

Spring 2011



The MAINSHEET



The Newsletter of the Percy Priest Yacht Club

Percy Priest Yacht Club (PPYC) is a club of sailing enthusiasts who enjoy spending time together in racing and social events. The main purposes of PPYC are to promote the sport of sailing, enhance boat handling skills and safety on the water, and promote fellowship and association among its members. Not all of our members own a boat, many prefer to sail as crew with others. But all of our members share a love of sailing and we welcome all those who are similarly interested in sailing to join us.

PPYC sails on J. Percy Priest Lake in Nashville, Tenn., a Corp of Engineers lake only 15 minutes from downtown. We are primarily based at Hamilton Creek Sailboat Marina in Hamilton Creek Park, but some of our members utilize other marinas on the lake. Hamilton Creek Sailboat Marina is a facility of Metro Nashville Parks & Recreation Department. Because no private development is allowed on the shores of Percy Priest Lake, PPYC does not own a clubhouse. We instead utilize the clubhouse at Hamilton Creek Sailboat Marina for meetings and social events.

PPYC sponsors six regattas annually, plus mid-week club races during the sailing season. We also sponsor a youth sailing camp during the summer and the Learning at the Helm (LATH) program on Tuesday evenings from April through September for anyone who wants to learn more about sailing and possibly joining the club.

Many yacht clubs around the U.S. allow guests that are members of other yacht clubs to use their facilities. Because PPYC is a recognized yacht club and a member of Yachting Clubs of America, our active members are granted access to many of these clubs.

Our dues are very reasonable and our members are very friendly. We welcome any who want to learn about sailing, participate in casual or racing sailing, and share some good times both on and off the water. We invite you to join us!

Officers and Contacts

Commodore

Charlie Brown 615-847-0978

Vice Commodore

Mike Miller 615-331-5921

Race Director

Bob Keim 615-390-5800

Social Director

Marlynda Augelli 615-944-9762

Secretary

Kelley Rehm 615-553-2400

Treasurer

Andrew Gatlin 615-776-7245

Membership Director

Kyle Claybrook 615-943-8483

Past Commodore

Tom Ragsdale 615-297-0735

LATH Manager

Kathy Ware 615-754-9944

Club Boat Manager

Paul Johnson 615-545-5535

Senior Captain

David Perrine 615-383-1861

Mainsheet Editor

Walt Kloepfel 270-945-4666

Webmaster

Kevin Manner 615-646-7517

From the Commodore's Deck

PPYC's 2010 year closed out with a bang, a great Christmas party followed by the annual Kamikaze race. Many thanks to all who contributed hard work throughout the year with a special nod to now past commodore Tom Ragsdale.

2011 got off to a cold snowy start which only means that we should enjoy spring that much more. The annual schedule of events is official and posted. The new board was installed at our annual January meeting, the budget was reviewed, and a new committee formed to plan for a video entertainment/educational system to be installed at Hamilton Creek.

Next scheduled event is March 12. Vice commodore Michael Miller is organizing the "Pancake and HC Cleanup Day." Come out and enjoy the pancakes and then tear into cleaning our Hamilton Creek home base. It's a great way to get to know other members and prepare club assets and the facility for the spring season.

Kathy and Bob Ware are gearing up for the 2011 LATH program with the "Mixer" on March the 19th and the first

Tuesday session on March 29th. I know they're looking for students and volunteers, give them your support. This is a powerful program that promotes our love of sailing, and brings new members into our club.

Many others are planning for upcoming events; Bob Keim is organizing our racing events and regattas, Bill Riner is heading up our educational opportunities, Kyle Claybrook is organizing and promoting new membership, Mar Augelli is already hard at work on the social calendar, while Andrew Gatlin and his team are managing our funds, with Kelley Rehm keeping us organized and informed. These are all significant programs within our organization. Please do yourself and sailing a favor, find an activity that excites you and volunteer.

There's a lot going on and many people are preparing for the spring season. Let's make it a memorable year! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the appropriate board member or myself.

See you on the water!

Charlie Brown



Teaching at the Helm

By Kenny Cooper

It all started for me by watching Learning at the Helm (LATH) skippers offering rides to enthusiastic people of all ages wanting to learn how to sail. As I observed this a few times on Tuesday evenings, I thought to myself, “I would enjoy introducing people to sailing.” So, I approached Kathy Ware, director of the LATH program, and volunteered. I began participating right away. Since I had had little interest in racing heretofore, I didn’t think that joining PPYC would be something that I would ever do. I had always been interested in learning as much about sailing as I could which led me to take American Sailing Association courses and read extensively about every aspect of sailing. It was the sailing education program that drew me into the yacht club, and it has been a delightful association with people of all walks of life who share a love for and passion about sailing.

During the 2008 season of LATH it became clear that we needed a more systematic and comprehensive program of sailing education. This would be directed both to those who wanted to increase their sailing knowledge and especially to those who were interested in qualifying to use the club boats. I discovered that it is somewhat dangerous to participate in conversations about new ideas and programs. The next thing I knew, my name was being put up for Sailing Director. However, my conversations with Kathy and Bob Ware, other LATH skippers, and Rob Montgomery and David Perrine (Commodore and Past Commodore) led me to think that with all their support a new education program could be put in place. Early in 2009, new Commodore, Bob Powers, and the Wares met with me to lay out plans for what would become the Basic Sailing Course. It was decided to use the US Sailing *Basic Keelboat* book as the text and base the course on its contents in six two-hour teaching blocks. After a course outline and syllabus were prepared, a meeting was held with LATH skippers to determine their interest in becoming instructors. They embraced the concept wholeheartedly, and thus the Basic Sailing Course (BSC) was offered beginning the first week of April, 2009!



Matt Tollerson receives instruction from LATH skipper, Tom Grube, during a Tuesday evening sail last September. Photo by Walt Kloeppel

The interest in the BSC was a bit overwhelming. More people wanted to take the course than there were available instructors. A schedule had to be prepared in order to work students in across the sailing season. Forty-five students participated in BSC that first year, several of whom went on to qualify for the Club Boat Program. Another 42 students participated in 2010. The Great Flood wreaked havoc on the instruction schedule leaving some students with a few more classes to take. Again, several of the students became proficient enough in their sailing skills to qualify as club boat skippers. The success of the program is due to the participation, passion, and commitment of the instructors. Those who taught during the first two years of the program included: Paul Johnson, Bob Keim, Mike Liles, Michael Link, David Perrine, Tom Ragsdale, Bob Ware, Mike Willoughby, and myself. Also, I can’t say enough about the support from the board of directors. Serving under Commodores Bob Powers and Tom Ragsdale was a joy.

Sailing education is dear to me. I’m sure new Sailing Director Bill Riner will take BSC and all the education programs to new heights. Kathy Ware will continue to direct the LATH program which has been responsible for introducing more new people to sailing than anything else in Tennessee — probably in the entire southeast. Bob Ware has for a number of years given oversight to PPYC’s participation in the Sail Camp program in addition to instruction and LATH. Their love for sailing is contagious and has brought many, many new members into PPYC. So, I’m leaving sailing education in good hands and will continue to participate as a BSC instructor, a LATH skipper, and a Sail Camp helper. I encourage all members to find those areas of club activities that pique an interest and then volunteer. The club will benefit and you will enjoy it!

Learning at the Helm

The PPYC LATH group meets every Tuesday night
March 29 through September 27

Meet at 5:30 at Hamilton Creek Sailboat Marina

Contact Kathy Ware for more information
615-754-9944

LATH Kickoff Mixer is March 19 — JOIN US!
2:00 p.m. at Hamilton Creek Sailboat Marina

Wednesday Night Club Races

Pursuit Race Format every Wednesday night
April 6 through September 28

Meet at 5:00 at Hamilton Creek Sailboat Marina

Contact Bob Keim for more information
615-390-5800

There will be a cookout on the first Wednesday of each month
\$5.00 per person, except first cookout is free for members

PPYC Cleanup Day is Saturday, March 12 at the marina — be there — please!

For race schedule and other events go to www.ppyc.org for a complete listing

Becoming a US Sailing Association Certified Keel Boat Instructor

By Bob Ware, Certified Keelboat Instructor, US Sailing Association

After many years of instructing in the club's "Learning at the Helm" program, I wondered if I was presenting the highest level of instruction as a US Sailing Instructor would be giving.

So, I decided to become a "certified" instructor, or to take the "evaluative" course, as they put it. Well, where to take the course? The US Sailing website lists all of the courses they give, along with dates and locations. After searching all available dates and locations, Chicago in February was not going to be a choice. There was one that caught my eye - Berkeley, California at the Olympic Circle Sailing Club. This sounded good, so I sent in the fee and waited for the study material.

A couple of weeks later, a large box arrived with several large books of material. So, I began reading, and reading... and, did I say reading? There were more than 400 pages of study material. It was divided into two categories. Sailing theory (which I kind of knew) and teaching theory, which I was not familiar with. I studied right brain/left brain, kinesthetic learning and student fears. WOW!

The time was fast approaching to leave for California. They told me that there were six parts to the program. There would be four written exams, two (8-minute) presentations, one on a sailing theory and one on a teaching theory, classroom participation, dockside and on-the-water teaching, and the single-handed, practical sailing test. My expectations of passing were growing dim. The class began Tuesday, March 23, 2010. So far, so good.

My sailing theory was, "Overboard Recovery", and my teaching theory was, "Overcoming Student Fears". I finished in 8 minutes and 15 seconds on both and was hailed as the best presenter. The written exams came next, and I did extremely well on all four.

OK, sailing on San Francisco Bay. I had heard that this was a great place to sail. On the first of two practice sessions before the test, I learned what the Bay was all

about. It is simple, big wind and big waves. From March to October, you can set your watch (1330 local) by the wind coming across the Bay, averaging 25-30 knots straight from the bridge to over the top of the Berkeley Marine center and out into the valley.

The practical would cover sailing away from and to the dock, all points of sail, tacking and gybing, sail trim, heave to, reefing the main and shaking it out, and my personal favorite, "Overboard Recovery". You are required to do the "Quick Stop" and one other maneuver of your choice. That left "Quick Turn" or "Heave to" as the remaining choices. "Heave to" does not give any directional control, so that left the "Quick Turn". Now, the object that they threw into the water was a one-gallon, orange juice jug, half filled with water and a 4 inch line on it. In the two-foot waves, and only half of the jug showing, it was really difficult to keep visual contact. You get three tries on each attempt to recover. They, of course, nicknamed the jug "Bob." Now, you have to stop the boat along side of "Bob" into the wind, reach over the side and pick "him" up. Sounds easy. Well, we were sailing J-24's in 28 knots of wind and 2-foot swells. I had "Bob" in my sights on my third attempt of the "Quick Stop". Just as I finished the turn into the wind to stop, the bow came up out of the water and came crashing down, washing "Bob" just out of my reach. BUSTED!!

With the very high marks I had scored on all the other components, I was given a "POI", or "plan of improvement." I had to retest on the two overboard recovery techniques sometime in the next 90 days.

Check back in the next issue of the Mainsheet for Bob's experiences at the East Carolina Sailing School in Washington, NC. This was also an exciting adventure!



The San Francisco Bay challenges Bob's sailing prowess.

Annual Bilge Sale

March 12 at West Marine in Hermitage



Annual Bilge Sale to support the Nashville Sailing Foundation

Clear out your bilge — donate your unused ballast!

Has your bilge, barn, garage or basement filled with stuff you can't use but just can't throw away? We have a great place for it: donate it to the Nashville Sailing Foundation.

NSF brings the gift of sailing to Nashville's youth, through supporting our summer sailing camps. Anything you don't want, need, is in the way or your wife insists you deep six — we'll sell at our Bilge Sale, Saturday, March 12 at West Marine in Hermitage.

All proceeds go to the NSF and we use the cash for such equipment as our Opti and SunFish fleets, and inflatables and motors that are used by the camp counselors for coaching and crash boats. Collection bins will be at PPYC as well West Marine. If you have something too big for a bin – say, a boat, we'll take that too! To arrange a pick up contact Marc Fortune at 615-866-9494 or marc@marcfortune.com.

All donations are tax deductible; the Nashville Sailing Foundation is non profit 501(c)3 and its board members include PPYC members Marc Fortune, Russ Lackey, Paul Latour and David Weil.

 **West Marine®**

January 15, 2011

Annual Membership Meeting

Percy Priest Yacht Club

Minutes

Full Membership Meeting

Called to order – 2:13pm
Quorum is reached – 41 members in attendance

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Final End of Year Membership – 220 Members, 21 Associate Members
11 Honorary Members
1 Affiliate Member (for out of town membership)
208 Full Members
21 Associate Members

Membership Breakdown:

New Membership – Number of Members Joined in 2010 Each Month

Jan 4
Feb 7
Mar 6
Apr 14
May 3
June 3
July 4
Aug 7
Sept 6
Oct 3
Nov 5
Total 62

Total Renewals from Previous Year (not including Honorary and Affiliate):

-146 Renewals from 2009

Club Boat Program Members:

22 Ensign
13 Pilot
TOTAL = 35 Club Boat Participants in 2010
(2009 Totals – 30 Total Members)

NOTES TO MEMBERSHIP:

Membership Cards will be issued once a month at the end of the month, so there may be a lag between new members joining and when they receive cards. Members joining for the first time in November or December will not receive their membership card until after the first of the year during renewal time.

- Associate Members have NOT historically received a membership card. The board will be deciding if this will be changed this year.
- Members may only be an Associate for one year.
- Associate members wanting to participate in the Club Boat program or reserve Annabelle must upgrade to a full membership.
- Current Members MUST pay the full club dues to renew. If they renew past February 15th, they must pay the full dues plus late fee. For example, a current member not renewing until May will still need to pay the full \$152.95 plus late fee – NOT the prorated dues meant for new members.

BUDGET UPDATE

Checking is up to \$17,000 - \$12,000 will be transferred to Club Boat program (includes all boats owned by Club – including race committee boat, etc)

Total of 3 savings accounts = \$36,061

PPYC ended up with about \$4000 more income than expected in the budget this year.

PROPOSED BUDGET

Budget is based on the current membership levels – if we do not maintain that level this year, adjustments will be made by the board.

Majority of income comes in with renewals in Jan. and Feb. – Expenses don't usually start to come in until the spring.

Motion – Budget will include cost of a TV and Satellite dish or cable service for the clubhouse – The board will have the authority to decide on the spending levels.

Motion seconded

Discussion: TV could be used for training, could also be used for more of a “club” atmosphere – for those that would like to spend time at the club when not able to sail.

We should discuss with Russell how that would work with Metro. Russell feels it will not be a problem as long as there is a way to enclose / checkout remotes / etc. and to make sure that it won't be a security issue.

Amendment - the board will set up a committee to look further into costs and security issues related to the TV.

Amendment – The board should also investigate the possibility of wireless internet services

This will be a modification to budget.

33 in favor

8 against

Motion Passes

Motion - approve the budget with the amendment for the TV as passed.

Motion seconded.

Discussion:
Equalizer Regatta should have a bigger budget than the Octoberfest.
-Note: Budgeted funds are beyond the registration fee (club contributions to each race)

Budget should be raised to \$2000 as compared to \$1500

In the past, we have only budgeted \$500 for each regatta. We have increased the available funds for each regatta

Octoberfest Regatta- we spent \$514 more than took in

It is recommended to the board that to look into including a budget report each month to members possibly within the newsletter or the 'members only' portion of the website.

Budget Amended - Increase the Equalizer to \$2000 (\$500 increase), and Touch of Class to \$1000 (\$300 increase) – funds will be taken out of savings (not out of other budget categories)

Seconded

Unanimously approved

Call to Question for approving the budget as amended for the TV and for the increase of funds for the Equalizer and Touch of Class regattas.

Budget approved unanimously

RACE DIRECTOR – Bob Keim

PPYC will be bringing back the Winter Racing Series – starting Jan. 23rd.

At PPYC website – there is now a link to new Racing Blog (Blogspot) – blogs will include race updates, rules, results, etc. (results for Sun and Wed and regattas)

Sunday program will begin with the Winter Racing Series on January 23, 2011

-focused on getting new people involved, training, families, etc.
- two starts – experienced start and “newbies” start

More information can be found at www.ppyc.org

LATH

This has been a successful year with over 100 waivers signed by people trying out sailing on Tuesdays. Over 40 of those became members (either associate or full).

As always, LATH will need new skippers for Tuesday

LATH mixer is March 19th
First LATH sail is March 29th

New Membership Coordinator will be working to recruit more skippers.

OLD BUSINESS

Marc Fortune – Founder of the Nashville Sailing Foundation
- founded 7 years ago.
- Supports youth sailing in Nashville (summer camps).

Thanks to members: Tom Ragsdale Bob Powers, Kenny Cooper, Bob Ware and other members for their help with the 2010 sailing camps.

NSF Board – includes Russell and two other members from PPYC as well as members from Harbor Island.

Sunfish, Opti's and inflatables have been donated to the sail camp fleet.

When sailing camp first started 80 kids participated, this past year that was up to 150 campers.

This year – March 12th at West Marine there will be a “bilge sale” (boat yard sale) sponsored by NSF to raise proceeds (Kelley will send out an announcement to members)

4 weeks in June are scheduled for camps (two at Harbor Island and two at PPYC)

INSTALLMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Board members installed – 67 yes votes, 0 nos

New Commodore – Charlie Brown

Vice Commodore – Michael Miller

Sailing Director – Bill Riner

Membership Director – Kyle Claybrook

Treasurer – Andrew Gatlin

Secretary – Kelley Rehm

Social Director - Mar Auguelli

Race Director – Bob Keim

Other Club Positions

Paul Johnson – Club Boat Coordinator

David Perrine – Senior Captain

Mainsheet Editor – Walt Kloeppe

Kevin Manner – Webmaster / Historian / Accountant

LATH Coordinator – Kathy Ware

Motion to Adjourn

Seconded

Meeting Adjourned at 3pm

More information exclusively for members can be found at www.ppyc.org at the “members only” section, which can be accessed by the user name and password provided with your membership renewal for 2011.

Sailors Rocking Around the Christmas Tree

By Kathy Ware

PPYC's annual Christmas party went to a new venue this year at Traveller's Rest Plantation in Nashville — nice touch with a live fireplace to keep everyone warm. Judging from the pictures, everyone was quite “toasty” that night anyway, and even the pouring-down rain couldn't dampen spirits ... well, maybe the hairdo's. Valet parking at the front door was a lifesaver that night, and the attendants definitely earned their tips. The band was Sandy Merrill and Bob Dourchauck on keyboard — their quartet provided good and well-rounded music throughout the evening. The caterer, “Gourmet to You Catering” did a yeoman's job of presenting a very fine buffet with Traveller's premise ovens that didn't heat well, so bravo to them! Our Social Director, Marlynda Augelli, planned and organized the event, and her crews of volunteer helpers (all club members) from set-up to take-down, transformed an undecorated room into a warm and incredibly wonderful evening filled with laughter and enjoyment. Each and every volunteer is to be thanked (and you all know who each of you are). There are a couple of pictures attached for this “Mainsheet” edition, but sailors, I guarantee you when you see the rest of your pictures on the website, some of these are 2011 Christmas photo cards! Well, maybe except for Marc Fortune pictured with Lem Stephens, Vido and Jodi Vareika...ahhh, Marc, I see Christmas spirits were not only contained *in* the glass.



Tim Senter and Becca Klar, some of PPYC's newest members, enjoyed the festivities.



Left to right; Lem Stephens, Marc Fortune, Vido and Jodi Vareika ... Cheers!



Left to right; Christina Hellerqvist, Gayle Powers, Dana Latour, and Rene Lindstrom solving the problems of the world.



Social director Marlynda Augelli performs the Heimlich maneuver on Bob Ware. “Darn Marlynda, I only wanted one more piece of shrimp!”



Winter Race Series Get Nice Treat After a Long Cold Spell

Story by Bob Keim, photos by Walt Kloeppel

Sunday - February 13th

The day turned out to be one of those February gifts! Great winds, nice temperatures and lots of sunshine. Unfortunately, I didn't live up to everyone's expectations. I tried to set a starting line as far from the South no wake buoy as I could, to use the buoy as a windward mark. Then the committee boat drug so bad, we ended up on top of the other no wake buoy. *Then*, I missed a starting sequence time and had to postpone and restart the sequence. Sorry, you all. I'm glad three boats got off the line exactly on time!



Experienced class

Don Berridge - 1 point
Roger Arnold - 2 points
Mark Gerone - 3 points (they had so much fun flying their chute they abandoned the race) :)

Inexperienced class

Kenny Cooper - minus 2 points
Denna Deck - 2 points



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