



Port Royal Yacht Club

LATITUDE 33° 50.77' N, LONGITUDE 118° 23.70' W

WWW.PRYC.US
SEPTEMBER 2023



Commodore's Log

By Russ Densmore, PRYC Commodore

Ahoy PRYC Members!

We have had a very busy summer here at Port Royal. I sure hope you have had the opportunity to be involved in some of the great events. We have had club cruises, sailboat racing events, Officer of the Day events, as well as our Summer Bash, and that is just the start of it!

I want to thank our charities for coming to Summer Bash and helping to make it a successful event. The charities for 2023 are City2Sea and Marine Mammal Rescue (recently changed to Marine Mammal Care Center). The club was able to donate over \$8,000 to the two charities. Thanks to all of our members who supported Summer Bash!

I want to personally thank our Director Tina Iler for coordinating and executing on Summer Bash! It is a lot of work to put together such an event, and it went off without a hitch. Thanks again Tina!

Our cruising fleet has been very active this summer and we hope you have had the opportunity to join them on at least one of the cruises. There is another cruise coming up the end of September, where the fleet is headed to Avalon. This is one of the few times our club has scheduled Avalon, so if you can join in on the fun, please do so! Thanks to Katie Gonzalez for working so hard on each of the cruises.

PRYC is now known for its sailboat races! PRYC took over the June Cup races this year and was met with great success! The racing community has been very thankful that PRYC took the lead on these races. We have been thankful to have Deborah Jackson lead our race committee this year, and we will be hosting the Award Ceremony for June cup on November 5, mark your calendars.

This Issue:

Commodore's Log
Page 1, 2

Words from the Vice
Commodore
Page 3

Rear Commodore's
Corner
Page 4

Summer Bash
Page 5 - 7

Cruising Fleet
Page 8, 9

PRYC Racing
Page 10 - 12

Running Play
Page 13

Dinghy Crawl
Page 14

Recognition
Page 15

Officer of the Day
Page 16

32 Miles of Hell
Page 17 - 20

General Club Info
Page 21

Editors' Corner
Page 22

Commodore's Log (continued)

We have also had some very delightful items for sale in the Ship's Store, so get your PRYC items while they last!

We are rounding out the year with a few final events for members. We will be hosting Cigars, Whiskey & Blues on November 18. This will be an outdoor event and is a fundraiser for Lahaina Yacht Club. We are encouraging members to attend, and bring as many friends as they would like, as capacity will not be restricted. Let's have some fun and raise money for our friends at Lahaina Yacht Club.

Lastly, we will be having our annual Board Meeting/Change of Officers in December. Look for information on that to be out soon.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the club or on the water soon.

Russell Densmore

Commodore

The Charities

City2Sea



City to Sea is an environmental organization on a mission to stop plastic pollution. They run people-powered, community-serving campaigns that help individuals and businesses to change the world while having some fun on the way. The problem might be complicated, but the solutions don't have to be.

City to Sea was founded in 2015 – the year their home City of Bristol was European Green Capital. Back, in the beginning, there was Natalie Fee, the founder. Nat had her plastic awakening in 2014 when she came across the trailer for the film Albatross and decided she had to do something about plastic pollution, the rest is history.

Marine Mammal Care Center (MMCC)



MMCC is a non-profit hospital for marine animals that strand on the 70+ miles of beaches from Malibu to Seal Beach due to illness, injury and malnutrition.

MMCC has provided life-saving care for marine animals in need since 1992, with the goal of rehabilitating and releasing them back to their ocean home. As the only year round marine animal hospital in Los Angeles County, MMCC is one of the busiest in the country, admitting on average over 350 patients per year.

MMCC is located in San Pedro near the Port of Los Angeles, on property owned by Los Angeles Unified School District.

A few Words from the Vice Commodore

By Lisa Griffin, PRYC Vice Commodore

Hard to believe October is here already! Which means I am getting ready to set up the nominating committee for the upcoming PRYC Elections opportunity for you our members to be a part of the Board or an Elected position! It's a great way to support the success of the club and to be involved with how the club is evolving. Emails were sent out to you the last week of September announcing the open positions and how you can go about applying.



Other things I would love for you to take some time to think about is the club, with the 2024 year ahead I'd like to hear your thoughts on where we are and how we are doing. I'd like to hear your suggestions so that I can start thinking about how we can implement them early in 2024. I'd love to receive these by mid-November so that I can share them with the membership at the general meeting on December 2nd.

On a current note, here are some club events to look forward to; Oktoberfest Oct 14, Fishing Tournament Oct 20th, Halloween Party Oct 28th, June Cup Awards Reception Nov 5th and The Whisky Cigar and Blues Night November 18th.

Lastly, I just wanted to thank the club for all the wonderful cards, thoughts and prayers for the loss of my Nephew Michael Perdew. Your support during this time has meant so much to me and once again it just reminds me of what a great group of people, I am a part of.

Sending you all Blessings and looking to see you in the club!
Lisa

Sailing Folklore

Why do Sailors Decorate Themselves?

Why did old sea dogs wear earrings? Because they believed it would improve their eyesight, and due to the pressure points on the ear that it can alleviate seasickness. Of course, gold earrings also guaranteed a proper funeral. This was simply because if the corpse got washed up on the shore, the earrings would cover the funeral costs.

PRYC Officers

Commodore
Russell Densmore

Vice Commodore
Lisa Griffin

Rear Commodore
Jamie Jakubowski

Secretary
Barbara Lewak

Treasurer
Stephanie Funabashi

Board of Directors

Jr. Staff Commodore
Melessa Humiston

Directors
Tricia Osuna
Lynn Statham
Sandra McCommon
Dan Gonzalez
Tina Iler
Jon Marselis

Appointed Positions

Judge Advocate
Frank Sandlemann

Fleet Captain
Katie Gonzalez

Race Captain
Deborah Jackson

Club Manager
Barbara Smith

Quartermaster
Michael Leighton

Newsletter Editors
John & Rosanne Klein

Webmaster
Laryssa Densmore

Hospitality
Tricia Osuna

Fishing Tournament Captain
Jon Marselis

Audit Committee
Lyle Downey
Wade Downey

OD Coordinator
Melissa Wiley

Club Store Managers
Tricia Osuna
Lynn Statham
Sandra McCommon

Rear Commodore's Corner

By Jamie Jakubowski, PRYC Rear Commodore

I hope this issue finds you all in great spirits and having had an amazing summer. It is hard to believe that we are already rolling into fall and that the holiday planning is getting underway. As I reflect back on the summer months I'm so proud of all the events and camaraderie that has gone on thus far. We've had great club events thanks to the Social Committee and all of the volunteers; we've had amazing cruises thanks to our Cruising Fleet and the members that have participated; we've seen some stellar ODs take place, and we even got in a great escape over at the Isthmus.



For me, this cruise was a big one! Personally, for Dave and me, it was the first time we took our boat over to the island - we learned A LOT! We were a bit nervous at first, but following Happy Ours (Dan and Katie Gonzalez) over made the inaugural trip a little less scary, and the help we received from various members while there made the trip what will be the first of many. Does everyone know that Katie and Dan will hand deliver coffee to your boat each day if you don't have the ability to use your Keurig?

While there we enjoyed some good hiking; we played some fun, though less than accurate disc golf (a few made it close to the baskets, but let's just say we aren't starting a competitive PRYC team anytime soon); we had a wonderful group dinner at Harbor Reef (we also learned the chef really likes a well done steak); Kevin Herink, Craig and Debbie Allsopp put together a great BBQ potluck and many of us took in the Two Harbors Wine Festival. We were also ever-so-fortunate to celebrate Cathy Mueller's birthday with her while we were there!

As we embark upon this next season I look forward to all of the things we have upcoming and all the fun we will continue to have together. I'm encouraged to see new memberships opening up and feel the excitement of adding more members to our family here at PRYC! As always, I encourage you to reach out to me at any time if you have ideas, concerns, want to chat about the club, etc. When we do this together, we do it better.



SUMMER BASH

By John Klein, PRYC Newsletter Editor and Tina Iler, PRYC Director

Twas the night before the big storm Hilary made her approach to southern California and all was set for the Port Royal Yacht Club Summer Bash. It was a beautiful warm night with a gorgeous sunset setting the stage for a grand celebration of giving.

The evening was alive with the enchanting tunes of our live band, Bite the Bullet, which effortlessly transitioned from alternative rock to the down-home bayou beats. The dance floor was a testament to the band's ability to get everyone on their feet and grooving.

The bartenders at the Summer Bash were more than just mixologists; they were entertainers! Their vibrant personalities and expert mixology skills ensured that every sip was accompanied by a smile. Cheers to them for keeping the spirits high throughout the night.

The dinner spread was provided by Touch of Paradise with herb-infused chicken, succulent tri-tip, and the mashed potatoes, all having us coming back for seconds. Many thanks to Touch of Paradise for creating such a delectable spread. The fabulous dessert spread was provided by our own Ruth and Walt Healy and Barbara and Mauricio Lewak.



SUMMER BASH

(Continued)

None of this would have been possible without the incredible efforts of our dedicated volunteers. From the early setup to the late-night cleanup, they were the backbone of the event. A special shout-out to Tina Iler for putting all the pieces together and Therese Caraway and her decorating committee, who transported us to an island paradise with their vibrant decorations. Lynn Statham and her donation committee ensured that our auction had a stellar lineup. Lisa Griffin's mentorship and patience were invaluable throughout the planning process. Barbara Lewak's organizational skills and creativity were the glue that held everything together. Lastly, Stephanie Funabashi and her finance committee deserve a standing ovation for their seamless execution, from check-in to the auction closeout.

As we look back on this year's Summer Bash, we can't help but feel an overwhelming sense of community, generosity, and joy. Many thanks to everyone who played a part, big or small, in making this event a smashing success. It's moments like these that remind us of the incredible power of coming together to celebrate, give, and make a difference.



SUMMER BASH CONTRIBUTORS

By John Klein, PRYC Newsletter Editor and Tina Iler, PRYC Director

One of the most heartwarming aspects of the Summer Bash was the overwhelming generosity displayed by all attendees. Our live auction featured a treasure trove of donated items, including coveted experiences like a visit to the Magic Castle, tickets to see Jackson Browne in Las Vegas, one month free slip fee and a stay at the Malibu Miramar Hotel. Together, we raised over \$8,000 for our chosen charities, City to Sea and Marine Mammal Care Center, making a real impact on our community.



Melissa Wiley - Duffy Boat
Lou and Jill Toth - Vodka
Susie Garza - Solaware Products

Dennis Howard - Google Home
David Blank - Photography
Carrie's Skincare

King Harbor Marine - Haulout
Paintings by Marion
Amber Susa Personal Coaching

PRYC CRUISING FLEET

By Katie Gonzalez, PRYC Fleet Captain



It's been fantastic to see so many members getting involved in cruising this year. The Cruising Fleet is open to all members and boat ownership is not required. For those new to cruising, if you are seeking an escape from the mundane, set sail on a yacht club cruise. Feel the sun on your face, the wind in your hair, and the gentle rocking motion of the yacht beneath you. With friends by your side, delicious food and drinks on hand, and the beauty of Southern California waters surrounding you, a journey filled with lifelong memories awaits.

Between July and September, the club has embarked on several exciting cruises with more planned this year.

We had a huge turnout for the July 7-9 Summer Cruise to Two Harbors that Rear Commodore Jamie Jakubowski summarized in her newsletter article.

Over the July 21-23 weekend, seven club vessels (Gypsea, Happy Ours, Joie de Vivre, My Blue Heaven, No Worries, Sierra Vista, and The Office II) cruised to Marina del Rey and stayed in the California Yacht Club marina. Friday night, cruisers visited Cal Yacht Club and Pacific Mariners Yacht Club where both clubs extended us gracious hospitality.

On Saturday, folks explored the expansive marina by duffy boats and dinghies, and then everyone met up for a well-attended afternoon dock party. Our club cruises to other yacht clubs are renowned for our Saturday afternoon dock parties that serve as a meeting ground for cruise enthusiasts that join by land and water. Members gather to celebrate life's pleasures, fostering a spirit of friendship and merriment while indulging in delectable food and drinks. As the day transitioned into evening, the vibrant colors of the sunset painted the sky, and we cruised across the marina to a lively outdoor concert at Burton Chase Park that we listened to from our dinghies.



PRYC CRUISING FLEET

(Continued)



Over the August 25-27 weekend, an impromptu cruise took place with six club vessels (Boa Vita, Gypsea, Happy Ours, My Blue Heaven, Soul Shine, and The Office II) that cruised over to Cherry Cove and Isthmus for some fun in the sun. Jon and Craig were also support boat drivers for the Catalina Classic paddleboarders that paddled from Isthmus to Manhattan Beach early Sunday morning.

During the September 8-10 weekend, five club vessels cruised to Alamitos Bay (Beau Bateau, Happy Ours, Kin Ship, Sierra Vista, and We'll Sea) where we docked at Long Beach Yacht Club. The Friday cruisers dinghied over to Alamitos Bay Yacht Club to enjoy a relaxing happy hour and dinner on ABYC's lovely bayfront patio. After dinner, folks met up on Kin Ship for drinks, cigars and birthday cake for Dave Sarazen. Saturday was the annual dock party and dinner at LBYC which was enjoyed by all.

In early September, four club vessels (Boa Vita, Gypsea, Happy Ours, and My Blue Heaven) also cruised to Two Harbors to attend the Annual Brew Fest which was great company, music and weather. The clinking of glasses and the laughter of new and old friends reverberated throughout the festive event.

As many have experienced, when you embark on a yacht club cruise, you become part of a community where the love for sailing, cruising, and the sea unites everyone. The next two club cruises are to Catalina Island: Avalon (Sept 29-Oct 1) and Isthmus (Oct 13-15).

We look forward to seeing many of you in Catalina. We also encourage new and seasoned boaters to get involved in the Cruising Fleet and volunteer to plan a cruising event or weekend cruise for 2024.





PRYC – a Race Club?



By Deborah Jackson, PRYC Race Captain

What an exciting race season for the Club! As mentioned last quarter, our Classic Regatta in May was well attended.

Then, every Tuesday in June we oversaw the June Cup – Women at the Helm twilight series. PRYC assumed the hosting of this very special memorial regatta when the RBYC disbanded. The regatta honors June Cuthbertson, who was a Columbia Challenger racer, mentor, RBYC Director, and race chair. The race brought together an enthusiastic group of women who brought a lot of energy to this series! Each week we had three Classes: PHRF A Spinnaker, PHRF B Spinnaker, and Mariner/Non-spin. We had 16 boats registered. Since participants could throw out 1 of 4, the actual number of racers each week varied.

First place results for week one were: Liz Hjorth skippering Scooter in the PHRF A class, Karen Kuhn skippering No Way! In the PHRF B class, and Dorian Harris skippering Oliver in the Mariner/Non-spin class! In week 2, we introduced a spirit opportunity: “Celebrate your Pink”....participants wore costumes and added pink decorations to their boats. First place results for week two were the same as week 1: Liz Hjorth skippering Scooter in the PHRF A class, Karen Kuhn skippering No Way! In the PHRF B class, and Dorian Harris skippering Oliver in the Mariner/Non-spin class! In week 3, our spirit opportunity was “red, white & blue”....again, a lot of great costumes from the racers!





PRYC – a Race Club?

(Continued)



First place results for week three were the same as weeks 1 and 2: Liz Hjorth skippering Scooter in the PHRF A class, Karen Kuhn skippering No Way! In the PHRF B class, and Dorian Harris skippering Oliver in the Mariner/Non-spin class! In week 4, our spirit opportunity was a precursor for our Pirate Regatta....you got it “pirate themed”....aaaargggg!! First place results for week four were the same as weeks 1 through 3: Liz Hjorth skippering Scooter in the PHRF A class, Karen Kuhn skippering No Way! In the PHRF B class, and Dorian Harris skippering Oliver in the Mariner/Non-spin class!

Each week after the race, the Club was filled with happy racers enjoying one of the many chili recipes prepared by our team of Race Committee volunteers! They also kept our bar hopping! We will present the perpetual trophy in the fall along with the spirit award. KHYC VIP, Julie Coll, graciously donated a beautiful piece of pink glass art to be used as part of the new trophy. Lisa Griffin is working with a local trophy shop to design the new trophy while including the 20 years of past winners!





PRYC – a Race Club?

(Continued)



In August, we hosted the Port Royal Pirate Regatta! This was previously our Summer Bash regatta but this year, it was upgraded to a High Point race! High Point is a series of 12 regattas split evenly between the King Harbor and MDR clubs creating a Santa Monica Bay friendly competition. Most of the KH regattas were sponsored by KHYC but our August regatta was included in the series this year! With the High Point designation comes more recognition and for this race we had 23 registered boats! Many of the racers came dressed as pirates and a great time was had by all!

We had 4 classes: PHRF A Spinnaker, PHRF B Spinnaker, Mariner/Non-spin, and One Design (Cal 20). First place winners for this regatta were: Albert Castillon & Richard Parlette skippering Hot Rum in the PHRF A class, Don Southern skippering No Way! in the PHRF B class, Mike Devine skippering Meimi2 in the Mariner/Non-spin class, and Chris Morris skippering the Janet Lynn in the Cal 20 class!

Thank you to PRYC racers who supported our Club regattas this year! We had Jim & Sandra (Sierra Vista) in the Classic and June Cup, John Coxe (Sloop John B) in the Classic and Pirate, Scott & Jean (Soul Shine) registered in all 3 regattas, Kevin Herink with two boats (No Worries and Downtime) in the Classic and Pirate plus Downtime in the June Cup, Michael & Lisa (Oasis) in all 3 regattas, Rich Reinoso (My Annie) in the Classic and Pirate, and Darrell Yocom (Stargazer) in the Classic and Pirate!

Finally, thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make these events a success! Our RC boat skippers; our PRO; our RC boat recorders, photographers, flag handlers; our landside scorer; our event bartenders, food prep, and ticket sellers....we did it! We can now officially call ourselves a Race Club!



Long Time Running Play at PRYC



POKER

Tuesday Nights
10 Years Running
Led by Brad Rendell



BRIDGE

Wednesday Nights
3 Years Running
Led by Carol Smith



BUNCO

2nd Thursday Night of the Month
2 Years Running
Led by Lisa Griffin



Fun~Fit~PRYC, Walking Group

Every Other Friday
3 Years Running
Led by Melessa Humiston

All PRYC Members are invited to participate.

Beginners welcome.

**Contact manager@pryc.club
to be connected to the Lead.**

Labor Day Dinghy Crawl

By Dan Gonzalez, PRYC Director

Labor Day weekend is a time to relax, unwind, and enjoy the last days of summer. And what better way to do that than by participating in the Port Royal Yacht Club Dinghy Crawl?

This annual event is a true celebration of the season, combining fun on the water, boats, poker, drinks, food, and camaraderie for an unforgettable experience. At the heart of the 2023 Labor Day Dinghy Crawl are friendly contests for the best drink, best appetizer, and best poker hand. But the Dinghy Crawl isn't just about poker and drinks; it's also an opportunity to enjoy a beautiful summer day and toasting with new and old friends. As participants made their way from one host boat to another, they were greeted with an assortment of refreshing beverages and tasty appetizers. The sounds of Jimmy Buffett music could be heard throughout the marina commemorating his passing.

After the crawl, everyone returned to the clubhouse for awards and enjoyed Lomeli's Italian dinner. The votes were tallied, the poker hands were scored, and prizes were awarded. It was a classic evening including line dancing and bar dancing featuring Terri Wheeler and Barbara Smith. We also sang Happy Birthday to Annette Adams, and all enjoyed a delicious birthday cake that Barbara Smith provided for dessert.

The lively participation of host boats drives the energy of the event. A special thanks to all the host boats who made the dinghy crawl a success: Scott Hainsman & Jeanie Otto (Soul Shine); Zeke & Terri Wheeler and Cathy Mueller (Truly Blessed); Harry Johnson & Bill Beana (Chiquita); Danny Jensen, Deanna Rogers, Brian & Susan Regnier (Boa Vida); and Rudy Castanon and Tony & Diana Saputra (Yellow Fever).

Katie and I also greatly appreciate the support of Muriel Schonbachler and Tony Mallare for helping us with check-in table duties, Tina Iler for judging all of the poker hands, Melissa Wiley for rallying host boats and Stephanie Funabashi for tracking the Square payments.

Congratulations to the winners of the contests: Best Drink: Scott & Jeanie (Spicy Watermelon Margarita), Best Appetizer: Zeke & Terri (Filet appetizer), 1st Prize Poker Hand: Matt Humiston and a tie for 2nd Price Poker Hand: Jonathon Marselis and Lynn Nordheim.



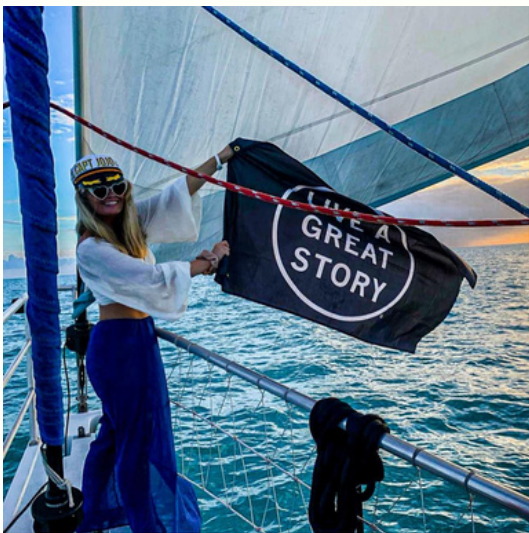
Recognizing a PRYC Member

By Lisa Griffin, PRYC Vice Commodore

Sometimes what we see is all the busy work being done around the club by our members but often there are members in the background who's contributions happen but go unnoticed. This particular member has offered her time and talent for something that is seen at the club, leaves the club and runs around town and quite possibly has an adventure outside of the Southbay and introduces others to the existence of PRYC. This member is Joanne Duff or Jo to most of us, she has a very busy schedule, is a highly skilled graphic artist, is married, loves Dogs and supports them every chance she gets!

Joanne also has a very adventurous spirit and a love for the water and sailing. Perhaps you have seen her work? They are some of the race logos on our race shirts but you probably didn't know where these fun logos came from. The most recent design she did was for our "June Cup Women at the Helm". Other designs include "Plastic Classic 2022" and "Home Port Regatta 2022".

A Big Thank You!, goes out to Jo for making the Port Royal Yacht Club look so good on the water and off!



Officer of the Day

By John Klein, PRYC Newsletter Editor

Hot Dog! it's a Jam Session

There are a lot of dog lovers in this club! There was a good turnout Friday night Aug 25 for Pat, Amy and Norma's Hot Dog Officer of the Day event. Of course the jam session with our own PRYC star vocalist Sue Morgan and Brad Rendell on Bass brought in the crowds as well. If you are ever out and about in the neighborhood on a Friday night, stop in at the club, there could just be a Jam session happening.



Pasta per Tutti

Jeannie, Therese and Michael put on a grand pasta spread complete with cheesecake and chocolate mousse cake. We enjoyed a bit of Ukulele music from Jeannie's niece Dream accompanied by her daughter Luna as well. A fun evening was had with many attempts at speaking the Italian language being heard all night.



32 Miles of Hell

By JonyROK, PRYC Director

August 27, 2023 marked the 46th year of the Catalina Classic Paddleboard Race. This historic 32 mile marathon starts at Catalina's Isthmus cove and ends at the Manhattan Beach Pier. It's known for being one of the most grueling endurance competitions on the planet and is the most prestigious paddleboard event of them all. Paddlers from all over the world come to challenge their minds, bodies, and souls.

To qualify for the race, each paddler must submit a race resume showing acceptable times from 7 other shorter, but still challenging qualifying races. These races take place in CA, HI and even NJ. Paddlers also must be at least 18 years old (more on this to come), have medical clearance from a doctor and provide their own escort boat the day of race.

Staff Commodore Craig Alsopp introduced me to this race four years ago when he asked me to join him on his escort boat. I looked at this as another fun trip to the island, but Craig told me this was different; it was a business trip. It was our job to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our paddler. I've been to hundreds of professional sporting events in my time, but I've never had a better view of the action than I did that day. I had a front row seat to watch some of the world's finest athletes cross the F&#in CATALINA CHANNEL ON A PADDLEBOARD!! I've been hooked ever since.

This year's Catalina Classic was my 3rd time participating as an escort boat. A captain is only as good their crew and I was lucky to have Cousin Kaley Walters help me again this year. Denise decided to retire from the "escort business" and passed her duties on to Kaley. LOL. Craig was also an escort boat this year and had his long-time high school friend help him aboard "The Office".

The paddler I supported last year hurt his shoulder during training and withdrew from this year's race. He told me his training partner John Hall (55 years old) was looking for a boat and this was his first Classic. I normally would never take on a first timer, but I was assured that John was well qualified and prepared for the race.

The day before the race, Kaley and I met John, his wife and friend Reno at my slip. John strapped his board to my boat, hugged and kissed his wife goodbye and said, "Don't worry, I'm in good hands with Jony and I'll see you at the finish line." Keep in mind this was the first time I've met the guy and that comment meant the world to me. The 4 of us boarded My Blue Heaven, turned the music up and headed for the Isthmus.

Upon arrival, we dropped John and Reno off at the pier so they could check in and set up camp at Buffalo Park. Most of the paddlers spent the night ashore in tents as there's little to no lodging. Kaley and I grabbed a mooring and joined Craig and his buddy for dinner. On the way back to my boat, I noticed that the wind picked up and was blowing hard from the west. I set the alarm for 5am and crossed my fingers that it would be better in the morning.



32 Miles of Hell

(Continued)

Race Day; 5:30am

The first order of business was to pick up Reno at the pier as he was going to ride with us. It was pitch black out and there were boats maneuvering every which way. It looked like the 405 freeway at rush hour with everyone trying to wiggle their way in. After 20 minutes we tied up, welcomed Reno aboard and wished John good luck. We followed the armada to ship rock and at 6am the horn blew signaling the start the 46th Catalina Classic. 100 paddlers jumped on their boards from the beach and set off for what would be the most challenging Classic in history.



The Disappearance (former Body Glove boat) was once again the lead vessel for the race. The American flag atop their boat was flapping wildly in the wind, an ominous precursor of what was to come. The conditions were miserable as the wind was 20+knts and the swell was like a washing machine. This was not going to be a fun day for anyone involved.

One of the challenges of being an escort boat is trying to locate your paddler. Our radio was on channel 68 and we could hear other boats letting the committee know they had eyes on their paddler. Kaley and Reno pulled out the binoculars looking for John and his rainbow-colored board. With so many paddlers, each with their boat all bunched together, finding John seemed like finding WALDO. 30 minutes into the race we found John and said on the radio, "Paddler 66 has been spotted!"

In years past, with better conditions top racers would finish the race in approx 6 hours. John figured he would finish this year's race in about 7 hours but that wasn't in the cards. Paddlers normally come to their knees throughout the race which is considered a power stroke position. It also helps the paddler stretch out their neck and back as laying down for long periods of time is very hard on the body. The swells were so bad that John fell off his board in his one and only attempt to come up on his knees. This meant that he would have to be in the same position for the whole race and not be able to pick up speed while on his knees.



32 Miles of Hell

(Continued)

During the race Kaley and I would pass John water bottles every 2 hours which helped keep him hydrated. The hand off is everything as paddlers don't want to slow down as every second counts. We cheered him on the entire race and played the Rolling Stones, music he requested. My boat was in autopilot for most of the race aimed at the R-10 which each paddler had to pass. Getting to the R-10 is a big deal as each paddler knows that once they pass, they have 8 more miles of misery ahead.



We kept the radio on channel 68 during the race and every 30 minutes or so we'd hear that another paddler dropped out. I would say over a dozen paddlers did not finish which is way more than usual. I began to worry that John would be next as his pace dropped from 4 MPH to 2 MPH halfway across the channel. He looked good but I could tell he was fighting hard and without being able to get to his knees his pace would continue to slow.

I heard earlier in the day a 14-year-old boy from North Shore Hawaii named *Toa Pere*, was going to participate in this year's race. I didn't think much about it at the time but when he paddled by my boat shredding through the water on his knees, I took notice. His parents were along side him the entire time cheering him on, and I had goose bumps watching him.

I have two teenage boys and can't imagine them doing something like this. He's the youngest ever to participate and finished the race in 7:51 in 33rd place. UNREAL. Kaley looked him up on Instagram @toa._pere and found out he was dedicating the race to the people of Lahaina. He raised \$12,500 vs. his goal of \$10,000 for the people of Maui. All I can say is, this kid is going places.



John passed the R-10 around 12pm and hit the finish line with a time of 8:12:16. We pulled around the MB Pier and soaked in the moment. There were hundreds of people on the beach waiting in anticipation for their loved ones to come ashore. Seeing a paddler hug their loved ones after going through what they did, never gets old. Seeing grown men, women and even a 14-year-old push through the elements, fight their emotions and pain, talk themselves out of quitting hundreds of times all to accomplish something so special brought tears of joy.

32 Miles of Hell

(Continued)

Reno, Kaley and I went back to the marina and John came with his wife about an hour later. We gave him a hug and he thanked us for everything we did. He had tears in his eyes and told us he wanted to quit numerous times but didn't because of us.

32 miles of hell turned into bliss for not only John, but for everyone around him. I took the time to write this to share just how special this event is to me. I tip my hat to the all the competitors in this year's race Kaley, Craig and I will be back at again next year!

<https://catalinaclassicpaddleboardrace.com/>

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2023-09-02/catalina-manhattan-beach-classic-paddleboard-race-surfing-32-miles-torture>

Check out this article in the LA TIMES. Worth the read.



Sailing Legend and Folklore

Don't clink glasses, toasting has its own rules

When making a toast on board a ship, never clink glasses as it awakens and disturbs the souls of dead sailors, bringing bad luck to the voyage.

When toasting you should always remain seated and never be standing. This custom has its origins in the structure of sailing ships of old – just try standing up in a small cabin packed with fixed furniture on slanted walls and a swaying deck beneath your feet.

Of course, the first toast before setting off on a voyage belongs to the sea and must be cast to the god of the seas. Whether it be Neptune, Poseidon or the Nordic Njörd.

There is one more custom associated with toasting, which was nicely described years ago by Captain Jan Hosek, the commander of a number of naval ships.

A long time ago, a daily dose of rum or tropical wine was drunk in the officers' mess before the main meal along with a toast made by the senior officer. But what was he supposed to come up with every day? Thus, over the course of time, a toast system was set up for every day of the week. They sounded like this:

Monday:	For the country!
Tuesday:	To our mothers!
Wednesday:	To us!
Thursday:	To the King!
Friday:	To the home port!
Saturday:	To lovers and women!
Sunday:	To those who are at sea!



This tradition of toasts in the mess has long but disappeared, however, some toasts have remained.

FIND US ON THE WEB: [HTTPS://PRYC.US/](https://pryc.us/)

Where you will find:

[Information about the club](#)

[Calendar of upcoming events](#)

[Racing events](#)

[Latest Newsletter and more](#)



Ship Store

Your ship store managers have been hard at work adding to the store for your shopping pleasure! From burgees for your boat and dinghy to visors, caps and hat bands we've got plenty of cool items! Hoodies, tshirts, sun shirts, lanyards and drinkware are all there ready to adorn your boat and home.

Cheers!

Lynn Statham 310-621-0066

Tricia Osuna 310-487-6838

Sandra McCommon 310-418-8002

We have Skorts and Vests.

More sizes arriving soon!

Vests in tan and black

Stay tuned for more items and

Thank You for shopping PRYC!



Officer of the Day (OD)

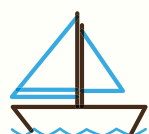
All Members,

There are vacancies on the calendar for you to host an OD and fulfill your club obligation. Traditionally, ODs are held Fridays or Saturdays from 6 - 9 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. If you have another date that works for you we can coordinate if available.

Contact Melissa Wiley, 424-202-7264 or email at melissa3667@gmail.com

Member's Log and Newsletter Submissions

We welcome and encourage member submissions to the newsletter! If you would like to submit articles, photos, etc. for the next issue (December 2023) please send to PRYCnewsletter@gmail.com by December 17 2023.





Editors' Corner

By The PRYC Newsletter Editors



Wow! What a fun summer! That's right Maties summer is officially over as we move into Fall and Winter before the next publication of the Scuttlebutt Newsletter. We, the editors, really enjoy being a part of the Port Royal Yacht Club, there were so many activities scheduled throughout the summer that we could not possibly attend all of them in between our summer vacation plans. There was the June Cup, the Pirate Regatta, Officer of the Day events, Friday Jam sessions, the Summer Bash, Labor Day dinghy crawl, 4th of July Dinghy parade, Catalina Island cruises and Yacht Club cruises.

Being retired we are always looking for things to do that will get us out of the house, sometimes we just like to go down to the harbor and sit on the boat or invite guests to have dinner on the boat. One thing we really missed out on this summer was the cruises to other Yacht Clubs, from the photos and the writeups it looks like a fun and interesting way to visit other nearby Clubs, we hope to join in on the next one.



Nautical Origins

Here are some phrases with nautical origins I am sure you have heard used outside of the nautical world of sailing and probably were not aware of their origins.

Taken Aback - Startled or surprised.

The sails of a ship were described as "aback" when the wind blew them flat, or back, against their supporting structures.

Pipe Down - A request or command to be quiet.

Ship crews received a variety of signals from the boatswain's pipe. One signal was "piping down the hammocks," which instructed the crew to go below decks and prepare for sleep.

Toe the Line - To conform to the policies of a group.

Members of the British Royal Navy were required to stand barefoot and at attention for inspection. While at attention they lined up along the seams of the planks of the deck with their toes touching the line. This became known as "toeing" the line.

Long Shot - An occurrence that would take a great deal of luck.

Early ships' guns tended to be inaccurate. If a shot made impact from a great distance, or a "long shot," it was considered out of the ordinary.

Feeling Blue - Experiencing feelings of sadness or melancholy.

If a captain or officer of a ship died while at sea, the crew would fly blue flags and paint a blue band along the ship's hull. Over time, this symbol of grieving was equated with feeling sad or melancholy.