
THE VENTURING

Volume 31, Issue 5

May, 2001

Commodore's Notes

Mike Kmita

Commodore, Venture/MacGregor Yacht Club

Our V/MYC got into the swing of things really fast the last month or so. Kind of like the saying about the Texas weather, if you don't like it, just wait a minute and it will change. The Spring Race Series is three quarters over with 8 boats competing. The nice thing is that there is a close contest for the top positions with no one boat running away from the others. Al Barboza is doing a great job with the racing program. Hope he can keep up with the handicaps when the new club members begin to race. Opps, shouldn't have mentioned that, Al was feeling real good until now.

The Sailing Lessons were completed early this month with 21 students and enough volunteer boats to accommodate them. Thanks to all who helped with the lessons and special thanks to John and Kay Vaughn who did an outstanding job of bringing the classroom presentation into the 21st century. And to Larry Featherston Sr. *continued on page 2*

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MULTI FLEET REPORT

Rick Newhouse

First off, my apologies to the board, club, and fleet for missing my duties in April.

It seems that I spent most of the month at the "Superdrome" in Frisco pursuing one of my other passions, bicycle racing. I was involved in an introductory class for novice sprint racers, flying around a 1/3 mile oval at up to 40 mph, the track banked at 45 degrees, on bicycles without brakes or gears, dressed in little more than spandex, gloves and a helmet. Ah, what we do for recreation! Those of you interested in attending a race (free), or learning more on the subject, can go to "Superdrome.com" for more online information.

"Talisman" continues her hiatus still late into spring. Mysteriously, a sign has been hung about her bow pulpit. "Give me Water, or give me Death!". (These things happen when you name your boat, Talisman, you know). I snip the cord, tucking the offending placard under my jacket; I'm afraid the neighbors will recognize sailboat neglect for what it is. It's just a matter of time before someone calls the VMYC Police (Kmita and O'Grady) and reports the boat AWOL (Ab^sence of Water, Obj^ectionable on Land). I tape over the "VMYC" on my license plate frame replace it with "Dallas Corinthian". I cleverly hang a For Sail sign (pun intended) on my Venture. It reads "21' Benateau", "\$25K OBO". That should keep the curious at bay...

Al Dryburgh and I put his M22 "Kokomo", in the water for the first time (for him) a couple of weeks ago. No leaks, no incidents, his 4 HP Honda ran great on a couple of pulls after sitting unused for quite awhile. Now, we have

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whom coordinated the lessons with the assistance of his wife Lora. Actually, I believe Larry followed Lora's orders. Aye, Aye Mam were the words I heard a lot of!!!

The Memorial Day Cruise is the 26th to the 28th of this month. I hope everyone will make an attempt to make it this year. I hope to! Jean and Ron Briggs have come up with another adventure for us to participate in. Check out their article about the cruise. PLEASE, call your fleet captain or me if you have any questions about the cruise. If this is your first cruise and need help or would like to follow someone up to the marina and out to the islands there is always someone ready to help. Someone will even be glad to tell you what you need to bring on a cruise. I can tell you one thing, I am from New Jersey and I can attest that THERE ARE NO MOSQUITOES IN TEXAS!!!!!! Maybe Houston!

Allen Cook gave the program for the last meeting. It covered some of his adventures. Everyone enjoyed the program and I have gotten many positive comments on it. Thanks Alan. Also, thanks to Januelle Barboza for coordinating the refreshments and the potluck at the previous meeting. Good job even if you can't vote.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The board has adopted an amendment to the bylaws to open the club up to other trailerable sailboats. Please, review the changes that will be at the meetings and give any input you may have. The review period for this change will be at least 3 months. If you cannot get a copy of the changes, please let Larry Featherston Jr. or me know and we will see that you do. We hope to have a membership vote on them in early fall of this year. Thanks to the change committee, which consisted of Larry Featherston Jr. Allison Robertson, John Vaughn, Steve Hanes, Ed Kramer and Wilma Liggett for their excellent work.

See you real soon at the meeting, race, cruise or mall. ♣



**26' MacGregor
1995 - Swing Keel
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Contact: Larry Ribble
903-883-3680
or 903-461-2115
Email: ltrdgr@koyote.com

25 FLEET REPORT

Jim Wallace
Phone: 972 243 0212 E: MAIL
jwalla@netzero.net

The 25 fleet is doing ok. I haven't gotten and calls or e-mails with news and the few calls I made didn't generate news. A few said they were planning their vacations. That hit me hard because I am retired and to take a vacation you take off from work and go somewhere. I don't work so I can't do that. They don't tell you that before you retire.

I did get on the boat and start to clean it up. I don't want to say it's in bad shape but I just deprived two million dirt daubers a nest. It's like an Easter egg hunt trying to find them they are every where. I thought I had found them all till I moved the toilet tissue and found a nest in the core. It's going well so I should be done in three or four weeks.

Hey 25 fleet call me or send e-mail with news or the next report will be words from songs I remember from my childhood: " I was walking along the beach on a bright and sunny day when I discovered a great big box a floating in the bay" ♣



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY:

12TH - SPRING RACE SERIES 5 & 6
15TH - MEMBERSHIP MEETING
19TH - SPRING RACE SERIES 7 & 8
26TH - 28TH - MEMORIAL DAY CRUISE,
LAKE TEXOMA

JUNE:

2ND - SUMMER RACE SERIES 1
4TH - BOARD MEETING
19TH - MEMBERSHIP MEETING
30TH - SUMMER RACE SERIES 2

JULY:

2ND - BOARD MEETING
14TH - SUMMER RACE SERIES 3
17TH - MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 'POT
LUCK' SUPPER
28TH - SUMMER RACE SERIES 4

AUGUST:

6TH - BOARD MEETING
11TH - SUMMER RACE SERIES 5
25TH - SUMMER RACE SERIES 6

SEPTEMBER:

1ST - 3RD - LABOR DAY CRUISE; TEXOMA
14TH - BASIC SAILING; CLASSROOM
15TH - FALL RACE SERIES 1 & 2
16TH - BASIC SAILING; ON THE WATER
18TH - MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 'POT
LUCK' SUPPER
22ND - BASIC SAILING; ON THE WATER
29TH - FALL RACE SERIES 3 & 4

OCTOBER:

1ST - BOARD MEETING
13TH - FALL RACE SERIES 5 & 6
16TH - MEMBERSHIP MEETING
27TH - FALL RACE SERIES 7 & 8

NOVEMBER:

5TH - BOARD MEETING
20TH - MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 'POT
LUCK' SUPPER

DECEMBER:

8TH - Y/MYC HOLIDAY PARTY

to get Al to sail! Kokomo is slipped at Scott's Landing, on Lake Grapevine.

Gus Gusler and Bobby Allen spent last weekend in Houston, enjoying the West Marine Trawler Fest. Lots of high-end trawlers, live on capability, and luxury. I understand some owners opened up their own boats to allow the public a tour. I can just hear Gus now, "... But Mae, if we get that second on the house we can..."

Neva Runnels and "Kokopelli" haven't seen much (if any?) time on the lakes since last season. Business has kept her busy. Neva and I recently discussed bottom-painting techniques, with the boat on the trailer. I learned the technique from club members last year, and was elated to pass my knowledge along. Networking the club is one of the reasons we all belong!

Dick Hardin is preparing "Phoenix" for the Memorial Day cruise. Let's all join in, and get some wind and sun!

That's it for May, see you at the meetings, and on the water. ♣

LET's CRUISE!!

*Memorial Day Cruise at Lake Texoma
May 26th - 28th - Fun activities for all!*

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www.myplanet.net/shanes/vmyc

Memorial Day Cruise, 2001

May 26 (or 25) thru May 28
North Island, Lake Texoma

The highlight of the Spring Season is upon us! Sailing lessons are over. The ladies have cruised, the racers have raced, and now its time to head to Texoma for Memorial Day. We are convinced every club member has already cleaned, polished, and improved their vessel ready for the great event. (We just happen to be the exceptions, not quite having found time even to hose down Maggie May—hopefully the rain is taking care of this!)

We know every one of you has waited with baited breath for the arrival of this month's newsletter, anxiously querying the mail person like an American Mrs. Bucket (pronounced boo-kay) as to its expected data-of-arrival.* What will be the theme, you desperately desire to know. We contemplated delaying exposure until an all-revealing e-mail a week before departure (that would at least force Bobby Allen to move into the new age and get e-mail), but we relented.

Think of North Island and you envisage sandy beaches, glistening waters, (palm) trees gently waving in the wind. Just like Florida! And of course that means hanging chads, dimpled chads, pregnant chads, recounts, and indecision. What more could epitomize VMYC? So, ***Electing to be on The Beach*** is where its at this Memorial Day. Here's the schedule of events.

Friday May 25 **Early Voting-Boating**

--Jeanne and I plan to arrive at North Island Friday evening. Come join us.

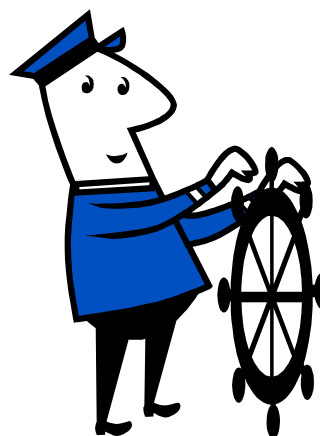
We'll keep the masthead light on for you.

Saturday May 26 **The Great Election Pot-Luck Supper**

- bring your best election-themed dish
- prizes, of course, for best themed and best tasting
- plan on eating around 6:00 pm

Saturday Night **Recount Night**

- come prepared to tell your best sailing stories
- as with all political speeches, these can be true or full of lies
- members get to vote on which
- impersonate a politician, by dress or by act
- prizes for the best



Sunday Afternoon **The Big Election Tug-of-War**

--the Elephants (represented by the 25 Fleet) versus the Donkeys (or is it Asses?) of the 26 Fleet (or visa-versa) (with the Associate Fleet playing Nader's Green Raiders)

Sunday Evening **Decision Night—Supervised by the Supreme Court of the VMYC**

--where the winners get decided--by good democratic principles, of course.
--of course, you must be present to win

If you haven't attended a cruise in a while, plan on coming this time. If you've never been, this is the chance to see how much fun they can be. If you're new, please contact us or Commodore Mike Kmita and we will make arrangements to have someone meet you at Highport (our normal launch place), get you safely launched, and then guide you to North Island, about a 30-60 minute sail (unless you have Wings, then it's about 10 minutes), where we anchor on the beach. Bring firewood—we must hold politician's feet to the fire.

*You have to watch Channel 13, 10:30pm, Sundays to get this one!)

Ron and Jeanne Briggs

Our contact information is:

e-mail: rbriggs@metronet.com

home phone: 972-690-3442 (prior to Friday)

mobile: 972-345-6918 (Friday and onwards--we'll have it on the boat)

boat name: Maggie May (we have a VHF radio, but mobile phone is better)

P.S. We will be out-of-town May 13-22 so we'll miss the May meeting. But contact any board member for help. They have all been briefed! ♣

Associate Fleet *Larry Featherston*

Since I am the chairman of the reorganization committee (committee put together to recommend by-law changes so that the club could broaden its focus), I thought I'd take this time to give everyone a preview of up coming news. A few months ago, the reorganization committee recommended some changes of the by-laws to the board of directors. The board discussed these recommendations thoroughly and specified what their desires for the new by-laws. After lengthy discussions, the board finally came to a final agreement on the changes to the by-laws, and approved them with a full majority vote in support of the new by-laws. So what's next? The next three months are going to be **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** for everyone to attend the general membership meetings. The purposed new by-laws will be handed out and placed on our website for everyone's review. There are only a few changes to the current by-laws, and I will explain those at the May membership meeting. If at any time you have question's regarding the purposed new by-laws, write down the question and e-mail it to our commodore, Mike Kamita. We will put these questions, comments and concerns together, give them to the board and be committed to addressing all of them. Remember, there is no such thing as a dumb question, so if you have one, don't be afraid to ask. These new changes affect us all and this is the time to voice your concerns. Please try to set aside one night a month for the next few months and come to the general membership meetings. ♣

Social News

Juanelle Barboza juanelle431@home.com

I hope you never need to use this information but, if you do....

WHAT TO DO IF YOU LOSE YOUR PURSE OR WALLET:

(Note: The following was sent to me by a friend)

"We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed Using your name, address, SS#, credit, etc. Unfortunately I (author of This piece) have firsthand knowledge, because my wallet was stolen last month And within a week the thief(s) ordered an expensive monthly Cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information online, and more.

But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know. As everyone always advises, cancel your credit cards immediately, but **the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy** so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them easily (having to hunt for them is additional stress you WON'T need at that point!). On a personal note, I remember loosing a MC and until I got the toll free number from information, etc. I was a wreck. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was stolen, this proves to credit providers you were diligent, and is a first step toward An investigation (if there ever is one).

But here's what is perhaps **most important:** (I never ever thought to do this) **Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and SS#.** I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. By the time I was advised to do this - almost 2 weeks after the theft all the damage had been done (there are records of all the Credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert). Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them in their tracks."

The numbers are:

Equifax 1-800 525-6285

Experian (formerly TRW) 1-888-397-3742

Trans Union 1-800-680-7289

Social Security Administration also has a fraud line at 1-800-269-0271 ♣



COME & JOIN THE CROWD!!

When: Tuesday, May 15, 2001
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: 1835 Walnut, Carrollton
(First Christian Church - 1 block north of
Joesy Ln & Beltline Rd.)
What: V/MYC meeting
Drawing for \$'s - Must be present to win!

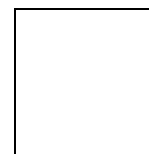
Alison Robertson, CPA
Owner

709 Williams Way
Richardson, TX 75080-3114
USA
Tel: 214.755.5784
Fax: 253.663.4085
arobertson@juno.com
www.arobertsoncpa.com



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Kathy Peele
Editor : The Venturing
1504 Westlake Dr.
Plano, Texas 75075



26 Fleet

Sam Blake

Howdy! Well, it is the 26 fleet's turn to bring the refreshments for the next club meeting on May 15th. **DON'T FORGET!**

In the Spring Racing Series, we have had a good turn out from the 26 Fleet. Members racing are Bobby Allen, Mike Kmita, Gabberts, Larry Featherston and Sam Blake. We also have 22 Fleet members racing on several boats. At this time, we have completed 6 of 8 races and all places are up for grabs. The winners will probably not be decided until the last race. Check the Race Results and keep up with the fun.

Our next big event will be the Memorial Day Cruise over May 26th thru May 28th weekend. Check your calendars, mark them, and try to come out. At this time I don't know how many 26's plan to attend, but you need to attend to be sure to give your side of the stories told around the campfire. Read the cruising article to get the details on the place & time. See ya on the lake! ♣

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED