



Private Ear

NEWSLETTER OF PRIVATEER YACHT CLUB
August 2007 www.privateeryachtclub.org
Peter Snyder, Editor pfsnyder3@bellsouth.net

VIEW FROM THE HELM

August 2007

The dog days are with us. Heat, heat, and more heat. Whether the dog-star is rising near the sun, I'm not exactly sure. I do know, however, that just thinking about going sailing at this time of year begins to activate my sweat glands.

Yet, ironically, the winds have been kind to those who've chosen to ignore their better instincts and plodded ahead in spite of the weather predictions and a sweltering heat index. Take, for example, our infamous Dog Regatta. Though I wasn't present until the festivities that evening, the reports I received sang praises of the conditions on Lake Chickamauga for the event.

On Saturday, August 25 I planned to sail with John Rathjen on his Catalina 22. As I pulled into the windstarved Clubhouse lot, he was already there, tinkering with his boat, as he loves to do. We decided to wait until race time to make our decision on whether to launch. Others were waiting, as well, but a few of our eternally optimistic members had already put boats in the water and were readying to sail.

Near race time, we ventured onto the clubhouse deck to check conditions on the lake. In fact, the wind had caused some ripples that looked promising. After discussing alternatives, though, we decided that this was the dreaded "Fool's Wind" and would soon prove as ephemeral as a politician's assurances that he/she had the best interests of all in mind. We were not going to be treated ignominiously to a "floater" for the next two hours.

Minutes later, as I worked on cleaning my boat, I assumed the loud signals I heard meant an abandonment of the race. Actually, it was the beginning of the countdown that led to two complete races on that sultry day. While the conditions weren't perfect for the boats that braved a calm start, there was enough wind to satisfy those who wanted to sail.

My hat is off to them, and to our impressive sailing ground (this includes both lake and weather), which, though fickle at times, can turn a forbiddingly calm day into a pleasant sailing experience.

The good news is that cooler temperatures seem to be making an inroad and pushing aside the sweltering summer heat. That means fall is on the horizon. It's the time to enjoy some of the best sailing conditions Lake Chickamauga has to offer.

It has always been my favorite time of year. John Keats wrote about the "**Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness**" in his poem *To Autumn*. He writes:

**Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves
run;
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core.**

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In Stanza III he adds,

**Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river shallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies.**

The images here are powerful and touch us deeply. What is implied by “the maturing sun,” “fruit with ripeness to the core,” and “a wailful choir of small gnats”? I sense the fullness of life, a glorious moment of the richness that ties man and the natural world together.

Yet, and maybe most importantly, it’s a time that sits like a perfectly balanced fulcrum, a time that has the energy of a counterbalancing force within, ready to shift all in a new direction. And, it’s not a direction we prefer.

A “maturing sun” suggests one that is near the end of day and sunset. It sinks the world slowly into night. Ripe fruit is so luscious, but not willing to stay that way very long. What comes after ripe? We would be as “wailful” as gnats if our time upon earth were as brief as theirs.

Autumn, then, is a time of balancing the full bounty of nature with the knowledge of the impending icy

blasts of winter. I think of the beauty of the woods and hills during the Color Cruise, but I can’t escape the deep feeling of sadness that’s part of it, as well.

So, as you begin to make plans for this wonderful season of sailing, remember to enjoy the time with a heightened awareness of its beauty and brevity. It’s a good time to share our bounty with others and make plans for the harshness of the winter ahead.

See you on the water!

Steve George, Commodore



SPECIAL NOTICES

It has been brought to the attention of our Board that the authorities may soon be visiting PYC for the purpose of inspecting and ticketing for non-current boat registrations. The cost for such a ticket comes to \$153.75. Check your registration to be sure it is current. Even if your boat is not on open water, only in its slip, it can be ticketed.

This fall, while the water is still warm, we are planning a **WOMEN’S LEARN TO SAIL SCHOOL** at PYC. Several of our wives have expressed interest and Tom Coleman has agreed to teach such a course. We will probably use Lasers or Scots. Contact Steve Sherman if interested:

steve@optistuff.com or call 423-875-4040.

Reminder: we want to get contact data for those kids that took the McCallie and PYC sail camps that showed skill at sailing and might want to be part of

a PYC junior race team, that trains year round and goes to events around the South East. Contact Steve Sherman for this, also.

ACCURATE INFORMATION NEEDED

Bill Robinson has done an excellent job of making PYC’s web site both useful to members and public alike. If your address, phone number or e-mail address changes, please let him know. If you buy or sell a boat or move from one slip to another please let Fred Koch and Dick Mullen know so that our records can be kept up to date. Slip assignments are made on the basis of seniority and activity and should not be arbitrarily taken.

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover. — **Mark Twain**

DOG DAYS REGATTA — August 11, 2007

photos by Mike Rasbury — and, there was *WIND!!!*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Check the PYC website for most current info on events.

September 1	Race - Cruiser & C22	1 pm Saturday
September 2	Dinghy Race	2:30 pm Sunday
September 3	Labor Day	Monday
September 8	Race - Cruiser & C22	1 pm Saturday
September 9	Dinghy Race	2:30 pm Sunday
September 10	Board Meeting	7 pm Monday
September 11	CSC Covered Dish Dinner	7 pm Tuesday
September 15	Race - Cruiser & C22	1 pm Saturday
September 15	DOCK PARTY - Door Prize!!	7 pm Saturday
September 16	Dinghy Race	2:30 pm Sunday
September 22	Race - Cruiser & C22	1 pm Saturday
September 23	Dinghy Race	2:30 pm Sunday
September 29	Race - Cruiser & C22	1 pm Saturday
September 30	Dinghy Race	2:30 pm Sunday
October 6	TVCC (Joe Wheeler State Park)	Saturday - TBD
October 7	TVCC (Joe Wheeler State Park)	Sunday - TBD
October 8	Board Meeting	7 pm Monday
October 9	CSC Covered Dish Dinner	7 pm Tuesday
October 13	Race - Cruiser & C22	1 pm Saturday
October 16	Dinghy Race	2:30 pm Sunday
October 20	Race - Cruiser & C22	1 pm Saturday
October 21	Dinghy Race	2:30 pm Sunday
October 27	Halloween Regatta (Cruisers) Door Prize!!	CSC - TBD
October 28	Halloween Regatta (Dinghies)	CSC - TBD
November 3	Race - Cruiser & C22	1 pm Saturday
November 10	John's Pig Regatta Door Prize!!	Saturday - TBD
November 12	Board Meeting	7 pm Monday
November 13	CSC Covered Dish Dinner	7 pm Tuesday

PYC Sailing Camp Summer 2007

by Guy Campbell

Walt Jenison and his crew of Tom Coleman (trainer), Bryson Lesley, and Christy Cox, spent July 30 – August 3 instructing 12 well mannered young sailors on the skills required to sail a dingy. The students were taught safety, knots, rigging, and sailing through demonstration, videos and actual sail time.

The class was designed for 8-12 year olds using the Optis. There were also a couple of 15 year olds who showed up to observe. Thanks to Christy Cox and

Jack Everett for loaning the use of their lasers so that the 15 year olds were able to participate.

All those that attended, both students and instructors, declared a great time and are sure to enjoy the new friendships they made. Credit goes to all the students for hanging in the entire time despite the poor wind conditions and the heat.

Thanks go out to Walt and his crew for volunteering their time, expertise and encouragement to insure that these young sailors will have the knowledge it takes to enjoy the sport of sailing.

see the photos on pages 5 & 6

RACE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

DATE	DAY	TIME	BOAT	PRO	ASSISTANT
09/01/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Cooper, Brainard	McLeod, Ian
09/02/07	Sunday	2:30 PM	Dinghies	Craig, Ed	Mullen, Richard
09/08/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Cyrul, Chris	Myers, Terry
09/09/07	Sunday	2:30 PM	Dinghies	Duvoisin, Pete	Patterson, Curtis
09/15/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Fowler, Rob	Prettyman, Jim
09/16/07	Sunday	2:30 PM	Dinghies	Graham, Eddie	Rodgers, John
09/22/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Hearn, John	Reed, Brandy L.
09/23/07	Sunday	2:30 PM	Dinghies	Holmquist, Ken	Seeber, Michael J.
09/29/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Humphreys, Bill	Snyder, Peter
09/30/07	Sunday	2:30 PM	Dinghies	Ives, Bob	Sweatt, Kirby
10/06/07	Saturday	TBD	TVCC	Bill Robertson	
10/07/07	Sunday	TBD	TVCC	Bill Robertson	
10/13/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Jenison, Walt	Thompson, Bobby
10/14/07	Sunday	2:30 PM	Dinghies	King, Peter	Alfred, Joe
10/20/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Klein, Barry	Andrews, Dan
10/21/07	Sunday	2:30 PM	Dinghies	Kuberg, Dieter	Cline, Bo
10/27/07	Saturday	TBD	CSC Halloween - Cruisers		CSC
10/28/07	Sunday	TBD	CSC Halloween - Dinghies		CSC
11/03/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Overbeck, Kent	Cofield, Sewart
11/10/07	Saturday	TBD	John's Pig Regatta	Rob Fowler	
11/17/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Ralston, Richard	Cox, Lloyd
11/24/07	Saturday	1:00 PM	Cruisers	Rasbury, Mike	Crowe, Pat

IN CASE YOU CANNOT DO YOUR RC DUTY, BE SURE TO GET A DEPENDABLE SUBSTITUTE.

NOTE: IF YOU DISCOVER A PROBLEM WITH ANY OF THE COMMITTEE OR CHASE BOATS, PLEASE NOTIFY WALT JENISON ASAP. (423-886-5655)

PYC SAIL CAMP - continued from page 4



see more photos on page 6

PYC '07 SAIL CAMP

continued from page 5 - photos by Guy Campbell



PYC BOARD MEETING

Minutes — August 20, 2007

Meeting called to order 7:06 PM by Commodore George.

Members present: S. George W. Jenison,
F. Koch P. Duvoisin
P. Healy V. Polidoro
B. Cooper T. Clark

Observers present: P. Snyder T. Deierhoi,
M. Easperam B. Ives
B. Robertson

Minutes of July meeting approved as published.

- In opening remarks, Commodore George asked members to carefully review minutes to try to correct any ambiguities that might exist prior to publication

OLD BUSINESS:

- **South Cove:** Board agreed to look at results of Koch's membership survey before taking decision on purchasing replacement docks for the South Cove. Koch reported 54 family members responded to the survey (44% of the PYC membership). After discussion, Duvoisin moved (Clark 2nd) to remove current South Cove dock and replace it with a floating pier (250ft by 5ft) from Shoco (distributor of EZ Dock) for \$32,316. Passed.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Van Polidoro, Building & Grounds:

- Purchased new picnic tables. Received bid of \$925 from Kirby Sweatt Construction to apply 20 gallons of Silver Kote aluminum coating over rolled roof part of the club house, an area of approximately 2268 sq ft (84ft by 27ft) and replace areas of shingles that are missing.

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continued from page 6 — August Board Mtg.

Paul Healy, Membership:

- Introduced new Associate Member **Michael Easparam.**
- Board voted to accept 3 Associate Members as family members: Jack Everett; Kirby Sweatt; Bryson Leslie; and one associate member was not accepted as a family member due to lack of participation in club activities.

Walt Jenison, Vice Commodore:

- Reported that all club boats are registered properly; rebuilt prop to be installed on committee boat; new batteries installed on all club boats.
- Main committee boat hulls are being corroded by bottom paint that was applied; repairs to be made during winter. Whaler electric engine tilt inoperative. New, more substantial fuel jerry cans to be purchased.

Pete Duvoisin, Rear Commodore:

- Reports that race committee assignments are being handled properly with no missed assignments. The Dog Regatta was well-attended and broke even financially. Presented revised Deed of Gift for Van Wesley Memorial Trophy which is owned jointly by PYC and the US Snipe Class. Passed.

Fred Koch, Treasurer:

- Reports \$50,000 cash or cash equivalents on hand, and the projection of cash flow for the remainder of the year indicates that the South Cove project and normal operations can be funded without external financing.
- Since electrical repairs in the Spring correcting incoming voltage to the Club, electricity use has declined for the last two months (34% during the month of June). Past due dues of \$255 (over 180 days) currently on the books.

NEW BUSINESS:

Steve George, Commodore:

- Read letter from David Varnell proposing that PYC re-establish the Long Range Planning Committee. To be considered and reported on at next meeting. Also Board to consider a proposal from Jan Varnell that PYC engage Sysco Systems to provide supplies and food items on a contract basis. To be looked at after Club receives a concrete proposal.

Bob Ives:

Asked permission to address the Board concerning the purchase of a defibrillator to be installed on club property. He feels one can be purchased for around \$1000 and pointed out that defibrillators are becoming common life-saving items at organizations such as ours all over the country. He was asked to research such a purchase and report at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 PM

Brainard Cooper, Secretary

CONTACT YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

Steve George, Commodore:	423-667-2493
Walt Jenison, Vice Commodore:	423-886-5655
Pete Duvoisin, Rear Commodore:	423-894-5191
Tom Clark, Past Commodore:	423-870-1243
Fred Koch, Treasurer:	423-877-3140
Dick Mullen, Dockmaster/Dry Storage Director:	423-875-9998
Van Polidoro, Building and Grounds Director:	423-870-4467
Dieter Kuberg, Social Director:	423-842-6714
Paul Healy, Membership Director:	423-892-1838
Brainard Cooper, Secretary:	423-622-6081



Cat Napping on a Dog Day Afternoon

Privateer Yacht Club

was organized on July 25, 1940, in order to promote sailing in the Chickamauga Lake area and particularly in Chattanooga; to teach its members to talk the language of the sea and build up a marine tradition for “The Great Lakes of The South”; to help promote water safety and a code of ethics for the waterways; to form a social and activity nucleus for people in the area interested in sailing; and to develop an active relationship with other sailing and boating organizations to promote racing and other boating activities.

Private Ear NEWSLETTER

www.privateeryachtclub.org

Privateer Yacht Club

Privateer Rd.

Hixson, TN 37343



August, 2007