

VALENTINE'S CRUISE

February 15 – 17, 2008

It was dark and rainy on the eve of our adventure. The **Walkers** and **Youngs** were in a tizzy – they had bought food, beverages and supplies for nineteen boats to venture over to San Diego Yacht Club for the weekend. How many would cancel, what would they do with all the food that would be left over and how to you tell SDYC that there wouldn't be as many empty slips available to them for the exchange???? Friday morning, much to their relief, they awoke to sunny skies and their hopes were high. Maybe, just maybe, the majority of the boats would show up.

Dick and **Annetta Townsend** took *Spellbound* over to LaPlaya and anchored out. They were joined by **Ken McGlashan** aboard *Shamwari* and **Susan Cox, Joe Aldous** and **Bill Gise** aboard *Sterling Gull*. **Dick** headed over to SDYC in his dinghy to assist the cruisers in the med-tie. *Violette*, with **Dan** and **Vi DeVoe** and **Hank** (don't use my last name) and **Maribel**, became the stake boat and the rest of the boats started tying up on each side. The boats in the med-tie were *Crowning Around* (**Greg** and **Phyllis Walker**); *Boatacious* (**Bruce** and **Donna Young**); *Cosmo* (**Robert, Monica** and **Celeste Oder**); *Happy Ours* (**Mike** and **Gayle Yeakle**); *Lee Star* (**Ed** and **Carol Danielson** with **Shirley Ryan**); *Lorelei* (**Jordan** and **Lori Kellner**), and *Toni Lynne* (**Tom** and **Toni Dean**). Joining the group and having a slip were *River Runner* (**Fred** and **Stephanie Kaufhold**); *Eagle* (**Dean** and **Nancy Eckenroth**); *Racyn* (**Ray** and **Cindy Fritsch**); *Mak Express* (**Marti** and **Pat Nimke**); *Transition* (**Don** and **Eileen Panek**); *Aquila* (**Jim Ginty** and **Allie Collier**); *The Gettaway* (**Scott** and **Bridgette Grimes**), and *Son of a Sailor* (**Kevin Haley**). NOT A SINGLE BOAT CANCELLED!

Once everyone was safely in their slip, anchored out or med-tied, the preparations began for the dock party on Friday night. As usual, there was an abundance of delicious appetizers. Joining the cruisers were **Bob** and **Helon Oder**, **Bob** and **Ruth Martin**, **Wayne** and **Nancy Strickland**, **Debbie Hayes** and **Pat Cooley**. The **Yeakles** gave tours of their new boat and had everyone drooling. It was a cold and damp evening, so groups retired to various boats to visit.

8:00 a.m. Saturday morning came much too soon for some! **Greg Walker** rang the **Bob** and **Mary Powell** Bloody Mary bell and everyone gathered again on the dock for the breakfast potluck, Bloody Mary's (thank you Dick Chilcott for the Bloody Mary mix you donated) and mimosas. We were joined by **Burt Person** and **Bob** and **Ruth Martin**.

On Saturday afternoon **Dean Eckenroth** arranged for a wine tasting at Grape Connections. Many of the cruisers went over to the wine tasting and brought back some grape finds. Another group of adventurous cruisers passed the afternoon playing Mexican Trains on the patio while basking in the warm sun. At 3:00 (on the dot), the clouds moved in and so did the winds. The group quickly left the patio to find a more sheltered place to finish their game. **Phyllis Walker** was the big winner and got a fantastic prize. **Tom Dean** was defeated for the first time in four years! Actually, there were prizes for everything – the loser, the person who got stuck with the double blank the most, the person who started the most games, etc., so everyone ended up a winner! So some of the cruisers tasted wine, others played games and still others (mostly the men) went to West Marine.

Saturday night we had a cocktail party on the dock before the carne asada potluck BBQ. **Ken McGlashan** and **Scott Grimes** started cooking the carne and pollo asada and then **Greg Walker** and **Bruce Young** cut it up. After the meat was cooked, they warmed up the tortillas and everyone dug in. Again, there was an abundance of great foods to be enjoyed by all. The group was joined by **Sandra Fagan, Bob** and **Ruth Martin, Wayne** and **Nancy Strickland, Pat Cooley** (who RODE OVER ON HER BIKE) and **Debbie Hayes**. As is the Cruise Fleet tradition, the hat was passed and \$220 was donated to the SDYC Junior Program.

Sunday morning a group ventured over to Red Sails for a no-host breakfast before heading back to CYC. Two husbands (who shall remain nameless) told their wives that West Marine had new styles of Crocs in. The race was on! They got over to West Marine, and NOOOOOO, there weren't any new styles! But, lo and behold, the guys were able to find some things they "just had to have". We don't think the wives will be so gullible next year!

All boats arrived safely back at their home ports. It just goes to show that a group of boaters (ages four months to 80+) can have a great time together.