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LAKE SOUNDINGS

PULTNEYVILLE YACHT CLUB

Volume 25 — No. 2

March, 2000

Signals from the Commodore

By Tom Ecker

Dear Members,

We had a great turn-out at the cabin party and it was good to see old friends again. A special thanks to Anneliese and Jack Bopp who did a terrific job of chairing the event. Roger and Helen Carr have put together a great social calendar for this year. I hope all will support them and enjoy the events.

We had our second board meeting in February and plans are progressing for launch and the work days. The preliminary dock assignments are completed and as of this writing, launch assignments and schedule are being developed.

In order for PYC to run smoothly it takes the work of the many volunteers and once again this year we have a great group of those dedicated folks. A special "thank you" goes out to all of you who are doing these jobs again this year: Tom Bolt for taking the Dock Master job, Merrill and Cher Gray for being Editor/Publisher of the Lake Soundings, Michelle Keller and Jerri Schiff who are in charge of the Sunshine Committee, Dick Darrow who will be running the Officer of the Day program, and Jim Snyder who will be processing the reciprocal letters. It is this type of dedication that makes PYC such a great club.

Our membership is down a little. As of this writing we have 105 paid members. We need to put the word out to fellow boaters about the best kept secret on Lake Ontario.

See you all at launch prep time.

Wishing you fair winds,

Tom Ecker

Commodore



The Secretary's Corner

by Brian McCarthy

Assessment dues are starting to roll in. We will re-publish the form in "The Soundings" in April and May. Remind yourself they are due by May 15.

For those with Web access, check Jim Marron's address for internal club communication at: pultneyville-yc-req-scf36@egroups.com

On that note, if you would like to send on a postcard to PO Box 137 Pultneyville 14538, or e-mail me giving your boat information, family names, and phone numbers (Work, Cell) it would help complete the PYC database which is maintained to provide contact information and various logs and labels. I would appreciate that help.

Jim Snyder will be starting the reciprocal and PYC Log in March as the membership list finalizes. The plan will be to have all the reciprocals out by mid February, and the PYC Log available by mid March or sooner. We plan to make no changes to the reciprocal policy this year. If you know of clubs that were not on last year's list and they are on your cruising itinerary, please let Jim Snyder or me know to arrange a contact.

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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Tom Ecker - Commodore
Roger Carr - Vice Commodore
Doug Axtell - Rear Commodore
Brian McCarthy - Secretary
Rich Critchlow - Treasurer
Eric Matteson- Fleet Captain.

Membership now stands at 105 voting and 12 Non-voting with approximately 90 slips filled in the harbor. This leaves room for some additional members and people who need slips for the season. If you know of anyone, please pass on the invite and assist him or her with membership by contacting Wendy Axtell at 716-473-1306 or e-mail -Bristol132@aol.com. Prospective slip renters should contact Tom Bolt at 716-924-8045 or E-mail -Sail2733@aol.com. We need our members to be pro-active in this arena to stay at competitive price levels with our neighbors.

**Brian
589-2061
bmccart2@ix.netcom.com**

Brian McCarthy
Secretary



Crew Still Needed

To assist in moving a 38 ft. power boat. Excursion leaving North Palm Beach Florida approximately April 6th & arriving in Pultneyville May 18th. Come for 2-3-4 or all 6 weeks.

Wonderful trip !!!

Interested parties should contact Don
or Carol Brickle at:

561-499-8809





Rear Commodore Reports

by Doug Axtell

notes from the Engine room--

As crazy as it sounds, pray for more snow, because this will help with the lake levels this summer, which in turn can lower our need for dredging. In addition, if the creek runs fast it can carry more sediment out to the lake instead of depositing it in our slips.

Tom Bolt will be sending out the preliminary dock assignments this week. He has assigned 90 slips to members or new members. We still have some slips to fill as attrition has depleted the number of boats we have in the harbor somewhat. In addition, some members have decided not to sail their boats this summer, so we need to fill the slips to keep the club financially healthy. With that in mind, members are encouraged to recruit new members or mention the harbor as a possible place to keep a boat. Wendy Axtell is the membership person and forms are available from her or from the PYC website

<http://members.aol.com/bristol132>

With launch fast approaching and with it the workdays, I am looking for volunteers for jobs other than the more mundane or physically demanding dock repairs. If you volunteer for alternative workdays you will not be required to attend the normally scheduled workday, provided you complete your approved voluntary assignment. Members can still work at the normal workday if they are willing however; as there are always tasks to be completed, and some enjoy the camaraderie. I have a list of alternative projects, which will possibly include things such as; laying cobblestone and flagstone walk, weed harvesting near boats- mid summer, painting, helping Eric with the channel buoys and more. Contact me if you are interested, but these will go on a first come basis.

Doug Axtell
Rear Commodore



Klabautermann Who ??

Since I have appeared in these pages previously, I have heard a lot of people wondering: “ who exactly is this Klabauter character and anyway, who cares?”. Unfortunately, that is the way of the world today and I have to live with it.

But, for those of you who still have a sailor’s heart beating in your breast, let me explain who we are (yes, there are many of us) and where we came from.

From before the beginning of recorded time, when the Germanic people (which include all of northern and central Europe, with few exceptions) were still ruled by gods named Thor, Odin, and Freya and believed in the sacred Oaks and trees, we have been living aboard ships. Our task was to protect the ships and sailors from harm and to keep evil spirits away. We worked especially close with the ship’s Carpenter by pointing out damaged wood and leaks in the ship by directing him to the right places. As a matter of fact, we were considered so much as part of the crew, that in every sailor’s mess there was always an extra place set for us at every meal and we received a share of all rations and drinks. Of course we also performed a few shenanigans, but these were easily forgiven by the sailors due to all the vital services we performed.

But, where did we come from ? That, my friends, is not a happy story. We are the souls of murdered children who sought refuge in the old, sacred oaks during the dark times of human history. When the trees were used to build ships, we came on board with them. Those whose trees were used on land became Leprechauns. (Kobold in German)

Alas, today’s boats and ships contain very little wood and we find fewer and fewer places to live on board, making our task ever harder. Sailors rely more and more on electronics for guidance and less and less on our advice. Naturally we play some tricks on those gadgets from time to time but it is getting harder all the same.

We do our best to survive and to aid the sailor where and when we can. But, we need wood to live in. So, please keep some wood aboard your boat, and don’t cover it with plastic goo, which won’t allow us to breathe won’t you?. If you do, rest assured that the Klabautermann will be in his rightful place way out on the bow looking out for your little ship. And oh, before I forget, it would be real nice if you came forward and talked to me once in a while. The ignorant won’t understand but you and I will, won’t we?.

The Klabautermann

On The Range

by Eric Matteson

March is here!!! Hooray!!! There is only a little bit of time left in this abominable time of year when nothing happens worthy of mentioning in the PYC Fleet perspective. I guess it's not too early to start looking for some hearty souls who would like to participate in an early project or two. This spring I have some things that need to be done in order to get the club off to an early start.

1) I am looking for a few people to work with me in fixing up the raft. There are new barrels waiting to be installed and lumber and hardware to be upgraded.

2) I need someone who really knows about computers to teach me how to use my old one as part of an anchor for our channel marks. (I know that this is an old joke but I mean it.) We do need to fabricate two massive anchors to supplement our collection of ground tackle-in waiting to be sacrificed to the lake.

3) Unlike last year's project I need to make a quick clean-up and bottom paint job for the work boat. This will include re-commissioning.

I have tried this approach to getting volunteers before and found very few available parties. So start screening your calls. I will be on the phone looking for anybody who might be having a weak moment. (And you thought those long distance carriers were pesky.)

There is also a rumor that I would like to share with the membership at this time. Our faithful steward of navigational aids Mr. C. R. Burcroff has been informed that we may be getting new lights for our channel marks this year. I know that many of us have heard this before but I am encouraged, to say the least. There are a lot of things that I find pleasure in while spending time in Pultneyville. One particular item now happens to be passing through the channel at night and finding every single one of our marks lit. I guess you never really appreciate things like that until you have a reason to.

I guess that's all for this month.

Think warm thoughts.

Eric Matteson

Fleet Captain

PYC Members who are in the BOAT US Cooperating Group

The BOAT US Rochester Marine Center is open at 1850 Ridge Rd E. Irondequoit NY.
Our PYC Group Number is GA80260Y and is available to all PYC Members. Boat US Memberships are \$9.50.

BOAT US Store Contacts:

Phone: 716-323-2040

Fax: 716-323-2152

Contact: Bryce Fisher or Robert Saiff

Spread the word!!!

Bob Hamilton

Vice Commodore's Report

by Roger Carr

The PYC 2000 social season is underway. We have just celebrated our Winter Cabin Party. Thanks to Jack and Anneliese Bopp for hosting the event. The weather cooperated for a winter party. Seventy-four people attended and had a good time.

Helen and I (I, by election of officers and Helen, by default-she's my wife you know) are settling into this position. Our thanks to Steve and Debbie Heffron for much needed advice, information & help in getting started. We are looking forward to the upcoming year's social calendar.

We have had a tremendous positive response to our search for members to host and organize the major social events and to fill the merchandise manager opening. Please accept our thanks. Here's the line-up:

Memorial Day Picnic – Kermit & Harriet Sleggs

Commodore's Brunch – Steve & Debbie Heffron

Pig Roast – Dick & Shirley Darrow; Mike & Jerri Schiff

Clam Bake – Dan & Mary Harris

Fall Banquet – Chris & Marti Tertinek

Merchandise Manager – Larry & Betsy Rice

***PLEASE NOTE: THE DATE FOR THE FALL BANQUET HAS MOVED FROM NOV. 11 TO NOV. 18. IT WILL BE HELD AT THE RYC.**

As you can see above, we have a new merchandise manager to run the T-shirt and burgee concession. Tom & Sherry Szlucha have done a great job but would like to move on. Please accept our thanks & appreciation.

All hands are welcome to help set-up, cook, serve, and clean up when we feed the crew for breaks and lunch on launch, work, cradle, and haul-out days. You don't have to commit to work all the days. We also need help getting the clubhouses ready for the 2000 season.

If you'd like to volunteer, call Helen or me at 671-6526. If you need more information before you commit, call us. These openings for volunteers are great opportunities for new members to widen their circle of acquaintances in the club. More senior members bring a measure of experience on what has worked and not worked in the past and how things might be done better. Give us a call. Look for an update in April.

Roger Carr

Hi Gang;

I have an idea. Let's take everyone's picture and put it on a bulletin board or in a book in the club house. It would be great for new members to help them get to know us. It would help some (older) members like me that can't remember names to work at putting names with faces. It would be nice for visitors who also would like to put a name with a face but are too timid to ask.

So let's do it.

I'm looking for someone to help take pictures at club events so we can get everyone's picture. The club will buy the film and pay for the processing. It would take a few events to get most of the members, but what the heck. This time next year, it would be nice because it would be done.

Give me a call, and let's get started - 315-589-2032.

I've talked to the decorating committee. Maybe we can find a spot on a wall, perhaps in the hall. If not, then a three-ring binder on the table would do. It would be one more thing to make our club a friendlier place and more open.

Rich Critchlow

RCSB VIRUS INVADES PYC

The word is out! The often dreaded RCSB Virus has struck Pultneyville Yacht Club-again! For many the latest outbreak is the first they've probably heard of the virus, but for others (me included) this is the fifth time the virus has reared its head. I hesitate to use "reared its ugly head" for fear there would be a major uprising among some revered club members.

For less informed Club members, the virus first struck two summers ago. This first known case struck a younger, but long-time member of the Club. It's said that his case lay dormant many years and was passed onto him through his Grandfather. However it got to him, it hit him hard! The second case struck a Club member across the harbor, so the virus apparently isn't passed on by close contact. The third case was spotted shortly after the second, but it hit a Club member back across the harbor very close to the first case! So much for proximity to each other being a major factor in the spread of the virus. It took a full year to take its toll on the third case-he struggled with it for a long time! The fourth Club member to contract the virus totally confounds all previous patterns. He merely spoke to victim number two, but then went home and contracted the virus from his next door neighbor!

A few of us are now certain that victims one, two and three have contracted the virus again. This second case they have appears to be much more involved and more serious than the first. The major symptom of the virus appears to be "bigger is better". Some of us are even shaking our heads in amazement and disbelief! Last night we got a phone call-another case, another victim. Case number five has just been confirmed. The RCSB has struck another young Club member in his prime. I'm really beginning to worry what this virus will do to the sailing capabilities of these five fine men!

Maybe you've guessed it by now, but PYC is being invaded by little boats. Notice I didn't say silly little boats. I didn't say silly little boats for the same reason I didn't say "ugly virus". What does RCSB stand for? It certainly doesn't stand for Rochester Community Savings Bank! It stands for Radio Controlled Sailing Boats and many of you have probably seen and had to dodge them on your way in or out of the harbor. We've even heard that the ducks have filed a complaint for harassment in Williamson Town Court.

If you can't fight them, join them! We may even see some in-harbor races this year. For further information, you can call any one of the five victims-Doug Axtell, Peter Fisk, Bob White, Dave Weagley, or Dan Harris.

Terry Weagley



KE 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.



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March 9
April 28-29

Board Meeting
Launch