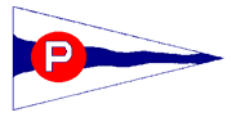


Palatka Yacht Club



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

July 2010

2010 OFFICERS &

DIRECTORS

Commodore:

Gail Hart

Vice Commodore:

Robert Trail

Secretary:

Karen Blankenship

Treasurer:

Steven Huntley

First-Year Director:

Constantine Foltis

Second Year Director:

Clark Hoyle

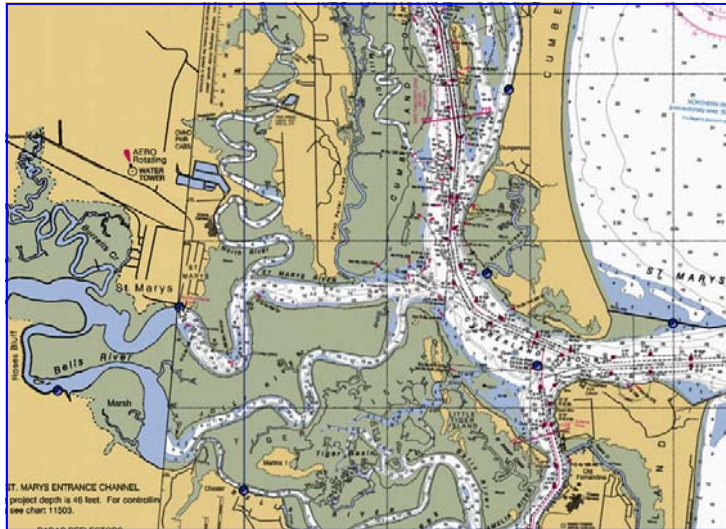
Past Commodore:

Keith Mehl

Coming Events

July 22(Thursday) - Dinner meeting - Aboard our floating clubhouse. Social hour starts at 6:00 PM, and dinner starts at 7:00. The dinner will be pot luck, with a cover charge of \$3.00 per person. Attendees are asked to bring any one of: an appetizer, main entrée, vegetable, salad, bread and butter, or dessert. The door committee will be Clark Hoyle and Gemma Rastatter.

July 30-August 1 (Friday-Sunday) - St. Marys, Georgia, Boating Adventure
..... by *David and Linda Girardin*



We (the Girardins) will be leaving the Elgin Grove Boat Ramp at Forester Point in East Palatka, 3.5 miles north of the US 17 Bridge, at 10:00 AM on Friday. From this point to the marina in St. Marys, you will travel approximately 105 statute miles, or as Gene O'Connor likes to say, 91 nautical miles.

We cruise at about 25 mph and will "lead" the way. Anyone upstream can meet us near the ramp at 10:00. We'll monitor Channel 68. Those living

downstream can pick us up on the way. Fuel is available in downtown Jacksonville, Fernandina, and St. Marys.

For those staying ashore in St. Marys, the Riverview Motel renovated rooms in August of last year. Check out the rooms and prices at www.riverviewhotelstmarys.com/index. If you mention that you are part of the Palatka Yacht Club, you may receive a discount on the room. Their phone number is 912-882-4452.

If you are planning on staying on your boat, please let us know the length of your boat and power/water needs. We will call in a group reservation to the dock master at Lang's Marina, who usually doesn't take reservations.

If you are traveling up by boat or launching your boat in St. Marys and want dock space, please let us know as well. We'll need the length of your boat for the reservation.

Those planning to travel to St. Marys by car must use their judgment on timing. The road distance from Palatka to St. Marys is also about 100 miles. Take I-95 six miles into Georgia and turn east on Rt. 40, then eight miles to St. Marys. If you are trailering your boat to the area, launch at the public boat ramp near the Riverview Hotel. Those coming by car without a boat in tow, do not expect a space on a boat unless previously arranged*. Most of those

* See next page.

2010 COMMITTEE

CHAIRS

Barkeeper: Guion Lindsay

Boating rendezvous:
David Girardin

Dinner planning:
Karen Blankenship &
Dorothy McAfee

Door Committees:
Ella Lindsay

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:

Jeannine O'Connor

Webmaster: Keith Mehl

Charities:

St. Marys Boating Adventure - continued

coming on big boats will not take them off of the dock once they are in St. Marys, and they will have 1st dibs on space on the small boats for daytime boating activities.

For food planning purposes, the Girardins are planning on stopping at the Jacksonville Landing to get lunch to go, on the way to St. Marys. We will order box lunches on Friday for Saturday's boating activities. The hotel provides a free continental breakfast to its patrons. There is a restaurant nearby that serves a regular menu for breakfast. Lunch on Sunday will depend on weather and the urge to get home. Friday and Saturday nights, we'll visit local restaurants.

Weather permitting on Saturday, we'll circumnavigate Cumberland Island, anchoring up some place for lunch. Hopefully, we'll see plenty of the wild horses and maybe even a submarine around Kings Bay. The majority will rule on what we do on Saturday.*

For those who want to walk to the ruins, we can arrange for a drop off and pick up. Plan to just plain relax and enjoy the scenery. Fishing poles might be a nice addition; we'll just fish in Florida waters. Don't forget the cameras either.

Members planning to go (as of July 1):

Traveling by boat from Palatka area:

- * Girardins - possibly room for passengers on Saturday
- * Doug Mann, possibly room for passengers on entire trip
- Lana Bunton with guests
- * Bruce Drackett - possibly room for passengers on Saturday

Traveling to St. Marys by car with boat in tow:

- Bob Waldow with "Sea Dawgs"
- Gilleans with "Small Boat"

Traveling to St. Marys by car without boat:

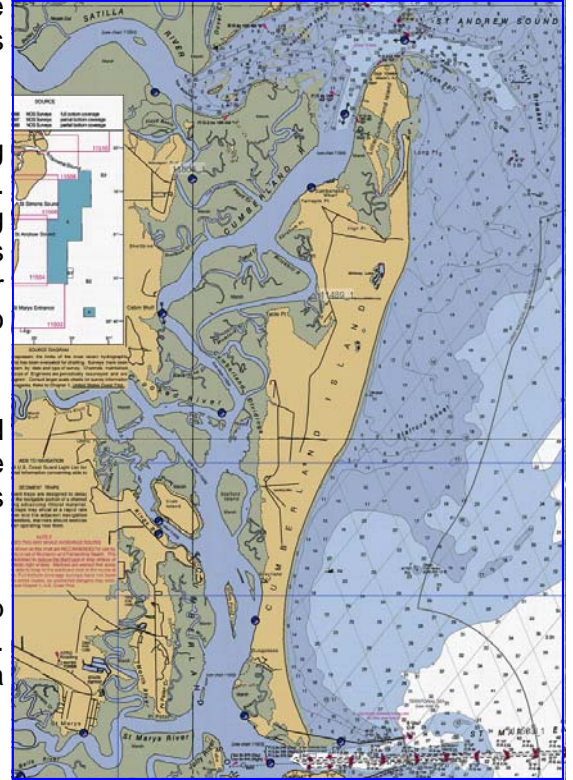
- Clark and Gemma** (riding with Girardins on Saturday)
- Gail Hart**
- Betty Poteet**
- Larry Hayes**

** Suggest carpooling

Please confirm your intentions (phone 328-1774) so that we can make sure you receive any last-minute information (which we hope won't be necessary).

Linda and David

August 5 (Thursday) - Board of Directors Meeting - At 6:30 PM aboard our floating clubhouse. Board meetings are open to all PYC members.



Remaining 2010 Events

Details of each of the following will be included in the newsletter preceding each event. Weekend events may be subject to later change or cancellation. Note change in August 28 rendezvous.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Leader</u>
August 26	Dinner meeting - door committee: Connie & Helene Foltis	-----
August 28	Boat rendezvous - Lunch at Café Bleu, Welaka	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	G. O'Connor & D. Girardin
September 23	Dinner meeting - door committee: Keith Mehl & Ella Lindsay	-----
October 2	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
October 7	Board of Directors meeting	-----
October 9	Oktoberfest	-----
October 23-24	Boat rendezvous - Green Cove Springs Public Marina	Gene O'Connor
October 28	Dinner meeting - door committee: B. Drackett & R. Masters	(Nominate 2011 Officers)
November 4	Board of Directors meeting	-----
November 6	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
November 13	Oyster Roast <u>or</u> Pig Roast * - elect 2011 officers	Connie Foltis
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	-----

* Depends on the availability of shellfish.

Past Events

June 24 - Dinner meeting - Twenty-seven members and two guests (friends of Bob and Irene Waldow) attended this dinner. The meal consisted of salad, spaghetti with meat sauce, bread and four kinds of dessert. After dinner, Commodore Gail Hart made some announcements, and David Girardin described plans for the Seven Sisters raft-up on the coming weekend and also for the St. Marys boat trip late in July. Dorothy McAfee won the 50-50 drawing, which included the May 27 dinner meeting collection as well as this one. She took home \$39 out of the \$78 combined collection. There was no special program this evening.



June 26-27 - Seven Sisters raft-up - Fun in the Sun By Linda Girardin

Well, members of the Palatka Yacht Club finally made it to Seven Sisters Islands, our rendezvous spot, on Sunday morning, about 18 hours later than expected. As the story goes, club members practiced the time-revered art of being flexible.

The rendezvous was to officially start Saturday at 2 PM at the clubhouse. Unofficially, it started early, like 6 PM on Friday night, with dinner at Corky Bells. Tied up at the dock were "FantaSea," "Gator Bait," "High Times," and "Reel Off Roader" with Bruce Drackett and Rhonda Masters, David and Linda Girardin, Harry and Andrea Gillean, and Clay and Heather Gillean (former members) on board, respectively. Meeting the group by car was Steve Huntley. After dinner, the group traveled under an almost full moon and slick waters to the dock at the clubhouse (Steve came in his land yacht).

Seven Sisters raft-up - continued



L. Girardin photo

We chilled out under the stars on the upper deck of the clubhouse telling boating stories and other truths (or maybe lies). The moon was gorgeous. We so thoroughly enjoyed having access to the



Nine PYC boats

L. Girardin photo

upper deck, air conditioning, refrigeration, rest rooms, the docks, a party area, and the deck tables and chairs, that we decided not to raft up on Saturday at Seven Sisters. We had it all right here at our very own clubhouse!

By 9:30 AM on Saturday, the group was anchored up at the sandbar (Redneck Riviera) upstream of the clubhouse and ensconced in the water where it was far cooler than on land or boats. As the day progressed, Doug Mann in *"Rock and Roll Fantasy"* found us at the sandbar, as did Clark Hoyle and Gemma Rastatter in *"Triple Play."*



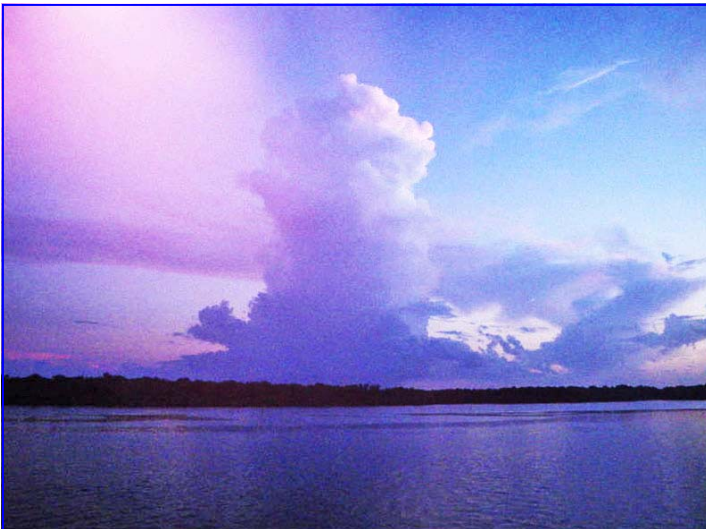
L. Girardin photo



L. Girardin photo

Just before the official start of the rendezvous, Gail Hart in *"Harts Desire"* radioed that she was on her way and that she was meeting Betty Poteet at the clubhouse. Once she was informed of our change in plans, Clay and David went off to the clubhouse to get Betty while Gail anchored up with the rest of the group. Friends of Gail's, Jim and Shirley, joined our flotilla in their trawler *"Mutual Fund Too."* Before we knew it, Joe Morris joined us in *"Benomo"*, and Bob Trail was there in his jonboat *"Satsuma Queen"*. At the height of our rendezvous, we had 10 boats in our raftup with 18 people participating. It has been a very long time since we have had such a turnout of boats and people at a boating rendezvous. It just goes to show you that summer time is good boating time.

About the time we had planned to head to Seven Sisters Islands, we broke up our raft at the sandbar and headed to the clubhouse. We actually had 7 boats tied up at one time on the dock, with yet another guest stopping by in their boat.



View from the upper deck

L. Girardin photo

We snacked or dined in the late afternoon on the upper deck. Gene and Jeannine O'Connor showed up in their Panga once they heard about the success of our gathering and the enthusiasm of the group. After the moon rose and stars came out, we reiterated how great the day was and how lucky we were to be members of the club with complete access to the clubhouse.

Everyone thoroughly appreciated eating breakfast on the upper deck, mostly prepared by Bruce and Gail (with some ingredients provided by Steve). It was just such a perfect way to start gorgeous days in paradise.

From unofficial beginning of the rendezvous until the end, we actually did have members sleeping on pads in the air-conditioned salon rather than on boats or in cars.

The talk around the sandbar was that non-club members

Seven Sisters raft-up - continued

thought the clubhouse was abandoned, as they never saw boats tied up there. Well, not this weekend! The talk among yacht club boaters was, well just wait until next time, which could be sooner than a planned boating rendezvous.

Back to the end of our story, Doug Mann had been looking forward to exploring some new territory on the river (Seven Sisters Islands), so the Girardins, with Bruce and Rhonda on board (leaving "FantaSea" tied up at the dock) escorted Doug to the "official" rendezvous spot, where we actually did anchor up and swim, fulfilling our promise to visit the area.

July 1 - Board of Directors Meeting - Only three Board members were present, not enough for a quorum required for an official Board of Directors meeting. Nevertheless, the following subjects were discussed:

1. Before the meeting, Secretary Karen Blankenship had advised that she could not attend this meeting, and she e-mailed the minutes of the June 3 Board meeting for the Board's review.
2. The still-missing rectangular chafing dishes and their stands were discussed. These expensive items of galley equipment have been gone for some time now. If any member has them at home, please return them to the clubhouse, or call Karen Blankenship (328-3887) or Dorothy McAfee (328-2103).
3. Steve Huntley will contact Gail Hart about a vendor of yacht club decals, etc to get a cost of embroidered patches.
4. Maintenance chairman Bob Trail is scheduling a work party at the clubhouse on Saturday, July 10, starting at 9:30 AM, with the following items on the agenda:
 - Complete the pilothouse fascia;
 - Find and repair the pilothouse leak which, though smaller, continues to elude us;
 - Clean the abandoned osprey nest off the port stack (for the 2nd time);
 - Install a cold-water outdoor shower on the dock;
 - Considering purchasing and installing a yacht-type swim ladder on the dock for swimmers use;
 - Steve Huntley will survey the dock for replacement timbers, decking;
 - Steve Huntley will estimate the costs of adding one 50A and two 30A electric services to the dock area.

Miscellany

Drowning - It isn't what most of us think. This is a 'must-read' that Bob Trail found in the "Trailersailor Forum": <http://gcaptain.com/maritime/blog/drowning/?1098>

Clubhouse facilities - Last months "Commodore's Corner" noted this, but it is worth repeating. There is now a computer set up in the meeting room for any member to use. Steve Huntley donated this to the club, equipped with charting and navigation packages, world-wide tide tables, and standard seafaring texts such as Bowditch, the Sailing Directions, and Coastal Pilots. Also, the television set in the meeting room has an extensive DVD and VHS library, for entertainment that is perhaps different from what you have at home.

For Sale - 15ft Nissan bowrider powerboat presently being refurbished - \$2200. Will complete to buyer's specifications. If interested, contact Bob Trail at 649-8710 or griffinaero@gmail.com.

Dinner Meeting Programs - Our dinner-meeting program Chairman Bob Trail usually 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 or griffinaero@gmail.com. And remember, dinner is free. Also, up to two presenters from

Miscellany - continued

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. Contact Bob Trail for more details.

Nautical Origins of Some Common Expressions - “Brought up Short” - Describes stopping a sailing ship by letting go the anchor. This was done only in emergencies, or it sometimes happened by accident. Either way it had a most dramatic effect as the ship suddenly shuddered to a standstill. This expression has come ashore to mean the act of interrupting or stopping a person from saying or doing something.

Interesting stuff you may never need to know - Q. Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of what?
A. Their birthplace.

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.

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 Gail Hart at 386-329-8460 or Irishpower71@yahoo.com. 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 full color, which you can then print out 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.

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.