

*Sailing Singles  
of Southwest Florida*

Ken Schneider  
2030 SE 14<sup>th</sup> Ter  
Cape Coral, FL 33990



October 2007

Fellow Sailors;

As I write this plans are being drawn up for our kick off event, our annual picnic, which is being planned for on Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup> at Bowditch Point. It has been a long *hot* summer as all of the non-snowbirds can attest. All of us *sunbirds* hope the weather breaks soon so we can start partaking of our favorite passion, sailing. Keep your eyes and ears open for any "Heads UP" regarding upcoming events. You can rest assured that all of the captains and the cruise director will be working hard at coming up with an abundance of destinations for the upcoming season. If any of you had any enjoyable activity this summer that you would like to share with the members pen a story and we can post it in the November Newsletter.

Fair Sailing To Ye All  
Ken Schneider, Editor.

### **Who's Who**

Commodore:	George Nemes
Vice Commodore:	Jan Hladik
Secretary:	Marilyn Gladish
Treasurer:	Connie Trowbridge
Membership:	Evelyn Hoop
Cruise Committee Spokesman:	Paul Moran
Directors:	Ron Mueller
	Ann Lieberman
Telephone:	Darlene Kittinger
Newsletter Editor:	Ken Schneider
Website Editor:	Ken Schneider
Heads Up:	Ken Schneider

### **Upcoming Events**

**Annual Picnic:** The annual picnic is being planned with a tentative date of Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup> at Bowditch Point. Please mark your calendar and keep this date open. Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> may be a rain date. A Heads Up will be sent with the date and further details. If you have suggestions regarding the picnic please contact our vice-commodore Jan with your ideas.

Plans are under way for our upcoming season. Stay posted for further details. If any members have any ideas of activities that we can participate in please give George or Jan a call to get it scheduled. We are not limited to sailing don't you know.

## **Happy Birthday!**

Penny Hodges - 10/9  
Wendy Williams - 10/19  
Bonnie McLaughlin - 10/28

Sonia Raymond - 10/16  
Evelyn Hatton - 10/25

## **Member Notes.**

Amtrak Express, by Ken Schneider

I opted to take an extended vacation this summer from this furnace we call paradise the rest of the year and so I left in late July for a seven and a half week sojourn. As I don't have the usual time constraints that a good deal of our members have I elected to do all of my travels via Amtrak. I have only ever traveled via rail once before, when I lived in Michigan, taking a day excursion from Birmingham (yes the one in Michigan) to Ft. Wayne Indiana. It was an event put on by a local train enthusiast club and had four old passenger cars as well as a snack car and the whole train was pulled by a steam locomotive. Now that was an adventure I will never forget. Now, back to the present. This years adventure started with a bus ride to Orlando where I was able to board the train with my destination being Washington D.C. where I had to change trains to continue my travels to Maine. After another train change in Boston I was finally on my way to my final stop, (at least for this part of my vacation anyway). After spending a wonderful week with a good friend I was on my way to Michigan, via Boston, Albany and Chicago. So I had to change trains, did I mention I was in no hurry? Did you ever have to change planes while taking a trip? Once in Michigan I was able to spend five short weeks with family, especially my grandson who started first grade and turns six this year. As with all good things time goes by much too fast and I found myself saying good-bye to my family. This started the return portion of my trip courtesy of Amtrak starting with a commuter train in Royal Oak to Chicago. Once in Chicago I was able to board the first of two more trains that would eventually get me to Orlando where I boarded a bus for Ft. Myers.

All in all the taking the train was a pleasurable experience with few mishaps. Baggage handling is the worst part of taking the train IF you don't start and end your trip at a station that has baggage handling facilities. But they do have people to help in that regard as well. The food on the train in the dining car was simply fantastic and priced the same as any restaurant in this area. Food from the snack car seemed to be over priced for what you got. \$7.00 for a microwave zapped burger and a soda is a bit pricey when you can have lunch in the dining car for \$9.00 (you get more and it's fresh).

I would definitely recommend travel by train if you don't have any time constraints.

Ken

**Mystery Photo of the month:**



The first one to guess where this lighthouse is located will win a free copy of our newsletter.

If anyone has any pictures from any club outings and would like to have them added to our website send them ( preferably on CD ) to Ken Schneider and include which outing they are from.

Anyone wishing to submit an article for a newsletter, please call Ken or send him an email at [kschneider@sailing-singles.net](mailto:kschneider@sailing-singles.net) . Any member can submit an article so if you have had an enjoyable experience feel free to share it with the rest of the members. And articles are not limited to sailing outings but can be from any outing with other club members.

**Classifieds:**

If you are a member of the club and have a nautical item to sell please contact George or Jan to get approval to place your ad.

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