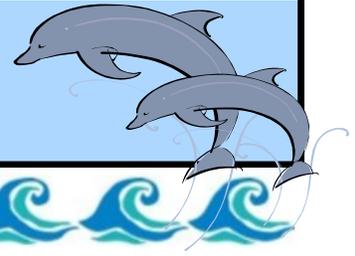


Nautical Notes



Vol. XVII Number 11

A Publication of the Mariners of PGI

November 2025



**Carol Barkow,
Commodore**

We are coming into the busy season for Mariners and PGI residents alike. Most of our travelers returned in time for the Welcome Back Picnic, held on November 6. Thanks to Linda

Wiens for putting together a favorite activity for all of us. Lots more to follow in the next few months.

The November meeting on November 24 will be an important one. First thing on the agenda will be the election of an Executive Board for 2026.

The slate of nominees is:

Commodore.	Mike Guler
Vice Commodore.	Joyce McCandless
Secretary.	Jacqueline Kerr
Treasurer.	Keith Feather
Social Director.	Sue Hills
Cruise Director.	Gary Towers
Education Director.	Bobby Conte
Membership Director.	Paul Baird
Past Commodore.	Carol Barkow

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

The second important item of business will be a vote on a by-law change

Current wording. Article 2 Section 1. ...

Members who (1) own a boat or are in the process of presently acquiring a boat, located in Florida (dinghies, canoes, personal watercraft, etc. do not qualify).

Change proposed. Article 2 Section 1.

Members who (1) own a boat, **are a member of a boat rental club locally**, or are in the process of presently acquiring a boat, located in Florida (dinghies, canoes, personal watercraft, etc. do not qualify).

Please make a point to attend the meeting and vote. Associate members may speak to the question but may not vote. We want a high percentage of participation to consider this change.

Now for the fun stuff:

Friendsgiving is coming on November 20. We will join with the PGI Islanders for a catered dinner at St. Andrews South Golf clubhouse. Check your Mariners calendar for details.

(see page 3 Commodore)



**Gary Towers,
Cruise Director**

We've made it to November with no named hurricanes threatening our home port — a welcome relief after months of watching the tropics. While hurricane season officially ends on

November 30, the start of November marks an important shift as the Gulf and Atlantic waters begin to cool.

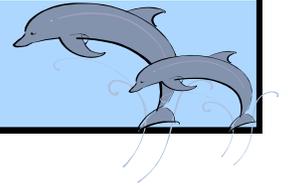
It's been a quiet stretch for the Mariners. There were no cruises in October, and November brought two planned overnight cruises — one cancelled after extensive planning, and the other going forward with just one boat.

We do, however, have a lunch cruise scheduled for November 30 to the Isles Yacht Club here in Punta Gorda — a nice chance to get back on the water together before the holidays. Plans are in the works for more lunch cruises. Please reach out to me with your favorite locations!

Looking ahead, December is still open, but plans are underway for a possible overnight cruise to Sarasota and St. Petersburg to coincide with the holiday boat parades in those cities. More details to come as plans develop.

Here's to calm seas, cool breezes, and a smooth end to hurricane season!





Mariners of PGI Board of Directors

CAROL BARKOW, Commodore
commodore@marinersofpgi.org

MIKE GULER, Vice Commodore
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KAREN ROLLAND, Secretary
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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

November Birthdays

11/1 Connie DiLillo
11/3 Joyce McCandless
11/3 Mike Scharpf
11/9 Debby Dehmel
11/10 Mike Guler
11/16 Kip Conner
11/16 Julie Conte
11/19 Jeff Peltier
11/21 Peter Guille
11/22 Marijane Truting
11/27 Arthur Sa
11/27 Jacqueline Kerr

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 9:30 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





Commodore (continued from page 1)

Carol Barkow

On December 6 the Christmas party will be a fun evening for all. It will be casual – wear your Christmas pajamas, tropical Christmas shirts, or a costume of your choice. The theme is **Jingle Bam!** And the cost is \$10 per person. Mariners will then make a generous gift to area food pantries so no gifts or toys will be requested. If you want to bring a bag of food, or a great big \$\$ donation for a food pantry – that would be great, but optional.

Mariners will provide ham and turkey. Side dishes and accompaniments will be potluck provided by those in attendance. As a suggestion, club members with last name initials

A - D Bring an appetizer

E - K Bring a salad, fruit, green, or condiments (pickles, olives etc.)

L - S Bring a main or side dish (scalloped potatoes, pasta salad, baked beans, etc)

T- Z Bring a dessert.

For an extra special treat, the **Suncoast Swing Band** will play for dinner and dancing. That's a 17-piece band with an outstanding lead singer and includes our Mariner musician extraordinaire Larry Lowy. They can play music from the 40's to the 80's and everything in between.

Cruises will be picking up now that the weather and the number of available cruisers has improved. Gary Towers, cruise director will give you all the latest news.

Education Director

Andy Droitcour



Are you thinking of going to the Bahamas? I've been twice, sailing down from Rhode Island in the fall and staying over the winter. Crystal clear water, protected places to anchor, good holding bottom, nice coral for snorkeling or scuba diving. Like the T-shirt says, "No work, No snow, Just add Rum"... But that was 20 years ago. Some things are the same, others have changed. You'll probably be going from Punta Gorda in the summer. If you want current advice, get it from someone who's been there recently.

Fortunately, a fellow Mariner made the trip last year! Mike Wiens will be presenting at the November meeting, "Things to know before heading to the Bahamas".

Recommended routes, GPS charts, insurance restrictions, spare parts to bring, and much more will be covered, and I suspect a lively Q and A should answer many of your questions. There are so many different anchorages, weather conditions, fellow travelers, etc. that your own trip will be unique, but by listening to Mike you should be able to avoid some unpleasant "but I didn't know" surprises.

Membership Director

Joan Erickson



Effective January 1, 2026, we will reinstate cruise and meeting requirements. Active Members will be required to attend 3 meetings and 2 cruises or 2 meetings and 3 cruises, along with accruing at least one Participation Credit. Associate Members will continue to accrue at least one Participation Credit, annually.

Your participation in club events make Mariners the best boating club in PGICA.

Nautical Notes



Social Director

Ruth Sines-Dutcher



The weather was perfect for all the kids enjoying Trick or Treating on Halloween. We joined up with the PGI Car Club's Trunk or Treat along with Diana's Cutting Edge and music provided by the Salty Cracker Band at the Bal Harbor Plaza. There were kids and adults in clever costumes, even the Fire Department was in attendance.

Next up on November 6 we held our annual Welcome Back Picnic. Linda Wiens graciously organized the event with hamburgers, hot dogs, brats and sides. Oh, and desserts too! Mike Wiens and Andy Droitcour were grill masters. What great fun to catch up on everyone's summer events!

Lunch with the Ladies was on October 16 at The Blue Dog Bar & Grill in Matlacha. The ladies enjoyed a delightful seafood lunch together hosted by Susan Martin. Next Lunch with the Ladies is on November 18 at Cass Cay Restaurant & Bar hosted by Julie Towers. After that, Decembers Lunch with the Ladies is a vintage gift exchange on December 3 at The Perfect Caper, hosted by Sheila Weins.

We're also thrilled to be invited to participate with the PGIslanders for a Friendsgiving celebration on November 20 at St. Andrews Golf South Club. Joyce McCandless has already kindly offered her assistance – thank you, Joyce! If you'd like to contribute, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Joyce.

Finally, mark your calendars for our annual Christmas Party at the PGICA on December 6. Peggy Northrup has generously volunteered to oversee the festive decorations.

We anticipate a fantastic fall and winter season filled with camaraderie and fun. Stay tuned for new events as the winter season gets in high gear!

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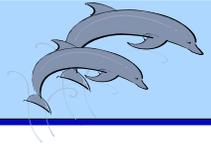
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Mariners Cruising



Upcoming Cruises

[Cruise to Tampa Bay Bucs – Patriots Game, Nov. 8-10, 2025](#)

[Overnight cruise to Tarpon Springs, Nov. 8-17, 2025](#)

[Isles YC Sunday Brunch, Nov. 30, 2025](#)



(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.

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Upcoming and Recurring Social Events

[Happy Hour every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m., at Village Brewhouse](#)

[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, December 7, 2025](#)

[Lunch with the Ladies at Cass Cay, Nov. 18, 2025](#)

[Friendsgiving at St. Andrews with the PGIslanders, Nov. 20, 2025 \(Signups have closed\)](#)

[Lunch with the Ladies at Perfect Caper, Dec. 3, 2025](#)

[Mariner Christmas Party at the PGICA, Dec. 6, 2025](#)



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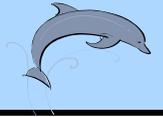
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Trunk or Treat, October 31





Welcome Back Picnic, November 6





Welcome Back Picnic, November 6 (Continued)

