



THE MAINSHEET



PORT MADISON YACHT CLUB
JANUARY 2007

FROM THE HELM

Happy New Year to all! 2007 is shaping up to be an exciting year at PMYC and I wanted to let you know about some of the things that are in the works. There are several efforts at the clubhouse that will result in much-needed improvements.

First, our project to enhance the uplands for increased access to water—the reconstructed lower driveway, the new boat ramp, and other improvements to the yard—is moving through the final stages of the permitting process (at long last!). Once we have our permit from the Army Corps of Engineers in hand, we should be good to go. When this happens, there will be opportunities for lots of work party credit to get this finished.

The Planning/Capital Improvements and Docks & Moorage committees are working hard in a couple of areas. We're hoping to replace our aging deck this year and we're also planning on renovating the gangway from the pier down to the floating docks. This should enable much better access for dinghies to get from behind the clubhouse down to the water. We are also in the process of developing a clearer policy for big- and small-boat moorage. Simple as all this may sound, it actually requires a fair bit of deliberation and work; some additional assistance would be appreciated. I would like to see additional participation from the membership on all committees. Please let me know if you'd be willing to help.

Scott has been hard at work herding cats to put together the 2007 calendar. You should

be receiving it very shortly along with the yearbook.

Lastly, I'd like to remind you to please be sure your club account is current. Checks should be mailed to Eagle Harbor Data Services, not PMYC. The EHDS address is 9630 Mandus Olson Road NE, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110. Also, please be certain to let EHDS know about any address changes. We've had some unfortunate missed communications in the past over address changes that weren't given to the club.

I'm excited about the new changes in the works at the clubhouse. Hope to see you there!

Glenn

FROM THE BOARD

On January 7 the PMYC Board met and reviewed the 2007 budget proposed by the Langley Gace and the financial committee. I'm sure many of us have no idea how much effort goes into this budget...it's significant. Income flows primarily from our dues and dock moorage. Other fees are designed to cover event costs, and may or may not do so when the final numbers come in. Expenses that are primarily fixed include property taxes, insurance, tideland rent, utilities, and loan payments. As with any household or business, a long list of ways to spend money ensues, and the club tries very hard to keep these planned and in check. The bottom line is the desire to live within our means, and face the necessary expenses to keep this club going. The 2007 budget is projected to be balanced, and was approved by the board. A 10-year long range capitol improvements package was also studied, including

improvements in the pilings, gangway, boat ramp, grid, well, utility lines, dock improvements, and other “wish list” items.

New members were approved...three families this month. Maintenance and improvements are in the permit process, and were discussed to optimize cost/benefit by including multiple projects in the same permit packages. A site plan with current setbacks and restrictions is being prepared so we can study how the property may be utilized in the years to come.

The Capitol Campaign will be addressed by Glenn Hartmann in more detail for PMYC members in the near future. It's goal is to raise \$25,000 for PMYC improvements while keeping dues as low as possible. The donation thermometer is on the back page.

NEW MEMBERS

We have some great folks joining us this month. Jim and Leigh Metteer have joined the PMYC with their 34' traditional wood sailing vessel “Lumiere,” which they built in their boat shop.

Larry and Bernadette Witty are joining us with their 32' Beneteau, “Clair de Lune.” If all goes well they will be doing some extensive sailing with their boat.

Leon and Barbara Robert are on board with their Valiant 32 “Megan.” We look forward to seeing more of them in the future.

RACE TROPHIES

Many racing trophies are waiting in the clubhouse for their victorious skippers to claim.



“Squirt” squirts by.

NEW YEARS CRUISE

An armada of sailing vessels from the invincible PMYC invaded the Elliot Bay Marina for New Years Eve, swamping the downstairs pub and causing widespread confusion (actually, that was me...the dock gates all look the same...). It was an unusually lovely day for a sail to Seattle, with sunshine and a gentle wind. It almost felt warm at times. The fireworks coming off the Space Needle were magnificent ...with a perfect view from the dock. Several bottles of champagne were sacrificed. New Years Day brought a brisk south wind in the morning, strong in the afternoon, to sail home with.

BOATER EDUCATION CLASS

A boater's education class with the blessing of the Coast Guard will be held at the Bainbridge Island Commons building on Saturday, February 10th from 8 to 5. Taught by Grant Winther and Joe Dunstan, it covers the basics of safe boating. The \$35 fee includes books, CD, materials, and a final exam. A Boater's Education Card is included, which may be advantageous for insurance or other purposes.

OUR FIRST HURRICANE

PMYC members Greg Hiatt with wife Betsy and son Franck are cruising their beautiful 56' steel ketch "Ocean Eyes" in Mexico. Having sailed down Mexico's west coast, they decided to head back to Baja for the storm season. After tying off, they were tempted to buy an unfinished home in Mexico, and were finishing it when hurricane John came ashore. Not heavily covered in the domestic press, John was a nasty blow to the west coast of Mexico. Here are some excerpts from an e-mail Greg sent a few months ago after the blow:

Long lost "Ocean Eyes" is still floating after Hurricane John made a direct hit in La Paz. The winds were straight on to the port beam for the first half and on the starboard beam the second. The wind speed indicator was pegged at 68 knots for a minute or so at a time so the gusts must have peaked around 80, with the maximum recorded boat list [at the slip] of 35 degrees. [Greg said it was weird to be able to step onto the boat rail-down at the dock.] I kept adding lines throughout the storm until I had 12 dock lines on each side of the boat. We were in a single slip with a finger pier each side so I could keep "Ocean Eyes" away from the dock at all times. Lots of excitement and some damaged boats but "Ocean Eyes" didn't have a scratch.

Meanwhile, while I was Tending "Ocean Eyes" in La Paz, Betsy and Franck were 100 KM away in our new house in Los Barriles where the Hurricane made an unpredicted landfall with gusts estimated at up to 200 miles per hour. Although it was a relatively small hurricane, it was very intense at its center and damage in Los Barriles was very severe. It was the most powerful hurricane to ever hit Los Barriles according to local fishermen.

Our house lost about 1000 square feet of roof tile and one small palapa. The tiles flew as far as one block and broke three windows in a car parked on the street. We

had 3 palms toppled and the remaining 20 were shredded. Betsy and Franck had to spend 2 hours trying to hold a french door closed after the top and bottom pins failed, even though this door was partially boarded up with one 4x8 sheet of plywood. The "fire hose" effect forced water through all closed windows and doors and even though we didn't break a single window, the entire house was flooded. We will be spending the next many weeks cleaning up the mess and repairing the damage. Currently (4 days after the storm), we do not have public water, power, phone, internet, or cell phone and we don't really expect to get any of that for the next week or so. We are using a generator and we have a 18 cubic meter under ground water storage tank that is keeping everything running for now.

In town, Broken windows are the norm, both in cars and houses. Probably every other house has some structural damage. We inspected a friend's house that is on an especially exposed location, 400' above us on a precipice, his \$17K, top-of-the-line, steel, hurricane shutters can be seen on a hill side 1/2 a mile away. Their luxury home is standing but destroyed. All of the windows in their Suburban were blown out and a beheaded jackrabbit is laying in front of an entry door. I know that there have been at least 3 storm related deaths in our area.

GEAR & BOAT SWAPS

Do you have some cool boat stuff that someone else could use...for the right price? Hardware, gear, skiffs, oars, spinnakers, diesels...whole boats? We'll list it here. Please, no spouse swaps. Send info to Scott at sbsnjem@bainbridge.net or call at 206-842-5003.

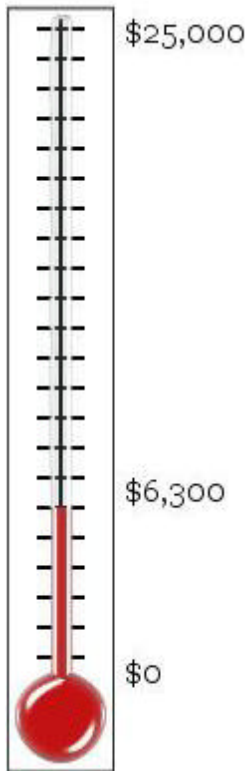
24' Olson 25 Boat Trailer with new tires, brakes, etc. \$2800. Call Terri Shimmin 842-4017

Spinnaker or whisker pole, 2.5" dia. x 12', could be shortened. \$100. Scott S. 842-5003

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PO BOX 10002

Bainbridge Island, WA 98110



CAPITOL IMPROVEMENTS FUNDRAISING DONATIONS TO DATE

Back by popular demand, the thermometer shows contributions to the capitol improvement fund by generous club members, over and above dues. Many thanks to contributors!