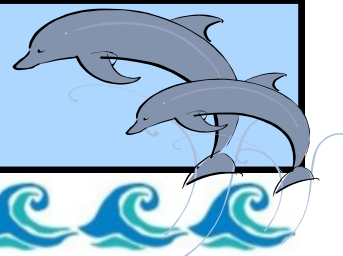


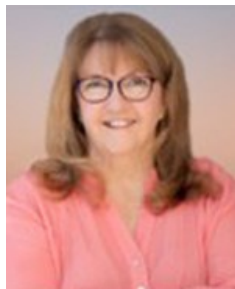
Nautical Notes



Vol. XVII Number 4

A Publication of the Mariners of PGI

April 2025



**Carol Barkow,
Commodore**

The Mariners Survey went out starting February 24. By March 24 we had 68 unduplicated responses back – a great response from members who care about what happens next for the club. I will

accept responses, and adjust the totals until April 15, but since we were already above a 50% response rate I went ahead with a preliminary presentation of results. About half the respondents have been in the club four to ten years, with the next biggest group having been members over ten years.

Cruising events seemed to be solidly supported. The difficulty in finding cruising grounds has made it difficult to provide for the 45 members who are interested in overnight cruising, but we will continue to try and post two to three cruises every month. We are hoping participation grows as we find new spots and hear your new ideas. Social events were popular, and most members seem to look forward to many or all of the events. People are being great sports about holding a Regatta right here in and around PGI. Happy hours are very well attended, and the Welcome Back Picnic and Commodores Gala were very popular. We have at least 28 snowbird members and those are events that land in the time they are in PGI.

Communication avenues found our website, Monday Eblast and Nautical Notes the most popular, followed closely by Facebook. We will continue to maintain these sites. Of course, “word of mouth” was also popular and we love that – wouldn’t contain it even if we could.

After hearing the topic come up quite often, we were curious about attitudes toward our club requirements. This is a group of BOATERS and boat ownership and cruise/meeting requirements were solidly supported. A couple people asked us to consider “access to a boat” which might include Freedom boat club members – so we will look into that idea in the near future. Many said, “thanks for asking” and so many were very supportive of the 2025 Mariners. We on the board appreciate your enthusiasm and look forward to discussing items that might need addressing and proceeding with your suggestions.

(see page 3 Commodore)



**Gary Towers,
Cruise Director**

March brought some beautiful weather for getting out on the water, although a bit breezy at times. The Tarpon Point - Pink Shell Cruise was a resounding success. Thank you cruise leaders

Michael & Crystal Mankin! The planned Naples City Dock & Marco Island “Hop on Hop Off” was a bust as brisk winds and unsettled sea conditions would have made for a sporty ride outside the ICW. If we can gin up some interest, we may try to add these destinations in a future cruise.

April will see a return to Tween Waters with a large turnout expected. Then the Annual Regatta will be held close to home with multiple sign-up events. Please be sure to sign up to each activity individually on the Mariners website.

Future cruises are in the works. Locations discussed for overnights have been Sanibel, Pink Shell and The Marina at Edison Ford. Stay tuned!

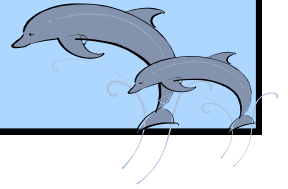
Tarpon Point – Pink Shell – Cabbage Key Cruise

The original plan included Sanibel Marina, however mother nature took over with 20+ winds, so everyone except Lightning Rod decided to wait out the wind. Congratulations to Mike and Beth for showing us how to get it done.

Tarpon Point was very nice. It is a smaller marina but nicely sheltered from wind and wave action. Great for sleeping. I don’t usually mention any negatives but in this case, there is no pool and the transient showers were three tenths of a mile walk from our slips. If we go back, we will bring our boat bikes.

Pinchers and High Tide Social House were the two dinner venues, both adjacent to the marina. High Tide Social House is an indoor/outdoor restaurant with the outside area completely covered. Our waitress did a great job managing eleven of us and the food was great.

(see page 4 Cruise Director)



Mariners of PGI Board of Directors

CAROL BARKOW, Commodore
commodore@marinersofpgi.org

MIKE GULER, Vice Commodore
vicecommodore@marinersofpgi.org

KEITH FEATHER, Treasurer
treasurer@marinersofpgi.org

KAREN ROLLAND, Secretary
secretary@marinersofpgi.org

RUTH SINES-DUTCHER, Director of Social Activities
social@marinersofpgi.org

JOAN ERICKSON, Director of Membership
membership@marinersofpgi.org

GARY TOWERS, Director of Cruises
cruise@marinersofpgi.org

ANDY DROITCOUR, Director of Education
education@marinersofpgi.org

BOBBY CONTE, Past Commodore
pastcommodore@marinersofpgi.org

Newsletter

BETH GULER, Editor
neditor@marinersofpgi.org

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

LYNNE MATTHEWS, Sunshine Committee
sunshine@marinersofpgi.org

DON LEITCH, Webmaster
webmaster@marinersofpgi.org

GARY TOWERS, Ship's Store
store@marinersofpgi.org

FACEBOOK Page [Mariners of PGI](https://www.facebook.com/MarinersofPGI)

Meetings

General Membership

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

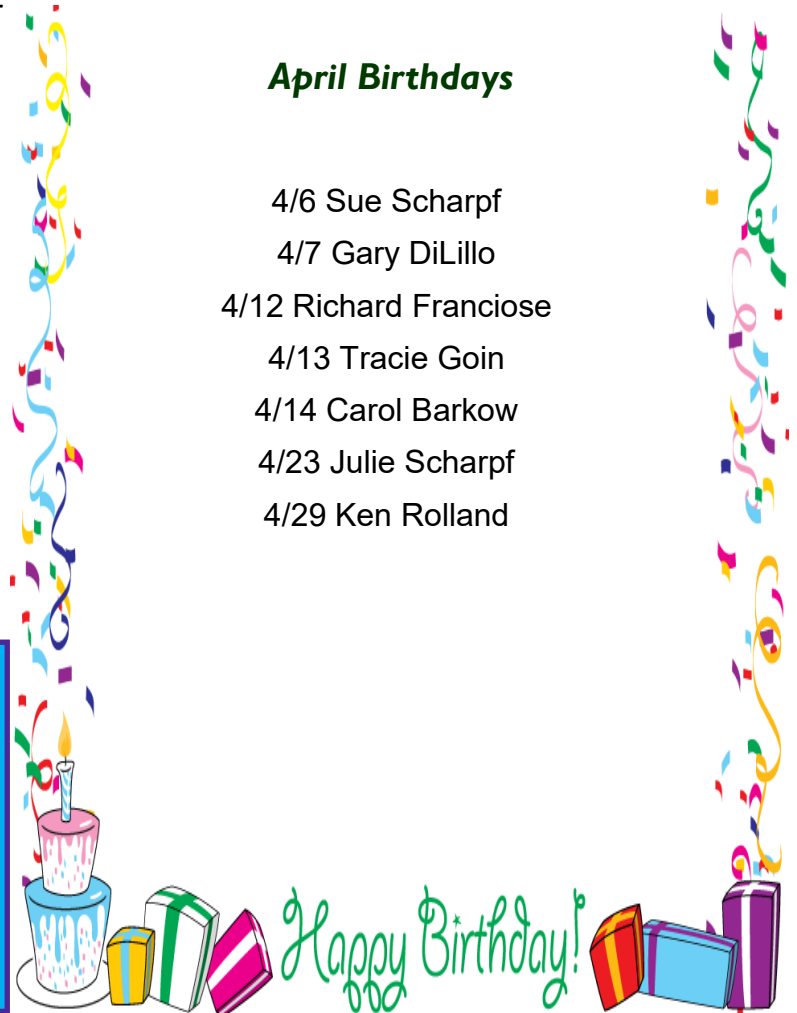
Board

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
4/23 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





Commodore (continued from page 1)

Carol Barkow

I called a lunch meeting with all the other boat club Commodores, and all were pleased to attend. It was fun to meet them and interesting to compare notes. None of the other clubs have as many requirements as we do, but conversely, they all struggle with participation and find a small percentage of their members do 90% of the work. While we wish for more participation, I got the sense that we were pretty healthy in comparison and by size. I also asked if they would be interested in any joint activities, and I got some positive interest. So, I am looking for someone who might be interested in working on a joint "Friendsgiving" dinner in the fall. Call me or Ruth Dutcher if that seems to be in your wheelhouse.

The Regatta coming up April 11-13 will be a highlight of the spring and so many of you are planning to attend – it's going to be a fun weekend to get together and enjoy your company. I am particularly looking forward to the Murder Mystery Party because I get to wear red cowboy boots. Now that you know my motivation – hope you will all get in the spirit as well. See you very soon.

Education Director

Andy Droitcour



Concerned about online scams?

At our April 28th meeting, the education committee is planning a presentation by a PG police officer, who follows online scams. By now you have undoubtedly heard of the "toll delinquency" scam. Well, there are more for example when doctors send you a message to confirm your appointments. Twice lately, after receiving these requests, a duplicate appeared, which turned out to be a scam. Let's learn together how to be vigilant!

Thank you to Wayne Sharp for suggesting this program.

Advertiser of the Month

*Please consider supporting our
advertisers.*

This month is:

Sea Tow Charlotte Harbor

SEA TOW®

Join today. Mariners of PGI receive 13 months for the price of 12! Call local number receive savings.

Sea Tow Charlotte Harbor

941-625-5454 800-4-SEATOW seatow.com

**Cruise Director (continued from page 1)****Gary Towers**

After a two-night stay it was time to make the short trip to Pink Shell. There we met up with four more Mariner boats. Dave the dock master did a great job for us. Nine boats made for a great dock tails event on the first evening. The hotel is repaired from the storms except the beach sand was still being restored. During the day we were either at the adult pool or on the beach. They also have a free breakfast until ten a.m. Very nice!

The second evening we all took the trolley to town and got a table for nineteen at Nervous Nelly's. They did a great job for us with drinks and dinner. The trolley took us door to door which was a first for me. Pink Shell is still one of my favorite destinations.

Finally, four boats headed to Cabbage Key for Dinner and an overnight. Once we all got secured, we had a leisurely afternoon watching all of the lunch folks come and go. The food was great as usual. For future reference, in the past, they only had four slips with power, now they have eleven. Lots of room for overnight boats.

The last day we had a breezy ride back to PGI. It was a little messy until we got to #5 where the winds were dead astern. We picked up a knot or two riding the waves home.

Having a multi venue cruise was great fun. I will be planning more of them in the future. Until then, we will see you on the water.....

Michael Mankin, Cruise Leader

Participants

Michael & Crystal – Crystal Blue
 Peter Guille & Joyce McCandless – War Horse
 Eric & Deb Dehmel – Psyche
 Mark & Judy Whitcher – Just a Splash
 Mike & Beth Guler & TJ– Lightning Rod
 Kip & Patti Connor – Going Coastal
 Gary & Julie Towers – Final Approach
 Brad & Laurie Betting – Driftwood
 Andy & Judy Droitcour – Blue Cruiser





Social Director

Ruth Sines-Dutcher



March brought the Mariners out for baseball, land cruising at River Ranch RV Resort, as well as all the usual fun activities. Lots of folks are showing up for Wednesday Happy Hours at the Village Brewhouse - there have even been sitings of some Western characters prepping for the upcoming Poker Tournament at the deadwood saloon! Thursday evenings are being enjoyed at Gilchrist Park for Happy Hour and the Pickleballers continue gathering on Thursdays and Sundays. Lunch with the Ladies was very nice in March - hosted by Deb Kalitan - and enjoyed by all! If all these activities don't interest you, join a strong contingency of Mariners at Tamiami Tavern for brunch on the first Sunday of each month.

All activities can be found on the website calendar. Monday Blasts will focus on new events and many updates are on our Facebook page.

Membership Director

Joan Erickson



Change in the cruise credits

In light of the recent storms several members have lost their boats, or experienced severe boat and/or home damage. In addition, the waters are a bit more dangerous to navigate due to debris in the harbor and canals. This has caused a hardship for many in being able to fulfill the cruise credit requirements. The board has decided it would be in the best interests of the membership to temporarily suspend the cruise credits for the remainder of 2024 and 2025.

Other credit requirements, for volunteer participation and meeting attendance will remain in place. Please plan to attend at least 3 meetings each year and earn 1 additional credit for volunteering in some club activity.

Mariners, please forward information regarding member or past member death or serious illness to our Sunshine Lady. Sunshine will then contact the family of Mariners' sympathy or encouragement to get well.

Quality Starter & Alternator

• FARM • FOREIGN • MARINE • INDUSTRIAL
ONE DAY SERVICE ON MOST REPAIRS

Whidden Industrial Park
23380 Janice St., Unit 1
Charlotte Harbor, FL 33980

627-AMPS
(941) 627-2677



BCC08-1001



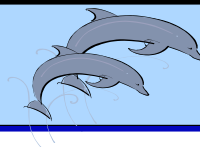
- ✓ Lifting, Surveys & Transports
- ✓ Engine Repair/Maintenance
- ✓ Fiberglass/Imron/Gelcoat
- ✓ Bottom Paint



www.PuntaGordaMarina.com

(941) 639-2750
25096 Marion Ave
Mon - Fri, 8:00am - 4:00pm

Nautical Notes



Mariners Cruising



Upcoming Cruises

[‘Tween Waters Overnight Cruise, Apr. 4-6, 2025](#)

[Mariner Regatta \(“We Wanna Regatta”\), Apr. 11-13, 2025](#)

[Last Sunday of the Month Sunset Lake Raft-up, Apr. 27, 2025 ***](#)



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

(More cruises to be determined)....



We want your ideas for lunch or overnight cruises! If you have an idea for a day cruise or overnight to one of your favorite places – or one you’ve wanted to visit – let Gary Towers know and we’ll get it on the calendar. Also – please consider leading a cruise – either to one already on the calendar that needs a leader, or one you propose to a favorite restaurant or marina.

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 Village Brewhouse](#)

[Pickleball every Sunday and Thursday at South County Park from 1-3 p.m.](#)

[Gilchrist Park Thursday Gathering, 5-7 p.m.](#)

[Tamiami Tavern Monthly Breakfast](#)

[Mariner Regatta \("We Wanna Regatta"\), Apr. 11-13, 2025](#)

[Lunch with the Ladies at Rossini's, Apr. 15, 2025](#)



10361 Tamiami Trail
Punta Gorda FL 33950
941 639 6500
www.TamiamiTavern.com

Tavern food with a touch of style!



KR2@KROLLAND.COM
WWW.KROLLAND.COM

**KEN & KAREN
ROLLAND**
Teamwork Works

KEN 941.628.8816
KAREN 941.628.6477



OUR WEBSITE



OUR MOBILE APP



NAVIGATING OUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE MARKET
(AND THE SURROUNDING WATERS) SINCE 2003



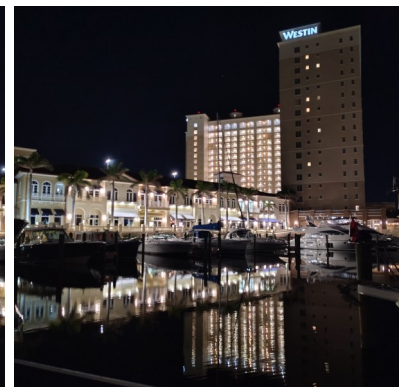
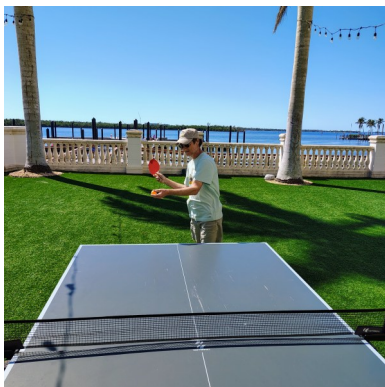
ACCREDITED BUYER REPRESENTATIVE
CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL SPECIALIST
GRADUATE, REALTOR INSTITUTE
SELLER REPRESENTATIVE SPECIALIST

EACH KELLER WILLIAMS OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED



Tarpon Point/Pink Shell Cruise, Mar. 11-14

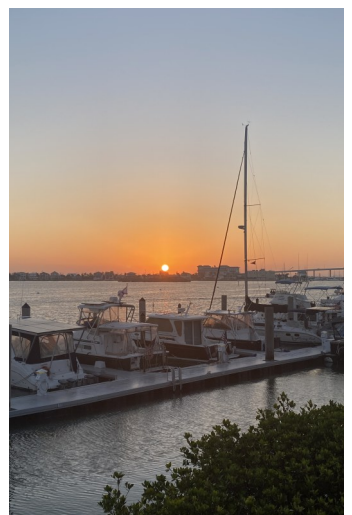
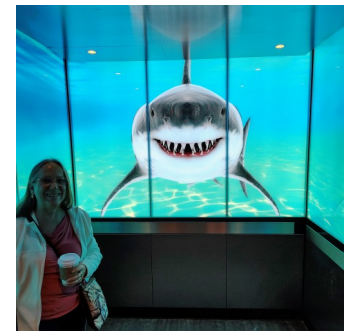
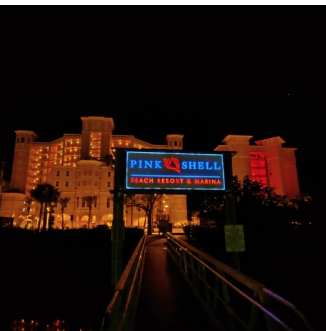
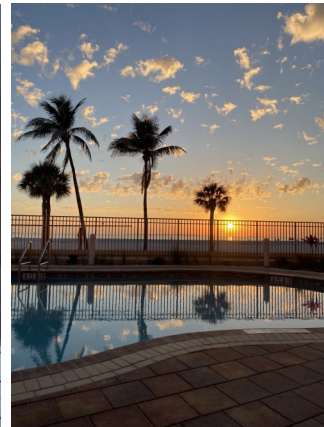
Mike Mankin





Tarpon Point/Pink Shell Cruise Continued, Mar. 11-14

Mike





Mariners Lunch with the Ladies, March 19

Deb Kalitan

Lunch with the Ladies at Blossom and Brie, North Fort Myers

A group of adventurous Mariner Women traveled to a working farm in a country setting for a delicious farm to table menu. I think I can speak for everyone that we had a great dining experience. The screened-in, porch-like restaurant with views of the pasture and farm animals created the perfect ambience.

I invite you to explore weekend brunches and special events by getting on their email list:
blossomandbrie.com

Next Ladies Lunch is at noon on April 15 at Rossini by Chef Rocco hosted by Cyndee Grifo.

