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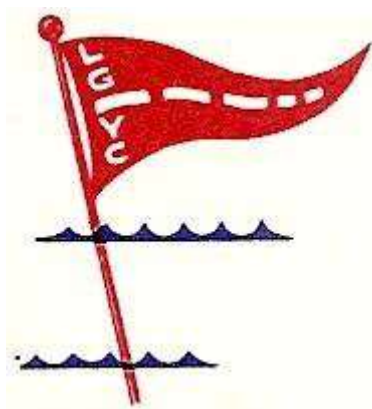
Fw: March 2018 Newsletter

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Mon, Mar 5, 2018 at 10:39 AM

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MARCH LGYC NEWSLETTER

Ahoy Matey's!

February was a brisk and cold month with temperatures freezing and below. Now, the warmer temperatures are bringing in the first signs of Spring.



The Valentine's Day party, on February 10th, was a great success due to the time and effort spent by Entertainment Chair, Billy McCarty and wife, Paula. Chef Van Staagen outdid himself and all of his busy helpers were a great help. Dave McConnell's crooning was wonderful and made for a delightful ending to the evening. Afterwards, it was LGYC party time with the usual Shot Tube making its way out. Below are some of the pictures from the evening:



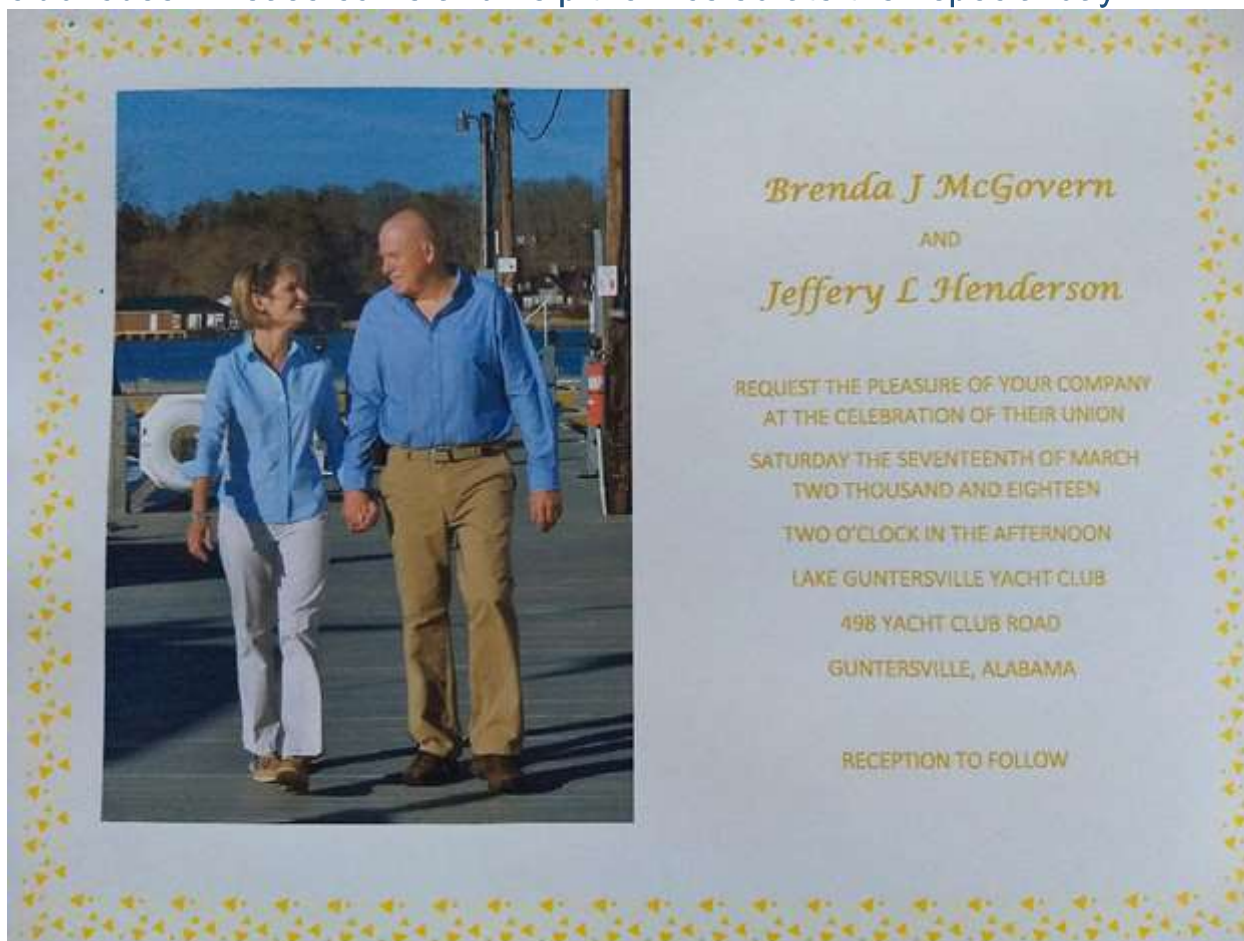




*****No, my shot is not filled with Fireball. I'm still a tea toteler!*****



We have wedding bells that will be ringing for Jeff Henderson and Brenda McGovern this month. Their wedding day will be on March 17th at 2:00 in the afternoon at LGYC on the Party Dock (weather permitting) with a reception to follow in the clubhouse. Please come and help them celebrate their special day.



Ed & Marcia's Wedding celebration reception at Grille 29 was enjoyed by all. They had over 100 people that attended who wished them well on their new journey as husband and wife.



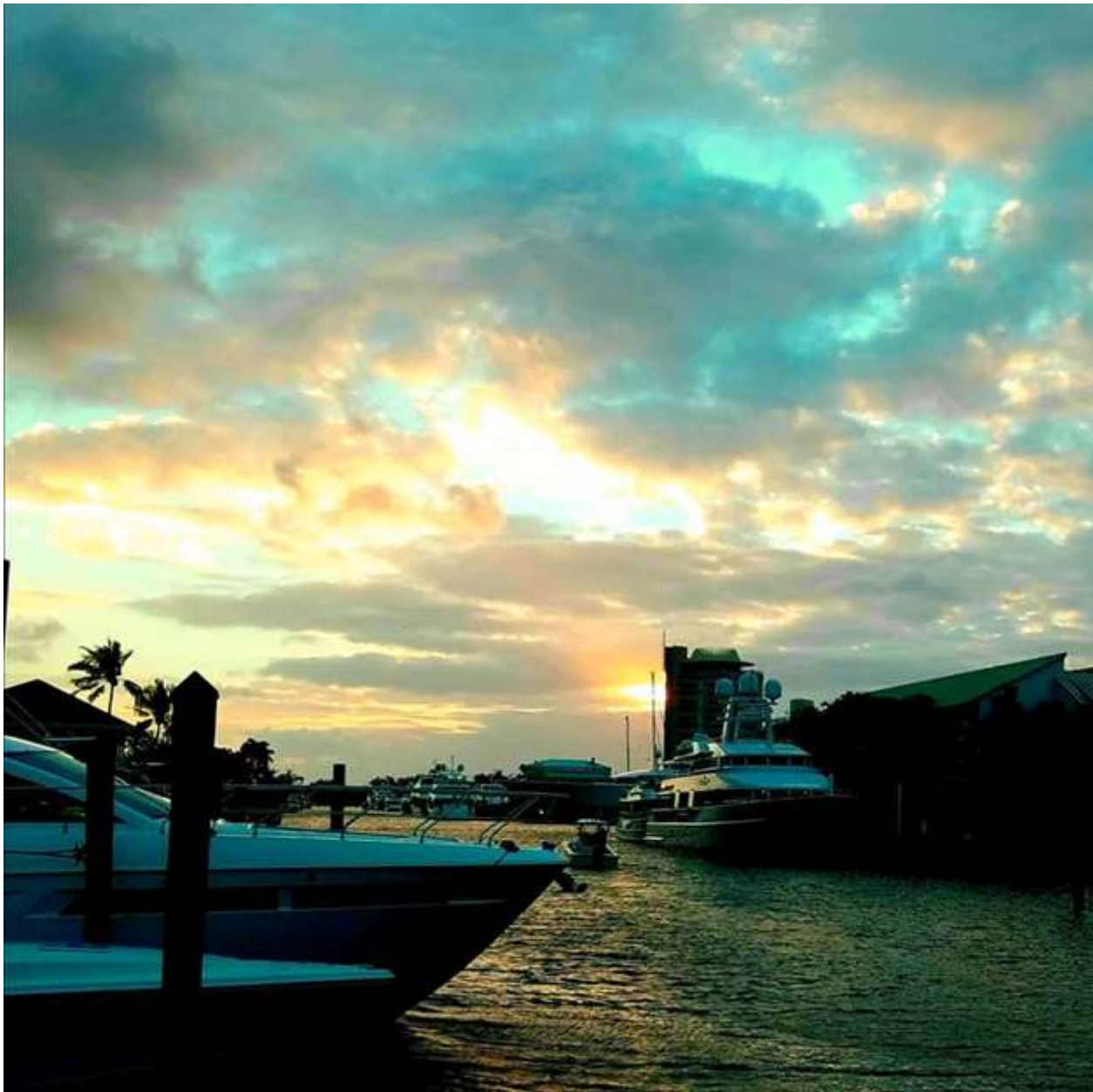
Shane has met with Mike from Estate Management concerning the problem that Guntersville is experiencing with ELL Grass. Estate Management will begin treatments in the next few weeks at LGYC. They will hand spray some in the slips to kill and sink the larger bunches, mostly in B Dock, and those facing North. TVA plans to do LESS spraying and no one really knows, at this point, what that means. Shane wants everyone to know he will try to stay ahead of the ever increasing problem. Please remember to let James, Rick or Shane know if you see more than usual growth as the season progresses.

Per Tommy Gray, the new safety ladders for the party dock have been returned from the galvanizers and should be ready to install next week.

Traveling to the Bahamas:



Our Bahama bound group of travelers, the Heddens, Fachets & Graces left from Ft. Lauderdale and ventured across to the Bahamas on February 27th, with weather, current and wind in full cooperation (except for a small squall that was a bit unnerving). They've had quite an adventure so far with a run-in with a tug in the narrow part of the Tenn-Tom which landed them aground, a couple of bent props due to crab pots and howling winds and surf when they docked along the way. Helen, Nancy and Sarah have kept us informed of their escapades through their Facebook posts. Here are some of the pictures they have shared:



Sunrise in Ft Lauderdale



An Iguana that was not welcomed!



A Captain with a great sense of humor



Sidewalk art in Ft. Meyers



The Sarah G heading out of Venice Pass



Traveling Buddies (I'm sure that "milky white skin" will be replaced with tans by the time they return.

Safe Travels to the Bahamas and return back to LGYC!



Chuck Wills has the following information concerning the HydroFest 2018 event this year:

DATE OF THE RACE WILL BE JUNE 22-24

Boat racing returns to Lake Guntersville this summer, bringing back one of the oldest and most popular tourism events held on the 69,000 acre reservoir. Don't miss this exciting event featuring the Unlimited Series! **Tickets went on sale March 1, 2018.** This weekend will feature other exciting water sports including the Grand Prix World hydros, stock outboard racing as well as a Wakeboard Exhibition with some of the top professional athletes competing in the industry today. Static displays, a boat show, food and fun including the appearance of one of the most famous boats in the history of the Unlimited Series — Miss Budweiser — will round out the festival. Here is a link to the event information: <https://marshallcountycvb.com/on-the-lake/hydrofest>

The Guntersville Lake HydroFest 2018 race will be held at Browns Creek with prime spectator viewing along Sunset Drive.



Attendance at the 3 day event is expected to top 50,000. LGYC will be a part of the event starting on Friday night from 6-9 pm as a special reception for the sponsors, race team owners and drivers will take place at our club. The objective was to share a little Southern hospitality with our valued visitors and LGYC is proud to be selected as the venue for this important event. Unfortunately, due to the large number of people expected to attend, invitations will be for **LGYC members and their spouses ONLY.**

In addition to the Friday night reception, LGYC has been given a very special consideration on sponsorship. LGYC will be a sponsor of the event and be able to promote our club during the event with banners, name and logo on promotional materials and on the HydroFest website, a 20x20 promotional tent at the venue and transportation from LGYC to the event for all 3 days. HydroFest will be an exciting event to attend and will provide exposure to our club that may provide long term dividends.

A special thanks to Chuck Ruddy for his role in coordinating with the Guntersville Lake HydroFest team. We are excited to be a part of this event and will garner a great deal of positive publicity for the club.



Here are a few tidbits of information from our safety Guru, Steve Bosse:

It's that time of year when we look forward to waking up our boat engines and taking advantage of Lake Guntersville's beautiful scenery. BUT, before we do that, let's take the time to check a few things:

1. **Shore Power Cords and Sockets:** When is the last time that you inspected your shore power cords, end connections and sockets? Over time, the connections from your shore power cords to your boat can get loose, corrode or pick up moisture that will compromise the connection. Loose connections get hot and increase the risk of fire or electrical short. So take a few minutes to check them out and replace/repair them if you suspect an issue.
2. **Fire Extinguishers and Safety Gear:** Are your fire extinguishers and safety gear expired? If you don't know, the time to check them out is now! Aerial and hand held flares have expiration dates and should be replaced every few years. So do the ointments and creams in your first aid kit. If you're unsure of your fire extinguishers, replace them. Take 10 minutes to check these out.
3. **Check your bilge pumps:** Do you know if your bilge pumps actually work? When is the last time that you checked them out? Most bilge pumps have a manual/auto switch somewhere on the boat. If you have a switch, It's a good practice to operate the pumps every once in a while to ensure that they work. If you don't have a switch and your bilge pump has an automatic float, you can test the pump by filling the bilge sump with water and letting it pump out. If your pump doesn't work, it's time for some maintenance or replacement.

Until next time,
Steve

 Inline image

Tech Note from Fleet Captain Pete:

This month, I want to address a potentially dangerous problem that we all may see at one time or another during the lifetime of our boats; **Overheating Power Connectors**.

The connectors on our boats and power cables for bringing shore power into the boat require maintenance. This is often maintenance that is overlooked or not understood and is a real threat to your boat and our yacht club. When everything is new, the power can get into our boat with no resistance. The connectors are clean, the wires are tightly attached to the lugs and the conductor is good. Over time, however, things change. The connections get dirty and corroded, the screws that attach the wires to the connections vibrate loose, and sometimes even the contacts get bent and don't fit together well. Any and all of these problems are happening on your boat right now! As the connections between the power cable and the connections on the boat deteriorate, the ability to transfer current into the boat is reduced. These failing connections act as choke points for the current trying to get into your boat. The choke points have a high resistance. For current to flow easily you need low resistance. Low resistance is what you find in copper wiring; say for instance, in an extension cord. High resistance is what you find, for instance, in the coils of your toaster. High resistance generates heat and it can generate a LOT of heat. What happens is when these connections are poor they get hot. When they get hot the electrical characteristics of the materials change PERMANENTLY. The materials typically oxidize and oxides have a high resistance. The problem is that the damage to these connections are permanent and because of that they continue to get worse and worse until they get so hot they start to arc, smolder and eventually catch on fire. Fire on a boat and fire on the docks at a yacht club are NO BUENO!

Here are a few pictures of connectors that have gotten dangerously hot.

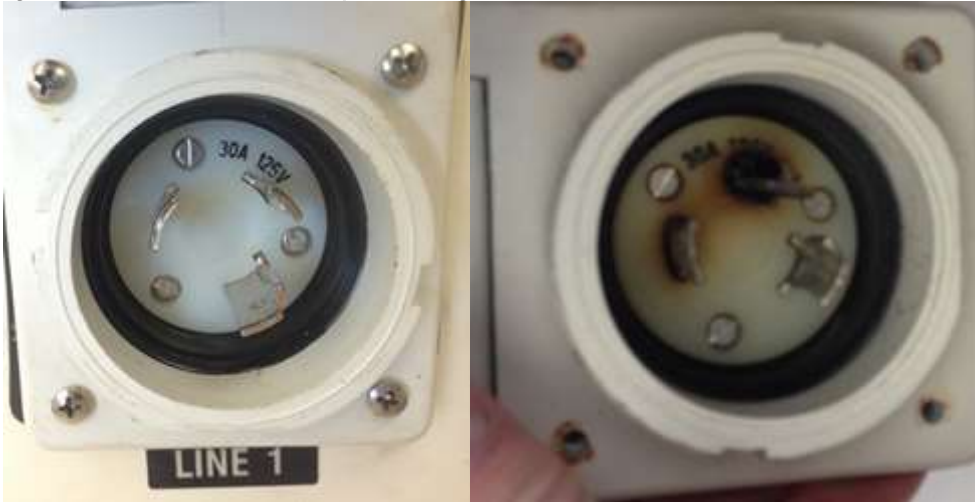


This is not what you want lurking on your boat. So how do you determine when this is happening, or better yet, how can

we prevent it?

Check the following things to determine if you have a potential problem:

1) Visually inspect the connections. Check the ends of the shore power cable and the where they plug into. Here is an example of a good connector and a bad one.



Good

and BAD

2) Feel the shore power cable. If it is hotter near the connector than it is in the middle of the cable, something is wrong.

How can you help avoid/solve this problem?

- A) The ABYC recommends tightening all electrical connections on your boat YEARLY.
- B) Visually inspect the connection every time you put it together. If you see something discoloring, it is time to get it replaced.
- C) Be especially vigilant during seasons of peak loads, like winter heating and summer cooling.
- D) If you find this problem, it has to be repaired correctly. Typically, you must replace both mating connectors and you have to cut back the wires far enough to get back to wire that has not been heat damaged. On a shore power cable, you may have to cut 2-3 feet off the end. In boats, you may have to completely replace the wire because typically they are not long enough to cut off a couple of feet. The less heat damage there is, the less you have to cut off, so fix it as soon as you recognize the problem.
- E) If you drop the shore power cable into the lake, it needs to be disassembled (if possible) and dried before you plug it back in.
- F) Try to support the shore power cable, so that the weight of the cable is not hanging on the connector.
- G) Make sure that shore power cables don't dangle in the water.

Please inspect your connections the next time you are at the boat. We would all like to be as safe as possible.

Fleet Captain Pete

Coming Soon to a Lake near YOU!

The opening of Short Creek (April 7th) will soon be here and I hope you'll be able to join us for a fun day. You should be seeing the Evite from Fleet Captain Van Staagen soon, so be on the lookout!



WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK OF OUR LGYC FAMILY TO PRAY FOR REB AND DIANE BECK. REB HAS BEEN EXPERIENCING A LOT OF HEALTH ISSUES LATELY AND NEEDS OUR PRAYERS, AS WELL AS DIANE. THEY HAVE BEEN MISSED GREATLY AT THE CLUB AND WE HOPE THAT THEY WILL BE BACK AMONG US SOON.

Well, that just about covers the news for March. Remember to send any newsworthy items to me throughout the year, so I can keep everyone at the Yacht Club in tune with what is happening with all our members.

Until next time, “Keep Calm and Sail On!”

Gail