

# Main Sheet

*Sailing Singles of South Florida*

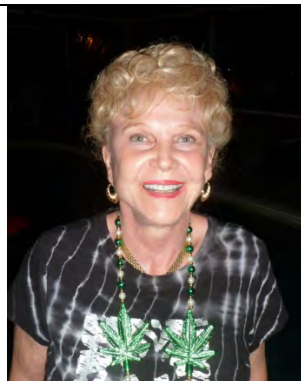



Volume XXIII

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July, 2012

We held a **60's Party** on July 7<sup>th</sup> at Doug and Karen Long's home. We acted a little silly. We ate GREAT food, and danced a little. Thanks Nancy and crew, and especially Karen and Doug!!



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	<b>Check out our new line of SSSF products!</b> <b>Cynthia Hollen has set up an on-line store for our product line, where you can purchase various items with our SSSF logo. Please visit:</b> <a href="http://www.cafepress.com/sailingsingles">http://www.cafepress.com/sailingsingles</a> <b>to see what's for sale.</b> <b>(and we do get a small percentage of all purchases).</b>	



*Last month we had some VERY nice hats appear!!*





## **A close call -- near miss --**

I arrived at the Enterprise about 9:30 on Sunday, 15 July. I prepared my boat for a day sail and awaited my SSSF crew. It was an overcast day with light rain falling. As the day progressed, the sun burn off the overcast and the winds dropped. When we got to Lake Sylvia, Peter was already rafting up to Rich and Marie's boat. We rafted up on the other side. A short time later, Gary Mayes on "Mariposita" rafted up to us. We spent most of the rest of the day, visiting the other boats and crew until someone noticed very dark clouds in the west that were coming our way. It was time to go, so we all untied and let Rich retrieve his anchor.

After we cleared the Las Olas Bridge, we were hit with a blast of cold air as the front passed over us. A short time later, we were in our home canal and got hit with a torrential downpour. Some of the crew stayed to help me secure the boat, and then they left.

When we had approached our slip, the owner of a CT 50 who has the next slip, made a comment about my new yellow Chinese inflatable dinghy. So I joined him and his wife and another couple in the cockpit of his boat. Around 10 PM, the other couple excused themselves to go home and I took their lead and said my goodbyes and thanks. The heavy rain had stopped, but I still put on my foul weather jacket and large brimmed sailing hat.

When I got to back to my slip, I don't know exactly what I did, but I slipped and left the dock. I tried to grab a life line but my inertia was not to be stopped and I plunged into the water. My head was at least 2 feet under the surface, my eyes were open, and I could see the dock light above. When I returned to the surface, my foul weather jacket was down around my arms which limited my arm range of motion. I tried to swim backwards using my feet and headed towards my neighbor Dave's yacht.

Suspended from the bow of his boat, was a two-person sit on top kayak. I tried to reach it but I could not raise my arms. And there were no ladders in this area. About 6 slips down the dock is a ladder but it has only one rung below the water. I did not think that I could swim that far or lift myself out. So I yelled for Dave, very loudly. Fortunately, he heard me. Both he and his wife came to my aid. He lowered the kayak, got in and helped me hoist myself aboard. Then while he steadied the kayak, I stood up and grabbed a line attached to a dock piling and pulled myself up on the dock.

When I got back to the Enterprise, I was totally soaked. I only had a pair of old shorts that I use to work on the boat. When I took a hot shower, I discovered that I was still wearing the whistle that I wear when sailing. If Dave had not heard my shouts, I could have used the whistle to summon help.

## **LESSONS LEARNED !**

- 1) Wear an inflatable Type 3 life jacket just like the Coast Guard and marine patrol units do.
- 2) Wear a whistle around my neck.
- 3) Wear good gripping deck shoes, no bare feet!
- 4) When sailing alone on the open ocean or in rough conditions, use jack lines and a tether.

I plan to rig an emergency rope ladder by my slip incase this happens again!

I hope you appreciate the spirit that I wrote this letter.

Stay well, be safe and enjoy life.  
Capt. Dick

**We have a Pirates and Wenches Party coming up. To be prepared, here are some irrelevant facts:****1. They Rarely Buried Treasure**

Some pirates buried treasure – most notably Captain William Kidd, who was at the time heading to New York to turn himself in and hopefully clear his name – but most never did. There were reasons for this. First of all, most of the loot gathered after a raid or attack was quickly divided up among the crew, who would rather spend it than bury it. Secondly, much of the “treasure” consisted of perishable goods like fabric, cocoa, food or other things that would quickly become ruined if buried. The persistence of this legend is partly due to the popularity of the classic novel “Treasure Island,” which includes a hunt for buried pirate treasure.

**2. Their Careers Didn't Last Long**

Most pirates didn't last very long. It was a tough line of work: many were killed or injured in battle or in fights amongst themselves, and medical facilities were usually non-existent. Even the most famous pirates, such as Blackbeard or Bartholomew Roberts, only were active in piracy for a couple of years. Roberts, who had a very long and successful career for a pirate, was only active for about three years from 1719 to 1722.

**3. They Had Rules and Regulations**

If all you ever did was watch pirate movies, you'd think that being a pirate was easy: no rules other than to attack rich Spanish galleons, drink rum and swing around in the rigging. In reality, most pirate crews had a code which all members were required to acknowledge or sign. These rules included punishments for lying, stealing or fighting on board (fighting on shore was OK). Pirates took these articles very seriously and punishments could be severe.

**4. They Didn't Walk the Plank**

Sorry, but this one is another myth. There are a couple tales of pirates walking the plank well after the “Golden Age” ended, but little evidence to suggest that this was a common punishment before then. Not that pirates didn't have effective punishments, mind you. Pirates who committed an infraction could be marooned on an island, whipped, or even “keel-hauled,” a vicious punishment in which a pirate was tied to a rope and then thrown overboard: he was then dragged down one side of the ship, under the vessel, over the keel and then back up the other side. This doesn't sound too bad until you remember that ship bottoms were usually covered with barnacles, often resulting in very serious injuries.

**5. A Good Pirate Ship had Good Officers**

A pirate ship was more than a boatload of thieves, killers and rascals. A good ship was a well-run machine, with officers and a clear division of labor. The captain decided where to go and when, and which enemy ships to attack. He also had absolute command during battle. The quartermaster oversaw the ship's operation and divided up the loot. There were other positions, including boatswain, carpenter, cooper, gunner and navigator. Success as a pirate ship depended on these men carrying out their tasks efficiently and supervising the men under their command.

**Dock space wanted for a 32' sailboat.**

**Must be located near the ICW.**

**Contact: Greg Aurre at 305-610-9038 or [gaurre@gmail.com](mailto:gaurre@gmail.com)**

## Future Events:

**SSSF LUAU PARTY**, Saturday, August 11, 2012, 7pm, Bob Misfud's home, 2780 NE 16th St., Pompano Beach 33062

**Boatathalon** September 22

**Fall SOS** September 29<sup>th</sup>

**SOS Sail** September 30<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting)

**Pirates and Wenches Party** in October

**Thanksgiving Dinner at Dot's** on Thanksgiving Day

**Holiday Party** December 7th

**Boat Parade** December 15<sup>th</sup>

**We would like to request that everyone wear their name tags during our meetings.**

***The Board has determined that we will not be mailing out Pink Books to local members, only to those who are out of state for a period of time or have relocated out of the area. The cost would be too high to accommodate everyone who would prefer to have them sent to their homes.***

***Why not ask a friend to pick up yours for you?***

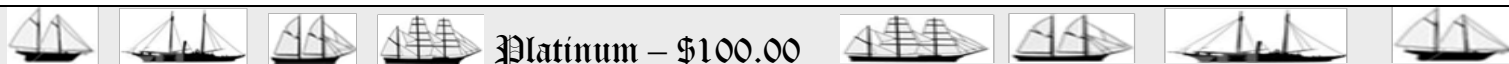


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### Gold – \$50.00

Max Goldstein – February 2012  
Marie Alcazar – February 2012

Mary Ann Hernandez – February 2012  
Rich Hustins – July 2011

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To become a Spinnaker Sponsor, donate \$20.00, \$35.00, \$50.00 or \$100.00 to the club which allows the club to provide more activities for its members. **WE NEED MORE SPONSORS. As you can see, a lot of memberships have expired. Please join or rejoin!**

What would you do:

- If your bank sends a foreclosure notice after one late house payment?
- A creditor tries illegal collection tactics?
- If you need a lease agreement reviewed?
- If you needed unlimited legal questions answered?

watch for 10 minutes

**Max S. Goldstein**  
**Pre-Paid Legal Associate**

maxsgoldstein@gmail.com

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