



LAKE SOUNDINGS

PULTNEYVILLE YACHT CLUB

Volume 30, No. 4

May 2005



Signals from the Commodore

Good Day Fellow Members,

When this issue arrives it will be in early May, and all boats should be in the water.

The club financial picture is and will be the primary picture to continue to paint this year. While our membership levels remain very depressed, our dock situation has vastly improved due primarily to more non-member rentals because of higher costs elsewhere. The boat and auto shows also have proven successful with the purchase of docks by several people. Thanks to those who put in so much valuable time. As county assessments climb, more people may come our way because Sodus rates will climb to compensate.



I wish to thank those who have assisted us with the Smith Tour and the necessity, as the board sees it, to relocate masts for this event. It is quite an inconvenience to say the least at this time of year, but necessary. Our membership is at 89; when you pulled your boats it was 101. It was 144 when the lease was signed. The goal is to paint the picture of the club in the best light possible so the picture sticks in the minds of potential boaters and they remember "The Best Kept Secret on Lake Ontario" if they decide to become family boaters.

If there are doubts as to the finance situation and anyone thinks we are crying wolf, let me say that a surcharge to take us back to normal funding levels of past years with full dredging would be about \$215 to all members. We do not intend to do that, so we look to increase members and dock rentals. We also would like to reduce the overall age of the club. I would have to believe you agree after a workday is over. People have talked about quitting PYC for this reason or that reason but what seems to be difficult in getting out there is that if we don't attract new memberships of a younger caliber there might not be a club to leave this year, let alone next!

Possibly it is felt that the Cornwall Trust will bail the club out so why bother pursuing new members vigorously. We are working with the Trust within the confines of our signed lease and they have been bending over backwards to assist us; but folks a Trust is set up to generate a profit much the same as your employer. We want to work together with, and not opposed to, them and we are on that path. Bailouts are not the rule of the day; a good cooperative working arrangement is and that includes us doing some inconvenient work to improve the capital asset and some looking for new members. We are responsible for both those items, not the Trust. It is what we asked for and received years ago. In the long picture the goal is to establish a beneficial arrangement to both parties that allows them a good business venture and us a better value than the next guy.

Signals (*Continued on page 5*)

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The Secretary's Corner

Current membership is: 90
Voting, 17 Non-Voting, 0 Social



As I write this article I am looking forward to the 2005 racing season and hoping that the launch goes well. I know that the Executive Committee has thrown many of you a curveball by setting a deadline for removing masts from the pavilion and regrets both the inconvenience and necessity of doing so. The Executive Committee knew when we made the decision to set the deadline that it would inconvenience some members, but we are also very aware of our poor membership and budget standing, which were the sole reasons behind our decision. Our hope was that everyone would agree that we all need to do whatever possible to attract new members and that the Smith College Tour would be a good opportunity to do so. Most of the membership was supportive of the deadline, but we received several negative responses.

These negative responses have highlighted to me a problem that I have observed during my tenure as Secretary. There is some tension between sail and power boaters in the club (and the world in general). I have come to see no reason for this. Some of us pull ropes, and some of us pull levers to make our boats go, but we all love boating and however we make our boats go, we don't really take anything away from each other. If this tension was confined to the water or idle discussion while sitting around the campfire it would not be a problem, but it appears to be affecting the perception of how the club is being operated, and by whom. I have heard many suggestions that decisions made by the Executive Committee are biased by the sail to power ratio on the committee. I can assure you that most votes are unanimous and all are based solely on the by-laws, precedent, and fiscal considerations, not by what type of boat we have. If you doubt that this is true I encourage you to attend our meetings and see for yourself, as you are both welcome and entitled by the by-laws to do so.

Alex Brougham

LAKE SOUNDINGS is published monthly for PYC members, February through December. This newsletter is printed on recycled paper. Please

save it to continue the cycle. Letters to the Editor, suggestions, commentaries, wit, memoirs, tales, seaworthy tips and maritime art are welcome. Disk, e-mail, typed or printed material must reach the Editor by the published deadline. Submissions will be edited and published as space, temperament and accommodations allow.

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Special thanks to those who have contributed to this issue.

PYC OFFICERS:

Brian McCarthy - Commodore
Dick Sheehan - Vice Commodore
Merril Gray - Rear Commodore
Alex Brougham - Secretary
Joe Griffo - Treasurer
Mark Blaakman - Fleet Captain



Rear Commodore Reports

Notes from the Engine Room.....

Launch Day- Anyone in our racing community knows that an unplanned change of course in mid race can, at the finish line, make you a hero or a goat. That is essentially what happened launch day Saturday when members scheduled to launch their boats on Sunday were called and asked to “come in now, we’re going to launch all the boats today.” Everyone who responded to that call knows that that is not what happened. Suffice it to say that those proceedings were a well intended but badly planned and executed attempt to save the club some money. Our apologies for the inconvenience this may have caused some of our members.



Gin Pole- There is now a “Mast Stepping Sign-up Sheet” that allows members to schedule their time at the gin pole for stepping their masts; you’ll find the sign-up on a clipboard in the clubhouse. We’re hoping this will lend some order to the process this year. In addition, signs have been posted to keep the gin pole area and the guest dock clear of boats until May 7th to facilitate the stepping of masts. So that you take as little time as possible at the gin pole, please prep your boat for stepping prior to arriving at the gin pole dock, and leave the gin pole area as soon after your mast is secured as possible, so as not to infringe on the time scheduled for the next boat.

Floating Docks- Launch weekend also resulted in the launching of the Baird Slip Floating Docks, the club's first Work Project of the summer. My thanks to everyone who took part- Mark Blaakman, Mark Laffin, Steve and Debbie Heffron, Bob and Jane Hamilton, CR Burcroff, Joe Griffo, Tom Jayne, John Lyboldt, Cher Gray, Brian McCarthy, and Jim Belaskas. Special thanks to Dick and Kathy Sheehan who stayed the course and saw to it we got a hot meal- very much appreciated.

Soundings- The weekend before launch, you may have seen Joe Griffo apparently fishing in the harbor while everyone else was busy rubbing and scrubbing on their boats. The fluorescent gadget Joe was casting around the harbor was not a lure but a high-tech gizmo that reads water temperature, depths, and yes, even the location of fish, and transmits it back to an LED read-out on his wrist. Enough about Joe and his Dick Tracy depth finder. The point is, we have a current list of soundings in the harbor and I can report the following: at the current lake level, general depth of the harbor, 5-7 feet. Depth in the channel on the range, 7-8 feet. North of the range, next to the rocks, 8-10 feet. South of the range, near the Mariners, the sand hump rises to five feet. So the channel is serviceable but presents a tight squeeze for deep boats meeting and passing in the channel. Negotiations continue on plans to improve the channel situation and we will keep you posted.

Work Days- Since there are only two regular work days this year, I have elected to assign people to teams, either on the regular work days, or to special projects like floating dock launch and pump-out replacement. As much as possible, people were assigned to the tasks they elected to do last season. If you have a conflict, you still have the option of swapping assignments with another member on a different day. The work day schedules are listed on page five of this issue of the “*Soundings*.”

Enjoy your boat! We’ll see you at the club.

Merril Gray
Rear Commodore



Fleet Captain's Journal

Fellow Boaters;

Fleet Captain Work Day is quickly approaching. We have a team of seven so far planning to come out on April 30th (rain date May 7th). We could use a few more good men (or women) - so enlist today! Please note that this counts as PYC obligatory work day. The bulk of the work will include chain rode repairs for the navigation and race marks along with setting the marks. Many tasks have been completed already which include putting our beacon light and range marks in service and launching the raft. Thanks again to Eric Matteson. I got a start on power-washing all the marks. Debbie Heffron finished the job with the help of a better working power-washer. Heartfelt thanks go out to Debbie for taking the initiative to step up and do this. You are definitely a model citizen within the club!



The race committee recently met, discussed our scoring system, and options we have for improving matters. Several ideas surfaced and after punching holes in most of the proposals it became clear that we should dual score using Club Handicap and PHRF methods. I have decided to adopt this system which will basically work as follows:

- PHRF scoring will apply for both the NFS and FS fleets
- Flags will be awarded on race nights for PHRF standings
- Club Handicap scoring will apply to both fleets
- Club Handicap standings will be announced (special flags TBD)
- Club Handicaps will be determined on boat rating and crew performance
- Club Handicaps will have subtle adjustments (+/- 12 sec max) when applied
- Bowersox, Bown, and Ely Moonrace will be scored PHRF only

The Club Handicap scoring will differ significantly from the Echo system used last season. This newer method will be carefully managed and tempered to prevent wide rating swings and unexpected results. It will be explained in more detail at the first skipper's meeting.

The Jim Ely Moon Race has been rescheduled for the evening of Friday, July 22nd and the morning of Saturday the 23rd. Full moon is July 21st. This change was made to make it a mid-season race, avoid the near back-to-back date with the Hospice, and clear a personal conflict too.

2005 Season Race Calendar

Tune-Up Races & Skipper's Meeting => 5/12
Spring Series => 5/19, 5/26, 6/2, 6/9, 6/16, 6/23 (WX date)
ACB Trials (TBD) => 5/21 or 5/28 or 6/4
Bowersox Race => 5/29
Summer Series => 6/30, 7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4 (WX date)
Jim Ely Moonrace => 7/22 & 7/23
Fall Series => 8/11, 8/18, 8/25, 9/1, 9/8, 9/15 (WX date)
Hospice Race => 8/27
Bown Race => 9/10

Weekend racing is scheduled as follows for anyone that wishes to participate - women skippers included! They will be Genoa Only races. The dates are: 6/4, 6/19, 7/2, 7/17, 8/6, 8/21, and 9/3 on alternating Saturdays and Sundays. I will need help with race management for these dates. Please volunteer!

The automatic committee boat project is moving along well. Scott Nichols made a presentation to the PYC board during our last meeting. I plan to schedule a 3 hour period on a Saturday with many race starts or short races to allow for trials and training. I hope to get a good turnout for this as we'll all need some expertise at operating the system.

I'm looking forward to a fun filled, exciting, and safe racing season.

Mark Blaakman
Fleet Captain



Vice Commodore Reports

Hi Folks,

Well spring has finally sprung and it looks to be a good one. Launch is behind us now, and hopefully we can look forward to a long and pleasant boating season.

Work day #1 is the 14th of May and the Commodore's Review is on the 21st of May let's have a strong showing for the Commodore this year.

In addition, remember to save the date, June 11th, for the Commodore's Brunch. It's always a well attended affair with a fine breakfast and a great opportunity to meet our new members.

During your comings and your goings to and from the clubhouse, you'll see some new signs up at the pavilion, reminding members that the clubhouse and pavilion are a "carry in, carry out" area. Members who use those facilities should please dispose of their refuse in the club dumpster, located conveniently behind the picket fence near the water pump station.

Also, as soon as we can arrange it, there will be a new receptacle at the pavilion for you to deposit your "returnable bottles and cans only." This is an attempt to provide an additional convenience to club members as well as keep the club's common areas neat, clean and presentable.

Dick Sheehan
Vice Commodore



Signals from the Commodore *(continued from front page)*

It was proposed in the December meeting that the OOD clean up around the pavilion and the house as a matter of routine. The board rejected the proposal, with the caveat, that it's everybody's job not one person's and not just on weekends. We do need everybody to pick up and tidy up after themselves or if they see a quick job that needs to be done, do it. It's what we do.

Several members have asked that we mention the issue of pets at the club. Members need to consider the feelings of others that may not enjoy nor appreciate free roaming pets around the club. We have updated our FAQ to reflect the bylaws regarding this issue. It is a bylaw and pets need to be on board or on a leash at all times. Please respect your neighbors.

The 2006 nominating committee has been formed and has already met. They will be looking for candidates to fill open positions on the board. Currently those are Secretary, Fleet Captain, and Rear Commodore. So if you disagree with current actions or believe you can do it better or you just want to help, you are encouraged to call one of these fine people: Roger Carr, Wendy Axtell, Terry Weagley, Mark Laffin and Donna Ecker.

Last thought of the day. In the next couple of issues of "Lake Soundings" notices will appear that hard copy "Lake Soundings" will be discontinued in early Fall, with only remaining sources being the web page or electronic mailings for probably the last three issues this year and forever after that. This is not a cost cutting initiative nor is it a goal. Hard copy would be preferred to continue as is. Merrill and Cher will continue on as Editor/ Publishers. Bob Hamilton has done a superb job as Printer of "Lake Soundings" for many years and was looking for a replacement when I was secretary years ago. That is the simple fact. A replacement printer has been requested for the past 5-6 years with no takers. Now it's finally time to either get a new volunteer to do the job or go full electronic. With a new oncoming Secretary this year we have to make the break. The deadline is there; it's your call if you would like to continue receiving hard copy. We would need a volunteer printer to do so. It has been discussed and there are no other options available.

Here is to a fine season to be had by all; see you on the water.

Brian McCarthy
Commodore

Work Day Assignments

Fleet Captain Work Day April 30, 2005

Blaakman,
Axtell
Bolt
Rice

Floating Dock Launch Crew Sunday Afternoon, April 24, 2005

Gray
Gheer
McCarthy
Griffo

Work Day #1 Dock Construction May 14th, 2005

Weagley
Fisk
Thurston
Keller
Chapman
Jelsma

North Shore Cleanup May 14th, 2005

Darrow
Fitzgibbon
Marron
Schiff
Sorrells
Webster
Brougham
Stevens
Foley
Ecker
Bertoni

Pump-out Upgrade Project Date TBD

Gray
Sylvester
Wilkinson
Saporito
Hauck

Planting Crew May 14th, 2005

Kukuvka
Shultz
Stage
Corbin
Williams
Thompson
Palmer
Brickle

Dock Repair Crew May 14th 2005

Matteson
Matyi
Levy
Fuller
Walluck
Hill
Borreson

Work Day #2 Dock Construction June 18th 2005

Jayne
Anderson
Yaeger
Lyboldt
Galskoy
Kay

Baird House Tree Removal June 18th, 2005

Gray
Heffron
Critchlow
Abate
Boesel
Bopp
Broderick
Fedick
Hilgert
Hunt
Laffin
Nichols
Pretzer
Wurtenberg

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC

**SUNDAY, MAY 30TH
5:00 PM at PYC PAVILLION**

Chicken Breasts, Hot Dogs, Veggie Burgers, Beer, Wine, Soda, Coffee & Tea will be provided.

Please bring a salad if your last name begins with A – G.

Please bring an hors d'oeuvre if your last name begins with H – P.

Please bring a dessert if your last name begins with N – Z.

Reservations # _____ @ \$7.50/Adult
Required # _____ @ \$3.50/Child
By 5/25 # _____ @ \$8.50/Guest

Please mail reservations to:

Terry & Dave Weagley
41 Buffalo Horn Circle
Henrietta, NY 14467-9547

Name _____

Total _____

COMMODORE'S BRUNCH & NEW MEMBERS' RECEPTION

**SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH
10:00 AM at PYC PAVILION**

Pancakes, French Toast, Sausages, Maple Syrup, Adult Brunch Beverages, O.J., Coffee, Soda, and more...

We will be concurrently having a "BOAT STUFF" lawn sale adjacent to Pavilion.

Reservations # _____ @ \$6.00/Adult
Required # _____ @ \$3.00/ Child
By 6/7 # _____ @ \$7.00/ Guest

Please mail reservations to:

Steve and Debra Heffron
2191 Monroe Wayne City Line
Macedon, NY 14502.

Name _____

Total _____



LAKE SOUNDINGS

P.O. Box 137
Pultneyville, NY 14538

Pultneyville Yacht Club Site at the Web:

<http://www.pultneyvilleyachtclub.org/>

PYC LOG

The PYC LOG is our way of telling the members what is in the wind for the coming weeks. Please read it over and mark your calendars for these important Club events.



- May 7 Smith College Tour of Homes Visitation
- May 14 Work Day #1; 8:00 AM
- May 21 Commodore's Review
- May 29 Bowersox Memorial Day Race
& Picnic
- June 11 Commodore's Brunch (11:00 AM),
New Member Reception, General
Meeting (2:00 PM)
- June 18 Work Day #2; 8:00 AM