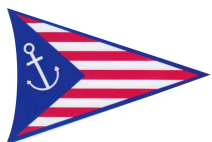


# PORTSMOUTH YACHT CLUB

Newsletter | September 2023 | Volume 125 | Issue 5



## View from the Bridge Commodore Roger Wells



*1898 - Celebrating 125 Years! - 2023*



As I write this missive, August is quickly slipping away. A generally crummy weather summer but with a number of good days. Despite the weather, the Club has been very busy with great, well-attended scheduled events and daily use by many club members. Cheers to the Vice Commodore Soni Christensen, event hosts, and all of the volunteers. The Annual PYC Cruise was very successful again this year. I could not participate in the cruise this year which was a very big disappointment for me. I covered for Rear Commodore Dan Gingras while he was away on the cruise. He left the Club in great shape, and Maddie held the fort very well, so I only had to help with a few small tasks. The Board of Directors and Flag Officers are getting prepared for the Annual Meeting on October 12<sup>th</sup>, so keep an eye on your emails for the details of this important event.

Roger Wells, Commodore  
[Commodore@PortsmouthYC.org](mailto:Commodore@PortsmouthYC.org)

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### SEPTEMBER

September hosts: Ruth Zikaras,  
Nancy Jackson, and Nancy Almgren

- 9/1(F) MEXICAN NIGHT – LAS OLAS
- 9/13(W) INFORMATIONAL MEETING  
See page 2
- 9/17(SU) PAST COMMODORES COCKTAIL PARTY
- 9/22(F) LOBSTER BAKE
- 9/24(SU) POST CRUISE DINNER
- 9/27(W) GERMAN NIGHT
- 9/30(S) COMMODORES CHOWDER

#### Private functions

9/8(F), 9/11(M), 9/14(TH)

#### PLANNING AHEAD

- 10/7(S) GRAND FINALE- Catered by UNH  
Roaring 20's / Great Gatsby Theme
- 10/12(TH) PYC ANNUAL MEETING
- 10/21(S) DOCKS OUT & POT LUCK DINNER  
\*\* Note - high tide late in day

Event Details on Page 5  
Follow up-to-date information on the  
[PYC Website Calendar](#)

## INFORMATIONAL MEETING

It's time to discuss replacing our fuel system.

As some of you know our fuel system is coming to the end of its useful life and it's time to replace the tanks and upgrade the entire fuel system. A new fuel tank committee was formed and has met several times with our engineer Russ Barton from Wilcox & Barton. Plans were prepared and RFPs were sent to four contractors. With estimates in hand the fuel committee met with the budget committee and it was determined that replacing the fuel system had less financial impact on the membership than forgoing fuel sales altogether. It was unanimous that the club move forward in replacing the fuel system and that information would be presented to the board of directors. In May the Board reached the same conclusion and plans to move the approval process to the full membership at the annual meeting this October.

A new fuel system would impact membership dues, so before the annual meeting we thought it would be important to have an informational meeting so that the membership understands our thought process and how we came to that decision.

**The informational meeting will be Wednesday September 13<sup>th</sup> at PYC at 1830.**

## NAME THE LAUNCH CONTEST

The final results are in and the votes have been counted. Our launch names will be:

**CHARLES DROWNE** (Founder of PYC)

**VALLIANT** (Charles Drowne's Yacht)

Thank you to all who participated!

### FINAL VOTE TOTALS

<b>VALLIANT</b> (Charles Drowne's Yacht).	43 Votes (29.05%)
<b>CHARLES DROWNE</b> (Founder of PYC)	32 Votes (21.62%)
<b>SHORE LEAVE</b>	25 Votes (16.89%)
<b>LIBERTY</b>	24 Votes (16.22%)
<b>FAIR WINDS</b>	19 Votes (12.84%)
<b>ALERT</b>	5 Votes ( 3.38%)

Commodore Roger Wells	<a href="mailto:Commodore@PortsmouthYC.org">Commodore@PortsmouthYC.org</a>
Vice Commodore Soni Christensen	<a href="mailto:ViceCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org">ViceCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org</a>
Rear Commodore Dan Gingras	<a href="mailto:RearCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org">RearCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org</a>
Treasurer Doyle Skeels	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@PortsmouthYC.org">Treasurer@PortsmouthYC.org</a>
Secretary Beth Fraser	<a href="mailto:Secretary@PortsmouthYC.org">Secretary@PortsmouthYC.org</a>
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Steward Maddie Flagg	<a href="mailto:Steward@PortsmouthYC.org">Steward@PortsmouthYC.org</a>
Dock Master Wyatt Parsons	<a href="mailto:DockMaster@PortsmouthYC.org">DockMaster@PortsmouthYC.org</a>



## From the Vice Commodore | Soni Christensen

The 2023 Club Season is almost over!

This has been an amazing year for Member sponsored events. The talent and commitment to excellence has been unsurpassed. It has been a very, very special year and I thank all our hosts and their teams.

We still have the month of September to experience some great parties. Don't miss the annual Mexican night sponsored by the Coffey's on Friday Sept. 1, and then there is not another event until the Past Commodores Cocktail party on Sunday Sept. 17. This party is sponsored by Jackie Adams & Elaine Perry. This is an opportunity to thank all your Past Commodores.

The next event is the German Night sponsored by Fran & Ed Mallon on Wednesday Sept. 27. Don't miss this. The food is excellent, and last year over one hundred members attended.

The Commodore's Chowder is on Saturday Sept. 30, sponsored by our Commodore Roger and Earledean Wells. No Charge, but please sign up so that we know how much Chowdah to have!

The Grand Finale party of the year is our Roaring Twenties celebration on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023. NOTE THE DATE CHANGE. We are planning a super fun party to celebrate what a great year we have had.

There are very few events remaining this season, so please sign up right away. The sign up sheets are in the book.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve this amazing club.

Soni Christensen, [ViceCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org](mailto:ViceCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org)



### SHIPS CHANDLERY

Welcome to the Ships Chandlery as August is proving to be a great month. I was asked to create some memorabilia for our 125th Anniversary. The commemorative charm is finished with a silver or gold accent and trim. The pendants are \$25.00. The bracelet, made to fit, in silver or gold is \$40.00.

Please consider the charm may be added to your key chain, luggage tag, or even a pull up zipper on your favorite jacket !!

We have Oxford shirts in pale blue or white.

Large burgees and smaller belts are in !!

Please remember to support the Ships Store by volunteering as we wind down, and of course, 'buying' is a word that sails well !!

Special orders have now stopped. Any ideas for what you want to see next season? Ordering starts soon . ⚓

Paulette Semprini





## From the Rear Commodore | Dan Gingras

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It's been a relatively quiet month so far... probably because I'm on the club cruise ☺

Our capable General Manager Maddie is holding down the fort, making me wonder how she does it all. As all of you know, the middle to end of August is challenging for our staffing levels because many of our staff goes back to school. Finding licensed launch personnel is difficult enough, but once school season starts it becomes almost impossible, yet we've been able to find at least three licensed replacements. In

addition we have run a launch class at PYC, not only for ourselves but also for anyone who wants to get their USCG launch license. In addition to holding the license, staff must take a pre-employment drug test (USCG requirement) and be subject to random drug tests.

Most everything seems to be working well. David Wajda and Mike Coffey have started repairing the shed. This work needs to be finished before winter. We've added cement blocks pinned to the concrete deck with rebar and filled with concrete, so hopefully this won't happen again. There are a few projects that need to be done including replacing the faucets in the men's room. I'm donating a new set of faucets which I hope to get installed when we get back from our cruise.

I hate to mention it again, but please insure that the club is clean, dishes done, everything turned off and the clubhouse LOCKED!! A couple of times the club has been left unlocked and it opens us up to both theft and vandalism. I try not to embarrass people by mentioning it to them the first time but we have cameras and we usually can tell who's responsible. Don't let it be you.

The launch naming contest yielded a surprising response with about half the membership participating. As I write this, we're picking the final names, and by the time you read this it should be finished and you probably will already know the results. It was fun, thank you all who participated.

I want to thank Chris Weller for all the work she does keeping everyone informed. I've come to appreciate that it's a crucial function which saves the club thousands of dollars in postage, printing and labor.

Again, any suggestions, comments or complaints are welcome.

Dan Gingras, Rear Commodore [RearCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org](mailto:RearCommodore@PortsmouthYC.org)

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*RC Gingras on Lionheart*

## MEXICAN DINNER

Catered by Las Olas Taquería

Friday, September 1 | \$25 pp

Hosted by Mike & Anne Coffey and Crew  
6 PM BYOB Cocktails | 7 PM Dinner

Margaritas

Guacamole Bar w/ Mix-ins,

Assorted Burritos,

Taco Bar with Chicken & Steak

Ice Cream for Dessert

SIGN UP / CANCELLATION DEADLINE:

Thursday, Aug 24

## PAST COMMODORES COCKTAIL PARTY

5 PM TO 7 PM, SUNDAY, SEPT 17, 2023

Hosted by Jackie Adams, Elaine Perry, and Crew

\$35 per person | Limit 75 attendees

Sumptuous Appetizers,  
Cocktails and Wine!

Sign Up / Cancellation Deadline:  
Sunday, Sept. 10

DRESS: Cocktail Party Attire

## ANNUAL LOBSTER BAKE

Hosted by Andy Courteau, Mike Coffey, and Crew

Fri, Sept. 22 | \$ Market Price

6:00 BYOB Cocktails | 7:00 Dinner

Twin Lobsters; Veggie Bundle;  
Clam Chowder; Baked Beans

Dessert

Sign up / Cancellation Deadline:

Tuesday, September 19

Sign up for events in the  
Sign-Up Book in the club  
or email Maddie at  
[STEWART@PORTSMOUTH.CY.C](mailto:STEWART@PORTSMOUTH.CY.C)

Please Note the  
"Sign Up / Cancellation" Deadline  
for each event

Check the club calendar  
[portsmouthcy.org/calendar](http://portsmouthcy.org/calendar)  
for up-to-date information

## GERMAN DINNER

Wed, Sept 27 | \$ 25 pp | Limit 90 guests

Hosted by Ed & Fran Mallon and Crew

6 PM Appetizers:

German Bier (plus BYOB)

Bratwurst w/Beer Cheese Dip

Pretzel Bites with Honey Mustard

7 PM Dinner:

Pork Chop with gravy; Caramelized Onions

Mashed Potatoes; Red Cabbage

Spätzle Salad; Apple Sauce

Dessert:

German Cherry Cake

Sign up / Cancellation Deadline: Fri, Sept 22

## COMMODORE'S CHOWDER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 | 12:00 - 1:00

Hosted by Commodore Roger & Earle Dean Wells

Come enjoy some Chowder as a  
"thank-you" for another great PYC season!

No Charge, but please sign up so that we  
know how much Chowdah to have!

Sign up by Wednesday, September 27

## SAVE THE DATE !

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

GRAND FINALE!

DETAILS TO COME!

## SAILING MISTRAL

*Update from Carl and Betsy Stevens*

We made it across the Atlantic! Most of the way from the Azores to Gibraltar was excellent downwind sailing. We were caught in a bit of a blow in the Portuguese trade winds, fortunately it didn't last too long. During the last night, as we were coming into the straits of Gibraltar, our rudder was struck by an orca! Seriously! It turns out that nearly every sailboat that passes through the particular area we did is visited by the orcas. They've even started visiting boats well into the Med. Fortunately, we were only hit hard once. Our autohelm was ripped off the rudder, so we had to spend a few days finding a machinist who could do some repairs. Our foray into the Mediterranean has been mixed. It was sweltering hot initially, and it's very busy everywhere. We are currently resting at anchor on the southern coast of Sardinia in a magical harbor with crystal clear water and no development on land. It's beautiful. Next stop, Tunisia!

*You can follow our journey at*

<https://forecast.PredictWind.com/tracking/display/SV-Mistral/>

*Visit our YouTube channel at*

<http://www.YouTube.com/channel/UCSs5FOQKwK3C-7LArkl2UKw>





## PORTLAND YACHT CLUB MONHEGAN ISLAND RACE *PORTSMOUTH YACHT CLUB BOAT WINS FIRST IN CLASS!*

PYC member Bud Myles's *S/V VELADARE* won first in class in the prestigious Portland Yacht Club Monhegan Island Race! Bud sailed with a top local crew, including daughter (and former PYC staff member) Camden Myles and PYC member Chris Lara.



The Mohegan Island Race is an approximately 141NM course starting in Hussey Sound then turning south to round Boon Island off the coast of York, Maine; then northeast towards Mohegan Island, rounding C"1" Duck Rock Lighted Bell, followed by the finish at Portland Head Light near the entrance to Portland Harbor.



Monhegan Race Start 2023  
@Ann-c