



# SEMAPHORE

Volume 57, Issue 7, July 2025

**Happy summer at PYC!**





## It's here! Join us this weekend for Firecracker Regatta

Here are the details for this weekend!

### **Schedule of Events**

#### **Friday night, July 4**

5-7 p.m.- Registration & camping setup

8 p.m.-? Acoustic Jam at Leoni's Landing  
(bring your instrument)

#### **Saturday, July 5**

9 a.m. - Registration

10 a.m. - Skippers' meeting.

11 a.m. - Racing (3-5 races)

6 p.m. - PYC Burgers N Dogs + Side Dish  
Potluck

8 p.m. - YouTube Karaoke with DJ DOGMEAT

#### **Sunday, July 6**

9 a.m. - Skippers' meeting if needed.

10 a.m. - Racing (2-3 races)

Trophies/Awards to follow.

#### **Regatta fee - \$40/boat that includes:**

- Camping Friday & Saturday night on PYC's hill\*
- Trophies
- Beer (PYC members can enjoy beer without regatta fee)

QUESTIONS: Please reach out to Regatta  
Chairperson / P.R.O. Kenny Gall  
(k\_gall@yahoo.com).

[Info & Register here](#)



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## **Commodore's Corner**

Larry Bigus

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The summer heat has arrived, and many dedicated members are working hard to keep PYC the premier sailing-only yacht club in the Midwest!

We're excited to share that the paperwork for the new dock wave attenuator has been finalized, and the down payment has

been made. We're officially on the manufacturer's list, and installation is expected before the lake ices over this fall.

Facility improvements are also underway. Volunteers has installed a new ceiling and ventilation in the bathrooms which are helping to keep them cooler than the outside temperatures. Volunteers have installed the window AC unit in the kitchen, which should be more effective now that the kitchen has a properly insulated ceiling. Volunteers have finished a new stairway to the lower lot.

Members have been hard at work removing boats belonging to owners who are behind on payments. One boat has already been auctioned, and preparations are underway for the next auction.

Thanks to a volunteer are are also pleased to announce that PYC now has internet service through Starlink! This new service is available for all members to use and is accessible at the clubhouse. The switch to Starlink has already improved the performance of our weather station and camera links.

Additional improvements include gravel leveling on the RV parking spots and successful repairs to the RC boat, which is now running more smoothly. New dock lines have been installed on the RC boat, the work boat, and the skiff.

Did you forget the gate code? Well, it's easy to find on your membership card. This year's code is now active; past years won't work.

Our recent work day was a great success, with members completing numerous projects: replacing dock boards on Sunset, cleaning and organizing the storage units and surrounding areas, tidying up the kitchen, clearing brush around the grounds, and more.

The Board of Governors (BOG) has passed updated policies, which will be published on the website soon. Additionally, our club banking has transitioned to Farmers Bank & Trust, which will offer significantly improved retail banking services.

We've also enjoyed several fun member-run parties this season—and more are just around the corner!

Of course, this update may not capture every great thing happening at PYC right now, but please know how much we appreciate everyone's contributions. Enjoy your time at the club and on the water—but remember to stay safe and hydrated in this summer heat!

## Member Updates

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**Doug  
Butcher**  
Vice  
Commodore

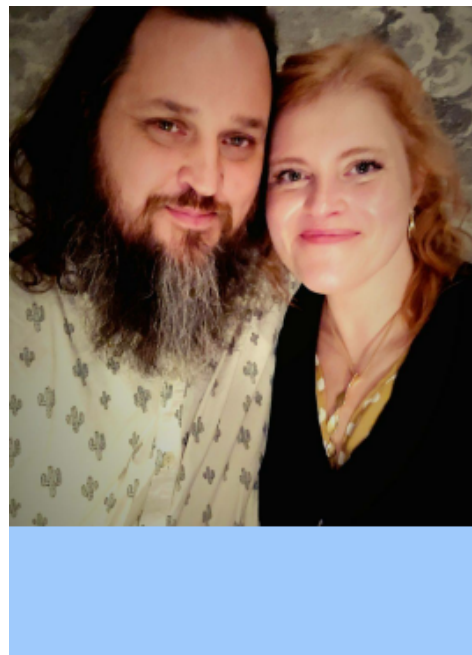
## Membership Chair

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As it turned out, the mystery boat on the dry lot did belong to a club member and was rightfully parked in a paid space. The issue was that we did not have the information on who owned the boat.

This is a reminder that if you sell a boat, it's your responsibility to notify the state of KS that the boat has been sold and who it was sold to. There are important liability reasons for this. Equally important, if you are a club member acquiring a different or additional boat, it's very important that you notify [members@perryyachtclub.com](mailto:members@perryyachtclub.com) of your new boat so we can update our records, link the boat to your membership, and record your storage location. When renewing it is important that you provide the club with your boat information.

Legally, you should also register your new boat with the state, but that's your choice.



On a more positive note, please join me in welcoming our newest members. Mark Lodes and Jennifer Lamb recently joined the club and purchased the Starwind 27 from a former member. They are docked in Rodeo 3. Mark has prior sailing experience and a very diverse background, including a law degree, working for Elon Musk at Tesla in Austin, restoring vintage cars, boats, and other items, and experience in solar and energy storage. I encourage you to introduce yourself and start a conversation with him.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the club soon!

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## Kathleen Coode & Baretta Schmeissner Social Chairs

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## Social Updates



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It takes a village to make a great party!

Thanks to all our members and guests who attended the Mexican Fiesta on June 14. It was a beautiful evening for a party, and we had lots of food and drink, thanks to great participation from our members!

This **Saturday, July 5**, is our next shindig in conjunction with the Firecracker Regatta. This party will be an Independence Day-style cookout. Dinner will be served around 6 p.m. Members please bring a patriotic side dish or a delicious dessert!

**Please RSVP here:** <https://forms.gle/T5nHCBYoMbKsZXEv5>.

We look forward to some good old-fashioned July fun! We will also be hosting some guests from our sailing community outside PYC. This will be a great opportunity to meet new sailors and catch up with old friends. See you there!

Here's the PYC social calendar for the rest of the season:

**July 5:** Firecracker Regatta & Club Cookout

**July 19:** Mid-Season Round Perry & PYC Party #3

**July 26:** Keelboat Throwdown - evening race, no party is planned

**August 1:** Keelboat Throwdown & PYC Party #4

**August 23:** Sailing Sisters

**August 29-31** Commodore's Cup

**September 13:** Keelboat Throwdown

**September 27:** Keelboat Throwdown & PYC Party #5

**October 4:** Fall Round Perry and PYC Party #6

**October 25:** Fall Workday

**November 15:** Year-end Party@ Fiorella's Event Space

## Dockmaster

John Coode

What would we do without our technology?!

PYC has changed internet providers and upgraded the WiFi at the club to support the cameras, weather station and other club needs. The board has decided that we should try to allow members to use the excess capacity that we have to offer WiFi at the Patio/clubhouse area. We will post the password at the club for member use.

Should we have any problem with overages or misuse, the board reserves the right to reduce or eliminate the service.

Just as an FYI, if you are on an unlimited phone plan on 5G, you will likely still get better service with your phone's 5G network rather than using the WiFi.

Happy connecting!



## Youth Sailing

Barry White

Youth Sailing is underway at PYC. Remaining dates are **Sundays July 13, 20, and Aug. 3**. Sessions are 1-4 p.m. Members' children can participate for free. Non-members may participate for a small fee. If you are interested in youth sailing, please contact Barry White at [bwsails234@gmail.com](mailto:bwsails234@gmail.com).



## Sailing lessons at PYC with Paramour Sailing School

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This month, we are highlighting our “how to get started’ sailing classes. For sailors who want another trained sailor on board for safety or to share the skipper role, these classes are a great option. Also, if you have friends interested in learning to sail, here's how:

### **Zero to Hero**

We have developed an immersion class called Zero to Hero. This four-day class will take beginners or novice sailors through the basic skills, helping them learn the language of sailing, handle the boat, manage various weather conditions, and ultimately, recover someone who goes overboard—making them a hero. This program covers all the skills and knowledge required for the ASA 101 Keelboat 1 Certification.

### **One Day Intro to Sailing**

Our Intro to Sailing class for beginners is a great way to start learning. This one-day class introduces students to how sails work with the wind to move the boat and even the magic of sailing upwind! It combines classroom instruction with on-board skill-building.



### **Schedule Update:**

We have added a September session for the two-day ASA 102 Keelboat 2 Certification class, scheduled from Saturday, September 27 to Sunday, September 28. ASA 101 is a prerequisite.

Classes are filling up into August, so please consider booking soon by using the form on our website, Paramour Sailing School. You can also contact Paul at (913) 235-4104 or [Paul@ParamourSailing.com](mailto:Paul@ParamourSailing.com).



### Wanted! I need a new owner!

Heiko and Christa DeWald are selling their boat. Highlights include a new traveler and halyard, loudspeaker with radio and USB sockets for charging phones. It comes with a refurbished trailer. She needs a little love but she's great to sail. If you are interested, please send an email inquiry to [z23suzwolf@gmail](mailto:z23suzwolf@gmail.com) or call 678-698-4821.

## Remembering our sailing friend

It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of long-time Perry Yacht Club member **Bill Buckheit**, who lost his battle with cancer last Saturday. Bill joined PYC in 2011 and quickly became a dedicated and familiar presence at the club. He was always willing to lend a hand—regularly attending work days, helping launch and retrieve the RC boat, and volunteering on both the RC boat and the skiff for numerous regattas. Bill had a true gift for keeping the boats running smoothly during events, and his contributions were greatly valued by all. Bill often helped club members but did so quietly preferring to stay in the background.

Bill's RV trailer was a familiar sight on the top of the hill—instantly recognizable and a quiet reminder of his steady presence at the club. Professionally, Bill worked for many years as a technical writer for an engineering firm. Bill had two great loves: the yacht club and cats. Over the years, he cared for many feline companions. At the time of his passing, he was lovingly tending to a 17-year-old cat suffering from kidney failure—waking every six hours to administer medication, even as he was battling serious illness himself. His compassion and devotion were remarkable.

At the request of Bill's family, memorial donations may be made to Perry Yacht Club in his honor.

Bill will be missed dearly by many PYC members. His kindness, commitment, and quiet generosity left a lasting mark on our community.

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