



THE MAINSHEET



PORT MADISON YACHT CLUB
FEBRUARY 2007

FROM THE HELM

February is the month with a special day to remember those we love. Lately, I've been thinking about a different sort of passion many of us have in common. Of course I'm referring to sailing, the shared interest that connects us with PMYC.

A club is totally dependent upon its membership; participation and new members are its lifeblood. Each year we lose a few members who move from Bainbridge Island, or who drift away from sailing. We need active, engaged sailors to sustain PMYC.

Contrary to popular belief, PMYC is not at its membership cap. We have room for several new members who share our passion for all aspects of sailing — racing, cruising, and/or social activities. I invite you to help grow our club.

In the next several days you will be receiving your 2007 PMYC yearbook and calendar. Also in that package will be a membership kit that includes basic information about our club for prospective members and application forms for adult and junior membership. I hope you'll find this information useful when you talk about the club with prospective PMYC members. Additional application forms are available at the PMYC website: portmadisonyc.org.

This February, introduce a sailing friend to PMYC. Share the love.

See you at the club,
Glenn

FROM THE BOARD

The February Board meeting was a lively affair with the focus on racing around in sailboats. Andy Parker presented a preliminary plan for revising the current racing format (see article below for details). On the financial front, Langley Gace reported on some whopper bills that were paid, including tideland rent to the Dept. of Natural Resources for the docks. It's easy to forget that dock owners lease the public land underneath, and those fees add up to thousands of dollars a year. Meanwhile, the labyrinth of permits with the Corps of Engineers and others continue for repairs to PMYC pilings and minor improvements. Dock and grid policy is being reviewed, and the final policy details are being analyzed for a vote next month. The grid policy will now allow only inspection and mechanical work (zincs, propeller, etc.), with bottom cleaning and painting judged illegal.

PMYC RACING REVAMP?

PMYC racing has been a major topic of discussion among members and the board in the last few weeks. In recent times, most racing fleets have shrunk in size, sometimes leaving so few boats that the races are canceled. Why this is so, and what can be done to reactivate the fading scene that has been such a huge source of enjoyment is the question of the day. After much discussion, Andy Parker has consolidated ideas and proposed a revamp of the racing program, including a new racing committee for organizing races, destinations, reservations,

instructions and all other racing details. At this time, racing is envisioned as follows:

1. "Dinghies will race Thursday nights, as Fridays have proven to be difficult, especially when there is an away regatta on the weekend.
2. The Thursday night race committee will also start keel boats, if there is enough interest, with the idea that there might be enough T-birds, 6 meters and PHRF (scoring T-birds and Sixes as well) on some or all evenings for racing. These groups will assign fleet captains and secure attendance commitments. They will then contact the race committee of their intentions. Five boats minimum would be needed to set keelboat marks. [There is some reluctance regarding dual Thursday dingy and keel boat races as some may want to race both.]
3. While there is an obvious desire for longer courses for the bigger big boats, there wasn't anyone interested in actually sailing on weeknights. So, the club should emphasize and focus on our already successful weekend big boats races, and add a few new events:

Feb 24, the **Jim Depue Memorial Race**, Frey series #1. A great and popular race.

April 29, 8-15 miles. **NEW RACE**. PMYC **Opening Day Race** out in the bay after the parade in the harbor, Sunday. Frey Series #2

May 19 and 20, **Fal Joslin Race**, one of the most underrated races in the northwest.

June 11, **NEW RACE** around **Blake Island**, starting off Eagle Harbor, 13 miles, Sunday, Frey Series #3

July 8, **NEW RACE**, **Elliot Bay Harbor Tour**. Start off Eagle Harbor, short windward to a temp, then to Duamish Head to West Buoy and back. Sunday, 11 miles, Frey Series #4

August 12, **Jack and Jill**, fun & growing in popularity. Sunday.

Sept 23 and 24 **Round the Island Race**, a

big favorite with the PMYC.

4. Race committee volunteers will be established early on and will be responsible for their replacement if they can't make their assigned event. Assignments will all be on the website.

5. Race committees for distance or multiple Thursday races should get work party credits. Larger boats than the whaler are needed for some of these events, something comfortable and safe after dark for the Depue Race.

6. There should be a small entry fee paid to cover #5, with additional new marks, fuel and gear expenses.

7. A racing committee will be established composed of interested board members and others to report to the board as a whole on racing matters and administer the program."

Other ideas and comments from other club members included:

Establishing a small one-design keelboat fleet, such as the J 22... not too expensive, fast, fun, & readily available, a fleet that members could buy into.

Swap single and double handed dingy racing week to week. However, some felt this would limit their opportunities to race.

Establish an informal weekend big boat race on the sound, modeled after the Eagle Harbor style weekly race, without a race committee, formal start and finish, fees, or trophies, on Sunday afternoon (or Saturday?) every week...or one or more weeks a month. Sort of a "just for fun" afternoon cruise/race/sail.

Locate some races off Eagle Harbor to make it easier for PMYC boats mooring there to participate. And, while we're at it, swap crews on boats between Port Madison and Eagle Harbor races when the boats can't make it.

Participation in other racing events, such as the PHRF races sponsored by the CYC and

SYC, have also been noticed to be down, so this is a larger phenomenon than just us.

More discussion will be coming up on the issue, so stay tuned and help out with your own ideas! If you want to contribute, contact Andy Parker. His e-mail address is japarker@juno.com.

RACES AND CRUISES

The **Jim Depue Race** gets underway on Saturday, February 24th. For more information and the entry form, go to the PMYC website, and follow to the WSSA site.

The **Blake Island Family Cruise** will take off on Saturday, March 3rd, for a rendezvous on Blake Island. For more information, contact Kim Esterberg at www.kim@bosia.org.

NEED A BURGEE?

If your PMYC burgee is in tatters we have a new shipment available. The regular size (12" high x 19" wide) is available for \$25, and the small size (10" high x 15" wide) is available for \$18. E-mail Scott at the address below or call 842-5003.

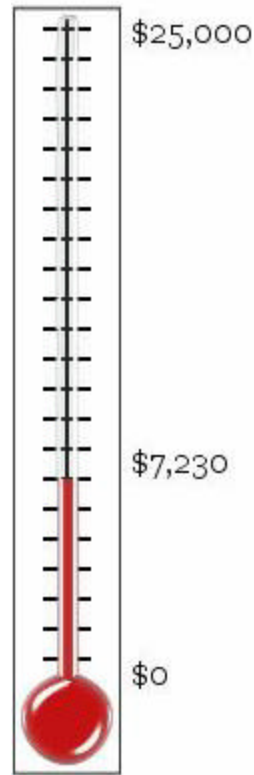
GEAR & BOAT SWAPS

Send listings to sbsnjem@bainbridge.net

Stainless steel fuel tank (for Cal 33), custom made \$150. Call Mike Currie 360-779-3037

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

BalMar high output alternator, 140 amps, small frame, recently rebuilt \$300.00 Call Brian O'Neill for details 206 855 0636 (h) or 360 620 1008 (c)



CAPITOL IMPROVEMENTS FUNDRAISING DONATIONS TO DATE

In order to secure financing over and above our regular [read very tight] budget for improvements to the club, the PMYC has established a Capitol Improvements fund. Donations are over and above regular dues and moorage charges, and are entirely voluntary. Donations can be made to the PMYC, PO Box 10002, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110. Thanks again to all who help!

ADDRESS AND E-MAIL CHANGES

If your reading this, there's a good chance we have one of these right, but any changes should be sent to Scott Sprague at sbsnjem@bainbridge.net, or call 842-5003.

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PO BOX 10002
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110