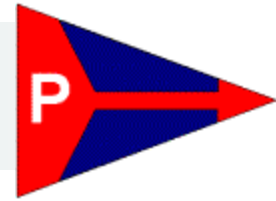


THE CHART

FEBRUARY 2012



COMMODORE'S CORNER - THOMAS A. JARVIS

Inside The Chart:

Commodore..pg 1 & 2
 Rear..... pg 3 & 4
 Vice..... pg 4
 Juniors.....pg 5
 One design.....pg 5
 Membership..... .pg 6
 Manager.....pg 7
 Social.....pg 8
 H & G.....pg 9
 Bar.....pg 9



PYC Ladies visit BYC for the GYA meeting 1/7/12

One month down and it was a busy one! The Flag officers, Junior and Race board members and Kaia attended the weekend long winter GYA meeting in Biloxi. In addition to setting the 2012 official GYA events calendar, we had the opportunity to exchange ideas with the operators of other clubs.

Back at home, January brought numerous exciting and successful events including a fabulous Commodores Ball. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make it so nice for me. We have a great board working hard to make your club an exciting and productive place. They and others have invested a lot of energy and excitement getting the year off on the right foot. Planning of the entire year has been undertaken for your enjoyment and advanced planning. Remember these folks are volunteers so please continue to assist them in keeping the excitement rolling!

COMMODORE: TOM JARVIS

As discussed at our fall meeting and in last months Chart we have been studying the financial operations of the Club and have developed some approaches to optimize our cost and improve revenue. While these measures are always beneficial, the impact was minimal and it was evident that a dues increase was needed. Rear Commodore Thorson and his committees have done a great job analyzing this situation and tendered a recommendation to increase dues that was approved at our special meeting on the 29th. You can find more detail in his article or contact one of us directly if you were not able to attend the meeting.

*On the fun side, Sunday Sailing IS UNDERWAY! The weather has been great and we are gaining momentum. No stress, show up Sunday at 1:00 PM and enjoy a couple of hours playing on the lake. We welcome any boats and are glad to help you launch if you need it. There is usually a power boat in the water if you were to need any assistance or even want to ride on it. Another twist for this ever-evolving initiative suggested that we make the last Sunday of the month a **Free Sailing Day**. We will arrange volunteer boats to take you out. Pack yourself a little ice chest, dress appropriately and just show up 1:00 PM at the hoist yard! Please try to give us a heads up if you can so we can plan for you!*

Who said we don't sail? We have a great relationship with the Corinthians and have been sailing together for the last year on Saturdays. Our joint sailing schedule is easily accessible on our web site. Many of these boats go out single-handed and would love to have someone along. I have been advised that if you just show up under the oak trees that morning you can be assured a ride! Again, these are not highly competitive events! It's all about fun on the water.

Every successful business has Goals and Objectives and so does the 2012 Board of Directors of this club. They have not changed in our 30 years of existence. We are all in this together and must jointly continue to:

Grow Membership – *Spread the word of this fine establishment and in turn keep your cost down. Get out of your comfort zone and welcome a new face to your table or boat!*

Do More Sailing / Boating – *Talk to folks to find out who when and where there is an opportunity. Check the schedule and show up!*

Have More Social Events – *A huge job that everyone can help with. What a better way to get to know some new people. Got an idea? Have you signed up for Friday night food?*

Communication of Activities – *We are making an effort to spread the word of club activities. The monthly calendar is on the web and if you are not getting PYC events email we need your email address. Pontchartrain Yacht Club has entered the new frontier of face book.*

Increase Rental – Promote your prime lake front facility to friends, family and businesses. We could use some daytime, mid week meetings to help defray our fixed cost. Word of mouth is our best advertisement!

Please print this Chart and place in a readily available place for frequent review. There are several interesting events Like the Oyster Festival planned for February that you wont want to miss. One noteworthy item starting on the 4th is the Saturday Night drawing. Must be present to win between 8PM and 9 PM.

Your Commodore,

Tom

REAR COMMODORE: GARY THORSON

I don't know about you, but the first month of this year has flown by. While most of my time has been spent focused on efforts to understand and improve the Club's financial wellbeing, I have to say that January was a fun month.

First, I attended (with the other PYC Flag Officers and a number of other members) the GYA Annual meeting in Biloxi. While I found several sessions very interesting, the most important benefit seemed to be that I was able to talk to a number of other GYA Flag Officers and gain an understanding of how they have faced and addressed various issues some of which are common to our club. While there is no one right answer to an issue, these conversations gave me food for thought and some insight into how we might approach some of our own challenges. I'm glad to say that I learned several things that will hopefully benefit our club in the future. I can say that the primary concerns among the GYA clubs seem to have a common theme (1) how to get more members and (2) how to increase sailing activity.

Second, I spent some time with Kaia learning the internal operations of our Club and some of the accounting and business process challenges facing us. I also spent some time with the Bar staff to get their ideas on how we might improve some things for the Club. For example, the January 19th Tequila Tasting was totally driven by Paul (contrary to the possible belief that I had initiated the cactus juice sampling on a purely self-centered basis). Not only was this a fun event it was very successful from a financial perspective and we are planning other similar events in the future.

REAR COMMODORE - GARY THORSON

Third, the Commodore's Ball was great success and hopefully it will inspire great attendance at future social events.

Fourth, as indicated by the Commodore Burke at the last membership meeting of 2011, the 2012 Flag Officers had to take a hard look at the revenue and expense reality of running our Club. That review produced the sobering fact that a membership dues increase was needed. The last increase was in 2006 which coincided with the building of the new club. Once we all agreed that the facts pointed to an increase the next question was "How much?" Determining the right number with the minimum amount of assumptions can be an elusive goal. However, with the helpful input of the Past Commodores and my own Finance Committee and working through no less than 5 different financial models, we determined a dollar amount that was supported by business facts and seemed agreeable to all. The business case was presented at the General Membership Meeting on January 29th and a \$15.00 increase per regular member per month (proportionally applied to all other membership classes) was unanimously approved at that membership meeting. The increase will have an effective date of March 1, 2012. At that same meeting, Ian Prosser, Chairman of our sub-committee on Cost Saving Measures, reported a number of cost saving measures that have been accomplished or being considered by the Club (e.g., \$15,000 savings due to renegotiation of our insurance policy last year, a \$150/month savings by renegotiating our AT&T phone services, elevator maintenance contract, etc.). We also receive several suggestions from the floor on cost savings and additional revenue opportunities which we will be investigating in the future.

PYC has a great track record for accomplishing a lot with very little. I am certain that we will continue that pattern in the months to come and just want to remind everyone that it is your efforts that make our success possible. So, please be involved. Everyone will benefit.

Gary

VICE COMMODORE - BRIAN J. BURKE

Despite our best efforts to reduce costs last year, including reducing the club's annual insurance premiums by approximately \$15,000, as I stated at the Annual Meeting, it was my opinion, along with that of then Rear Commodore Peggy Gele, that a dues increase was necessary in order to continue to operate the club. After the election of our new Commodore, Tom Jarvis, and our new Rear Commodore, Gary Thorson, the three of us had numerous meetings in which we all agreed that a dues increase was indeed necessary. Accordingly, after a thorough review the club's financials over the past three years, we agreed that such a dues increase should be \$15.00 per month for resident members, with the dues of each other class of membership increasing proportionately. At the Special Meeting of the Membership held this past Sunday, after discussing this matter, the aforementioned suggested dues increase was unanimously approved by the Membership. Additionally, Past Commodore Ian Prosser had previously agreed to spearhead a cost savings committee whose duty is to review the club's expenses to determine if there is any area where expenses can be further reduced. Thus far he has been able to renegotiate the telephone bill by approximately \$150 per month and is continuing to try to find other areas where a savings can be recognized.

While this dues increase will permit the club to operate in the black, as has been said for years, the ultimate financial well being of the club hinges on our ability to attract new members. Therefore, I encourage each of you to bring your friends to the club for our social events and sell the club to that person. A member of the Board of Directors is generally at the club almost every night so make sure we meet those friends and we will help you bring them on board.

Thanks, Brian

Brian J. Burke

JUNIORS – PAUL STEVENS

Well I am still learning the ropes of being the Junior Chair as well as being a board member. A few more meetings and maybe I will figure out when I wear the blue blazer and with which pants!

Kaia is getting me clued in on planning for Sail Camp already so I am in search of a Sail Camp Director. Please contact me if you know of any potential candidates.

I want to kick off the Junior season with a sailor's and parent's get-together in February. We will discuss everything from our Opti program to the Flying Scots and Junior Liptons. Any interested sailors from 7 – 18, from novices to experts, are expected to attend. I want to get input on scheduling an Optic clinic and on getting a coach for our harbor mice. We will discuss opportunities for our older Juniors to get more time on the water, including traveling to a few out of town events this year. So watch for a notice coming via PYC Events soon.

If you have any input, questions or concerns for me prior to the meeting please send me an email.

*Thanks
Paul Stevens
scrvydg@hotmail.com*

ONE DESIGN – BILL ROSS

I would like to thank the new board for the chance to serve PYC as your 1-design rep. I would also like to thank Brock Schmidt for the hard work he has done over the past years. There are a lot of tasks that will require help from our members and I will be asking for your help in the future. I will be working with Cleve as race chair to try to bring sailing back to PYC, as it is badly needed to keep our members active, and bring in new ones.

If anyone would like to reach me, my e-mail is rosscanvas@yahoo.com I will welcome any and all help/advice as we start the new racing season. Sunday sailing has begun, so dust off your boats large or small, or use one of the club boats. Sailing start at 1:00. If you are new to sailing and would still like to attend, we can get you on the powerboat or try to get you on with someone to help you with the learning process. This is open to all ages and experience, so feel free to join us.

Look forward to seeing you all at the club and on the water.

BILL ROSS

MEMBERSHIP- DICK JONES

The board of directors approved the membership application of James Gately during our January meeting. James, his wife, Linda reside in Covington. James is interested in day sailing and possibly racing Second Wind, his Flying Scott. He is interested in volunteering to help with the race committee also.

Please make a point to introduce yourself to James and Linda if you see them at the club.

I have been in touch with two new potential members. Coincidentally both hold positions with major universities. One is Professor Emeritus, Department of Anthropology with the University of Illinois and is looking to buy a second home in Old Mandeville. The other is an Associate Vice Chancellor at Louisiana State University who visited the club during one of our Guest Chef Friday night dinners. I expect both will be submitting their application in the coming months.

Four members submitted their resignation in January. They are Bernice Andrews, Brad Jones, Greg Reardon and Jade Rung. Total membership as of this writing is 289.

Mary Patterson has volunteered to serve on the membership committee. I believe Mary has served at least three or four times on the committee.

If you have ever been to Ocean Springs Yacht Club you could not help but notice a very attractive sign on their front lawn suggesting to people passing by to "make this your backyard." OSYC & PYC are very similar in that both are located next to a body of water, have a beautiful view, large decks, a pool and boat storage. They advertise the benefits of enjoying these amenities if one becomes a member of their club. We will do this also. The board has approved my recommendation to place a similar sign on our grounds. I will need help in building, painting, lettering and erecting this sign. Please contact me if you wish to help. 504 451 6579 or rcj797@gmail.com

We will be placing a guess sign-in book in the main entrance of the club also. All guests will receive a follow up email or letter thanking them for their visit along with information on becoming a member of PYC.

Another idea we will be implementing is to have a sailing event for new members. Ideally we would invite a group of new members (2-3 couples) to enjoy an afternoon or early evening sail hosted by a member aboard their boat. I will be contacting members with boats to volunteer to host this event.

New members are the life blood of our club and if you have any suggestions or ideas on how to recruit new members please let me know.

See you around the club.

Dick

MEMBERSHIP

This is the sign
which appears in
the yard at
Ocean Springs
Yacht Club

MANAGER'S NOTE - KAIA SCHINDLER

Just a reminder: E-statements are available and save the club money on printing and postage. However, all members will receive a bill in February in order to distribute 2012 GYA stickers.

Please contact me if you would prefer an e-statement as opposed to a paper copy. Also, auto draft is available on the 10th and 20th of each month. Again, contact me if this interest you.

Congratulations to Brady Barclay who has been chosen for the 2012 GYA Manager's Association Scholarship. He will be pursuing an education in architecture at L.S.U. in the fall! Go Brady!!!!

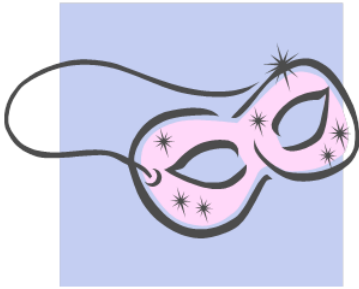
If anyone is interested in volunteering time in the office please let me know. There is plenty of work to go around!!

If anyone has a new email address they would like to use, or even an additional one, or one for a spouse, etc. to send it to pycevents@bellsouth.net and Georgia Young will take care of it.

Thanks Georgia for all that you do!!

I'm looking forward to a fun-filled month!

Kaia

SOCIAL- ERIN POWELL

The social committee met on January 19th to outline activities for the year; this was an ambitious undertaking and many thanks to those of you who helped. January has been busy what with the Commodore's Ball, grill night, general membership meeting, Sunday sailing, brunch, tequila tasting, chili cook-off, and Friday night chef's.

February is lining up to be full of fun! The Super Bowl is Sunday, 2/5, as in the past we will have The Road Kill Cafe. Book Club is Tuesday, 2/7; our own Katherine Wildgen will discuss her current book of fiction, Fractal.

Game Day, is being organized by Nancy Wyllie and begins on 2/7, details will follow in an email.

On Friday, February 10 and Friday February 17th, pizza will replace Friday night Chef's because those nights are the Mandeville Eve and Orpheus parades.

February 11th, an Oyster Party is in the works. There will be oyster spaghetti, raw oysters, grilled oysters, champagne and Ched Reeves is entertaining 6-9 pm. Eat oysters; love longer, a prelude to Valentine's Day. (Thanks to John Span) Watch the email for details.

Kaia's famous brunch will be served February 19th!

A couple of new activities:

Sunday sailing at 1 pm; we will endeavor to get new members and old members out on boats, so just show up. On the last Sunday of the month we will provide some type of meal for the sailors.

(Heads up, when you do go out on someone's boat, bring a cooler and some snacks and don't forget boat type shoes)

On or near the 15th of each month there will be a birthday party for members born in that month!

On Saturday nights we plan to reinstate the raffle drawing of old, details will follow. Once each month we will have live music in the bar on Saturday night.

Check the Pont YC website; thanks to Celeste Thorson we are up to date! Activities for the year are posted; if you have any ideas for social let me know and we can get started.

Have a wonderful Mardi Gras and thanks for all the help.

Erin

BAR- PAUL CALECAS

Over the last couple of months, the bar has conducted a few tastings in an effort to generate some buzz and get you guys back in here because honestly, we miss you. We have some good ideas for the next few months, but we'd always like to hear from you. Please feel free to give us any suggestions you might have for things you'd like to see happening here at the bar. You may have heard that our recent tequila tasting was a great success, but what you may not know is that it was something that was suggested by your fellow members. This is your bar, please help us make it a place where you want to hang out.

Paul

bar@pontyc.org

HOUSE AND GROUNDS-SCOTT DISCON

I am anxiously awaiting the coming of Spring so PYC can get back outside and enjoy our beautiful club, pool, gardens and our boats!

Thus far it appears that this winter has been quite mild which if we cross our fingers will result in much less work to get the club grounds looking sharp. Much of our annual ground cover is waiting to come back!

H & G is taking names for this years garden crew...we could sure use more volunteers! Please email H & G at scottdiscon@aol.com and I will insure that you get noticed on all upcoming work sessions. We are in need of volunteers to pull weeds and trim existing plantings in preparation for Spring 2012.

H & G is also in need of volunteers to paint the club entrance interior and eventually the club Regatta room. You can sign up in the foyer of the club on my clipboard. Food and drink will be provided on the day of our painting.

H & G and the Board of Directors are working on some ideas to enhance the Regatta room ceiling and will keep you posted of our progress.

Finally, H & G is now requesting donations of rose bushes to be planted next month in the Commodores rose garden. If you have a rose bush that you would like to donate or if you would like to buy a rose bush and donate, please do so....this garden by the parking lot should look pretty cool this year. If anyone wants to donate a tree, please email me so we can go over our "want list" for 2012.

See ya in the garden,

Scott Discon

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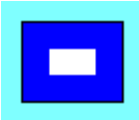
PONTCHARTRAIN YACHT CLUB- FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Jan SAILING @ 1:00 MEMBERSHIP MTG. 4PM grill night to follow	30	31 Gumbo \$5.00 off bottled wine	1 Feb \$1.50 Does \$1.50 domestic beer	2 1:30 TACOS BOGOF JOSE RITAS	3 7pm Guest Chef Janie Estelman	4 Regatta room rental Where ya at? Drawing in Bar, 8pm
5 SUPERBOWL PARTY 5:30 Road Kill Cafe Sailing @ 1:00	6	7 Gumbo \$5.00 off bottled wine Book Club Fractal by Kathy Wildgen	8 \$1.50 Does \$1.50 domestic beer	9 1:30 TACOS BOGOF JOSE RITAS	10 7pm Guest Chef Pizzas Eve Parade	11 PontYC Spinnaker Spring Series 1,2,3 Chef Reeves 6-9 Mother of Pearl, Oysters by John Supan Where ya at? Drawing in Bar, 8pm Non Spinnaker RACE
12 PontYC Spinnaker Series 4,5,6 Sailing @ 1:00	13	14 Gumbo \$5.00 off bottled wine	15 \$1.50 Does \$1.50 domestic beer Feb Birthdays Party Commodore Tom Birthday	16 1:30 TACOS BOGOF JOSE RITAS	17 7pm Guest Chef Pizzas Orpheus Parade	18 Where ya at? Drawing in Bar, 8pm
19 BRUNCH Sailing @ 1:00	20	21 Gumbo \$5.00 off bottled wine MARDI GRAS! CLUB CLOSED	22 \$1.50 Does \$1.50 domestic beer Board Meeting	23 1:30 TACOS BOGOF JOSE RITAS	24 7pm Guest Chef Gary & Celeste Thorson Santitas Fajitas	25 PYC Non Spinnaker Race Where ya at? Drawing in Bar, 8 pm
26 Sailing @ 1:00 and Food	27	28 Gumbo \$5.00 off bottled wine	29 \$1.50 Does \$1.50 domestic beer	1 Mar 1:30 TACOS BOGOF JOSE RITAS	2 7pm Guest Chef Marianne Lipscomb	3 130 Regatta and ISSA High School Regatta Where ya at? Drawing in Bar, 8pm



1501 LAKESHORE DRIVE
MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

985-626-3192
Fax:985-626-5564
office@pontyc.org



2012BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Commodore
THOMAS A. JARVIS
thomasajarvis@yahoo.com

Vice-Commodore
BRIAN J. BURKE
brianjudeburke@yahoo.com

Rear-Commodore
GARY THORSON
gthorson@langhamconsulting.net

Membership
DICK JONES
rcj797@gmail.com

Social
ERIN POWELL
erinfeys@yahoo.com

Juniors
PAUL STEVENS
scrvydg@hotmail.com

One Design
BILL ROSS
rosscanvas@yahoo.com

Race
CLEVE FAIR
cfair@fairengineering.com

House & Grounds
SCOTT DISCON
scottdiscon@aol.com

More Club Contacts

Emailing and email list

Georgia Young
pycevents@bellsouth.net

Victoria Class & Website

Hew Hamilton
hew@pineapplegallery.com

Bar

Paul Calecas
bar@pontyc.org

