts of 'Salty Snacks' and eat Before We Meet with March Meeting attendees enjoying a delicious array of appetizers before the General Membership meeting. All leftovers are donated to local charities. Volunteers are encouraged for next month's Eat Before We Meet which will be a full meal with the theme of 'Comfort Food'. Coffee will be available and remember- you are welcome to bring your own beverage of choice.

Brunch was enjoyed by several members at Tamiami Tavern on the first Sunday of the month and some folks have already signed up for the April 7 event. And – GREAT NEWS- Mike is back!!!

Laurie Betting grabbed some fellow Mariners and enjoyed a few hours of ICE SKATING! The event was enjoyed by several brave and "knee healthy" Mariners and next month she is organizing an evening of fun at Top Golf!

Sign-ups for the Nauti Oar Knot Regatta continue to be strong- we do still have a few slips for boats. You are welcome to attend this event at Burnt Store Marina by car- don't forget to sign up on the web page so we can track attendance.

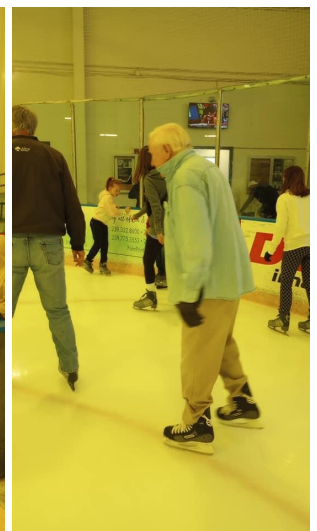
Lunch with the Ladies was well attended on March 19 at FK Your Diet. The food was delicious and portions were HUGE!! Host Sue Hills even decorated tables with Easter décor and candy and shared candy with other restaurant patrons! What a nice time.

All Social Events are posted on the website and we continue to look forward to new ideas and ways to enjoy each other's company in our beautiful slice of paradise.

Ice Skating, Mar. 9

Laurie Betting

Everblades and Ice Capades tryouts. Think Eric, Peter, Mike, Brad, Julie and Peggy made the cut. And Laurie!





Membership Director

Joan Erickson



We have had a few members move closer to their children and grandchildren. That has opened spaces for new members so be sure to invite your neighbors with boats to check us out.

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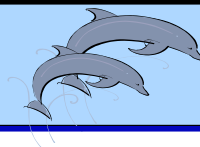
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Mariners Cruising



___Upcoming Cruises

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

[Pelican Bay Anchor-Out, Apr. 6, 2024](#)

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

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

[Slow Cruise to Marco Island, Apr. 16-25, 2024](#)

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

[ICW Familiarization, May 1, 2024](#)

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



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

(More cruises to be determined)...

Lunch Cruise to YOUR CHOICE!

Let's try something different for the nearby lunch cruises. If you want to boat to lunch, let Tom Martin know where you plan to go by the Sunday noon before the date, so we can post it next day in the Monday blast. If the cruise is three days or more in the future (Thursday or later) cruise credit will be available – otherwise just enjoy the camaraderie and lunch! Please avoid a date conflicting with the other scheduled social and cruise events!

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 Recurring Social Events

[Happy Hour every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m., at Penny's](#)

[Pickleball 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 5 to 7 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](#)

[Lunch with the Ladies, Apr. 2, 2024](#)

[Top Golf, Apr. 2, 2024](#)

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

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Cabbage Key Lunch Cruise, February 27

Carol and Dennis Barkow



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“Treat Before We Meet” Concept Gains Traction!

Joyce McCandless

This year, several Mariner monthly meetings will be preceded by a Treat Before We Meet (TBWM). The goal is two-fold: camaraderie and cash. All proceeds will go to the 2025 Change of Watch (CoW) fund. Sometimes we’ll sell baked goods, other times appetizers. Coffee (both decaf and regular) will always be available for sale. The first TBWM (26Feb) was a big hit, with almost \$120 raised towards the Commodore’s Ball! Leftover treats were donated to a local charity. Many thanks to our February Treats Team bakers: Carol Barkow, Julie Conte, Patty Edgecomb, Shawna Flanders, Cyndee Grifo, Susan Hills, and Ruth Sines; and to Debby Dehmel for serving coffee and collecting \$\$.

The second TBWM preceded our March 25 meeting, with appetizers available for sale. This was a BYOB event, for those who preferred something other than coffee as a liquid accompaniment. In response to a suggestion, we set up some tables and chairs to make it easier to facilitate the comaraderie component! Tasty apps were provided by Laurie Betting, Debby Dehmel, Dawn Hayworth, Susan Hills, Joyce McCandless, and Karen Rolland. We collected almost \$110 for the CoW Fund; leftovers were graciously accepted by the Veterans Village on Taylor.

Note there is no sign-up for these events; just come early to the monthly meeting, bring some cash, and enjoy! Events will be “advertised” in the Monday e-blasts.



Our Treats Team volunteers are also providing “Salty Snacks” at the Wednesday Happy Hours at Penny’s...a little bit of something to go with our liquid libations. Donations are gratefully accepted; please place a dollar or two in the Donations can located on the snacks table. Thus far, we’ve collected a bit over \$40.

To volunteer for the Treats Team or offer any suggestions as to how we can make this even more fun and productive, please contact Joyce McCandless. All those who volunteer will receive a participation credit; it’s an easy way for our newer Mariners to enter into social volunteerism. This is a great opportunity to contribute to the club real-time and for the future!

Outdoor Social Gathering at Gilchrist Park, Mar. 21

During the Mariner social gathering on March 21. we had an impromptu concert from local musicians. What a wonderful treat!





Mariners Lunch with the Ladies, March 19

Susan Hills

On March 19 Lunch with the Ladies was hosted by Susan Hills at FK Your Diet. This restaurant gives 5% of their revenue back to local charities. Fourteen ladies joined in boisterous conversation and good food. I can also attest to the fact that they do not skimp on the portion size!

April's Lunch With the Ladies in the Garden will be hosted by Judy Droitcour & June Prosser Toothaker and will be at Peace River Botanical & Sculpture Gardens on April 2.





Isles Yacht Club Lunch Cruise, March 7

Paul Baird



Riviera Lunch Cruise, March 13





Mariner's Pickleball Celebration, March 28

We had a fun evening celebrating another year of pickleball with the Mariner players. Our annual competition is half over, but we have lots more pickleball to play!

Peter Guille is shown sporting the metals to be awarded during the Nauti Oar Knot Regatta.

Laurie and Brad Betting graciously opened their home for the celebration. And yes, the food was delicious! Potlucks are always wonderful.

