



LAKE SOUNDINGS

PULTNEYVILLE YACHT CLUB

Volume 31, No. 2

March 2006



Signals from the Commodore

After the last haul out and over the past several months there have been questions raised about the shoring of boats that are stored at PYC. Some of these are serious enough that we thought the boats would not remain standing throughout the winter. Others have involved covers and other miscellaneous items. As we do a walk around of the areas and see things amiss, we try and call the owners. There is no PYC policy or guidelines regarding storage of boats to attain common ground for all. After haul out it was discussed that the executive board would have to look at these questions. The winter, thus far, did nothing to alleviate those thoughts and a committee has now been formed to examine the question, if a firm storage policy at PYC is needed and, if it is, what should it be according to standard industry recommendations. John Lyboldt will lead that group. If you have thoughts, positions, suggestions please contact John or Doug Felton, Mike Saporito, Jack Bopp or CR Burcroff.



Our membership levels are 1 or 2 people below where we had thought they would be at this time. Once again we are in the low eighties. We ended last year in the mid nineties. We do have two potential members who have applied. If you are aware of anyone looking for a place to have their boat for the 2006 season remind them of PYC.

The coming months will also tell us if we have had another successful boat show at the Riverside Convention Center. I believe Bob Hamilton intends to say a few words later about our booth and staffing. The show is small but it is a good chance to meet our boating neighbors and gather information on a range of items that might assist you at PYC. Conversations now lead to places to cruise, motors to be had for Gull, Pontoons for a new platform, assets for our boating pleasure later in the season. We need new people to begin to take part in these processes if PYC is to thrive. Someone suggested earlier that if we can't do a function with a new group heading it up and running with it, perhaps we should just cancel it? Maybe they are right and that would be the wake up call that many need. The same old same old is getting tired and they look for relief. It's time for some new volunteers for your club's needs.

The nominating committee for 2006 has also been formed. Roger Carr will again chair it for the year. Anneliese Bopp, C.R. Burcroff, Mark Laffin, and Janice Saporito fill out the scroll. We will know by May which positions may be open on the Board Of Directors beside the Commodore slot. If you wish to volunteer, give one of them a call.

We hope to do much work around the club this year. As our membership and dock rentals stabilize, it will give us a clearer picture of what we have to work with. We will do as much as possible with what we have.

I would like to remind everyone to work safely on and around your boats as you prepare your boat for launch.

Brian McCarthy

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The Secretary's Corner

Hello, I am your new PYC Secretary, Bill Sorrells. Julie and I have been with the Club since 1996; first with our Irwin 25 and now with our Catalina 30, Spindrift.

I would like to thank the previous Secretary, Alex Brougham, for his service to the club and his help in assisting me with this new position. Alex has also volunteered to edit the PYC membership log.

In addition, I would like to thank the following members for their continuing assistance and contributions: Cindy Kukuvka as the club historian, Joan Stage and Pat Markovitz for sending out hard copies of the Soundings, Jerry Schiff for coordinating new membership applications, Joe and Mary Jo Fortner for managing the club reciprocals, Doug Felton for printing copies of the Soundings, and Mark Blaakman in his position as Webmaster.

As of this printing our membership information is: 84 voting members including 2 new members, 1 social member, 11 non-voting members and 18 dock renters.

As the new secretary I welcome any suggestions, comments or questions from any of our members.

Bill Sorrells



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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PYC OFFICERS:

Brian McCarthy - Commodore
Robin Wilkinson - Vice Commodore
Daryl Hunt - Rear Commodore
Bill Sorrells - Secretary
Ron Hilgert - Treasurer
Scott Nichols - Fleet Captain

Crossing the Bar

The Pultneyville Yacht Club extends its heartfelt care and concern to the family of Ralph Sylvester, "Buona Vita", on his passing February 19th, after a long illness. Ralph was a long-standing member of the club, and loved by everyone whose lives he touched.





Rear Commodore Reports

Notes from the Engine Room.....

At last report from our dockmaster Mark Laffin, we had 97 renters for the 2006 season (80 members + 17 non-members). This represents about 80% of our capacity, so spread the word to potential members and renters. Remember, first year renters are eligible for member dock rates.

Last month's list of off-season tips appears to have been prophetic. We've had several examples of torn covers and even sinking jack-stands with the combination of strong winds and freeze-thaw cycles.

You may have already heard from Mark Blaakman that the Wi-Fi proposal is dead for now. There wasn't sufficient interest to make it economical for those desiring the service. I'm personally disappointed as I was hoping to make Sea Dog my summer office this year.

That's all for now. Next month's report will include launch assignments and the tentative list of 2006 projects.

Daryl Hunt

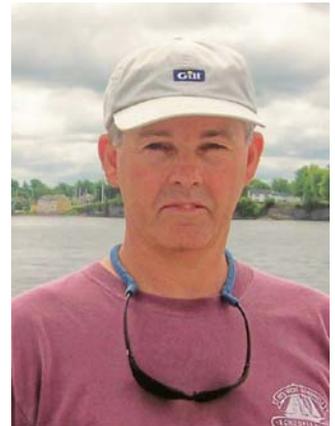
Winter reading suggestions from the RC:

This Old Boat by Don Casey – plenty of off-season projects to keep you busy.

Sailing Alone around the World by Joshua Slocum – an amazing story and a great read.

The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger – the book is better than the movie.

Lords of the Lake: The Naval War on Lake Ontario by Robert Malcomson – lake history.





Fleet Captain's Journal

Of Mysteries and Nav Aids

Ever wonder why, by the end of the race season, our race marks are about 6 inches above the water, and you need somebody in your boat with 20/10 vision to spot them? The answer is cracks- stress cracks along the base of the units- slowly letting water in over the season, allowing them to slowly sink. Our race marks are currently at my house for some repair and maintenance. I plan on fiberglassing over the cracks, and trying to dry out the foam that is saturated with water.

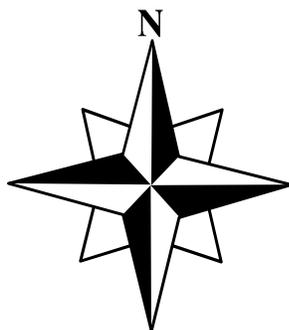


Besides being the solver of mysteries, one of my responsibilities is to maintain the navigation equipment used by everybody in the club, Eric Matteson, as navigation aid chair, has worked tirelessly to maintain the equipment to keep all our navigation aids lights lit and in place. One of the areas that we are looking into, is applying some new technology to the navigation aids-changing over the lights-to use LEDs, which are much more efficient in light output and will essentially never burn out.

If there is money left over at the end of the year, we will get some replacement navigation aid lights that are solar cell based- similar to the units along a sidewalk. The units that we are looking at have larger solar cell and battery packs, and are designed to run for three nights without any solar light to charge. They also have a longer view range, of up to a mile. With the upgrades of lights, over time it will make the harbor easier to get into for those sunset cruises.

Another project that I have taken on, is doing some maintenance of our center channel marker. I brought it home to strip the shell and repaint the unit.

Scott Nichols





Vice Commodore Reports

Greetings all!

The Boat Show has now come and gone, Special thanks to Bob Hamilton who spearheaded this event, and all who took time out of their schedules to make this a success – Thank you! Our annual Winter Cabin Party was a great success! It was nice to see so many of you, and those that were unable to attend – we missed you!



Dave & Terry Weagley were the hosts with many helpers, thank you all for pitching in. The weather was pleasantly chilly, the food was wonderful and camaraderie was the special treat of this event!

Cradle and Launch days will soon be upon us to begin another exciting season.

Are we all prepared?

Again, this is all I have for this issue, simply looking forward to Launch and getting underway for this season.

Robin Wilkinson

From the Treasurer

Update on Haul / Store / Launch fees for the 2006 season.

As I reported during the December general meeting the existing formula used to compute the H/.S/L fees has not been sufficient to cover the increasing crane costs we saw the end of 2004 and during 2005. There were a few comments from members who reinforced the concept that this program was to be self funding.

During the meeting I presented a tentative formula and cost schedule that the board believed would recover the actual cost of the crane rental. This revised formula was approved by the board at our February meeting, and will be used for this year's H/S/L charges.

The new formula maintains the "S" component of the existing formula but raises the "H" and "L" factor to cover the anticipated crane costs. The overall effect of this change will be about a 15% increase in H/S/L fees to most members this year. Some individuals will see a little more of an increase and some members will see a little less.

While no one likes to see the costs going up your board has no choice but to adjust the rates to cover the increased crane costs since this activity is targeted to be self funding.

Ron Hilgert



From the Webmaster

Fellow PYC Members,

The PYC Board got feedback from me on level of interest for WiFi at the last board meeting. I got a total of 9 respondents opting in at various financial obligation level limits through the web site form submissions. This was sent out only to members with current email addresses on file. By far, the most popular level was the \$10 per month limit. The lack of popularity to join this member-managed service is such that we don't have near enough participation to keep the cost down to the upper limit of the monthly fees needed to pay for the service. On reporting this fact, the Board voted to kill this project for now. It was simply not feasible to continue without a minimum of about 25 subscribers to get the monthly cost into the ten dollar range. The board did say that this initiative could be resurrected in the future when the membership demographics change enough to warrant giving it another try. Perhaps by that point the club's budget will be sound enough to solicit another vote at a future general meeting. I anticipate this will not happen for at least a year, perhaps longer. Thank you to all that had a sincere interest in this. It would have certainly made our club more attractive to those in computer oriented or dependent professions. I must admit this is definitely something that would get limited use while I take refuge at the club from work. On the other hand, it also would have made for less dependence on other means that would take me away from the club for work related priorities and that was the driving reason for the project.



Be advised there have been many updates made to the web site content in recent weeks. Our new calendar has been published on the Club Calendar page. Revisions to the Officers & Contacts page reflect the transition of leadership that occurred on January 1st. The Member Only page has additional meeting minutes and revised harbor diagrams that include depth soundings along with the latest dock assignments thanks to the efforts of our new Dockmaster, Mark Laffin. The Photo Album now has a variety of selected photos for 2005 that came mostly from our Fall Banquet – Year In Review slide presentation. There is a new version of the PYC Club Information Flier on the Join Our Club page. Lastly, the Fleet Captain's presentation for season summary race results and awards is posted on the Racing page.

Anyone that plans to sell a boat this year and wishes to post a listing on the web site please send me an email at <mailto:pycwebmaster@pultneyvilleyachtclub.org>.

We have room for more content on the web site. If anyone has ideas for additional information that would be of value to either the general public or the membership please contact me via email. I am thinking of putting a lake-wide racing calendar on the calendar page if that would be popular. Please let me know if it is worth the effort.

Mark Blaakman
Webmaster

Members Write

PYC LIVE AUCTION OPPORTUNITY

It's only February and we are already thinking about the boating season!! I'm volunteering at the American Heart Association of Greater Rochester, which is having a Go Red for Women Luncheon on May 18, 2006. Part of getting awareness out to everyone, especially women on heart disease and stroke, is a live auction portion of the luncheon. I'd like to ask for your help. We'd like to package a "Sailing & Picnic Experience" where PYC members would volunteer and host 3-4 people on their boats and go for a sail, with a picnic afterwards.

It would be for this summer's boating season, with the host and winner of the live auction to make mutual arrangements for the sail & picnic. Picnic is the host's choice.

So, let's think ahead, and do a good deed for AHA. All funds raised at the live auction will go to AHA for research and education of heart disease and stroke in the Greater Rochester Area. Volunteer your time and have fun doing it!!

Please contact me if you would like to volunteer for this "Sail & Picnic Experience" opportunity. gnichol@rochester.rr.com or call me at home.

Garland J Nichols
"Practice"



PYC is at the Rochester Boat Show

This Year PYC was again represented at the Greater Rochester Boat Show in early February. According to show coordinators, the show brought in about 1000 more than last year and it looks like we got a couple good prospects for PYC docks or membership. We will know more as we follow-up later with the contact information.

Special thanks to the folks who helped out at the booth. Setup crew of Robin Wilkinson, Brian McCarthy and Bob Hamilton, Booth staffing was supported by Tom Ecker, Dave Weagley, Earl & Natalie Chapman, Tom Jayne, Brian & Gail McCarthy, Merrill & Cher Gray, Scott Nichols, Barry Gheer, Ron Hilgert, Bob & Jane Hamilton, Steve & Debbie Heffron, Mark Laffin and Judy Overholt.



However, we could have used some more help. We only had 13 membership units from the club supporting the booth out of a total of about 75 as of mid Jan 06. As we pursue other membership growth opportunities, please consider helping out. The club as a whole is greater as the membership levels rise.

Thanks again to the folks who helped out.

Bob Hamilton



LAKE SOUNDINGS

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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.



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| April 22, 23 | Launch Boats |
| April 29 | Fleet Captain Work Day, 8:00 AM |
| May 13 | Work Day #1, 8:00 AM |
| May 20 | Commodore's Review, 1:00 PM |
| May 27 | Bowersox Memorial Day Race, 10:00 AM Picnic follows at 5:00 PM |
| June 10 | Commodore's Brunch New Member Reception, 11:00 AM General Meeting, 2:00 PM |