

The Chowder Chatter

**The Official Newsletter of
The Caloosahatchee Marching and Chowder Society
Cape Coral / Fort Myers, Florida
www.cmcs-sail.org**

Next Full Moon: May 5

P.O. Box 101268, Cape Coral, Fl. 33910

May 2023

Commodore's Message



Commodore Bobby Lee

April has been another good month for CMCS regrowth. A few new faces are beginning to show up.

Grill Night was a very enjoyable gathering for approximately 30 members. The event was held at my home. Plenty of

parking for everyone! The Edison Sailing Center (Ross and Stephanie Webb) provided tables and chairs as well as a large grill. Stephanie addressed the group about current ESC activities and how much CMCS has contributed to ESC student grants and scholarships over time.

I have been thinking of ways to get boats out for racing and cruising. Perhaps some of our members could ignite interest by providing some short articles of interest with photos for publication in the Chowder Chatter. Planting the seeds of interest in our minds might jump-start new dreams of adventure in our members.

The CMCS monthly meeting will be held at Rusty's on the 16th of May. Jerry Watkins of Gulf Coast Sailing Club will be attending to share with us the upcoming events that GCSC is planning. GCSC has extended an invitation to CMCS members to join them in various activities. Hopefully, this will encourage our members to get back out on the water again.

Summerset planning is underway. We are hoping to provide details with dates and locations with lists of activities in the near future.

When you're out cruising in your boat, please write a short Chowder Chatter report on your observations, along with some pictures! I'm sure the rest of the members will be interested in current conditions out there! Maybe even give them confidence to enter out there themselves.

Life is Good! See you at Rusty's at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, May 16th.

Bobby Lee
2023 CMCS Commodore
s/v Sail La Vie

2023 CMCS Officers

Commodore: Bobby Lee

Vice Commodore – Summerset: Bev Duff

Rear Commodore – Racing: Scott Milligan, Art Schuller

Fleet Purser – Julia Robinson

Vice Commodore: Open Position

Rear Commodore – Cruising: Open Position

Fleet Yeoman – Bev Duff

Past Commodore – Gary Blessing

Chowder Chatter Editor—Steve Roake

Member Reminiscences

Memories from Jason Pim.

I noticed in the last Chowder Chatter a "story from a member" where Bill & Mary Misenheimer described the "Jerryatric" Bahamas cruise of 1983. I was there too, but don't remember any of those antics, because I was only 3 years old. I've surely heard bits and pieces, but also appreciated reading about that and didn't want a good story to go unpunished!

There are probably lots of stories from the 80s-90s I could tell if I hadn't been so busy being a self-absorbed little punk (ask Bill about the time I got my finger trapped in a tuba in one of his middle school band classes). But I digress...

I'd like to share a more recent story, about when our family bought the Compac 35, Gopher Baroque. Prior to this boat, my parents owned a Pearson 35 for about 30 years ~1980-2010. When you've owned a boat that long, not only do you become very sentimental about it, but you also forget how to buy another one. Both Bob Duff and Bill Misenheimer helped Dad look over the Compac and reassure his decision-making before pulling the trigger.

As a family, my mom (Carol) & dad (Jerry), myself and wife Kristi, and our then 2 year old Kaitlyn, picked up the boat from behind the previous owner's home in Boca Raton to bring it through the Keys and back to Cape Coral.

It was a typical delivery where many little things break but you're not gonna turn around for them. A weird wet spot started seeping through the engine compartment that likely involved a pinhole leak in the raw water system... The alternator and batteries were definitely not acting right... Timing all those ICW draw bridges gets to be a drag... But then it got a lot crummier when, on the second day, my dad starting having some serious chest pains.

It's a Pim thing to rarely ask for help, so it was a heavy deal when it was decided to make the call home to the Misenheimers and ask a big favor. Bill drove down to meet us in Faro Blanco and my mom & dad took his truck back to Lee County to get to dad's heart specialist. Bill would then help Kristi, Kaitlyn and I finish the journey from Marathon back to Cape Coral.

This was really no problem besides relying on those dying batteries for a night at anchor in the 10,000 Islands (did we have enough juice for the windlass?) and, the next shoe to drop: the toilet macerator quitting. So with Kristi pregnant and motion sick and little Kaitlyn potty-training, the four of us were now down to very carefully utilizing a 5-gallon bucket during the last ~ 36 hours of the trip. We did have an excellent easterly wind with which to reach on and made great time, and ultimately somewhere between Indian Key and home, Kaitlyn excitedly announced to us she had become bucket-trained!

We had a year or two of adventures together on the Compac before Dad passed, but I've always wondered if selling the Pearson kind of broke his heart. I guess we'll never know and it doesn't really matter. What mattered is we had great CMCS friends we could count on in an uncertain time, and that we learn to deal with those sudden changes in the barometer of life. Thank you Bill & Mary for being there.

Tune in next time for more potty-training stories, likely at my brother's expense.

Jason & Kristi Pim

Membership and Recruitment

Ahoy sailors!

I hope you are finding time to get out on the water (carefully) and enjoying our April weather. I have processed memberships for the following individuals:

Crew:

Nikita Graveney
Daniel Jackson
Nina Jappich
Douglas Labout
Terri Lodge

Regular:

Craig Ackerman
Rick Gleason
James Palensky
Greg Rushlau
Diana Smith

If you have the Wild Apricot app on your smartphone, you have instant access to contact information for these new members. If you see them at a CMCS event, be sure to say hello!

I am also asking you to keep your contact information current. Update it and the info is readily available to members.

See you on the water.

Jean Blessing
Membership and Fleet Recruiter
s/v Jazzy

Ladies Bridge Club

On Friday, April 14th, six of us met for lunch at 10 Twenty-Five restaurant located in Patio de Leon in downtown Fort Myers. We enjoyed the food and conversation on a beautiful day.

I don't have any other events planned. If someone comes up with an interesting idea, I will be glad to help with communication but I need help coming up with fun ideas centered around sailing, the water, camaraderie, and education. Thank you!

Joan Perkett
Ladies Bridge Club Chairperson
donandjoan@mindspring.com

CMCS Membership Survey

The final tally for the CMCS member survey was light. A total of only 27 members responded to the survey. 17 members indicated that they would likely participate in upcoming activities, 7 were unsure and 3 said no. 18 members indicated that they still owned a boat but 9 said they no longer did. 15 members said their boat was operable. Of the 17 responses, 19 stated they wished to continue as a CMCS member, 5 were unsure and 3 said that they no longer wished to be a member.

A couple of responses had suggestions for an alternate meeting venue: One member suggested the New England Moorings, and one suggested the Cape Coral Power Squadron.

If you didn't receive or complete the survey and have suggestions, please let a board member know.

Thanks to Jon Hart for compiling the survey data.

Steve Roake
Chowder Chatter Editor
m/v Ranger

Estebel Fun Race and Bloody Mary Brunch

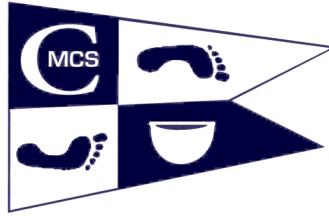
The Estebel Fun Race is on Saturday, April 29. You should have received an e-mail from CMCS about this event recently.

The Bloody Mary Brunch will be on Sunday, April 30, beginning at 10:00 AM at the home of Carol Pim, 1624 SE 39th St. in Cape Coral. There is plenty of parking available. There is a vacant lot across the street from her home.

This event is free to members and all food and drink is provided, but reservations are needed to help plan for food and drinks. Contact Carol at (239)896-4449 or

gopherb@thepims.com

You may wish to bring a chair!



HAPPENINGS

April 29	Jerry Pim Memorial Estebel Fun Race
April 30	Bloody Mary Brunch
May 9	CMCS Board of Directors Meeting (Zoom)
May 16	General Membership Meeting (Rusty's)
May 23	Chowder Chatter Deadline

CMCS CHANDLERY

It's time to gather the boating stuff you no longer need and list it in our newsletter chandlery. The cost is free to members. Text and pictures are welcome. Please try to submit items for sale by the 20th of the month so they can appear in the newsletter.

C.M.C.S . CHANDLERY

Buy, sell, trade

Members, to advertise your boating-related items free in the CMCS Chandlery, e-mail Steve Roake, Chowder Chatter Editor at steve@theroakes.com or use your roster for telephone information.

Your ad will be listed for 3 months unless you notify me to take your listing out sooner.

Non-members are welcome to advertise their items at a price of \$30.00 for 3 months.

Business cards or business related listings sent in digital format only :

Members: 3 months, \$25.00

Non-members: 3 months, \$50.00

Send a check made out to C.M.C.S. to :

Chowder Chatter Editor, P.O Box 101268, Cape Coral, FL 33910