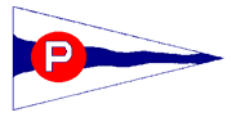


Palatka Yacht Club



Mail: P.O. Box 2004, Palatka, Florida 32178-2004
Telephone: 1-888-851-1811

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

Whispers over the Waters

April 2011

2011 OFFICERS &

DIRECTORS

Commodore:

Harry Gillean

Vice Commodore:

Larry McAfee

Secretary:

Karen Blankenship

Treasurer:

Steven Huntley

First-Year Director:

Douglas Mann

Second Year Director:

Constantine Foltis

Past Commodore:

Gail Hart

Coming Events

April 16 (Saturday) - Dinner at the clubhouse - Social hour starts at 3:00 PM, but come earlier if you wish, by boat or car. Dinner will be served at 4:00 o'clock, provided by the club for a donation of \$10 per person. The menu will be hors d'oeuvres, beef, potatoes, carrots, salad, rolls & butter and desserts. Gail Hart will be the door committee. During the dinner there will be a trivia game for those who wish to participate. It will be based on the style of that done at Three Bananas with teams answering questions on ballots so as not to disrupt the meal. Prizes will be awarded.

April 17-24 (Sunday to Sunday) - PYC "open house" at the docks of Hontoon Island State Park - Four club-members' boats will be leaving from Acosta Creek Marina on Sunday, April 17, at 9 AM, in case anyone is interested in traveling along in flotilla,. They are Waldow's "Golden Daze", Larry Hayes' "Jus' Lofin", Hoyle's "Triple Play" and Gail Hart's "Hart's Desire." Waldow and Hart will travel at 6-7 knots. These same boats will be at Hontoon Island all week and will return to Acosta Creek Marina on Friday April 22. Others will join the group throughout the week. Come and go any time during that period. Gail Hart is the leader of this rendezvous. Please let her know your plans ahead of time. Call her at 386-329-8460 or e-mail Irishpower71@yahoo.com.

2011 COMMITTEE

CHAIRS

Barkeeper: Guion Lindsay

Boating Rendezvous:
David Girardin

Dinner planning: Karen Blankenship & Dorothy McAfee

Door Committees:
Constantine Foltis

Facilities:

Fund Raising:

Improvements & Maintenance: Robert Trail

Internal Communications:
Constantine Foltis

Membership:

Planning Committee:

Programs: Robert Trail

Publicity: Jean Morris

Public Relations: Gail Hart

Sunshine: Jeanine O'Connor

Webmaster: Keith Mehl

Charities:

While en-route Gail will be monitoring channel 68 on the VHF radio. Hontoon Island is 64.5 miles south of the clubhouse by water and 73 miles by water south of Palatka. Hontoon Landing is close to green channel marker 55. Note: pay close attention to posted speed limits in restricted areas on the river as you get close to the destination. See accompanying chart detail.



Those traveling by car, drive: (1) south on Rt. 17 to Deland; (2) west from Deland on S.R. 44; (3) turn left on Old New York Avenue (if you crossed over the river, you went too far); (4) then left on Hontoon Road; and (5) left again on River Edge Road. See accompanying map detail.

The park address and telephone numbers are: 2309 River Ridge Road, Deland, Florida 32720, and (386) 736-5309. There is a free shuttle ferry service from the mainland over to the State Park, a 1-minute crossing. The ferry runs from 8:00 AM until one hour before sunset daily. There is no vehicle access to the island.

Hontoon Island trip - continued

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. 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.

As on this trip last year, we will have daily outings from our docks, so 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 area. Each afternoon (before dinner), our dock "social hour" is great, where there will be snacks that all share. Afterwards you can visit restaurants close by in small boats, grill your dinner on the state park charcoal grills or cook onboard your boat. The park facilities are nice, and the showers clean and airy!! The State Park store has ice, propane, soda, etc.

Boat Slips

Slips are available on a first come first serve basis for overnight dockage. Fees are \$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 of 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 are: 4-person cabin, \$25.00 per night plus tax; and 6-person cabin, \$30.00 per night plus tax

May 6 (Friday) - Mug Race Hospitality - Commodore Harry Gillean will pick up the club tent at the clubhouse around 10:00 AM and bring it to the waterfront. Volunteers are needed to help set it up at noon and later to serve refreshments to the racing crews, as was done at last year's event. Some duties have already been assigned, but anyone else interested in helping, please contact Harry or David Girardin.

May 6 (Friday - 5:00 PM) - Board of Directors meeting @ tent on waterfront. Board meetings are open to all PYC members.

May 7 (Saturday) - Mug Race Hospitality - Volunteers are again requested at the tent, starting at 5:30 AM, to sell ice and serve refreshments to the racing crews. Contact Harry or David for this. Gail Hart's trawler "*Hart's Desire*" will be the race committee start boat again this year, with Gail and the Girardins aboard along with the Rudder Club Race Committee. "*FantaSea*", with Bruce Drackett and Rhonda Masters on board, will monitor the westward end of the starting line. After the start, Harry Gillean in "*High Times*," Bruce and Rhonda in "*FantaSea*" and the Girardins in "*Gator Bait*" will monitor and escort the racing fleet from the starting line to the Shands Bridge, where the Rudder Club will take over those duties from there to the finish line at the Rudder Club in Orange Park. We will need more "chase boats" to assist in the southern course, because those doing double duty (at the starting line and then patrolling) cannot begin patrolling until after all race boats have started, a 3-hour lag due to the staggered starts. If interested in participating with your boat, contact Harry on his cell phone: 386-937-0035. All PYC crews taking part in this are instructed to monitor VHF Channel 78 throughout. After all the racers have passed the Shands Bridge, the PYC chase boat crews will gather for lunch at the Outback Crab Shack on 6-Mile Creek.

Remaining 2011 Activities

Details of each of the following activities will be included in the newsletter preceding each event. Unless noted otherwise, all monthly dinners will be at the clubhouse on the third Saturday of each month, and Board of Directors meetings will be at Andrea's Bookstore on the first Thursday of each month. Other activities may be subject to later change or cancellation, or new ones may be added.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
May 13-15	Raft-up at Fernandina public marina - Leader: David Girardin
May 21	Dinner - Door committee: Connie and Helene Foltis
June 2	Board of Directors meeting
June 9-11	Raft-up at Silver Glen - Leader: Bruce Drackett
June 18	Dinner - Door committee: Bruce Drackett & Rhonda Masters
July 7	Board of Directors meeting
July 9	Work party
July 16	Poker Run to clubhouse - Leaders: Rhonda & Bruce with assistance from David Girardin
July 16	Dinner - Door committee: Bob & Irene Waldow
August 4	Board of Directors meeting
August 13	Work party
August 19-21	Raft up at clubhouse and spend <u>early</u> Saturday at the Redneck Riviera sandbar Leaders: Clark Hoyle & Gemma Rastatter
August 20	Dinner - Door committee: Clark Hoyle and Gemma Rastatter
September 1	Board of Directors meeting
September 10	Work party
September 17	Dinner - Door committee: Betty Poteet
September 24-25	Raft-up behind Murphys Island - Leader: David Girardin
October 6	Board of Directors meeting
October 8	Work party
October 9	Boat to Oktoberfest at Gilleans' residence - Leaders: Harry Gillean and D. & L. Girardin
October 15	Dinner - nominate candidates for 2012 Board of Directors - Door committee: Ella Lindsay
November 3	Board of Directors meeting
November 4-6	Raft-up at Green Cove Springs public marina & take smaller boats up Black Creek Leader: Gene O'Connor
November 12	Work party
November 19	Oyster or pig roast dinner - elect 2012 Board of Directors - Door committee: D. & L. Girardin
November 25	Palatka Christmas Parade
December 1	Board of Directors meeting
December 3	Lighted Boat Parade
December 10	Work party (decorate the clubhouse for Christmas)
December 17	Christmas party

Past Events

Work party - March 12 (AM) by Harry Gillean

Bruce, Steve and myself arrived at 9:00. We reframed the supports on the lower floor and fastened the plywood securely. I mowed the parking area for the afternoon party. The lower floor that is in place is now secure and ready for underlayment and floor covering. Made plans to set sub-panel and wire the galley. Made plans to install flooring on the port section. Measured and set up permanent lower steel bracing for the stairs.

Past Events - continued

Bob Solomon's Birthday Party - March 12 (PM) - This was a non-club event at the clubhouse. The occasion was a party for PYC founding member Bob Solomon's 88th birthday. It was a festive occasion, with Bob's and Freda's large family and many friends attending, including some past and present PYC members, and a band which played music for the younger set to dance by after the older folks had gone home.



Dinner - March 19 - There were nineteen members and guests at this delicious pot-luck dinner, including Rhonda Masters' four-year-old grandson and Connie Foltis' daughter from Maryland. As usual, there was way too much to eat and more choices for anyone to be able to sample them all. Guion Lindsay won a grand total of \$17 of the 50-50 drawing.



Lunch at Cafe Bleu - March 26 - Twenty-six members and guests showed up for this luncheon, out of the reservation list of 21, some by boat and some by car. We packed the dining room, leaving only one small table soon taken by a couple en-route by water from South Carolina to Sanford, Florida, only to break down with motor trouble off Welaka. It was a noisy and festive occasion which, after lunch, moved onto the deck to continue the party into the afternoon.



Board of Directors meeting - April 7 - The following subjects were covered at this meeting:

1. The minutes of the March 3 Board meeting were reviewed and approved with a minor correction.
2. Treasurer Steve Huntley touched on the major points of the monthly treasurer's report. He drew attention to the bar receipts. Normally the bar shows a surplus for the year from February on. Unfortunately we were still in the red in April. Members, please be diligent with the proper donations for your drinks. In turn, we will have to be careful not to mix bar, dinner and 50-50 receipts.
3. The Board discussed details of Mug-Race preparations, which are included in "Coming Events" above.
4. Linda Girardin ordered and paid for 1000 new revised club business cards, for which the Board approved the club reimburse her for her cost. See pictures.
5. Harry Gillean mentioned that he towed our clubhouse mock-up float on a trailer in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.



Front



Back

Board of Directors meeting - continued

6. Clubhouse galley - Secretary/Dinner Committee co-chair Karen Blankenship suggested that we should not hook up the galley stove to be operational until a proper ventilation system is installed in the area. This would be a forced-air range hood with ductwork leading overboard. Originally it had been suggested to use the stove for warming only until the vent system is installed, but there would be the possibility that someone would cook on it, causing fumes that could not be evacuated. Harry and Steve plan to install and wire up the electrical sub-panel required but not connect it to the stove until the vent system is in. The vent system will involve cutting a vent opening in the side of the hull just below the main deck.
7. The club telephone number now rings at Harry's home.
8. Bruce Drackett is reserving the club tent for the St. Paul's Episcopal Church annual fish fry on April 16 at Federal Point.
9. Steve announced that we have 41 current members; three members died last year and three of last year's late payers have not yet rejoined.

Miscellany

Clubhouse Maintenance - There was no work party scheduled for this month, but the Girardin's are finishing redecorating the wheelhouse interior at different times at their convenience. Any member noting other areas of the clubhouse needing attention, please notify maintenance chairman Bob Trail at griffinaero@yahoo.com or 386-649-8710. These items will then be included in work-party agendas.

Photographs - Anyone interested in viewing additional photographs of any event, check the club's website, palatkayachtclub.org, to see if it has other pictures for which there was not room to display in the newsletter.

For Sale - 12 ft Old Town *Sonnet* kayak, with rudder and paddle, all in very good condition; original cost about \$1000, asking \$550. Contact Bob Trail at 649-8710 or griffinaero@yahoo.com.

For Sale - 15ft Nissan bowrider powerboat presently being refurbished - \$2700. Includes a galvanized trailer in good condition, new bimini and cover, and a recent \$600 engine overhaul. Will complete to buyer's specifications. If interested, contact Bob Trail at one of the above numbers.

Club-owned Sunfish - At present, the Club's Sunfish sailboat is locked on the clubhouse floating dock on a secure cradle, from which it can be easily launched for any member to sail. The key for the lock is on the bulletin board. The boat's accessories are stored onboard the clubhouse.

Boat Trailer - The club's Sunfish trailer is at Bob Trail's property in San Mateo for safekeeping. It is available for any member to use to carry small boats of up to 14 ft and 500 pounds or so. Call Bob at 386-649-8710.

After-Dinner Programs - Our program Chairman Bob Trail sometimes has a hard time finding presenters with topics for these 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

Miscellany - continued

experiences would make entertaining 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 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.

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. Bob Trail has provided a bookcase, with a video library of VHS tapes as well as a VHS player to sign out. Hopefully now we can get more tapes and several more players so these can be signed out on a monthly basis. The players are easily connected to modern equipment. Contact Bob for more details.

Nautical Origins of Some Common Expressions - "By the Boards" - When a wooden ship's mast falls over the side and is carried away, it is said to have gone by the boards, or literally, gone past the boards or planks of the wood deck and hull side. In the modern vernacular, the expression means something that has passed by, such as a missed opportunity.

Interesting stuff you may never need to know - Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim or handle of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. **'Wet your whistle'** is the phrase inspired by this practice.

Boat U.S. Membership - Our club members are entitled to Boat US membership while paying half-price dues, \$15.00 instead of the regular new membership price of \$30.00. Contact Steve Huntley at 904-692-2952 or protopterus@basicisp.net 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 Harry Gillean at 386-325-0802 (H), 386-325-1322 (W) or harrygillean1@bellsouth.net. 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 through the mail, 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 full color, which you can then print yourself. This would decrease the labor and club's cost of printing and mailing paper copies every month. The same goes for the annual club handbook. Members without e-mail will continue to receive paper copies of the newsletter and handbook.

Contact Connie about writing an article for the newsletter (ex: a boating-oriented autobiography or a description of an interesting trip you have taken). You may also 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 at the above e-mail address, or telephone 386-328-6783.