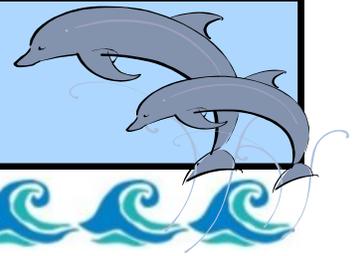


Nautical Notes



Vol. XVII Number 7

A Publication of the Mariners of PGI

July 2025



**Carol Barkow,
Commodore**

Hi All

There is plenty of summer to go around – high temperatures and Florida-like humidity are pretty much blanketing the country right

now. Some days in June we were a ‘cooler’ destination than all the places’ Mariners are enjoying up north. And we do have Mariners scattered all over the country. I hope you all find fireworks and marching bands and ice cream trucks wherever you are. Send a message to the Mariners Facebook page and let your friends know where you are and what you are doing for fun.

The board has been thinking (uh-oh) and we have something for you to consider. The fall survey elicited some questions about having a membership in a boat club (such as Freedom boat club) as another way to meet the requirement for boat ownership in Mariners. Take your time. We are floating this idea now in July, but we will not consider voting on the idea until sometime in fall/winter when we have a much larger number of members in town to discuss the idea in full. Our current boat ownership rule has eliminated some potential members for several reasons:

- They are snowbirds and may not want to keep a boat in two places or leave one on a lift for hurricane season.
- Hurricanes showed a lot of people the difficulties and expense of dealing with direct ownership during a storm or after a loss.
- Newcomers often “test the waters” by boat club membership before committing to a purchase.

Those are just a few of the reasons that have been put forward. There are certainly other thoughts on boat ownership as the indication that you are a “serious boater”. Historically, serious boaters have been the Mariners target audience. The survey also showed us that current Mariners also want to remain a club for Boating. The cruise credits that we voted to continue also indicate the desire for Boating and cruises to be a top priority. Will boat club membership serve that priority?

(see page 3 Commodore)



**Gary Towers,
Cruise Director**

The date and location for the Mariners 2026 Annual Regatta is now set. April 9-12, Burnt Store Marina. Specific planning won't start until late this year but we are happy to have secured this

favored location.



In early June we had a Sunday Brunch Cruise to Isles Yacht Club. Good food! Good fun! Thanks to Paul Baird for making the arrangements.

There was also an overnight cruise down to Tween Waters. A big thank you to cruise leaders Michael and Crystal Mankin. Their report is attached below.

With July comes the dog days of summer. So far, we have two lunch cruise signups to the Riviera Bar and Grill. One on a weekday and another on a weekend. Something for everyone!

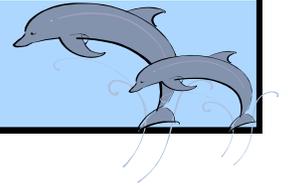
Overnight cruises are likely to be less frequent in the near term but will be published as interested Mariners bring us their plans. So, get your cabin air conditioning tuned up and get ready to make way!

**Tween Waters – Pink Shell Cruise – June 19,
2025**

Cruise Leaders – Michael & Crystal Mankin

We started this cruise on a gorgeous Thursday with light wind and clear skies. Given the warm weather we spent a lot of time lounging by the pool or beach. As usual Tween had the pool chillers running at a very pleasant 86 degrees. The ocean temperature was warmer!

(see page 3 Cruise Director)



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Meetings

General Membership

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

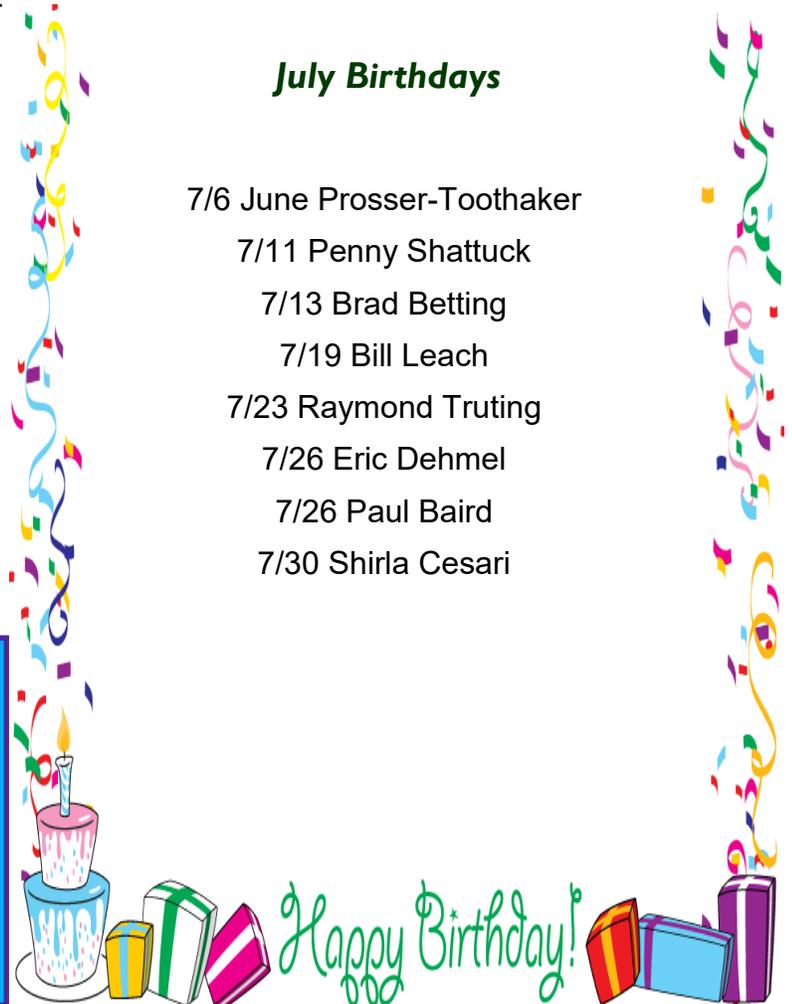
Board

PGICA, 2001 Shreve Street
4th Monday at 9:30 a.m. All members are welcome.

July Birthdays

7/6 June Prosser-Toothaker
7/11 Penny Shattuck
7/13 Brad Betting
7/19 Bill Leach
7/23 Raymond Truting
7/26 Eric Dehmel
7/26 Paul Baird
7/30 Shirla Cesari

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



Happy Birthday!



Commodore (continued from page 1)

Carol Barkow

I am so proud to work with this board. They have a lot of great ideas, and they always offer them with an open mind. Group discussions take place with a great spirit of cooperation. About half of the current board will be continuing for 2026. We will need to fill a few spots – so if you want to work with a first-class group, this is the year to volunteer. Ask me or Bobby Conte about openings, and which ones you might have the skills and talents to fill. Hope to see a whole bunch of enthusiastic new faces very soon.

Cruise Director (continued from page 1)

Gary Towers

We had a late entry to the cruise from Mike and Linda Wiens who were on their two-month trip to the Bahamas. They are REAL Mariners. The first evening we enjoyed docktails and hors d'oeuvres, including BBQ pork from our Big Green Egg along with platter after platter of yummy (that's a technical term) appetizers provided by the whole group.

The next day we had more pool time. That evening we all enjoyed dinner at the Green Flash. The food was great as usual.

The following day we split our time between the beach and pool. That evening it was off to the Key Lime Bistro. That is right, they finally got reopened. The restaurant was completely redone and looked brand new. The food was great.

Our last was spent, you guessed it, by the pool again. That evening we dined on the property at the Shipyard. Again, good food!

As it happens, we had a change of plans. No one was interested in traveling on to Pink Shell, so Crystal and I spent the next night at Boca Grande Marina so we could get an early start for home to deal with some issues that popped up.

All and all the group had a great trip and are already looking forward to the next one.

See you on the water.

Attendees:

Michael & Crystal Mankin

Eric & Debbie Dehmel

Peter Guille & Joyce McCandless

Tom & Suzanne Martin

Dennis & Carol Barkow

Mike & Linda Wiens

Membership Director

Joan Erickson



Mariners, we will continue to defer our Cruise credit through the end of 2025.

In the meantime, please feel free to refer anyone who shows interest in joining our club to me:

Joan Erickson

Membership Director

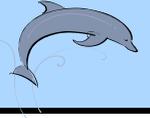
512 789-1191

OR

joanpe524@yahoo.com

If your referral results in acceptance of membership, you will receive your choice of a Mariners hat or a Brewhouse gift card.

Nautical Notes



Social Director

Ruth Sines-Dutcher



June brought the heat to Punta Gorda and helped more Mariners “hit the road” for summer fun. Those still in town have changed up our Wednesday Happy Hour with gatherings now being held in volunteer host’s homes. Our first host was Julie Conte, followed by Northrups, Franzinos, Burgesses, Gulers and Flanders/Singleton.

We are planning on continuing Happy Hour this way through the summer - unless we do not have a volunteer - in which case attendees will go back to Village Brewhouse. Always Wednesday from 5 to 7p.m. Please go to the webpage for SIGN UPS each week - some hosts are more comfortable with limited numbers.

In addition to regularly scheduled Social Activities we are actively planning **Trunk or Treating near the end of October**, our annual **Welcome Back Picnic in early November**, a **Friendsgiving Gathering with the PGIslanders the week before Thanksgiving** and a **Christmas Party December 5th**. Volunteers are needed for all events. Please contact Ruth with interest or for further information. Happy Summer everyone!

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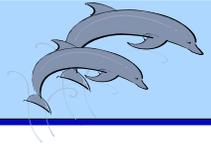


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Nautical Notes



Mariners Cruising



Upcoming Cruises

[Riviera Bar & Grill Lunch Cruise, Jul. 10, 2025](#)

[Riviera Bar & Grill Lunch Cruise, Jul. 13, 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!

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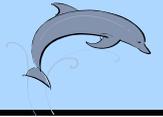


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Upcoming and Recurring Social Events

[Happy Hour every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.](#), (see below for location)

[Pickleball \(Summer Hours\) every Tuesday and Thursday at South County Park from 8-10 a.m.](#)

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

[Bullets & Brunch on second Wednesday of each month](#)

[Tamiami Tavern Monthly Breakfast, July 6, 2025](#)

[Wednesday Night Happy Hour – Guler, Jul. 9, 2025](#)

[Wednesday Night Happy Hour – Burgess, Jul. 16, 2025](#)

[Wednesday Night Happy Hour – Singleton/Flanders, Jul. 23, 2025](#)

[Lunch with the Ladies, Jul. 24, 2025](#)



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Mariners Lunch with the Ladies, June 10

Ladies Lunch was on June 10 at the Chef Thai Sushi Bar & Grill hosted by Carol Barkow. For a special treat the ladies were invited to bring a favorite date, husband, or good friend to enjoy. Present were the Barkows, the Mankins and the Gulers. The food was good and with their extensive menu we tried traditional rolls, sashimi, hibachi and red and green curries.

Next Ladies Lunch is July 24 at the Perfect Caper hosted by Debby Dehmel.



We hope everyone had a Happy 4th of July!

Here are pictures from Mariners.

