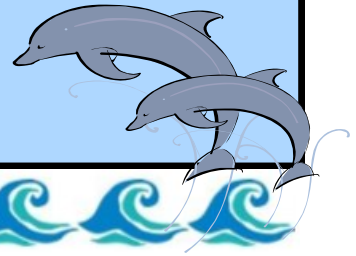


Nautical Notes



Vol. XVIII Number 08

A Publication of the Mariners of PGI

August-September 2026



**Joyce McCandless,
Commodore**

It was an honor to be nominated and elected Vice-Commodore. It is a substantial responsibility to serve as Commodore; I will do my best to help the club move forward

with the help of the Board and general membership. I've recently posted a few blurbs and photos on our Mariner Facebook [page](#) and have been wonderfully struck by all the goodwill and affection folks express for each other and the group as a whole in their posted comments. I feel we each are blessed with the wonderful friendships and the strong support network that make the Mariner family.

After faithfully serving as *Nautical Notes* (NN) editor since 2021 (a record time in this role), Beth Guler will be stepping down by the end of this year. After you finish perusing this issue, please take a moment to reach out to Beth to thank her (and Mike, as proofreader) for all their efforts over the years. Microsoft Publisher, which works very similarly to MS WORD, is the software used to generate NN. Beginning October 1, Publisher will no longer be supported by Microsoft, nor will it be included in Microsoft Office 365 annual subscriptions; however, it is included in purchased versions of MS Office 2021 or 2019. PC-based versions can be purchased for less than \$30; Mac versions are pricier. If you're interested in becoming the Mariners next NN editor, please reach out to me at 860-625-2631 or mccandlessjoycep@gmail.com.

As Past Commodore, Carol Barkow has been recruiting for the Board positions that need filling for 2027. These include Vice-Commodore, Treasurer, and Social. Please contact her at 262-902-5052 if you are interested in any areas of club activities or leadership. It would be great if everyone would take a turn in one Board position or another. We've all enjoyed so many social and nautical adventures together, relying on others to put things in motion. Maybe it's your turn in 2027.



**Gary Towers,
Cruise Director**

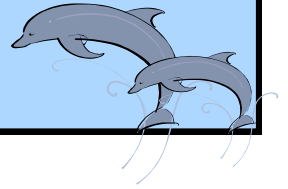
It has been a hot summer with many Mariners escaping to (maybe?) cooler climes so we have had one official cruise since the last Nautical Notes publishing. Here is Gary Burgess' cruise report.

Lunch Cruise to Latitude 26, July 7
Gary Burgess

The perfect cruise almost, great new restaurant latitude 26 at fisherman's village. Five boats showed up with 11 mariners ready to have good fun, great food and spectacular views of the harbor. We had two servers with backup staff that couldn't do enough for us to make our trip successful and enjoyable drinks were excellent and water for everyone to stay hydrated with the summer real feel temps in the 105 degree territory later that afternoon.

I had taken several great pictures of the boats at the dock and even better ones upstairs in the newly finished restaurant with the great views and many smiles of the crew. Smooth as glass both coming in and going home. A great time was had by all.

The only downside -just a perfect day until the boat was loaded on the lift. Motor flushed and completed everything, then I got a little heat weary (no shoes on the hot decking) slipped and with the phone in my pocket went into the water. The phone is with Davy Jones so unfortunately the pictures are gone. My apologies, but I made it out without my phone and gained a bunch of scratches for myself



Mariners of PGI Board of Directors

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GARY TOWERS, Director of Cruises
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BOBBY CONTE, Director of Education
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barkowc@gmail.com

Newsletter

BETH GULER, Editor
blguler1@gmail.com

Editor's Note: I will confirm, via e-mail, receipt of each NN submission. If you do not receive confirmation, PLEASE contact me.

Editor's Note: direct contact information for all Mariners is located on the [website](http://www.marinersofpgi.org) : www.marinersofpgi.org

August-September Birthdays

8/1 Dennis Barkow

8/1 Greg Julian

8/8 Frank Scharpf

8/10 Tom Martin

8/16 Richard Northrup

8/18 Barry Franzino

8/18 Nancy Jerome

8/21 Bill Rissel

8/26 Michele Sharp

8/28 Crystal Mankin

9/4 Rita Bass

9/4 Andy Droitcour

9/9 Linda Wiens

9/9 Bill Albers

9/11 Ginny Caldwell

9/12 Daniel Voorhees

9/12 Nancy Eggert

9/20 Murray Goldenberg

9/24 Bobby Conte

9/25 Chris Caldwell

9/28 Mike Wiens

9/30 Eby Schulze

LYNNE MATTHEWS, Sunshine Committee
sunshine@marinersofpgi.org

DON LEITCH, Webmaster
donleitch@gmail.com

GARY TOWERS, Ship's Store
sailwindycity@live.com

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





Social Director

Susan Hills



Mariners continue to be an active social group. I'm looking for volunteers to host a social event starting in October when more of members have returned to PGI. If you need an idea, I have a list compiled by the social committee. If you plan it, they will come!

A big thank you to the Northrups. Peggy continues to take care of the reservation at the Tamiami Tavern for our first Sunday of the month breakfast. She and Richard hosted the Mariners happy hour in their home in July. Peggy is hosting the lady's coffee break on September 9 at Punta Gorda Coffee and Tea.

Speaking of hosts, Debby and Eric Dehmel hosted the happy hour in August in their home, and Debby hosted the ladies' lunch in July. Thank you to the Dehmels!

Our ladies' monthly luncheons continue to be well attended. Our next one is being hosted by Julie Conte at Ginger Dim Sum on September 18.

Judi Whitcher and Sharon Gordon along with their committee are hard at work planning our "Seas and Greetings" holiday party coming up on December 5 at the PGICA. Shine up those dancing shoes!

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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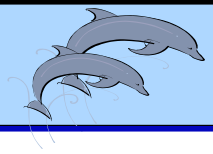


MIX and MATCH BENEDICTS

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Nautical Notes



Mariners Cruising



____ Upcoming Cruises

(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.

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



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Joseph DeFusco
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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.](#)

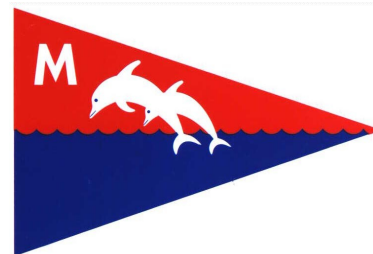
[Gilchrist Park Thursday Gathering, 4-6 p.m.](#)

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

[Tamiami Tavern Monthly Breakfast, October 4, 2026](#)

[Ladies Coffee Break, Sep. 8, 2026](#)

[Ladies Luncheon, Sep. 18, 2026](#)



Coming soon: "Seas and Greetings" Mariner Holiday Party! Shine up those dancing shoes! December 5 @ PGICA.

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Wednesday Night Happy Hours

Joyce McCandless

In season, Mariners gather weekly for Happy Hour at the outdoor bar of the Village Brewhouse in Fishermen's Village. Last summer, with fewer members in town and often iffy and icky weather, we trialed a "Host Happy Hour at your House" (4H) program, which was well-received and carried over to 2026. Social Director Sue Hills hosted the first such 4H gathering at her home June 10 and reported on it in the June/July issue of *Nautical Notes*. Richard and Peggy Northrup hosted the July 8 Happy Hour, which was attended by approximately 20 Mariners. The August 12 Happy Hour was hosted by Eric and Debby Dehmel at their Tarpon Cove condo. In all cases, good food and great conversation! If you'd like to host a Happy Hour at your home in the next several weeks, contact Social Director Sue Hills.



Happy Hour at Northrup's, July 8, 2026



Wednesday Night Happy Hour at Dehmel's, Aug. 12, 2026



Mariners Lunch with the Ladies, July 15 & August 18

Joyce McCandless

Debby Dehmel hosted July's LWL July 18 at Perfect Caper in downtown Punta Gorda. This is becoming a bit of an annual tradition, with very good turnout, earning us the table in the private dining room... excellent acoustics for conversation and lots of room to move about for special activities. In this instance, Debby gifted each attendee with a cleaning "scrubbie", which she distributed in lovely pastel gift bags. She discovered the scrubbies at a craft fair several years ago and liked them so much she tracked down the vendor and bought many more (and she doesn't even earn a commission)!

I hosted the August 18 LWL at JellyBird Café, located in Bal Harbor Plaza...alas, no private room or gifts. All of us enjoyed yummy offerings from their "from scratch" menu. Acoustics weren't the best (looks like they might have a pressed tin tile ceiling), but that didn't interfere with our lovely, multi-pronged conversations. These monthly luncheons are always such fun!



Lunch with the Ladies at the Perfect Caper,
Jul. 15, 2026



Lunch with the Ladies at JellyBird Cafe, Aug. 18, 2026

First Sunday of the Month Breakfast at Tamiami Tavern, August 2

Joyce McCandless

Tamiami Tavern, south of Punta Gorda in Route 41, is the site for each month's First Sunday Breakfast. We had a good turnout for the August 2 event. Many thanks to Peggy Northrup for managing the reservations each month. Tamiami Tavern has been a faithful advertiser in *Nautical Notes* for many years; check out their updated ad artwork debuting in this issue!

