



Private Ear

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



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View from The Helm January 2022

Once again, we began our new year with a successful Annual Meeting, thanks to a lot of planning and elbow grease by our wonderful volunteers, directed by Tina Campbell and Commodore Rob. Even though the cost was higher than our normal club socials, the decision to have the event catered gave our own wonderful cooks a welcome break and elevated the ambiance a bit for our special occasion. Covid-19 concerns are still on most of our minds, but the more open spacing made possible by slightly lower attendance, coupled with Zoom access, made for a safe and enjoyable meeting.

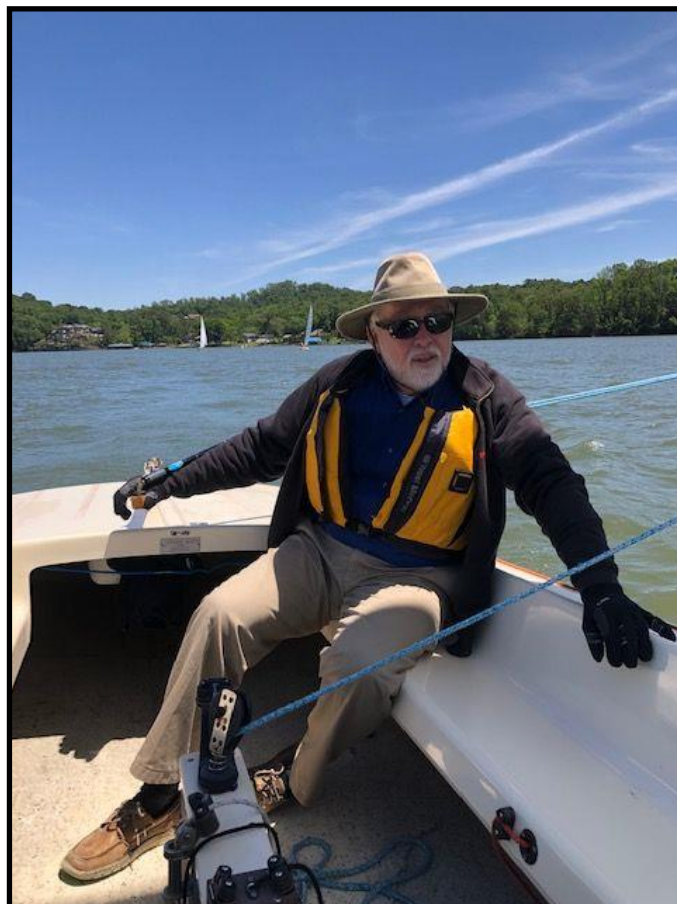
I feel fortunate that my favorite pastime has me outdoors and able to maintain reasonable social dis-

tancing without restricting my enjoyment. As the Omicron variant of Covid-19 continues to fade, I am feeling optimistic that sailing this year will return to pre-pandemic normal. I hope I haven't jinxed the scenario by saying that!

Fortunately, we are in a strong financial position, with no major projects planned for the grounds, so we can focus our efforts and resources on the clubhouse. Last year a plan was approved to upgrade the kitchen, and with a little luck, that project should be completed by mid-year. At the Annual Meeting, it again became apparent that we need to improve the acoustics and sound system in the open space so everyone can hear speakers as well as the others at our table. As a hearing aid wearer, I am looking forward to getting started on this project.

View from the Helm

Racing has continued into the winter with the Frostbite Series, now expanded to include dinghies. Ed Buiel has been doing a great job as a one-boat/one-person race committee for the dinghies. It has been wonderful to see the juniors coming out and improving with each race, and, hopefully, they will continue their participation throughout the year. Since weather is the best predictor for race turnout, the dinghy race day is selected based on Thursday's weather prediction for the weekend. As a participant in these races, I think it's worth giving up the predictability of a fixed race day for a better chance of selecting the best weather day. With that flexibility, our "Southern winters" could provide opportunities for some of the year's most enjoyable sailing.



Tom Clark

February 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
6 2PM Frostbite	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 2PM Dinghy Frostbite	14 6PM Board Meeting	15	16	17	18	19 Argentina Dinner 6pm
20 2PM Frostbite	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 2PM Dinghy Frostbite	28					

March 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
6 2PM Frostbite	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 2PM Dinghy Frostbite	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

A Privateer New Year's Then and Now

The only constant in the universe, so they say, is change.

New Year's Eve 1965 was the first time I ever attended a New Year's party at Privateer Yacht Club. My children's mother and I had moved back to Chattanooga just a year earlier with our 5 small children, and it was our first big New Year's party. In fact, it might have been our first ever New Year' party.

What a revelation!

Turns out, back then, the Privateer Yacht Club New Year's Party was the hottest ticket in town!

There were perhaps 75 to 100 people, maybe more, crowded into the old club house. The club was much smaller then and there were many non-members. Dean Hearn was playing dance tunes on a record player (you young folks, ask your parents). Couples were dancing. Others chatting around the bar with drinks in their hands. It was a convivial crowd. And loud!

As midnight approached Dean switched to a radio broadcast from New York City so everyone could listen to the count-down to 1966. At the stroke of midnight. everyone joined in singing Auld Ang Syne.

Dan and Joan Williams circulated through the crowd pouring everyone a splash of champagne, Dan kissing all the ladies, and Joan kissing all the guys, a custom they had started 10 years previously at the New Year's party prior to their wedding.

Their rounds completed, a large group of revelers surrounded Dan on the club house porch and raucously sang to the melody of "Taps." "Ta-ta-TAH, ta-ta-TAH; Ta-ta-Tah, ta-ta-Tah, Ta-ta-Taaah. Ta-TA-TAH, TAH-Ta-ta. Ta-ta-taaaah! Following which Dan threw an empty champagne bottle out into the lake.

This "ceremony (if such could be dignified by the term)," continued unbroken, but times change and over the years the party became smaller and smaller. There were years when there was no party at all, or perhaps a last-minute event put together by one fleet or another. In some years recently as few as 4 or 5 showed up, but those champagne bottles kept being thrown into the lake year upon year until Dan's passing over two years ago.

As the first New Year's following Dan's death approached, Joan asked me to carry on the "tradition," and I did. Their son Chris was here to do the honors last year. But this year found me alone as 2021 came to a close. A recent health issue and the contin-

uing Covid crisis kept me from attending a family wedding in Florida, so there I sat at home, reading on New Year's Eve.

Shortly after 11, I closed my book and went to the refrigerator looking for a 7-ounce bottle of California sparkling wine I thought was in there somewhere. Finding it way in the back, I decided on the spur of the moment that I would take it up to Privateer and see if anyone was there.

They were not.

The parking lot and club house were as black as the inside of your hat. A Stygian darkness with dense fog all around muffling what sounds there were.

Taking my small bottle of "champaign" and a clear plastic cup, I pulled up a chair on the porch, zipped my jacket up tight, and listened to fireworks I couldn't see going off all around me in the fog.

I sipped my "champaign."

At midnight I emptied the cup, stood up at the railing, and as I had done annually for over half a century I sang, "Ta-ta-TAH...." And then I threw the empty bottle out into the fog.

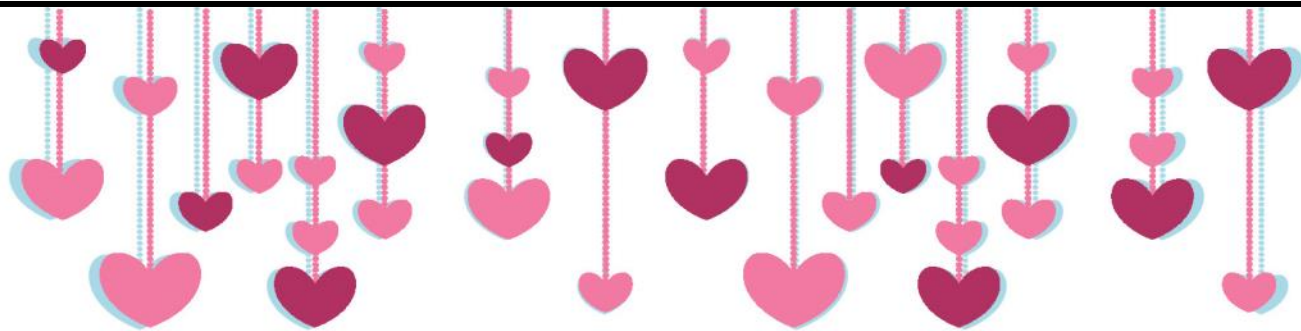
I heard it splash as it joined it's 65 or so big brothers reposing there on the bottom of Lake Chickamauga.

Sitting back for another 30 minutes or so, I thought some about all of the years, all of the people, the fun, the laughter, the frustrations (yes, those, too). And somehow there in the dark I realized that I did not feel the least bit alone. On the contrary, I actually felt...surrounded. And at peace.

Now, it may have just been the fog or perhaps the "champaign." But I had to force myself to go home.



Brainard Cooper



It's Argentina Time at PYC

*Come enjoy dinner prepared by Associate Members,
Leonardo and Lorene Gregorczuk*

*MENU: Primer plato (Starter): Criolla Salad
 Segundo plato (First Course): Mini Pizza
Plato principal (Main Course): Milanese with Smash Potato
 Frutta (Fruit): Salad Fruit
 Beer and Wine provided.....*



*Food • Tango • Celebrate Valentines
Come join the fun!*

Saturday, February 19

*Social: 6:00
Dinner: 7:00*

Cost: \$10.00 per person

RSVP by: Wednesday, February 16th to Tinac@caengrs.com or text to 423-421-8056

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.



Annual Banquet 2022



Annual Banquet 2022



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

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 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**

PRIVATEER YACHT CLUB SHIP'S STORE

Go to this website: 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, January 22, 2022

After the Annual Banquet's cocktail hour and delicious dinner attended by approximately 70 members, Rob Fowler called the last meeting of the 2021 PYC Board of Directors to order. A number of PYC members attended online.

Rob Fowler, Commodore

- Rob called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and asked Josh Landers to say the blessing of the food
- Rob recognized Patricia Fowler, Tina Campbell, Jan Varnell, Katie Landers and Orenda Gregory for their work organizing this year's Annual Banquet. Great job!
- Rob recapped the 2021 year...
 - Great communications thanks to Cory Richardson, Private Ear and Keith Harper, PYC website manager
 - Lots of changes since 1972 when Rob first became a member and finding the club in the best position ever
 - PSEF...sail camp, youth sailing/racing, adult learn to sail
 - Kitchen upgrades underway
 - Maximum membership for both family and associates
 - Membership enthusiasm...people who want to get involved
- Thanks to all previous Boards for their work and thanks to the 2021 Board for continuing the work to allow the Club to thrive even during a year of covid.

Martin Gregory, Secretary:

- Martin verified that a quorum of the membership was present
- Martin stated that the minutes had been reviewed by the Board and corrections had been made.

Linda Lind, Membership Director:

- 2021 was a busy year
 - Family membership at 150, the current maximum
 - Associate membership at 30, the current maximum
 - Associate membership at 8...first time for associate membership waiting
- Linda recognized Keith Harper for adding the New Membership page to the Private Ear.

Mitch Colman, Treasurer:

- B/S: Good cash position between checking and savings.
- P/L: All 2021 bills paid including PYC's contribution to the new 420 docks. Bottom line balance is good.
- Aged A/R: Currently the shortest list than in more than a year.

Kevin Gersch, Dock Master:

- 41 signs/labels have been ordered for dry slip identification.
- GFI outlets to be installed on all wet slips
- Thanks to Dave, Tom, Eddie for their help on the Junior Dock

Frank Hughes, Rear Commodore – Buildings and Grounds:

- A number of projects were completed during the year
 - "Rock Party" to add rip-rap to the shoreline
 - Club grounds clean up party to remove brush and debris
 - Kitchen upgrades in progress
 - Tree removal along the boat ramp
 - Erosion control in the parking lots
- Frank recognized as Guy Campbell as PYC "Hard Worker" for all he does around the club throughout the year.

Tim Chambers – Director Club Boats:

- All five club boat motors were serviced twice during the year.
- Prop guards were added to all outboard motors
- 12 volt outlets were installed on all motor boats
- Two inflatables developed leaks and were repaired.
- The Whaler had electrical problems which were resolved
- The skiff sank (and was recovered)
- Pontoon boat is undergoing a major overhaul.
 - The rotten front deck was replaced
 - Hulls were drained and leaks welded shut and cleat mounts were welded to the frame
 - New decking is being prepared and will be installed soon
 - Mooring cleat will be added to facilitate docking/tying
 - Dock Boxes are being replaced and new driver and assistant seats are being installed.
 - Tim thanked all who have helped with the pontoon boat overhaul.

Tina Campbell – Social Director:

- Had socials and/or regattas nearly every month in 2021
- Struggled a little with Covid restrictions...had a number of “open air” events
- Tina thanked the Associate Members for the best ever attended July 4th social
- Volunteer help is always welcomed for Club events. It is an opportunity to get involved and to get to meet other members.
- Saturday, February 19 Leo and Lorene Gregorczuk are hosting an “Argentine Dinner”

Tom Clark, Vice Commodore – Racing:

- Had multiple racing seasons this year
- 64 different boats participating in the Wednesday night series with 115 races
- 15 dinghies participating in the Thursday night series with 58 races

- The “traditional” format seems to be preferred with keel boats racing Wednesday and Saturday and dinghies racing Sunday.
- For a small club, had lot of boats on the water racing, even with Covid restrictions

Keith Harper, Past Commodore – PSEF:

- PSEF had a very busy “full steam ahead” year
- Sail Camp...a record year with 150 campers, with some on waiting list. No covid issues
- Adult Learn to Sail...30 students, 2x the old record. Thanks to Cory and Chuck.
- Steve provided 19 lessons for the Adaptive Sailing program, a slight cut back from the previous year due to Covid.
- 27 young sailors participated in 4 Youth regattas and 1 junior Olympic event hosted by PYC in September.
- Steve George donated his North Sea 27 to help fund the program
- Many thanks to Ed Buie, Steve Sherman and other who helped make the 2021 youth sailing program a success.

Racing Awards 2021 – Tom Clark:

- Winners of 1 Racing Series
 - Ed Craig
 - Mike Easparam
 - Rob Fowler
 - Orenda Gregory
 - Dave Varnell
 - Team I26
- Winners of 2 Racing Series
 - Lynn and Bill Bruss
 - Team Caliber
 - Guy Campbell
 - Tom Clark

- Frank Hughes
- Winners of 3 Racing Series
 - David Burgevin
 - Chuck Puglisi
 - Dave Varnell
- Winners of 4 Racing Series
 - Martina Guilfoil
 - Team Calliente'
- Winners of 5 Racing Series
 - John Rathjen

PSEF Awards 2021 – Presented by Steve Sherman:

- Steve presented the “Outstanding Junior Sailor Award” to Caroline Barnes for her work as a Sail Camp counselor and an active Junior Racer.
- Steve presented the “Steady Hand Award” to Tim Chambers for his work at the helm of Sail Camp 2021.

Commodore’s Award 2021 – Presented by Rob Fowler:

- The “Commodore’s Award” is presented to the individual making a significant difference for the club. This year’s award was presented to Cory Richardson for his work on the Private Ear and also for his work with the very successful Adult Learn to Sail Program.

Brainard Cooper Award 2021 presented by Keith Harper:

- Keith presented the “Brainard Cooper Award” to Guy Campbell for his tireless work PYC over the years and for his unwavering commitment to sailing.

Wild Turkey Award 2021 – Rob Fowler:

- Rob presented this year’s “Wild Turkey Award” to PYC’s Pat Crowe, who holds the distinction of being our oldest, active sailor.

PYC BOARD 2022 – Steve Sherman

- Steve presented PYC's 2022 Board of Directors
 - Tom Clark, Commodore (returning)
 - Martin Gregory, Secretary (returning)
 - Lynn Bruss, Membership Director (new)
 - Tina Marx, Treasurer (new)
 - Kevin Gersch, Dockmaster (returning)
 - Orenda Gregory, Rear Commodore (new)
 - Frank Hughes, Vice Commodore (returning)
 - Tina Campbell, Social Director (returning)
 - Tim Chambers, Club Boat Director (returning)
 - Rob Fowler, Past Commodore (returning)

Flag Awards – Rob Fowler:

- Rob presented officer flags to the new Board officers.

Passing of the Gavel and Adjournment:

- Rob outgoing Commodore passed the gavel to Tom Clark, Commodore 2022.
- Upon receiving the gavel, Tom asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting was made. A second. All in favor! Meeting 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
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PRIVATE EAR is a monthly publication written by PYC Club Members, and compiled by: **Cory Richardson**

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