

2014 Portland Yacht Club Historical Summary

House & Grounds

- Current plans include an overhaul to the hall leading to the 1st floor restrooms, curtains for the Trophy/Chart Room, a French door for the Trophy/Chart Room to provide some privacy for meetings or private dining, a new mahogany door for the parking lot entrance to better match the front door which was rescued and brought to the Joslin property by Hal Moor, all those many years ago.
- Glass racks will be added to the bar to allow for the addition of a public health required second sink. Minor improvements will be made to both mens and ladies restrooms and repairs to the deteriorating stairs to the Junior Yacht Club deck.
- In early March, the work on the halls to the restrooms began in earnest. During the removal and destruction phase, two interesting discoveries were made:
 - A series of air duct work that apparently led from nowhere to nowhere. It will be removed.
 - Electric wiring that was not connected to anything but the power supply. It will be traced back and properly eliminated
- While not an official PYC effort, 17 acres of the east end of Clapboard Island has been purchased and will remain wild free with the maine Coast Heritage Trust as the caretaker. Many PYC members were instrumental in raising funds and knowledge of this effort. Access is from three different beaches by dinghy or small boats only. Susan Gilpin should be recognized for unrelenting efforts to see this accomplished.
- During one busy regatta weekend several cars without PYC parking permits were identified. In addition there were several members with two vehicles parked at the club. Upcoming retirement or softening of his heart kept Manager Bill Richards from having the offenders towed away. However, I feel his “benign benevolence” may have been exhausted in this instance so beware in the future.
- Late in the season PYC was the victim of a significant theft. Four sterling silver trophies were stolen (including Mohegan trophies dating back to the 1920's). A suspect has been identified and the case is now in the hands of the District Attorney. One trophy was recovered. We have some insurance coverage. It is hoped that we will be able to duplicate the lost trophies based on pictures and other historical records.

Waterfront

- Floats and launches were in earlier than usual despite a winter that seemed like it would never end. Cold damp weather was the norm for much of April and May. Even in mid June many boatyards have boats with shrink wrap still on them.
- Excellent season with great launch attendants and smooth operation under Manager Bob Putnam

Racing

- The weekly series started on schedule with Etchells on Tuesday, J-24s on Wednesday and the every popular Open Class on Thursday.
- Thanks to a donation from the local J-24 Fleet the Lindsey Lord now has wind instruments that will be a big help in setting courses.

- The Monhegan Race was held on July 12 with a one way race to Camden. Twenty one boats were in the Fleet. Winds were fair and good times were had by all with the pre and post race parties. Member Scott Smithwick took Monhegan B honors in his Frers 41 *Kaos*.
- Jeff Smith in his J-24 Second Chance won the State of Maine Trophy as the first Maine boat to finish in the J-24 Downeast Regatta held at PYC. Boats came from as far away as Florida. Also in an effort to reduce waste attendees were given plastic cups and asked to create a unique identifying mark on them and use them for the weekend thereby reducing the plastic waste stream. Kudos to Molly White for this idea.
- J-24 World Championships-Newport, RI
 - Member Carter White skippered Sea Bags along with member crew of Molly White, Mark Klein and friends Jeff Linton and Ben McAndrew in the J-24 World Championships in Newport, RI against 69 other boats from around the world. They finished 15th overall in a series of 10 races that included one first place finish.
 - Also competing was Andrew Carey and his crew of Stephanie Helms, Charlotte Kincaid, Erica Beck Spencer and Maine Stae Champion, Jeff Smith on Mr. Hanky. They learned of their qualification only two weeks before the event. The crew acknowledges learning a lot and are proud to have represented PYC finishing in the middle of the pack at 45th.
- The traditional Fall Series was completed with 4 races. Good wind on three of them and a “gear buster” on one. Scott Smithwick won the series in Kaos, a Frers 41, followed by Go Do Go, David Ruff's Beneteau 36.6 and Tamarack, Bob Kellog's Farr 43.

Membership

- Member Anne Blanchard's photography was featured in an issue of *Maine Boats and Harbors*. Her photography captures the essence of sailing, people working and having fun on the water and changing weather patterns. In the same issue Briggs, an Irish Water Spaniel owned by Ryan and Michelle Raber also earned some ink for not wanting to wait for transport to their C & C 34. After launching herself into the water, it was a mad scramble to retrieve her before the launch arrived.
- John Lambert and Kim Caldwell's daughter Deidre was named Quantum Womens Sailor of the Year for the second year in a row. She is attending Dartmouth College. She and her crew won the Sperry Topsiders Division A Nationals with a 41 point margin ahead of the second place finisher.
- Member Dorothy Holt coached the Yarmouth High Girls lacrosse Team to a State Championship.
- Todd, Charley and Matt Lalumiere competed in the Etchells World Championships in Newport, RI. They were one of three father son teams. Todd is the reigning Maine Etchells Champion. Also competing was new member Ralph Carpenter.
- Board member Tim Tolford had a featured article published in Points East magazine with pictures taken by member Ann Blanchard

Dining Room

- The traditional Mother's Day and Easter Brunches were held on the appropriate day
- Cannonball and Commissioning saw a record 170 members and guests in attendance.
- Again the dining was enjoyed by all under the expert preparation of Chef Shaun Lewis

Education

- In March in cooperation with the local Hunter Assoc. a seminar was held on Marine Electronics with a focus on their use in safe boating.
- The Women's Sailing program was held in June with three sessions. The first two for beginners and the third for intermediates. Sailing was done in J-24's.

Entertainment

- The Annual Chili/Chowdah night was held in February with a new twist where members brought their own "secret" recipes to be tasted and judged. Winners included Joe Orlando, Mary Ann McLean, Susan Gilpin and Cory Goodrich.
- A Winter Dinner and Wine Pairing is scheduled for later in March
- Weekly morning coffee continues on Weds and Game night on Thursday evenings
- Commodore's Dock Cocktail Party is scheduled for June 20 rain (inside) or shine (on the dock). It was a huge success with hundreds in attendance and boats lining the dock with additional appetizers on board.

Cruising

- A star gazing night is planned in March-hopefully with clear skies
- Current Cruise plans include a Shakedown Cruise on June 14/15 with a gathering at Dolphin Marina and the annual two week cruise is scheduled for July 12-27. In addition a southern cruise to Cape Cod and the islands is planned for early June
- Family mini-cruises are planned for July 26/27, August 9/10 (Sebasco) and Aug 30-Sept 1
- The Annual Cruise Pot Roast and Planning Dinner was held in April 5th.
- In addition to our own cruising events, PYC was host to three other yacht clubs during their downeast cruises. They included Beverly YC of Marion, MA, Corinthian YC of Marblehead, MA and Red Brook YC of Pocasset, MA.

Junior Yacht Club

- In early July a Junior Activities week was planned. Several events took place with Junior Yacht Club members getting experience racing on larger boats with host skippers. On Monday they began with a cookout and dinghy racing. Tuesday brought racing with the Etchells Class. Wednesday's J-24 Class was canceled due to weather. The Schooner Trophy race was held on Saturday with several Juniors getting experience in heavy winds with gusts over 30 knots.
- PYC Juniors held their own in the Junior National Olympics held in late July. Again weather cancelled one day of racing, but was followed by a medium breeze and choppy seas. In the 420's Audrey Morin and Sandy Heeilshorn posted a bullet in the 4th race and finished 2nd overall. Two other teams (Grace Mooradian/Ava Haag & Ben Palmer/Eric Heilshorn) also finished.
In the Opti Class, Hayden Van Alstine took 2nd overall. James Brodeur was second in the age 11-12 Blue Fleet and Gavin Sandborn won the age 8-10 White Fleet. Quite a showing from our PJYC members.
- Harraseeket Yacht Club hosted an Opti Regatta where PYJC members took 7 of the top 10 places. PJYC members included Ben Rooks (1st), Spencer Barton (2nd), Sandy Yale (3rd) along with Sofia Cook and Sam Whipple.

Managment

- Early in the year, Manager Bill Richards announced his plans to retire by the end of 2014. A search committee chaired by Vice Commodore Dave Robinson included P/C Chuck Sanders, Vice Commodore Bill Newberry, Ian McClean, Steve Whipple, Jeff Thomas and Kristin Moroney. After refining and developing a comprehensive job description and required prerequisites, they began to review resumes and interview prospective candidates. In October they hired John Redmond who comes to PYC with a wealth of experience in hospitality, vessel and marine facilities management, construction and owner of three small businesses. John started on Nov. 13.

Bill will remain for two weeks to help with the transition. Bill was feted for his years of contributions at the Decommissioning Ceremony earlier in October and presented an original watercolor of the waterfront painted by member David Clough.

Necrology

- The following members Crossed the Bar during 2014:

Peter Bramhall
Dorothy Dobson
Sharon Dunlap
Cindy Fillman
Henry Hilliard Jr.
Malcolm Lloyd
Anne Macleod
Suzy Martin
Edward "Ned" Perry
Richard Rockefeller
Tony Silva

Respectfully Submitted,

Phillips Sargen, PC
Club Historian & Heritage Committee Chair