



# THE LIGHT

## LAGUNA MADRE YACHT CLUB

May 2009



## Following the Rules

My son and I were recently doing some work on our new boat over at Port O'Call enjoying the day and just happy to be able to spend a few hours taking care of some needed maintenance items before the blazing heat of summer. We made sure that our cleaning materials were safe for the water, sponges and paper towels all carefully put into the trash and everything cleaned up when we finished. The boat looked good, the dock was clean and we were pleased with the results. Then it happened.

An enormous power boat came out of the North end of the slips and started performing very slow circular movements under power in the water between the slips. Shortly after that came the smell. After that came the river of brown. Who ever this was decided to come out of their slip and dump their holding tanks not in their slip but in an area where everyone could enjoy his foul habit. It was nasty. What made matters worse was that the current brought the waste directly towards my freshly cleaned boat. As the Momentum of the water forced the

### *Nautical Terms?*

- 1) Cunningham - a clever pig
- 2) Dock - location of the sick boat
- 3) Current - a tidal flow that pushes your boat towards a hazard and away from the desired course.
- 4) Give Way Vessel - The boat that after a collision did not have the right of way.
- 5) Gybe - a quick way to clear the decks.
- 6) Latitude - number of degrees off course allowed to a guest skipper.
- 7) Oar - sea going woman of ill repute.
- 8) Racing - nautical contact sport.
- 9) Pulpit - a place to go where you pray you'll pick up the mooring buoy.
- 10) Shoreline - a simple location for docking your boat.

effluent towards us, I realized that there was little that we could do to offset the current bringing the river of scum to my vessel so we just sat and watched it. We came back later in the day and found that it had stuck to the hull and had to be brushed off. This was not a great way to end our cleaning chores.

Dumping of untreated sewage must be done at least three miles offshore. This very simple to understand rule is mandated by the Clean Water Act and administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Note that this means that your head and storage tanks must be connected and any valves set up to route sewage from the head to the tank. If you go farther than 3 miles offshore and are not in a marked no-dumping zone then the valves may be set to route sewage overboard. If the Coast Guard catches you, the fine will be up to \$2,200 for failure to operate a sanitation device properly. If the EPA catches you, the fine is as high as \$32,500 per day for each violation. Both will certainly put a kink in your boating budget!



If you are like me, you probably are thinking to yourself something like “sure, I’d pump out but the station over by Southpoint hasn’t worked in years. Quite true. However, there is a new solution to all boaters in the area not willing to go offshore to dump the waste. A service is now available that will go to your boat and pump the sewage. I’m not in anyway connected to the service nor does the club benefit from this mention but I thought it was important to let everyone know that there are options. You can reach the service locally although they are dispatched through Maritime Sanitation, Inc. in Kemah. The phone number is 281 334 5978. I used them and was pleased with the price and professional results.

### 2009 Race and Cruise Schedule

- May 2, Ocean Challenge Race #2 - Mansfield
- May 16, Spring Series Gulf Race
- May 17, Spring Series Bay Race
- May 23, Memorial Day Cruise - Arroyo Colorado
- June 7, Boat Parade
- June 28, Barracuda Cove Beach Party
- July 4, Raft up in the bay for fireworks
- September 19, Fall Series Gulf Race
- September 20, Fall Series Bay Race
- October 17, Fall Series Gulf Race
- October 18, Fall Series Bay Race
- November 21, Fall Series Gulf Race
- November 22, Fall Series Bay Race

Remember, you don't have to own a racing boat to race. Everyone is welcome under our handicapping rules where the best sailed boat and not the fastest wins.

## Fleet Captain's Comments

Rocky Poovey

FLEET CAPTAINS REPORT Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday April 11, We had a great turn out for this activity. About 8 boats participated. At 1300 the floating bunnies were freed to the wild in the vicinity of the Pirates Landing Pier. About 1330 the fleet was told to start HUNTING! The object was to find the bunnies with corresponding numbers to the eggs that were passed out prior to the hunt. 3 generations of Godfreys aboard their bay skiff were 1st to locate their bunnies. Bob Fisher was in his kayak, he was moving like it had a motor. In the end nearly all bunnies were located and a good time was had by all!

SATURDAY, GULF RACE. Friday night, before the race, the offshore forecast was for 8 to 10 foot seas and big wind. Saturday morning early it was downgraded to 6 to 8. By the Skippers meeting, NOAA was calling for 4 to 6. It turned out to be a great day for the race. 8 boats signed up for the race. Keep it up team, this is getting fun. It looks soooo cool to have all those boats preparing for the start. Ralph Cowan was kind enough again to supply the committee boat. That big trawler gives the race some clout! Linda Poovey, and her team Dorothy and Brian did flag duties. Many thanks and a job well done to you guys, muchas gracias! Just about everyone was at the start line at the same time. Wes pulled ahead from the start and stayed there. Paper Dragon took line honors and corrected time finish, Congrats Wes. Corp Trip crossed the line next after The Dragon. Corrected finishes were Paper Dragon 1st Night magic 2nd, and Wist 3rd.

Sunday, Bay Races. 6 boats signed up for these races. A front was predicted for late morning early afternoon. The forecast was right on. The wind was SE about 15 until about 10 minutes before the yellow flag, then quickly went North at between 18 and 23 knots. The flag crew did their work from Pirates Landing Pier again. I love this. It is very visible and allows for a great course. Anyone who is not racing next month is invited to come to the pier and cheer on your favorite boat, it is a nice place to watch from. Race 1 was won by Pilgrimage, our Commodore at the helm! Nice job sir! The course ended up being a close reach both ways with lots of horsepower (wind). It was really fun running fast head to head with every boat in the race. 1st race- Pilgrimage 1st, Night Magic 2nd, Wist 3rd. 2nd race, Night Magic 1st, Wist 2nd, Pilgrimage 3rd. This was great close club racing at its best. Good work everyone! SEA YA,

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### Rust Buster and Fiberglass Restoration Miracle!

Since this issue seems to be commenting on products, I'll add another recent discovery to the list. We all know how quickly metal rusts on our boats and while brass wool, Scotchbrite pads and other methods all get it off, I was hoping that there would be a better way.

After seeing it in several magazines over the years, I recently ordered Prism Polish from one of my favorite marine suppliers and was amazed that it worked as promised. I put some on a cloth, lightly rubbed the metal stanchions in my case and cleaned it off. The rust marks on the stanchions were immediately gone leaving bright shiny metal behind. I tried a bit on my fiberglass and had similar reactions. I'm impressed and while I have no connection to the company, I'm hoping this will help others. If you see me around my boat, I have some on board and I'll be glad to offer up a splotch of it.

The illustration to the right might jostle the memory of some long time club members. Drawn and presented by Tommy Carruth, he offers this background:

"Dr. A. J. Naugher and his wife Connie were out sailing their big Morgan ketch when A.J. had a need to go below. Connie took the help with the boat sailing carefully, close hauled. She became distracted and the boat came about accidentally with everything strapped in. We can only imagine the rest.".....TC



"NOW CONNIE, YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO THE HEAD WHEN YOU HEEL OVER LIKE THAT!!"

## 2009 Flag Officers

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