



S.H.B.C. Sentinel

July 2021

V9N7

The S.H.B.C. Sentinel is a periodic publication (terms of submission, last page) containing the stories and pictures of past events. Material is provided by Club Members and Guests and barely edited. Nothing provided here represents an official position of the Safety Harbor Boat Club, or anybody else for that matter. If you want official, try to get it signed and notarized.

Calling All members: we will have a **SHBC meeting**

📣 **Wednesday JULY 7th 2021** 📣

via **Zoom @ 6:30 pm**

our guest speaker will be **Fred Braman**

He will present:



"Cruising the Great Northeast (Florida)"



Captain Frederick Braman, USN (ret) was our Club's Guest Speaker in Oct., 2020 on the topic of: "Cruising from Jacksonville, FL to the Bahamas" and in Jan., 2021 on the topic of: "Cruising by Mailboat" . **Fred** lives in **Fleming Island, Florida** with **Louise** his wife of over fifty years. **High**

School Sweethearts, both are originally from **Bay City, Michigan**. Having lived on three continents, the **Bramans** have traveled the world, much of it during a **quarter century** long **Navy career**. They have called several places in **California, Virginia, Yokosuka, Japan and Naples, Italy** home, before landing in **Florida**. Following Navy retirement in 1994, **Fred** taught **High School Math** (including **Geometry**) for fifteen years in the **USA** and in **Italy**. **Fred** is a graduate of **Kettering University** with a **B.S. degree in Engineering** and from the **US Naval Post Graduate School** with a **M.S. Degree in Management**. **Fred** and **Louise** have a **daughter** and **two grandchildren**.

A **lifelong sailor**, his sailing adventures led to **Fred's** writing as he described his **cruises** along the **US East Coast, Cuba, the Caribbean** and throughout the **Bahamas** over several decades. He has published **over fifty magazine articles** and his **first book, "Too Old Not to Go"**, chronicled his 2012, **two-thousand-mile single-handed voyage** throughout the main island groups of the **Bahamas** on his trusty **Catalina 30' Sloop "Rhombus"**. He repeated the trip in 2018. His **JULY 7th** talk will focus on "**Cruising the Great Northeast (Florida)**".

>> Events <<



Sailboat Race Saturday July 3rd



Skippers' meeting at the Safety Harbor Marina at 08:00
Race Start at 09:00



4th of July Dock Party



Sunday July 4, 2021 at 18:30 (6:30PM)

On the center pier in the Safety Harbor Marina

It is a BYOBF&I (bring your own beverage, food and ice) event.



SHBC Monthly Meeting Wednesday July

7th



Via Zoom at 18:30 (6:30PM)

Fred Bramen will present: "**Sailing the Great N.E. of Florida**"
more details to follow.

August monthly meeting will be via Zoom Wednesday August 4



**FYI We will resume our monthly meetings in
the library beginning in September, 9/1/2021**



***Happy Boating!
Safety Harbor Boat Club Officers***

Safety Harbor Boat Club
P.O. Box 412
Safety Harbor, Fl. 34695
shbc4fun@gmail.com
www.safetyharborboatclub.com
Boat US Discount #: xxnnnnnx

SHBC BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to those SHBC Members, whose Birthdays and Anniversaries fall in the Month of **JULY**. We have a lot of "Water Baby/Moon Child" celebrants this month. Plus, it seems July is a popular month to "get hitched".

Birthdays:

7-02 Ellen Henderson--->
7-11 Ed Malek
7-13 Ann Kanuck
7-13 Greg Winston
7-14 Paul Pope
7-21 Mike Mintz
7-22 Dale Niemann
7-24 Karen Sparks
5-28 (Belated) Marty Horowitz turned 88 years old!



Anniversaries

7-3 Marcus & Debbie (Irving) Lund
7-17 Dr.Marc & Eileen Berger
7-21 Marty & June Horowitz----->
7-30 Don Newton & Victoria Hawkins



Quotable Quote

“When I die
Give what’s left of me away
To children
And old men that wait to die.
And if you need to cry,
Cry for your brother
Walking the street beside you
And when you need me,
Put your arms
Around anyone
And give to them
What you need to give to me.
I want to leave you something,
Something better
Than words
Or sounds.
Look for me
In the people I’ve known
Or loved,
And if you cannot give me away,
At least let me live in your eyes
And not on your mind.
You can love me most
By letting
Hands touch hands
By letting
Bodies touch bodies
And by letting go
Of children
That need to be free.
Love doesn’t die,
People do.
So, when all that’s left of me
Is love,
Give me away”

— Merrit Malloy

Think about it...



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: WENDY PIOQUINTO + JUWAN (JB)

By ELLEN HENDERSON; PIX by WENDY PIOQUINTO



Wendy Pioquinto was born and raised in **Clearwater**. Her parents immigrated to Clearwater in the 80's from Mexico.

Juwan (JB) was born in **New Jersey**, but his family moved to **Clearwater** when he was about **two years old**.

Wendy did her undergrad work at the **University of Florida**. She **majored in Linguistics with a minor in Portuguese**. During **high school and undergrad**, she worked at the **Clearwater Main Library** over **summer breaks**. **Wendy** graduated with a **BS** in 2017, took a year off, and then started her **Master's degree** at **Florida State University**. She graduated mid pandemic in **summer of 2020** with a **Masters in Information**. She now works in the **Reference Dept.** at the **Safety Harbor Library**.

Juwan (JB) enlisted in the **Army** right after high school. He was part of the **82nd Airborne Division** and was deployed to **Afghanistan in 2018**. He retired from service in 2019 and began taking **jewelry making/repair classes**. He now works at **David Reynolds Jewelers on Central Ave. in St. Petersburg**.

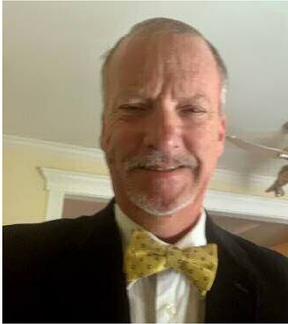
Wendy loves **running 5ks.** and **LIFTING WGTS.** Unfortunately, she got Covid last summer 2020 and has been slowly working her way up to **running** again. She's now been fully vaccinated, so she's good to go. Wendy had zero boating experience prior to sailing. She's been **racing** as a Beginner on **"Pegasus"** under the instruction of John Viverito and Ellen Henderson and she has taken to it like a duck and has found a new love in sailing.

Wendy's other **Hobbies** include **rollerblading, hiking, and painting black and white landscapes**. **Juwan (JB)** enjoys playing **video games and long boarding**. They have an **11-year-old dog** named **"Poochi"**. He is half Shih Tzu and half Yorkie. Their anniversary is July 10. They met in their **freshman year of high school** and dated for about two weeks. **Wendy** finished her **Junior and Senior years of high school at SPC in their Early College Program** and **graduated with my AA and HS diploma**. She then moved to **Gainesville** for her **undergrad degree**. She moved back to Clearwater during the summer of 2019. **Juwan (JB)** also came back to the Tampa Bay area after his time in the Army in 2019. They reconnected again mid-pandemic in the summer of 2020.

Before joining SHBC, **Wendy volunteered** to help us prepare for the **Jan., 2020 Club Change of Watch Party** by **preparing a Slide Show Presentation** from all of our SHBC scrapbooks and photo albums for our **20th Anniversary Celebration**. We look forward to **Wendy's and Juwan (JB)'s** participation in future **SHBC Cruising and Racing** plus other Club activities.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: QUINTON SMITH & SUE OLNICK

By ELLEN HENDERSON; PIX by QUINTON SMITH & SUE OLNICK



Quinton Smith was originally from the **Virginia-Metro DC** area. He learned to sail on his **Grandfather's Skipjack 40' - "Hogan's Ghost"** along the **ICW**, cruising for a week at a time. His **Grandfather** also ran a **Charter Fishing Business** on a **50' PT Power Boat** on **Chesapeake Bay**. **Quinton** was the **Cabin Boy** in the **Summers** from **ages 8-12** years old.

Quinton graduated from the **Univ. of Maryland** with a **BS in Chemistry**. He worked as a **chemist** at **Eco Lab** and later became their **Manufacturer's Rep**. He was with them for a total of **20 years** in the **Baltimore, Md.** area. After his wife passed away, he later met **Sue Olnick**.

In **2009** they moved to **Oldsmar, FL**. **Quinton** taught **Chemistry in Largo** for **5 years** and is now **semi-retired** and is working as a **chemist** at a local **metal plating company**. For fun, **Quinton** travels for the **Florida Gaming Commission** for **10 events** throughout the year, such as the **Cal. Breeders Cup**, the **Kentucky Derby**, the **Baltimore Breeders Cup**, etc.



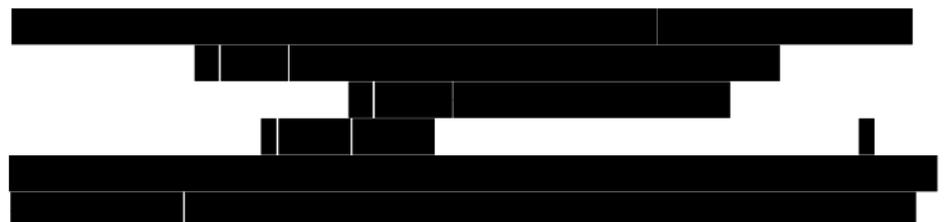
Sue Olnick was a **double major in Bus. Mgt. and Graphics**. She ran a **Consignment Shop** when they met. **Sue is retired and travels a lot**. They are also both **members of Friendship Force**. **Sue** just returned from an **Historical trip up North: Gettysburg** and other **Civil War & Revolutionary War sites**. **Sue** is also the **Newsletter Editor** for **Friendship Force**.

Quinton has been **racing with SHBC on "Empire" with Paul Matthews** since **May** and he shows up for **every race**. **Quinton** joined us for our recent post tour **Seaside Seabird Sanctuary dinner at Caddy's on Indian Shores Beach**. **Quinton** has **2 adult kids**: a **Daughter**, who is a **Long Shore(person)** in **Baltimore, Md.** and a **Son**, who's a **Musician**. **Sue** has an **adult son**.

We look forward to **Quinton's and Sue's** participation in future **SHBC Racing and Cruising** plus other Club activities.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: BREE AND EVAN PEDROZA

By ELLEN HENDERSON; PIX by BREE SMITH



[REDACTED]

WED. 5/26/21 RACE: VIRGIN, BEGINNER, NOVICE

ARTICLE ELLEN HENDERSON; PIX WENDY PIOQUINTO

The third SHBC Race of 2021 took place on **Wednesday, May 26**, with the regatta scheduled for a **6:00 pm start**. Since most of our Club Marks are MIA, our **Co-Race Chair, John Viverito** decided at the Skippers' meeting that the fleet would race on a **Course for 45 min.**, until 7:05 pm toward the **"Imaginary" GPS mark SE near the Big Bridge** along the **Courtney Campbell Causeway**, then with a 5 min countdown, turn in place and head for the Start-Finish Line. The course was given via VHF Radio CH 68, while the starting wind was blowing a steady 8-10, with gust up to 12 kts. The winds were typically shifty with a range of 300-315 degrees and later 210-330 degrees.



The fleet consisted of **"Empire"** with new owner **Paul Matthews** on the helm and his crew were new Club Members **Peter Ubillos** and **Quinton Smith** plus **"Pegasus"** with Skipper **John Viverito** and crew new Club Member **Wendy Pioquinto** and **Ellen Henderson**.

There was an outgoing "King" Tide, which was high @ 3:15pm so it was leaving during the entire race until 11:15pm. The fleet got a late start at 6:15 pm with **"Pegasus"** leading the way. **"Pegasus"** was on a heading of 110 degrees on Starboard downwind tack. At 6:45pm we gybed onto Port Tack, while **"Empire"** had set their spinnaker. At 6:55 pm **"Empire"** passed **"Pegasus"** and they were close to **"Imaginary" GPS mark**, when it was time to turn and head for the Start-Finish Line. Since **"Pegasus"** was now closer to the Finish, it was time to get serious. We gybed **"Pegasus's"** jib and hardened up to a heading of 250 degrees then tacked onto Starboard. At 7:20 pm **"Pegasus"** tacked onto Port with a new heading ranging between 005-010 degrees. After 5 min. we tacked back onto Starboard. **"Empire"** tacked to cover. By 7:32 pm **"Pegasus"** tacked again and our new heading was 270 degrees. **"Empire"** tacked below us and were about 12 boat lengths away. After 2 more tacks **"Pegasus"** got a 20-degree lift. **"Empire"** was on Port tack

about 15-20 boat lengths below us. By 8:08 pm we experienced a big header down to 240 degrees, which came back on a shift of 25 degrees.

Since this was **Wendy Pioquinto's** first time ever on a sailboat, she did remarkably well as crew, was up to the task, and learned very quickly.

Finish:

- 1) *"Pegasus"* - 8:13:56
- 2) *"Empire"* - DNF

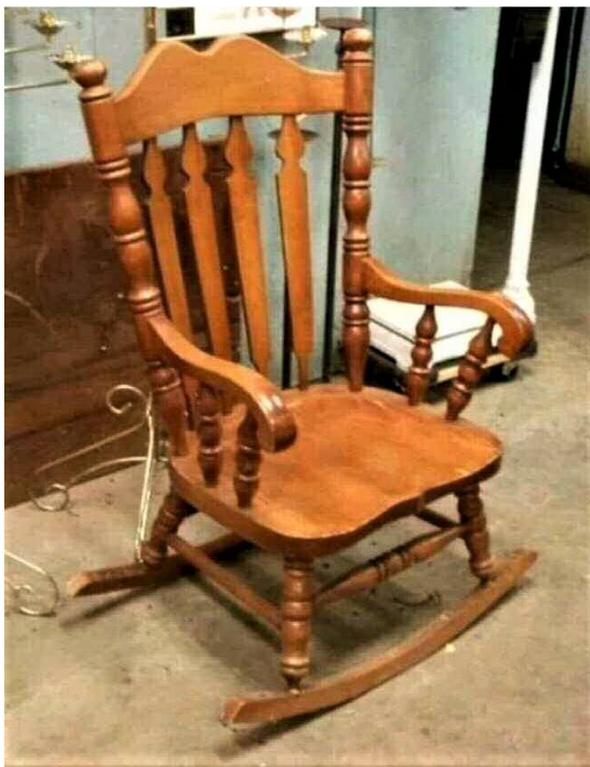
BOAT WORKS

BY ELLEN HENDERSON; PIX: JOHN VIVERITO & LINDA BRANDT

We are starting a series of articles on the Boat repairs, upgrades, etc. that our SHBC Members are doing during the Covid Pandemic.

The first three submissions are from John Viverito, Phyllis Garry, and Linda Brandt. For future articles send your photos (in groups of 3) + Captions & feel free to send an article as well to be included to: ellenmaehenderson@hotmail.com

Here are images of my new till and sail cover. I purchased them from: sailboatowners.com JohnV



Prepping for Early Retirement

Pix By Linda

Linda Brandt sent this picture of the latest addition to her boat. It is custom modified to take advantage of the natural sideways rocking motion of a sailboat. Bungee cords will be used to reduce the rocking motion in severe weather.



Jack Youra and Brian Garry, just put in a new hand pump

"55 & LOVES ALIVE"

ARTICLE & PIX BY BRIAN GARRY

The 'Good Phyllis' an Cap'n BAG, loaded the TAVORIS SUV, heading S on I-75 to Alligator Alley, at 0600, Sat. May 22. Shooting across the alley, to Rt 27 S.

Then down to Florida City, and Homestead. With a brief 22 mile run over Rt 1, to Key Largo. We stopped at the 'Blond Giraffe' in Key Largo for Key Lime Pie, & a cup of 'Joe'.

Off to Marathon Key, at the 'Sea Dell' & 'Black Fin' resorts, by 1430. A small, quaint 50's 24 unit, concrete poured walls and ceilings. Had the Pool, mostly to ourselves, plus the 'Black Fin's', Marina, an Sunset point....avoiding Key West Robbery. Taking a quick motoring about Marathon



Key, we note our bearings, and Sombrero Beach, plus the 'Cracked Conch', and San Pablo's church via Bike's. Firing up the charcoal grill, for a delicious Steak Burgers, Baked Beans, & Potato Salad... downed by Yuengling brews. Relaxing from the 8 hr. 'Windshield', white knuckle express, we biked over to Black Fin point, for an awesome Sunset.

Sunday, following the Homily at San Pablo's, we headed West to Key West, with Bikes on the rack. It was 48.9 mile marker to the Southern Most Point, on Whitehead street, and photo Op time. Biking about, we covered East, and the Atlantic Shores, plus Casa Marina, and onward to the Truman Sub Basin, and entry to Fort Zachery Taylor State Park. Visiting the USCGC-INGHAM, which sank a German U-Boat in WWII, approximately 240 degrees SW from Key West, with a surface torpedo. Then snorkeling the coral & rock formations off the beach. Water was rough, with strong winds from the South, mucking up the visibility. Checked out



Mallory Square for the 'Freaky-Deaky' dog & pony show, street performers... which were plentiful as well as colorful and entertaining. In port was a wooden replica of Christo Columbo's 15th Century Gallon, 'Santa Maria', which is within a foot's length of the authentic original. Open for touring, as well as Sunset Cruises. Heading over to the fueling docks, and the closed for business 'Turtle Kraal's', we dined at the 'Eat It Raw', on the water. Phyllis with the Mahi, Mahi, and the Cap'n Fish &

Chips....plus a few cold Ones. Failing to note the parking Robot, garnered us a Fat \$45.00 Tip/Ticket for the 'Conch Republic's' coffers. Damn It!

Monday, was a non-stop venture all around Marathon, beginning with the Municipal Airport... loaded with private Jets. Had tour of the USCG-STA-MARATHON, compliments of CPO-Nolan... a most modern facility, along a 10' deep canal onto the Gulf side. Then to the "Turtle Hospital", and a visit with Tommy the Turtle, a 750 Sea creature. Sombrero Beach, Sun, Sand, and Swim. Grilling out again, Chicken Teriyaki, string beans, and potatoes, plus salad, and Vino, "Oak Leaf". Catching the 'Rays' on the tube, with some newly found Cuban nationals, now Miami residents.



Tuesday, motoring 12 miles East to the "Dolphin Experience on Grassy Key. 2 and 1/2 hrs., of coaching, training, and Showboating their Aquatic Acrobatics, and Rescue skills was amazing. 25 Bottle Nosed mammals are homes, and harbored there. What splendid as well as highly intelligent species these creatures are. This entire area suffered a 5' tidal impact with Hurricane Irma. Still evident is the massive salt water destruction of the natural foliage. Interestingly, the Inhabitants never left the security, safety, and positive reinforcement of their habitat? For only \$25.00/ person, it was a great attraction to witness. Following the dancing Dolphins, we headed out onto the old Flagler over-seas railroad bridge, between Gassy Key, and Islamorada...for some fishing. Again very strong winds, from the South foiled our artificial bait, lures, plugs, etc. Motoring back West to the base of the 'Seven Mile" bridge, we found the 'Sunset Grill'...beautiful Seminole made Chici, plus pool, docks, etc. for 'Happy Hr'. With two orders of 'Crack & Peel', dozen Shrimp, & 4 Yuengling's, for only \$19.00...WHAT? You've got to be joking me? Nope, what a Deal. Back at Sea Dell, for grilled Pork Chops, Veggies, Slaw, and 'Blue Moons' to cool you down.



Wednesday. Grabbed breakfast, in our room, Oranges, Bagels, Cream Cheese, Lox, Onion, and Coffee, off to a 2 and 1/2 hour excursion to 'Pigeon Key". A small 5 acre squib of land, coral, and sand...three miles West of Marathon. Took the Ferry, near USCG-STA, and cruised smoothly to the 'Pigeon Key docks. Mr. Flagler, housed a 400-man 'Hard Scrabble' crew of multi-racial, and ethnic backgrounds, to build the World's first 'Over-Seas' railroad. Our tour



guide, was a gifted speaker, and enlightened 35 of us, like wide eyed school kids. The hardships, heat, as well as isolation were incredible. No Booze, or Broads, as ordered by the billionaire Flagler. This 122 mile 9th 'Wonder of the Modern World', was completed in a little over 4 years. Henry Flagler was in his 70's when he decided the challenge to be doable. The massively destructive 1935 Hurricane destroyed the Rails/Bridges etc. Over 200 poor Souls perished aboard the train cars. A total of 485 people, across the Keys perished. The Winds exceeded 185 mph. Following the Great Depression, and Henry could find no other investors to rebuild the rail system. Returning back to Marathon, we 'Lunched' at the 'Market-Place', a Seafood Marina, for commercial fisheries. You order, they take it, then head to their bar. Your names hailed on the PA., and 'Bingo' you are eating freshly caught Mahi-Mahi, and Conch Salads. Watching the returning boats, loaded with catch of the day. \$12.00 - \$14.00 entrees... picnic tables, or stand up. Back for Swim & Sun, at our pool.

Thursday, we shoved off early AM, motoring the the famous 'Camille's' on Simonton Street, East



KW. for a scrumptious, Veggie Omelets, OJ, & Coffee Cubano. Yum! Time to crank to two wheelers, over to the Southern Most Point, for a Photo Op.. before the block long Touristico's line forms. Then we roamed the entire Southside attractions, like beaches, piers, bars, restaurants, classical old homes. Wind Surfers, Snorkelers, Divers, Paddle Boarders, and plain old Swimmers, abounded from top to bottom. Met a couple, who were riding \$1,800.00 Battery powered, as well as Muscle powered bikes. WOW! These bikes were loaded with every Tech-Toy imaginable. Plus Big Tires... interesting. Heading back down West on Duval, we landed at Mel Fisher's 'Museum of Gold & Silver.' I picked up a brand new, 56 minute, DVD presentation of the entire 16 yr. adventure, in the search for the 1622, Spanish Gallon "Nuestra Senora de Atocha", 40 Tons of Gold & Silver, with 70 pounds of Emerald contraband, in 60' of water. Near the Marques'e Islands, 35 miles West of Key West. July 20 th 1985, 'Today's the Day'. One year prior, I had met with Mel, his daughter, son-in-law, and Spanish research archivist, reviewing \$8 million in Gold/Silver, Cannon, etc., that had already been discovered. They sought deep pocket Investors, and I with my Series 6,7, 63/66 ticket, reviewed the 'Red Herring', prospectus, as well as the historical details, for our Investment Banker firm in Tampa. I will tell you the rest of the story, as Paul Harvey, would often lament, in November's presentation.

Now for the USCG-BLDG, which was the first station, now an historical landmark, near Mallory Square. A retail lady, gave us a 55 yr. 3-D Love Card, handmade. She is a NAVY wife, and we shared some NAVY-USCG experiences.. family histories. Deanna was her name. Then off to the infamous 'BULL', and top-side to the 'Garden of Eden', on Duval. The place is well over 100 yrs., and finally, reinforced, and up to code. Clothing is Optional 'Top-Side'. We waxed eloquent with the Irish bartender from NY. while 'Slamming a Couple' of cold ones. Then down, and off to Cap'n TONY'S infamous drug dealer and rum runner, with a Tree still growing dead center of the structure. Met an old USA-Boxing official, from Merritt Island club, that I had known. A couple a more coolies... then back aboard the Bikes... 'Holy Mackerel Andy'! Had to rebalance our Gyros, following the afternoon Soirees. Biking back, was an early challenge... but the heat, and traffic sharpened our senses quickly. Chatted with a few 'Cats' playing Dominoes, in the MLK Park, where we left our SUV. They had a chuckle, when we told Em, we were on our 55 Honey-Moon. It's an Annual Practice Session... to be repeated. Carefully making our way back up to mile marker 33, at Big Pine Island, we turned North, for 3 1/2 miles to the 'No Name Bar'. Lines were steady even at 2100? But, as Lady Lucky, Phyllis mussed, and hustled us a Seat at the Bar, for a wonderful dinner. Only 25 more miles, to Our Place, back on Marathon... finally home.



Friday, winds finally abate, and we shove off from 'Coco's Boat Rental, on Coco Palm Dr., with fresh shrimp, ice, beer, and Deli sandwiches.. we fire up a 19' WELLCRAFT. Taking a heading of 180, coming out of the channel on North Marathon, we head 4 miles to 'Coffins' Patch', tying up to a mooring ball. A number of shipwrecks over/around the reef. Clear as a Bell, about 40', on the outside, reducing to 20', 15', and 10'...over the

Coral formations. Our new Snorkel Mask, where you breath through your nose, are fabulous...No leaks, and snug as a bug. As always we have our BC's, on, plus fins, gloves, dive knife, and attached is a 100' swim line, with flotation bubble. Since we are swimming a couple of hundred yards out, so we explored, all around... in the water about 65 minutes... we inflate slightly, after diving on reef, while relaxing/resting... hardest part, was climbing back aboard our out-board. I did attach a hand-line, to the Port-Aft cleat, for boarding assistance...which was the way to go. Off to Sombrero reef, 8 miles off shore. Later in the afternoon we fished, using three lines... fresh bait, as well as plugs, lures, artificial bait, etc... a few bites.. but Seas had been cranky earlier in the

week, so nothing to brag about. Fueled up, at \$4.00/ gallon...Yikes! \$68.00.... The daily rental was only \$200.00 plus tax. The Price of Poker is Killing everybody. Coco's was 'Fair Dinkum', and the owner Jason Peters, chatted for about 40 minutes with us, upon return. The boats at Coco's are in Top-Shape, plus they had everything I brought. Flares, VHF-FM, Plot-Charter, Fenders, Boat Hook, Gaff Hook, Dive Flag, etc. fully equipped. A three day rental saves some bucks, at only \$175.00/ day. Size increases rate, as you can imagine. They go up to about 26-28 ft.



Came home, dove in our pool, fresh water cleaning our salty saturated gear, and bodies. Showered, then headed back out to the 'Sunset Grill. A dozen Shrimp, and Taco specials, plus local ales. \$22.00...WOW! You've got to be joking Man?

Saturday, packing & jacking, up the road to John Pennekamp State Park & Marina... in Key



Largo. Caught the Glass Bottom boat Ferry, on a 6.5 nm cruise to 'Molasses Reef', one of the most popular visited Reef's in the Key's chain. Were over the Reef, at least a solid hour. Many Fish, Sharks, Turtles, Eels, ..etc. Sadly, our Reefs are in rapid need of restoration...these Reefs are not the ones, we remember from our first diving trip, back in 77. Boaters, Fisherman, etc., have abused these colorful sanctuaries of sea organisms, hopefully not beyond recovery? Worked our way up and out of Key Largo,

into Homestead, where we linked with the old Tamiami Trail, rt. 41. Stopping along the way, at Miccosukee Indian attractions, hotels, casino, etc.

Sunday, into Everglades City on Rt 27. A short hop, from Chocalosky, Fla., deep in the Everglades. Its as deep as you can travel by land. Great fresh water fishing, boating, etc. Used to be a Hot Haven for 'Square Grouper', back in the 70's 80's... during the Cocaine Cowboy days of South Fla. Many documentaries about this high crime area, once upon a time. Biggest Bandits now, are the invasive species of Burmese Pythons, which eat anything and everything breathing. A huge expanded Python Hunt, is opening in July. They even eat the Alligators.... canoes, kayaks, and pontoons boats are easily rentable in this pristine wet lands. Oh yea, forgot to mention the invasive Iguana's which are also moving way North...Sarasota Canals, are having a time with these creatures. Tried talking Phyllis into a one night, of camping out in the Glades? But, she was really insistent upon our safer options, like a well-lit room, with A/C and a Lock. But we did eat Gator Tail... Turtle soup, and other natural wildlife.

Monday, finally after a total run, of over 1,100 miles, round trip...once again 'Home Sweet Home.'" We had lovely days, and cooler nights, with super memories of our 55 years of becoming one in the same. Far too may Highs, than to ever mention the lows... so I say: "Love is a Many Splendid Thing".

Fair Winds and Calm Seas,

Phyllis & Brian

The voyage to get the “Rognvald“ from south of Tampa to Tarpon Springs.

By John Herrick, with pix



On Saturday Ron picked me up at my house and we drove over the Sunshine Skyway Bridge, the same bridge we would be going under in less than 24 hours. After we got to the marina, Ron and his wife transported lots of stuff aboard and removed some as well. Onboard went food, and the good stuff.

After a while I came aboard and I sat talking to the guy who owned the “work in progress” boat next door while Ron went to work. This boat next door looked like the owner was a handyman, and not a sailor. In the cockpit were chop saws, welding equipment, scuba tanks, and all kinds of rusty things. Nothing like the beautiful meticulously maintained 37 foot Pearson yacht belonging to Ron!

All the while Ron was below getting prepared for our sail on the morrow. Ron worked out the bearing and distance between each of the markers we would encounter all the way. Ron also filled the tanks with water, checked the oil in the engine, checked the tightness of the belts on the engine, and went over everything with a fine toothed comb. We had dinner of great food his wife had made, that was great! We then grabbed some sleep.

Sleep was wonderful, the gentle slap, slap of the waves on the stern, the gentle rocking of the boat...wonderful. Then we got up at 6 AM and had breakfast. Ron checked and double checked everything, then we said goodbye to the neighbor and slowly slid out of the slip ... we were off. We motored out of the marina and then raised the sails (the “feathers” Ron calls them). We then motor-sailed on a west-southwest bearing headed for the Sunshine Skyway Bridge.



As we approached the bridge and dropped the sails we saw a huge container ship following us, and so decided to circle to let him by. As we waited, another container ship moving even faster appeared on the west side of the bridge. So we circled again and watched him come under the bridge racing into Tampa Bay. The ship behind us then came through and headed out to sea. We then were alone and went under the bridge with no problem.

Up come the sails again and soon off goes the engine. We were sailing along going north about 350 degrees and had a nice breeze out of the east off of the land. I had lost my old tan and was glad Ron had some sunscreen aboard. There was no bimini but I stayed under the dodger a lot. It made for a good view out the bow, to both port and starboard. We sailed at 4 to 5 knots all the way north until we came to the outer marker of the Clearwater channel with ease. The old steel structure with a red sign that used to be here has been removed. I used to sail out of this channel and did day trips out into the Gulf for many years and was always looking for the old structure and red sign upon return, but now there is only a green day marker with no writing on it out there to mark the beginning of the channel.



We dropped the sails and came in the channel, as it was Sunday there was a lot of traffic, crazy power-boaters all running this way and that, but we made it under the bridge that went to Sand Key. In the past I always did the dog leg and turned east to go under the 60th street bridge, but Ron knew of a better way, as we were just going to stay on the hook over night. We followed the 15 foot deep channel with sand bars on each side around to the north and came out where there was a wide area adjacent to 60th street.

There we dropped the hook. It was a perfect spot for the night. Ron let the engine idle for a while to cool off. Ron then got out the food his wife had fixed for us, a quarter of a chicken each, cooked to perfection. Ron warmed it up on the stove and we had full bellies. We swapped tales for a while and then off to sleep, the wonderful sleep only those living in a boat can experience.



In the morning we fired up the "iron genny" and motored back through the narrow channel and out into the Gulf. There was not much wind and so we motor-sailed. The water was at times so calm it was like a mirror. We motored up to the outer marker of Tarpon River, passed Caladesi Island, Honeymoon Island, and Three Rooker. Three Rooker is no longer three little sand bars but two islands in their own right. Ron told me that I should start up a tour guide service with all the local knowledge of the area I was telling him about. When we came to the outer marker and headed east to come in toward Tarpon Springs there were a number of dolphins all around. I think we saw about a dozen. I was glad that Ron had the bearing from one marker to the next as it is very shallow except for the 15 foot deep channel. The channel winds this way and that past the south end of Anclote Key and by the power plant on the north side.



There were a few boats coming and going but we were successful in finding the Mar Marina. They used a red nun float collar as a channel marker at one point where the old day marker had once

been. There was a brand new 80 foot blue hull \$4 million dollar yacht in a slip there that we were told to tie up port to port next to. We circled a bit to allow some traffic by. Then Ron expertly slid the sailboat up next to the dock by the yacht and I just stepped onto the dock with a bow line. We tied her up and boom we were there.

Good sailing, good trading sailing stories, great food, and a good time.

FREE WINE & CHEESE TOUR of the STUDIO 1212 ART GALLERY

BY ELLEN HENDERSON; PIX-INTERNET



Join SHBC for a fun EVENING at the STUDIO 1212 ART GALLERY

When: FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2021 - from 5:30 to 7:30 pm

What: FREE WINE & CHEESE TOUR of the STUDIO 1212 ART GALLERY with Tour Guide Colleen Baxter (who was with us at the May 19 tour at *the Seabird Sanctuary*).

Time: Meet at 4:30 pm at the FREE Parking Lot on Safety Harbor's Main St. (that's across the street from the Stuffed Mushroom). We'll put Carpools together & depart at 4:45 pm

OR

Meet us at 5:30 pm at the STUDIO 1212 ART GALLERY

Studio 1212 Art Gallery
234 Monroe Street,
Dunedin, FL 34698

Their Website is www.Studio1212.org. No map on the website but put **234 Monroe Street, Dunedin, FL** into Google maps to get directions. The Gallery is one short block north of Main & Broadway (Alt. 19) in Downtown Dunedin

Following the Tour - Enjoy the optional ambience of Downtown Dunedin,

Since we need a headcount, please respond with your plans: Carpool or Meet there for the FREE WINE & CHEESE GALLERY TOUR..

QUESTIONS?: CALL OR TEXT ELLEN HENDERSON @ 727-656-4089

RED TIDE UPDATE

BY JOHN DOWNEN; PIX: INTERNET



Out here (on Madeira Beach), sniffing this Red Tide, hoping it doesn't get worse. I may have to hide out in another location until it passes.

Lover's Key State Park

By Lisa Lanza, Pix too

Lisa went to Bonita Springs for 3 days to meet up with her daughter. When her daughter was not working, they enjoyed this state park very much. Walked the nature trails, attended an educational presentation on sea turtles and swam in the Gulf.



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Mike Hembrey
Webmaster & Newsletter Editor
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