

PIRATE FLASH



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“Print this out and pass it around the office, there is probably a pirate hiding somewhere amongst them. You’ll know this when one of them jumps up and leaves the office, never to return”.

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New link to www.cpirates.com

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Saturday Night Boat Parade, 27 May, Memorial Day Weekend

The Saturday night boat parade was a blast. We assembled at the Riverhouse around 7:00, had a short crew briefing, discussed the future of Mill Town and formed at the trestle by 7:45. We held tight with the marine officer on duty until he hit a floating object and began to remove it from the river. We toasted him as we headed for the north. There was no moon so we pretty much had to pretend we knew where we were going but it became obvious later on that Bones “really didn’t know” where he was going as he chose

the shallows for passage. Stump had notified many of the campers up-river that we were coming so we were greeted by shouts and air horns all the way to the Airport Road Houses. I saw Stump the next day and he said the spectacle (That be us) was incredible. Although Wench Suzy is down for a short period, Stump says she will be back in action by the next parade and to count them in. This can be evidenced by the fact that Stump's 2-year boat dock project was wrapping up on Sunday- he's ready. It's like when pirates visit and it gives you a reason to clean the ship. Our journey ended at the River Run Marina and the boats we picked up on the way joined us. We're not sure what happened to the jet skis. Maybe they met the marine officer that was escorting us. We also lost track of Gatorbait and Captain Morgan as we arrived at the Marina, it's possible they glanced off the dock and sped off into the night.

Early Summer Gala at CC & Crooked Finger Chateau

CC and the Finger had an early-summer gala that was simply delightful. The margaritas were beyond expectations and the bass fishing was excellent. River Dog seemed to find his home in the pool where he leisurely fought for his life. It was a great get together with a motley crew of outstanding pirates. Thank you Finger and CC!

Bones Report: If you haven't visited the Mainstreet Café' as of late, their new menu is magnanimous to say the least. CC, Yo' host will be pleased to introduce you to the taste of Mill Town.

NEW LINK

We are now linked to cpirates.com that is another crew from the Choctawhatchee area. This crew is pretty notorious and is known for attacking at night in rubber dingys. They do this because they run into stuff all the time and inflatables don't make that "donk" noise when they hit the side of your boat, thus they can attack you without being detected if they remember to turn the boom box down. They have been using this technique for years and thus far it has been successful enough to forge on. Visit them!

Pucker Point Sand Bar

Def: PUCKER POINT (Noun) An area where one begins to "pucker" due to the shallow depth under a vessel that you have your entire life savings invested, not to mention the gas.

Where is it? The Pucker Point Sand Bar is now underwater about six inches. The drop-off after the bar is about 8 to twelve feet. It would be a good idea to drop an anchor on this bar because if your boat slips off waving goodbye is your only option. Diving is not recommended, but jumping is. Dawg, Wrags and Pup spent a goodly portion of Memorial Day on this bar because it is so peaceful. If you have been looking for it, go to Pucker Point, navigate the 2' depths in front of the houses (stay left avoiding the large underwater trees) and then make a sharp right at the small shed where the pirate flag hangs. The depth increases on the curve as you nose into the sandbar. It's a great place to swim and sit in the water (average temp is 69.9, straight from the springs) and there is minimal boat traffic. On a ninety-degree day this is the most refreshing spot to be found. Going beyond this point can be expensive. For entertainment you can watch speed boats

streak by only to be dragged back by the marine patrol with their transoms in pieces after they hit stumps in the shallow water. Small boats can go north from here without a problem and drop tubers with no problem. Tubing is good above Pucker Point because of the low boat traffic and the alligators in this area are pretty laid back.

Coast Guard Inspections

Bones ended his Memorial Day Weekend with a Coast Guard Inspection. He went into this with high hopes of securing a sticker but he failed anyway (something about a fire extinguisher, whatever that is). The true skinny is; this is a good thing. If you suit up your boat and you get these folks to inspect it (and you pass) they will give you a sticker. THEN, on those days that you are having too much fun and you don't feel like being pulled over, the marine patrol can see from a distance that you have a safety sticker which means you have already been checked for the required items. Why now? Because by July 4th they will either run out of stickers or get tired of giving them out. Trust me, after you get pulled over twice in the same day for an inspection, you will wish you had the sticker. **PIRATE STICKER INSTRUCTIONS:** Put the sticker somewhere that it can be seen by a passing boat.

Things to think about:

Do you have a fire extinguisher, numbers displayed (spacing of numbers is critical, i.e. FL 7756 KM, the space is equal to a letter width), registration, life jackets, visual distress signals (check date on flares), sound device, navigation lites.

Items that make you look good:

It would be "nice to have": Marine radio, Bilge Pump, Anchor & Line, First Aid Kit, Capacity Certificate but if your boat is small don't sink it with extras trying to pass the inspection.

Once you get all of this stuff together you can call Amanda Armstrong (U.S.C.G.A.) and she will actually come to your home, inspect your boat and issue you a decal. It don't get no better than this. Bigger boats (live-aboard class) have a bigger list of requirements so if you think your mega-yacht is pushing the envelope, give Amanda a call.

Another helpful hint: During the inspection, **DO NOT** tell them you are a pirate. The Coast Guard frowns on this.

Hope you all had a magnificent Memorial Day and many thanks to those who joined in with the crew – you guys are the greatest!

Arrgh,

Bones & Wench Annie