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LAKE SOUNDINGS

PULTNEYVILLE YACHT CLUB

Volume 26 – No. 1

February 2001

Signals from the Commodore

By Bob Hamilton

Dear Members,

Welcome to the 2001 boating season.

As your new Commodore, I feel honored for the opportunity to serve the club and it's members for the upcoming year (or two if you will have me). First and foremost, I would like to recognize and thank Tom Ecker for his excellent service in the Commodore position for the last two years. Things are well within the club and groundwork has been started for even more improvement. I would also like to recognize Eric Matteson, our retiring Fleet Captain, for his tireless support and his guidance to Kermit during the transition.

We had our first Board Meeting to kick off the year and there are reports from the officers throughout this newsletter. From our perspective, there are five major projects to work on this year. These projects have come from input from the members during the Annual Meeting and as concerns raised during the boating season. These projects are:

- Document a five year plan for docks, dredging, piers, finances, and overall facilities.
- Increase Membership.
- Improve Haul/Store/Launch Process to increase flexibility and usage.
- Review Budget and allocate income sources to expenses.
- Improve security for our facilities and grounds.

We as a Board have reviewed these and will be reporting the progress as it is managed. Any suggestions or offers to help work on these projects will be appreciated. Our February meeting will discuss increasing membership ideas in hope of getting some things in place as the season get warmer and people are looking for slips.

Along with our normal business operations it promises to be a busy year, but I think these are vital projects to complete for the benefit of Pultneyville Yacht Club. If you have any concerns or issues about the club, please do not hesitate to call or write and I will take them to the board for action.

Our first social event is the cabin party in February and I am looking forward to seeing many members there to socialize and daydream the upcoming summer events. Enjoy the winter season.

Bob Hamilton

Commodore



The Secretary's Corner

by Brian McCarthy

The first Board Meeting of the year has been held on January 7th. I would like to think it was on that date both to start what hopes to be a great year and celebrate birthdays for Doug and myself!

Your PYC 2001 membership card for all Voting and Non-Voting members should have been in a mailing that arrived about two weeks ago. If you have not received it give me a call or e-mail me (preferred).

At year-end 2000, we had 113 Voting, 12 Non-Voting, 6 Soundings and 1 PMI Membership. Presently, at this writing, we have 102 Voting, 12 Non-Voting and 8 unaccounted for. There is room for additional memberships. If you know of anyone interested, please contact Wendy Axtell.

The Calendar of Events for 2000 should be with this issue, for your ease in planning the season's activities. The aforementioned mailing contained your signup sheet for the cabin party, our 1st event of the year.

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:

Bob Hamilton - Commodore
Roger Carr - Vice Commodore
Doug Axtell - Rear Commodore
Brian McCarthy - Secretary
Rich Critchlow - Treasurer
Kermit Sleggs- Fleet Captain.

I spoke with Alan Lerner of West Marine and we hope to have a PYC night in early March. 1st thoughts: sales discount in after-hours session and possibly a seminar or something like that. More info to follow from Alan.

The last note in our 1st mailing is the notice for the dues adjustment. Those of you at the December membership meeting will recall the requested removal of the \$35 dollar storage fee and subsequent attachment of same amount of funds to the dues. Dues amounts are membership dependent and taxable and when reviewed on Jan 7th that amount was set at \$30 including tax, not the original \$25 plus tax (\$26.75). Some of you gave me checks for that amount and some included them in the dues checks you sent. Unfortunately, we now have to balance the checkbook and correct those amounts; both ways, as some overpaid everything! Please review your checkbooks and remit the difference or send in the \$30.00 if you have not done so. Rich and I will work on the overpays from computer printouts later.

Happy and Safe Boating

Brian

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Boat US Members' Sale

PYC Commodore Bob Hamilton has been keeping watch for a group sale at the Boat US store in Irondequoit. The sale night, officially called the "Cooperating Group Accord Members' Sale Night", is planned for sometime in the week of February 19th. At this printing, the exact date was not available but will be e-mailed as soon as it's known. All PYC Cooperating Group members can get 10% off all purchases except electronics during this sale.

Our Group No: GA80260Y



Rear Commodore Reports

by Doug Axtell

Notes from the Engine Room--

As I write this Tom Bolt is busy tabulating the dock request forms for 2001. We did not receive a dock request from all who had a dock with us in 2000. If you think it is possible you have overlooked sending in your dock request form you may want to drop a call to Tom at 924-8045.

As always we would like to fill the harbor to capacity so, any salesmanship done by members, either to recruit potential members or just dockers, helps ease the financial burden to us all. Wendy is the membership chairperson and can supply you with membership documents and information about the club.

The current plan is to have three (3) workdays this year to spread out the work. This is also being considered as we may have extensive dock repairs due to two factors; first – the cold winter and related ice damage, second – Dissen and Juhn is planning to drive some piles to facilitate dock improvements this year. If we spread the work force out this will allow us to get the work done without stepping all over each other. Additionally, it should allow some added flexibility in scheduling the actual day on which you work, with 3 or 4 days from which to choose.

It has also been noted several years running that the light pole on the peninsula and the one near the northshore storage area interfere with efficient use of the crane time. I would like to ask for a volunteer or two to examine this issue and possibly engineer a solution or two, which could be presented to the board/membership.

Finally a work-safe reminder, if you are going down to work on your boat be sure to make someone aware of your intentions. With the snow and ice it would be easy to slip and become injured, so take extra care while working up on deck or under the boats.

Doug Axtell
Rear Commodore



On The Range

by Kermit Sleggs

As you all know by now, I am PYC's new fleet captain. Eric did a great job over the past two years and I hope I can do as well.

There are a lot of changes in order. I plan to combine the go fleet with the spinnaker fleet and simply sort them out by the handicap rule. I have been debating whether to change the race night from Thursday evenings to Friday evenings, which will make my life easier. I have asked the club to purchase a new inflatable workboat with a 200 horse mercury engine in order to get the race marks set quickly, and last, for a change of pace how about downwind starts?

NOW that I have everyone's attention, please disregard the above paragraph. On a more serious note and being a racer myself I found that the visibility of the race marks were always a problem. I would like to make them more visible and would appreciate any suggestions from the racing team.

I hope to see even more racers out on the course this year. One idea I'm thinking about is to organize a woman's skipper race some time in July or August. I would appreciate your comments or suggestions for this idea.

I'm happy to report that PYC will be hosting the Grampian Rendezvous in July. Don Boesel will be the primary contact person and I bet that he would welcome any volunteers who would like to help out.

Enough said for now. See you all at the winter cabin party.

Kermit Sleggs

Fleet Captain

Signals from Under the Mighty Oak

I thought you might like to know how we spent some of your money in the month of January.

Town & County Property Taxes \$8227.73 Down about \$41 from last year.

But what the tax man giveth, the power company taketh away.

RG&E for January 2001 \$777.58 up \$113 from January 2000

I've heard some questions about the time it takes club checks to clear the bank. So I thought I would give a little explanation of how the system works.

Checks go through several hands before they are deposited. This is because checks come from several sources (Docks-Tom Bolt, membership - Brian McCarthy, Social - Roger Carr or an event chairperson). Also having more than one person record the amounts serves as a check and balance to make sure all is accounted for and is correct.

Let's take the example of the dock deposits. This payment is due December 31st. If you gave your check to Tom at the annual meeting, he will still hold it until the first of the year and he has all the dock deposits. Thus he sends me the checks some time after January 1st. In the case of this year, I got the checks January 7th. I also record each check amount so Tom and I can double check each other. I had the checks ready and deposited them on January 13th. (There were 84 checks in all.)

Continued, see "Mighty Oak" pg 6

Vice Commodore's Report

by Roger Carr

Happy New Year! The PYC 2001 calendar was set at the 1st Executive Committee meeting in January. Helen and I will be contacting past social event hosts to see if they wish to continue in that position this year and filling any vacancies.

There are 2 significant changes this year. The Commodore's Brunch and general meeting have been moved up a week so they are no longer in conflict with the Scotch Bonnet race and Father's Day weekend. The earlier weekend is when we traditionally had our Newcomer's Fondue party. In order to keep the calendar manageable and welcome our new members early in the season, we are combining the welcome with the brunch. We will have a Commodore's Brunch and New Member Welcome in the morning of June 9 and the general meeting afterwards.

We have moved Open Boats to the afternoon of July 1. There will be a "bring your own picnic" in the pavilion at suppertime. (We may have another picnic of this type in the Labor Day weekend.) More details on this and the brunch / new member welcome will follow in later Soundings.

In your responses to last year's survey, there were many interesting suggestions for new social events. While not consciously funded for this year, I'm looking for volunteers interested in organizing such events so we could see how doable they are this year. Here is the list:

- Wine tasting party
- Fishing contest
- Winter skiing party
- Monthly potluck / bring your own suppers
- Regular weekly bonfires
- Raft-up parties out in the lake
- More club cruises
- Monthly Sunday worship service
- Oriental meal
- Something w/ the town folks / sailing for kids
- Better / more advertising for the Poker Race (family fun)

Call me at 716-671-6526 if you are interested. Who knows where we can go with new ideas.

That's it for now. Hope to see you at the Cabin Party in Webster Park on Feb.4. As of now, my plan is to take the tarp off Champagne on March 31.

Roger Carr
Vice Commodore

A view from the leeward rail:

PYC Spinnaker Fleet Championship still undecided

In an unfortunate turn of events, formal protests on the outcome of the spinnaker fleet championship have been lodged. The protests have originated from several different skippers citing a number of discrepancies in the scoring of the races.

Earl Chapman, skipper of *Comic Relief* contends that the mechanical timing device on the committee boat may not have accurately recorded the times of the races. Mr. Chapman states that for a select number of races, he had Dave Muth, a trusted member of his crew, count “one-one thousand, two-one thousand....” from the start of the race until *Comic* crossed the finish line. Dave’s count is clearly at odds with the committee boat stopwatch. He further states that his protesting of the race results is not intended to change the results, but rather he wants to be sure that every second was counted fairly and equitably.

Jim Ely of *Moonrise* feels that because his boat covered the course faster than any other boat, then the crown should rightfully be his. He states that the speed of the boat should determine the champion, not some outdated handicap system, and is lobbying to have the system changed. Cindy Kakuvka of *Puff has* protested select portions of some races, stating that that she had sailed faster than any other boat during those specific times, and given equitable conditions throughout the rest of the races, she would have triumphed. She further contends that God overstepped his authority by arbitrarily enforcing wind conditions on only certain parts of the course.

Dave and Michelle Keller aboard *Bluepeace* stated that the championship was denied them due to several mechanical breakdowns. They insist that it was their *intention* to sail faster than the other boats. Therefore, the intent of the skipper should be of paramount importance, not the mere time aspect. *Sterling* skipper Keith Watson maintains that he had some chads hanging off his keel. He feels that these may have had an effect on the outcome of some the races. He says that this, combined with the fact that he has dimples, should count for something. Larry Fedick sailing *Cebare* said that the course layout was much too confusing. He thought he could round *any* three marks. *Highlife*’s Harry Miller complains that he mailed in his absentee race results, and they were unfairly disregarded on the technicality of his not actually competing.

Meanwhile, Tom Foley has humbly accepted the championship, and has begun to assemble his transitional team. He stated that his hiring of Fleet Captain Eric Matteson as PYC’s Ambassador to the Pultneyville Mariners Club at \$100,000/year was justified and was not a payback. He plans on moving forward quickly with his popular plan to have pizza for all crews, rather than only targeted crews, as was the intention of his opponents. Less popular is his proposal to allow crews to invest a small amount of their own money into sail inventory and/or new hardware for the boat. Many (this writer included) feel this is a risky scheme that may do irreparable harm to the separation of the skipper and crew.

-Brendan Hanna

"Mighty Oak" (cont. from pg. 4)

So the check you may have written on December 3rd, got deposited on January 13th. A similar system works for your membership checks that go to Brian McCarthy.

If there is a problem with the check, it adds more time. One dock deposit check this year was made out to Tom Bolt rather than PYC. I send this check back to Tom for endorsement. It will probably be deposited the third week of January.

I hope this helps you understand why it takes a little while for checks to clear your account. The board and I intend to convey more information throughout the year as to how the money is collected and spent. It is my hope that this will make for better understanding of club operations and a feeling that the club’s business is being conducted in an efficient and fair manner. It is also my hope that feeling good about the club will promote club camaraderie and togetherness.

Rich Critchlow

Calendar of Events and Dates for Year 2001

Winter Cabin Party	February 04
Launch Boats	April 27, 28
Fleet Captain Work Day	May 5
Work Day #1	May 12 @ 8:00 AM
Work Day #2	May 19 @ 8:00 AM
Work Day #3	TBD
Commodore's Review	May 26
Bowersox Memorial Day Race & Picnic *	May 27 PYC Host
Commodore's Brunch & New Member Reception & General Meeting	June 9
Open Boats & BYO Picnic*	June 9
August Board Meeting @ PYC	June 9
Pig Roast *	July 1
Club Cruise	August 10
Commodore's Challenge*	August 11 PYC Host
Bown Race	August 18
Clam Bake *	TBD - PMI Host Year
Cradle Day	September 15
Haul	September 15 PYC Host
Fall Banquet	October 6 @ 8:00 AM
Annual Meeting	October 19 - 20 @7:00 AM
Hall	November 10 @ TBD
	December 2 @ Pultneyville Fire

* - These are shared events with PYC and Mariners



KE SOUNDINGS

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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 4

Cabin Party