



LAKE SOUNDINGS

PULTNEYVILLE YACHT CLUB

Volume 28, No.1

February 2003

Signals from the Commodore

Dear Members,

Welcome to the Pultneyville Yacht Club 2003 season.

I would like to thank the retiring officers: Bob Hamilton, Dan Harris and Kermit Sleggs for their hard work in the years they have served. I wish them well in the future and look forward for their continued support as we start 2003.

As I start this year as your new Commodore I am anxious to get the year going and hope that I can live up to all of your expectations.

We have set some goals for this season:

- Participate in the Great Lakes Boat Show
- Complete the South Shore Dock Project
- Clean up and Prune the Point Willow Trees

Also we will have a normal calendar of social events starting with our Cabin Party on February 9th at Webster Park. We are looking forward to a great turnout. I hope to see everyone there.

We have a lot of work to complete this year to make our club more attractive for ourselves and for prospective new members. Please participate where ever you are most comfortable to help us realize this goal. If you have any ideas, questions or concerns feel free to discuss them with me or any of the other board members. Working together, we can achieve anything.

Hope to see you all soon.

Steve Heffron

In this Issue...

Signals from the Commodore.....cover
Welcome from PYC's new Commodore, Steve Heffron.

Secretary's Corner.....page 2
Question about your dock? Diane has the information you need to reach the right person.

Notes from the Engine Room.....page 3
Larry Fedick on the new docks for the South Cove.

On The Range.....page 4
New Fleet Captain Larry Rice on preparations for the summer racing season.

Vice Commodore Reports.....page 5
Jack Bopp on the February Cabin Party!

Events.....page 6
Calendar of Events for 2003; a work in progress.

Members write.....page 7
Who the heck is Brendan Hanna?

Looking Ahead.....page 8
Confirmed events for this month.

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.



Copyright ©2003 Pultneyville Yacht Club.

NEWSLETTER STAFF:

Diane Griffo - Secretary
Stage/Markovitz - Distribution
Merril Gray (cgray1@rochester.rr.com) - Editor/Publisher
Bob Hamilton - Printer
Special thanks to those who have contributed to this issue.

PYC OFFICERS:

Steve Heffron - Commodore
Jack Bopp - Vice Commodore
Larry Feddick - Rear Commodore
Diane Griffo - Secretary
Andy White - Treasurer
Larry Rice - Fleet Captain



The Secretary's Corner



2003 PYC Year has begun: Our first board meeting of 2003 was held at Steve and Deb Heffron's house on Sunday, January 19th. The board is looking forward to this year with renewed spirit and enthusiasm! We hope all of our members feel the same way, and that we can all work together to accomplish our club goals, and at the same time enjoy our bountiful assets!!

Membership Cards: They are in the mail and you should have received them by now.

Club Membership: As of this writing our voting membership is 100, Social: 1, Non Voting is 15, and Lake Soundings only 4. As you can see, our voting membership is at a very low point. We all need to continue with our recruitment efforts in any way that we can. **Rochester Boat Show:** Pultneyville Harbor (PMI, Mill Street Marina, and PYC) will have a booth at the show at the Riverside Convention Center Wednesday, January 29 through Sunday, February 3rd.

Hope to see you there! **PYC "Trifold":** This flyer with basic information about PYC is available at the Pultneyville Pickle during the boating season. A word file for this document is available from Bob Hamilton or me. **PYC Website: Information about PYC and a new member application is available at**

www.pultneyvilleyachtclub.org

Membership Chairman: Jerri Schiff can be reached at 585-381-9115 for new member inquiries.

Dock Master: Larry Helber can be reached at 585-594-1106 for dock renters. Remember, we have new, South Cove docks opening this spring!

Welcome New Members: Welcome to Leslie Phillips and Eric Borresen, and son Trevor! We know that you will give them a warm PYC welcome!

PYC Events Calendar is in this issue.

Cabin Party Flyer: Also in this issue is the Cabin Party Flyer. Please sign up, and we'll see you there!

Please contact me with any concerns or questions you may have.

Diane Griffo
585-482-5854
dgriffo@frontiernet.net



Rear Commodore Reports

Notes from the Engine Room

The dock project in the Baird Area is coming along. All we need is a few nice days to finish up. Thanks everybody for all the help; it sure makes my job easy.



At the present time I am working on getting the contract for the crane service for launch. I am also working on finding a solution to the weed problem. My plans are to put the job out to bid. I will be contacting four different companies that have experience dealing with problems similar with ours.

Larry Fedick



Early Winter Dock Party

The first team of members, on site in the parking lot of the South Cove where the new floating docks are being built. On hand for the work, Russ Palum, who provided the picture, Joe Griffo, Dave Weagley, Fleet Captain Larry Rice, Tony and Jim Belaskas, CR Burcroff, Tom Dobbins, who brought all his "toys" to make the job easier, Lou Cardinale, and of course, Rear Commodore Larry Fedick, the ring leader.

The 4 masted clipper ship Great Republic was the largest wooden ship ever built. At 325 ft in length (upper deck), and 4550 tons, she was truly enormous for the time. Launched in 1853, and built by the legendary Donald McKay in Boston, she started life with an unfortunate disaster. Soon after preparations for the maiden voyage, she caught fire at the pier, and lost all masts and rigging. After the refit, she sailed for London, where she made good time, across the Atlantic in 13-15 days. On several voyages around the Horn to California, she reached an amazing 19 knots (22mph).



The mainmast was 228 ft tall, with a main yard of 120 feet in length. The 4 decks below had a full 8 feet of headroom, with mahogany paneling, marble tables, sofas, and mirrors. She carried 1.5 acres of canvas, worked by a crew of 53, and carried a large steam engine for loading cargo. During the Civil War she was seized by the US government, and used to transport Union troops. After the war, she was sold to JS Hatfield of Nova Scotia; he in turn sold her to a Liverpool firm for service to South America. In 1872, on a passage to Rio de Janeiro, she got caught in a hurricane, started leaking badly, and was lost off Bermuda.

This article was submitted by John Seyna, "*Voyageur*"

On The Range

Fleet Captain Larry Rice

Two is Not Enough - But Three Are....

That is, by way of introduction, two boats don't make a fleet but three kids might.

I expect to learn this Fleet Captain thing as I go along and to conduct a full program of Thursday evening and Saturday morning races and related cruising and on land activities. Several former Fleet Captains have agreed to serve as sort of an informal advisory, rump group. Peter Fisk will take good care of the work/committee boat and Eric Matteson will keep us well lit with navigation and bouys. Well in advance of any type of event, the inevitable errors, omissions and general screw-ups are mine alone - as my children constantly remind me.



The kids are an (almost) indispensable part of sailing. They seem to want no part of racing but are coming along nicely on the notion of cruising, carousing and hanging out. The Rice Family have an old, familiar and comfortable A to Z boating story: We've learned to get away from the dock and (mostly) safely back into the harbor with *Acanthus* and intend to get there eventually with *Zest*.

It looks like the name of the Fleet Captain game is to encourage wide spread participation. Sure, any two boats and two captains can contest but having a fleet turnout makes for more and better tall tales, choices in the cooler and at the buffet table, and trophies on the mantle. If you think you might be interested- in racing, crewing or helping out with an event- please give me a shout.

A couple of people and quasi-technical notes to conclude: The PYC racing program makes use of the PHRF (Performance Handicap Racing Fleet) Lake Ontario handicapping system. As a PHRF participant, PYC submits boat/sail measurement data which are used to establish a numerical handicap, or rating. The handicaps are applied in scoring races and results are submitted to PHRF. The rating system and lake-wide database, while not a perfectly customer-friendly solution, gives us a reasonable format for competition within the PYC fleet and provides a means for staging participation in races outside the Club.

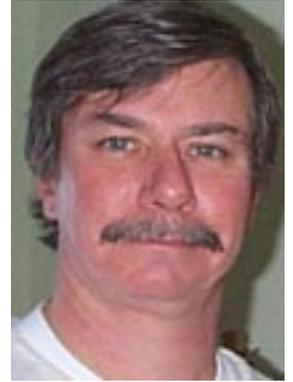
Alex Brougham, *Moonstruck*, and Joe Davis, *Journey*, have volunteered to pull together the data. Alex will do race (time) scoring and will assist Joe with PHRF measurement. In order to race, a boat must have a current PHRF certificate. We're looking for an IBM type PC (with Pentium processor) to reside at the Club, for use in running the scoring spreadsheet.

Larry Rice

Vice Commodore Reports

I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to Dan Harris for all of his efforts as our club's Vice Commodore this past year. His hard work and commitment to the position helped to make last year's activities successful.

I am excitedly looking forward to serving PYC as Vice Commodore. Our first social event of the year is the Winter Cabin Party on February 9th at the White House Lodge in Webster Park. In case you have not yet sent your registration to Rob and Vanessa Marciello, please do so ASAP. A copy of the flyer is in this newsletter.



At this time I would like to solicit volunteers to organize or assist with one of our many social events. This is a great way to meet people and is a great deal of fun as well. To those of you who organized events last year, thank you. I will be contacting many of you over the next couple of months to request your help again. Also, after my election to Vice Commodore in September, several people extended an offer of assistance. I haven't forgotten you and will call you soon.

Respectfully,

Jack Bopp



PYC SOUTHERN RENDEZVOUS

Even though Florida has been cold not as cold as in the North---Last chance to include us in your spring vacation-----

The 2003 PYC Southern Rendezvous has been scheduled for Thursday, March 6th, 2003 at 2:00 P.M., at the clubhouse of Longboat Key Moorings, Longboat Key, FL.

For additional information, directions, or to request a flyer or make your reservation, please contact Anne Artman at artmanann@aol.com or 941-495-1244.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND BE THERE!!!!

Congratulations

To Donna Ecker, *Ri Ra*, recipient of the Mercy Action Cunningham Award in December. Donna received this national award from the Sisters of Mercy in recognition of 18 years of volunteer service at Bethany House, a women's shelter.

Crossing the Bar

The members of the Pultneyville Yacht Club wish to extend our sympathy and support to Tom Szlucha, *Swoose*, and the Szlucha family on the passing of Tom's father in December.

2003 PYC Calendar of Events

Feb. 9	Winter Cabin Party
April 25, 26, 27**	Launch Boats
May 3	Fleet Captain Work Day
May 10 @ 8: 00AM	Work Day #1
May 17 @ 8: 00AM	Work Day #2
May 24	Commodore's Review
May 25	Bowersox Memorial Day Race & Picnic
June 7	Commodore's Brunch & New Member Reception & General Meeting
June 14 @ 8:00 AM	Work Day #3
June 29	Open Boats & BYO Picnic*
July 19 @ 9 AM	Pultneyville Homecoming
August 8	August Board Meeting @ PYC
August 9	Pig Roast *
August 15, 16, 17	Club Cruise
August 23	Commodore's Challenge*
August 31 @ 5 PM	PMI Host Year
September 6	BYO Picnic
September 20	Bown Race
October 11 @ 8:00 AM	Clam Bake*
October 17,18,19@7:00 AM**	& General Meeting w/Elections
November TBD @ TBD	Cradle Day
December 7	Haul Out
	Fall Banquet
	Annual Meeting @ Fire Hall

* These are shared events with PYC and Mariners.

** Exact dates TBD.

A View from the Leeward Rail

Brendan Hanna

As we prepare to start another season of racing, I'd like to briefly look back on last season, because it is good to remember the past so we can build upon it. (That, plus the fact that I didn't get this sent in time to make the last issue.)

I would like to salute all of those who braved the elements, got pounded by the seas, endured seasickness, damaged boat parts and body parts, and generally threw good money after bad, and for what? I don't know either. What the hell were we thinking?

In case you missed it, we watched "The *Cebare* Show" in the Spring Series, and "Comic Horizons" in the Fall. *Summer Snow* managed enough "also rans" to merit some silver, and Jim Ely on *Moonrise* "owns the third place flag." Congratulations to Larry Fedick, Earl Chapman and their crews. *Summer Snow* had a good season overall. We managed the pretty slick trick of winning the overall spinnaker series championship without ever having won a race. Don't you love higher math? Ok, maybe we eked out one or two wins, but not many.

We were most pleased with our being awarded the Sportsmanship Award. In Kermit's words, we "sailed with professionalism yet never took things too seriously." This proves my point made earlier that the first place boats battled with *Moonrise* so far ahead of us that they couldn't hear our bellowing and arguing, whining and complaining. Hoooo-weee! We sure fooled you guys! No take-backs!

A big factor in sailing well is having a consistent crew. (Granted, some skill is also good, but those guys can be so serious and no fun at all.) When you sail with the same people, over time you learn to anticipate their screw-ups, allowing you to mock them before, during and after the incident. As an added bonus, you can sometimes compensate for inevitable disaster. However, many races this past season found us short of regular crew, so we had to find substitutes for the big babies that skipped out on us. How many times do they have to be reminded of

the old adage: "Never let work interfere with your social life"?

Substitute crew is always good for a laugh, particularly if they are on the *other* guy's boat. On our boat we call the substitute crewmembers the Alternate *Summer Snow* Team, or ASST for short. We always had a core of regulars, but the majority of the time the crew was half-asst. Tom often mentioned on the way back to the harbor something to the affect of, "Well, that was a half-asst effort." We all would agree, and toast it with another beer. Tom would then commence to muttering to himself. He did that a lot last year. Nobody knows why. Anyway, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our half-asst crew. Perhaps they can find a regular position with *Comic Relief* or *Cebare*.

It was a fun season. The shellacking the PYC boats gave the other clubs in the Scotch Bonnet Light Race proves that good sailing does not have to come at the expense of a good time. I hope all will be out there again this year.

Finally, I would like to thank Kermit Sleggs for running a great racing season with a terrific sense of humor. You have to have that to handle this bunch of jokers!

Editor's note: Brendan Hanna is Summer Snow Skipper Tom Foley's son-in-law and a regular member of the Summer Snow crew during the racing season.



LAKE SOUNDINGS

P.O. Box 137
Pultneyville, NY 14538

Pultneyville Yacht Club Site at the Web:
<http://members.aol.com/bristol32/index.html>

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.



February 9

Winter Cabin Party