

*Sailing Singles
of Southwest Florida*

Joy Hansen
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HAPPY NEW YEAR



January 2006

Dear Sailors;

Jan Hladik has planned a MOST wonderful Christmas Cruise aboard the J.C. Cruise Yacht. Dressed in our Christmas Duds, I promised Bob Yahn I would not wear my cowboy boots, we will board the boat & journey down the Caloosahatchee River. While on board we will dine on a scrumptious meal & dance to a live band. Shall we count our Blessings, or What!!

When we have recovered from our Christmas Holiday, we will board Bright Star, Toyboy II, Snafu III, Betty Boop & Sloop De Jour, for our New Year's Eve Outing. Usually we anchor near Ft Myers Beach & watch the pyrotechnical display. The Mimosas that were enjoyed last year will always be remembered & I hope this treat will be repeated this year. Please check "Heads Up" for particulars, times etc.

Be sure to attend the next Business Meeting on January 18th (the 3rd Thursday of each month) @ 7pm. Please come early & enjoy Bonita Bill's fare because our meeting room is graciously provided "pro-bono". These meetings enable us to visit & plan our upcoming events

One of our newest & most helpful members, Paul Moran, grilled our hot dogs & hamburgers for the "boat parade party, has presented us with a blow by blow description of our Thanksgiving Weekend Sail. Paul is a quick study about sailing & perhaps another Hemingway!

Who's Who

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Commodore: | George Nemes |
| Vice Commodore: | Deena Kirkey |
| Secretary: | Martha Robinson |
| Treasurer: | Connie Trowbridge |
| Membership: | Evelyn Hoop |
| Cruise Committee Spokesman: | Ken Schneider |
| Directors: | Ron Mueller |
| | Ann Lieberman |
| Telephone: | Joan Kachel |
| Newsletter Editor: | Joy Hansen |
| Website Editor: | Ken Schneider |

Upcoming Sails

Two day sails - Jan 13th or 14th and Jan 27th or Jan 28th.

Contact Andrea McCall at 939-0232 to grab your spot.
Thanks a million Andrea for your help.

Don't forget that Bob Weisman conducts private sailing lessons. He only has 30 years of sailing experience, but I hear he is a pretty nifty Captain..

Happy Birthday!

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| Joycelyn Erickson | 01/07 | John Bevelacqua | 01/21 |
| Ellen Henley | 01/21 | Martha Robinson | 01/04 |
| Ken Slifko | 01/19 | | |

Thanksgiving Notes, by Paul Moran

Hello Sailors,

The weekend sail departure was delayed until Sat (11/25/06 because of concern for the weather & the late return of "Bright Star" from the yard. However, early Sat morn the intrepid sailors cast their fate to the winds & departed on an adventure. Quickly, the flotilla assembled & the decision was reached to sail South towards Naples & anchor in the Gordon River. After some further thought & a great deal of radio transmission the decision was refined to reach for Doctor's Pass. This correspondent believes that the decision to make for a specific destination may have some relationship to the closeness of "Happy Hour", but I can't be sure.

Upon reaching Doctor's Pass "Bright Star" lead the way into the anchorage & after several attempts managed to anchor & rafted the others, Bountiful & Sloop du Jur alongside. During this operation this correspondent had the opportunity to observe one of the female crew members display her ability to both deploy & retract and again deploy an anchor in what may have been a record amount of time.

Within mere minutes the provisions for Happy Hour were displayed upon Bright Star's cockpit & the comradeship began, after the ingestion of entirely too many goodies the main dinner appeared from the galley. Earlier on , the idea was voiced that the newbie should be responsible for carving the ham but upon further reflection it was agreed that someone with medical/surgical experience would be much better at this task. This correspondent observed that the boats rode considerably lower in the water after this repast than before. After consuming everything possible the sensible persons retreated to their respective boats & prepared for an evenings rest but not the crew of the Bright Star who instead started a rousing game of Skip Bo which went on well into the evening.

Sunday morning came with clouds & some small rain showers early, but the intrepid sailors gradually awoke & displayed varying examples of morning attitudes. After some searching below decks the crew discovered some food stuffs which had survived the onslaught of the previous night's orgy. Shortly thereafter another repast was presented in the cockpit of the Bright Star & everyone began to show improvement in their appreciation of the day. After much discussion the decision was reached to depart the anchorage, based greatly on the lack of sufficient food stuffs for any additional meals, & deploy for a day's sail. While departing Doctor's Pass Bright Star was able to locate a low point, at the point of turn into the channel. Not to be deterred Capt. Mary gritted her

teeth & pushed the throttle open, with a cry of “damn the sand”, we sailed clear into the gulf. Sunday’s sail was very enjoyable & even included an attempt by the Sloop du Jour to rescue a vessel in distress, even though that vessel didn’t know about it. During this period it became apparent to everyone that having a clean bottom is really beneficial while sailing. Capt. Mary’s attempt to provide the crew an opportunity to actually steer the vessel for a period of time resulted in a very protracted voyage North of Ft Myers Beach, However, in an attempt to show the newbie some of the various enjoyments of sailing, Capt Mary called upon the services of a crew member, Joanne, who reportedly has some connections with the elements, & called up a rain squall from nowhere to give everyone on the Bright Star an opportunity to display their rain gear. Regrettably the Sloop du Jour did not experience this opportunity. This correspondent has not been advised of the condition of “Bountiful” & her crew, one can only hope that she was afforded the same opportunity.

This Correspondent thanks all who participated in this weekend’s sail & looks forward to further adventures with all who participated. Capt Mary, Capt Bob, Capt Deena, Capt George. Crews, Mary, Barbara, Darlene, Ken, Leila, Jan, Joanne, Marilyn, Paul, & Andrea .

Ft. Myers Beach Parade

For the Boat Parade we decorated “Bountiful” with red bell lights & blue flashing lights on his head & port stays. “Voyager”, Bob Weisman’s boat, was spectacularly decorated with a large white star made carefully with irrigation tubing. Bob secured red lights on his port side & green lights on his star-board side. Mary’s boat Bright Star, also had a beautiful star & a blanket of blue lights on her main sail cover. Of course we were all dressed in red with Santa hats. All in All, we looked “marvelous dahling” We missed Deena ,but as usual she went beyond the call of duty to take care of a sick aunt.

Anyone wishing to submit an article for February's newsletter please call Joy or send her an email joynell1776@yahoo.com by the 10th of January.

Happy New Year To All!, Joy Hansen

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