



# THE HARBOR CRIER

DUNEDIN BOAT CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 18, Issue 1, January 2024



# Commodore Corner...

## Welcome to the New Year 2024 of the Dunedin Boat Club!

We all are looking forward to a momentous year this year at the Dunedin Boat Club. I am happy to be your new commodore this year and am looking forward to a wholesome FUN year. The Party schedule is being filled up for the year, the Racing Schedule is filling up, the cruising events are being set up and things are looking great for the 2024 year. The Mardi Gras Float is coming along nicely, if you want to help, watch your email and come join the crew helping to build the float and getting it ready for February 10 BIG parade. Do not forget to come and march in the Mardi Gras Parade on Saturday February 10, 2024. Details coming, so watch your emails for the BIG event, be ready! A lot will be going on this year so get ready for a good one!

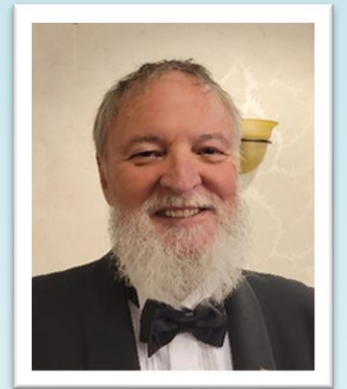
I would like to thank the 2023 Board and Bridge for a good year in 2023, well done. A special thanks to Bill Goocher, our 2023 Commodore for doing an excellent job all year and helping to make a great and easy transition for our board and bridge to 2024. Bill's slogan of "Trim the sails": for his tenure was perfect. The club did trim its sails and is cruising toward a good year in 2024. For that we all thank you.

I do hope you all enjoyed the Change of Watch at the Dunedin Golf Club and give a big thanks to the Blue Gavel for stepping up hosting this event after countless years of our Purser Jack Mallard and Mary Jean Scholl of hosting and doing all the demanding work of planning and hosting this magnificent event. A big thank you too all.

We still need people to help in these positions in the club.

- 1.) Boating co-chair for Cruising: See Gary Schellenberger
- 2.) Auditing people for Finance Committee: See Gary Shellenberger
- 3.) History Committee Chair: See Terry Hopkins

Here is to a great 2024!



**Terry Hopkins, Commodore**  
[commodore@dunedinboatclub.org](mailto:commodore@dunedinboatclub.org)

# Vice Commodore...

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!

Our Speakers for January 15th meeting are **Tracy Love Tippin** and **Jenna Byrne** to talk about the **Annual Hope Spot Festival**.

Tracy is a long-time Dunedin resident, soon-to-be lifetime member of the Dunedin Boat Club, and Windlass since 2008, who raised her two boys right across the street from the marina before moving to Costa Rica and becoming super passionate about the environment. Upon her return, she led classes on sustainability and eco-tours to Costa Rica, and is current director and event planner for Blue-Green Connections, a Dunedin nonprofit focused on sustainable use of land and waters.

Jenna formed the Water Warrior Alliance to encourage the community to join forces in the fight against pollution in February 2017. She unites like-minded groups, businesses, and organizations for the ultimate goal of fighting plastic pollution. Through her plastic-free pledge, many area businesses have swapped price and convenience for a more conscientious and conservation-minded approach and have moved away from single-use plastic.

The **Annual Hope Spot Festival** will be hosted by Blue-Green Connections in partnership with the City of Dunedin on Saturday, February 17th at Edgewater Park to celebrate our waters! It is an ocean-themed, family-friendly event with DJ, live music, food, drinks, Eat Drink Local "Taste of Dunedin", Dunedin Ocean Sweep, community art and activities, live native animals, student entrepreneurs, speakers, and hands-on educational experiences. It features over 60 eco-conscious vendors and ocean-focused exhibitors, including Clearwater Marine Aquarium, Florida Aquarium, Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium, Tarpon Springs Aquarium, Tampa Bay Watch, Tampa Bay Raptor Rescue, US Coast Guard, Water Warrior Alliance, Zoo Tampa and more. It will be similar to the 2023 Hope Spot Festival, which we believe was the FIRST third-party certified Zero Waste Festival on the Gulf Coast of Florida!

# Vice Commodore...

The Dunedin Ocean Sweep Trash Collection Tournament is hosted by Water Warrior Alliance in partnership with Blue Green Connections Hope Spot Festival and generously sponsored by the City of Dunedin. Water Warrior Alliance is eager for the upcoming Dunedin Ocean Sweep Trash Collection Tournament. Their ongoing commitment to this cause continues, and every tournament remains a fundraiser for scholarships for Camp Coral.

This year's event is set to be a dynamic event focused on environmental stewardship and community engagement. Participants, ranging from Dunedin Boat Club members to existing environmental organizations, universities and school clubs, join forces to collect ocean debris across three divisions: Waterborne, shoreside, and a dedicated youth division. Teams will compete in categories such as total weight, most unique item, and a specialty category and many prizes will be awarded!



**Craig Polito, Vice Commodore**

# Change of Watch...



**Member of the Year - Gary Shellenberger**  
**Volunteer of the Year - Doug Moat**  
**Captain Fred Trenner Community Service Award - Linda Christle**



# Cruising Corner...

## Recent Cruises

### December 2023

The Cruising Group Cookout planned for Dec. 17th was canceled due to weather.

## Cruising Group News

### Cruising Group Chat Group

Join in on the DBC Cruising conversations. Members are posting their upcoming boating plans that you can join in on, or spur of the moment openings for a boat ride. But, you have to join the chat group in order to find out what is going on. To join the messaging group, you will need to download an app to your phone, create an account, then ask to join the DBC Cruising Group. Instructions on how to download the APP, and join the Cruising Group are posted on the Cruising Group Form page, [click here](#).

### Cruising Group Co-Chair

We are looking for a co-chair for the Cruising Committee willing to help plan and organize day-trip type boating activities for the club. Co-chairs are not expected to host every event. They are simply asked to plan new activities and support members willing to host the events. If you are interested contact Gary Shellenberger or Terry Hopkins



# Cruising Corner...

## Upcoming Boating Activities

- **St. Pete Power and Sailboat Show Jan. 18 – 21, 2024** - No organized DBC scheduled. However, if you are interested in a new boat, or equipment, or just interested in boating activities this might be worth a visit. St. Pete Power and Sailboat Show
- **Feb. 4, 2024** - Cruising Group meeting at the clubhouse. A short business meeting to discuss possible spring boating activities followed by a social cookout. All members interested in boating and cruising activities are welcome. Please register on the website.
- **Feb. 24-25, 2024** - Clearwater SeaBlues Festival. Clearwater Coachman Park. Cruise or drive down to Coachman Park for a day or stay overnight for a second day of music and food. More details on the website.
- **Mar./Apr. 2024** - A 4 to 5 week long range cruise to the Dry Tortugas or the Keys. More details as they are available. If interested contact Gary Shellenberger
- **May 8 thru May 16, 2024** - Cruising north to Crystal River again this year. More details as they are available. If interested contact Gary Shellenberger
- **June 8, 2024 Island Party** - More details as they are available.
- **Nov. 29, 2024** - Commodore's Annual Thanksgiving Cruise to Caladesi. More details as they are available.
- **Other?** - We need volunteers to host whatever boating event you want to have. Day trip to the beach or overnight to a marina. Whatever you want to do on your boat is always more fun with friends. We will help you organize it, get it on the calendar and promote it. Let us know what you want to do and when you want to do it.

**Gary Shellenberger**  
*Cruising Committee Chair*





# Race Committee...

## **DBC Sailboat Race Season Begins February 3rd**

In 2024, a new Race Class is being added to the Spring and Fall Gulf Series, a “Fun” Class. Historically we have had Spinnaker, Cruising and Multi-Hull classes. These classes require a West Florida Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (WFPHRF) rating. The “Fun” class will not need a WFPHRF and will start their sequence immediately following the rated classes. Anyone interested (competitors do NOT need to be a DBC member) in joining in on the “Fun”, please contact me directly.

## **The dates for the 2024 Spring Gulf Series are as follows:**

- February 3rd
- March 30th
- April 13th

Skippers meeting for the Spring Series will be on February 1st at 7pm at the DBC.

## **The Pass-A-Grille, is March 2nd**

This is this WFPHRF Boat of the Year race which is co-sponsored by DBC and CYC. The race is from Clearwater Pass to Pass-A-Grille. Dinner and Awards will be at the SPYC-PAG Club immediately follow the race.



# Race Committee...

Congratulations to **Island Hopper** with **Captain Carol Elwood**, for taking **2nd place** in the **2023 Gulf Region BOTY series**.

Clearwater Yacht Club is hosting **Gulf Coast Championships**, Part of the **2024 ILCA North American Grand Prix Series**.

Check in for competitors is the evening of March 8th at the Sailing Center. Race days are March 9 – 10. They are expecting over 100 boats and are looking for volunteers on and off the water (including beach support as many from DBC volunteered for in the US Open in previous years). It is very exciting to participate in these large regattas and I encourage anyone that is interested to volunteer. If you are interested in volunteering please send your name, cell and email address to or **Susie Nolan (CYC) 203-843-4250**.



**Amy Gau**  
*Race Committee Chair*



# Mardi Gras Float

## Help build this year's Mardi Gras float!

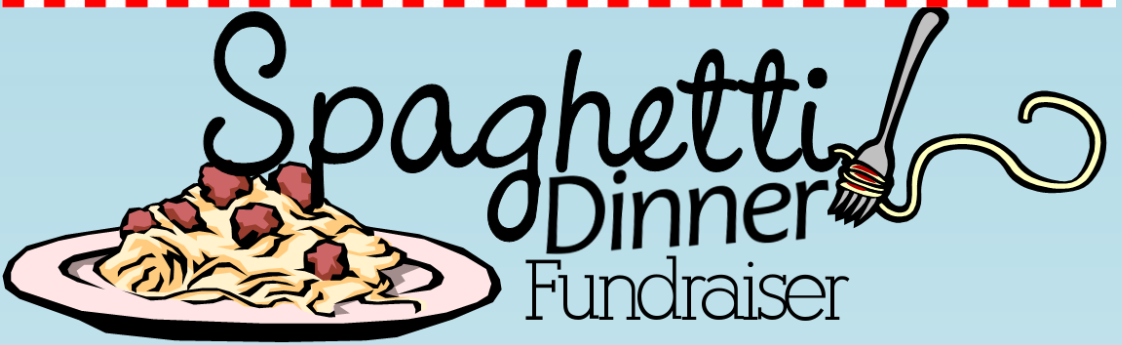
We need volunteers to build the float! It's fun! It's a great way to meet other Club members. For prospective members, it's a great way to fulfill your "Good of the Club" membership requirement.

Work sessions are scheduled for every weekend through Feb. 3 ahead of the parade on Sat., Feb. 10. You don't need to sign up, just show up.

Watch for weekly emails that provide the time and location, the work plan and a list of what is needed for each weekend's work session.



**Lynn Olson, *Mardi Gras Float Chair***



*This is our annual fundraiser to help offset the cost of our Mardi Gras parade float. Let's make this our best spaghetti dinner event ever!*  
**Our hosts are the DBC Cigar Conclave.**

### ATTENDEES:

- DBC Members and Invited guests.
- **NOTE:** Per DBC guidelines, each adult member can invite a maximum of 2 guests.

### DONATION FEE:

- **Members: \$20.00 per person. Each member in a Family Membership must register separately.**
- **Guests: \$35.00 per guest (limit 2 guests per adult member).**
- All proceeds go toward our Mardi Gras parade float.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- All-you-can-eat spaghetti pasta, salad, and garlic toast.
  - **NOTE: This year we are offering a choice of Meat Sauce or Vegan Sauce.**
- You will receive a wristband with 3 drink tickets for beer and wine.

### WHAT TO BRING:

- Please bring a dessert to share!

**[REGISTER AT DBC WEBSITE](#)**



# Volunteers...

SignUps have been created and posted for the Spaghetti Dinner and Burning of the Socks. You can sign up at the link below.

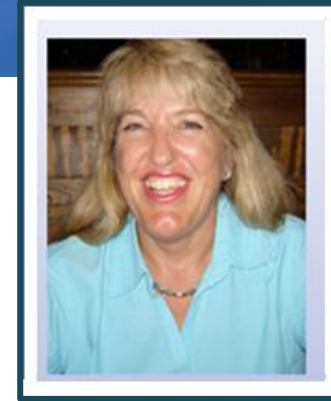
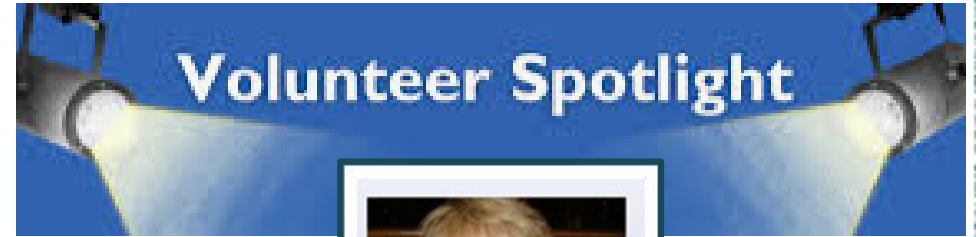
## Dunedin Boat Club – Volunteering

The 2024 Volunteer Chair is Cindy Cole, also Volunteer Spotlight for January.

Please direct any questions to [volunteer@dunedinboatclub.org](mailto:volunteer@dunedinboatclub.org)



**Stacy Muellers**, 2023 Volunteer Committee Chair



Our Volunteer Spotlight this month is on Cindy Cole. In addition to being a Past Commodore and Social Chair, she stepped in to co-chair Social this year, successfully managed the auctions for the Fishing Tournament in the past two years, helped with many things behind the scenes and coordinated our award-winning lamp post entry. She will also be assuming the role of Volunteer Coordinator this year.

# Fishing Report...

Mullet are running now and can be caught with a snatch hook or cast net around the docks and flats. These are great smoked and can be used for a good fish spread! You can also eat the roe, fry or sauté it with your favorite spices.

Fish between the cold fronts and use paddle tails to find nice sized speckled trout and silver trout. Both are tasty however only keep enough silver trout for dinner as they will not keep much more than a month in the freezer. You may also find some redfish while fishing for trout, they also like to hang out in the schools of mullet on the flats.

Fish docks now for sheepshead and black drum using shrimp or fiddler crabs for bait. The smaller drum up to 24 inches are great to eat and will not have worms like the giant adults.

Watch the weather and fish between the fronts!



**Howard Metts,**  
*Fishing Committee Chair*  
[whmetts@yahoo.com](mailto:whmetts@yahoo.com),  
727-631-4191



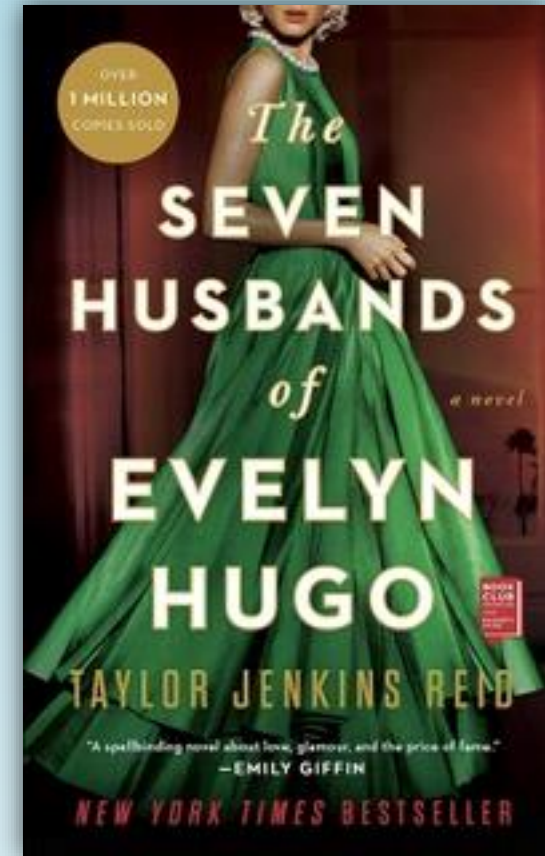
# Book Club...

**The Book Club's next meeting is Wednesday, February 7, at 7pm.**  
Sign up on the Event section of the Boat Club website.

The book selection is:

**“The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo: A Novel,” by Tracy Jenkins Reid.**

Aging and reclusive Hollywood movie icon Evelyn Hugo is finally ready to tell the truth about her glamorous and scandalous life. But when she chooses unknown reporter Monique Grant for the job, no one is more astounded than Monique herself. Why her? As Evelyn unspools a tale of ruthless ambition, unexpected friendship, and a great forbidden love, it becomes clear that her life intersects with Monique's own in tragic and irreversible ways.



**Sharon Grimshaw,**  
*Book Club Chairperson, sgrimshaw983@gmail.com*

For more reading inspiration checkout our book list:  
<https://dunedinboatclub.org/bookclub>



# SHIP'S STORE

Dunedin Boat Club

Ship Store will be open an hour before DBC meetings which are always the third Monday in January, February, March, May, June, July and September. Fall dates will be determined at a later date. We will hold a Friday night Sunset Sale on April 12th.

We have sweatshirts for these chilly winter days/nights, polo shirts, tank tops, t-shirts and other clothing for both men and women. We also sell hats and visors to complete your outfits

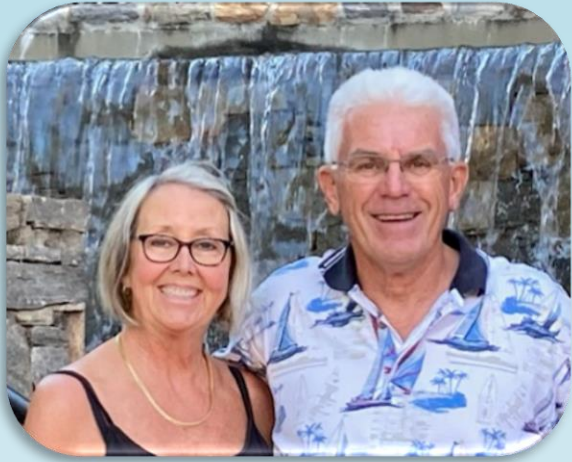
Shot glasses, wine glasses, floating keychains, stainless steel tumblers, fuzzies for bottles or cans and blankets and decorative pillows. Just to name a few of the wide variety of DBC items we have in our Ship Store.

Stop by sometime to say hi, browse and buy yourself something new!



**Jeri Elliston, Jeanne Blain and Irene Brandenberger,**  
*Ship Store Committee*

# Insights...



## January Highlight

**Peter & Mary Kolb**

***Life Members Joined 2003***

Mary began life in a small town in Minnesota, the youngest of 8. She was the only one not born at home on the farm. She grew up in Marshalltown, Iowa. Peter was born in rural southern Illinois, near St. Louis. They met in Seward, NE for high school and college, and were married in 1972. After Peter graduated from Concordia Teachers College, we escaped the cold to his first teaching position in Houston, TX. Son Paul was born there in 1976 and then Stacy was born in Orlando in 1978, after accepting a teaching position there.

Somewhere in these years, Mary's family held a reunion in Estes, CO. Mary's brother-in-law had some experience and rented a sailboat on Lake Dillon for an afternoon. This is where the seed was planted, with the peace and serenity of sailing.



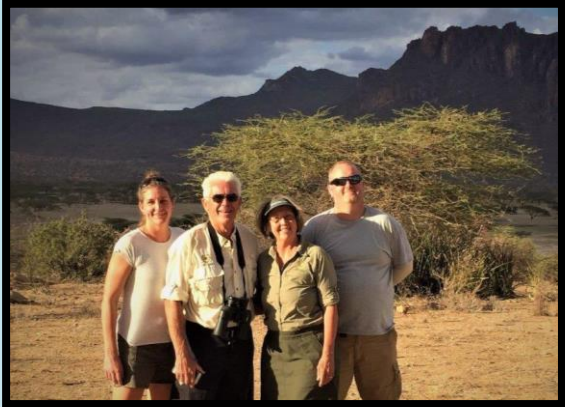
In 1981, we left Orlando, packed up a U-Haul and headed to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Mary again found travel agency work as Peter attended classes, did afterschool childcare, and evening night watchmen work. The graduation assignment was to Seymour, TN, located between Knoxville and Sevierville. Our Appalachian experience was unique to say the least. We were barely accepted as Yankees in the Smokies in 1984.

In 1990 we were given the opportunity to head back to Florida, Peter served the Lutheran congregation in St. Cloud and Mary made plans to open her first travel agency. We built a home on the Orange-Osceola County line. We were equal distant from the St. Cloud congregation, the South Orange Blossom Trail travel agency, and the Orlando Luther High School. These were the high mileage days, but worth every mile. As Peter served the local congregation, we learned Disney was planning a 'front porch' community known as Celebration. This presented us with the opportunity to open a second travel agency and spend even more time on the road. What really got the travel agencies off to a running start was the first gulf war. Nobody wanted to fly internationally, and the agency was named All Cruises – anyone can guess the specialty. With continuing international unrest, we sold the travel agencies to Go Travel and Mary began working for them from home.





# Insights...



We sold the home in Osceola County where the kids completed school and moved to Dunedin in 2002. This was our chance to begin making our sailing dream a reality, we had finally arrived at the salt water. We put a deposit on a slip in the marina before we even went house hunting. A year later we came home with our training boat, a 30' Catalina, joined the Boat Club, and went beer can racing to learn to sail. After a lot of hands-on learning, with all the mistakes to go with it, our GulfStar moved in across the dock from us. A couple more years and it became our home. During all those years I read every issue of Lats & Ats cover to cover. I didn't have time to make all the mistakes myself, I had to learn some lessons the easy way.



We moved aboard in the marina, sold the condo and eased away from the dock. We lived on the boat serving as Caladesi Marina Hosts for 4 months. Not everyone is comfortable doing what we did, we kind of winged it, worked at it, and it worked. We started at 64 years old and took a whole year to make it happen, so we could ease into it. By then we thought we were ready. We left Dunedin Marina on Friday February 13, 2017, Michele Clark threw us our lines for the last time! Mary had tears, but we were finally off! We spent two cruising seasons traveling the coast of Florida from Dunedin to Ft Lauderdale and back. Then continued to Bimini and on down the eastern chain of islands.



We only cruised outside of hurricane season. During storm season we were always holed up somewhere. Every other year the boat was out of the water somewhere for bottom painting for the next cruising season. Again, we were fortunate, we had family and friends who put us up, or put up with us, some for months at a time. We truly lived like gypsies in those days, and it was fun!



# Insights...

We spent Covid quarantined in St. Kitts, but eventually made it to Grenada. After two seasons in Grenada, health issues told us we needed to be back in the states.

In July of 2022 we put Last Call with a broker in Grenada and flew home permanently to Dunedin. A year later we sold the boat. We reside most of the year in our daughter's condo in St. Andrews Links and January to April are in a travel trailer. Peter enjoys time on the water now as a Captain of the Caladesi Ferry and Mary keeps trying to retire as a Travel Agent.



# DBC Business Marketplace...

Business Card 3.5 x 2      \$25

Double Business 7x4      \$50

## NEW ADS

Please support our Boat Club advertisers if you have a need for their services.

**Send your ads to:**

**Jeanine Metts**, Newsletter Chairman, Advertising  
[mettsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:mettsgroup@gmail.com) Questions? Call 727-418-5224

Color jpg preferred. Design available for a small fee.



**Wind Star Charters**

- Three-hour Sunset Charter - \$300
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*Come sail away aboard Wind Star, a 41' sailing vessel located in Dunedin Marina. We specialize in personalized sailing experiences for up to six people. We are lifelong Dunedin residents and Boat Club members. We can also accommodate you if you are interested in participating in boat club activities such as cruising trip.*

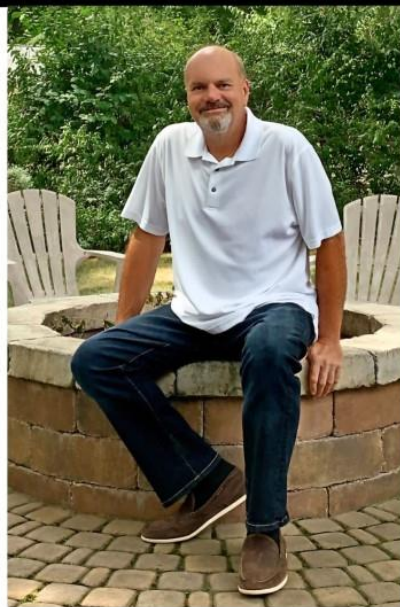
**Book one of our trips or contact us for more information. Our web site is <http://windstarsailingdunedin.com>. Or call 727-304-5110.**

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