



SEMAPHORE

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Join us for PYC

Work Day April 11

Mark your calendars for the April 11 PYC spring work day. It takes all hands on deck to get the club ready for the coming year of sailing. It's a great way to meet people, have a good time, and actually accomplish something.

Dress for the weather and the work. Bring work gloves. A lot of the projects involve cutting and clearing trees and brush. If you have chainsaws and brush-cutting equipment, please bring it along. We have lots of tasks to accomplish, but together we will get it done!



Contact Gary Templeton if you would like to be a crew chief for one of the projects. PLEASE RSVP below if you plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you.

The crew chief list (as of 4/4/26):

Schedule:

8 a.m. Coffee and continental breakfast.

9 a.m. A brief meeting to introduce the projects.

9:15 a.m. Off to work we go

1 p.m. Lunch provided by PYC

Brush cleanup & Firewood: Cindy Akagi

Bathrooms: John Coode

Prep the youth sailing boats: Barry White

Prep KSA boats: Ted Lischer and Tim

Kelley

Kitchen & lunch: Kathleen Coode

Our morning will be filled with club projects. The boat ramp will be closed for launching member boats until after 1 p.m.

RSVP NOW

Commodore's Corner

Doug Butcher



It was great to see so many people at last week's Spring Members' Meeting. For those who weren't able to attend, here's a quick recap.

We're off to a great start for the season. We ended 2025 in a strong position, and that momentum is carrying into 2026. Renewals are in great shape, the harbor is fully occupied, and we've already essentially met our budgeted dues and fees for the year. In short—we're in a very good place.

Now in our 55th year, our Club continues to thrive because of the volunteers committed to keep it running smoothly. That sets us apart from other marinas at Lake Perry, and it helps us keep our costs low. While we do have a small part-time staff, the vast majority of the effort that makes this place work comes from members who step up and pitch in.

At the meeting, I recognized a few individuals—Doug Simons, Joe Glasgow, and Barry White for their work cleaning up the grounds and beach this off-season, and John Coode for his outstanding work on renewals. But just as importantly, many others—along with your Board—have been putting in the time to prepare for the season ahead.

I also reviewed our goals for the year, which were outlined in more detail in the January Semaphore. Those goals fall into four key areas: Safety and Maintenance, Financial Stability, Membership Experience, and Programs. Our commitment is simple—we want PYC to be the place you

choose to spend your time this season. If you see opportunities for improvement, please let me know. If you catch someone doing something good, please thank them – after all, that’s what keeps volunteers motivated. Looking ahead, we will be reinstating a long-range strategic planning committee, as required by our Bylaws. I’m looking for two members-at-large who are interested in helping shape the Club’s direction over the next 5–10 years. If that’s something you’d like to be part of, please reach out to me.

The bottom line is this: our Club is strong. Membership and financials are in great shape, we’re making great progress cleaning up the Club grounds, and participation is high. If we all continue to show up, get involved, and take pride in the Club, 2026 might just be our best year ever. I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming Spring workday.

Building & Grounds

Doug Simons



Warm weather is finally here, and we hope everyone can make it out to the club to enjoy some great sailing and the strong sense of community at PYC!

We have several projects lined up this spring, including:

- Filling cracks in the roadway with hot tar

Harbormaster

Brandon Hamilton



Reading the Water: Understanding Lake Levels and Harbor Conditions

As we move into the season, questions have arisen about current lake levels and what they may mean for harbor access and sailing conditions.

- Replacing wood and building new lower stairs, along with a walkway from the clubhouse to the tool shed
- Installing new bathroom countertops (thank you, John Coode!)

We've also been making great progress cleaning up the back work lot. If you have any property stored there—dock boxes, stands, trailers, small boats, etc.—please claim it or label it with your name so it can be identified. Items that appear abandoned or in poor condition will likely be removed or scrapped.

A big thank you to Joe Glasgow for his help with this effort—and for installing non-skid on the dock plates. Be sure to thank him when you see him!

Hobie Beach has seen significant improvements as well. We've moved a lot of sand and reclaimed the area, which included clearing and burning driftwood. We'd greatly appreciate any help picking up smaller sticks and larger rocks as we continue improving the space.

We've also been working on leveling the gravel campsites. Many thanks to Barry for the use of his tractor and land leveler!

A special thank you to Emily Hayes for sprucing up the women's restroom—we truly appreciate your effort in making the space more welcoming for everyone.

As of this writing, Perry Lake is at approximately 890.12'. For reference, the normal multipurpose pool is about 891.5 feet. Lake levels will fluctuate above and below this level depending on rainfall, watershed conditions, and downstream system needs.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages Perry Lake as part of a broader regional water system. Its primary purpose is flood control, followed by water supply and environmental management. Because of this, lake levels are not maintained solely for recreation and can vary based on factors beyond local conditions.

From a harbor standpoint, both high and low water levels can impact operations. While high water can limit dock access and create safety challenges, lower water levels may affect navigability in certain areas of the marina, particularly for boats with deeper draft.

We are actively monitoring lake elevations and reviewing harbor conditions using our slip depth data. As conditions change, we will provide updates and guidance to

For new members who haven't yet checked out the on-site tool shed, feel free to stop by and use any tools you need for your projects. We just ask that you help keep the area clean and organized. If you have extra tools at home you no longer need, donations are always appreciated—especially socket sets, screwdrivers, and pliers.

Thank you all, and we look forward to seeing you at the club!

help members operate safely within the harbor.

Our focus remains on maintaining safe conditions, communicating clearly, and supporting a strong and active season on the water.

Member Updates

John Coode
Vice Commodore



We've had a fantastically successful renewal period this year, and it's been great to see such strong participation across the membership. At this point, we have just six members remaining to renew. Thank you to everyone who has already taken care of their renewal or let me know of your plans.

Please welcome new members Jacob and Emily Morris, and Collin and Natalie Vaughn. Both of them purchased boats from previous members and will be joining us this year.

Renewals are now past due and un-renewed memberships will lapse on April 15, 2026.

Overall, our membership numbers are in great shape and we've added several new members since the beginning of the year. We have also assigned harbor slips, and demand is strong—there are already three boats assigned to Sunset Dock. (Dock Chart click [HERE](#).)

We are on pace to have a full harbor this season, so if you are not planning to renew, please let us know ASAP so that we can reassign your slip. Lapsed memberships will need to remove your

boats from PYC no later than April 15, 2026, so please plan accordingly.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the lake soon!

Social Updates

Kathleen Coode
Baretta Schmeissner
Social Chairs



Thank you to our members new and old who attended the social at O'Neill's on March 14. We have a great group of sailors ready to set sail for our 2026 season. Good times are ahead!

Please plan to attend Club Opening and Spring Work Day scheduled for April 11. As you know, we complete many projects on that day, and as the saying goes, "Many hands make light work." This is also a day to connect with your fellow members and discuss sailing opportunities.

Our first party will be Saturday, May 23 (Memorial Day weekend). We plan to have a bonfire after dinner on Hobie Beach. It is always fun to reconnect over Memorial Day weekend.

The rest of the 2026 season schedule is below.

Thank you to all who support our social events by hosting parties, helping with the food and grilling, and bringing delicious food!

2026 Events and Social Calendar

April 11	Club Opening and Work Day	8:00 AM – 2:00 PM
May 23	Spring Round Perry and PYC Party #1 Spring cookout and bonfire	
June 13	Ron's Rum Races and PYC Party #2	11:00 AM
July 4-5	Firecracker Regatta - Saturday cookout	
July 18	Mid-Season Raft-Up and PYC Party #3	
July 25	Ron's Rum Races	
Aug 8	Sturgeon Full Moon Race and PYC Party #4	9:00 PM
Aug 22	Sailing Sisters – Tina Breedlove and Kelly Doherty	
Sept 5-6	Commodore's Cup	
Sept 12	Ron's Rum Races	11:00 AM
Sept 26	Ron's Rum Races and PYC Party #5 – Brandon Hamilton	11:00 AM
Oct 10	Year-End Round Perry and PYC Party #6	
Oct 24	PYC Club Closing (Work Day, Lunch, Fall Meeting)	8:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Nov 14	Year End Party	



23



Thanks for all who attended the PYC Spring Meeting!

Good News!!



Congratulations to PYC Members **John Coode** and **Mark Faltemeier** on their recent retirements!

John retired after spending 26 years with Ericsson and Mark after spending a number of years at Black & Veatch and Burns & McDonnell. We will likely be seeing more of them around the lake.

Congrats to **Brian Pitts**, who keeps on getting more and more boats! Having survived death following several heart failure events and now with his new heart, Brian is rediscovering life in his 50s through sailing. Brian recently purchased a Sweet 16, and then a few weeks ago he was gifted a Catalina 250 by a woman in Nebraska -- a testament to how his story is touching other people's hearts.

So keep your eyes peeled for Brian and his wife Susan, out and about on the water with one of their "toys"! April is National Donate Life Month-a perfect time to check out Brian's Donate Life Boat efforts on Facebook and Instagram.

The Semaphore is available in electronic format only. Check your email the first week of each month.

Information for articles is due by 9 p.m. the third Sunday of the preceding month.

To Contact the Club, the email is: members@perryyachtclub.com

This email was sent by pyadmin@perryyachtclub.com to ruthwrite1@gmail.com

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