

S.H.B.C.

Sentinel



Apr 2014

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GUEST SPEAKER FOR APR SHBC MEETING

Organized by Ellen Henderson & Chris Dollin

Allen Thompson, who represented the Tampa Bay Pilots Association.

We heard about how the traffic is directed up and down Tampa Bay by the professional pilots directing the Barges & Ships, etc. Allen also presents an interesting video and some slides illustrating how the Pilot's Association works.

When one member asked if it was legal to have races crossing the main channels, the general consensus was that it does not matter. Crossing in front of those huge ships is probably self-regulating. They can stop in 5-6 boat lengths, but that computes to be a mile or more.

SHBC CRUISE TO TAMPA BAY AIR FEST

Submitted by Ellen Henderson

Dale Cuddeback did a marvelous job in recruiting and organizing the 1st Annual SHBC Cruise to the **Tampa Bay Air Fest** on Sat. March 22. Six boats showed up with 5 coming from Safety Harbor Marina and 1 arrived from BCYC.

Dick Greenhalgh on "Island Girl" had a crew of 4. Dick motored sailed down and went to Hoola Bay, where they enjoyed lunch and drinks as well as part of the Air Fest. Crew member **Frank Fitzhenry** took some pix while there. Dick had given us a warning re the bridge construction

work. He later said that he went under the adjacent span to the right of the central one. "Island Girl" left the area to return to SH about 1:45 pm and they were able to sail most of the way home.

Mike Penley motored down on his trawler, a Cape Dory 28', "Let's Go". He too went to Hoola Bay for lunch. Mike and his 5 additional crew then went South and anchored off the island where they had good visibility of the air show. It took him only 1-1/2 hours each way, despite the rough waters they encountered under the bridges, especially on the return trip, as many other power boats were kicking up the seas.

Ted Hill ventured out with **Jack Myers** on board Ted's Spindrift 21' sailboat with no name.

They showed at Hoola Bay for drinks only, so they could enjoy the free dockage. They later anchored by Picnic Island. It took them about 2-1/2 hrs. each way while motor sailing and on the return trip they got spun around for an unplanned 360 degrees in 2'-3' chop.

Dale Cuddeback and his 3 crew aboard "Incentive" led **Barry Fox's** "Amelia" and **Christy Edwards** and her husband **Tom Potter's** "Watercolors" to a small island south of MacDill for great viewing of the airshow, especially when the Thunderbirds flew right over us.

We had to circle about 1/2 hr. on the way down in front of the bridge, while we waited for one of the 2 parked power working boats to move so we could safely transit the bridge.

Dale returned home about 3:30 pm, as one of his experienced crew was sea sick at anchor. However, they were able to sail home, while tacking several. It was quite choppy between the Howard Franklin and Courtney Campbell bridges, after which they motored the rest of the way. Their return trip took them about 2-1/2 hrs.

There was lots of excitement, which ensued next. **Christy Edwards** and her husband **Tom Potter** decided to blow up their dinghy and motor over to "Amelia". Unfortunately, their battery on their outboat died; so they were drifting north with the very strong current.

Initially, Tom was able to row back to "Watercolors". However, he fell overboard, while attempting to board his boat. **Barry Fox** and our crew on "Amelia" pulled up anchor & towed them back to "Watercolors", where they successfully climbed aboard with their wet dog "daisy". & safely sailed home.

FORMER SHBC MEMBER IN UPCOMING PLAY

By Ellen Henderson



You may remember Jean Pellegrini, who attended our recent St. Patty's Day Party. Jean also skippered Dale's boat "Incentive" for both the 2009 & 2010 SHBC Bikini Cup Regattas. For several years she also owned her own boat, which she kept in Gulfport. Jean has been acting for several years both locally and in Oklahoma. See the flyer on her newest play: "Stepping Out". A bunch of us plan to attend this play on Sunday, April 13. See attached flyer.

“Bridge construction at south side of Howard Franklin...”

By Frank Fitzhenry



Frank sent this in with the comment above. Looking at the picture, there appears to be some sort of scaffolding hanging under the bridge. If you have a boat with a tall mast, you might want to exercise caution going under the Howard Frankland Bridge.

There should be some sort of warning for this. Sailing south under the bridge, your mast would be tangled up in that thing before you knew it was there. Kind of unsafe for the workers, too.

ATN Top Climber on the Cheap

By Mike Hembrey

Marty shot me an email a couple of weeks ago saying he had a Bosun's seat for sale. I asked if I could take a look at it before posting it *For Sale* on the website. Of course, not having done business previously with Marty, I wanted to check it out before agreeing to buy it. For all I knew, it could have been a burlap sack with leg holes cut in it or part of a kid's swing. ☺

It turns out the seat was actually a Lands' End product no longer available. A web search turned up this...

"I use a soft seat bosun's chair I bought from Lands' End about thirty years ago. Yes, they used to sell real boating equipment. There is no board; it has 2 leg straps and two large pockets. You sit in it not on it - sort of like a soft seat swing. I have a traditional hard seat but feel more secure in this one when I'm over 80 feet up."

Marty said the thing was pretty old, but it was in very good shape and only slightly soiled with no mildew evidence.

Knowing Deb could not hoist me up, I knew I had to have something like the ATN TopClimber if I was going to get any use out of my new toy. Larry used his unit to climb my mast once, so I could see this was a workable solution. His unit required the use of a fixed-size rope, but the new units can take anything from 3/8" to 5/8" lines. The new climbers also can be quickly attached to the line at any point. ATN now sells a "kit" that contains the climbers with seat and foot straps for a lot less than the standard unit.

With the new ATN kit and my Bosun's seat, I now have a TopClimber for about \$180 less than the usual package.

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Submissions must be complete with text and images. If received after the 26th of the month, they will be held over and not included in the latest issue.

Images / photographs: If using a cell phone, please hold the phone in the horizontal (landscape) position. Otherwise, they are rotated 90 degrees at my end.

Mike Hembrey
Webmaster & Newsletter Editor
S.H.B.C.

