

# PORTSMOUTH YACHT CLUB

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From the Bridge  
Commodore Nancy Gulley



Wow...it's September! How in the world did this happen? We have had a wonderful summer once it finally started. Think of all the beautiful weather, the great dinners, the gorgeous sunsets and best of all the time you have spent at PYC with your old and new friends.

Events...now there is something worth talking about. Thank you to all the members that have created dinners this summer. There are more of you than ever, and with that said I hope you all are thinking of what your favorite meal is and how you can get your friends to help you prepare it for a shared dinner next season. If you have a plan, a thought or even a lightning bolt idea, share it with me or the most important person of all Jerry Goldfarb.

Perhaps you haven't noticed...the tiny safety ladders are in. Please do not fall into the river, but thank you to everyone who helped purchase the ladders and install them. Thank you Tony Young for the wonderful lunches you have been creating every Thursday thru Saturday and thank you Geoff for covering the Wednesday lunch crowds.

You all know the staff members are beginning their exits. Personally, I think we have had a great season and I will sorely miss all the happy faces of our college bound staff. So to all of you leaving.. Be smart, be safe, have fun, and I hope we see you next year!

Finally, we are still hoping some of you would like to serve the club by serving on the Board of Directors or perhaps being a Flag Officer. Please let me know if you are interested in helping PYC continue to be the best club on the seacoast.

Enjoy!

Nanc | [Commodore@PortsmouthYC.org](mailto:Commodore@PortsmouthYC.org) |

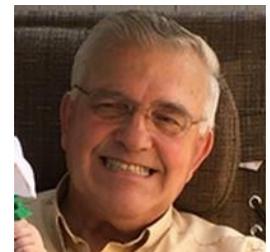
## A couple of quick items...

- If you are using the kitchen and your excellent meal creates a lot of garbage or perhaps creates the type of garbage the " Fall Flies" will love to explore in the kitchen, please **TAKE THE GARBAGE TO THE DUMPSTER!!!!**
- The new ice machine is for the bar. If you need ice for your boat or your cooler please go down to the dock house and make a purchase. The price of ice is \$2.00 a bag.

Thanks

## In Memoriam

PYC member John Kemen passed away unexpectedly on July 26, 2016. John and his wife Patti have been members since 2006, and John served on the Board of Directors from 2010-2016. John enjoyed spending time on his boat *Brothers II*, which he shared with his brother-in-law, PYC member Dan Gabriel. Our sincere condolences to Patti and their family.



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We have received 1 new application for membership:

**Liz and Geoff Pendexter** of North Hampton, sponsored by R/C Dick Blidberg and Richard Luff. Liz and Geoff met as high school sweethearts in 1985. They both grew up in Darien, CT and after getting married moved to North Hampton. Geoff has been power boating and sailing all his life and purchased his first boat at age 12. Liz and Geoff have always loved being near the ocean and boats and their 2 sons Cole(16) and Mason(14) have inherited their love of water. Both boys enjoy surfing, sailing, fishing and any kind of boating. The Pendexters have owned Whirlygigs Toy Shop in downtown Exeter since 1998 and still enjoy seeing the excitement on the kids faces as families enter their shop.

The latest Wait List may be found on our website:  
Member Area: [Member Changes and How to Sponsor a New Member](#)

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Your hosts for September are  
Debby & Greg Gebow,  
Karen & Doyle Skeels, and Judi O'Brien

- Sept 2 (F) Friday Night at the Club, Pot Luck  
Dinner w/ DJ Entertainment.....\$15  
(see pg. 5)
- Sept 5 (M) Labor Day Breakfast (see pg. 5)..\$10
- Sept 9 (F) Lobster Bake  
prepared by the Propellor Club
- Sept 10 (S) Dave Mowers Pursuit Race  
PYC Race Committee and PSA
- Sept 11 (SU) Post Cruise Dinner - Pot Luck
- Sept 14 (W) Half St. Patrick's Day Dinner...\$26  
Catered by RiRa, menu TBA
- Sept 21 (W) Catered Dinner: menu & price TBA
- Sept 29 (W) Turkey Dinner (see pg. 5)...\$26  
prepared by Kitty & Grey Cornwell

#### Private Functions

Sept 8 (TH), Sept 13 (T),  
Sept 15 (TH), and Sept 22 (TH)  
*Members, please use outside walkway.*

### LUNCH IS SERVED

**Our Lunch Service will continue  
through Labor Day Weekend.**

Lunches are available at the club  
on Wednesday thru Saturday.

(Donation to the club)

Don't forget to check out the PYC  
website! [PortsmouthYC.org](http://PortsmouthYC.org)

Some of the things you may find are:

- The 2016 Annual Meeting Notice will be available when ready.
- The latest [Newsletter](#), as well as past issues.
- Check the [Calendar](#) for up to date information: click on an event and find out more details.
- [Photos](#) of events.
- The 2016 Staff on the [Staff](#) page



From the Vice Commodore | Dan Gingras | [ViceCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org](mailto:ViceCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org)

I write this from the Portsmouth Yacht Club cruise, which is really going great, and everyone is having a great time. I can't believe it's mid August already, and we've got to start thinking about Docks Out, taking the boat out and all the other things that go along with Fall.

Until then however, PYC is in full swing and we've got some great events planned for September. We start with a wonderful Friday Night event including DJ on September 2nd, hosted by the Wagners, and then our Labor Day Breakfast, where Phyllis and I will be whipping up some tasty treats including her famous blueberry French toast casserole!

The 7<sup>th</sup> of September will be a great Pot luck, which I'm looking forward to, and then the half St Patricks day with RiRa's wonderful catering and I'll bring my Irish music CD's !

There will be a catered dinner on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September, so check out the menu in the book and please sign up.

Wrapping up the month will be our famous Cornwell Turkey Dinner, as an early Thanksgiving celebration, and we certainly have lots to be thankful for this season as the weather has been beautiful, and the sailing just great.

From the PYC Cruise, Dan



*Paul Roy preparing Beer Can Chicken for the July "Comedy Night"*





From the Rear Commodore | Dick Blidberg | [RearCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org](mailto:RearCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org)

Hi all. Great boating days this month. Some of the most enjoyable yet. The Club cruise has picked an excellent time to head south for a couple of weeks. Hope more of you get involved next year. It is a great experience.

I have to report that the long awaited Dinghy Dock extension is being held up a bit by a shipping delay of the float "tubs". This is not expected to be a long delay but it has obviously slowed down the delivery date. I have been assured that as soon as they arrive in Portland, Custom Floats will complete the float and get it installed at PYC. Hang on a bit longer and the crowding at the Dinghy Dock will be lessened.

We now have a contract to replace the pilings next year. It will be scheduled early in the season but after the docks have been put in. We are shooting for the first part of May but a final date has not yet been established. I will let you know when we have that date firmed up.

As many of you are aware, there was a major weather event at the Isles of Shoals a few weeks ago. Luckily none of the PYC boats were seriously damaged, but PYC member Ric Shultz did have some damage to his boat. He has written about his experience and it is definitely worth reading (see page 6). It emphasizes the need to be very diligent if you are rafting with others at the Shoals moorings. Clearly rafting with others adds a great deal to the boating experience at the Shoals but it is also possible to have a enjoyable afternoon turn into something quite different. Please watch the weather when you take advantage of the Shoals moorings and when it looks questionable, it might be time to get underway. The PYC moorings that were damaged have been repaired as needed.

You will notice the new emergency ladders that have been installed at various points on the floating docks. These are only to be used in emergencies. Please note where they are located so you can avoid tripping over them by accident.

Enjoy the rest of the season. More good weather to be had in the near future. This really has been quite a summer and there still are a lot of great experiences to be had this season. Have fun.



*Dockhands Whit Sieve & Camden Myles carrying building supplies to the Dockhouse*

Friday Night at the Club  
Pot Luck w/ DJ Rob McCombie  
hosted by Kay and Bill Wagner  
Friday, Sept 2; \$15 pp

Begin the Labor Day Weekend  
with your friends at PYC! Bring a dish  
to share and your dancing shoes!

## Labor Day Breakfast

Monday, Sept 5

9:00 am to 10:15 am

Prepared by Phyllis Breitman & Dan Gingras and Crew.

Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Tater Tots,  
Blueberry French Toast Casserole,

Fruit, Yogurt, Coffee and Juice

\$10 pp, children under 10 free

Sign up at the club or contact Jerry :  
603.436.9877  
[Steward@PortsmouthYC.org](mailto:Steward@PortsmouthYC.org)

WND Pot Luck  
Wednesday, Sept 7  
Bring a dish to share!

Lobster Bake  
Prepared by the Propellor Club  
Friday Sept 9; \$ TBA  
2 Lobsters with all the trimmings!

## Half St. Paddy's Day!

Wednesday, Sept 14; \$ 15 pp

Appetizers and Draft Beer  
Corned Beef & Cabbage,  
Vegetable and Dessert  
Featuring the Murray Academy  
Step Dancers!

WND CATERED Dinner  
Wednesday, Sept 21  
Price and Menu TBA

Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner  
Prepared by Kitty & Grey Cornwell and Crew  
Wednesday, Sept 28; \$25 pp  
Turkey and all the trimmings!



## Adventures in Boating: Gosport Harbor, Saturday, July 23, 2016

Ric Shultz, S/V *Little Wing*

My wife Sue and I have been PYC members for several years and have been going to the Shoals for much longer. On July 23, 2016 an idyllic spot on our seacoast became something different.

The Shultz's and friends Arch and Terry Davis of Dunstable, MA took our Catalina 42 sailboat, *Little Wing*, out to Gosport Harbor at the Isle of Shoals for an overnight. We spent the afternoon sailing upwind and tacking to the shoals. We took a PYC mooring down in the corner of the harbor near the east breakwater by Cedar Island and settled in to our sundowner. Other club members were also there for the night along with the usual rafts of sport fishing boats.

As we enjoyed our glass of wine we kept watching the sky as it was looking stormy southeast and northwest, but OK over us. Then we started to see some type of clouds forming between Portsmouth and us. They were about 100 feet off the water and looked like Guinness beer when poured, black and swirling. I have never seen clouds like that. The wind began to pick up and it started to rain. After 5 minutes those clouds were over us. The wind was getting stronger and we were



*Stormy weather at the Shoals*

pushing back significantly on our mooring. Our stern was swinging just 10 feet from the Hunter 38 sailboat behind us. To be safe, I started up *Little Wing* to power forward and take the load off the mooring pendant. We put on life jackets. My wind meter said 40kts, it was raining and hailing and lightning bolts were cracking every 30 seconds. *Little Wing* was listing side to side putting the rail in as if we were under sail. Sue and Terry were below rolling around on the floor, scared.

As *Little Wing* slowly made a few feet of progress forward, Arch yelled to me to “back off”. I looked up and I saw two forty foot rafted sport fishers with fly bridges coming at us broadside. They previously were moored ahead of us rafted, but two boats on one mooring was too much and they broke off. BANG, they collided right on the bow and our anchor. This pushed us back parallel with the Hunter 38 that was previously behind us. We were now just 10 feet from the rock jetty. How we didn't hit bottom or the rock breakwater amazes me. The fishing boats are now tangled in my anchor and the life lines of the Hunter next to us and wedged between us. The occupants were at the upper bridge doing nothing. Their engine was not even running. They were just grinding into the two of us. Somehow they hooked onto my mainsail outhaul and pulled the sail out a few feet. It thrashed around wildly.

*(continued on page 7)*

I put the throttle as far forward as possible to keep us off the rocks. After about 30 seconds, which felt like forever, our mooring pendant gave way with a bang. We slid up the side of the two offending boats and came free from them and began to slowly move forward. The wind meter said 68kts. After another 5 minutes of powering forward in a wild thrashing sea of moored boats and lobster pots we got out into a more open part of the harbor. We ran over empty moorings and lobster pots and never fouled our prop which would have been the end of us. I looked over toward the three boats we left and my anchor was hooked into them and my rode was completely out. It was keeping us from moving forward as it was hooked into them. Lucky for me, Arch grabbed my rigging safety knife and in the melee went forward and cut off the anchor line to free us. That permitted some more headway and luckily he was then able to grab an open mooring at the head of the harbor. Ten minutes later, it was all over. At that point, the two sport fishers that were rafted together that caused the damage passed us under power, still rafted, and left. They never checked to see if anyone was hurt or damaged.

The Coast Guard arrived and checked on everyone. *Little Wing* has suffered scrapes and digs in the hull, some places quite deep, the anchor and chain was gone, the anchor roller bent over, main sail trashed and Bimini torn. Four boats were on the rocks, one had it's hull holed and eventual sank. The next day, other boat owners came around to share their stories. The Hunter that was tangled with the sport fishers we left had their stations torn off and two port lights smash, Their hull was holed above the water line.

The names of the boats that damaged us and left the scene were *Laughing Lady* and *Anemone*. I filed a report with the Marine Patrol and found out that rafting on a mooring is not permitted, but they cannot enforce because it is a Port Authority regulation. I encourage all members who use the mooring at the Shoals to ask boats rafted on PYC mooring to un-raft as it is unsafe. I know Sue and I will.

See you all on the water.

Ric Shultz, S/V *Little Wing*



*Boats on the Rocks*



*After the Storm*