



THE LIGHT



Change is in the Air

Or should that be in the wind? There is something amazing about the passage of time and our ability to look back and remember what we have been able to accomplish with leadership, effort and selflessness. Much like water that slowly laps on the shoreline of SPI, making changes day by day, LMYC has seen this same effect over the last two years.

Your club has been revitalized. The amount of work isn't measured as one big event but instead on a daily basis with small changes each day all culminating to a fresh new club. We have seen new members due to a very successful membership drive, new programs designed to educate our members and help to ensure safety at sea and even new innovated races that will bring more people to the water.

Behind the scenes, we have better insurance, a safer club, more organization and a highly focussed Board dedicated to growing and improving the club. But it doesn't end there. Members continue to be the driving force that gives us direction and are the reason behind almost all our changes. Rarely will you find the friendliness and general support either on or off the water.

Old (not in age) members are getting involved again and providing guidance and the benefit of their years as members. We certainly don't want to repeat any mistakes of the past but if there were good ideas that perhaps lacked a quality



execution, let us know and we can give them another shot!

Come to the Club House and check out the new organized look and some of the new furnishings. Come to the Commodore's Ball and meet some of the new members and say hello to old friends. Heck, I'll even be there so you can let me know what you'd like to see in future issues of The Light. But, be careful. I'll probably ask you to contribute an article or photos!

Finally, enjoy the weather, our wonderful winds and all the opportunities ahead in the new year. Learn new skills, meet new people and take your sailing or boating to a new level.

Happy New Year!

AC₃₄ Has Been Announced



I'm a HUGE fan of the America's Cup. When I purchased my boat, the yard it was in was also the storage location for Starts and Stripes - the legendary 12m AC boat. It was amazing but smaller than I expected. It was like a Formula One car but for the water. It was speed.

I love the stories about Dennis Conner winning four Cups from 1974 to 1988. There was something wonderful about the chaos behind the scenes, the rumors about the winged keel and finally the move to catamarans.

I'm the first to admit that I'm not a fan of the big cats and was especially annoyed at the battle over the last cup but hopefully that is all over with smaller cats and a Box Rule that will allow more boats to enter and provide all of us with real competition.

The Cup Race will be in San Francisco and available for all of us to see. There will be a preliminary series then the challenger race and many events and opportunities for anyone willing to take the short hop to California.

You know that I'll be there and will enjoy what should be a wonderful event. Do what you can to support the teams so that sailing will grow as a sport. There isn't anything like the America's Cup to move the sport forward and provide new technology and opportunities for our future.

New Boat Arrives

Our own Mike and Marylin Myers have moved their boat from Corpus Christi to Pirates Cove. You know we always like to see more Beneteau's in the area and this 46' monster ought to move right along in our SPI winds.



Frank and Irma Key's Classic Oday 27 sails with Mike and Marylin's Sweet Pea



Commodores Corner

Col. Bill Maples

The Laguna Madre Yacht Club year 2010 has visibly reversed the standard cycle of progression for achievements that most clubs experience. That reversal being the common cycle, accepted by many clubs, of starting off with a flurry of new ideas, then settling down and reflecting on massaging old ideas and after the new early wind blowing dies down, the water then lies calm, and the year closes out with a social oriented acknowledgement again for those few who each year step forward and steer the vessel through the trials, tribulations and prevailing personalities of the year.

Not so, for the Laguna Madre Yacht Club members, both old and new of 2010. This year a "WHOLE" of togetherness grouping appeared, "blowing in like a hurricane force wind," whose strength came from the sincere efforts of an "All Club," "Team-involvement," encouraging ideas and issues where each and every member in some form of personal contribution feels heard and counted!

From a record setting new member recruiting program, only possible through your hard work accepting the challenge, spreading to the continued achievement of expanded great camaraderie in social attendance, gearing up an organized all club team work involvement by "walking the walk," in both administrative and material improvements, such as the organized permanent opening of the Fingers due to finish by May in tandem with the Pompano Marina project and other material additions including the endorsement and redirecting toward a greater interest in boating activities both racing and cruising and exposing and working on eliminating the enduring personalities of "why" - with a "why not" attitudes, by embracing the ideas of each member encouraging new improvement.

2010 also established itself through the recruitment of new members, as a year where we "did not" have to use accrued Certificate of Deposits to carry on the years financial activities, Congratulations to all, for the great effort and to those who have already recruited new members for 2011.

On the way out the work has not stopped- A newly organized training and education group organized by senior members, made up of LMYC volunteers with several years of boating experience in line with the input from interested members has been formed and will begin training in 2011. Subjects of interest to all boaters- beginners and old salts- will be presented in a hands on-

with need to know information the mission of the program. The schedule is set and will be a part of this light and encouraged through other sources.

So 2010 not only blew in like a hurricane but is going out even stronger into 2011. With the continued interest from you, all members, 2011 will exceed the "Team" accomplishments of 2010.

I am proud to be your Commodore and I can assure you of the fidelity and loyalty and continued achievements of your elected 2011 Flag Officers.

I encourage each of you who have not yet signed up for the Commodores Ball on the 15th of January - please do so soon- Please join in this Gala event culminating a year of, "Team Work," you as a group have made possible.

Thank you and May God Bless You and Yours in this New Year.

Col. Bill Maples



Peggy makes her wonderful Chili



Some of our favorite "Bills"

Laguna Madre Yacht Club 2011 Social Calendar

January 15	Commodore's Ball
February 12	Social-Valentine's Day
March 12	Social-Mardi Gras
March 26	Wine & Cheese Tasting Party at the Yacht Club
April 9	Social-Pirates of the Laguna Madre
May 14	Social-Tour of Italy
June 11	Social-South of the Border
July 9	Social-Steak Night
August 13	Social-Hawaiian Luau
August 27	Strange Brew Party at the Yacht Club (bring an exotic beer & share it!)
September 10	Social-Bar-B-Q
October 8	Social-Shrimp Cookout
November 12	Social-Annual Membership Meeting & White Elephant Auction
December 3	Christmas Decorating Party
December 10	Social-Christmas Party

Stewardship at Work!

LMYC 2011 Steward Jana Craft took on the task of sorting through a few years of accumulated items at the Club House and did a terrific job of organizing!

The club now has its decorations for Christmas, 4th of July, and other holiday themes stowed in plastic see-through containers and clearly labeled so that we know what we've got. An added benefit is that we now have more storage room under the library cabinets and in the utility closet so we can begin to accumulate more stuff!

Thanks for keeping things tidy and organized Jana. We sincerely appreciate the effort. Living aboard a boat has a tendency to make one efficient in use of space!



Get Your Reservations in Please

TIME IS RUNNING OUT! Call Marylin at 956-533-4551 or email her at mtm124@gmail.com

The Annual Commodores Ball will be held in the Grand Tower Room on January 15, 2011 at the fabulous Isla Grand Resort on South Padre Island between the hours of 6:00 PM and 11:00 PM. A cash bar will be open at 6:00 PM. Great news - this years individual cost has risen only \$1.00 Formal invitations with reservation cards and meal choices are in the mail so please return them as quickly as possible.

A wonderful sit-down dinner is planned, with your choice of Grilled Rib Eye sauteed in mushrooms grilled onions and pinot noir sauce and an additional choice of Chicken Del Mar stuffed with crab meat, cream cheese and served with white wine sauce will be offered along with the very best in entertainment awards, achievement recognitions, and camaraderie.

"An invitational breakfast at 09:30 hrs, the following morning, personally hosted by Cathy and Bill Maples, will be available in the Isla Grand restaurant, for all incoming 2011 and outgoing 2010, Flag Officers and family and LMYC members who stayed over-night. The first Flag officers business meeting of 2011, for incoming Flag Officers will be held in the Isla Grand conference room at 10:30 hrs, following the hosted breakfast."

Boater's To Do List for a New Year

- 1) Change the oil
- 2) Change your filters and impeller
- 3) Check your spare components and be sure they are accessible
- 4) Practice alternative docking methods
- 5) Practice anchoring configurations
- 6) Wash, clean and lubricate your fittings - especially those that aren't used regularly like spinnaker fittings or second halyards.
- 7) Check your USCG Documentation
- 8) Help a new member join the Club
- 9) Clean the fresh water tanks
- 10) Wash the bilge
- 11) Check your gas/diesel additives
- 12) Be sure your emergency tiller and other supplies are in a place you can find
- 13) Check your spares and tools
- 14) Update your safety check list
- 15) Inspect your sails

For changes or comments email bmikiten@idworld.net

Your 2011 Flag Officers

Commodore

Col. Wm. "Bill" Maples
H 956 421 3168 C 979 218 4850

Vice Commodore

Robert "Bob" Fisher C 956 299 1259

Rear Commodore

Brian Mikiten C 210 863 5245

Steward

Jana Craft C 281-825-1479

Fleet Captain

Rick Ekstrom C 956 535 2224

Treasurer

Chris Hughston C 956 454 4443

Secretary

Marylin Myers C 956-533-4551

Barrister

Bill Schwer C 713 882 0976

Fleet Surgeon

Wes Thom C 956 778 7628

Membership information

Clubhouse Phone Number
956-943-5692

Thanks to all the members for their wonderful articles and photos this month!

membership@lagunamadreyachtclub.org

Port Isabel, Laguna Madre, Texas

January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 7:45 AM -0.6 5:59 PM 1.5	3 8:32 AM -0.6 6:40 PM 1.4	4 9:17 AM -0.5 7:13 PM 1.3	5 9:58 AM -0.4 7:32 PM 1.2	6 10:37 AM -0.3 7:35 PM 1.1	7 11:12 AM -0.2 7:28 PM 1.0	8 12:47 AM 0.8 2:43 AM 0.9 11:48 AM 0.0 7:22 PM 0.9
9 12:59 AM 0.7 4:37 AM 0.7	10 12:22 PM 0.2 6:47 AM 0.7	11 12:59 PM 0.4 10:05 AM 0.7	12 1:32 AM 0.5 6:45 PM 0.9	13 1:14 PM 0.6 3:03 AM 0.1 3:22 PM 1.0	14 1:17 AM 0.3 3:49 PM 1.1	15 1:14 PM 0.8 4:24 PM 1.3
16 6:29 AM -0.5 5:03 PM 1.3	17 7:18 AM -0.6 5:38 PM 1.4	18 8:05 AM -0.7 6:07 PM 1.3	19 8:54 AM -0.7 6:22 PM 1.3	20 9:39 AM -0.6 6:25 PM 1.1	21 10:27 AM -0.4 10:27 AM -0.4	22 1:10 AM 1.0 10:27 AM -0.4 11:13 AM -0.2 11:52 PM 0.5
23 5:08 AM 0.8 11:59 AM 0.1	24 12:42 AM 0.2 7:22 AM 0.7	25 11:36 AM -0.0 10:26 AM 0.8	26 1:31 PM 0.8 2:38 AM -0.2 0.9 2:20 PM 1.0	27 3:41 AM -0.4 3:01 PM 1.2	28 4:46 AM -0.5 3:46 PM 1.3	29 5:49 AM -0.6 4:27 PM 1.3
30 6:48 AM -0.6 5:06 PM 1.3	31 7:39 AM -0.5 5:39 PM 1.2					