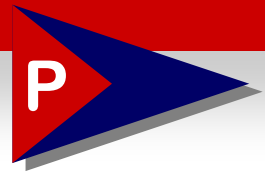


Pultneyville Yacht Club



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Signals from the Commodore

If it's February, it must be a Happy New Year!

The PYC Executive Committee met January 3 to map activities and events for the 2012 'social' calendar. The

calendar, always subject to revision, can be found, along with lots of other good stuff, in this issue of Soundings as well as on the PYC Website.

An early heads up: the order of business for Memorial Day weekend (May 26-28) is a little different this year. On Saturday May 26, we will serve brunch and welcome new members at 10 A.M., followed by the Commodore's Review at 1 P.M. We will gather, around the flagpole, for flag raising at 4 P.M on Sunday May 27. The Bowersox Memorial Race goes off at 9 A.M. on Monday May 28 and we wrap up the 'official' program with a new style event - a hosted "Tea Time Chef—Hors d'oeuvres" at 4 P.M.

The idea behind bundling activities is both to make a great splash to kickoff our season and to have a proper observance. There is enough going on so that you can move in for the weekend or drop in, without feeling as though you are giving up something at home with family. Even a hard working Club can afford the time to observe some traditions of boating, camaraderie and citizenship.

The Executive Committee has also made a good start on setting priorities for capital projects. Rear Commodore **Mark Laffin** has taken the lead in reaching out to Members for project ideas. We will figure out what we can pay for and how at our next meeting on February 8. While we do set aside (project)

funds for capital purchases in our annual budget, many of the things that need doing are likely multi year projects which may involve additional funding and partnership with the Cornwall Trust.

Let me briefly address a couple of issues broadly related to overall Club operations. I will, again, appoint a Nominating Committee to identify candidates to serve on the PYC Executive Committee. Our By-laws state that Officers are elected for a one (1) year term; in practice, most Officers stand for re-election and serve for two (2) years. At the behest of the Board of Governors, the current Executive Committee is discussing how to reconcile Club and Member interests when it comes to "... a willingness to serve." One avenue is to continue to review roles and responsibilities of the various Officers. This issue has direct bearing on the work of the Nominating Committee. I welcome your interest in serving on this Committee.

We are all paying very close attention to the status of our PYC Racing Program. **Deb Heffron and Dave Muth** are co-chairing an ad hoc Committee to develop additional alternatives for putting a Race Committee on the water. **Charlie Burkwit, Ernie Matyi, Stu McDonald and Ellen Wozniak** have agreed to serve on this Committee. I will serve as an ex-officio member and only vote in the event of a tie on any motion.



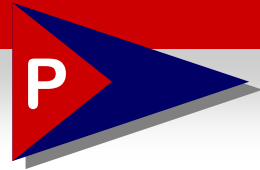
Feb
2012

Activities
This Month

February 27th @ 1:00 PM

Winter Cabin Party—Camp Eastman

www.Pultneyvillyachtclub.org



The Executive Committee has provided some guidance on how to identify and to approach the problem at hand. We have asked the Committee to address several questions, including WHO benefits from a Race Program and WHAT measures success. Note that both questions are Club-wide ones. It may also be worth trying to recall how we got here. Last November the Executive Committee accepted findings in the Report of a Committee, charged with determining the feasibility of a self-funded race program. The findings, in a nutshell, are that the standard practice is a yacht club sponsored racing program which includes a DEDICATED Race

Committee and a Committee Boat.

My own view is that we are sitting on a story of success in serving the needs of our entire Membership. Regardless of how we go about solving the above problem, my goals, in no particular order, are to (1) retain current and attract new Members to PYC, (2) sustain the Club-wide level of interest, participation and competition and (3) preserve our racing history.

Larry



LAKE SOUNDINGS is published monthly for PYC members, February through December. Letters to the Editor, suggestions, commentaries, wit, memoirs, tales, seaworthy tips and maritime art are welcome. Submissions will be edited and published as space, temperament and accommodations allow
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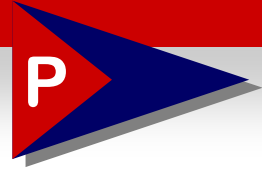
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Special thanks to those who have contributed to this issue.

PYC OFFICERS:

Larry Rice - *Commodore*
Nancy Gong - *Vice Commodore*
Mark Laffin - *Rear Commodore*
Barry Gheer - *Secretary*
Pamela Bray - *Treasurer*
Jon Flowerday - *Fleet Captain*



Notes from the Vice Commodore



Here it is, a new year for PYC with a few new officers. I'm honored to be here to serve this great club and excited about carrying on, embellishing and adding to the great foundation of social events that previous Vice Commodore's have established. Thank you **Kathy**

Fedick, Past Vice Commodore -Cebare for leading the way with great energy and spirit and always with a smile. I have great sandals to follow. I may even start wearing cute skirts!

I'm jumping right in here. You'll see the calendar of events in this issue of the Soundings. Please take a moment and mark your calendars to be sure not to miss out on the fun. We're going to mix things up a bit this year and spice it up with some new things, but we'll keep the popular events.

So far, this is what is in store for the year. Kicking off the season will be the Winter Cabin Party at the Wayne H. Spies, Jr. Conference Center at Camp Eastman across from Durand Eastman Beach on February 26th. It will be hosted by **Don and Diane Boesel, Avalon and Tim and Ellen Wozniak, High Life**. We'll pray for snow (we'll need the water in the spring) so we can play, so bring your alpine skis, sleds and other winter toys. Do we have any polar bears in the club? More information and the reservation form is in the newsletter – send it in early to help us plan.

We'll continue the tradition of BYO Picnics, The Roast, Tacky Nite Light Night with Hosts: **Greg and Stephanie Fitzpatrick, Libra and Fall Banquet/Cups & Flags Hosts, Jon and Carolyn Flowerday, Pandora**. We've made some changes to the normal scheduling of Memorial Day Weekend - Picnic and Brunch. We've added a salute and perhaps some music. We hope it will make it a great reason for you to spend the whole weekend at the club. There isn't a better way to start the season than getting your boat ready while having regular intervals of good food and visiting with your friends and extended family on and off the water just hanging out at PYC. Lazy days .

Open Boats will be held the same weekend as the Pultneyville Homecoming in July. This year, we'll have

a Progressive Lunch with more boats participating as we amble from boat to boat.

Recognizing we have some fabulous cooks in the club, this year we'll introduce "Tea Time Chef—Hors d'oeuvres" to be held a couple of times this summer. These delicious morsels will not be your everyday appetizers. I'll be looking for guest chefs - members to show off their talents!

We're talking about doing something different to the Commodore's Challenge. If you have any ideas of how to get more people involved, let's talk. Watch for more.

In September, we will inaugurate The International Feast where members will have the opportunity to bring a dish that represents the majority of their pedigree or ethnic origin - however they prefer to view themselves! What will Oliver bring?! He is a French descendant.

To make it fun, I'll be looking for hosts and co-hosts for events, TTC's - Tea Time Chefs, Progressive Lunch Hosts, Open Boat Hosts, Club Cruise Director, and Volunteers for helping in the Clubhouse for the Works Days (Work Day 1 Hosts, **Merril & Cher Gray, Green Eyed Lady**, Launch, Haul). If you see an event you think would be fun to host or volunteer to help with you can send an e-mail to: **nancy@nancygong.com** or sign up on the sign up sheet at the Cabin Party. It's a great way to spend time with old and new friends while helping to make things happen. Thank you to all of you who have already volunteered to help with various events: **Tom Jayne, Dave Muth, Mark Laffin, Cathy & Stu MacDonald, Anneliese Bopp, Daryl and Michele Hunt!**

A huge PYC family and friends photo session on water and on land is in the works. Watch here for more. All you need to do is to show up and have fun. I'm all ears if you have additional ideas.

For now, Wee. Wee. Weeeeeeeeeeee! See you at the Cabin Party!

Nancy

FINE WINE & FINE ART EVENT AT THE LANDING AT PULTNEYVILLE

The second in a series of "Fine Wine & Fine Art" events is on **Wednesday, February 1st** at The Landing at Pultneyville hosted by The Pultneyville Grill and Artisans' Loft. Featured will be highly rated wines from Yangarra Vineyards, a winery from McLaren Vale, Australia. Included are: 2008 Syrah, 2006 Cadenzia, 2009 Rousanne and 2009 Viognier. The gallery will feature legendary Kodak photographer, Neil Montanus, who will be joined by his son Jim also a photographer. Neil is best known for the photography he did for Kodak which includes over fifty Coloramas that anchored Times Square in NYC for so many years. He will talk about his career and life as a photographer, exhibit a number of international photos representing his work, and recall anecdotes from his experiences photographing famous people, models and subjects. The price is \$15. inclusive, for the wine tastings, hors d' oeuvres and visit with Neil. Reservations are required for this event which goes from 7 to 9 pm. and can be made by calling the Grill at 315.589.4512.



Notes from the Pilothouse

It's hard to believe that we will be launching our yachts in a little over three months for another exciting season on the water. In the meantime, winter is upon us with freezing and thawing, precipitation and very windy days. If you haven't checked on your boat this winter, you should do so. The ground un-

derneath your jack stands or cradle is sure to have moved, and your hull has settled a bit because it is not in the water; adjustments may be required. The wind may have moved or blown away your cover, leaving your boat exposed to the snow and ice, which can quickly damage your boat.

I'm very happy that nearly everyone on the Rear Commo-dore team is returning in 2012. **Greg Fitzpatrick** is replacing **Mike Saporito** (thanks Mike!) as Dock Master. **Tony and Jean Belaskas** will be our Facilities Mangers and responsible for Harbor Safety. Haul/Store/Launch will be in the capable hands of **Fred Bertoni**. **Bob Hamilton** has agreed to keep the forklift in top shape. **Don Boesel** will be keeping the pump-out flowing. **Joe Davis and Stu MacDonald** have agreed to lead the two Club workdays in May.

Two Volunteers Needed: I need two volunteers to do the harbor depth soundings in the spring (early April, before launch) and fall (September). It's not a difficult or time consuming job but, a very necessary one. No special skills are required, just a few hours of time. Thanks to **Rob Mercury** for doing the harbor soundings in 2011. Please contact me if you are interested.

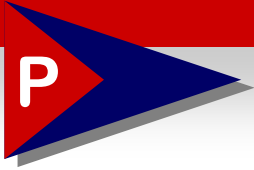
We're off to a quick start preparing for the summer season. We will launch the yachts stored at the harbor on Saturday

April 14th. Clark Rigging is all set to provide crane services for launch and both haul dates, and Harley will be back operating the crane. More details and team assignments will be in the March issue. The contract for the cleaning service should be in place by now. I'm planning to solicit bids for the lawn service to see if we can get an improvement in the quality of the service at a competitive cost.

We will be walking around the Club grounds and buildings in March to compile a list of projects for the workdays scheduled for May 5th and May 12th. If you have a project that you would like to add to the list, please contact me by email. Your full and active participation in the workdays is very important to helping us get the buildings, grounds and harbor ready for the yachting season. At least one person from each Voting Membership Unit is required to participate in at least one workday. Joe and Stu will be making project assignments in March and we will publish more details in the April Lake Soundings or by email.

The Cornwall Trust is planning to dredge the harbor this summer. They have engaged a dredging contractor and are preparing the DEC permit application. We will be doing hydraulic dredging this year. The dredge is mounted on a barge and uses an auger and pumps to remove material from the harbor bottom. The hydraulic dredge will allow us to get into areas of the harbor that other dredging techniques don't permit.

The DEC will not allow us to dredge between March 15th and June 30th because of fish spawning, so we will be dredging sometime during July or August. We will need everyone's cooperation during the dredging operation; yachts will have to be moved from slips on short notice once the



Notes from the Pilothouse *(continued)*

dredging is underway. More details will be published when they are available.

I have been busy speaking to many people in the Club to get their thoughts and suggestions on improvement projects that we can complete in 2012 and 2013. I have a pretty good list of projects and I'm in the process of getting budgetary estimates for some of the projects so that we can prioritize and decide which projects to fund. If you have a project that you would like considered, please email me with your suggestion soon. The Executive Committee will be discussing our recommendations with Mary and Chris Densmore of the Cornwall Trust in March and a final list will published shortly afterward.

Please don't forget to check your boat if you are stored on the hard at the Club.

Mark



Secretary's Corner

I do not have any membership number to report this month as I am still going through the returns. I do have two items to pass along.

First, I am looking for photographs for both the 2012 calendar and the membership log. If you some candidates from last season, please send me a ".jpg" file. I hope to have the calendar ready by the winter cabin party on February 26.

Second, is an article from the D&C late last year for those who did not see it. The Environmental Protection Agency is introduced a ban on sewage discharge by boaters on Lake Ontario. The band takes effect in December 2011. The article did list PYC as having pumpout facilities, so we made have a few more visitors this season.

Hope to see you at the winter cabin party.

Barry





2012 PYC WINTER CABIN PARTY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH, 1PM TO 6PM

Camp Eastman

Wayne H. Spies, Jr. Conference Center Lodge
(on Lakeshore Boulevard)

Hosts: Don & Diane Boesel | Tim & Ellen Wozniak

“A nice modern lodge on 190 acres” for
PLAYING IN THE SNOW, Nordic skiing
Small hill for sledding.

\$7.50 per Person | \$30 per Family pays for
Good company, the snow....

Chili, stew, side dishes to share, soda, beer, wine and hot chocolate.
Ahhhhh!

Send your reservation by **February 12** to:
Diane Boesel
911 Bunker Hill Dr.
Macedon, NY 14502-8811

Be happy, just be happy!!!
Bring your snow, toys, lodge, games
And extra clothes if you think you'll
need them!



Your Name(s): _____

of People attending: _____

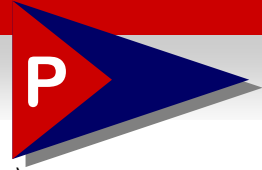
Amount enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to *Pultneyville Yacht Club*

Let Diane know what you will be bringing: ___ Hors d'oeuvres ___ A Side Dish ___ Dessert



2012 Pultneyville Yacht Club Calendar



Updated January 23, 2012

(Changes/updates will be sent by email and published in the Lake Soundings)

Date	Time	Event
19-Jan	11:59 PM	Annual Dues Renewal Deadline
26-Feb	1:00 PM	Winter Cabin Party
April 14-15	7:00 AM	Launch Boats (April 16 only if needed)
21-Apr	8:00 AM	Fleet Captain Work Day
5-May	8:00 AM	First Club Work Day
12-May	8:00 AM	Second Club Work Day
26-May	10:00 AM	Commodore's Brunch
26-May	1:00 PM	Commodore's Review
27-May	4:00 PM	Memorial Day Flag Raising, Picnic, and New Member Reception
28-May	9:00 AM	Bowersox Memorial Day Race
28-May	4:00 PM	First Tea Time Chef—Hors d'oeuvres
9-Jun	1:00 PM	General Membership Meeting
June 15-16		Scotch Bonnet Race
16-Jun	4:00 PM	Tea Time Chef—Hors d'oeuvres
17-Jun	1:00 PM	BYO Picnic
21-Jun	7:00 PM	Jim Ely Memorial Moon Race (Full moon Fri Jun-4)
June 23-24		SBYC Challenge Cup
6-Jul	TBD	PYC Long Distance Challenge Race (To Cruise Site)
July 6- 8		Club Cruise (Fri—Sun) (tentative)
7-Jul	TBD	Fun Race (Cruise Event)
14-Jul	4:00 PM	Tea Time Chef—Hors d'oeuvres
July 15-22		Dredging
21-Jul	9:00 AM	Pultneyville Homecoming / Open Boats / Progressive Lunch (11 am – 1 pm)
21-Jul	3:00 PM	Fun Race
21-Jul	Sunset	Tacky Light Night and Overnight
4-Aug	11:00 AM	Ladies Skipper Race
4-Aug	5:00 PM	Club Roast
15-Aug	11:59 PM	Haul Signup/ Payment Deadline
18-Aug		Hospice Race (Rochester)
25-Aug	1:00 PM	Commodore's Challenge* (PYC Host) (Watch for changes)
1-Sep	9:00 AM	Bown Race
1-Sep	5:00 PM	BYO Picnic (Cornwall Pavilion)
8-Sep	9:00 AM	First Cradle Day
8-Sep	2:00 PM	General Membership Meeting and Officer Elections
8-Sep	4:00 PM	International Feast
15-Sep	8:00 AM	First Haul-out Day
13-Oct	9:00 AM	Second Cradle Day
20-Oct	7:00 AM	Second Haul-out Day
27-Oct	9:00 AM	Fleet Captain Work Day
3-Nov	Evening	Fall Banquet/Cups and Flags (location to be announced)
2-Dec	1:00 PM	Annual General Membership Meeting; Pultneyville Fire Hall

* Event shared with Pultneyville Mariners

Q&A

At the December general meeting, the findings of the committee to study an autonomous racing program were presented, but there wasn't enough time to address all the questions raised. To improve everyone's knowledge of the situation, we've included a Q&A of common questions we've heard here. In addition, the findings report has been posted on the website

<http://www.pultneyvilleyachtclub.org/racing/RaceCommitteeFindings.pdf>

How much would it likely cost?

- A racing program requires some kind of all weather, open water boat with a trained, reliable race committee to execute the race, including setting the line, calling the start, adjusting race length for changing wind conditions, and timing race finishes. We looked at a variety of options for both boat (either buy one of use someone else's) and staffing (from paid, to volunteer to combinations), and chose an option with a boat purchase and a partial paid/volunteer crew for the rest of the analysis. We would expect this would cost in the range of \$10K to purchase a suitable boat, somewhat a function of what time of the year it's bought.

We've had racing since the club's inception. Why do we need to do anything ?

- For the last several seasons, in order to get "eyes on the line" to start, finish, and shorten races, the fleet captains have sacrificed their racing season and conducted races using their own boats. This is neither a sustainable model (ie expecting anyone to sacrifice their entire racing season), nor a safe one (a sailboat is not a safe platform when at anchor in rough weather).

- We've tried for many, many years to avoid making an investment like this, and despite trying many different alternatives, have not been able to make any of them work well enough. There have been a number of variations of club members using their boats (racers and non-racers) and at the opposite of the spectrum, tried self timed races and nothing has worked well enough to avoid falling back to the fleet captain sacrifice option.

- Extensive benchmarking with other area clubs was performed to search for other alternatives. We were unable to find any club, anywhere (on the planet?), that was conducting a racing program using a model relying on club members, using their boats, and sacrificing their season to conduct the races. All benchmarked clubs had one or more club owned committee boats, and a variety of different staffing alternatives, but none required individuals to sacrifice their entire racing season to conduct the races nor relied on putting member's boats at risk

Is it something the racing skippers could/should pay for alone?

- To assess the "autonomous" aspects of the inquiry we calculated the "cost per person" under a variety of definitions of possible populations (skippers of racing boats, all members racing, whether on their boat or other's, and all members and guests racing). While obviously the larger the population, the lower the cost per person, but also, the larger the population, the more vague and unenforceable the proposal becomes.

- The easiest identifiable "target" population would be the skippers of racing boats, however that would make it a prohibitively large individual expense, violating the club's bylaws "To keep the club within the financial resources of the man of moderate means without handicapping the abilities of the individual or the Club".

- Given there is some change in who races, year to year, and during the season, confidently identifying the "racing" population is also problematic (Do folks racing one race pay the same as those racing all? Can someone just skip the year the boat is bought? Single handed pay the same as crewed? What is someone drops out/joins mid season? etc.).

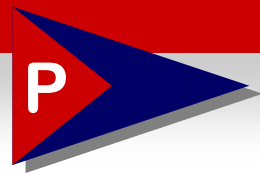
- Figuring out how to create a separate, independent financial organization that is still part of the yacht club in some form (essentially a separate yacht club within the yacht club) would also be awkward, a precedent with many potential unintended consequences, and may be in conflict with the bylaws.

- For the above reasons, it was felt that an autonomous "club within a club" was not viable.

How do all the other clubs approach it and come out with a different conclusion than PYC?

- Surprisingly, PYC racers already pay more in "racing fees" than any of the other comparable clubs, yet have no where near the same infrastructure. This was tested with each of the other clubs, and all had near exactly the

Race Committee Findings Q&A



same responses, they all consider the racing program to be a foundational element to the yacht club's existence, and go out of their way to remove any and all barriers to members participating in racing at any level in any way. None of the clubs we surveyed charge any of their members anything, in any form, to participate in racing, yet they all have good infrastructure for their racing programs.

- None of the clubs we surveyed have "racing/non-racing" population ratios very different than PYC's, and in many, it's even less. None are 100% racing. They simply demonstrate the principles espoused in our own by-laws in a way that recognizes one of the functions of a yacht club is to have and support a viable racing program.

I understand all that, however I'm still far more worried about getting my dock repaired?

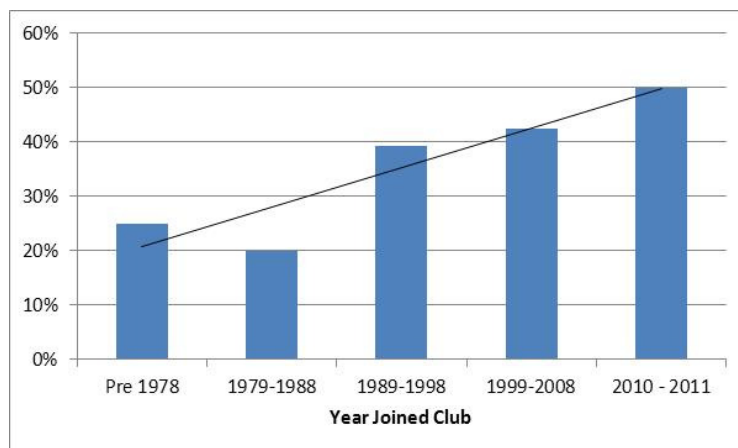
- Your dock will still get fixed. The budget has been set and passed and includes all the club dock and grounds upgrades and maintenance items planned. This is about allocating some of the unallocated surplus to upgrading the club's "on the water" infrastructure, and not about stopping any planned efforts on other club upgrades.

- Right now, thanks to the efforts of many over the last several years, PYC is blessed with a budget surplus. We have the financial wherewithal to both upgrade the "on the water" infrastructure AND still execute all the planned improvements. This isn't an "either/or", it's a "both" opportunity. Maybe the only difference is that "on the water" infrastructure improvements always remain club assets and could later be sold if things weren't working out, whereas "on the shore" infrastructure investments transfer to the trust.

- It's also important to highlight that the proposal only would tap into 1/3 of the unallocated surplus, roughly the same proportion of club members that regularly participate directly in the racing program.

Is there a linkage between membership levels and the racing program?

- The following chart shows the relative seniorities of the racing community, clearly showing racing is an increasingly popular yacht club offering to newer members, and recruiting new members is essential for the club's long term health. This is not the only reason people join the club. People join PYC because it's a great place and a great club. Equally true however is that fewer would have joined without the racing program.



What's next?

- The original committee focused on defining what was needed for the racing program, and addressed the questions of an autonomous program. While an autonomous program was not viable, the benchmarking clearly highlighted the need for PYC to upgrade it's program. The executive board has formed an additional committee, co-led by Deb Heffron and Dave Muth, charged with generating a few additional alternatives to insure we've exhausted all other options and to be sure we're doing what's best for the club. The "alternative committee" should report their findings to the executive board early in February, and presumably have something to publish for the March Soundings.