

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I would like to start off by thanking Tom Jarvis and all of the board members for their service during the past two years. Tom and the board did an outstanding job of managing all aspects of the club. I also want to thank all of the members who have approached me during the past several weeks offering their help and ideas as I assume the role of Commodore. Let's continue to dialogue. I am excited about the new board. We have a good mix of people that will bring new ideas and the enthusiasm to carry them out.

We have found Sea Shepherd replacement. In early 2012 a committee was formed to look for a boat to replace our aging Sea Shepherd. After months of searching for the right boat the committee found her in Morehead City, NC. It is a Parker 2520 with a 225hp Suzuki and trailer that were found in Morehead City, North Carolina. We owe a big thanks to Tom Jarvis, Cleve Fair and Gary Thorson for taking the time to travel to Morehead, at their own expense, to survey the boat and conduct a sea trial. The boat was purchased and is in our yard under the club. Check her out the next time you are at the club. Thanks also to Larry Strouse for providing the answers to technical and mechanical questions to help in the decision process.

Looking ahead to 2014, one of my main objectives during the year is to increase volunteerism. How important is the need for members to volunteer? Think about all of those volunteers pitching in to help rebuild a new club after Katrina. Without all of those volunteers the club would not be what it is today.

Lately we have seen a decline in people volunteering. Very few people are stepping up to host the Guest Chef Friday Night Food. We have had to rely on catering many of the Friday events and as a result we see our costs increasing. Social events have been severely shorthanded and we are forced to rely on a limited number of people who always step up without even being asked. We have seen this trend with Race Management and especially House and Grounds also. Maintaining the building and grounds is expensive and we have seen our expenses continue to increase as our number of volunteers decline. The solution is to ask for your help and increase our core group of volunteers. As the old adage goes "many hands make light work". But there is more to volunteering than just to helping to keep the club expenses down. It is the best way to meet people and make new friends. Volunteering and involvement in the club gives you a sense of pride of ownership.

Each committee chair has been tasked to recruit new volunteers. So please, if you are asked to help, say yes. You will not regret it.

I am looking forward to 2014. The board of directors, the PYC staff and I want to hear your ideas and suggestions to improve the club.

Thanks and see you around the club.

Dick Jones

Once again, I want to thank Tom, Bridget, Stephanie, Katie and Bradley Jarvis for all that they did over the past two years. Their devotion to the club should never be forgotten.

With the start of the new year I would first like to congratulate Dick Jones on becoming our Commodore for 2014. Dick and his wife, Judy, are truly dedicated to making sure that 2014 is a great year for Pontchartrain Yacht Club. Lesley, Samantha and I are one hundred percent behind Dick and Judy and I ask that you also give him your full support.

Next, I want to welcome our newest board members; Terri Hamilton who is our new Rear Commodore, Kaia Williams who will be in charge of our Membership program, and Chris Friend who will be in charge of our Juniors' program.

And finally, I want to thank our returning Board members who are; Leigh Wanless who will be in charge of our Social Program, Billy Ross who will be in charge of our One Design program, Cleve Fair who will be in charge of our Race program, and Tom Jarvis who will be in charge of House and Grounds. I encourage each of you to select one or more areas of the club in which you are interested, contact that particular Board member as to how you would like to help, and get involved in the club.

Thanks, Brian

REAR COMMODORE– TERRI HAMILTON

REAR COMMODORE-Terri Hamilton

First a very heartfelt thank you to Gary Thorson for his efforts over the last two years as he continued to keep PYC on sound financial footing. And to all of you members, thanks for all you do at our outstanding club. You may have heard me state before that "...for a little over \$100/month the view alone is worth the price of admission." It is true, we have a great club and we should all be proud and happy to be members.

Moving forward, we have begun to use the club software to a fuller extent. This is an integrated software system used for tracking financials at the bar, membership in the front office, club events and continuing through the finance office. We recently spent two days with the Club Data folks learning more in depth practices. The time was well spent and very productive. Our goal is to become more efficient in running PYC at every level.

I would like to point out 3 things:

First, whenever you make a purchase for the club and require reimbursement, remember that you must get the original receipt to Jamie at the club before the end of the month during which you purchased the item. It is imperative that we track purchases in the month in which they occurred. If you do not get your ORIGINAL (not a copy) receipt to the club within the month purchased, you will not be reimbursed. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Second, it is important that you check your bill each month. Please look over your bill fully and pay the AMOUNT DUE from either the top or bottom of your bill. Some members are paying the balance forward amount which is incorrect.

Third, it is important to remember that you pay your bill in arrears. That means you use the club for a month and at the end of the month you are sent a bill for that month. For instance you come to the club in September, buy drinks and eat food throughout the month and charge to your account. You will be sent a bill for September usage in October. It will include your basic club dues and any charges you incurred throughout the month of September. Your bill for charges incurred in September are due by October 25th. So, just like your credit card, you make purchases and don't have to pay until the next month.

(continued)

What that means for PYC is that the club needs you to pay your bill in a timely fashion. We are not Visa or Mastercard and it is important for the continued financial health of the club that you pay on time.

As a reminder to all of our members, as per the by-laws:

Members with past due accounts shall be subject to the following:

1-30 days past due- account will be assessed a fifteen dollar per month late charge.

31-60 past due-the member's name and amount past due shall be posted with the bartender. Charging privileges shall be suspended (including reciprocal charging privileges) until any and all amounts past due are paid in full. Amounts over 30 days are assessed a 2 percent per month simple interest finance fee in addition to monthly late charge assessed in 6 (D) (a)

61-90 day past due – suspension from all membership privileges. Finance charges as specified in 6 (D) (a) and 6 (D) (b) to be assessed.

Greater than 90 days past due – Continued suspension of charging privileges (including reciprocal charging privilege) continues. The delinquent member will not be allowed to participate in US Sailing or GYA sanctioned racing events until said member signs a letter of agreement to set up a payment plan that is acceptable to all parties. Failure to adhere to the plan or refusal to sign the agreement will result in complete suspension of the membership and all privileges allowed by such membership, and the account will be referred to the club's attorney for collection. Former members who have previously been named by the club in such actions will not allowed to re-join, or be allowed on the premises as the guest of a current member under any circumstances.

Thanks for all you do at our outstanding club.
Terri Hamilton

MEMBERSHIP– KAIA WILLIAMS

I would like to open by wishing all of you a Happy New Year! I am looking forward to an exciting year serving as your membership chair. In addition to quarterly membership drives in 2014, one of my primary focus points will be you, the current members. As you all know, as quickly as members come, members go. Although most resigning members leave because of moves, income cuts and unforeseeable issues, I would like to make the club even more enjoyable for families and young adults. I am open to any suggestions from you that would make membership more beneficial to you and your families. I will also be working with Billy and Chris on creating a consistent and successful adult sailing program which has always been in high demand. Our community and our club can only benefit by learning the skill of sailing the beautiful Lake Pontchartrain. In sparking an interest in sailing, we will also be able to spark an interest in our club.

The board approved one new member at the December meeting, Charles Marsala. He is a single gentleman interested in sailing and community. Please reach out to him and show him what we are all about... sailing, family, fun, etc.

Thanks to all of you who help promote membership at PYC. Please look for upcoming announcements for our first membership wine and cheese in February. Start making your potential guest list now...good food, great friends and of course, new members!

Kaia

ONE-DESIGN

Sailing has come to an end for the year for most of us. The year has gone by fast with a lot going on. If you have not heard, Rob Doolittle and crew Bob Hodges finished 1st in the VX-ONE Nationals with very consistent finishes. Congrats to them. Just last month, Dave Bolyard and Colin Ross won the CAJUN COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP in Lake Arthur for the 2nd year in a row.

There are a lot of races to attend during the year for those of you who would like to get involved. If you are new to racing, you can always get on board with someone like myself or plenty of the great sailors we have at PYC.

I am pleased to be a coach along with David Bolyard of Christ Episcopal High, which is sailing out of PYC. This is their 2nd year of sailing, and I have seen a lot of interest in all of them to get involved in sailing. Most of them have never sailed before, but have taken to it with ease. I would also like to say how supportive the parents have been from bringing them to and from races, to cleaning and fixing the boats that we use.

The 1st Capdeville was held mid December with Jack and Jeff Danos, along with Mason Sheen. This was their 1st Scot regatta, and they brought home a 4th. Good job, and thanks for stepping up and sailing in the cold and rainy conditions.

That said, I have had a hard time finding sailors to attend a lot of the races last year. I hope the new year will bring more interest in sailing in general. Please contact any of your Board Members if you would like to get involved from sailing to race personnel, or even helping to get our juniors to an from races when their parents cannot attend.

You will soon see some of us asking for help in improving the way we serve you as a board. I would like to invite anyone who would like to get involved to contact me. All help or advice will be helpful.

In closing, please welcome your new board members who take over in January. Remember these are people who donate time to better the club, so they would benefit from all help and info we can give.

Hope to see more of you this new year.

Bill Ross

JUNIORS- CHRIS FRIEND

I hope you all had a very merry Christmas and a happy new year! Did you see how many kids were at Breakfast with Santa? It was crowded in the regatta room. Now we need to get them all in boats!

Thank you, Paul Stevens, for heading up the junior programs over the last few years. I am looking forward to an exciting first year on the board working with parents and kids and helping make Pontchartrain Yacht Club a great place to be for our young sailors. Starting in January, I will be contacting you to ask for your support for our juniors. We have many events and programs to plan and I need your help. We have a fleet of Optimists, Laser Radials, Sunfish, and club 420's that we would like to see on the water often this summer. We will need instructors and students for sailing camp. There will be one-design, US Sailing, and GYA championships that offer great experiences for our young sailors with opportunities to have fun, make new friends, and compete against the best in the region and the country. And of course, we will sail our boats here, where it all starts, in the High School Leukemia Cup, School's Out, and Back to School Regattas, and as often as possible in between.

Please join me in making PYC a fun and rewarding place for our juniors!

Chris Friend

House & Grounds - Tom Jarvis

I am looking forward to serving PYC this year as the House and Ground committee chairman. My goal is to “Divide and Conquer” by assembling a team of members with various skills with an objective to maintain and improve our largest asset to the highest standards! I will be formulating a monthly list of maintenance and improvement projects and looking for candidates to perform or oversee the effort.

As with our homes, maintenance and improvements are a cost of ownership that we either self- perform or pay for. The same applies here at PYC! The goal has always been to keep your cost low (Actually, the lowest Yacht Club Dues in the GYA). This has traditionally been achieved through volunteers and the Board of Directors would like to continue this. It’s up to you! So please shoot me an email at thomasjarvis@yahoo.com to get on the list.

I am assuming this position from Scott Discon which will be a tough act to follow! Fortunately, Scott has agreed to be on my team and continue to volunteer his expertise in the grounds. He will be looking for team members as well!

Richard and Lynn DeNunzio, always have been a huge help, have also graciously agreed to continue their contributions! Thank You!

Here is a list of areas that could use someone to take ownership of as a team leader;

- Dry Storage organization and control
- Pool Maintenance and Projects
- Parking lot
- Gardens and Grounds Maintenance and Projects
- Building Maintenance, repair and improvements (interior and exterior)

Looking forward to a great year and your help !
Tom Jarvis, PYC Maintenance Department

FOOD AND BEVERAGE– PAUL CALECAS

I hope everyone’s recovered from their holiday festivities. If not feel free to stop by the bar. We have just the thing take that edge off and get you back into the swing of things. We’re going to start the year off with a bang! On January 30th, we will be having our first dinner. The dinner will be hosted by myself and Christopher Noyes from Winebow, which is a company that imports, among other things, an assortment of fine Japanese sakes, which will be the focus of this dinner. I know that some of you out there may not like sake for whatever reason, but I invite you to give it another try, these are some the finest I’ve tried in all of my years in the liquor business. We recently did a test run of the menu, and I’m pretty excited! The menu will be Asian influenced, but not strictly Japanese. The flavors will excite your palette! If you can’t make it to the sake dinner, just a few days later, we’re going to have the annual Road Kill Café on Super Bowl Sunday, February 2nd. This is always a fun event, no matter who’s in the game. I think we had a pretty good run last year as far as bar events, and I only want to improve on it this year. If there’s anything you guys want to see, please let me know. I’m open to all suggestions.

Kanpai!

Paul

Please allow me to introduce you to Sea Shepherd II !

The Board of directors over the past several years has been considering the situation of the aging Sea Shepherd committee boat. Typical of most boats, ongoing maintenance and operational issues with the 1981 hull and 2001 Marine Power engine were identified and expect to be very costly to restore for continued safe use. Thus the quest for a new committee boat led to formation of a Committee headed by Rear Commodore Gary Thorson to study the replacement. A goal was set to maintain the existing configurations of cabin / deck space for race management and to down size allowing dry storage.

Parker Boats were identified as a very sturdy hull that is configured much like Sea Shepherd. Several used Parker 2520's were identified and investigated leading to this deal in North Carolina!

While there is a detailed evaluation report on file at the PYC office for your review, I can briefly state that overall assessment of the boat hull and motor was very good considering the mechanics engine report, our test run and dealer information. It was identified that we would need to perform some maintenance to rectify the cabin leaks but that considering the other positive factors of the hull and motor that this would not be a major issue. Over the winter, we will be performing some personalization to make her Sea Shepherd II and fit for race committee activities! Now to Sell "The OLD GIRL"! Please use your networking skills to help us find a good home for Sea Shepherd who served us well!





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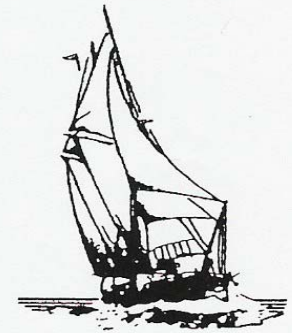
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January 2014

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday		Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>29</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
SAINTS Game {Regatta Event 11am}			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer		\$6 Soup Night	GUEST CHEF @ 7PM	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$
<u>5</u>		<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>
			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer		\$6 Soup Night	GUEST CHEF @ 7PM	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$
<u>12</u>		<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>		<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>
			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer		\$6 Soup Night	GUEST CHEF @ 7PM	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$
<u>19</u>		<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>		<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>
			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer		\$6 Soup Night	GUEST CHEF @ 7PM	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$
<u>26</u>		<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>1</u>
			\$2 Taqueria-style Tacos! \$5 OFF Bottled Wine	\$2 Dogs \$1 Domestic Beer		\$6 Soup Night	GUEST CHEF @ 7PM	\$Where Ya At Drawings\$
								<u>Feb</u>

See you at the club!