

PORTSMOUTH YACHT CLUB

Newsletter ~ April 2015 ~ Volume 117 Issue 3

From the Bridge
Commodore Dan Gingras



Just a few weeks from Docks In, and you'd never know it based on the snow and the temperature, but spring comes this week, and with it the promise of boats tugging their moorings and barbecues sizzling with summer treats.

Lots of new things coming this year to PYC including:

Rebuilding the Bar

A close examination of the bar has revealed that there is serious water damage to the interior of the structure and a number of health and safety issues which need to be addressed, so it has been decided to completely rebuild the bar with new materials including a granite top trimmed in teak, and commercial stainless ice and water stations. We're hoping to have this finished by the club opening, but it's a big task, and if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact either Bill Pelletier or Paul Roy.

New Locks

It's been years since we've changed the locks and keys at the club, and there are dozens, if not hundreds, of keys out there with people who are no longer members, and recent events with things disappearing have given rise to concerns about member security. Since there is a membership turnover each year, keys seem to be a problem, so we've decided to go to an electronic locking system where members will have individual "fobs" which will allow them access to the front door. When a member resigns their individual key can be deactivated. The gate by the fence will also have to be secured with either a fob based lock, or a keypad like the lock on the walkway to the north

side of the club. More on how we're going to distribute the key fobs as we move the project forward. If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

New Security Cameras

We all love to log on to the webcam and see what's happening, and the new camera system will have the ability to see more than one camera. Right now we're planning cameras on the dock, the front door, the rear door, shed and kitchen. We have 8 cameras available and are still discussing other locations.

Hopefully all these improvements will address the health and safety issues we've discovered, and increase the convenience to the members.

See you all at Docks In!! (Mail Dan; 603-674-2244)

MOORING LOTTERY

A PYC mooring is available in front of the club. If you are interested, please email Vice Commodore Bill Pelletier at bill.pelletier.pyc@gmail.com by Wed, April 13. The lottery drawing will be held during Docks In on April 18.

FROM THE SECRETARY

PLEASE NOTE: The PYC Membership Directory will be printed in two weeks. Please take a look at the directory to ensure that your information is current. Check your address, telephone number, and email address. If you have a boat, check the yacht register, and, if you have a winter address, check the separate listing for those. It is critical to the operations of the club that we have the most reliable information about your membership. If you have any changes, please call Carole Cartnick at 603-742-8689 or send an email to cccarnick@comcast.net.

QUESTIONS?

For all questions regarding your membership or club activities please contact one of the following Flag Officers:

Commodore Dan Gingras 603-674-2244

Vice Commodore Bill Pelletier 828-548-0802

Rear Commodore Nancy Gulley 603-431-9252



From the Vice Commodore ~ Bill Pelletier ~ ([Mail Bill](#))

February blends into March, and then into April. Although you wouldn't guess it with the amount of snow on the ground, by the calendar it is officially Spring and warmer weather is coming. Really. It is coming. Soon. I hope.

Overall, the clubhouse has fared the winter relatively well, however, there will be a handful of maintenance items which will occupy our time in the coming weeks. Many of the window locks need replacing, there will be much painting to be done, and overall, a good cleaning of the kitchen area.

Many of you have asked about the bar, the kitchen, and overall what direction we will be taking on several major efforts. What I can say at the moment (echoing Commodore Gingras) is that the bar has proven to be much more of a challenge than originally thought. Both he and P/C Roy have been making a large hole where the bar used to be, and plans are still on track to have it ready for the Opening Dinner. Like many other projects we all take on, once you start digging into something, you always find more which requires repair and replacement. In this case, it made absolutely no sense to simply refinish the bar top due to the extensive damage underneath. It will also afford us the opportunity to redesign how glasses are stored at the bar, as well as sinks and soda "cold plates". I am positive that everyone will find the new space a great update for one of the club's main focal points.

Regarding slip and locker "wait lists" – there will be a refresh done over the next few weeks to make them more accessible to everyone, as well as easier to maintain. If you are currently on one of the lists, you will be receiving an email from me in the coming week with a subject line of "PYC Wait List Verification". You will be asked for several pieces of information and I would ask that you reply as soon as possible with any updates. If you do not receive a note from me by the time of Docks In, and believe that you are on a list (slips or lockers), please get back to me as soon as possible.

Docks In / work parties. The date for Docks In is still April 18th and would like everyone to be there by 9:00 AM (earlier if you like). The preceding two Saturdays (4/4 and 4/11) are on the club calendar for work parties, and most likely the 4/4 date will be the inaugural House & Docks Committee meeting – at the club. I have received email from a handful of you expressing interest in this year's H&D Committee, and will be emailing to that list more on this topic.

As always, please send any comments, suggestions, or concerns to me either via email bill.pelletier.pyc@gmail.com, text or voicemail to (828)548-0802.



PYC COCKTAIL PARTY

*Sunday, May 3, 2015
1700 to 1900 hours*

Celebrate the opening of the club social season at a PYC COCKTAIL PARTY sponsored by the Ladies Committee
Sunday, May 3, 2015, from 1700 to 1900.
Bring your favorite appetizer to share, meet with your friends, share stories of your winter and plans for the summer.

*There will be a nominal cover charge of \$5.00 per person, drinks provided by the club.
You may sign up at the March Dinner, Work Parties, Docks In, in the Reservation Book at the Club (available after Docks In).*



SHIPS STORE NEWS

The club will soon be opening and so will the Ship's Store!!! We're going to start the new year with some great sales!

What items from last year would you like to see more of this year? Do you have new ideas? Send me an e-mail.

Ellen rblanch86@comcast.net.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

There are no new applications this month. The latest list (updated monthly) of Applicants, Resignations and New Members may be found on the PYC website:

[Member Area: Member Changes and How to Sponsor a New Member.](#)



From the Rear Commodore ~ Nancy Gulley ~ ([Mail Nancy](mailto:Nancy@portsmouthyc.org))

Well, as I am sitting here at my computer it is 4 days till Spring, it snowed all day yesterday, and the last chunk of ice fell off our roof and sliced up yet another screen. BUT...we start cleaning up the club on April 4th – and that means spring is here and summer cannot be far away.

Fun things are in our future. Start paying attention to the newsletter for information – start watching for special emails – and circle the dates on your calendar for events you plan on attending.

Our first event at the club is a POT LUCK immediately following Docks In on April 18th. Start looking for that favorite or new recipe to share at our 1st lunch of the season. Remember this is the day you get to find out what everyone has been doing all winter – where they went to stay warm – or how many pairs of boots they wore to make it through the snowiest winter on record.

Events you need to put on your calendar for the month of May are as follows:

- Sunday, May 3rd Cocktail Party sponsored by the Ladies Committee (bring your favorite appetizer to share)
- Wednesday, May 6th “Cinco de Mayo” catered by Margaritas with a 1 hour SALSA DANCE CLASS immediately following dinner provided by the Portsmouth Ball Room
- Wednesday, May 13th New Members Orientation and Pot Luck
- Saturday, May 16th Opening Black Tie Dinner Dance (watch for flyer)
- Wednesday, May 20th Catered by Mezzanine Catering
- Monday, May 25th Memorial Day Breakfast
- Wednesday, May 27th Open Wednesday Night – Hot Dog Safari

As you can see the schedule is full. We tried to listen to your ideas and comments on the survey, and hope that you are happy with the events that are scheduled. If you have suggestions, want to volunteer to help at any event, or want to talk, please give me a call or email me anytime.

QUICK REMINDERS:

Event Sign Up: Most of our events require that you sign up in advance in the sign-up notebook located on the desk on the right as you enter the dining room. Normally, a sheet for each upcoming event in the month is posted in the notebook approximately two weeks before the first event of that month. You may also call the Steward or any member of the staff to place your reservation in the book. For most events reservations will be taken up to 3 days before the event. If you do not attend and have failed to cancel your reservation you will be billed for the number of dinners reserved.

Parking: We are very short on parking spaces. Only ONE car per family may be parked in the lot at any time, no matter how many parking stickers have been issued to your family. Non-members' cars MUST NOT BE PARKED IN THE LOT AT ANY TIME. Please be sure to observe the “Handicap” reserved spaces, and please stay clear of the fuel filling manholes when safety cones are up in anticipation of a fuel delivery. Parking is available on nearby street without being ticketed.

When going out on your boat, stickered cars may be left in the parking lot for up to 72 hours – cars may also be left on the street for up to 72 hours without being ticketed or towed. If leaving your car for ANY period of time you must leave your keys with the Steward in case the car needs to be moved to a new location. Parking over 72 hours is available in New Castle for PYC members. Please ask the Steward or a Flag Officer for correct information.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 3/28(S) Dinner w/ Speaker
- 4/4(S) Work Party 9:00 AM
- 4/11(S) Work Party 9:00 AM
- 4/18(S) Docks In 9:00 AM
followed by Pot Luck Lunch

PLANNING AHEAD

- 5/3(SU) Cocktail Party *Sponsored by the Ladies Committee*
- 5/6(W) WND - Cinco de Mayo
- 5/13(W) WND - Pot Luck Dinner
Members Orientation
- 5/16(S) Opening Night Dinner Dance
- 5/20(W) WND - Catered by
Mezzanine Catering
- 5/25(M) Memorial Day Breakfast
- 5/27(W) Open Wednesday Night
Hot Dog Safari



CRUISE NEWS

Anyone interested in joining the PYC Cruise should now be making their reservations for the ports of call on our schedule.

Members who do not have our reservation list may obtain one from me or find it on the PYC website [Here](#).

Ken Jones [Mail Ken](#)

Roger Wells [Mail Roger](#)

Cruise Directors

BoatUS Membership Renewals:

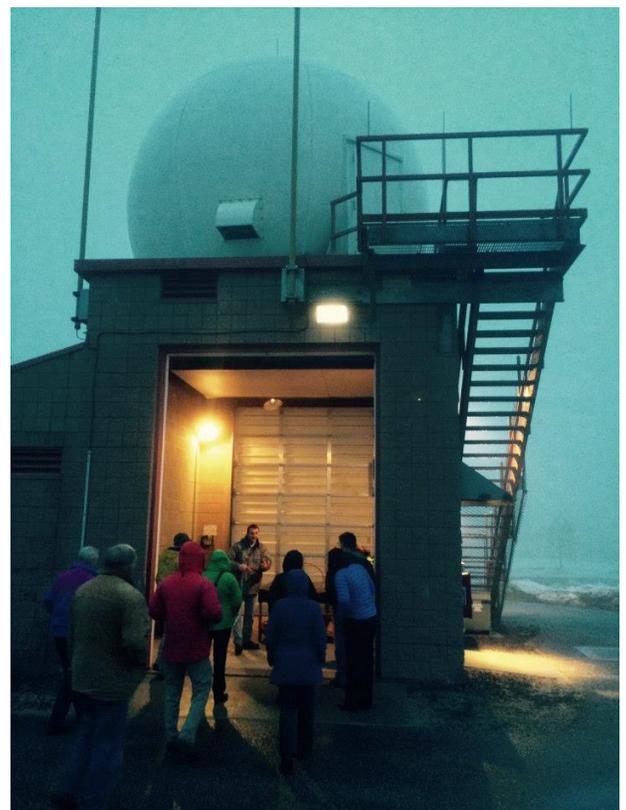
PYC is a Group Member of BoatUS, Group Number GA81490Y. Any PYC member planning to join for the first time or renewing a membership in BoatUS may obtain a 50% discount by referencing this Group Number on the application or renewal form.

TRIP TO THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN GRAY, MAINE

To all PYC, PSA, KPYC and other interested boaters in the Piscataqua Region:

Anyone who missed signing up for the March 26 trip to the National Weather Service in Gray, Maine, and is interested in the trip, please let Shaye Robbins know at shayemr@gwi.net. If there is enough interest, Shaye will arrange a visit, most likely Tues, May 12. Please email her directly of your interest in a FUTURE visit and she will put you on the list and see what can happen.

The Trip: A visit to the National Weather Service in Gray, Maine. Complete with a tour of the facility, a mariners talk and launching a weather balloon! What?? Yes LAUNCHING A WEATHER BALLOON!





**Starting 3/31/2015 on Tuesdays from
7-9pm at Portsmouth High School:**

**Two 6-week classes from
Portsmouth Sail & Power Squadron,
all ages welcome!**

America's Boating Course - earn your Safe Boating Certificate as required by the NH boating education law. Only \$50 for the textbook, disks of navigational software and coursework. Family members sharing the book only \$10 more.

Seamanship - understand the construction and functioning of a boat, a skipper's responsibilities, preparing the boat, handling a vessel, rules of the road, anchoring, emergencies, and marlinspike/basic knots. Cost is \$65.

To register call Peter Wright at (603) 225-3350 peter.wright@law.unh.edu.

SAILING / KAYAKING LESSONS



UNH COMMUNITY SAILING CENTER

Located on Mendums Pond in Barrington, NH

Sailing Lessons

Ages 5 through Adult; 1 week sessions

Kayaking lessons

Ages 8 -18; 1 week sessions

MSST (Mendums Seacoast Sailing Team)

MSST is a spring sailing team open to any student grades 7 - 12 from any school, regardless of sailing ability.

New this year:

Radio Controlled Boat Building and Sailing

One 2 week session; Boats are 37" long, 5' high

Ultralight Canoe Building Class

One 2 week session

2015 schedule will be available shortly.

Find out more at:

UNHSailing.org under the [Community Sailing Center drop-down menu](#), [MSST drop-down menu](#), the [UNH Community Sailing Center Facebook page](#) or contact [Diana Weidenbacker](#).

KITTERY POINT YACHT CLUB SAILING SCHOOL

KPYC, New Castle

Sailing lessons for ages 8 through Adult, 2 week sessions.

Find out more at [KPYC Sailing School](#)

or contact [SailingSchoolKPYC](#)