

# First Watch

US Brotherhood of the Coast Official News Letter



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Photos: as stated

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**Tom Collier “Ursa Major”  
National Captain**

**National Captain Tom “Ursa Major” Collier was unable to attend the World Zafarancho hosted by the Brothers of Australia and appointed Charles “Oso” Hankins of San Antonio, Texas to be his personal representative at National Captains Meeting. The following is a report of the meeting.**

## WORLD ZAFF REPORT

By: Charles “Oso” Hankins

As most know I recently returned from the World Zafarancho in Australia. Chrissy and I along with several others from the USA made up the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest group from any country. The Zaf was a very enjoyable and Australia is a beautiful country. The Australian Brothers are to be congratulated for hosting a truly world class event.

I had the honor is representing the US Brotherhood at the National Captains meeting. During the meeting three major items we decided.

1. The election of the new SECOIN.
2. Making arrangements for the host country to pay for the housing and base Zaf cost for SECOIN at the next World Zaf.

### 3. The location of the next Zaf.

1. Tony Olmar was elected SECOIN and I believe he will do a great job.
2. It was decided that the host country will have as a budget item, the housing and base cost of the next World Zaf for SECOIN to use.
3. The Brothers of France will host the Zaf in 2014.

I spoke with the French Captain and they have already begun to formulate great ideas for the French World Zafarancho.

The meeting was short and sweet just as the Australian brothers said it would be when they took on hosting the 2010 Zaf.

The final Zaf party was one of the highlights of the trip, The speeches were short and the dancing started before the appetizers were served.

## **Brotherhood Publications**

**BY: Tom Collier, National Captain**

For many years we have only had three publications that gave any insight into the Brotherhood. The first of course is the Octolog which provides the rules of the Brotherhood. The second was the "Grrreatest Dictionary". It was a product of the Secoin and provided a reference to many of the people, the terms, and the events that have shaped this organization. Unfortunately, it has been out of print and in the process of update for several years. Hopefully, Tony Olmer will make it a priority as he takes over the reign of Secoin. The third was the Guide, which was written by & for the USA and provides guidelines for the procedures of the US Brotherhood. However, you should keep in mind that it was ratified as exactly that...a guide. The law of the Brotherhood is the Octolog.

Now we have available "Tales of the Brotherhood". This is the result of a tremendous effort on the part of R.K. Ready and Stew Kaufman. The "Tales" is based on interviews with many of those who have been involved over many years of our growth in the USA. It attempts to document the growth and development of our organization from a single Table in New York to where we are today. I know that everyone will find interesting reading and very informative. While it is written to be entertaining to read, it is based on the facts as he was able to gather them. I want to personally thank R.K. and Stew for the many hours that they put into this project. I think that you will enjoy the result.

The first printing is now available. Each Table Captain will be sent 6 copies. Additional copies are available for \$4 ea. You can contact Stew Kaufman to place an order.



# Potomac

## **Brotherhood Farewell**

**Harold Bailey, aka Brumby (August 15, 1940 – December 31, 2009)**

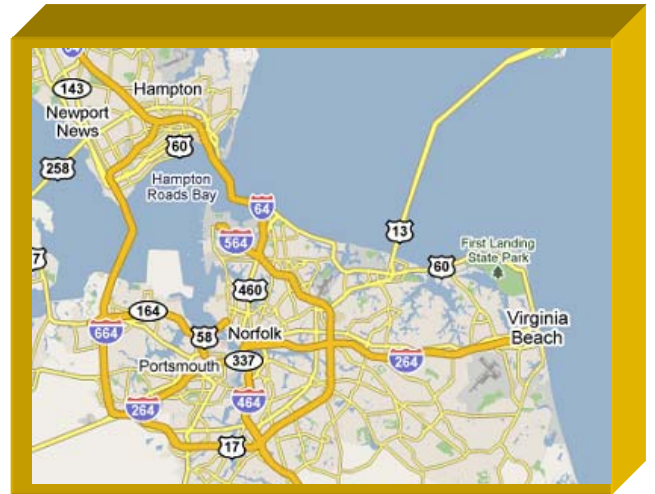
**By: Stew Kauffman**

The US Brotherhood bid a fitting farewell to the Captain of the Potomac Table, Harold Bailey, aka Brumby, who crossed the bar and set sail for his voyage through eternity on December 31, 2009. A memorial cruise on Brumby's beloved Patapsco River in the Baltimore, MD harbor was conducted aboard the Black-Eyed Susan, a turn of the century fully restored paddle-wheeled riverboat, on Saturday, April 3, 2010 where Brumby was honored by 13 of his US Brothers representing four US Tables (Potomac, Chesapeake Bay, Savannah and Solomons) along with many friends from his life's endeavors. The appropriate toasting, singing, telling of stories, entanadas, orzas and cannon fire accompanied the festivities honoring Brother Brumby as his ashes were dispersed on his beloved river. Brumby's contribution to the US Brotherhood and, more specifically, the Potomac Table will be long remembered and we all wish him following winds and smooth seas on his final voyage.



# Chesapeake Bay

Captain: Preston Carraway "Rocket Boy"  
piciii@cox.net



By: Scott "Cruz" Ripley

Be sure to mark down on your calendars June 25 for the 2nd Annual Chesapeake / Solomons BOC Raft-up. This year's raft will be set in Dymer Creek off of Fleets Bay that Friday around 1300. We will break the raft on Saturday, 6/26, right after our late morning brunch & cocktails.

This is a very important BOC event that you should make every effort to attend. It is important because it is at this raft-up that we Chesapeake Brothers get to show the Solomon Brothers how to REALLY PARTY. They sorely need our guidance in this category so please come prepared to instruct those boys.

A special chart of Dymer Creek will be provided later for Smitty aka Fish Monger so he can find the raft this year. Hey, it's a big bay out there Smitty.

This raft-up is also available to any other US Brother and Captive that might have their boat in the Chesapeake Bay at that time.

See you at the raft-up!



December 26, 2009 – Boxing Day at the Chesapeake Table

One of the Chesapeake Table's most popular Tip-a-Fews (Boucan) is the Annual Boxing Day celebration that takes place on the day after Christmas. This year, 29 Brothers, Captives and guests jammed into my condo to celebrate Boxing Day one more time. Boxing Day originates back in medieval Europe. It was a time when the royalty met with the servants to give them their Christmas gifts. In reality, they gave the servants gifts that they did not want so they may have been known as the first "re-gifters". The Chesapeake Table, in keeping with this tradition, gets together for a party (go figure) and a chance to re-gift some of those useless little gifts that people give us throughout the year. I am sure that all of these gifts were given in good faith to the original recipient but you have to wonder what the hello-Pete they were thinking. Anyway, you know a Boxing Day gift when you first get one.

This Boxing Day started at 1500 on Saturday afternoon with folks bringing leftover food dishes from Christmas Day. Sherry Carraway made a wonderful seafood chowder and we also had a spiral ham. After feasting and drinking, we drew numbers for our White Elephant package selection. Now we do this every year so we had to add a couple of extra rules (guidelines) to the normal White Elephant procedure. First, you cannot bring a gift from last year. Second, you must take your gift with you when you leave as I sure don't want all that crap left in my house. Well, I did not check that everyone took their gift when they left and it came back to haunt me. It seemed that Preston Carraway AKA Rocket Boy went though my bedroom to the toilet and accidently dropped his gift which was a rooster crowing alarm clock. Preston told me the next day that he could not find the clock as it was dark in my bedroom. What do you know but that the rooster started crowing under my bed at 0420 the next morning? Next time I will make sure that I see everyone leave with their gift at the end of the party.

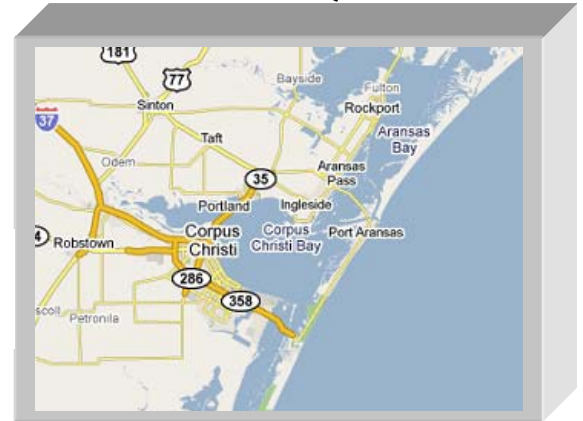
A fun time was had by all and we will definitely do this again next year.

# Corpus Christi



Captain: Louis Adams "Lost Louie"  
[rladams@cablone.net](mailto:rladams@cablone.net)

By: Louis Adams



The Corpus Christi Table had its first ever "Whatever we want it to be Zaf" this years event was International night. Everyone dressed up in the costumes of their favorite country and brought a dish for a really awesome international feast. We had such a great time that we may do it again next year.

Our next event will be the Shrimp boil and pool party set up for Saturday June 5, 2010. Anyone wanting to attend call Lost Louie and we will arrange lodging.

Several of the Brothers are looking forward to the Trailer Trash event in San Antonio.

On a more serious note Brother Larry Jones aka "Rumline" had surgery on his back that went well. He however became seriously ill the next day and was rushed to the hospital and put in intensive care. He presently is in long-term care in Corpus Christi receiving intensive rehab. He will soon be moved to Gulf Point in Rockport, Texas. Our prayers are with him for a complete and speedy recovery.

The following pictures were taken at our "Whatever we want it to be Zaf."





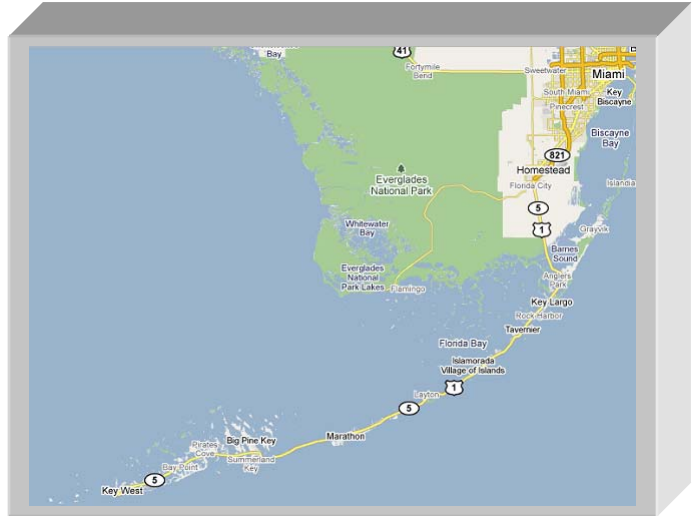




# Florida Keys

Captain: Joe Hamrick "Bubbles"

joehamrick@yahoo.com



By: Joe Hamrick

The Ryans hosted our last monthly dinner and the Doves had the Brothers along with their numerous other friends for a fish fry and softcrabs afternoon. They both always have a great party.

Bud "Graffer" Schmidt and Nelson "El Chino" Perez are continuing to improve from their recent bypass surgeries. Nelson also had his aortic valve replaced. Steve "Sparky" Donaldson is out of the hospital, doing better and now is planning for some surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, FL. His health problems do not keep him from fishing. Bernie "Snapper King" Dove has recovered from his back/nerve surgery and now only has an unrelated infection to overcome. Our report could be limited to health issues and still fill our allotted space. Getting old in the Keys is not fun.

We do have a nautical report. Ed "Brillo" Loke has a report of their trip south last fall.

## The Way South

During the summer of 2009 "She Who Decides" (aka my Captive Nancy) and I took our 36' Tiara Sovran Express Cruiser from the Keys up to Charleston, SC. The grand plan was to use the vessel M/V Tee-Time as a little getaway from our summer "getaway" condo up in Greenville, SC.

Ah... the lengths we retirees go to keep life interesting!



Ed & Nancy Loke



Anyhow, we made the trip in late May at a time when the southeastern U.S. was sodden with heavy rains. This made for an especially soggy trip, especially given the need for frequent ashore trips for the senior cruise director Texas, our well known BOC party-animal toy poodle.

The summer use of the boat turned out to be a bit of a bust, as we discovered the drive from Greenville to Charleston was, at 235 miles, a little more than we wanted to do regularly. While Charleston is a beautiful and fun southern city... it also makes the summer climate of Houston look positively balmy! Hot, Humid, and a bunch less than comfortable. Net result was fewer trips than we had anticipated, but fun nonetheless.

In advance of the trip back to the Keys I followed the advice of the locals, and hired a diver to clean the bottom and running gear. Charleston harbor suffers a nearly 8 foot tide range, very warm water, and massive marine growth on hulls. The locals claimed to use divers every month! Given our arrival in early June to departure on November 1<sup>st</sup>, we had a pretty good crop! In fact, we ended up having a second diver clean the props in Beaufort, SC located about 50 miles south. Planing hull power boats can get serious vibrations with barnacle growth on the props.

Having made the transition from sail to 25 knot power, I recognize that perhaps many of my Brothers see this 700 nautical mile trip very differently. Where we used to consider a 50 mile day from one anchorage to the next a very full effort, we now travel 125 to even 150 miles, and arrive at a marina in time for a spot of rum and a nice dinner ashore. Having lived in Texas for 18 years, we understand the importance of burning all the fossil fuel possible for a robust economy! ;-))

The trip was completed in 6 days with a combination of offshore work and Intracoastal cruising. We have previously enjoyed taking a more leisurely trip, but were anxious to return home to Marathon. If ever you get the chance to transit the southeastern states, be advised it is a fun and beautiful trip, with many friendly and welcoming southern towns along the way.

# Gold Coast



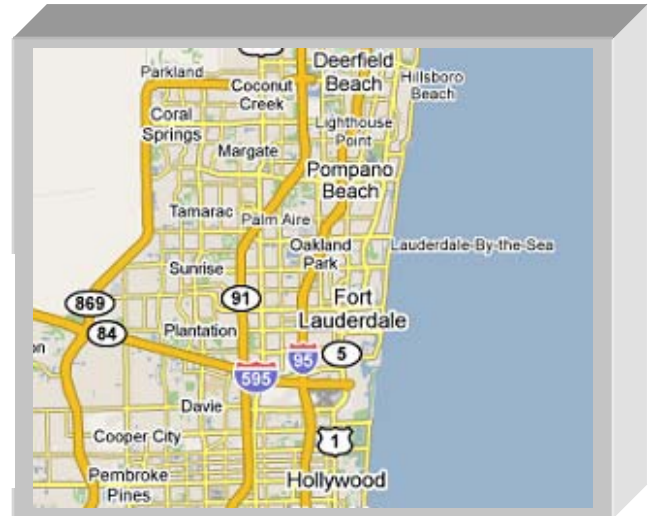
**Captain: John Dotto**

[jldotto@bellsouth.net](mailto:jldotto@bellsouth.net)

**Alternate Contact: Frank "Deputy Dawg" Sessions**

**National Boson**

[CaptFS@aol.com](mailto:CaptFS@aol.com)



By: John Dotto

The Brotherhood is alive and well at the Gold Coast Table. A few of our Brothers have moved out of the area but still keep in contact. Some will be back some may not. In the meantime we are trying to recruit new blood.

In December of last year The Brotherhood organized a raft-up at the Fort Lauderdale Boat parade. Cliff (Fozzy) Steffen on his vessel "Forty Two" was the anchor boat and 4 other Brotherhood boats tied up. It poured with heavy rain and we could barely see the parade but no matter, we had fun with Jules (Lobster Man) Harper and Captive's Sandy "Peculiar Puzzle" and had a hoot with the usual "Secret Santa" draw organized by Frank (Deputy Dawg) Sessions and Captive Mary who also provided an enormous ham. Others provided lots of appetizers and side dishes not to mention Grog. We all had a blast – as usual!

The year 2010 started with a bang – a January Boucan New Orleans style held by Brother Kevin (Minnow) Schmid and Captive Kay. The Boucan was hosted at Brother Dave (Scotch) Sowers and Captive Miriam's home in Miami. Minnow is leaving for colder waters later in the year and did not want his house trashed since it was up for sale. The cold weather (yes, it has been cold in South Florida, we have actually had a winter!) forced the festivities inside which made everything nice and cosy. The Cajun style food – endoui sausage avec crevette and other odd looking crustaceans - was great! After a few Hurricane drinks everyone forgot the weather and jazzed up the party. Lots of noise and a ton of confetti decorated the Scotch abode which Dave and Miriam must have really enjoyed cleaning up the next day.



The February Boucan was also the Super Bowl party and as usual was hosted by Jules (Lobster Man) Harper and Captive Sandy. The barbequed pork and beans were delicious. The highlight of the evening, however, was not the Super Bowl it was a celebration of Art (Dry Rot) Steiner's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Art received a warm message from his New York Table and many cards from the Brotherhood, but he was really touched by the gifts presented to him by the Gold Coast Table: A plaque in commemoration of his birthday, a picture collage put together by Frank (Deputy Dawg) Sessions and a watercolor portrait of Art and his beloved sail boat painted by my own Captive Sara. And, of course, there was a cake. Art had a good time.

Oh! And the Super Bowl was fun too.



The next Boucan is scheduled for April. Allen (Forestay) Barry and Captive Kate will be organizing some kind of outdoor event with their usual delicious burgers and bangers. You will find out at the next First Watch.

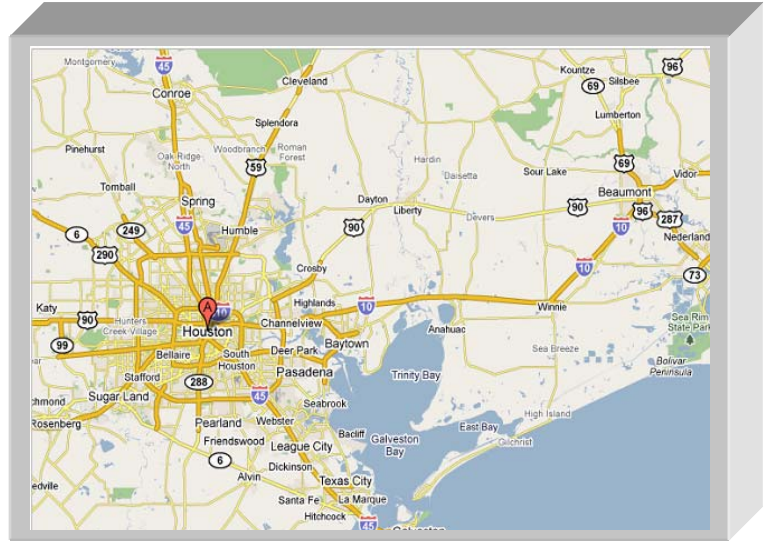
Other Boucans are scheduled throughout the year but no details are available yet.



# Houston

Captain: Tom Dayton “Animal”  
[tdayton51@gmail.com](mailto:tdayton51@gmail.com)

By: Don Peterson “Big Dog” #213



## Houston Table

First quarter of 2010 will be remembered as one of the coldest on record in Houston. We even had SNOW! Coupled with the snow came freezing cold weather and lots of dead tropical plants in the yards of all Houston Brothers. I know what you Northerners are thinking, we’re a bunch of candya\*\*es, but hey, we live in an area where 40 degrees sends us for fur coats.

With the cold weather came boats tied to the pier. Several gatherings at the homes of Brothers on Friday nights gave us the opportunity to mix together and plan our warm weather excursions on the water. We have trips to Double Bayou, The Second Annual Fred Lowe Dingy Poker Run, a trip to Offat’s Bayou and the Texas Zaf in June on our plates coming up.

Houston was well represented in Australia for the World Zaf. Brothers John Killian, Fred Lowe, Rick Hoekstra and Don Peterson made the trip to the land down under for a great time. Three great side trips were fantastic. We even got up close and personal with kangaroos, wombats, and other strange Australian animals. Best of all were the nightly mini Boucans with Brothers from all over the world. Until you travel to a Zaf, you’ll never experience the true meaning of being a Brother. Bernard has posted 1,000’s of pictures of the Zaf. Be sure and check them out and start making plans to be in France in 4 years for Paris and a cruise in a river boat with stops along the way to castles and a winery.

More information about the Texas Zaf in June will be in your email box soon, but save the date now. June 18-20.



## News from New York

March 30, 2010

**B**rothers,

Meet Robert Coles  
Aka. Big Hopper!



Meet Joe Citarella  
Aka. Sparks



**A**t the Assembly of National Captains during the World Zaf in Sydney, I had the honor of being elected to the post of SECOIN (SEcretary COordinator INternational) an administrative post in charge of communication and supporting National Captains at the International level.

**N**ational Captain Tom Collier appointed our very own Sparks as the new International Vigie for the U.S.A. I resigned from that position since it was now a conflict of interest.

**O**n Saturday March 20<sup>th</sup> at a Zafarrancho held in Port Washington Captain Rascal, after 15 years of service turned over the helm of the New York Table to Big Hopper.

**P**lease join me in congratulating Big Hopper and Sparks in wishing them fair winds and calm seas for a long and successful journey.

*Rascal*

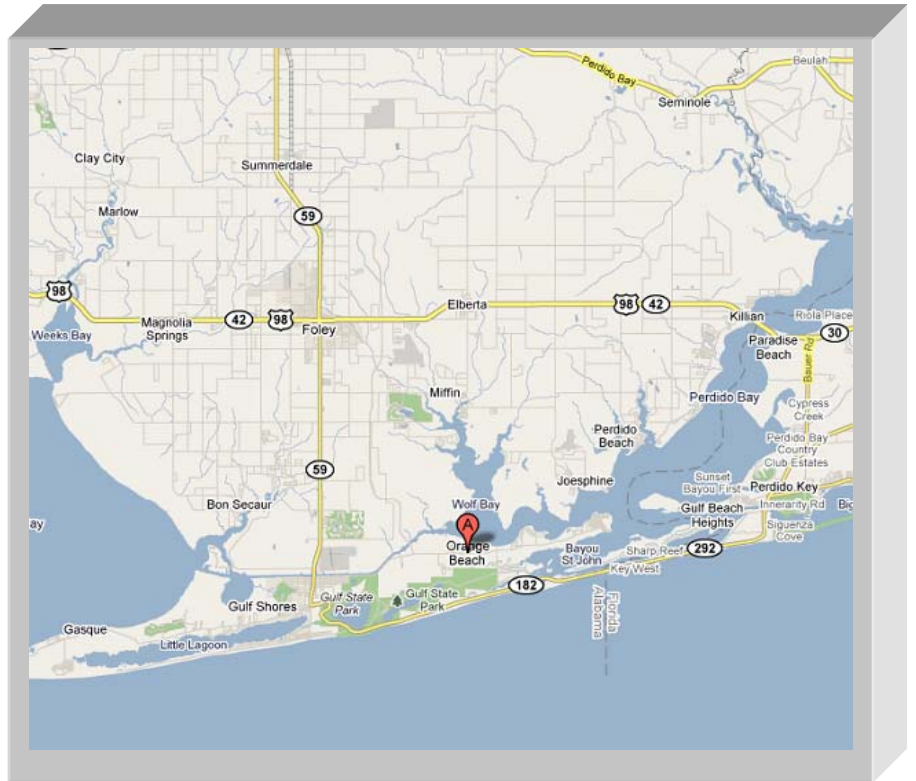




# Orange Beach

Captain: Doug Henckel "Graybeard"

[rumorssv@msn.com](mailto:rumorssv@msn.com)



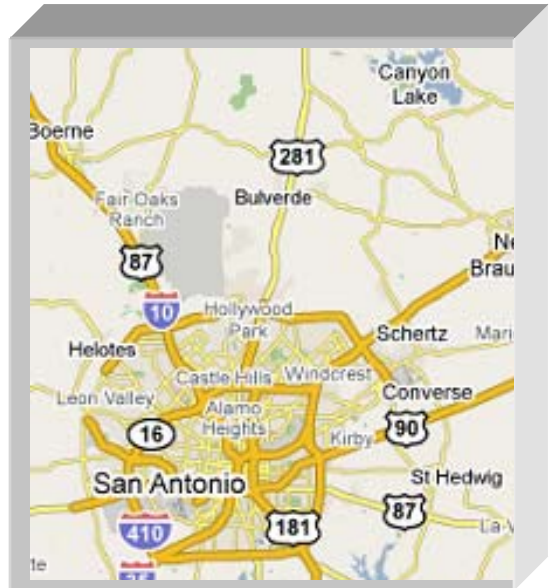
The Orange Beach submission had not been receive by press time.

Editor



# San Antonio

Captain: Wayne Laxson "Borracho"  
waynemary@gvtc.com

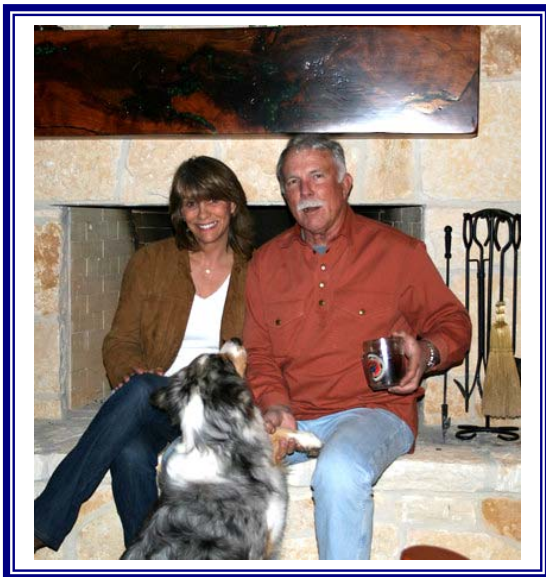


By: Wayne Laxson

## Trailer Trash

Our annual Trailer Trash Party will be April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. If you have not made your reservation you need to hurry. We will accommodate as many out of town Brothers in our homes on a first come basis. This year we are including a BBQ dinner on Friday night, a Pirate Float in a San Antonio Fiesta Parade, a meal of Mexican food at the "Trailer" and a great party with live music and ample quantities of adult beverages. At the end of this article is an application to submit in order to make your reservations.

In January we held our annual catered dinner at the home of Craig and Cheryl Wright which consisted of a fine catered meal. February was an annual planning meeting at the Bandera, Texas ranch of Bob Wills where we set the calendar for the year and watched the Super Bowl.



Our host, Bob Wills,  
Captive Karen and faithful  
companion Bronco.

March saw the running of the Fourth Annual Lawn Hydros Races. Don't ask "what is a Lawn Hydro" because you have to be there to understand it, but suffice it to say that is a good excuse for a party on a beautiful Texas springs day. The winning Brother was David Hafernik and the Powder-puff Winner was Patty McNeil.



Wayne Laxson (left) with winner David Hafernik



Powder-puff winner Patty McNeil



The Fans



More Fans



The Fleet



The Course

IT'S FIESTA TIME IN SAN ANTONIO

WHICH MEANS IT'S TIME FOR.....

## 'TRAILER TRASH'

The Celebration Begins on Friday Night, April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
See the attached 'Schedule of Events'  
for this Raucous Weekend of Fun & Frolic!  
Don't Wait – Make your Plans Now

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Attendee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

BOC Table: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Bunks Needed (First Come First Serve): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your Check Today & Registration to:

*R.E. (Bob) Wills, II*  
Murphy's Corporate Lodging

PO Box 571255,

Houston, TX 77257

Number of Attendees @ \$85.00 Per Person

Check Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# San Juan

## Puerto Rico



The Brothers of San Juan article was not received by press time.

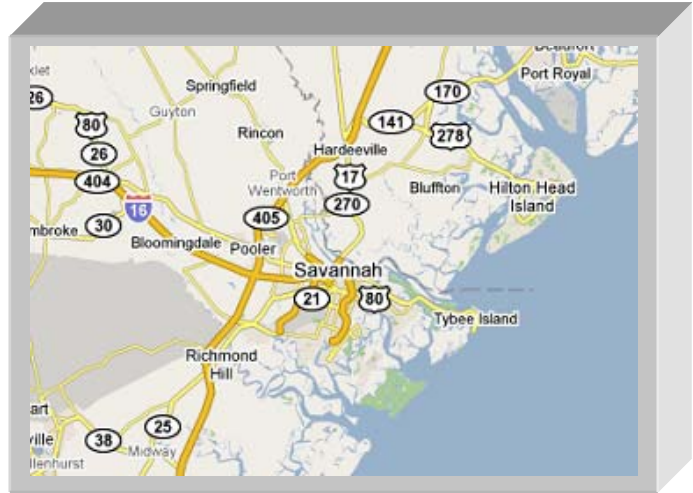
Editor



# Savannah



Captain: Albert Seidl "Dogwaes"  
albaertseidl@msn.com



## **BY: Gary Johnson**

The Savannah Table has been relatively "quiet" this period with only a few birthdays celebrated for Albert Seidl and Patrick Mills.

We welcome John Byrne/"Pirogue" and Patrick Mills/"Lookout" who have transferred their flags from the Houston Table to join us in Savannah.

Several Savannah Brothers visited our Bahamas Brothers at Man O' War Cay over the Christmas/New Years Holidays. A few Norwegian Brothers were also in attendance.

Gary Johnson hosted Rob & Holly/Norfolk Table in Cocoa Beach on their way to the Bahamas with their sailboat "Hampshire Rose".

A few Brothers will be attending a memorial for Hal Bailey/"Brumby" April 3 in Baltimore.

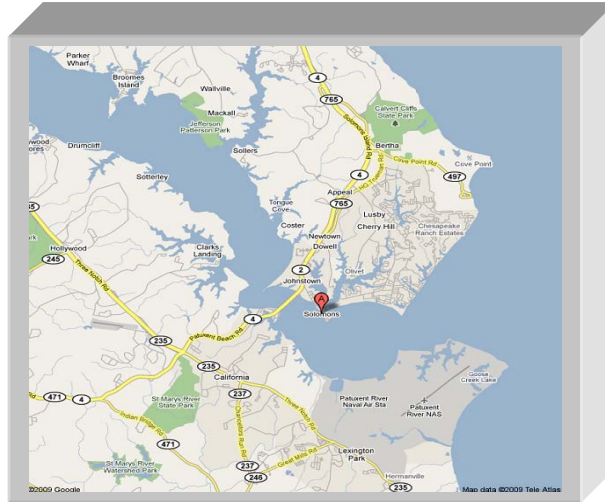
Another Birthday celebration is planned for April 17.



# Solomons Island

Captain: Pete Chabot "Sea Devil"

[Pgchabot@aol.com](mailto:Pgchabot@aol.com)



By Dale Weems

Spring approaches here in the Solomons area and it couldn't get here fast enough for some of us. The weather pattern this year really raised some doubts on this global warming thing. Record snow-fall breaking a 100 year old record. We got together when we could for "Tip A Few Tuesday" but even some of them had to be canceled. When the weather keeps a bunch of pirates from getting together and having a few rum shots its bad. Some of the Brothers were lucky enough to be wintering in Florida. Others were able to at least get away a week or two and travel to warmer weather. A couple of times I considered trading the boat for a dog sled. But its behind us now and the plans are being made for spring and summer events. A raft-up with the Brothers from the Chesapeake table was the first on the agenda, other events are in the works. And Thanks goes out to the Savannah Table for taking care of one of our own and he wanted to thank them personally below

I would like to thank the Savannah Table for the kindness shown to Charlene & I during our brief visit to that lovely town.

On January 9<sup>th</sup> Charlene & I arrived in the beautiful, but cold 34 degree town of Savannah, Ga.. After a long 10 hour drive down from Maryland in route to Jacksonville. Charlene loves the town, as I do and we wanted a day or two there to relax with time for each other. I had promised to call Albert & Elise when we arrived. So we did . They had just returned from vacationing with the family in the Islands hours earlier. We agreed to meet them the next day.

On Sunday afternoon we met at their home. What a wonderful opportunity that was. They live in a wonderful home near the center of town that is so beautifully

decorated in Brotherhood memorial items. I can't tell all what I saw, but my eyes were of be wonderment. Their home should be held as a secrete place of meeting for only the highest of honored brothers.

If you should be very near this seaside estate, with eyes for the finest of art, culture and history of the brotherhood. Then I offer you to seek out your brother and Captain of the Table in Savannah. He his wife and his crew are but of the finest and most accommodating. They are prime examples of what the true meaning is of the Brothers Of the Coast. I say many ORZA's to them, drank as many to them as well and the enjoyment we shared while in their company. They know this historic town and can show you the best of the best there is to see.

We are glad to have shared our time together and will be seeing them again soon. You never ever leave Savannah, you just go away to visit again.

Leaving on Monday Jan 11<sup>th</sup> for Jacksonville, Charlene and I wondered if they had ever seen it 19 degrees in Savannah, GA and would they blame those "visitors" for all the cussed cold. Looks like Global Warming is not all that true in the short haul.

ORZA to all!



# Sun Coast

Captain: Jon Frick "Mr. Clean"  
[jwfrick@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jwfrick@tampabay.rr.com)

By: Jon Frick aka Mr. Clean  
Captain of the Sun Coast Table



The Sun Coast has been cold, with no boating and only Happy Hours once a month. No Photos, just goose bumps and wind Chills. We are busy raking leaves and trimming hedges, washing cars and boats and looking for Al Gore and his global warming. The next six months should be more interesting, and we hope a lot more fun than this winter.