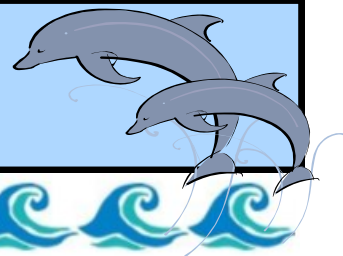


Nautical Notes



Vol. XVIII Number 06

A Publication of the Mariners of PGI

June-July 2026



**Mike Guler,
Commodore**

In Remembrance

Dr. Michael George Guler – age 66, of Punta Gorda, FL, peacefully passed away at home on June 4, 2026.

Mike was born in 1959 to George and Lois Guler in Melbourne, FL but lived in Georgia, Texas, and Minnesota along with Florida.

Mike is survived by his wife of 38 years, Beth; their dog, Genny; his brother, Dale Guler (Pam) of Grand Rapids, MI; sister, Cheryl Montes (Alberto) of Eustis, FL; seven nieces and nephews; and three great nephews.

Mike was always fascinated with knowledge. As a child he mastered morse code and obtained an Amateur Radio License, which later he later advanced to an Amateur Extra Class. While in high school he played on the golf team and competed with his father in a local doubles tennis tournament.

Mike obtained a PhD in Electrical Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. He worked as a research assistant at Georgia Institute of technology while obtaining his doctorate. Mike's career specialized in airborne and spaceborne antennas. First as a senior engineer at Harris Corporation in Palm Bay, FL and later as an Engineer Fellow for Honeywell Aerospace (formerly EMS Technologies) in Norcross, GA.

Mike was a member of Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Antennas and Propagation Society and Microwave Theory and Techniques Society; and the Antenna Measurement Techniques Association. Mike was authored on multiple papers and patents during his career.

Mike grew up enjoying swimming, skiing, fishing and any excuse to be on or near the water. He loved boating of all kinds. He began sailboat racing in the early 80's and was currently an active cruiser in SW Florida and the Bahamas. One trip to the BVI's in 1988 hooked Mike and Beth on sail cruising and has led to a dozen more bareboat trips to various Caribbean locations.

Lt. Mike Guler, SN-CN is a life member of America's Boating Club (formerly United States Sail and Power Squadrons) and an USCG OUPV Captain. He is an active member of the Atlanta squadron and an associate member of the Peace River squadron.

(see page 3 Commodore)



**Gary Towers,
Cruise Director**

As we move into the month of May we say farewell for the season to many of our snowbird members. For those who remain there are still cruises to be made. Below are reports from the cruise leaders for May.

Overnight Trip South-Tween Waters, Pink Shell & Salty Sam's, April 28th through May 4th.

Cruise Leaders: Michael & Crystal Mankin

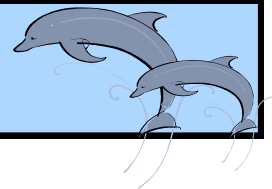
Another great trip for Mariners of PGI. Mark and Judy Whitcher, Mike and Linda Wein and Crystal and I all made the trip.

First stop was Tween Waters. The weather was warm and dry with light breezes. First thing we did was lunch by the pool with a nice tall rum drink. Then on to the adult pool, always the perfect temperature. You know they refrigerate the water, 86 degrees. Later we dined at the Shipyard Restaurant and Bar. Got a table when we walked in the door, yummy food and more rum drinks. Later we sat around on our boats, enjoyed the sunset, music and yes, more rum drinks. The next day, we spent some quality time on the beach lounging under their umbrellas. The next day we did basically more of the same, except that night we ate at the Key Lime Bistro for dinner.

The next day we were off to Pink Shell. Everything is pretty much back together down that way. Dave, the Dock Master, is still there. It was great seeing him again, it had been about three years since I saw him. When we walked in the resort, they had a sign over the main entrance indicating the storm surge line. It covered the entire first floor level. I'm guessing fifteen feet or so. Dave said they found their docks a few miles away up in a subdivision. They had been stripped of all the hardware and anything else that could be unbolted.

The local trolley was working so getting downtown was easy as usual. The first day we went to the beach and lounged in their chairs and umbrellas. That first night we ate dinner at Nervous Nelly's. The next day we visited Margaritaville, checked everything out and had some drinks. We stayed at

(see page 4 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

June & July Birthdays

6/3 MaryJane Burgess

6/4 Nancy Jo Krusinski

6/6 John Krusinski

6/7 Kate Albers

6/9 Dennis Cesari

6/10 Wayne Erickson

6/15 Don Leitch

6/17 Diane Lowy

7/6 June Prosser-Toothaker

7/11 Penny Shattuck

7/23 Raymond Truting

7/26 Paul Baird

7/26 Eric Dehmel

7/30 Shirla Cesari

LYNNE MATTHEWS, Sunshine Committee

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DON LEITCH, Webmaster

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GARY TOWERS, Ship's Store

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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

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)****Mike Guler**

During his 33-year membership of the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron, Mike has taught America's Boating Class, Sail, Marine Electrical Systems, Marine Communications, Junior Navigation, Navigation and various seminars. He has served as chair of the squadron's Advanced Grades, chair for Marine Communications, Junior Navigation and Navigation.

Mike joined National's Navigation Committee three years ago. NAVCOM duties have included sight folder grading, organizing the migration of Celestial Tools to Visual Studio and review of the new Offshore Navigation and Celestial Navigation course materials.

After retiring to Punta Gorda in 2018, Mike joined a local boating club of Mariner's of Punta Gorda Isles where he was currently the Commodore and previously held positions of Vice Commodore and Education Director.

Mike was a space enthusiast. Always researching and reading books regarding space and the technology to get people to Mars. He always commented on how he had antennas that after helping the rovers to land on Mars crashed on the surface. He would have loved to be on the first manned flight!

Mike enjoyed wood working. He made some of the prominent furniture displayed in their home. He also enjoyed playing pickleball and dabbling making wine when not on the water.

He liked to finish his article with,
Splice the Main Brace!

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

the resort the next night and ate at Rae's Real Italian where we enjoyed Italian food. That evening, there were more drinks, music and fun.

The following day we said bye to Mike and Linda Wiens as they were headed to Key West, then on to the Dry Tortugas. We made the short trip to Salty Sam's. My first trip there. Very nice. Two restaurants on the property, Marina Cantina and Parrot Key Caribbean Grill. We did hors d'oeuvres at the Marina Cantina and Dinner at Parrot Key. The last night we took an Uber to Doc Ford's for dinner.

Since it was a long ride back and we all had local plans in Punta Gorda we left early the next morning. It was a great trip with good weather and sunny skies. I'm looking forward to doing it again.....

Pelican Bay at Cayo Costa Overnight Cruise, May 13, 2026

Cruise Leader: Roger Black

Roger and Julie Black	Journey
Art Sa and Jacqueline Kerr	Novamente
Frank and Sue Scharpf	Better Days
Patty and Keith Feather	Chile (Had Boat problems)

We are on dog island having fun. Sharing stories of sailing down to Pelican Bay. We had 16 knots of wind, great sailing to marker 5.

Cruise to Ft Myers Beach, May 14 – 17

Cruise Leader: Jacqueline Kerr

A small group of Mariners cruised to Fort Myers Beach on March 14. Skippers and first mates included Roger and Julie Black on Journey, Frank and Sue Scharpf on Better Days and Arthur Sa and Jacqueline Kerr on Novamente. We spent 3 nights on a mooring at Matanzas Pass. Our cruise to FMB was beautiful, however, the mooring field was a bit sporty with the wind and current flowing in opposite directions which made picking up the moorings a bit of a challenge.

The temperatures during the day were quite warm, so we didn't try to pack too much in. One day we took the trolley to both Bowditch Point Park and Lovers Key State Park. Another day we took a walk to the pier for ice cream and to do some shopping.

And of course, we enjoyed happy hours, dinners ashore and wonderful sunsets.

Looking forward to June there is one Lunch Cruise posted to The Islands at Fisherman's Village, while another lunch cruise is in the works. The transient dock repairs on the west side of Fisherman's are complete and the dock is open. Come by boat or land vehicle to this beautiful location.

As always, please reach out to the Cruise Committee with your cruise ideas!

Education Director**Bobby Conte**

Future meeting plans include speakers from the Military Heritage Museum and the Peace River Wildlife Center.

If any Mariner has other meeting ideas please let Bobby or someone on board know.

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**Social Director****Susan Hills**

Summer is upon us, and many of our members have headed north. While our weekly happy hours at the Brewhouse will continue, I am encouraging members to host a happy hour at their home this summer. The Barkows volunteered to host one at their home on June 10, but due to an accidental fall it was moved to my home. July 8 happy hour will be held at the Northrup's home. Go to our website to see the details and sign up. Let me know if you would like to host one at your house this summer.

A big thank you to Sandy Franzino for hosting the May ladies lunch. It was a small group, but I am told the food was great and so was the conversation.

Our June ladies lunch hosted by Suzanne Martin, was held at the New England Roadside Grill in Port Charlotte on June 17. Suzanne surprised the ladies with hand painted Florida shells to take home. Wow, is she talented!

On July 15 the ladies lunch will be hosted by Debby Dehmel at the Perfect Caper.

Mark your calendars for our welcome back picnic. It will be held at Ponce Park on November 15. Volunteers needed.

Chairperson Judi Witcher and her committee are hard at work putting together the details for a fun Christmas party. It will be held at PGICA on December 5.

Save the date for our 2027 Change of Watch/Gala. It will be at Twin Isles Country Club on January 30.

If you would like to lead a social outing, let me know. If you need an idea, I can share some with you.

Have a great summer everyone.

Membership Director**Paul Baird & Tracie Goin**

Ahoy there Mariners,

If you haven't signed up to volunteer for a meeting, there are still months that need filling. Super easy (and fun) way to get your credit done. We need volunteers for 50/50, sign up table and chair setup. Email, text or call Paul Baird or Tracie Goin to sign up.

Paul

sailingflyboy330@gmail.com

(330)347-9023

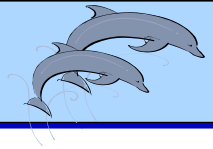
Tracie

goinflying96@gmail.com

(815)922-9833

Smooth seas and fair winds, Paul and Tracie

Nautical Notes



Mariners Cruising



____ Upcoming Cruises

[Latitude 26 Lunch Cruise, Jul. 7, 2026](#)

[Riviera Lunch Cruise, Jul. 18, 2026](#)

(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.](#)

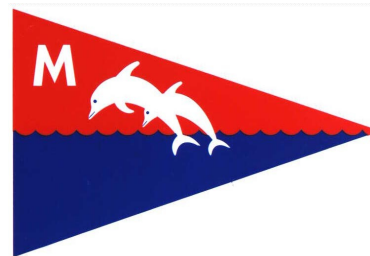
[Gilchrist Park Thursday Gathering, 4-6 p.m.](#)

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

[Happy Hour at Northrup, Jul. 8, 2026](#)

[Ladies Luncheon at The Perfect Caper, Jul. 15](#)

[Tamiami Tavern Monthly Breakfast, August 2, 2026](#)



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June-July 2026

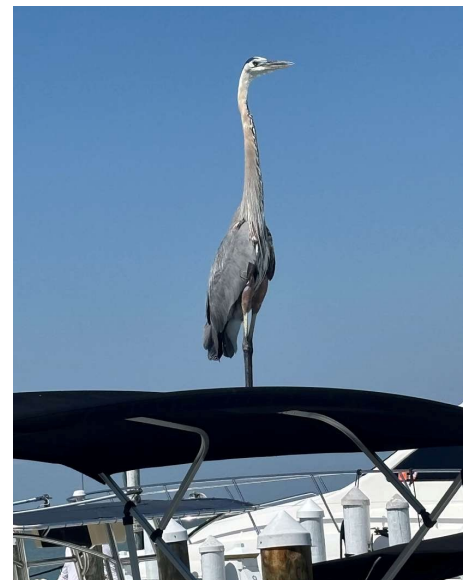
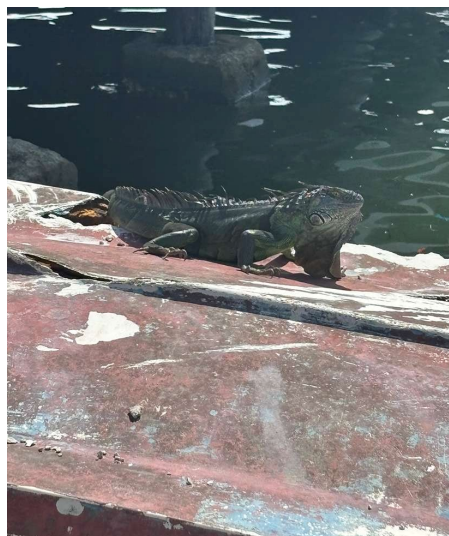
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Overnight Cruise to 'Tween Waters, Pink Shell, Salty Sams, Apr. 28 – May 4

Crystal & Mike Mankin



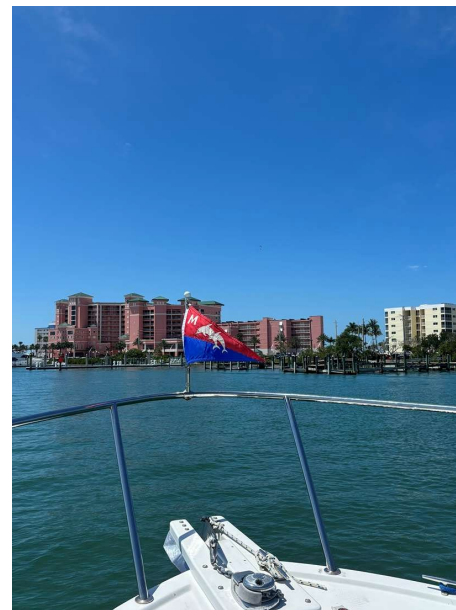
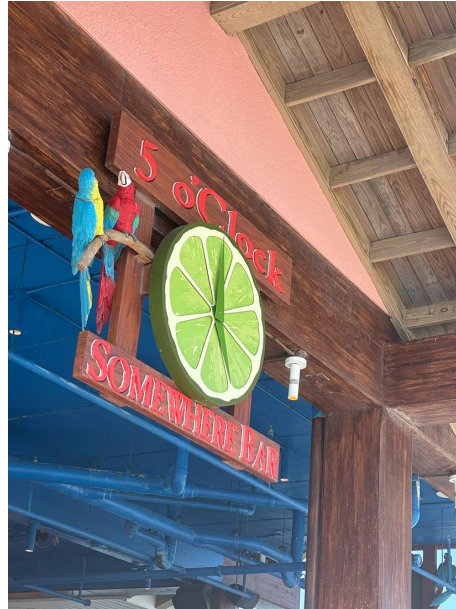
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Overnight Cruise to 'Tween Waters, Pink Shell, Salty Sams, Apr. 28 – May 4 (Continued)





Pelican Bay Overnight Cruise, May 13

Julie & Rodger Black

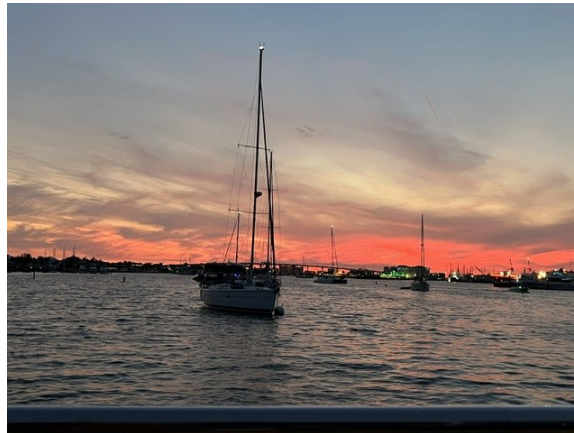


Is there anything more peaceful than hanging on a hook with a beautiful sunset in the background?



Ft. Myers Beach Cruise, May 14-17

Jacqueline Kerr



The Islands Lunch Cruise, Jun. 9





Lunch Cruise to Conte's, June 20

Julie & Bobby Conte





Mariners Lunch with the Ladies, May 20

Sandy Franzino

Sandy Franzino hosted the May ladies lunch at Fin Sushi & Grill. Our group was small which allowed for great conversation. The food was wonderful and I believe we all took home leftovers.



Mariners Lunch with the Ladies, June 17

Suzanne Martin

The June ladies lunch was at New England Roadside Grill in Port Charlotte hosted by Suzanne Martin. This restaurant featured New England fish and Portuguese cuisine. Who knew you can get a hot lobster roll (without all the mayo)! The food was delicious.

Suzanne also brought a treat for all the ladies. A hand painted Florida shell. Beautiful!

Next ladies lunch will be hosted by Debby Dehmel at the Perfect Caper on July 15.

