

PYRATE NEWS

The 1st day of November in the year Two Thousand and Six, Mill Town, Florida

KEY WEST EDITION



IN THIS EXCITING ISSUE:

Pirates in Paradise Update
October Pirate Meeting
Pirate Ship Update

Pirates in Paradise Key West, Florida *"Final Update."*

Now that we are getting so very close, here are some facts that will go along with the fiction we are creating. Bones and Wench Annie are leaving on the 28th, staying a night in the Sanibel islands, then heading into Key West on the 30th to stay through Sunday then Departing on Monday to return. We are encouraging folks to pick only the days they like after reading the schedule of events or stay the whole time and get lost in the mangroves. There are some hotels right down town who have great rates this time of year but you have to do your homework. Go to the Key West site. Just got word from Shipmate and Wench Martha that they will be joining us in town. Doobey and Vera are going to show up somewhere, Dawg and Wench Bobby are staying in Marathon, Capt. Morgan and Sidekick are looking at a boat in the harbour. Cabana Boy is laid up in the hospital with a bad back but we are transporting him down in a Chucky Cheeze Truck that has a delivery in Ramrod Key and Zero and Florida Boy are still looking for a boat.

Before we depart. The cell phone list looks like this:

Bones & Wench Annie	850-393-3144
Pegleg & Pieces of Eight	704-564-4674
Shipmate & Wench Martha	850-339-3004
Dawg & Wench Bobby	850-341-2351
Crooked Finger	850-723-4727
River Dog	850-982-4544
Seaweed	850-292-2557
Captain Morgan & Sidekick	850-623-1113
LaGrande Dame	850-380-5061
Dooby & Wench Vera	
Irish Mist	850-982-4069

NOTE: Cut his out and if thrown in jail write your plea on the back of it and drop it out the window of your cell. You may want your plea to include bringing the note to Captain Tony's bar because that's where we usually are. As for getting you out – we'll put it to a vote.

If it turns out that you get to Key West and some of these folks are not there, call 'em anyway and tell them what a great time you are having.

October Pirate Meeting

The October Pirate meeting was a great gathering with a lot of good ideas and some great grog and morsels. We began to vote on all of the items that we have been discussing with both the attending pirates and the offshore pirates. Here is how it went.

Meeting Minutes

*Of The Blackwater Pirates
October 13, 2006, 5:00 PM*

Pirates in attendance:

Captain Cabana
Pearl
Jules
Irish Mist
Bones
Wench Annie
Dread Knot
La Grande Dame
Black Pearl
Captain Crabs
Cutter Jane
Biatche
Barnacle Bry
Sea Hag Sue
Reno
Grey Beard
Windy
Bilge Rat
Yellow Beard
Madame Butterfly

OLD BUSINESS:

Mission

River Activities – Directed by committee
Education – Directed by Committee
Community – Directed by Committee
* Voted to conduct Committee discussion next meeting – Tabled.

Membership & Dues

It was first voted that we establish **four levels** of pirates so as not to impugn upon those pirates who are of limited disability due to things like distance (we have pirates all over the United States), dis-interest, limited funds and above all, work that occupies most of the time that one should be “living”. So, to combat

those ills the pirates voted the following dues categories and the following definitions:

IMPORTANT NOTE: In the future we will have a membership Committee who will refine these levels and definitions. We voted on these so that we could move forward without endless discussion without result. Any pirate can either address the committee or, even better, be on it.

PIRATE LEVELS & DEFINITIONS:

Captains Crew: These are the pirates who pay the most dues, enjoy all the privilege of the crew, and **ride on the boat**. There will be 30 slots available on this crew level based on who signs up first. Once full, a waiting list will be formed in anticipation of someone falling on their sword. If a Captain’s Crew member forfeits their position, they will get first chosin’ when returning, thus passed over if they do not step forward. In other words crew, only so many folks can get on this boat, and it has to be those most serious about pirate’n. They are expected to participate in most community events, take on educational roles, organize and chair committees, and make a local nuisance of themselves when it comes to pirate’n.

Swabs: It is these fine crew members who work on occasion to gain favor and participate in events throughout the year at their leisure while enjoying Pirate Store discounts and the monthly newsletter. These naives can be seen fighting on shore during Riverfest, walking beside the ship in parades, walking around dead during the ghost walk, riding in the pirate taxi at the Redneck Parade, participating in committees, educational events, or just being representative of the pirate philosophy in the community. (i.e. The Civil War re-enactors are *swabs* because they shoot at the Captains Crew when they attack something, thus the if the boat sinks, they won’t be on it).

Offshore Pirates: These pirates are limited by distance, dis-interest, limited funds and above all, work. Since they are “limited” it was noted that they enjoy and receive the monthly newsletter, can join any pirate function, can receive the monthly newsletter and crew store discounts, but they could usually care less about riding on the ship, much less working on it. So for these “limited” Pirates we have declared a modified dues schedule.

Junior Pirates: Due to liability issues and out of respect for the parents of our Junior Pirates the crew voted to bring them on as “affiliates”. Our Junior Pirates will be known as Blackwater Pirates, organize their own crew, use the Captain’s crew as advisors, come before the Captain’s crew for help in organization and doing all of the things the Captains Crew does within their group. The Captain’s Crew will expect at least one parent (advisor) to be amongst this crew of Junior Free Booters. Junior Pirates will receive the newsletter, participate in all events that do not have an adult theme, receive Pirate Store discounts, and recruit other Junior Pirates. Junior Pirates are 21 years of age and under.

* Motion was made by Bilge Rat to approve and seconded by Biatche.

The following **yearly dues** were discussed and voted on:

Captain’s Crew: Yearly Dues (Couple): First Year \$200.00 and \$175.00 each year thereafter. (Single Crew Members are \$150.00 first year and \$100.00 each consecutive year thereafter).

Swabs: \$50.00 per crew member, \$75.00 per family (unlimited family members)

Offshore Pirates: \$35.00 (and you can be as limited as you wish).

Junior Pirates: \$25.00 per crewmember + \$5.00 each additional family member.

Dues will go into effect January 1st of each year and must be paid by March 30th.

- Motion was made by Biatche to approve and seconded by Jules.

Status: (Seaweed): (501-3C Application)

This was tabled because Seaweed was not present. I later found him digging sewers in Bagdad (Florida) and he is ready to move ahead with the application. We will vote on this at our next meeting and I will continue to take discussion by email on this subject at this time, which means - now. It should be noted that we had consensus on this item at the first meeting, which means the majority agreed that we should. With that said, if I don’t get any email I will assume everyone is still in agreement.

* Tabled.

Pirate Code: It was decided that Bones would write it and then send it out so all could make changes to it.

* No vote required.

WEB Site: It was voted that we would pay our web master, Driftwood, \$50.00 per month to start with and review him as we go. Payment will begin as soon as membership dues begin which is targeted at 1 January. Between now and then Biatche volunteered to pay for November and Bones volunteered to pay for December so Driftwood would be able to afford grog during the Christmas season.

* Motion made by Bilge Rat and seconded by Yellow Beard.

Pirate LOGO: No new submissions were received (life comes at you fast). The crew voted in the black/white logo. Bones has paid to have this logo digitized. Stickers are now available for \$5.95 each (3x5 outdoor vinyl, white) and hats are available through

blackwaterliving.com for \$19.95 (black/white/silver, high stitch embroidery, one size fits all, specify black or white). If you would like the 3x5 logo embroidered on any piece of clothing, give the piece to Bones with your name and phone number pinned to it. The embroidery cost is \$12.95, larger logos can be quoted. Mail clothing to Blackwater Pirates, P.O. Box 912, Milton, Florida if you are offshore.

T-Shirts are in the future.

* Motion was made by Bilge Rat and seconded by Captain Crabs.

In discussion it was brought up that we need to apply the logo to a flag (boat flag first, then a larger one). All pirates will look for vendors and report to Bones. Blackwater Trading Company will purchase the flags until the crew can organize and has treasure.

* Motion by Wench Annie and seconded by Biatche.

OFFICERS: It was voted that the temporary officers would remain in their positions until our bylaws are assembled and term limits imposed. At that time we will have an election to see whose sword is the biggest.

Temp Officers are:

Bones	President
Crooked Finger	Vice-President
Madam Butterfly	Secretary (* Motion made by Wench Annie, seconded by Biatche)
Seaweed	Treasurer
Jules	Sgt. with Arms
Zero	Door Stop
Florida Boy	Excuse Maker

- Motion made by Bilge Rat and seconded by Yellow Beard.

NEW BUSINESS:

Barnacle Bry says he is not getting the newsletter but came to the meeting because he had a vision. Bones is going to check this out and send a test email until we can re-connect.

NOTE FROM BONES: We crammed a lot into a little meeting to attempt to set the stage for the 2007 season. We did this because we have a lot of opportunities coming to us that we will miss if we don't organize (one being the boat). I want to thank everyone for coming together and working hard to put all of this together. As the 2007 season begins I will be asking our committees to review our structure and begin the job of fine-tuning our future. Arrgh!

The pirates adjourned at 6:30 and went to the Friday night cruise in the fountain parking lot (Elmira and Caroline St.) where Bones discovered that Stretch had burned all the hotdogs. Stretch was sent to counsel for this indiscretion – a true pirate (which Stretch is not), would have rolled them on the ground to hide the burnt areas.

Pirate Ship Update



Well fellow pirates, I think we have found a pirate ship thanks to the efforts of Reno and Hook 'em Dano. It could be possible that the owner of this derelict vessel may want to impart it upon us if we feel frisky enough to fix it up. So far Dread Knot seems to think he has a crane guy, Reno thinks the guy down the street may have a repairable trailer (it has to hold 32') and Bones thinks he can talk someone into

doing some welding and support design. Once on the trailer, the plan is to first repair it then get it to float. If it proves seaworthy we will use it for attacks. However, if it rolls over on the first voyage, it may just become a dive site on the Blackwater. If it sinks and we retrieve it, it will most definitely become a float exhibit in parades.

The latest on the ship



The ship is OURS (thanks to the generosity of Doug Lassiter) to make it a vessel of great pride poor steering. Captain Cabana informed me today that he has access to jacking equipment and Jules is in the final throws of the trailer deal. Bones is out of town through the 3rd of November starting the 31st. The first thing we need to do is cut the top off of the boat to eliminate weight before moving it. Then we will set a date for as many able bodied pirates to join together and make the trailer mounting a rather fine event. All of this will happen *after the 4th of November*.

We appreciate everyone's patience in this endeavor because it is complex and a lot of people are doing a lot of different things. What that means is that we overlap with so many volunteers which is awkward but please be patient, we are going to need each and every one of you before this is over.



Water-Yer-Needs

Blackwaterliving.com would like to welcome aboard the crew of the Dixie Lou riverboat as our newest advertisers. The Dixie Lou offers River Food, Cruises and just about anything you will need on the river. They can be found on just about any sandbar when you are on the river (They anchor at the various sandbars, we hit them). Don't forget to "*water yer needs*".

MAIN STREET CAFÉ



Main Street Café now offers an expanded menu that satisfies the most sophisticated palette. If you haven't been there in a few weeks, make it your stop for lunch or at the end of a busy day.

"It's where neighbors meet". The new bar is almost finished – you gotta' see this.

BLACKWATERLIVING.COM

If your company does not appear on *Blackwaterliving.com* you may be missing valuable exposure. Enjoy 2006 pricing before the price of oil goes up again. To post free events and purchase advertising space call 393-3144 and ask for a color brochure.

Upcoming Pirate Events:

November 30th is the beginning of "Pirates in Paradise". (Key West).
December 1st and 2nd: Christmas on the River. **BOAT PARADE** if you're not in Key West.
December 16th: "*Caroling with Pirates*". A delightful journey with your beloved pirate crew through the ajoinments of our Mill Town community. Join the Blackwater Pirates as they sing your favorite carols in the streets of Mill Town with a piano they stole from the church. **It's a night to remember!**

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"Ages of ignorance and simplicity are thought to be ages of purity. But the direct contrary is the case. Rude periods have the grossness of manners, which is as unfriendly to virtue as luxury itself. Men are less ashamed as they are less polished."

Joseph Warton, (1722-1800) English Critic

The following is general pirate knowledge:

IF YOU JOINED AND FORGOT TO GIVE YOURSELF A PIRATE NAME DON'T BE SURPRIZED IF SOMEONE APPROACHES YOU AND ADDRESSES YOU AS *Olive Oil!*

If you come on board with the Pirates of the Blackwater (www.blackwaterliving.com) and you do not have a name, we will take the liberty of assigning you one at any given time. So just remember those words of wisdom from **Stinky** who says; "**Do it, do it NOW, for goodness sake, when they tell you to do it – DO IT NOW!!!!**"

DISCLAIMER

If you found this fine publication in print, you're a might lucky buccaneer and may consider goin' out to play the lottery today. If you are receiving this as email you could possibly be an official member of the Blackwater Pirate Crew (Or, you could just be a homeless person with a computer for all we know). As a Blackwater Pirate you will occasionally receive emails reminding you of all the great things going on in Mill Town. If you are reading someone else's email and wish you were a Blackwater Pirate, go to www.blackwaterliving.com and sign up. If you are not reading someone else's email and got this by accident, feel fortunate. If you are sitting in front of your computer and this message mysteriously appears on the screen that's pretty spooky – you might want to seek psychiatric help. This is probably the most exciting email you are going to receive today so read it carefully and don't think about it for extended periods, it could make your head hurt.

COULD IT BE TRUE THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO GET THIS EMAIL?

If you do not wish to receive this email simply hit reply and type in "Please remove this from my computer, I work for a living and have no time for nonsense, and furthermore I hate people who aren't stressed out like me!" In turn, we will be offended but we will keep it to ourselves – "ourselves being the citizens of Northwest Florida and portions of the southeastern United States". If you found this on the street – TURN AWAY! And scream "I can't imagine anyone doing this!" It'll make you feel better and, of course, we'll know you got our message.