

2015 Portland Yacht Club Historical Summary

House & Grounds

- The floor of the Great Room was stripped and refinished with a new Compass Rose painted on it. The Men's room was renovated and a new walk-in cooler was installed in the kitchen.
- During the year it was discovered that several Monhegan and Junior trophies were missing as a result of theft over a period of time.

Tim Tolford took on the daunting responsibility of determining which trophies were missing and reconstructing all of the information that had been on them for replacements. Much of the replacement expense was covered by insurance. Subsequently, a \$150,000 floater was added to our insurance program insuring that most of our valued trophies, half hulls, models and other memorabilia were covered for any loss or damage.

Racing

- The J-24 Fleet 43 and PYC were selected to host the J-24 North American Championships which is an international event to be held in mid-September. This is the second largest J-24 Regatta with only the World Championships being larger. Word went out in January looking for hosts to assist in housing crews, judges, etc. Primary need is for a place to sleep and shower.

The event went off without a hitch much to credit of many PYC volunteers (too many to mention without leaving someone out). However special credit should go to Molly White who Chaired the Committee that pulled this all together.

Membership

- Rodd Collins, House & Grounds Chair and a Certified Marine Electrician had an article published in Practical Sailor on marine electronics.
- New Members: Jess Harris, Mike & Erin Whipple, Robert and Karyn Garafolo, Ken and Emily Blaschke, Joseph James & Lisa Howell, Andy and Joanna Pease, Mark and Margaret Donahue, Harry and Jill Hepburn, Richard McCaffery, and Jeffrey and Dominique Sommer were welcomed as new members. Many of them were at the New Members Reception on April 29th. This event is always held close to the Club's founding anniversary of 4/26/1869. They were introduced to Board members and provided with a brief oral history of the Club, as well as standard operating practices and procedures.
- Former Junior sailors Chris Poole and Charlie Lalumiere qualified for the Flicker Cup hosted by the Long Beach Yacht Club in CA. As a team they have been making quite a name for themselves in the national racing circuit.
- Members now receive a discount at Hamilton Marine and Southern Maine Marine
- Marston Gregg on "Ti" with a crew Peter Stoops, Chase & Jack Gregg, John O'Mears and Andy Howe took the Overall Win and Founders Trophy in the 2015 Marion-Bermuda Race.
- The First Annual Blessing of the Fleet was held on July 5th
- Ann Blanchard who does wonderful photography for PYC was invited to be the Official Photographer for Tall Ships Maine documenting the experiences of Maine youth who won scholarships to spend 1-2 weeks sailing on some of the tall ships.

Dining Room

- Shawn Lewis, PYC Dining Room Chef offered a "Take-Home" 4 course Valentines dinner for two to be picked up on Saturday 2/14.
- Shawn also prepared pies to order for Thanksgiving

- The Dining Room had an exceptional year with both revenue and volume at record levels.

Entertainment

- A new Happy Hour event will be held the last Friday of each month at least during the winter to allow members to get together with friends they may not see until the spring otherwise. It is a BYOB affair from 1700hrs-1900 hrs with light snacks provided. The idea originated on North Haven Island as an alternative to simply watching who got off the ferry which was about the only entertainment on the island in the dead of winter.
- The Annual Chili Cook-Off and Chowder night was held on February 7th.
- Another added opportunity to gather with PYC Members was a Sugarloaf Meet-Up for those that ski or simply want to enjoy some winter activities. The schedule included several opportunities to gather at local pubs and eateries for refreshments and/or meals.
- The annual Commodore's Dock Cocktail Party was held on June 26th with well over 100 members in attendance. The evening included a band, fabulous appetizers (enough for dinner) and a visit by the Schooner Bowdoin. The Bowdoin's crew gave wonderful tours of the ship with detailed information.
- The Thursday Coffee Klatch continued with regular attendance of 4-8 "gentlemen" swapping stories and lies over coffee and Munchkins. Thanks to Chuck Sanders for coordinating this weekly event.

Junior Yacht Club

- PJYC continued its legacy with past members competing at the inter-collegiate level including Charlie Lalumier, (Dartmouth '17)) Julia Lambert (Stanford '18), and Anna Morin (US Coast Guard Academy '19)
- A second J-24 was added to the fleet. This provided for two new programs; adventure sailing for juniors and evening adult sailing lessons
- Emily Egan was hired as the new Junior Program Director

Management

- Bob Putnam, Waterfront Manager for the past 7 years has decided to move on. Waterfront Officer Skip Yale praised Bob's work and dedication to PYC over the years. He will leave on June 30th staying until then to assist with getting the waterfront in tip-top shape for the upcoming season.
- Bill Richards, retired PYC Manager continued to assist new Manager John Redmond in his transition introduction to PYC
- Gibson Smith was hired part way into the Commissioned season as Waterfront Director replacing Bob Putnam. Gibson has a very broad marine background from owning a marine maintenance and refit business to crewing on yachts up to 200 feet with duties including Captain, First mate and Engineer.

Cruise

- The annual 2 week Cruise was held in mid-July. The plans include three scheduled rendezvous with the opportunity to explore and gather with others along the way Downeast.
- Several other shorter cruise opportunities were held throughout the summer.

Heritage Committee

- A summary PYC's Racing History was completed by the joint efforts of Tim Tolford and Geoff Emmanuel. This is the final piece to capture the history of many activities of PYC since its founding in 1869. This combined with these Annual Reviews provides an thorough and on-going history of Portland Yacht Club for future generations.

Necrology

- Vincent McKusick
- John Larsson
- Thomas Maynes
- Fred Durst
- Jane Moody
- Sandy Dunbar
- Bettsanne Holmes
- Tom Crotty
- Don Ryan
- Dody Ryan

Respectfully Submitted,

Philips Sargent, PC
Club Historian & Heritage Committee Chair