

Palatka Yacht Club

WHISPERS OVER THE WATER

January 2008

2007 OFFICERS &

DIRECTORS

Commodore:

Clark Hoyle

Vice Commodore:

Keith Cheshire

Secretary:

Karen Blankenship

Treasurer:

Steven Huntley

First-Year Director:

Linda Girardin

Second-Year Director:

David Agniel

Past Commodore:

Keith Mehl

2007 COMMITTEE

CHAIRS

Special Events:

Clark Hoyle

PR & Communications:

Constantine Foltis

Fund raising:

Erika Heine

Membership Growth:

Clark Hoyle

Programs:

Robert Trail

dinner meetings

Sara Szczes

weekend events

David Girardin -

boating events

Facilities:

Keith Cheshire

Improvements:

David Agniel

Gene O'Connor

Commodore's Corner..... by Clark Hoyle

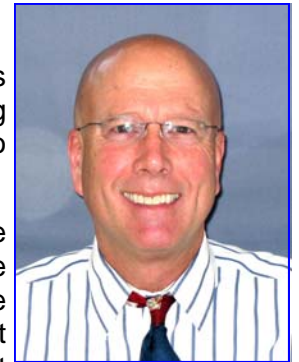
This will be my last comments in the newsletter as Commodore. I would like to wrap up my tenure by commenting on our 2007 operating budget and thank the many who volunteered to help out in 2007.

At the last Board meeting, I was pleased to learn that we almost finished the year in the black. Although a bit more numbers need to be input on the expense side, it looks as if we were only a couple thousand dollars in the red. Given the fact that we did spend a bit of money on maintenance and did not recruit as many members as we had hoped, I think we did very well. I hope you find this news as good – and can be much better as we grow our membership.

Lastly but not least, I would like to thank the 2007 Flag Officers: Keith Cheshire, Karen Blankenship and Steve Huntley, and Board Members: Keith Mehl, Linda Girardin and David Agniel for their effort and time throughout 2007. Additionally, we owe many thanks to the volunteers who continued to turn out and participate in the various clubhouse maintenance duties, activities, decorating and donation of various items. I would hate to think where the club would be if these volunteers had not participated.

Again I want to say I enjoyed my tenure as 2007 Commodore, and I look forward to participating as a 2008 Past Commodore/Board Member and as a member enjoying the many events and activities planned for 2008.

To each of you I wish you the best in 2008 – Happy New Year!



Annual Club Dues - This is a reminder that dues for 2008 were due and payable as of January 1st. Checks should be made out to the Palatka Yacht Club and either mailed to the club at P.O. Box 2004, Palatka, FL 32178-2004, or submitted at the January 24th dinner meeting. For those not sure of the amount, Class 1 (senior members) dues are \$200 per person (\$400 per couple). Refer to the By Laws, as amended July 26, 2007, for dues in other classes of membership.

Coming Events

January 19th (Saturday) - 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM - Work Party - Mark your calendar and come help us complete some needed tasks. We need to do the following:

1. Drill the main deck side platforms and through-bolt two large new mooring cleats, to better secure the clubhouse mooring lines.
2. Finish up the manual excavation and reset the other two on-shore piling stops.
3. Continue painting the outer main salon bulkheads.
4. Move forward with the galley electrical work.
5. Reposition the refrigerator and freezer.

January 19th Work party - continued

6. Plumb in the galley sink for water and drain lines.
7. Pack up the Christmas decorations.

Call David Agniel at (386) 649-9075, and let him know which of these jobs you would like to work on so we can coordinate on tools and materials.

January 24th (Thursday) - Dinner Meeting - Aboard our floating clubhouse at Browns Landing. Social hour starts at 6:00 PM, and we will be served our usual catered dinner beginning at 7:00 o'clock. The price per meal remains at \$15. The door committee will be Guion and Ella Lindsay. The February 2008 door committee is already scheduled, and there will be a sign-up sheet available at the meeting for volunteers to register for the remaining 2008 dinner meeting door committees.

The new 2008 flag officers and Board members will be inaugurated at this meeting. They are:

Commodore Keith Cheshire
Vice Commodore....Gail Hart
Secretary Karen Blankenship
Treasurer Steve Huntley
2nd Year Director ...Linda Girardin
1st Year Director Connie Foltis
Past Commodore ...Clark Hoyle

In addition, new members Keith and Ann G. Holland will be welcomed into the club. David Agniel, Robbie Brackett and Jay Holt are their sponsors.

For dinner planning purposes, your calling committee caller must have your confirmed reservation(s), including the number and names of your guests, by Friday, January 18th. If you must cancel, or if you wish to make last-minute reservations, call June Henley at 325-7016 no later than the evening of January 18th, which is the deadline for any changes. You will be billed if you fail to attend without canceling in time and do not pay for reservations you made. If you are leaving town, telephone your caller before you go and advise him or her of your plans. Members and guests who wish to attend the meeting without eating dinner are welcome to do so at no charge. If you then change your mind and wish to have dinner, and if there is still food available, you may pay for the meal at that time and eat.

February 7th (Thursday) - Board of Directors Meeting - 6:30 PM aboard our floating clubhouse. Board meetings are open to all PYC members.

Las Vegas Night, February 16th (Saturday) - It's finally happening. Plans are made, and 160 tickets will go on sale at the January 24th dinner meeting. Their cost will be \$10 each, and we hope everyone will buy at least two tickets. Each ticket will buy \$200 in play money for gambling and bidding at an auction to be held afterwards. For that we will need around 75 gifts from the members, to be auctioned off. Please bring them to the January meeting. There is no set value, except that they should be new. Munchies will be provided, and the regular bar will be available. The gambling will start at 6:00 PM and continue to 8:00, after which the auction will be held. It is estimated that about 100 people can be accommodated. Call Erika Heine for more details at 386-467-2484.

Past Events

December 31st - New Year's Eve Party at the Clubhouse - About 25 members and guests came to this party, arriving and leaving at different times, and all had a good time. As usual with a PYC potluck affair, there was more good food of every variety than two or three times that many people could eat, and the club bar was busy the



New year's Eve party - continued

whole time. There was some music, some dancing and a whole lot of convivial socializing. Bob Trail brought a few rocket fireworks, which he launched over the river from the clubhouse roof to mark the occasion. No one stayed aboard to ring in the New Year, however. Everyone had left for home or to other events by 11:00 o'clock.

January 3rd - Board of Directors Meeting - The following items were discussed at this meeting:

1. Treasurer Steve Huntley is out of state at this time, and he e-mailed his monthly treasurer's report to the Board members. After some discussion, the Board approved it as written. Anyone wishing details may e-mail Steve at protopterus@peoplepc.com.
2. Commodore Clark Hoyle mentioned the importance of reminding the membership that dues are payable now. Steve Huntley said he would e-mail the membership as a reminder.
3. There were no new clubhouse improvements to report. The December 1st work party accomplishments were listed in the last newsletter. The next work party is January 19th. Improvements Committee Chairman David Agniel noted that we have met all goals in this regard except for stiffening up the piling braces, which job is still ongoing. At the beginning of the year, he had made an estimate of cost of the materials for all the planned work, and actual costs came in well under that estimate. He does not foresee that much expense for next year's improvements and maintenance. David also announced that he is resigning the chairmanship of this committee as of the January 24th dinner meeting, to have more time for other pursuits.
4. The clubhouse satellite TV subscription is expiring. It will not be renewed, because of lack of use.
5. The Board approved a motion to give all club flag officers (a) the authority to sign club checks (two signatures required), and (b) access to the club safe deposit box.
6. The Azalea Festival will be sometime in March. So far a committee comprised of Jay Holt, Betty Poteet and Ella Lindsay have expressed interest in helping in our participation in the event.
5. Clark mentioned we should have a full membership photograph. This would have to be done on a sunny mid-day clubhouse event with maximum attendance, everyone on the clubhouse deck facing the river, and the photographer in a boat on the river.
8. Plans for how to rent the PYC tent are still in progress. It will need a tent crew to put it up and take it down. No decisions were made on this subject.
9. The calendar of 2008 activities is still in progress, except for the immediate "Coming Events" items shown above.
10. It was decided to move the club's Sunfish sailboat and trailer from the Girardin residence to the clubhouse, where it will have a better chance of being used. There are some security concerns, but a launching ramp is close by. The Sunfish will not be sold.

Miscellany

Ship Model



D. Agniel photo

Jay Holt has built a beautiful ship model with display stand, and he has donated them to the Palatka Yacht Club, where they are on display at the clubhouse. The model is of the sidewheel steamship "St. Johns", built in the late 19th Century and operated almost to the mid-20th Century.



D. Agniel photo

Judging from the model, the ship was a lot more seaworthy than the typical riverboat, and it probably operated coastwise in the Atlantic Ocean as well as on the rivers. Thank you very much, Jay, for such a beautiful gift.

US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla Report FSO-MS

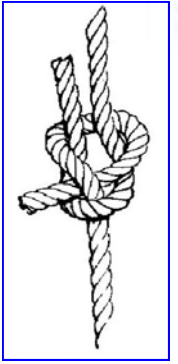
The following info was received from Wayne Beard by e-mail on 12/16/07:

1. SO-MS assisted Clay County Sheriff's Marine Unit and FWC officers with recreational vessel safety exams and Marine Sanitation Device inspections. The area of Green Cove Springs at Red Bay Marina and Reynolds Yacht Basin was the location where the vessels were checked.
2. The Florida Legislature failed to assist Florida's marinas with a tax break. The intent was to tax a marina based on actual use instead of best possible use. Marinas cannot afford the present taxes. It does not matter if they have boats on all 10 slips or only 5 slips. They are taxed for all 10. The full potential is the problem. In 2008 the marina exemption bill will be tried again.
3. www.Rulefinder.com. This is a new website designed to bring the boating regulations together. The (ABYC) American Boat and Yacht Council, the ISO, the USCG and the European Union regulations all will be assembled at one place. The library will assist manufacturers and others by having this information available.
4. By a vote of 4-3 the Non-Motorized Subcommittee of the FWC recommended against registering canoes and kayaks. If it had passed, the non-powered canoe or kayak operator would need to pay for a registration, apply numbers to the craft and carry a registration certificate at all times, as on powered craft.
5. Under Georgia State Law 52-1.31 and 52-1.32, it is illegal to live aboard a structure (boat) on Georgia's waterways. It hinders the passage of navigation.
6. If anyone wants to provide a monofilament (fishing line) recycle program container at a boat ramp, contact Wayne Beard (Flotilla14-9). Wayne has the info on this BoatUS-sponsored program. You must also maintain the container by emptying it and sending in the contents. Contact Wayne's e-mail at jew@gbso.net.

State of Florida Boating Cards - These have not yet been sent to the attendees of the 8/25/07 USCG Auxiliary Safe Boating Course at the clubhouse, because of an oversight during a change of personnel at the responsible Coast Guard office. The oversight has been corrected, and the cards will be processed and mailed ASAP. In the meantime, anyone wishing to notify their insurance company re their completion of the ABC course for a discount on the insurance premium should use their Certificate of Completion, which was given to each attendee.

Miscellany - continued

Knotsmanship - Sheet Bend - This is an excellent way to tie two lines together, especially if they are of different sizes or textures. Using the larger of the two lines, form a bight big enough to work with, then pass the running end of the smaller line through the loop in the larger line, around the doubled larger line, then under its own standing part. Always snug up the sheet bend by hand before putting any strain on it.



Sheet Bend

Nautical Origins of Common Expressions - "Taken Aback" - This is a dangerous situation for a square-rigged sailing ship, when it is inadvertently turned into the wind without resetting the sails. It puts the wind on the forward side of the sails and forces the ship astern. Most often, an inattentive helmsman unintentionally allowed the ship to head up.

Announcements

Club-owned Sunfish – At present, the Club's Sunfish sailboat is on a trailer at David and Linda Girardin's residence and is available for any member to use. It will be moved to the clubhouse at some point, however, as mentioned above. If interested in using the boat, contact David or Linda at 328-1774 or DLBG75@hotmail.com.

Boat U.S. Membership - Our club members are entitled to Boat US membership while paying half-price dues. Our cost: \$12.50. Contact Steve Huntley at 904-692-2952 or protopterus@peoplepc.com if you are not already included in this special arrangement for PYC members.

PYC Tent - Any members desiring to reserve the PYC tent, contact Commodore Clark Hoyle at 386-649-6795 or clarkhoyle@midspring.com. The tent is stored on the clubhouse when not in use.

Programs - Any member who would like to present or suggest a dinner-meeting program, contact Program Chairman Bob Trail at 386-649-8710 or griffinaero@yahoo.com. Audiovisual resources are available, and all necessary assistance will be provided. Up to two presenters from outside the club will enjoy their meals as guests of the Palatka Yacht Club.

Newsletters - If you have an e-mail address and are currently receiving paper copies of our club newsletters, you are urged to file your e-mail address with publisher Connie Foltis (cfoltis@bellsouth.net) and arrange to receive your newsletters by e-mail as pdf files. This would lessen the cost and labor of printing and mailing paper copies every month.

To write an article for the newsletter (including a short description of an interesting trip you have taken) or to place an advertisement or digital photograph in it, contact Connie at 328-6783 or the above e-mail address. Entries should be received by the end of the first week of the month.

PYC Web Site - <http://palatkayachtclub.org/> or www.palatkayachtclub.org