



Palatka Yacht Club



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

Whispers over the Waters

March 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

Commodore's Cornerby Gail Hart

So now it's March --- Spring must be around the corner.

But, which one? Hopefully our next get together at Café Bleu in Welaka on March 20th will have the city dock overflowing with boats. I'm sure you're as anxious as I to get on the water.

Please remember to pay your dues. Don't forget we have a payment plan.

We'll be making and selling clam chowder the Friday night before the Mug Race per Girardin's recipe.

Welcome to Doug Mann, our newest member. He will be inducted at our next dinner get together on March 25th.



2010 Calendar of Events

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

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Leader</u>
January 7	Board of Directors meeting	-----
January 28	Dinner meeting - inaugurate 2010 officers - door committee: Ella Lindsay	-----
February 4	Board of Directors meeting	-----
February 25	Dinner meeting - door committee: Harry and Andrea Gillean	-----
February 27	Boat rendezvous - Corky Bell's Gator Landing	David Girardin
March 4	Board of Directors meeting	-----
March 6	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
March 13	Boat rendezvous - Café Bleu in Welaka	Clark Hoyle
March 25	Dinner meeting - door committee: Bob & Sue Trail	-----
April 1	Board of Directors meeting.	-----
April 3	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
April 15-18	Boat rendezvous - Silver Glen Springs & Hontoon Island	Clark Hoyle
April 22	Dinner meeting - door committee: Joe & Jean Morris	-----
May 1	Mug Race Hospitality	Gail Hart
May 6	Board of Directors meeting	-----
May 8	Work party at the clubhouse	Bob Trail
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	-----

Calendar of Events - continued

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Leader</u>
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.	Clark Hoyle
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	-----

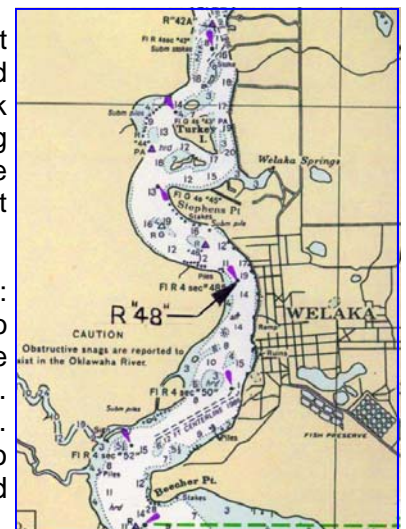
Coming Events

March 9th (Tuesday) - Unofficial Work Party

David and Linda Girardin plan to continue with yard work, pressure washing the hull (including the upper deck and pilot house), repairs on the gangway and floating dock; to clean the rugs in the salon; to paint the fiberglass repairs done to the pilot house at the deck; and to fix the grill securing it to the deck. Anyone wishing to help, call them at 328-1774 or cell 937-1566 (David), 329-6566 (Linda).

March 13th (Saturday) - Boat rendezvous Lunch at Café Bleu - Start from the clubhouse at 11:00 AM and flotilla to Welaka. Boat-pool passengers should arrange for your rides ahead of time and meet at the clubhouse before 11:00 o'clock departing time. Alternately, go directly to Welaka and tie up at the Welaka floating dock (about ¼ mile south of channel marker R-48, about ten miles by water from the clubhouse), and walk to the restaurant (address 1100 Front Street). Plan to there at noon.

In case of foul weather, this will be a car trip instead boat trip. Driving directions are: Take Rt. 17 to just south of Satsuma; turn west onto Rt. 309; go about six miles to Welaka; turn right onto Palmetto (the street just before the stop light and before the Log Cabin Bar); turn right into the Old Palms parking lot (it is white limerock gravel). You will see the restaurant on the west end of the parking lot. Meet there at noon. Clark Hoyle is the leader on this activity, and he needs an approximate head count to advise Cafe Bleu ahead of time. Please call him ASAP if you plan to attend and tell him your meal preference of (1) a pork sandwich, (2) fish and chips, or



Café Bleu Rendezvous - continued

(3) quiche and salad. The cost is \$8.95. If you don't call, you may not get what you want for lunch. Contact Clark at 649-6795, cell 916-761-7405 or clarkhoyle@mindspring.com.



March 25th (Thursday) - Dinner Meeting - Aboard our floating clubhouse at Brown's Landing. Social hour starts at 6:00 PM, and dinner starts at 7:00. Bob & Sue Trail 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 at the July and next January dinner meetings. No door committees are needed for November and December. The club will provide the entire meal this time, at a charge of \$10 per person. Dr. Darrell Wyatt, author of "A Cruising Guide to Abaco and the Northern Bahamas", is tentatively scheduled to give a talk and photo presentation on that subject.

April 1st (Thursday) - Board of Directors meeting - At 6:30 PM aboard our floating clubhouse. Board meetings are open to all PYC members.

April 3rd (Saturday) - Work party at the clubhouse - Start 9:30 AM. Jobs planned are:

1. Finish the fascia and the bulkhead base on the pilothouse.
2. Do sheetrock inside the pilothouse.
3. Move the Sunfish to the dock and secure its trailer.
4. Repair the grille that blew off the deck; build security for both grilles;
6. Spot paint the rust spots on the hull exterior.
7. Misc. repairs as necessary.

Any of the above jobs that are not completed on this date will be carried over to following work parties. Any one willing to help with this maintenance work, please call Bob trail at 649-8710.

April 15-18 (Thurs-Sun) - Boat rendezvous at Silver Glen Springs & Hontoon Island - This rendezvous will include sleeping aboard your boats for two nights. Clark Hoyle is the leader of this trip, and he will have details included in the next newsletter.

Past Events

February 25th - Dinner Meeting

- Twenty-five members and one guest (now our newest member) attended this dinner. We enjoyed a pot-luck dinner - always with surprise dishes - and heard an informative talk on a subject most people don't want to hear or think about: end-of-life choices. The speaker was Janet Martin Di Carlo, a Community Liaison from Omni Home Care here in Palatka. She spoke about the reality of living wills, advance directives, and other issues we all want established in case of the unthinkable happening. She also, passed out information on these subjects to everyone present, Then there was the 50-50 drawing. Freda Solomon won and took home \$22 of the \$43 collection.



Ms. Di Carlo with Gail



Past Events - continued



Bruce Drackett, Rhonda Masters & guests
aboard *Fantasea* at Corky Bell's

February 27th Boat Rendezvous - Lunch at Corky Bell'sby Linda Girardin

Palatka Yacht Club started its 2010 boating season on Saturday, February 27, 2010, with an outing to Corky Bell's restaurant at Gator Landing.

Knowing that the weather in February could be unfriendly to boating, the boating activity coordinator, David Girardin, scheduled the event to be at a local restaurant along the St. Johns River, within a short distance from the main boat ramp in Palatka. The weather had looked



hopeful for a day of safe and nice boating; however, it changed overnight from clear skies to rainy weather. As a result, most people came by car, and only one boat captain and passengers (in a boat over 30 feet in length) braved the weather on the river. Five other captains planned on attending by water; however, theirs were mostly open-air type boats (e.g., center consoles, open fishermen) with captains and passengers often exposed to the elements. These captains chose not to leave their home ports in the rain. They could have made the trip due to the lack of wind, however, everyone on the boats would have been cold and probably wet. It is up to the captain of each vessel to determine whether conditions are proper for safe operation of the vessel and for passengers to have fun.

All in all, 33 people participated in this event, including five potential new members. "Everyone had fun in spite of the weather" remarked Girardin as the group looked at the trees budding out on the other side of the river.

This outing demonstrated the objectives of the Palatka Yacht Club, that are "to promote good fellowship and cooperation among its members, the sport of yachting, safety afloat, and techniques of good seamanship."

March 4th - Board of Directors Meeting - The following subjects were discussed:

1. Treasurer Steve Huntley prepared the minutes of the last meeting, in the absence of secretary Karen Blankenship, and he distributed them at this meeting. The Board approved them with minor comments.
2. Steve summarized his monthly treasurer's report, which the Board approved after some discussion. A copy is pinned to the clubhouse bulletin board.
3. Harry Gillean has begun repair work on the hole in the main salon ceiling caused by water damage from the pilot house over. The source of the leakage was eliminated by earlier work.
4. Treasurer Steve Huntley reported that as of this date, 28 of last year's 53 members are fully paid up. Counting those taking the installment plan, the number is 32 paid. This is a reminder that 2010 membership dues were due and payable as of January 1st, overdue after January 31st and are now delinquent. The amounts are the same as last year. Steve Huntley is planning to send invoices to those who have not yet paid - more work and expense to the club.
5. Bob Trail suggested putting a collage of photos of club activities in with or as part of the invoices as inspiration to continue membership.
6. The Board reviewed the Douglas Mann's application to join the club and unanimously approved it. Doug is now our newest member.
7. Sue Trail will be in charge of collecting donations of food or money for worthy charities. This will be done twice a year, rotated around to different charities, including the Humane Society.
8. Enough members have been objecting to the choice of Thursday for our dinner meetings, so that the Board is considering changing it to the fourth Friday of the month. No decision was made, and additional club input is necessary, either by e-mail, telephone or vote at the next dinner meeting. Let the Board know your preferences on this.

Board of Directors Meeting - continued

9. Clark Hoyle suggested an additional special weekend afternoon event at the clubhouse in nice weather, to promote new membership. Attendees should bring a guest, and the guest's meal would be free. A Saturday, May 8th or 15th was suggested. It will be added to the calendar when finalized. Clark will be in charge of this activity.

10. Gail Hart's trawler "Hart's Desire" will be the starting committee boat for the Mug Race on Saturday, May 1st. We will set up the PYC tent on Friday, for which we will need volunteers. The club will sell clam chowder for \$1.00 a cup to the contestants that evening under the tent. The plan is for many members to prepare it at home, and afterwards it will all be combined in the same pot in the tent Friday evening. More details will be in the next newsletter, along with the chowder recipe. We will serve coffee and donuts to the contestants before the race on Saturday morning. It is expected that Dunkin Donuts will donate the donuts, and members will brew the coffee in one or more of the large coffee makers in the clubhouse lower deck.

11. The planned clubhouse rental to the Putnam Land Conservancy on April 11th is still on schedule. The Girardins are taking care of the arrangements, and Clark Hoyle will write the necessary legal documentation. See their flyer, attached.

12. Bob Trail will arrange for coffee and donuts for Saturday's work party. Lunch will be available for the workers afterwards.

March 6th - Work Party at the Clubhouse - Twelve members showed up on this chilly morning, ready to go to work. Different members of the group did the following, after first being fortified with the club's donuts and coffee:

1. Cleared encroaching earth and grass from the concrete patio;
2. Weed whacked around the sidewalk;
3. Stripped and re-waxed the meeting room tile floor;
4. Pressure-washed the exterior deck house and deck on the starboard side;
5. Replaced the casters on the shore end of the gangway with larger new ones and placed a sheet of plywood under them to temporarily provide a smooth surface. A permanent fix consisting of a large metal plate should be installed ASAP;
6. Reattached one section of floating dock used as a bumper against the hull, where it had loosened;
7. Improved the pilot house door lock;
8. Cleaned the life rings;
9. Repaired the door on the tent shed.

At lunch time, Larry and Dorothy McAfee set out a hearty repast of hamburgers with all the fixin's on the upper deck. By this time the sun had warmed the air to a comfortable temperature, and the group sat and enjoyed lunch and conversation before cleaning up last-minute items and going home. Linda Girardin later e-mailed that she and David planned to go back the following Tuesday to work some more on spring cleaning. See "Coming Events".



David Girardin pressure washing



Joe Morris replacing casters



Reattaching floating dock section



Larry McAfee cooking lunch



Steve Huntley buffing floor tiles



Bob Trail repairing latch

Miscellany

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 mount. \$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



Dinner Meeting Programs - Our dinner-meeting program Chairman Bob Trail sometimes 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.

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 - "Carrying Coals to Newcastle" - The expression first appeared in print in 1650, when Newcastle was already well established as the center of the North East English coal trade. Thus it means taking things to a place where those things are already there in abundance.

Interesting stuff you may never need to know -

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:

- Spades - King David
- Clubs - Alexander, the Great
- Diamonds - Julius Caesar
- Hearts - Charlemagne

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. 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.

Miscellany - continued

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 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.