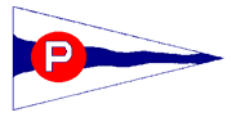


# Palatka Yacht Club



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

July 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 complete 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 Linda Girardin. For the time being, Commodore Gillen will assume the responsibility of the newsletter. Anyone wishing to volunteer as the newsletter editor and compiler should contact Harry at 386-325-2141 (Andrea's Bookstore).

### In Memoriam - Connie Foltis, Director and Newsletter Editor

Constantine Foltis, age 82, resided in Palatka, when he passed away at 2:22 a.m. June 16, 2011, at Community Hospice in St. Augustine. The cause of death was leukemia and subsequent complications.

Connie is survived by his wife, Helene Foltis, and his two daughters from a previous marriage, of whom he is very proud, Christine Robinson of Arlington, Va., and Rosemary Foltis of Annapolis, Md. Helene's extended family includes Connie's stepson and step-daughters, Joe, Laurie, and Debby, respectively, three nieces, along with legions of grandchildren and great-grandchildren who all looked up to him as a hero and received the eyebrow scold.

Constantine was born in New York City to Constantine and Margaret Foltis on Dec. 1, 1928. His older sisters Jeanne and Helen Foltis preceded him in death. Connie's father Constantine became an admired and highly successful restaurateur, who with his partner, built a highly successful restaurant chain in New York City, plus the Sea Cove, which was his signature restaurant. Connie's father wined and dined every walk of



society, exposing Connie to a great variety of people and experiences. The family spent every summer at their summer home in Shelter Island, N.Y., which was a central focus of family life while Connie was growing up, and where his love of sailing began. Shelter Island has continued to be a central focus throughout his lifetime. Connie graduated from Brooklyn Technical High School and later graduated from the University of Michigan in 1953, after which he served a very short stint in the Army before joining Rosenblatt ship design firm in 1953. Connie worked for the Maritime Administration during his federal government career spanning 30 years, during which time he received a Department of Transportation Award for Superior Achievement. Prior to his retirement, he completed the design for the crane-ship innovative model for loading and unloading cargo ships.

## In Memoriam - Continued

Connie, an avid sailor who taught family members and friends to sail, reputedly could sail with his eyes shut with the feel of the wind on his face. He was an avid member of numerous sailing clubs to include the club at the University of Michigan, Palatka Yacht Club, and many others. He retired from the U.S. government just in time in 1985 to fly to England to catch a yacht to sail back to the U.S. with several long-time friends.



Connie remained friends with members of his sailing club at the University of Michigan to this day as well as with many of his colleagues from his 30-year career as a naval architect and marine engineer for the U.S. government. Beginning at age 8, photography remained Connie's second driving passion throughout his lifetime. He believed that if it wasn't black and white, it wasn't a picture. He regaled friends, family, and colleagues with scores upon scores of delightful pictures. Some of Connie's most recent activities include serving as an

active member of the Palatka Riverboat Committee, Palatka Waterway Committee, and a key member of the Palatka Yacht Club, and always ready and willing to help on many other volunteer projects. He helped design the floating clubhouse located at Brown's Landing for the Palatka Yacht Club. Connie was known to many as an extremely positive-minded and very kind person who couldn't walk 10 steps without talking to somebody.

A memorial service was held 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 22, at Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka with Pastor Rick Freese Sr. officiating.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that memorial donations be made to the Putnam County Humane Society, PO Box 188, Hollister, Florida 32147 or to The American Cancer Society, 600 Zeagler Dr., Palatka, Florida, 32177.

Arrangements were under the direction on Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka.

The memorial service was attended by current and former yacht club members. Helene had prepared a nice slide show with photos from Connie as a child to recent photos of him with various family members. She had also included some of Connie's sunrise, or maybe they were sunset, or both photos, most of which included views over the water. Several people spoke regarding their relationships with Connie, some of the speeches were humorous. The family hosted a reception at the Foltis Cedar Creek Road home, which gave those in attendance an opportunity to spend more quality time with the family and other friends of the family.

Connie received a good "send off."



## Coming Events

### July 9 (Saturday)—Work Party

See item 2 under July 7 report on the Board of Directors meeting.

### July 16 (Saturday)—Poker Run & Dinner at the Clubhouse

Event leaders are the Drackett/Masters team and the Girardins.

The timeframe for registration for the poker run and dinner reservations is July 11. Should you decide to attend the picnic-style meal of BBQ chicken, pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, baked beans, roll, and tea, please wait to the end of the line to assure that there is sufficient food for those people who made reservations. Then, eat to your heart's content.

The poker run will be set up such that boating will occur in the vicinity of the clubhouse and Murphys Island. For your planning purposes, however, the furthest upstream of the clubhouse we would go would be in the area of Seven Sisters Islands/Cross Florida Barge canal. The furthest downstream of the clubhouse would be in the area of Rat Island/entrance to Dunns Creek. There might be a stop in Murphys Creek. Water depths are at least 5 feet. The winner will get 75% of the pot of money.

The actual details will be handed out at registration on July 16, which starts at 10 AM and ends at 1 PM, or after the last registration packet is picked up. The poker winner will be announced after our meal.

### August 4 (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

## Past Events

### June 10–12 (Friday-Sunday)—Raft-up at Silver Glen Springs

Harry Gillean was the leader of this rendezvous.



Carole Martin wrote “It was a beautiful, sunny Saturday at Silver Glen when Bob Trail & Carole Martin kayaked out to meet Larry Hayes and Harry and Andrea Gillean, who were anchored out in the pretty, clear water from the springs. Harry and Andrea had come down on Friday night in “High Times” and Larry had come down on Saturday morning in “Jus Lofin.” Bob and Carole drove down and took the kayaks out for a nice little trip down the run to the lake and back. Larry was very hospitable and invited Bob and Carole aboard. We all sat and chatted for awhile amidst a large number of boats whose occupants were also enjoying the day, and then the smoke moved in. Harry, Andrea, and Larry were all staying over until Sunday. Bob and Carole went back on Saturday. Silver Glen is a lovely area and, if it weren't for the smoke (from all the distant fires) it is very charming.”

### June Work Effort—As Reported by Bob Trail

The proposed work party proved to be unnecessary because Steve Huntley and Bruce Drackett went over around Wednesday and did a fine job doing everything! Prior to the effort, Bob and Carole went over to the clubhouse during the week of June 5 to find the facility pretty nice inside except for the toilets, which are badly stained, and the outside, which needed cleaning. The grounds also needed attention.

### June 18 Dinner—As Reported by Bob Trail

The meeting was lightly attended with 17 in attendance. Vice Commodore Larry McAfee performed the commodore's duties, and Jeannine O'Connor said the blessing. Karen and Dorothy had prepared a surprise Mexican menu of beef and chicken fajitas, beef soft tacos, Mexican beans and rice, and all of the necessary side dishes aplenty for us to make up as we liked. There were several delicious desserts to choose from.

### June 30 Work Effort at Foltis Home—As Reported by Bob Trail

On the last Thursday in June a small group of PYCers descended on Helene's place with lots of equipment and helped her spiff up the grounds. It is heartwarming to be able to do this sort of thing for a member in distress...I don't know who benefited more: Helene or Gemma, Steve, Guion, two Bobs or Gene Roberds.

**July 4**—The team of Bruce Drackett, Steve Huntley, Rhonda Masters, and David and Linda Girardin installed a canopy cover over the club's model float. The canopy was purchased by Bruce, Rhonda, and Steve. A bit more work needs to be done to properly secure it.

### July 7 Board of Directors Meeting—As Reported by Steve Huntley

1. Commodore Harry Gillean appointed Ernie Ricard to fill the remainder of Connie Foltis' term as second-year director.
2. There will be a work detail this Saturday, weather permitting. Steve Huntley will finish the gangplank landing and begin scaling rust on the clubhouse deck. Harry Gillean will bring sanding equipment to prep the port outboard surfaces, starting on the red band.
3. The target release for the PYC cookbook was set at December 2011. We will be contacting two publishers. MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE RECIPES. Bring them in any form to any club function.
4. The club's cash flow may be in the red as early as August this year. During the June board meeting we decided that we would redeem one of our CDs for operating capital if necessary. We continue to slowly recoup our bar losses.
5. PYC has paid nearly \$3,100 in interest on the member loans so far this year.

## Miscellany

**For Sale**—Helene Foltis (386-328-6783) has the following items for sale. Please call her if you are interested in purchasing an item or to negotiate on the price:

Jacket, large, red and black, medium weight, with PYC logo embroidered on it.....	\$35
Inflatable life vest, extra large, red, made by Stearns, with canisters and whistle, new.....	\$100
Foul weather jacket, medium, red and white, made by Henri Lloyd, new.....	\$100
Foul weather jacket, medium, yellow, made by North Atlantic Trading Co., excellent condition...	\$75
Foul weather pants, XXL, red, made by Racing Line, new.....	\$50
Foul weather pants, large, yellow, made by North Atlantic Trading Co., excellent condition.....	\$75

**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”**—**Windfall:** Some English and American landowners were prevented, by clause in the title of their estates, to either fell or sell timber as this was reserved for building ships for the Navy. However, this did not include trees which were blown down and so a windfall came to mean a financial blessing, an unexpected gift of money.

**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.