



## *Private Ear*

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PRIVATEER YACHT CLUB  
Lake Chickamauga Chattanooga, TN  
**February 2022**



Cory Richardson, Editor  
[NewsletterEditor@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:NewsletterEditor@privateeryachtclub.org)

### **View from The Helm February 2022**

I write this “View” with increasing anticipation for the upcoming spring season. Being a Yankee by birth, I’m grateful for our moderate local weather, as well as the water and facilities that allow for sailing all year round. If you haven’t enjoyed any of the keelboat or dinghy Frostbite Series racing this winter, it is time to get your boat ready for the St. Patrick’s Day Regatta on Saturday, March 19. With the easing of Covid-19 protocols, our racing and dinner are expected to provide a more relaxed start to a great new sailing season.

At the last board meeting, we voted to significantly update our Internet presence/usage with the Clubspot management software suite, which was developed by

sailors for sailing clubs. The complete implementation will take several months, but every effort is being made to have the quarterly billing and regatta management functions operational within the next couple of weeks. The webpage offered with the package uses current Internet standards and protections, while making it significantly more accessible and friendly for users and managers. A webpage can be

## View from the Helm

only as good as its webmaster (s), and I hope that one of our many IT-savvy members is willing and able to assist by working with the Clubspot onboarding team. If you are interested, please contact me so I can get you connected.

An overview of features of the new software can be found at: <https://theclubspot.com>

Orenda Gregory and Rob Fowler have organized an aggressive “Spring Cleaning” for Saturday, March 5. I encourage all able-bodied members to join us for breakfast at 7:30, followed by several hours of labor, the fruits of which will be enjoyed by everyone. Orenda has arranged to have a leaf-suction truck on site late in the morning, so bring your own leaf blowers, as we’ll need a small army to get leaves onto the roadways from the ditches, nooks and crannies.

Plan to join us at the club this month for March winds, camaraderie and green beer!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 PYC Spring Ceanning
6 2PM Frostbite	7	8	9	10	11	12 PRO Training 9AM
13 2PM Dinghy Frostbite	14	15	16	17	18	19 ST Pat's Reggatta 9AM
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

# April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Choo Choo Regatta	22 Choo Choo Regatta	23 Choo Choo Regatta
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

# Voyage

The slap of the main halyard against the mast is reassuring, bringing my attention to the landmark ahead. This morning, there aren't many boats on the lake as mine cuts through the peaks and troughs of gentle swells, parting the blue water.

The wind and water, creaks and snaps are sounds most people never hear, absent an engine's sound, vibration, smells, and noise. In higher winds, the shrouds stretched from main deck to mast top, hum like the low tuned strings of a cello. At those times, the tiller needs a master's hand to true the course using nature's power.

In life, you need all your senses to read the currents, gusts, and tilt of the deck encountered even ashore. I maintain an indulgent pity for those who keep the wind to their backs, lines slack, never taking up the heady challenge, never to see how far into the wind they can take things, never learning to triumph over nerves stretched tight.

I learned those skills under my father's watchful eyes. The first time he allowed me to take the tiller is a magnificent, cherished memory of one so small in control of five tons of well-crafted wood, rope, and fabric. Archimedes keeps her afloat. For a twelve-year-old, to hear an old salt say 'all land is a navigational hazard' brings up thoughts of Treasure Island, Moby Dick, and Joshua Slocum's single-handed sail around the globe.

I'm seventy years past being that boy, one who was on the cusp of learning to grasp life with both hands, venturing, leaving sheltered coves. Just now, it strikes me as odd I've never stopped to consider how many times I've stepped aboard, cast off mooring lines to renew my freeing friendship with wind and water.

On my return, when dock lines are tied, it will be the last time I step across.

**Marc Neuffer**

# PYC to Upgrade Club Management Software

For many years, PYC has been using, what is now, an outdated software package to manage club activities through the current website. The website software is written in an old computer language and which is difficult to use and to support. In summary, it obsolete.

On February 7, 2022, the PYC Board of Directors reviewed Clubspot, a software package specifically designed for sailing club management. The platform is user friendly and has all the features necessary to help us manage PYC. The platform has one interface to manage membership data, boat data and slip assignments, quarterly billing and payments, socials, regattas/racing, website design/content and sailing camps and classes. As Clubspot's management says "Clubspot is a single, modern software platform that facilitates sailing club operations management. Before Clubspot, private clubs relied on a patchwork of clunky, outdated systems to manage their operations. That meant more cost, administrative headaches and poor user experience. The Clubspot Team has fixed that problem and now over 800 clubs world wide use Clubspot software platform."

At the February 14th PYC Board meeting, the Board discussed the Clubspot demonstration and the very positive and favorable feedback from the Treasurer of Beula Yacht Club in Wisconsin, a club with approximately 180 members, similar in size to PYC. After considerable discussion a motion was made to acquire and implement Clubspot at PYC. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote of the Board. An implementation team has been created and the process to migrate to Clubspot is well underway.

Some key features of Clubspot include:

## **Website Creation and Management:**

- Pre-built templates to allow PYC to easily design a beautiful new website
- Drop and drag features to allow PYC to build the website without writing any computer code

## **Membership:**

- Clubspot uses a comprehensive member database which includes member information as well as information on member boats (brand, model, year, length, beam, draft, insurance carrier and slip assignment.)
- The database is easily searched using different search criteria including on member name or member number. The database can be quickly and easily updated as new member or boat information is available.

## **Automated Billing:**

- Clubspot software platform allows for automated billing. Quarterly statements for dues and slip fees are sent out to members via email and payment is accepted through an e-check, similar to on-line payments for home utilities. This process reduces paper and postage costs.
- Club members can also pay for socials on-line through Clubspot.

# **PYC to Upgrade Club Management Software Continued...**

## **Integration with Quick Books Financials:**

- Most importantly, Clubspot interfaces with QuickBooks On-Line, the financial and accounting system PYC's Treasurer uses to manage all club financials.

## **Bookings and Reservations:**

- With Clubspot, PYC members can RSVP to a club social event or reserve a club boat through the website with "the click of button."

## **Regattas:**

- Clubspot helps manage regattas by allowing the Regatta Chair to easily design and post race events.
- Race participants can register and pay registration fees, etc. on-line.
- Clubspot allows for online scoring of one-design, PHRF, IRC, Portsmouth, Pursuit and Club Series races.
- Racing scores and results are easily accessible on-line to racers.

## **Camps/Classes:**

- Camps announcements can be easily designed and posted on the website.
- Clubspot permits easy on-line registrations, payments and waivers which are specifically designed for camps and junior programs.
- The software allows the use of discounts, coupons and custom pricing rules to offer the right price for each camp, class and session.



# The Argentina Social



# The Argentina Social





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# St. Patrick's Day

## Regatta • Rob Fowler's Burning In

**TWO FLEETS: A & B, PHRF RATINGS KEELBOATS ONLY (SPINNAKER OR NON-SPINNAKER)**

\$10/BOAT REGISTRATION

\$12/SOCIAL

Come have a fun day of Racing,

Stay for Drinks/Dinner

Celebrate and show Rob your Appreciation!

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2022**

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

12:00 PM (NOON)

1:00 PM

SOCIAL:

DINNER:

REGISTRATION

SKIPPER'S MEETING

RACE STARTS (2 FLEETS, 2 STARTS)

6:00

7:00



**\*\* R.S.V.P. with Tina Campbell ([tinac@caengrs.com](mailto:tinac@caengrs.com)) by Wednesday, March 16th.**

**Contact Frank Hughes: [frank.hughes@smartbank.com](mailto:frank.hughes@smartbank.com)(423.593.3500) for more information.**

# **Your sailing club needs your help!**

Mark your calendar now for our annual  
PYC “Spring Cleaning” Party on  
March 5th!

All members are encouraged to attend!

Work parties are a great way to get to know  
other members!

**7:30 AM - Continental Breakfast**

**8:00 AM - Work Party Starts**

A complete list of jobs will be sent out via email  
and posted in the clubhouse prior to March 5th!

If you cannot attend on March 5th, you'll have  
an opportunity to pick your own day & time  
to work prior to March 5th!

If you have questions, call or text:  
**Orenda Gregory 706-264-3134**  
(Inclement weather date: March 12th)

# **SPRING 2022 ADULT LEARN TO SAIL COURSE**

Dates for the five-week Spring 2022 courses are:  
Saturdays April 23 & 30, May 7, 14, & 21  
or Sundays April 24, May 1, 8, 15, & 22

Classes are from 9am until noon  
Price \$500

For more information, contact **Tim Chambers**  
**Email: [tim@psef.us](mailto:tim@psef.us)**  
**423-718-3704**



## **Friendly Reminder:**

Don't forget to pay your cost when attending Socials/Events. There is a great amount of effort to make sure there is enough food and drinks for everyone that makes reservations. There has been a numerous amount of folks that have failed to pay at the door. If there is nobody sitting at the door upon arrival, please an attempt to go back to the table when there is someone there.

Thank you for your cooperation



# PONTOON BOAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

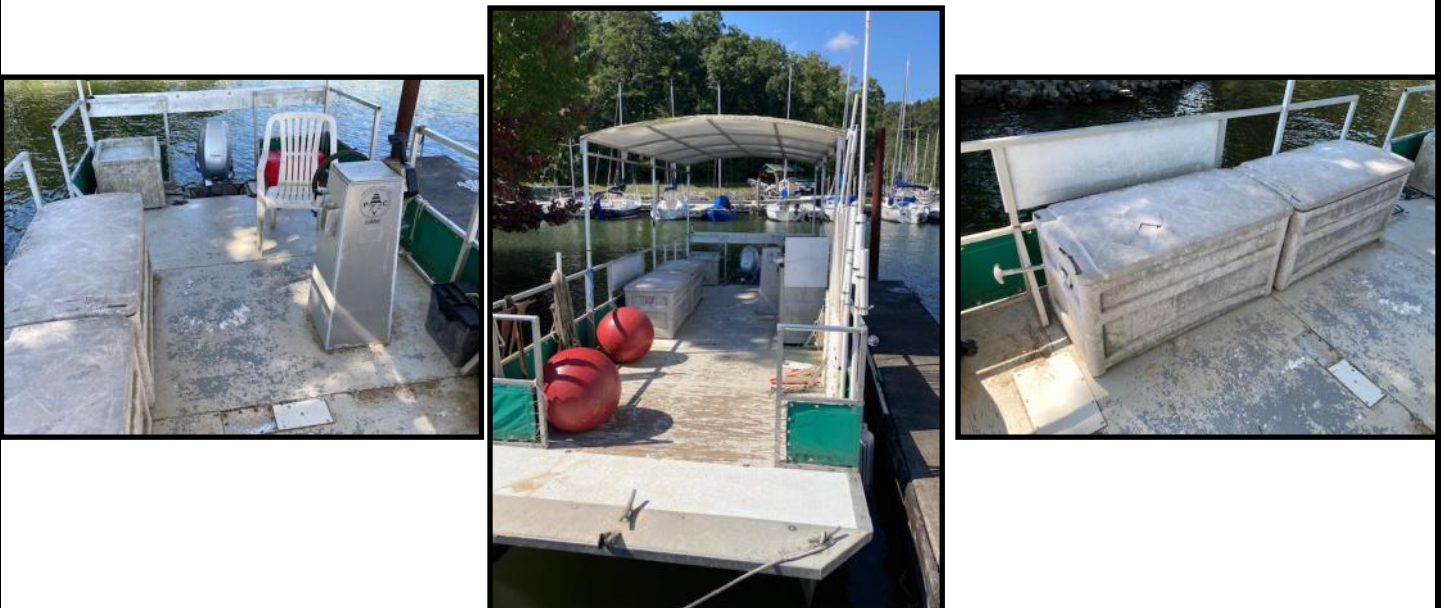
Anyone who served on Race Committee over the past couple of years should have noticed the deterioration of the pontoon boat, especially the rotted deck.

Over the past several months there has been an ongoing project to *Make the Pontoon Great Again*. It was completely dismantled over the winter so that we could *Build it Back Better* than it was before.

Here are some highlights:

1. New decking, epoxy coated, painted, with nonskid
2. Navigation Lights are now functional
3. Hull cracks were repaired
4. The green sunbrella skirts were cleaned & repaired
5. Yellow trim was added to the canopy for improved visibility
6. Mooring cleats were added to port side for tying the boat to the dock properly - no more using to the handrail
7. Several new storage boxes
8. New captain's chair, high enough so that you can sit, drive, and see where you are going.
9. new chairs for RC helpers, and we added some cup holders.

## BEFORE

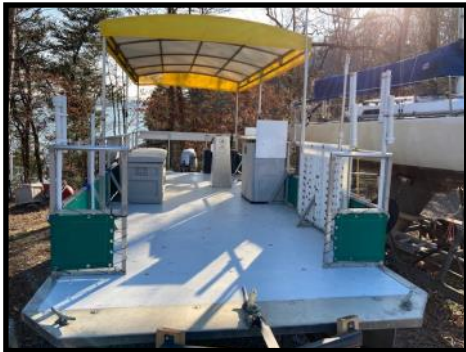


# PONTOON BOAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CONTINUED...

## DURING



## AFTER



## **How to request or change Wet and Dry Slip Assignments**

Everything starts with the Wet and Dry Slip application. If you are interested in obtaining a slip or changing slips, please fill out an application form. Forms are located in the club Boardroom in the Dock Master folder or it can be found on the PYC website. Once filled out with the requested slip information, the form can be left in the folder in the same Dock Master folder or emailed to the Dock Master. For the quickest results, email is best.

If the requested slip is unavailable, the request can be placed on the waiting list. If more than one member is requesting the same slip, the order of application receipt by the Dock Master will determine the assignment (which is why email is the best communication method).

In summary: if changes are desired, submit the Wet and Dry Slip application to be placed on the waiting list to secure your spot when the opportunity arises.

The current slip assignments and waiting list are posted on the bulletin board outside across from the playground

**-Kevin Gersch**

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**-Kevin Gercsh**

# PYC RACING

## FROSTBITE 2021-22

**Format:** Time-on-distance Pursuit

### Courses:

- Selected from 15 pre-defined courses using navigation markers
- Posted on PYC bulletin board on race day at 13:00, with starting times for each boat's PYC PHRF rating (posted on bulletin board)
- Scratch boat will start at 14:00

### Rules:

- Pursuant to 2021-24 RRS and as modified for this series
- Race will be abandoned if no boat finishes within 2 hours after scratch boat's starting time

### Start and Finish:

- Line will be between PYC nun and green secondary channel mark approximately 100 yards south of PYC nun
- Each boat should remain in vicinity of finish line to note/record finish order of boat after their finish; order of finishes will be posted on sheet on clubhouse bar
- Be aware of shoal area SSE of green secondary channel marker

**Times:** Official time is the wall clock on the south wall of the clubhouse; this clock is synchronized to Internet time

**In Lieu of Fee:** Bring food to share and your own drink, as designated on the PYC calendar (and below); pizza will be provided by PYC at the last race on March 6, 2022; bring your own drink

**Swag:** 2021 Frostbite long-sleeve shirts with PYC logo will be offered for sale this year



# PYC RACING CONTINUED

## Race dates and Food Themes

<u>Date</u>	<u>Food Theme</u>
Dec 05, 2021	Casseroles
Dec 19, 2021	Finger Foods
Jan 01, 2022	Soups and Chili (Saturday Race)
Jan 16, 2022	Chili Dogs
Feb 06, 2022	Hamburgers
Feb 20, 2022	Church Lady Favorites
Mar 06, 2022	Pizza (paid by PYC)

## Winter Series for Dinghies

“Winter” sailing at PYC has been a misnomer for the past several years, so this year we will change that, having dinghy races on alternate weekends, opposite the Keelboat Series. Ed Buiel has committed to provide the race committee for races that will include the Junior Racing Team. The dinghy races will be set by choosing the best weekend weather day as predicted on Wednesday evening. (That idea might be worth considering for the keelboats as well.) The first dinghy race will be December 11 or 12, and the last will be March 19 or 20. Starting time will be 2:00. There will be two or three races, each about 30 minutes long, utilizing more laps with shorter legs to maximize boat handling skills.



## For Sale

**Catalina 22**—\$4,000 - '*Li'l Buoy Blue*' - Reconditioned fully race ready, with good sails and gear. **Walt Jenison 423 653-4091, Home 423-886-5655**

**Your AD Here!**  
**Email [Cory.pyc@gmail.com](mailto:Cory.pyc@gmail.com)**

**J-29**— \$10,000 — '*Maniac*' - 2 mains, 4 spinnakers, several genoas, and even a couple of small jibs, Navman instruments including depth/speed/wind, with 5 displays VHF, Stereo w/CD, Outboard motor, Autohelm, Built-in manual bilge pump, Solar battery charger, Relatively new (2017) battery, Large awning. Several scratches, dents, and other imperfections. **Tim Chambers 423-718-3704**

### **MARINE CLOTHING BELOW WHOLESALE**

**McLaughlin Boat Works** was the North American Distributor for Magic Marine Foul Weather gear and clothing. That relationship ended earlier this year and McLaughlin still has a large inventory which they are blowing out at 80% off to PYC members. A \$140 spray top can be had for under \$30. This is an opportunity to own the Cadillac of Marine Clothing at ridiculously low prices. See the catalog at [www.magicmarine.com/products](http://www.magicmarine.com/products) for the variety of items offered.  
**4737 Adams Road, Hixson, 1 (800) 784-6478**

**Optimist for sale—\$2000**  
**Don Hayes 423-304-8318**



Looking for a small sailboat with trailer, such as a '*Flying Junior*', etc. **Luke Padgett, 423-322-8904, [lepadgett@gmail.com](mailto:lepadgett@gmail.com)**

### **PRIVATEER YACHT CLUB SHIP'S STORE**

Go to this website: [https://stores.inksoft.com/privateer\\_yacht\\_club](https://stores.inksoft.com/privateer_yacht_club). Check back later for member discounts during promotional sales on all types of apparel and gear, even outside the range of customized pieces.

## **Privateer Yacht Club**

### **Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes**

Monday, February 14, 2022

**Attendees:** Tom Clark, Rob Fowler, Lynn Bruss, Tina Campbell, Kevin Gersch, Tim Chambers, Tina Marx, Orenda Gregory, Martin Gregory

**Guests:** Carl Dyer, Bill Jennings

**Tom Clark, Commodore**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm
- New Board members and guests were welcomed.
- A detailed discussion of the Clubspot software demo will follow.

**Martin Gregory, Secretary:**

- The minutes had been reviewed by the Board and corrections had been made. After a motion and a second, the minutes were adopted.

**Lynn Bruss, Membership Director:**

- Current membership
  - Family membership at 150, the current maximum
  - Associate membership at 30, the current maximum
  - Associate membership at 8...first time for associate membership waiting
- Bill and Sherrie Jennings, former members in good standing are reapplying for membership. Bill has extensive experience crewing Internationals, Y-Flyers, J22/24's. The Jennings' were very active in the late 90's through 2010. Their daughter is now attending college and Bill will be retiring in May.
- Amanda Key applied for Associate Member. She is formerly from the UK. Amanda will be at the upcoming St. Patrick's Day Social.

- Pete Gregory sent in an Associate Member application and check. He will be added to the waiting list.
- Crewing and socials are a good way for Associates to get to know club members.

**Tina Marx, Treasurer:**

- Upgraded Quick Books to Quick Books on-line.
- Cleaning up some Accounts Payable items that were questionable.
- Would like to offer online payment available through Clubspot Q2.

**Kevin Gersch, Dock Master:**

- Wet slips - 9 available
- Dry slips – 5 available in south Cove
- Lester Stern's FS is temporarily stored in Lynn Bruss's south cove slip
- Matt Lyle's Hunter 30 will be moved by the end of February
- Have dry slip signs. Will install during the 03.05.22 work party
- Also have 9-10 property line slips. Will also install them during the 03.05.22 work party.

**Orenda Gregory, Rear Commodore – Buildings and Grounds:**

- The convection oven is on order. The Treasurer is going to send the vendor a \$1200 deposit. Lead time is long, but the vendor is hoping for improvement.
- Have had several calls with Jani-King to discuss issues with the janitorial service.
  - Service was not provided for at least one week in December
  - No notification of service outage was provided to PYC
  - Will work with Jani-King on service and quality issues.
  - Recommend Jani-King service be done on Fridays during Sail Camp
- Grout and tile in the men's and women's restrooms need cleaning. Will obtain quotes for this special cleaning

- Club Cleanup March 5th...
  - A work party has been scheduled for Saturday, March 5 beginning with a continental breakfast at 7:30 am.
  - A project list, projects both inside and outside the clubhouse will be emailed to all members.
  - A sign up/off sheet will be in the clubhouse for members to log their work
  - Members may do projects prior to March 5th should they choose
  - Rob Fowler will be heading up a fallen tree firewood cleanup effort on March 5. Volunteers should bring chain saws and touch base with Rob.
  - Kevin Gersch will need volunteers March 5 to install dry slip signs and property line signs. Volunteers should touch base with Kevin.
- Ceiling leaks in the clubhouse lounge area are being addressed.
- A future projects list is being developed
- Club members who know of urgent needs for buildings and grounds can email Orenda at [orendagregory@gmail.com](mailto:orendagregory@gmail.com) with pertinent information.

**Tim Chambers – Director Club Boats:**

- Pontoon boat wiring will be completed by Wed, Feb 16
- Canvas is to be installed
- The overhauled pontoon boat will be ready by the first week of March, 2022.

**Tina Campbell – Social Director:**

- The Argentina Social is scheduled for 02.19.22
- The St. Patrick's Day Regatta and Social is scheduled for March 19, 2022.  
***Volunteers are needed.***
- The Chattanooga Choo Choo Flying Scot Regatta and Social, sponsored by the PYC Flying Scot fleet, is scheduled for April 22, 23 and 24. The Saturday night social will be "cook your own steak." There will be no



restrictions on the number of boats participating. Last year was limited to 25 due to Covid concerns. **Volunteer are needed.**

**Frank Hughes, Vice Commodore – Racing:**

- No report

**Rob Fowler, Past Commodore – PSEF:**

- 93 of the 156 Sail Camp slots have been filled so far. Registration two months ahead of last year.
- 6 individuals have registered for Adult Learn To Sail classes. There will be 2 classes in the spring and 2 classes in the summer.

**Old Business:**

- *GFI receptacles:* on “A” Dock will require new wiring and conduit for the GFI receptacles. Estimated cost \$3,000. The estimate to do the same upgrades to “B” and “C” docks is about \$1,500.
- *Kitchen Upgrades:* Orenda to contact Jan Varnell and discuss possibility of working with Steve Kolter on good used kitchen equipment. Ice maker ordered.
- *Main parking lot erosion:* Tom to contact Karl Humphreys about grading the lot during March.

**New Business:**

- *2022 Objectives:* Tom asked Board Members to bring their 2022 objectives to the next Board meeting.
- *Opti Dock Ramp:* Installation of a 16’-20’ ramp for the Opti dock was approved. Kevin to address the “hole” in the Opti dock.
- *Clubspot:* The Board participated in an online demonstration of the sailing club management software package known as Clubspot. Clubspot handles all aspects of sailing club management including website design and updates, membership database, calendar, booking and reservations for club events, regattas, online scoring, camps,

automated billing, on line payment, etc. Clubspot provides implementation help and online support after implementation. The proposed software will replace the old and difficult to use package that PYC has had for many years. A motion was made to move forward with the purchase/implementation of the Clubspot software for PYC. After a second and a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

- *Clubspot Implementation Team:* Tom Clark, Kevin Gersch, Tina Marx, Lynn Bruss, Martin Gregory and a representative from PESF will be responsible for the Clubspot software implementation.

**Adjournment:**

- Tom asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. After a second and voice vote, the meeting was adjourned.



### **Privateer Yacht Club**

was organized on July 25, 1940, in order to promote sailing in the Chickamauga Lake area and particularly in Chattanooga; to teach its members to talk the language of the sea and build up a marine tradition for "The Great Lakes of The South"; to help promote water safety and a code of ethics for the waterways; to form a social and activity nucleus for people in the area interested in sailing; and to develop an active relationship with other sailing and boating organizations to promote racing and other boating activities.

[www.privateeryachtclub.org](http://www.privateeryachtclub.org)  
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PRIVATE EAR is a monthly publication written by PYC Club Members, and compiled by: **Cory Richardson**

## **CONTACT YOUR BOARD MEMBERS**

Tom Clark, Commodore  
[Commodore@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:Commodore@privateeryachtclub.org)

Frank Hughes, Vice Commodore, Racing  
[RacingDirector@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:RacingDirector@privateeryachtclub.org)

Orenda Gregory, Rear Commodore,  
Buildings & Grounds  
Building-  
[Grounds@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:Grounds@privateeryachtclub.org)

Tina Marx, Treasurer  
[Treasurer@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:Treasurer@privateeryachtclub.org)

Martin Gregory, Secretary  
[Secretary@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:Secretary@privateeryachtclub.org)

Tina Campbell, Social Director  
[SocialDirector@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:SocialDirector@privateeryachtclub.org)

Kevin Gersch, Dockmaster  
[Dockmaster@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:Dockmaster@privateeryachtclub.org)

Tim Chambers, Club Boat Director  
[ClubBoatDirector@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:ClubBoatDirector@privateeryachtclub.org)

Lynn Bruss, Membership Director  
[MembershipDirector@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:MembershipDirector@privateeryachtclub.org)

Rob Fowler, Past Commodore  
[PastCommodore@privateeryachtclub.org](mailto:PastCommodore@privateeryachtclub.org)