



PYC NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1

MAY 2008

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

MARILYN STEINER

Spring is here and we are looking forward to another great season at the PYC.

The good news first: the mortgage has been paid off on the building. The PYC is planning a "Mortgage Burning Party" May 24 when all members can celebrate the fact that the PYC is debt free.

The Club will open Friday, May 9. We want to welcome our new manager, Kari Kokx who has many years management experience in the restaurant business. Scott and Sandy will not be returning this year. We have a Mother's Day Brunch planned for May 11.

Mike LaHaye headed up the project to secure the foundation of the Club. He worked with the engineers, got bids and managed the project. What a super great job, thanks Mike. Norm Booth and Gail Zink, both landscape designers and members, have spent hours solving the drainage problem in the parking lot. Stage one of that plan should be completed in May. Bill Bainton has worked on the challenges of low water and the marina basins.

Members have been working hard. Wayne Preston and Joe Primozich installed a new ceiling in the kitchen per mandate of the Health Department. Gene Davidson refinished the floor in the Junior Room, Ron Steiner installed the new ice machine, and Ed Everhart painted the men's room and the deck furniture. Bill and Diane Bullard painted the kitchen walls. The Nameths are in charge of painting the blue chairs. Barb Davidson and her maids did another superb job of getting the Club ready for the season. If you see any of the above volunteers, tell them "Thanks!" The PYC has terrific volunteers and we need to tell them that we appreciate what they do.

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

MIKE LAHAYE

Welcome back to a new season at the Pentwater Yacht Club. Marsha and I hope all is well with all of you, and your families this spring. We had quite the winter here in Pentwater with lots of snow and cold. I have been collecting pictures of our "Winter Wonderland" and will get them to our webmaster, and have her put the pictures on the PYC website so we can share the pictures with our warm weather members that missed out on the fun. So if you have some pictures please pass them along.

This winter there has been a lot of work done at the PYC. During December and January, Cozart Construction replaced 20 supports under the club, and now Hilton Construction is shoring up the front seawall, and will be replacing the south, and north seawalls. This work is needed due to some poor workmanship of the walls and the lowering water levels of Pentwater Lake and Lake Michigan. The work is coming along very well and we expect the construction to be completed by mid May.

The 2007 club manager Scott Engleman, is staying in Ohio and will not be returning to the PYC this year. The new club manager is Kari Kokx. Kari worked as the Food and Beverage Director at the Ramada Inn in Ludington for the last 5 years. For some of you real old time members, you may remember Kari when she washed dishes 20 years ago, when her grandfather F. M. Mills was the Commodore. Wel-



**MORTGAGE
BURNING
PARTY
MAY 24 8:30**

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come Kari.

I hope you are looking forward to a great 2008 season at the Pentwater Yacht Club. It is going to be a year full of great events and socializing. Here is a list of some of our May and June events for 2008: Mothers Day Brunch May 11th, Women's Club Wine and Art Auction May 18th, Mortgage Burning Party May 24th, Father's Day Cookout June 15th, Boat Parade June 22nd, and the Caribbean Party June 28th. We have many things on the calendar this year for everyone, and I am looking forward to meeting and working with all of you.

I would like to take this time to thank Wayne Preston and Joe Primozych for their great job in painting the ceiling grids, and installing new ceiling tiles in the kitchen. The ceiling tiles were made of gypsum, and are not easy to work with. Thanks again for a job well done. I would also like to thank Gail Zink and Norm Booth for their work in putting together the drawings and prints for the parking lot regarding. The spent a great deal of time working on that project. Al Burmester repaired and painted the dinghy davit. We have many more projects that are just starting, and Barb Davidson is recruiting members for the club spring clean up, so please step up and help us get the PYC in shape for 2008.

REAR COMMODORE COMMENTS BILL BULLARD

Thursday Night Dinners are in the planning stages. Most of the "old favorites" are back. This year one of the planned dinners is on July 3—one of the biggest nights in Pentwater and at the Yacht Club. Plans are underway for a Red/White/Blue All-American dinner which will feature all of the foods associated with America's birthday. By necessity this will be a buffet style to accommodate members, families, and their guests on a very busy weekend. We want to make it a fun event with lots of participation commencing with dinner, band concert, ice cream social, and fireworks. Let's make every Thursday night a sell-out. It's a great opportunity to socialize and get to know our fellow members. Lists of all the dinners will be posted when the club opens. Don't forget to sign up to help. Volunteering is a great way to meet new people.

TREASURERS REPORT DON VAN ZILE

The 2008 membership dues and fees came in with a flurry in February and March. Several members have made errors when calculating what to pay. The membership committee is reviewing the records to determine who has money coming back. Checks will be sent soon to those who overpaid for any reason. As of this writing no checks have been mailed but all checks will be sent very soon. Those members who made errors and still owe money to the club will be notified by the membership committee and should mail their final payment to the PYC club address so we can balance the treasurers books.

We have paid all of the bills received to date and set aside money to pay for the needed seawall and building repairs. We are being billed by vendors for items that were charged to PYC by members as far back as February, 2007. Our financial records are on the accrual system and the treasurer should be notified and will enter into the books ASAP any charge made to the PYC. The same applies to money owed to PYC. The treasurer should be notified at the same time as the invoice is created. The information may be left in the treasurers mail slot in the club office.

MORTGAGE BURNING PARTY—PYC IS DEBT FREE !!

It's time to get your summer calendars out and start planning. You are invited to attend a very special PYC event on May 24, 2008. The Pentwater Yacht Club, with your hard earned dollars, has succeeded in paying off its' mortgage. You, the members, deserve recognition for this accomplishment. **This is a major "thank you" party.**

Dennis Rowley, as chair of the Finance Committee, will host the Mortgage Burning Party on May 24th beginning at 8:30 pm. The PYC will provide entertainment and snacks. A cash bar will be open featuring specialty pricing on a number of drinks. There will be dancing with Two to Tango, Joann and Steve Steiner, well known DJs from Grand Rapids, who really knows how to get people out on the dance floor. This will be the first big party of the 2008 season, so please plan to attend. Come have a great time. **You deserve it and the Club knows it!!**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ED EVERHART, CHAIRMAN

GOOD NEWS! Kari Kokx, the new manager, has persuaded Jason Smith to return as bar tender and assistant manager. Kari's sister, Mandy, will cook through July and will be training Hillary Benvenuti to take over when she steps out to have a baby. Hillary has much restaurant experience and we look forward to her enthusiastic way of working. The rest of our staff is pretty well set and I think you will be served well.

FLOWER COMMITTEE DEDE SAMUEL

GO GREEN! Sorry Spartan fans. We're not talking about the team. Instead, we're speaking of "Going Green". There is a lot of emphasis among organizations, and folks in general on environment concerns. Here at PYC, this is true of the Garden Committee, who has endorsed the newly formed group called the Landscaping and Beautification Committee and will be joining them in part of their work.

Under the leadership of the Flower Committee member, Gail Zink, a Landscape Architect, and her husband, Norm Booth, a new plan for the beautification of the front of the club, has been put forth. Norm is also a professional Landscape Architect. Both of these club members have been in charge of the plan's design and spent countless hours in, not only dealing with a "new look" for the front of the club, but also with the grading plan that will better accommodate the water run off problems in the parking areas. They have also redesigned the parking area to allow for more parking spaces. There are many wonderful features to the new plan, but chief among them is that there will be more "green space".

In the mean time, there are a number of ways that the membership can help. There will be work bees associated with bringing in new top soil, saving and repotting the small spruce trees, and in establishing the new planting beds. There is also the possibility that the trees that the plan calls for can be planted this year. Money from the formation of a tree fund, established a few years ago, can be used for this. In addition, there will be many opportunities for members to make memorial gifts for plantings and for other improvements included in the plan.

In the future, look for news of items that can be donated as memorial gifts and for volunteer opportunities. Look, also, for the three-year staging plan that will show the timeline for the completion of various improvements. Until then, THINK GREEN! GO GREEN!

APPAREL COMMITTEE LAURA LAHAYE, CHAIRMAN

With summer nearly upon us, it is time to start thinking about trips to the Pentwater Yacht Club and inviting family and friends into town to play in the sun and sand. The PYC Apparel committee has done a great job of selecting some new items this year with both clothing and gift giving items available. Some of the new items that are available include sweatshirt blankets, shot glasses, beer koozies, tank tops for women, wind shirts for men and an array of new T-shirt and sweatshirt designs and colors for men, women and children. Please make sure to stop into the club and check out all of the new apparel

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE HILLARY BENVENUTI, CHAIRMAN

As of the first of May we have 519 returning members. Invitations have been sent to 30 people on the wait list and some have joined. The stickers for the cards have been sent out. We hope the members will come to the clean-up date to help spruce up the club.

MAY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Pentwater Prom
4	5	6	7	8	9 Spring hours Open 10—Midnight	10 Bd. of Dir. Meeting Open 10—midnight
11 Mother's Day Brunch 11—2	12	13 Ensign seminar 6pm	14 Ensign race	15	16 Open 10—Midnight Bridge 1:00	17 Open 10—midnight
18 Women's Club Wine Tasting & Auction	19	20 Ensign seminar 6pm	21 Ensign race	22 Service club banquet	23 Open 10—midnight Bridge 1:00	24 Mort-gage burn-ing party Ensign race Open 10-M
25	26 Memo-rial Day pa-rade	27 Ensign seminar 6pm	28 Ensign race	29	30 Open 10—Midnight Bridge 1:00	31 Off shore Race Ensign race Open 10-M

REGATTA COMMITTEE**FRODE MAASEIDVAAG, CHAIRMAN**

The ice is gone and May is rapidly approaching and with it the PYC Racing/Sailing season.

The first of the Racing/Sailing Seminars will be on Tuesday May 13 at 6:00 pm at the PYC with Bill Bluhm presenting the very important topic of "Setting, Trimming and Dousing the Chute". This will be followed by four more seminars and the topics, times and dates can be found on the PYC website and posted at the Club.

The Sunfish Fleet starts their season on May 13 and continues their sailing every Tuesday until September 9. Anyone interested should contact Sandy Vielmo or Joan Roseman.

The Spring Series for the Ensign and Open Fleets will begin on May 24 and the fun Wednesday evening races start on May 14 at 6:00 pm at the PYC. Virtually all Ensigns are more than 30 years old, and used Ensigns can be purchased for less than the cost of a new Sunfish. The Fleet tries to accommodate everyone who wishes to crew. If you would like to experience Ensign sailing, come to the PYC dock on Wednesday afternoon about 5:30 pm and we will find room for you on one of the boats.

The Small Boat Open Fleet needs more boats. If you have a 15-25 foot boat, and are interested in some low-key racing, contact Fleet Captain Tom Hendricks or anyone on the Regatta Committee.

The Offshore Fleet will start their season on Saturday May 31. The Offshore Fleet is looking for more participation. If you have an offshore boat, and have any interest in racing, please contact Fleet Captains Dave Dice or Bill DeHommel.

For more details on PYC Racing/Sailing, please check the PYC website or contact one of the Regatta Committee members. We have excellent Race Committees and we are looking forward to an outstanding Racing/Sailing season.

STATIONS COMMITTEE**BILL BAINTON, CHAIRMAN**

The water level in the PYC marina is still a few inches below the level at this time last year. The prediction is for the level to increase next month and be at or slightly above last year's levels this summer. We are optimistic that all our slips will be usable this summer.

We discovered some serious problems with our seawalls this winter. Ralph Hilton has been contracted to repair the seawalls and to remove the obstructions in the south basin of the marina this spring. The dock launch is scheduled for Saturday May 3rd pending completion of the work on the seawalls and in the basin. Volunteer help is always appreciated for the dock launch. If you are interested in helping, contact Bill Bainton. A new ramp will be installed to the docks in the north basin this year.

If you have any questions about slips, Sunfish dollies, or dinghy racks please contact stations committee chairman Bill Bainton.

**WOMEN'S SUNFISH FLEET 218****SANDY VIELMO & JOAN ROSEMAN**

Gals—Come join the fun on Tuesdays! Sailing starts when weather and water warms up June.



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THANK YOU NOTE: The Pentwater Junior Sailing Program Board of Directors would like to thank the Pentwater Yacht Club for their support of our program. The rent paid to PYC for the space to store and launch our boats at the Club was part of the operating cost of the program. We would like to thank the Club and its members for their personal and financial support in helping with our fundraisers which allowed the Pentwater Junior Sailing Program to continue its operations while keeping the fees affordable for all children. It showed that the members of the Pentwater Yacht Club were committed to helping promote the sport of sailing at all levels, and for this we are truly grateful. The decision to move the program to the property adjacent to the Lake St. Village launch ramp site was to make sailing more “user friendly” and safer for the kids. Having a wide beach area to run the program will be a great advantage for all those involved. At the PYC April board meeting the board voted to allow the program to continue to sell our raffle tickets and conduct the Silent Auction to help with our fundraising for the season, and we thank you for this support. Our fundraisers are very important to the success of our program. We will miss the interaction with all the Pentwater Yacht Club members as I am sure you will miss watching the kids each day as they set sail, but we feel it is in the best interest of the students and program to make this move. Check out our website at www.pentwaterjuniorsailing.org.
for information concerning our upcoming season. Pentwater Jr. Sailing Board

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