



Privateer

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NEWSLETTER OF PRIVATEER YACHT CLUB
Jan & Feb 2007 www.privateeryachtclub.org

VIEW FROM THE HELM

January February 007

It still seems a bit odd to me that I'm writing this, for the fact that I am sitting at the helm of **Privateer Yacht Club** and about to guide this goodly ship 'around the buoys' during the year ahead just hasn't completely sunk in yet. It's a daunting task and all the more so because I wonder about my ability to assess the wind, current, and sail trim in order to bring her 'round the course and home to port. Fortunately, the nominating committee has provided me with such an outstanding crew for our voyage that my initial hesitation and fear has been overlaid with excitement and enthusiasm.

We had our first board meeting of 2007, and it feels good to be a part of a team that wants the best for our sailing club and is willing to 'roll up its collective sleeves' and get to work. **Scott Ferguson** from Huffaker & Trimble was kind enough to attend our meeting and go over our insurance policy. Though we had a few questions, things seem to be in good shape. Safety in all that we do is not only prudent but also necessary, and members should be vigilant as we use and enjoy the club's facilities and sail on the lake. Feel free to ask questions, make suggestions, or point out things that need to be addressed. Write a note and drop it in the Commodore's box; we don't know what you're thinking unless we hear from you.

I suppose the biggest issue we face, as we head into 2007, is to prioritize the large capital projects that we would like to accomplish in the near future, as finances allow. **Bill Robertson** made a proposal to

have us think about redoing the dock space in the **South Cove**, fixing the walkway from **B Dock** to the ramp, upgrading the rigging dock below the Optimist boat rack, and adding parking space for the boats and trailers of visiting racers. Since these are all pretty serious capital expenditures, we decided to table the discussion until the next board meeting, so that we could have time to think through the issues involved. We also discussed the need to make some concrete repairs to the launching ramp. Now would be an opportune time to do it while the water is down, but to fix it properly may be a larger task than I imagined because the discussion turned to the issue of completely redoing the bottom end of the ramp. This would allow boats to launch beyond our normal sailing season, but it would also mean a large capital expense. At our next meeting the **Board** will discuss and prioritize these important items.

Another item we voted into existence has to do with an initiative to increase the number of boats in our races. Each race participant (excluding Race Committee) will get an extra chance in the **door prize drawing** at the evening's social event. After the drawing the extra name will be removed. You must be present to win. The door prize was at hot topic at many of our board meetings last year, and some were of the mind that we should draw until we had a winner each time. But, I must say, the continued growth of the pot has generated a lot of positive excitement and buzz! You won't want to miss the next chance to win. Remember, however, that our goal isn't to make

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someone a happy winner, but to support **PYC** by enjoying fellowship and good food in a splendid setting.

But, I need to tell you why I'm most excited about this year. Yes, I'm retiring from a thirty-six year stint at McCallie School, yet that's just part of it. I have recently completed a full two-year restoration project of my *Mirage 5.5 (Argo)*, and I will be able to enter **PYC's** sailing offerings on the weekends instead of sweating with fiberglass repair and two-part epoxy paint. Whether I make a dent in the pecking order of top finishers matters less than experiencing the pleasure of racing a sailboat that I coaxed from shoddy disrepair into a tidy little sloop. What's important is that I'll be sailing again, enjoying our testy sailing grounds and laughing out loud at the gift of friends, wind, and water. So, to you, the members of our proud club, I offer this challenge: come join me on the water and in the clubhouse after. Restore your love of sailing and your sailing spirit by taking that first step away from the details and worries of our day-to-day lives. I know you'll find yourself thinking, as I do when I've spent time at the club, "Why don't I do this more often?"

Finally, I would like to thank **Mike Rasbury** for all the work he's put in during the time he's been the newsletter editor. And, I would like to welcome **Pete Snyder** as the new editor of *Private Ear*. Also, please remember to save Saturday morning, April 14, for the **work party** called by our grounds superintendent **Van Polidoro**.

PS: What a fun time we had at the **Valentine's Day Party**. The clubhouse provided an intimate gathering space with a crackling fire dancing in the hearth and the lights lowered to give the lighted candles a chance to work their magic. The romantic theme brought out the imaginative creativity of the decoration committee (that's **Joanie Koch**, of course, and her helpers: **Beverlee Bergevin**, **Barbara Snyder**, and **Ed Ford**), and was a perfect complement to the cornucopia of tasty dishes laid out on the buffet. Several members wondered why we ever had catered social events. It was a feast for the ages! Thanks to all who put a little love in the

food preparation and to **Dieter** and **Evelyn Kuberg**, plus their daughter **Donna**, for hosting the party. The **Door Prize** again went unclaimed, as winner **Michael Campbell** wasn't in attendance. The next drawing will be at the **St. Patrick's Day Dinner** on Saturday, March 17. Though I'll be in Florida at that time, I'm sending **Priscilla** to the dinner, just in case.

See you on the water!

Steve George - Commodore



NOTHIN' LIKE A GOOD CREW!

PYC NEWS NOTES

- **The new annual calendar** is now posted on our website (www.privateeryachtclub.org). Check your membership information in the website membership directory and notify Membership Chairman, Paul Healy (423-892-1838 or paul.healy@comcast.net), of any corrections needed.
- **The new Race Committee** assignments are also posted. Be sure to be there an hour early for your Race Committee duty. If you cannot be there, be sure to call a substitute. Note that Spencer Wiberley was inadvertently left off the list and didn't have any Race Committee assignments. Thus, he will be on the substitute list.
- **Door Prize** drawings are for Family Members and Associates. Double your chances of winning by being at the helm or crewing for a race the day of a drawing. Note that any outstanding dues/fees will be deducted from winnings. *The next drawing is for \$600!!!*
- **A new committee**, or team, is being formed. This is a volunteer group who would like to help sailors with whatever boat or trailer problem that may seem insurmountable, or just too difficult for one person to tackle. If you would like to help, or may need help, contact Pete Snyder at 706-891-0858 or pfsnyder3@bellsouth.net.



NEW BOARD MEMBERS AT ANNUAL BANQUET (L-R) : Fred Koch, Walt Jenison, Steve George, Dieter Kuberg, Pete Duvoisin, Paul Healy, Brainard Cooper, and newsletter editor Pete Snyder. (photo by Jack Everett)

ANNUAL BANQUET AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

Minutes for Meeting of the Membership
January 27, 2007

The PYC Annual Banquet was held at Valleybrook Golf and Country Club on January 27, 2007. A buffet style dinner of excellent food featuring salmon and roast beef was served after a reading by **Marcia Jenison** of two poems dedicated to the

memory of **Dean Hearn**. **Joanie Koch** prepared the table decorations, including photo placecards of many club members and events. **Jack Everett** made a heroic effort to photograph all the attending members for a new club directory. A total of 96 were in attendance for the affair.

Minutes for Meeting of the Membership
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Following dinner, the membership meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Commodore – Tom Clark
Vice Commodore – John Hearn
Rear Commodore – Steve George
Secretary – John Rathjen
Treasurer – Fred Koch
Past Commodore – Bill Robertson
Directors – Van Polidoro and Cindy Cline

OFFICER REPORTS

Commodore: Tom Clark thanked the membership for their support during his term of office and made special note of **Bill Robertson's** continual support and his work in maintaining the club's website. He also thanked **Pete Snyder, Fred Koch and Eddie Graham** for their efforts in replacing the worn out "E" dock. Tom expressed his hopes for the future growth of the membership and upgrading of the facilities.

Vice Commodore: John Hearn thanked all those assigned race committee duties for performing their jobs well.

Treasurer: Fred Koch reported that the club was in good shape financially.

Director/Membership: Cindy Cline reported that currently the club has 119 of the possible 130 Family memberships filled, along with twelve Associate members.

Director/Clubhouse, Grounds, Docks: Van Polidoro requested that the members make a real effort to turn out and support the scheduled work parties to keep the club facility in good condition.

TROPHIES AND AWARDS

Following the Officers' reports, the annual trophies and awards were presented as follows:

Tom Clark announced that **US Sailing has award-**

ed the 2006 Arthur Hansen Rescue Award to PYC's Junior sailor Robert Gregory for his on-water actions in aiding a distressed sailor.

A more dubious award, the "**Wild Turkey**" trophy, was awarded to **Rob Fowler** for his on-water activities which resulted in being ticketed by the TWRA.

CSC Fleet Captain Scott Cline presented the **CSC John Wesley Award to Richard Ralston** for his consistent contributions to the fleet.

John Hearn presented the **Best Regatta** award to **Kent Overbeck** for the Chattanooga Challenge and the **Best Race Committee Chair** award to **Brainard Cooper**.

The Fleet trophies were awarded for the following:

CSC Wednesday Night Series

- 1st – Tom Clark
- 2nd – Bill Robertson
- 3rd – Chris Cyrul
- 4th – Scott Cline
- 5th – Dieter Kuberg

Cruiser Fleet Spring Series

1st in Red fleet - Pete Duvoisin

Cruiser Fleet Summer Series

- 1st in Red fleet – Chris Cyrul
- 1st in White fleet – Bo Cline
- 2nd in White fleet – Walt Jenison

Cruiser Fleet Overall Winners

Red Fleet – Chris Cyrul
White Fleet – Bo Cline

Flying Scot Fleet

1st – Rob Fowler

MC Scow Fleet

- 1st – John Hearn
- 2nd – Steve Sherman
- 3rd – Dave Varnell

The "**Most Improved Sailor**" award for the **Catalina 22 Fleet** was presented to **Eddie Graham** by **Kent Overbeck**.

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PYC BOARD MEETING

Minutes - Feb. 11, 2007

Tom Clark presented the **Commodore's Trophy** to **Dick Mullen** for his extensive efforts in facility upgrades in 2006.

The **Hank Zander Award** went to **Bo Cline**.

And the **Brainard Cooper Award** to **Kent Overbeck** for his numerous contributions to the sailing program

Following the awards presentations, Tom Clark announced that balloting for the 2007 proposed slate of officers had given unanimous approval of the nominations and he presented the flags of office to the following new officers:

- Commodore: Steve George
- Vice Commodore: Walt Jenison
- Rear Commodore: Pete Duvoisin
- Secretary: Brainard Cooper
- Treasurer: Fred Koch
- Director: Paul Healy
- Director: Dieter Kuberg
- Directors Van Polidoro and Dick Mullen are returning two-year members

Also, Peter Snyder was announced as the new Editor of the Private Ear.

The drawing for the \$500 door prize selected the name of **Peter King**, but he was not present and therefore the prize will continue to grow into the new season.

After **Tom Clark** turned over his gavel to new Commodore **Steve George**, both men received a standing ovation and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order promptly at 7 PM by Commodore Steve George.

- Members Present: George Jenison Koch
- Cooper Clark Mullen
- Polidoro Kuberg
- Members Absent: Duvoisin Healy

Treasurer **Fred Koch** introduced **Scott Ferguson** of Huffaker & Trimble Insurance to discuss renewal of PYC insurance policies for 2007. With coverage essentially unchanged from 2006 the premium cost will increase from \$6975 to \$7480, due mainly to events on the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts. Although our assessment increased 10%, our property liability actually decreased marginally.

Returning to the published agenda, minutes of the December and January meetings were approved as read. Motion by Polidoro, seconded by Koch.

Old Business:

General discussion led by the Commodore concerning the **B Dock ramp** and the **J-boat lift** deferred until New Business.

Vice Commodore **Jenison** stated that race committee assignments for the year are published on the Club web site and posted on the Bulletin Board. The first regatta of the year will be the **Spring Regatta to be held the weekend of March 31 - April 1**. The **Flying Scot fleet** proposes to have **Friday evening races for dinghies between April 6 and 26**. Concord YC in Knoxville is holding its **Rocky Top Regatta April 28 and 29**. It was noted that this will be a direct conflict with the Flying Scot Choo Choo regatta.

Treasurer **Koch** presented the financial report. There was discussion over the size of the PYC electric bill (current bill - \$476) and comparison was made between the monthly kwh usage in 2006 and 2005. The consensus was that usage was consis-



Respectfully submitted by
John Rathjen, Secretary

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Thanks for all your
good work, John!
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tently higher in 2006 than in 2005, and this must be monitored more closely to see if any savings can be obtained. Club members are asked to be careful that power is turned off when the club house is closed each day.

Another item noted was a \$281.98 printing cost, which was explained as mostly the cost of a computer program for publishing the "Private Ear."

The Board discussed at length the subject of delinquent accounts receivable (currently \$1372 is in excess of 90 days overdue).

Dick Mullen discussed **South Cove Extension** briefly. Trees need to be removed and it was noted that **beavers** have moved into the South Cove, presumably from the D and E Dock area following upgrades to those docks.

Kuberg noted that member **Judy Mullen** has requested that she be allowed to host a high school reunion party on the afternoon of Oct 13. Although the Club House cannot be reserved on a day when racing is scheduled, no objection was raised to the proposal as long as racing that day is not inhibited. It was also noted that the Power Squadron has requested use of the Club House for the evening of Nov. 17 (previously approved).

New Business:

Former Commodore **Bill Robertson** was recognized to offer a proposal that the cash prize give-away at Club functions be modified so that those who have been competitors (as skipper or crew) on the day of the Club party will have their names placed twice in the first drawing for the prize. The second name will be removed for any subsequent drawing. Kuberg moved for acceptance, Clark seconded.

Koch offered an amendment that would deduct any dues owed the Club from the cash prize pay-out. Clark seconded. Motion passed as amended.

Robertson also suggested that the Board **prioritize capital projects** which have been dis-

cussed previously, including **B Dock Ramp, repair of the concrete at the foot of the launching ramp, South Cove extension, improvements to the Secondary Rigging Dock.**

George introduced **Pete Snyder** as the new Editor of the *Private Ear*. There was discussion about making the *Private Ear* a largely on-line publication with paper copies sent only to members who specifically request them. The new Editor requested that **Fleet Captains** send in regular fleet reports for inclusion, along with any other noteworthy news.

Polidoro announced a **Work Party for April 14.**

George presented a **McCallie School** request to hold **two sailing camps, June 4-8 and 18-22.** He also announced that **PYC will host a Dixie Inland Yacht Racing Association Principal Racing Officer Seminar**, dates to be announced, and the **DIYRA Annual Meeting** on January 19, 2008. It was noted that Scott Cline brings credit to PYC by being chosen commodore of DIYRA for this year.

Kuberg moved for adjournment at 9:29 PM.

Brainard Cooper - Secretary



just kidding...;o)



PAST EDITOR LOSES WIND FROM SAILS — see "Editor's Tack" inside

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