



CONNECTIONS

May 2008

www.pryc.us

PORT ROYAL YACHT CLUB Redondo Beach, CA
A Friendly, Casual, Fun-loving Group Devoted to Social and Boating Activities

Port Royal Yacht Club

555 N. Harbor Drive
Redondo Beach
CA 90277
310-372-3960

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COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Hi folks! Sorry for the late news letter, way too many things going on between work, opening days, an SCYA meet and club duties, oh and I forgot about personal life. What's that? If you missed your club's opening day... Well shame on you! Everyone who attended had a great time, you could here it in the applauses and laughter throughout the ceremony. Vice Commodore Shawn is quite entertaining and for his opening day look out.

Once again a big "Thank You" for all the members who attended clean-up day. The bridge and I were off to another club event and I remember running into Mike & Jen Williams and another couple but I can't remember their names. I'll talk about nametags another time.

AND ANOTHER BIG THANK YOU TO...

Jan and Tree maintaining the food trays and preparing a fabulous dinner.

Andy for slaving away grilling tri-tip,

Lou & Jill for welcoming the guests and taking great pictures of the event.

Jack and Dena for decorating.

Gail, Judy and Shawn for cleaning up afterwards.

Penny for preparing "The To-Do" list.

Sue Meyer and Gordon with helping everyone with whatever they needed.

Jason Dalziel for the lovely flower arrangements (310-793-8992).

Our bartenders, Amy and new member Larry for keeping our guests hydrated.

Pat for running around with a trash bag during the festivities.

.....*And if I forgot anyone please forgive me.*

Now with opening days finally finished we can concentrate on the activities coming up. Saturday the 24th at 4:00 is our Wine Tasting Party hosted by Penny and Shelia. The following weekend we hope that you will join your Bridge and the members from Little Ships Yacht Club for a wild weekend at the Isthmus. Penny, Amy and I plan on sailing over on Friday along with Andy and Gail. If you're a little leery about sailing by yourself, follow us over. The game plan is to leave at 8:00 sharp; you know how that works out. Anyway this is going to be a blast! Here's the deal, Saturday nights dinner bring whatever you plan on grilling (meat, chicken etc...). LSYC will provide Baked Potatoes. What that said, maybe everyone could bring a side dish or a desert. Marina Sailing is bringing a bucket of Margaritas. Then Sunday morning LSYC Commodore Mike and Jr Staff Commodore Jim will be preparing breakfast for PRYC. Wow! What do you think about that?

Please try to attend; it's a great way to bond with our buddies from LSYC.

Contact Andy to reserve your potato @ Davidsonauto@aol.com

OPENING DAY 2008



Port Royal's Opening Day Ceremonies were a fabulous welcome to the 2008 season. The club looked beautiful thanks to all the spit and polish lavished on it by our club members. Even though it was unseasonably warm, it was still a lovely day for our officers to salute and acknowledge all of the sister (& brother?) yacht clubs located in Southern California. The flags were flying and the cannon sounded as the champagne popped open and we toasted to fair winds and good seas.

After the speeches and the acknowledgements were completed, guests and members enjoyed a delicious feast including tri-tip. A salute to Commodore Pat and her bridge, board and club members for representing PRYC and making it an inviting destination for visitors from reciprocating yacht clubs. It was a great day!





Early Summer Cruise to the Isthmus

Port Royal Yacht Club has been invited to join the Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club of Long Beach for a cruise to the Isthmus Friday, May 30 through Sunday June 1. The details have not been published yet, but as soon as they become know there will be a posting at the club for signups. This is the weekend after Memorial Day, so the crowds at the Isthmus should be light with plenty of moorings available at the coves.

Wine Fest at the Isthmus

The 7th annual Summer Wine Fest will be held at Two Harbors on Saturday, June 7. Advanced tickets are advised because this is a popular event. Despite the popularity of this weekend, there are usually plenty of moorings available at the Isthmus and the surrounding coves. For more information go to http://www.ecatalina.com/calendar_detail.cfm/event_id/50869.

Cruise to California Yacht Club in Marina del Rey

The annual cruise to the Cal Yacht Club will be Friday, June 20 through Sunday, June 22. Slips will be available for both Friday and Saturday nights. Most cruisers come up Saturday for an informal dock party in the afternoon, followed by a group dinner at the yacht club. There is also a seafood buffet on Friday night and a killer champagne brunch on Sunday if you are up to eating lots of excellent food. All members are encouraged to come up in their boats, but many folks come by car and join in the fun on Saturday. There will be a sheet at the club for interested members to sign up.

PRYC Fundraiser for Clean Waterfront Redondo

Don Mueller got the club involved with a fundraiser to support Clean Waterfront Redondo, a cause that is dear to his heart as it is to all of us who respect and want to protect our precious resource. Don and Gordon donated their fresh catches for a yummy fish fry cooked up by Jack and Gordon. Dean brought along his lawn mower engine powered blender to make his killer margaritas which sold out early. Raffle prizes were donated by businesses including West Marine and Cheesecake Factory. We made twice the money CWRB anticipated and signed up a lot of new members and volunteers for the organization. Councilman Cagle and Mayor Ginn stopped by to show their support. To find out more about CWRB, go to www.cleanwaterfrontredondobeach.org



THE RETURN of the WHITE RUSSIAN

Pat received an email to the club for Jim and Sue. John Aden from Buena Park found and fell in love with the famous "White Russian". He is restoring it to it's former glory. Here is the story...

It was sad when I found her, the last owner Danny (I forgot his last name) owned it for four months and began ripping out all the electrical and plumbing. He had a heart attack four months into his ownership and then decided to sell it.

When I got her, she was a shambles. Stinky old, stained carpet, paint peeling everywhere, woodwork and bright work a disaster. When I bought her the head holding tank was FULL!

I have cleaned and scrubbed and deodorized and sanded and varnished and wired till my hands about fell off. After purchasing her, I Googled "White Russian" and found you and the many exploits of "White Russian" through your club's newsletter. The folks at Knight and Carver in San Diego said she was well known and a fixture over at the island. So I wanted to learn more. I have so many questions and you can give me so many tips that will help restore her to the days when you guys owned her.

The boat broker I bought her from listed her for....are you sitting down? \$9,000. He was going to sell her to a guy in SD that just wanted her for a live aboard and said he didn't care if it ever ran again--he just wanted "a cheap place to live. I spotted the boat on the brokers listing by accident as we had been looking for a larger boat to accommodate our two children, as well as my wife and the new baby on the way. I called the broker and told him I loved the boat and would buy it sight unseen. He called me to say the other guy beat me to it....I called him back to say I would pay \$11,000 (I was prepared to go up to 40k if need be) and within an hour I had a call back and the broker said the other guy backed out and would not match my offer. The broker told me "No survey--As is--where is"I said "Ok"

They gave me a sea trial and I found out the previous owner had the engines rebuilt only two years ago. He also said the manifolds and risers were new as well. The boat had been hauled with a survey then and no major problems found. A few planks refastened and she was back in the water. I had a guy in the marina give her a quickie-spruce up paint job and then my mechanic came down to jury rig some wiring for lights and gauges, so we could sail her home to LA.

I hired Capt Tom Carney to drive her up and after a fill up of \$900 worth of fuel, she was ready to go. *She ran all the way to LA with no problems and no incidents. WOW! Great boat. To this day no one in the marina believes me when I tell them she was an \$11,000 buy so I started telling them I paid 75k for her and they all say "Wow you got a great deal" Go figure!*

When I bought her, this cabin was filled with boards and pieces of wood and boxes and junk. I threw away over 400 pounds of boards and cable and plastic tarps and wires that were all over the boat. It took two months to eliminate the smell from the previously filled holding tank and lines after filling them with pure disinfectant and leaving them that way. On the helm, all the switches were missing and none of the gauges worked. Some had been replaced by non matching gauges and some were simply not there. I have located replacements for all but one battery voltage gauge I'm still missing.

Now she is almost all original. The weak spot seems to be the flying bridge. Nothing up there seems to work and all or most of the seating is gone or unusable. As you can see from the photo the last owner simply covered it up with some canvas and never used it again. I told my wife we'll have to budget rebuilding the wiring, gauges, seating electronics up there for next year. In the meantime, my electrician is coming Thursday to remove all the temporary wiring we hooked up just to get it here and route it all correctly.

As a previous Coastie and a current USCG Auxiliarist (I was paramount concern and one of the first things I noticed was she had no horn, no onboard radar, or

(cont.. Next page)



WHITE RUSSIAN *(Cont.)*

depth finder or even a radio. Turns out the boat broker stripped it off and sold them at the local swap meet. He even took the little old red inflatable and claimed it didn't belong with the boat and sold it separately as well. Some of the people in the old marina told me that he told them he'd "sell the boat cheap but sell off everything of value first". "They'll be paying for a hull". I bought it in the middle of the strip job. There is a slow leak coming from somewhere. I think it's one of the two packing glands but haven't checked them yet. The pumps come on about every 30 minutes as the pump kicks on when 1" of water activates it. That's on my big hit list when we have her hauled out next month and the bottom repainted. Knight and Carver did a very light paint job on the bottom a year ago but it

Some of the portlights have cracked glass in them and the hinges themselves are broken on two. I've been trying to find someone to help me there as replacing them is even more of a financial nightmare! I hope you'll see I've tried to do right by your old friend. I'd love to see old photos and hear the stories of this great handling boat. Trojan made a heck of a boat. I only hope you will find my work in restoring her as good as the original.

Looking forward to meeting you

John Aden
Buena Park, CA

Sue and Jim were thrilled to learn that John Aden had found their beloved White Russian. They are looking forward to meeting John and seeing the restoration.:

In a message dated 4/27/2008 10:39:06 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, SMWSM90266 writes:
Hello John -

Received your email through the PRYC web site and our Commodore, Pat Paxson, and was glad to hear the White Russian is still alive and doing well. Sorry it's taken so long to reply but we were out of town.

I had her for 25 years and put on many a mile back & forth to Catalina from Redondo. Also put many an hour keeping her up and was accused of painting her instead of washing her after every trip. Had never heard of the drink, White Russian, but it didn't take long for it to become the 'house drink'. I sold the boat 4 years ago to your seller and he worked at Avalon on the Glass Bottom Boat and lived aboard.

We would like to take you up on your offer to come see her. How does next Sunday sometime sound?
Thanks so much for writing.

Jim Zeitler & Sue Meyer



Sue Meyer & Jim Zeitler and the White Russian

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Free Inside! A FAMOUS SHIP ...IN A BOTTLE

ACTUAL SIZE

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COLLECT ALL 4 AUTHENTIC MODELS FOR YOUR ROOM!

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- In full detail! Plastic plaque is attached to each bottle so you can see it.
- Every detail of ship completely authentic!

SHREDED WHEAT JUNIORS!

Cinco de Mayo

Senor Jack led the kitchen team with Dina, Pat & Gordon doing prep work for authentic homemade enchiladas and chili rellenos using ingredients he has been cultivating in the garden he's cultivating at Kurt and Barb's house. Muy Bueno!! Gary from Clean Waterfront Redondo Beach awarded the club a certificate for our work on the fundraiser. Thanks Jack! Es muy delicioso! Thanks to the clean up crew too!



PRYC WINE TASTING
SATURDAY, MAY 24TH
 4pm - 5:30 pm



\$10.00 per person
 Wine Giveaway is at 5:30 pm
 BRING YOUR FAVORITE HORS D'OEUVRES
 CALL PENNY TOWNE VOWLES FOR DETAILS 310.729.7165

Mark your calendars!!

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COMING IN JUNE!!

June 7th:
FIRST WEEKEND OFFICER OF THE DAY DUTY

June 14th:
PLASTIC CLASSIC

June 20-22nd:
CRUISE TO CAL YC