



Palatka Yacht Club



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Location: 107 Marina Road, Palatka
Webpage: www.palatkayachtclub.org

Whispers over the Waters

April 2010

2010 OFFICERS &

DIRECTORS

Commodore:
Gail Hart
Vice Commodore:
Robert Trail
Secretary:
Karen Blankenship
Treasurer:
Steven Huntley
First-Year Director:
Erika Heine
Second Year Director:
Clark Hoyle
Past Commodore:
Keith Mehl

2010 COMMITTEE

CHAIRS

Barkeeper: Guion Lindsay
Boating rendezvous:
David Girardin
Calling Committee:
June Henley
Dinner planning:
Karen Blankenship &
Dorothy McAfee
Door Committee:
Ella Lindsay
Facilities: LaVerne Cheshire
Fund Raising:
Improvements &
Maintenance: Robert Trail
Internal Communications:
Constantine Foltis
Membership:
Planning Committee:
Programs: Robert Trail
Publicity: Jean Morris
Public Relations: Gail Hart
Sunshine:
Jeannine O'Connor
Webmaster: Keith Mehl
Charities: Susan Trail

Coming Events

April 11 (Sunday) - Non-club event: Clubhouse rental to Putnam Land Conservancy - David and Linda Girarden, coordinators. See attached flyers.

April 15-18 (Thurs-Sun) - Boat rendezvous at Silver Glen Springs & Hontoon Island

Description of Hontoon Island State Park - This island, located in the St. Johns River in Volusia County, welcomes visitors to enjoy nature and history in quiet solitude. Evidence of Native American habitation over thousands of years can be witnessed as visitors hike through the park. Stop in and walk through the impressive visitor center to learn more about the many inhabitants and uses of Hontoon Island over the years. Boating, canoeing, and fishing are popular activities, and canoe rentals are available. Picnic areas include tables, grills, and a playground. Overnight boat slip rentals are also available. Located six miles west of Deland off State Road 44, Hontoon Island is accessible by passenger ferry or private boat only. Ferry service runs from 8:00 am until one hour before sunset daily. There is no vehicle access to the island. Overnight campers must arrive no later than 1 hour before sunset. Reservations may be made by phone. There is a two-night minimum stay on weekends and holidays. Checkout time is 11:00 a.m.

Boat Slips

Slips are available on a first come first serve basis for overnight dockage.
Fees: \$12.00 per night plus tax including electricity and water.

Cabin Rentals

Cabins are very rustic. Each one has a ceiling fan, overhead lighting, one electrical outlet, bunk beds (no linen), and a screen porch with table and chairs. Outside each cabin is a picnic table, water faucet and a ground grill suitable for cooking over a small campfire.
Checkout time is 11:00 a.m.

Fees

4-person cabin, \$25.00 per night plus tax
6-person cabin, \$30.00 per night plus tax

Details of the Rendezvousby Clark Hoyle Hontoon Island is 64.5 miles south of the clubhouse by water and 73 miles south of Palatka. Gemma and I will be leaving the Satsuma area aboard Triple Play about 10:00am-ish on Thursday, April 15 (however; due to such a good time last year, we may leave on Wednesday, April 14). We do not plan on stopping over in Silver Glen as our draft is too deep for me to feel comfortable to navigate into the Springs area. Anyone who wants to spend the night at Silver Glen Springs should do so on Thursday and depart around 10am-ish the next morning for Hontoon State Park. I would suggest that anyone wanting to do this may want to contact David Girardin at DLBG75@yahoo.com, 386-328-1774, or 386-937-1566 (David's cell).

We will travel anywhere from 5-25mph, and anyone interested in traveling along with us, please let us know. While en-route we will be monitoring channel 68 on the VHF radio. Contact us ahead of time at clarkhoyle@mindspring.com, 386-649-6795, or my cell phone

Hontoon Island Rendezvous - continued

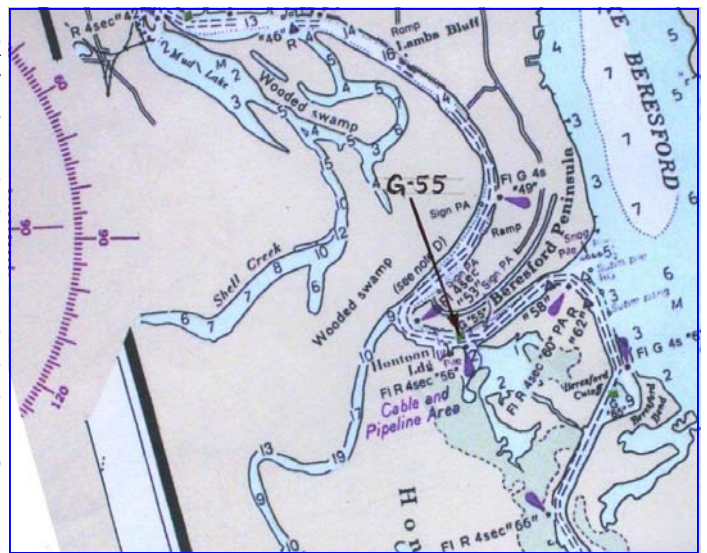
916-937-1566. We will probably be stopping along the way to enjoy the river, so come join us if you can. See you on the river. Hontoon Landing is close to green channel marker 55. See chart detail. Anyone traveling by car, drive: (1) west from Deland on S.R. 44; (2) turn left on Old New York Avenue (if you crossed over the river, you went too far); (3) then left on Hontoon Road; and (4) left again on River Edge Road. See map. The park address and telephone numbers are: 2309 River Ridge Road, Deland, Florida 32720, (386) 736-5309.

I expect as last year there will be daily outings from our dockage, and be sure to pack lunches for any excursion you may want to do. The State Park has great walking trails for those who wish to explore the park area. Each afternoon (before dinner), the dock cocktail hour is great along with snacks that all share. After the afternoon cocktail hour, there are restaurants close by for small boat excursions in the evening, or you can grill your dinner on the state park charcoal grills or your own grill/cooking aboard your boat. As Gemma and I are bringing our Yorkshire terriers ("Zelda" and "Martini"), we plan on grilling our dinner aboard each night along with having some "liquid" martinis. The park facilities are nice and the showers clean and airy!! The State Park store has ice, propane, soda, etc.

From what I gather there will be 7-8 boats on this rendezvous. For those coming by car, there is a shuttle ferry from the mainland over to the State Park (a 1-minute crossing). So daytime, afternoon and evening festivities are within "reach." I might add that the shuttle runs all day until around 6pm for however and whenever someone needs to get across. It is free.

On Sunday we will make our way back to Palatka.

See you there - Clark & Gemma



April 22nd (Thursday) - Dinner Meeting - Aboard our floating clubhouse at Brown's Landing. Social hour starts at 6:00 PM, and dinner starts at 7:00. Joe & Jean Morris will be the door committee. They will have a sign-up sheet at the desk again when you check in, to register volunteers to man the desk for the last two door committees, July and January 2011. This dinner will be completely pot luck this time, for which attendees are asked to bring any one of the following: appetizer, covered dish main entrée, vegetable, salad or dessert. Donations of \$3.00 per person are requested to cover the club's overhead. If the weather is pleasant, those wishing to enjoy cocktails and hors d' oeuvres on the upper deck while watching the sunset, please feel free to do so. Also feel free to take your dinners up there if you wish.

April 30-May 1 (Friday-Saturday) - Mug Race Hospitality - We will set up the PYC tent at the waterfront on Friday afternoon, and that evening the club will serve clam chowder to the race contestants. The plan is for members to prepare it at home from the recipe shown under "Miscellany" below. At this point it is undecided whether we can sell it (\$1 a cup), or give it to the contestants and "accept" donations to cover the cost. On Saturday morning we will serve coffee and donuts to the contestants before the race. Gail Hart's trawler "*Hart's Desire*" will be the starting committee boat for the Mug Race on Saturday morning, so she will not be at the tent that morning. Look for a special e-mail announcement with more details when the time gets closer. At that time we will be asking for volunteers to help with all of the above activities

Coming Events - continued

May 6 (Thursday) - Board of Directors meeting - At 6:30 PM aboard our floating clubhouse. Board meetings are open to all PYC members.

May 8 (Saturday) - Work party at the clubhouse - Details of the work agenda will be given later in a special announcement.

Remaining 2010 Events

Details of each of the following activities will be included in the newsletter preceding each event. Weekend events may be subject to later change or cancellation.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Leader</u>
May 22-23	Boat rendezvous - Sandbar (Redneck Riviera) anchoring	Clark Hoyle
May 27	Dinner meeting - door committee: Gene and Jeannine O'Connor	-----
June 3	Board of Directors meeting	-----
June 5	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
June 24	Dinner meeting - door committee: David and Linda Girardin	-----
June 26-27	Boat rendezvous - Seven Sisters raft-up	David Girardin
July 1	Board of Directors meeting	-----
July 22	Dinner meeting - door committee open	-----
July 30-August 1	Boat rendezvous - St. Marys, Georgia, at Lang's Marina	David Girardin
August 5	Board of Directors meeting	-----
August 26	Dinner meeting - door committee: Connie and Helene Foltis	-----
August 28	Boat rendezvous - Lunch at Welaka Lodge & Marina	Larry Hayes & Bob Waldow
September 2	Board of Directors meeting	-----
September 11	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
September 18-19	Boat rendezvous - Bear Island in Crescent Lake	Gene O'Connor & David Girardin
September 23	Dinner meeting - door committee: Keith Mehl and Ella Lindsay	-----
October 2	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
October 7	Board of Directors meeting	-----
No date	Oktoberfest	-----
October 23-24	Boat rendezvous - Green Cove Springs public Marina	Gene O'Connor
October 28	Dinner meeting - nominate 2011 officers - door committee: Bruce Drackett and Rhonda Masters	-----
November 4	Board of Directors meeting	-----
November 6	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
November 13	Oyster and Shrimp Roast - elect 2011 officers.	-----
November 20-21	Boat rendezvous - Murphys Creek raft-up	David Girardin
December 2	Board of Directors meeting.	-----
December 4	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
No date	Christmas party	-----

Past Events

March 9th - Unscheduled Work Party - A small group: the Girardins, the Hoyles, Gail Hart and Steve Huntley, went to the clubhouse on this mid-week day to continue projects started the previous Saturday. They (1) finished pressure-washing the main deckhouse exterior; (2) also pressure washed and bleached the entire upper deck and pilot house - big job; (3) completed the yard work; (4) moved everything off the carpets in the main salon in preparation for cleaning; and then (4) started the job of shampooing them. (5) Steve finished rebuilding the aft-most spud of floating dock that bears against the hull, where the lumber surrounding the Styrofoam float had split (see photo in the March newsletter). (6) Clark and Gemma returned the next weekend and finished shampooing the carpets.

March 13th - Boat rendezvous - Lunch at Café Bleu



The crew: Connie, Helene, Linda, Jeannine, Gene & Steve
C. Hoyle photo

After a period of heavy rain, this day came out clear and cool, with a very strong and gusty NW wind blowing straight into the marinas and private piers where some club members' boats were moored. It was also blowing straight onto the pier in Welaka where our boaters planned to dock. Consequently, most attendees drove their cars instead of their boats to the rendezvous. The O'Connors' boat *Scraps* did make the windy trip, however, with six aboard. Skipper Gene O'Connor docked her easily in spite of the high wind. Many members were on the pier as *Scraps* came in, and they helped tie her up. All then enjoyed an impromptu cocktail party on the boat and on the pier, then they climbed the little hill and joined the rest of the party in the restaurant. Afterwards, at home, backing *Scraps* into its own slip in that high wind was not so easy. A strong gust pushed the boat hard against an old piling and broke it off. In spite of those difficulties, it was an enjoyable afternoon.



Line handlers & crew

C. Hoyle photo

The Café Bleu management had expected a larger number from our club, and they had closed the restaurant to all but the Palatka Yacht Club for that afternoon. Only 21 members showed up, but they were enough to almost fill the tiny dining room. Of these, fewer than ten had called ahead to give Clark their lunch preferences as he had requested, which was a bit

disappointing. The lunch was delicious, nevertheless, and everyone had a good time. This rendezvous is a keeper, and we should do it every year.

March 25th - Dinner meeting - Neither our commodore or vice commodore were able to attend, and program chairman/vice commodore Bob Trail was never able to connect with the person we had hoped would present our after-dinner program. Nevertheless, twenty-eight members and guests did attend, who enjoyed an evening of conviviality and a delicious dinner of

appetizers, fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, fresh green beans, rolls and butter, and three kinds of dessert. Since the last time anyone was onboard, the clubhouse had apparently gained a new semi-permanent resident: an osprey, or perhaps a mated pair, who decided to make it their home for the season and build a nest on the portside "smokestack." At least they and their hatchlings wouldn't be bothered by smoke coming out of it. The early evening was so pleasant that many if not most of the attendees spent the social hour on the upper deck after going up to look at the new addition. At the time there was no activity on or around the nest, however.



L. Girardin photo



L. Girardin photo

March 25th Dinner meeting - continued

The 50-50 drawing collected \$66, of which Jean Morris won half. The only club business discussed were two announcements: (1) A stranger had noticed the clubhouse entry door ajar and called someone in the club about it to come over and lock up. It seems the last person to leave before this dinner meeting did not make sure the door was properly locked. (2) Standing in for trip-leader Clark Hoyle, David Girardin described the plans for the upcoming Silver Glen Springs/Hontoon Island rendezvous. Details are given in "Coming Events" above.



April 1st - Board of Directors meeting - Only two Board members were present, not enough to form a quorum, so there was no official meeting. Three of the absent Board members were ill. It was noticed that the osprey nest was falling apart and littering the deck below. The bird(s) apparently abandoned it soon after they built it, possibly because of too much human activity in the area.



April 3rd - Work party at the clubhouse - Only Steve, Guion, Connie, Dorothy, and Bob showed up for this work party. Come on, people; you can do better than that, even if it was a holiday weekend. Dorothy arrived at lunch time with enough food for ten hungry workers, the usual number for previous work parties, so this small group feasted when it was time to eat. In spite of the small number, the group accomplished the following.

- (1) Mowed and weed-whacked the lawn;
- (2) Installed the fascia on the aft end of the pilot house roof;



- (3) Eye-spliced 50-foot polypropylene throwing lines onto the two orange liferings;
- (4) Completed repair of the section of floating dock bearing against the hull on port side aft;
- (5) Mounted a bracket for the "new" lifering;
- (6) Secured the plywood wear pad under the shore end of the gangway;
- (7) Painted part of the new epoxy/fiberglass seal at the connection of the pilot house to the upper deck. (Note for painters: Before resealing paint cans, wipe lips and grooves clean, otherwise they do not seal properly, and they are next to impossible to reopen.)
- (8) Took down and stowed the remaining Christmas lights from the window sills. (Note: Next Christmas, do not tape the light wiring to the window glass - very difficult to clean off. Still needs more work to clean off the tape residue from this past Christmas.)



(9) Moved various materials to the hold so the decks are clear. Tent poles are now stowed on shore in the porch of the adjacent building.

(10) Removed the remains of the osprey nest from the port stack and cleaned up the debris around it on deck, so now the topside is clear.

(11) Guion moved the bar contents to the hold.

(12) General cleanup of the salon, moving club stuff aside for the time being.

There are a few holes in the yard that need shovel-work (we don't have one there) and the deck needs scrubbing in a few places (to be done Tuesday).

The liferings are to be stowed in the salon from now on, BUT PLACED IN THEIR BRACKETS FIRST THING when the clubhouse is occupied, and afterward put back in the salon. The necessary polypropylene throwing lines will not stand up in prolonged sunlight so they must be sheltered. We plan to have another lifering with its line protected permanently placed at the dock.

MiMiscellany

Minorcan Clam Chowder (16 servings)by Linda Girardin

2 oz salt pork, diced
2 cups boiling water
2 cups celery, finely chopped
2 cups onions, finely chopped
3 bay leaves
4 cups potatoes diced (about 5 medium potatoes)
15 oz stewed tomatoes, quickly blended
3 oz tomato paste
½ tsp salt
1 tsp oregano
1 tsp thyme
1 tsp black pepper
1 tsp basil
2 whole datil peppers, minced
51 oz chopped clams with juice

Saute´ salt pork in a little olive oil until slightly browned. Add to boiling water with salt. Add celery, onions, and bay leaves. Simmer 15-20 minutes. Add potatoes, tomatoes, tomato paste, and the rest of the seasonings. Simmer 15-20 minutes. Add clams and juice. Simmer 10-15 minutes.

New E-mail Address - Steve Huntley has a new e-mail address: protopterus@basicisp.net. Please change your address list accordingly.

For sale - Clark Hoyle wishes to sell the following:

- (1) Honda portable generator - 2000 watts, 30amp/110v receptacle. Never used, only cranked several times since new. \$1,100 or best offer.
- (2) Magma Kettle 2 stainless grill, cover, 2 gas control valves (1 is a spare) and 7/8" & 1" rail mounts. \$175 or best offer.
- (3) Miscellaneous - Several fenders, dock lines, anchor rodes, plow and spade anchors.



If interested in any of these items, call Clark at 649-6795.

For Sale - 15ft Nissan bowrider powerboat presently being refurbished - \$2200. Will complete to buyer's specifications. If interested, phone Bob Trail at 386-649-8710.

Dinner Meeting Programs - Our dinner-meeting program Chairman Bob Trail has a hard time finding presenters with topics for after-dinner programs. We club members could probably contribute some topics ourselves. We have all taken some interesting trips and done some interesting things in our lives, or know someone who has. Many of these experiences would make entertaining dinner meeting programs. They don't even have to be recent. Any member who would like to present or suggest something along this line, contact Bob at 649-8710 (home), 972-0507 (cell) or griffinaero@gmail.com. And remember, dinner is free. Also, up to two presenters from outside the club will enjoy their meals as guests of the Palatka Yacht Club. Audiovisual resources are available, and all necessary assistance will be provided.

Miscellany - continued

PYC Library - Anyone who has surplus books, VHS tapes, DVDs, pictures, or whatever, that relate to boating, boats or past club memorabilia, could donate them to the club, where they will be kept in the clubhouse for anyone to look at or sign out and take home. Contact Bob Trail for more details.

Nautical Origins of Some Common Expressions - "Back and Fill" - For the tedious job of tacking a large sailing ship in light and fickle winds, the crew would have to **back** the fore and aft sails so the wind would **fill** on the reverse side and push the bow around through the eye of the wind. Systematic **backing and filling** was also used as a way of holding the ship steady in one position. The term is also used to describe the process of turning around a large single-screw boat within its own length by alternately applying short bursts of power in forward and reverse.

Interesting stuff you may never need to know - $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987, 654,321$.

Club-owned Sunfish - At present, the Club's Sunfish sailboat is on a trailer chained and locked to the light post by the clubhouse, available for any member to use. The key is hanging on the bulletin board in the clubhouse. One item on the work-party "to-do" list is to build a secure and convenient cradle for it on the floating dock.

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 should contact Commodore Gail Hart at 386-329-8460. The tent is stored onboard the clubhouse when not in use.

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 at cfoltis@live.com. He will e-mail your newsletter to you each month as a PDF file in color, which you can then print out yourself. This would decrease the club's cost and labor of printing and mailing paper copies every month.

Contact Connie about writing an article for the newsletter (ex: a boating autobiography or a description of an interesting trip you have taken) or to place an advertisement or digital photograph in it. Personal advertisements by members are free. Entries should be received before the end of the first week of the month to be included in that month's newsletter. If anyone knows of a member who is not receiving his or her newsletter, please notify Connie.