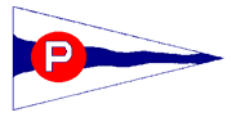


# Palatka Yacht Club



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

Location: 107 Marina Road, Palatka  
Webpage: [www.palatkayachtclub.org](http://www.palatkayachtclub.org)

*Whispers over the Waters*

*August 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:  
Ernie Ricard  
(appointed by the  
Commodore to com-  
plete Connie's term)  
Past Commodore:  
Gail Hart

## 2011 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Barkeeper: Guion Lindsay  
Boating Rendezvous:  
David Girardin  
Dinner planning:  
Karen Blankenship  
& Dorothy McAfee  
Door Committees:  
Facilities:  
Fund Raising:  
Improvements &  
Maintenance: Robert Trail  
Internal Communications:  
Membership:  
Planning Committee:  
Programs: Robert Trail  
Publicity: Jean Morris  
Public Relations: Gail Hart  
Sunshine:  
Jeannine O'Connor  
Webmaster: Keith Mehl

## Note to Fellow Club Members

This edition of the newsletter was prepared and edited by Commodore Harry Gillean. Anyone wishing to volunteer as the newsletter editor and compiler should contact Harry at 386-325-2141 (Andrea's Bookstore).

## Past Events

### Palatka Yacht Club's Poker Run on the St. Johns River and Tributaries

By Linda Girardin

Friday's early afternoon severe thunderstorms awakened boaters' sense of safe boating, causing them to be rightfully concerned about the impending weather for the Saturday poker run. However, Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, dawned beautiful, without a breath of air as the Girardins launched at Browns Landing to place the chits at the five locations that registrants would have to locate. The course was established to minimize problems with other boaters on the river, strong winds, or strong currents.

The trip to acquire all five chits would take boaters from the clubhouse along the main stem of the St. Johns River, up Murphys Creek, through the Buffalo Bluff Train Bridge, behind one of the Seven Sisters Islands to Stokes Landing, and up the Cross Florida Barge Canal to the waiting area at the Buckman Lock, and back to the clubhouse—a 20-mile course.

Registration hours were advertised as 10 AM to 1 PM; however, most people showed up at the clubhouse earlier than later. As a positive reflection of their good seamanship, the boaters wanted to ply the waters before the afternoon showers appeared, and because they were very excited about the day's activities.

Some of our participants had not explored the river in and around the clubhouse. We had visitors from Kentucky and St. Augustine, as well as from around Putnam County. One boat that registered was skippered by members of the Rat Island Yacht Club.

Pre-registrations included 13 boats, one of which chose not to participate in the poker run because of its small size and the possibility of inclement weather. The players on that boat, however, were invited aboard another boat and still participated in the fun and games. Poker pre-registrations totaled 46 players; last minute cancellations brought us down to 41 actual players. One club member had pre-registered 3 people who were unable to attend; the member paid for those hands of poker (and dinner), and played the hands for the missing people. A few people chose to dine on the Woody's barbeque meal and not play poker.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their boating experience, even those in the slower boats that got caught in a light rain shower. They enhanced skills of motoring up to an immovable object (the places where the chits were to be picked up), navigating, looking for submerged obstructions, and slow-boating in mild currents.

This poker run was planned as a trial run and to be relatively small in order for club members to determine its viability as a larger event, maybe even as a fundraiser of some sort. At one point, we had 7 boats tied up at on the floating docks at the clubhouse, filling our dock space. Any other boaters, had to raft up to other boats.

## Coming Events

### August 13 (Saturday)—Work Party

The Aug. 13 work party has quite an agenda this time: The bugs have been busy and the place needs pressure washing, the carpet is stained, the pilothouse has to be checked for pesky leakage, the toilets are stained, the Sunfish has to be repositioned, the grill was about to blow overboard again, the galley floor and lighting need attention and a few other jobs as usual. Hopefully members will be there to do whatever they feel comfortable with; please bring your own tools (there is a lot of hose for the pressure washer there) and the bleach, etc. will be provided.

Because it gets hot, we'll want to start early and quit early, perhaps about 8:30 or sooner. Bob's cell number is 972-0507 if you need any information (like the door lock combination).

Bob Trail *interim* maintenance chairman

### September 1 (Thursday)—Board of Directors meeting

Five o'clock at Andrea's Bookstore. Board meetings are open to all PYC members.

### August 19-21 (Friday-Sunday)—Raft up at clubhouse and spend early Saturday at the Redneck Riviera sandbar

Leaders: Clark Hoyle & Gemma Rastatter

### 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.

#### Date   Event

August 13	Work party
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 Harry & Andrea Gilleans' residence—Leaders: Harry Gillean and David and Linda Girardin
October 15	Dinner—nominate candidates for 2012 Board of Directors; Door committee: Ella Lindsay
October 22	Tentative Canoe trip up Julington Creek and early dinner at Clark's Fish Camp
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 and elect 2012 Board of Directors; Door committee: David & Linda 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

**August 4 Board of Directors Meeting**—Voted for membership Traci & Ed Reed.

## Miscellany

**New Members - Welcome to Traci & Ed Reed. Add their information to your book, 4083 Reid Street, Palatka, 325-1145.**

**For Sale**—12-ft Old Town *Sonnet* kayak, with rudder and paddle, all in very good condition; original cost about \$1,000; asking \$550. Contact Bob Trail at 649-8710 or griffinaero@yahoo.com.

**For Sale**—15ft Nissan bowrider powerboat presently being refurbished; \$2,700. 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.

**From “Salty Dog Talk: The Nautical Origins of Everyday Expressions”—Slush fund:** The sailors in the navy are allowed salt beef. From this provision, when cooked, nearly all the fat boils off; this is carefully skimmed and put into empty beef or pork barrels, and sold, and the money so received is called the slush fund.

**Interesting Stuff You May Never Need to Know**—A castrated rooster is called a Capon.

**Clubhouse Maintenance**—Any member noting areas of the clubhouse that need 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. See clip board item above.

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

**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.

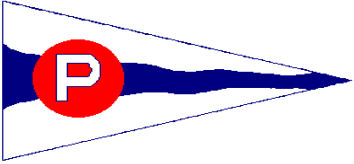
**Boat Trailer**—The club's Sunfish trailer is at Bob Trail's property in San Mateo for safekeeping. It is available for any member to use to carry small boats of up to 14ft and 500 pounds or so. Call Bob at 386-649-8710.

**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 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.

**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 (C) or harrYGillean1@bellsouth.net. The tent is stored onboard the clubhouse when not in use.



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Palatka, FL 32178-2004