

LIFELINE



*THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
PRINCE WILLIAM YACHT CLUB*

pwyc.org

FEBRUARY 2023



What are Flag Officers and
who are they in PWYC?

Shhhh....they're sleeping



There are a few new rules on
the water that we should all
know before season starts

THE BRIDGE



FLAG OFFICERS

Commodore ~ Rick McHarg ~ commodore@pwyc.org
Vice Commodore ~ Jim Khoury ~ vicecommodore@pwyc.org
Rear Commodore ~ Scott Parsons ~ rearcommodore@pwyc.org
Secretary ~ Sabrina Salter ~ secretary@pwyc.org
Treasurer ~ Sherry Samar ~ treasurer@pwyc.org
Immediate Past Commodore ~ Mike Connolly ~ ipc@pwyc.org

FLEET CAPTAINS

Membership ~ Una Murphy ~ membership@pwyc.org
Social ~ Denise Guess-Parsons, Sherri Connolly, Carol Vasquez, Jenna Burum, Beth Lu ~ social@pwyc.org
Newsletter ~ Robin Davis ~ newsletter@pwyc.org
Safety ~ Bob Schwartz ~ safety@pwyc.org
Webmaster ~ Mike Manning ~ webmaster@pwyc.org

DOCK REPRESENTATIVES

A-Dock	Vacant - Seeking Volunteer
B-Dock	Julie Finacchiaro & Keith Clouser
C-Dock	James & Dawn Brady
D-Dock	Matt & Lisa Shaw
E-Dock	Nicholas Roper
F-Dock	Charlotte Blane
G-Dock	Mike Strano
H-Dock	Joy & Walt Heuer
I-Dock	Chris & Sabrina Salter
J-Dock	PWM - Sales Dock
K-Dock	Jason and Shannon Leydig
L-Dock	Vacant - Seeking Volunteer
Boatel	Joe Peruzzi

DELEGATES

PRYCA ~ Beth & Sheldon Lu
CBYCA ~ Mike Connolly, Tim Abel



Member Club of Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs Association (CBYCA) & Potomac River Yacht Clubs Association (PRYCA)

Commodore's Corner

Rick McHarg
commodore@pwyc.org
EAGLE ONE K-40
571.239.1367



Happy New Year! I hope everyone had wonderful holidays and are well along in pursuit of their New Year's resolutions. If outside activity is part of your routine, keep abreast of the weather forecast. Apparently, you can get caught without proper gear if baited by the warm temps and sunshine. We have another exciting year of cruises and shore activities teed up for you in 2023. Our board has been working through the holidays on the budget and calendar, and we think we are nearly there! As always, please check the club website PWYC.org for all our scheduled activities and sign up! We have a new webmaster in Mike Manning who is doing a great job with Wild

Apricot, our organizational software.

You'll notice some great additions to this issue of the Lifeline in the pages ahead. Our Star Editor and contributor Robin Davis will spotlight our new Board members Sabrina Salter and Mike M, as well as include some historic info about the mighty Potomac River. You might also see a featured "Prince William Marina Employee of the month" to better acquaint you with the Staff that takes such great care of us. And once again we will have a PWM Employee Appreciation Dinner on March 25. You can find details on the website "Events" page. Another tip I just received from GM Michele Price is that PWM intends to restart engine maintenance classes this season. Look for more info soon. In case you were wondering, the Slip holders Party will be on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb 12. You know what happens next: Slip Fees! Aaaaargh! Then Income Taxes! Aaaaargh again! It never ends!

As usual, Vice Commodore Jim Khoury will detail some of the upcoming "land" activities scheduled on the calendar and Rear Commodore Scott Parsons will list the cruises and on-water activities he has in store. The Cherry Blossom Cruise is scheduled for April 1 and Opening Day and the Commodore's CAPT Hour will be April 15. Only 74 Days until then! I will always include my plug for volunteer assistance in leading some of the events that are planned. Our club is centered around YOU!... and we need YOU to step up and help. We have the expertise and How-to-do-it guides. Contact me, Vice Commodore Jim, or Rear Commodore Scott to sign up for an event.

Be sure to see Safety Bob's article and take note of the USCG Safety Inspection Dates and Boating safety classes coordinated by PWM in March and April. Remember you must have a 2023 Safety Inspection Sticker to enter District of Columbia waters. There are several boat shows locally and I think Jim Khoury lists the dates. PWM will have booths at Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Chantilly, and we may ask for volunteers to man a table and answer questions about the Yacht Club.

As you may recall, I raised the protest flag on the Potomac Middle Danger Range expansion proposed by the Army Corps of Engineers for the Naval Surface Warfare Division Dahlgren (NSWDD).

I sent out a PWYC-wide note in mid-December explaining that the proposed change did not consider recreational boats heading south of the US 301 bridge. The Eastern boundary restricted boats to waters

4 ft and less on the MD side. The deadline to Comment was Jan 4. Well, we had about 25 Captains that submitted comments supporting a change to the proposal. They were all well thought out comments in the interest of providing safe passage South or North on the Potomac during the week while the range was in use. Thank you to those who took the time to submit! I haven't heard what the result of this was, but I have sought further counsel from the Potomac River Yacht Club Association (PRYCA) and the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club Association (CBYCA) since this also affects commercial tug travel and visiting recreational boats to DC. Let me also put a big shout out to Vicky Carr for her detailed work on plotting the proposed boundary on nautical charts. Thank you, Vicky!

Don't forget to renew your membership. You get quite a bit for \$100. And plan to attend the Change of Watch Gala on March 11. We had to raise the costs this year to \$130 pp for members and \$150 pp for non-members, but it's a great party at a great place nearby, Embassy Suites Springfield. Look for the flyer and sign up online.

Thanks to all the Dock Reps and Board members for your time and effort in 2022. On to 2023! See you at the Club Brunch in the Blue Bath House (BBH) on Feb 4 10:30. Sign up on the Website. All are welcome. There is always lots of great homemade dishes and camaraderie.

Commodore Rick (Kris)

EAGLE ONE

Normally K-40

571-239-1367

Meet our Flag Officers

...but first, how about a bit of history on the flags flown, etiquette and traditions?

Boats and yacht clubs are great users of flags. They are colorful, festive and informative. We should be familiar with the customs that apply to all the types of flags typically flown on a vessel.



A boat has a limited number of places from which to fly flags, and forcing the owner to be selective in the flags flown. A yacht or boat will ordinarily display three flags: one announcing her nationality, one announcing her owner's club affiliation, and one announcing her owner's status (private signal or club officer's flag).

National Ensign (50-Star US flag)

The familiar 50 star "stars and stripes" flag is also known as the National Ensign afloat. It is the most

important flag on board and identifies her national character. A ship's national ensign is immediately recognizable because it flies farthest aft (the place of honor), but not necessarily from the highest point in the rig. With the possible exception of battle flags, and hopefully we won't be seeing much battle on the Occoquan, it should be the vessel's largest flag.

Normally the national ensign is flown from a staff on the vessel's stern. No other flag may be flown from this position. There are rules that require the flag to be lowered at sunset.

Club Burgee

Most yacht club burgees are pennant shaped like the PWYC burgee, but a few clubs use swallow-tailed flags, while a very few use rectangular flags.

Flying the burgee is an important part of belonging to a yacht club and members of PWYC should fly our burgee with pride.

The burgee is flown from the bow staff on a powerboat, while most sailboats fly the burgee from the starboard spreader. Normally a vessel displays only one burgee at a time. Exceptions are made for opening day and other special occasions when owners will string together all burgees of clubs to which they belong, with the PWYC burgee at the top of the string for PWYC functions.



Officers Flags

The yacht ensign's circle of 13 stars surrounding an anchor forms the basis for the officer flags. The 13 stars represent the original 13 colonies found on the "Betsy Ross" flag with a fouled anchor in the union. The medallion configuration, was entered into official use in 1848, following an act of Congress that made it the

official signal for U.S. pleasure sailing vessels. On powerboats, the officer flag is flown from the mast, with the club burgee keeping its place flown at the bow staff. Officer flags are flown only when the officer is aboard.

PWYC has 5 Flag Officers; Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Secretary and Treasurer, each of which has their own flag of designation.

There is a lot more information about the history and use of nautical flags. As a recreational boater,

you may never need to use the majority of these as you come and go along the waterway. But knowing what they mean can be helpful out on the water, such as if you were to need assistance. Flying flags, especially the National Ensign, is actually more serious than most of us realize. You can find more information about our club flags in our PWYC Bylaws Article XI.

Some information in this article was borrowed from the Houston Yacht Club website, <http://www.houstonyachtclub.com/>.



Commodore

RICK MCHARG
EAGLE ONE K-40



Rick and Kris McHarg are Navy Vets. Rick was a Navy Flyer and Kris was a Navy Nurse turned Nurse Practitioner. They have been members of PWYC for 20 Years and 3 Boats. They started in a vintage 340 Sundancer and moved to the re-design in 06. Once the dream of the Great Loop became a bucket list item, they moved up to a 2000 450 Express Bridge and completed the Loop 2018-19. They live in Fairfax Station and have two adult kids and 3 grandchildren who love to boat. His vision is to see more PWYC families out on the water cruising to DC, The Potomac and the Bay.

Vice Commodore

JIM KHOURY
PEGASUS K-7



Jim and Judy Khoury are originally from NYC – Brooklyn to be specific! Normal migration patterns in NYC start in Brooklyn (or another Borough near-by), generally go to Staten Island, and almost entirely wind up in New Jersey. They only transitioned to Staten Island along the way.

Jim and Judy skipped the New Jersey migration stop and travelled directly to Aldie, VA in 2018 - Where they have an adult son living in Sterling, VA working for the US Government.

Jim has over forty years' experience in the Electronic Security Industry, running a business in NY since the late 1970's. Judy's employment career has been exclusively in a law firm in Midtown Manhattan.

Jim has been boating since the mid 1970's, and currently on boat number 7. "There's nothing like the sense of freedom once you hit the open water".

This is the fourth year for Jim & Judy at the Prince William Marina, and the atmosphere of family and good friendship at the marina far surpasses any previous marina they've been to in the past.

Jim's outlook for the PWYC is to get as many people involved in activities, cruises, and events sponsored by both the Yacht Club and the Marina. *"You've made the investment... Get out and enjoy it!"*

Rear Commodore

SCOTT PARSONS
"ISLAND TIME" G-34



Scott and Denise have been members and very active with the Prince William Yacht Club since buying their first boat at Prince William Marina in 2015. They started their cruising experience with a 280 Sundancer and moved up to a 340 Sundancer in 2020 during the COVID Pandemic. Scott is a retired Air Force veteran of 24 years. Serving in Dessert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom (AFG) twice, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Scott loves the navigation part of boating and is willing to share with anyone.

Scott and Denise recently moved from Maryland to Woodbridge to be closer to the marina and the friends and Family of PWYC and PW Marina. They have Four Daughters and Four grandchildren.

Scott will support PWYC families interested in opportunities that the Potomac and Chesapeake Bay offers to the boating community.

Secretary

Sabrina Salter
Salty Breeze, I-30



My boating life began as a child learning to sail on a lake near Ft. Sill, OK., where my father was stationed at the time. From that first experience, my family and I started sailing on the family boat in Florida and ended up moving aboard. We lived aboard for about 7 years both in Florida and in Washington D.C.

Although my parents eventually sold their boat, I continued my “boating” adventures by enlisting in the U.S. Coast Guard right after high school. The water was in my veins. My first duty station with the USCG was in Long Island, NY as part of a small boat crew performing law enforcement, and search and rescue. I transitioned from small boats to a desk position as a Storekeeper and finished my 11 years of service at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington D.C. While stationed at USCG HQ, I reacquainted with my high school sweetheart, and we were married in 1994 (you know him as the Captain of the Salty Breeze).

Over the ensuing years, Chris and I worked hard and raised our two daughters. Both whom are now adults, graduated college, married and have blessed us with two- and four-footed grandbabies. During those years, we often talked about returning to boating. So, this brings us too now. In June 2020, after being away from boating for more than thirty plus years, we looked at each other and said what could go wrong. Without a second thought we bought our first boat, a Sea Ray 40 Motor Yacht. In 2022 we sold the Motor Yacht and bought our second boat, another Sea Ray of course but switched it up to a 52 Sundancer. We have only had the fifty-two for a couple of months before she began her long winters nap but are looking forward to another season of making memories with new boat and friends.

Since becoming a part of the PWM and PWYC family we have made so many friends and wonderful memories. My goal as part of the PWYC Bridge and as the I Dock representative is to share with others all that I have learned and help them create those special moments that make boating amazing.

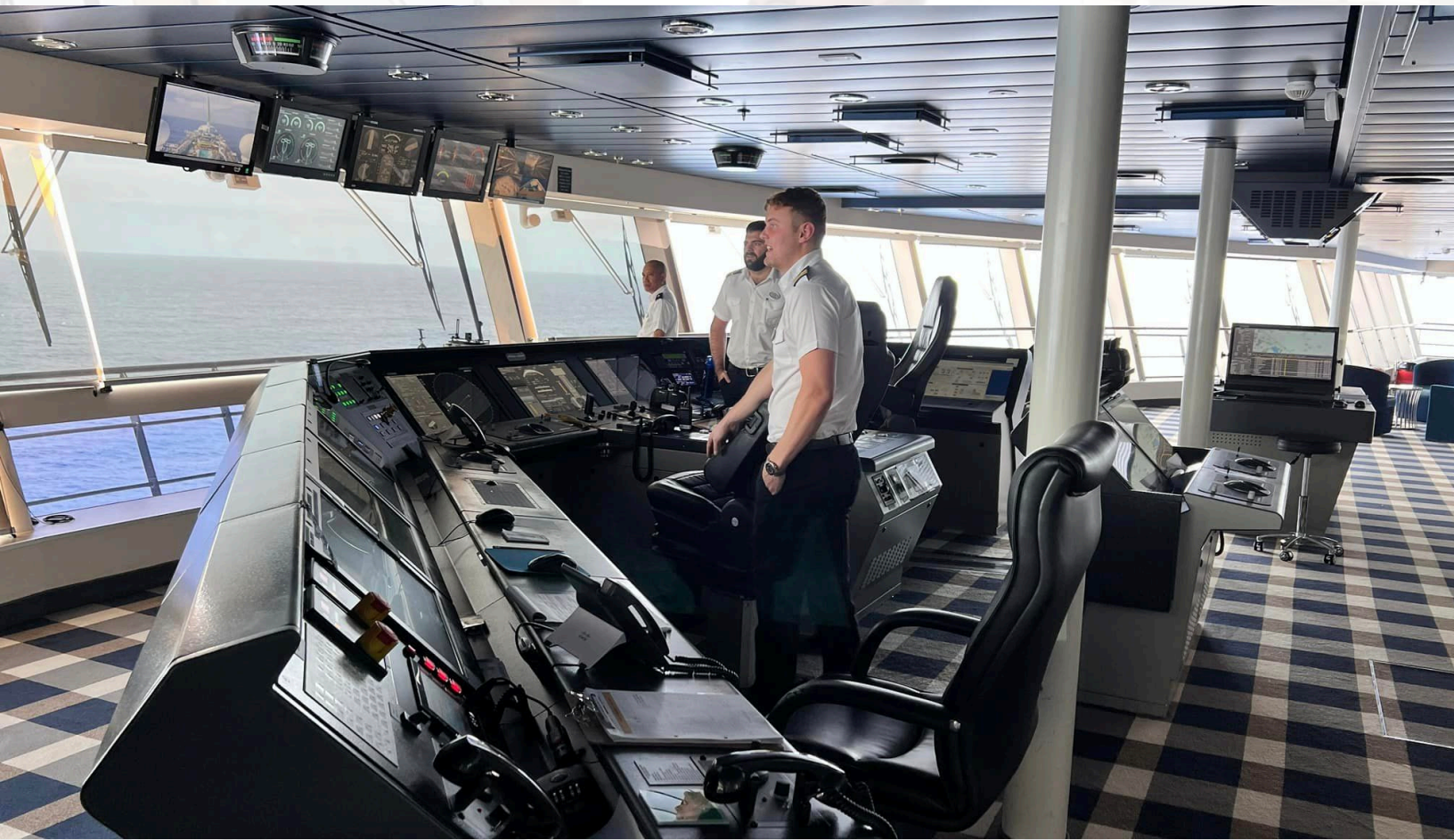
Treasurer

Sherry Samar
IrishHawk, E-6



Jack and I have been members of PWYC for 16 years. We both grew up in Indiana, met in college (Jack at Notre Dame and Sherry at St. Mary’s College). Jack spent 30 years on active duty in the Navy flying the A-6 Intruder and as captain of two ships. Sherry worked as a medical technologist in various hospitals during those years. We came to northern Virginia in 1999 and Sherry began working for the American Red Cross in biomedical services until her retirement in February 2020. We live in Woodbridge and have two adult daughters, one adult son, and eight grandchildren. We enjoy the many friends we have made at the marina and attending or watching all Notre Dame sports.

NEWS FROM THE BRIDGE



Vice Commodore's Musings

Jim Khoury
vicecommodore@pwyc.org
Pegasus K-21



Happy New Year to all PWYC members! I anticipate that 2023 will be better than the 2022 boating season! Your Yacht Club had an incredible season during 2022 with many wonderful events and cruises, that we can build upon the base created for an even more enjoyable season – if that's even possible!!

Having had the privilege of serving as your Vice Commodore, I had the distinct honor of serving the club under the auspices of our Commodore Rick McHarg and working with our IPC Mike Connolly... Kudos to you both and all the folks contributing to a really well-run organization.

Our upcoming season will be here before you know it, so I would like to hit the ground running.

Some of my duties as the Vice are to maintain and oversee land-based activities and events that are held throughout the season such as the Captain's Hour(s), Dock Parties, assist the Dock Reps with their needs to be successful, provide communications to the membership by ensuring that flyers and other message related to the PWYC's activities are properly disseminated.

My first order of business is to thank all the Dock Reps that have come forward as new and volunteers for their respective docks as well as the folks that have chosen to return for yet another season representing your fellow dock mates. Also, a "Thank You!" is in order for those reps that have taken on the task in previous seasons. Your volunteerism is crucial to the success of the club. Kudos to all of you!

As listed on the website's Bridge Page, the following is a current list of active Dock Representatives for the upcoming season:

(Note: the PWYC email address for each rep is (X)docrep@pwyc.org.

The Boatel's Rep is boateldockrep@pwyc.org.)

A-Dock	<i><u>Vacant - Seeking Volunteer</u></i>
B-Dock	Julie Finocchiaio & Keith Clouser
C-Dock	James & Dawn Brady
D-Dock	Matt & Lisa Shaw
E-Dock	Nicholas Roper
F-Dock	Charlotte Blane
G-Dock	Mike Strano
H-Dock	Joy & Walt Heuer
I-Dock	Chris & Sabrina Salter
J-Dock	PWM Sales dock
K-Dock	Jason & Shannon Leydig
L-Dock	<i><u>Vacant - Seeking Volunteer</u></i>
Boatel	Joe Peruzzi

A special "Thank You" to Arthur & Rebecca Fernandes for being Dock Reps for L Dock and Laura Lee for K Dock for the past few years... You guys did an amazing job for your home teams!

As you can see, we are short two Dock Representatives. If anyone would consider becoming the dock rep for either A or L dock(s), please contact me and I will get the representation needed in place!

On another note, we have many upcoming events that early preparation will assure success for the club.

There are several safety seminars, as well as USCG AUX BS&S safe boating classes coming up over the next few months. Remember that you must have a Safety Certificate to legally run a water vessel on local waters – and it's not a bad idea to learn what you already may not know. The BS&S Courses are offered through PWM. Please consult the website calendar for the link to the registration with Teresa Allen.

Over the course of the season, your Yacht Club Board of Directors holds scheduled meetings. These meetings are listed on our website Events Calendar and are open to all members in good standing. It is a great way to learn how your club works and participate in the activities and events provided by your club.

Don't forget the Dulles Boat Show – March 10th – 12th, and on the 24th of March, the PWM Employee Appreciation Dinner – sponsored by your club to show the PWM family of employees how much we value their services.

Opening Day on April 15th will be a day full of activities for all. Seminars, meetings, food and the Commodore's happy hour. We will open the season with the raising of our colors, and of course all the celebration that goes along with it. Please be on the lookout for the Nautical Flea Market being held on the ground floor of the Blue Bath House!

There is so much activity coming up over the next several months – you will certainly have a stellar season - if you participate!

If you have any questions, please contact me either by email @ vicecommodore@pwyc.org, or you can call or text my cell phone @ 718-494-3365.

Please visit the PWYC Website often – there's changes & updates posted almost daily!



<https://pwyc.org>

I am looking forward to a terrific season ahead!

- Jim Khoury

Vice Commodore PWYC

Pegasus – K21

Rear Commodore

Scott Parsons
rearcommodore@pwyc.org
Island Time G25



I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. As I write this I want you to know I went to Key West looking for inspiration from Earnest Hemingway to make my articles more entertaining. I'm not sure anything sunk in except I can't wait to get back on the water. Denise and I pretty much walked the whole Island and took an eco-excursion, kayaking the mangroves and relaxing on a sand bar. I even presented the crew with one of the thirtieth anniversary coins, now it's the most Southernmost coin in the continental US. I think we hit every bar and grill looking for bar shirts and having a refreshment, some better than others. Returning to Virginia and here we are in the middle of January and no snow, knock on wood, I hope it stays that way. I also hope the next few months fly by like 2022 did, won't be long now and the hustle and bustle of marina life will be the norm.



Year two for me as the Rear Commodore and I can say year one was an exceptional year, I believe. I look forward to another year as good if not better. I had a couple of suggestions for the cruises to get more members involved and I tried to incorporate them into the cruise planning for this year. The PWYC Board has approved the event calendar for 2023 and all the cruises I have submitted are listed on the social calendar and below. I also had a suggestion to build a checklist to follow for those that sign up to champion a cruise or to use for your own group planning. I will have something posted to the website by mid-February for all to use. If you see something needing to be changed or added just let me know as this can be a living checklist as waterways and establishment change the way they do business.

Knowledge of boating and learning the local waterways is key to a successful season. We all have huge advantage as we have some of the best captains on the water within our Yacht Club, so take advantage of

theirs and others experience, we all are happy and willing to talk about anything. Your knowledge and experience will come from the many cruises you participate in, long or short. We have twelve events/cruises between the Commodore, Vice Commodore, and I and some need Captains to champion them. You don't have to be the sole planner; you can share the duties. Our club relies heavily on volunteers, but volunteering does not mean you're all alone. Those that participate are more than happy to assist where needed, from planning the route to assisting with docking or rafting up, and planning activities at the destination. For those that are willing to champion a cruise please get with either myself, Rick McHarg, or Jim Khoury for details or if you just have questions, we can answer those too or find someone who can.

I look forward to taking reigns again as the PWYC Rear Commodore, I hope I have filled the big deck shoes of all other PWYC Rears.

2023 Planned Cruises:

- 01 April The Cherry Blossom Cruise (Need Championing) Backup date is 2 April
- 22-23 April PWYC Colonial Beach Cruise (Scott Parsons Championing)
- 06-07 May PWYC Mother's Day Cruise to the Wharf DC (Scott Parsons Championing)
- 26-28 May Memorial Day Raft up in Mattawoman Creek (Need a Champion)
- 16-18 June Father's Day Cruise Colonial Beach Yacht Center (PWM and PWYC) Still working details
- 15-21 July Bay Cruise (Commodore/Vice Commodore)
- 22-23 July PRYCA Float In at Coles Point (usually part of the Bay cruise)
- 18-20 Aug Three Sister's Raft Up (Need Champion) Backup date 1-3 September (Labor Day)
- 16 Sept Patriot Cruise and Salute (PCS Championing)
- 22-24 Sept Pirates Night on the Hook at Mattawoman Creek (Joint PWM and PWYC) (A Team Effort)
- 06-08 Oct Commodore Cruise to Herrington Harbor South (Rick McHarg's)
- 21-23 Oct Final PWYC Cruise to the Wharf DC (Need a Championing)



WHAT'S NEW?

The Virginia Department of Wildlife posted several new regulations this season. While most pertain to folks engaged in fishing, there are two that stand out as applicable to all of us to ensure safe operation.

Move Over: *Motorboats now are required to slow to no-wake speed within 200 feet of a law enforcement or emergency services vessel when displaying blue or red flashing lights.*



To me, that one seems obvious, but it only takes a few minutes on the water to realize what's obvious to one is non-existent to the other. I'm sure most will slow down for the blue lights, but what about the red-yellow of the tow service boats? It's so easy to say, "NAPOM - Not a Problem of Mine"! But, why do that? Don't put other operators, regardless of their service, at risk. Throttle down early and give them the slow pass you would want if you were being towed or otherwise operating at slow/no speed.

Fire Extinguishers: *In addition to meeting the carriage requirements for the correct number of extinguishers for the size of your boat, fire extinguishers on boats built after 2017 must be Marine Type – USCG Approved 5-B, 10-B, or 20-B. Fire extinguishers on boats built 2017 or earlier may carry USCG Marine Type B- or B-II. Extinguishers must not be more than 12 years old according to the date of manufacture stamped on the bottle.*

This one is a no brainer. We are likely all guilty of not really inspecting our fire suppression devices. Usually tossed onto the boat like a bottle of salad dressing in the fridge. In and forgotten. But, on the day you need it, you hate surprises. So, take a moment, clean out the fridge and check the dates and intended use.



Treasurer

SHERRY SAMAR
IRISH HAWK, E-6



PWYC Treasurer's Report 12/01/2022 – 12/31/2022

INCOME

Dues	\$ 2,400.00
Interest	\$ 0.25
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 2,400.25

EXPENSES

November Safety Forum	\$ 286.20
Wild Apricot expense	\$ 220.52
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 506.72

Checking account balance	\$ 29,027.60
Long Term Capital Expenses	-\$ 4,750.00
Budgeted Expenses not yet spent	-\$ 300.00
Funds available	\$ 23,977.60

Ships Manifest

Membership Chair

Una Murphy

membership@pwyc.org



The 2023 PWYC Membership Report

2023 Membership (from 09/01/2022 - 1/06/2023)

118 members

•106 renewals/new members

•12 members paid by Prince William Marina

For Comparison

2022 (between 09/01/2021 – 1/06/2022)

132 members

- 120 renewals
- 12 paid by PWM

2021 (between 09/01/2020 – 1/06/2021)

91 members

- 84 renewals
- 7 paid by PWM

THE 95 MEMBERS WHO RENEWED BEFORE 12/31 WILL BE ENTERED INTO THE “GET YOUR DUES BACK” DRAWING AT THE SLIPHOLDERS PARTY.

BURGEES FOR SALE \$30 IF YOU PICK UP AT MARINA AND \$40 IF YOU WANT IT MAILED TO YOU.

Download the Wild Apricot Mobile App to help you stay connected to PWYC:

Don't forget that you can use the **Wild Apricot Member App** to stay connected to the Prince William Yacht Club even in the off-season.

Download the app, sign in with the same email address and password for your **PWYC** account and start using it!

This app helps you:

Interact with fellow members anywhere from your mobile device Register and make payments for events

View all existing event registrations

Update your member profile, including your address, phone and email View your membership card

Scan the QR Code above OR download the app from the Apple App Store or Google Play!



Renew Your Membership Today:

If you haven't renewed your membership for the 2023 season and want to do so now, you have options!

Renew via **Credit Card** in the Wild Apricot App or on pwyc.org Or

Send a \$100.00 **Check** made payable to: PWYC to PWYC Membership Renewal

c/o Prince William Marina

12849 Gordon Boulevard Woodbridge, VA 22192-3240

If you know marina friends or dockmates who have not yet renewed, please give them a reminder. If you know marina friends or dockmates who are not members, please recruit them for membership!

Thanks everyone!!

SAFETY OFFICER

BOB SWARTZ



Learning The Rules Of The Road

In December one of the Captains responsible for pushing 275 to 350-foot barges up and down the Occoquan River to or from the Vulcan Materials Company dock spent about 70 minutes with us via Zoom. The barges usually are loaded with sand when they arrive at the Vulcan dock and empty when they leave. The Company is located between the Route 1 bridge and the town of Occoquan.

The light dead weight of the 350-foot barge is around 2,100 tons. The sand these barges carry add 4,500 tons to the light dead weight. The total package of tug plus loaded barge is kept to a draft of around 9.2 feet due to draft restrictions on the Occoquan.

The focus of the Captain's presentation was safety related. Specifically, what everyone who uses the water can do to make everyone's time underway as safe as possible. His comments were recorded. They are available on PWYC.org.

The upshot of the 70 minutes was that in his opinion most people around him were not conversant enough with the Rules of the Road. Traveling up and down the Occoquan and Potomac Rivers revealed to him a startling number of boat drivers who either did not know the appropriate Rule to follow or chose not to follow it. As a result, situations occurred that could escalate to dangerous levels.

Additionally, too many recreational boat drivers:

- Do not take into account that a tug pushing barges these sizes loaded or empty cannot maneuver quickly. The final decision(s) should an accident occur would be determined by the appropriate authorities under the appropriate Rule(s) of the Road. However, the law of sheet metal cannot be ignored, nor can the consequences.
- Do not realize the extra time and space needed to either dock or leave, especially on windy days. This particularly is true when maneuvering under the Route 1 bridge.
- Do not understand the dangers of getting too close to a powerful tug pushing a large and heavy barge in a narrow channel. Google bow cushion, stern suction, and Bernoulli's law.
- Either do not have a VHF on board or do not use it. Channel 13 (Bridge to Bridge) and Channel 16 (Hailing) are the channels monitored. Any Vulcan tug Captain loves to get calls asking, for example, on which side to pass or whether he wants us to wait a bit so he can complete a maneuver. These calls go a long way toward lowering everyone's stress level. After asking, we should be prepared to do what is asked of us.

It is possible either to take a professionally taught Rules of The Road course or home school. The following may or may not issue a credential upon completion and passing an official Coast Guard exam. Here are four sources in no particular order of preference. There may be others.

As always, everyone is on their own. Everyone makes their own decision

1. Jim McAllister, 571-221-0528, (McAllister2015@gmail.com)
 - Held face-to-face in Woodbridge.
 - Cost to be determined.

- The course totals 24 hours:
 - USCG approved with a certificate issued on successful passing of the exam.
 - Classes can be conducted over 3 consecutive days/2 consecutive weekends/a combination of 2 weeknights and 1 weekend.
 - Instructors are all USCG approved with years of maritime experience.
 - Projected course start is March or early April.
2. Captain Bobby, Pathfinder Maritime Training, 414 409-7228, (info@pathfindercaptain.com)
- \$200.00 fee.
 - Online course, online custom rules book, instructor available for help.
 - Certificate awarded upon passing the approved 50-question proctored exam at a testing site
 - Flexibility as to testing sites and dates.
 - Available online, 24/7
 - Self-paced learning.
3. Matt, Annapolis School of Seamanship, 410-263-8848, (matt@asoscapt.com)
- Face-to-face 2-day course limited to 4 students per class.
 - Course fee \$425.00.
 - Licensed Captain instructors.
 - Private classes available for individuals, groups, organizations, and marinas.
 - No certificate available upon successful completion and passing the exam.
 - Can take the class but don't have to take the exam.
4. Home School
- <https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/navRules/navrules.pdf>
 - Study materials available on YouTube, etc. under subject matter headings.
 - No fee. No test, no certificate.

SAVE THE DATE



CHANGE OF WATCH GALA

March 11, 2023

Embassy Suites
Springfield, VA

\$130pp/ member
\$150pp/non-member
7:00-11:30 p.m.



Formal/Cocktail attire

Dinner, Dancing, Open Bar, and After the
Party Party!



View from the Quarter Decks



By Michele Price, PWM

Happy New Year!!! I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays; The Christmas Boat Lighting is a memory now but I want to thank everyone for decorating. And how about those fireworks!! I have a list below of the winners but a Thank You and Congrats to all; as everyone that decorated is a winner for me. I would also like to thank everyone for contributing to the Boat Load of Hope. It goes

a long way in the local community to some very needy families.

Annual PWM Christmas Boat Lighting

AND THE WINNERS ARE:

Boatel—The Kelly's
C Dock—James Brady "In Spite of"
D Dock—Paul Wetmore "Captain Magpie"
E Dock—Ernie Porta "Eclipse"
F Dock—Peter Maravas "Lucky Dog"
G Dock—Scott & Denise Parsons "Island Time"
H Dock--Lou Ward "Perfect Times"
I Dock—Michael Turch "It's F8"
K Dock—Dave Weekman "Slip Away"
L Dock—David Fouse "Send Me"

Best Dock: H-Dock "Costco Theme"
3rd Place overall: Billy Oldridge "Caroline"
2nd Place: Bob & Vicky Carr "CarRuisin II"
1st Place: David Roehrig "Bobbi Marley II"

Pardon our dust

For any of you that have not been down to the marina and in our building lately we are under full renovation in the showroom as well as the service dept. It is looking beautiful, we moved the sales offices from the center of the showroom to the sides, we have painted, carpeted, showroom floor re stained and furniture is coming soon. So please bear with our mess during renovation we know it will all be worth it.





Upcoming Dates of Interest:

Chantilly Family Boat Show March 10-12

Maintenance Classes—currently being scheduled watch for details next month

USCG Auxiliary Safety Classes—currently being schedule watch for details next month

April 1st Boatel Opens

PWM Employee Christmas Party:

—During our Employee Christmas Party this year we recognized employees that reached milestone tenure here at the marina. Congrats to the following:

Doug Phillips—35 years
Steve Hedrick—20 years
DJ Phillips—10 years
Tim Stanton—10 years
Roberto Vazquez—5 years
Eric Shaver—5 years
Jeff Miller—5 years

Misc Tidbits:

We want to welcome our newest employee Michele O’Quinn to PWM. Michele comes to us with parts and warranty experience in the boating industry. Be sure to say hello next time you are in the parts department as she will be helping Mary in parts as well as working on our warranty claims.





If you travel the waters of Annapolis, you've no doubt seen the green marker where the Severn River meets Spa Creek. But do you know it's history? More than just an aid to navigation, it is a monument to those who put to sea in ships and it has a secret.

Standing 25 feet tall and featuring two plaques that tell its story, this is the Triton Light and it was erected in 1959, as a gift to the Naval Academy from the Class of 1945. It is the only navigational aid physically located on the Academy property and it contains something quite special. In 1960, a year after the light was erected, the crew of the USS Triton completed the first submerged circumnavigation of the world. To honor the Greek God Triton and celebrate the coincidence of their name, the crew collected water from all of the 22 seas. A special globe was built to contain the water and was then placed in the monument. The upper plaque speaks of this amazing voyage and gift.

The lower plaque says, "This light is dedicated to the safe return of all those who go down to the sea in ships." Together, the two dedications make a powerful statement to protect all sailors who brave the vast oceans.

So, the next time you're up in Annapolis, take a look and realize you're looking at something amazing.