

PONTOON YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER



Published in Lake County Florida, December 1, 2025

2025 PYC Officers

Commodore: Gary Rhoads
Vice Commodore: Joey O'Nishea
Rear Commodore: John Mest
Secretary: Tom Hallowell
Treasurer: Jay Asaibene

Board Members

Richard Brown
Virginia Calven
Tom Williams

Support Staff

Cruise Master:	Tom Williams
Historian/Facebook Admin:	Kay Weaver
Sunshine Chair:	Virginia Calven
Web Master:	Kay Weaver
Photographer	Sharon Vincent



December Holidays
Hanukkah Dec. 14th
Christmas Day Dec. 25th

Commodore – Gary Rhoads

Hello PYC family! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to serve as your Commodore for the past year. I would also like to thank the officers and board for their help and support in making our events successful. A big shout out to John Paul Dargo and Mary Bliss, Elaine and John Mest, Virginia Calven and Gary Papucci for a great Thanksgiving dinner event. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas party .

Commodore Gary



Cruise Master – Tom Williams

As we are closing out the 2025 PYC year we are looking forward to another exciting year. We have been working on the 2026 schedule for several weeks.

You will notice that there are two event schedules in this newsletter so be certain when doing your planning that you are looking at the correct year.

The 2026 event sheet still has several openings to choose from. There are blank dates which you can select or choose one of the suggested outings that no one has yet chosen, and feel free to change the suggestion (such as chili cookoff or fireworks).

If you happen to be new to this process you might try to co-host an event with someone more experienced.

Merry Christmas,
Tom Williams Cruise Master



Vice Commodore – Joey O'Nishea

I want to start off by welcoming the new members that joined this year. It was a fun and exciting year with all the various events that took place. As we enter 2026, I'm looking forward to the new members hosting or co-hosting an upcoming event.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our 2025 new club members.

Kurt and Debbie Liebknecht

Rick and Cyndi Jones

Rex Osborn and Sue Else

Kenneth Moran and Ola Blanton.

As Vice Commodore I can only hope that I represented PYC with integrity and devotion in my duties.

Looking forward to 2026 and hope to see you on the water very soon.

Thanks everyone for your kindness!



If anyone knows if someone needs a little sunshine, please let me know.

Virginia Calven



Rear Commodore – John Mest

On October 30th we had our 13th Poker Run. This year it took place on Lake Eustis! Starting at the docks by Crazy Gators and finding the 7 canisters of cards along the north and west shores, then returning to Crazy Gators! Congratulations to all the players and winners! Thanks to our hosts and cohosts we had many gift certificates to give as door prizes! We drew tickets from the 50/50 after the cash-was won and gave out 25 certificates to many local businesses! Thank you to all! Thank you to our hosts Bob and Cathy Banta and cohosts Virginia Calvern and Gary Papucci and Elaine and John Mest. We had 36 people and 9 boats. On November 4th we had an unofficial outing to Homosassa. Had 3 boats and 19 people over 3 days. As usual we had a great time. And good weather! Thank you to Terry and Kay Weaver for putting this together!! We also participated in the semi-annual Paratrooper drop!

On November 22nd we had our Thanksgiving Dinner at the Fox Run Club house. Thank you to our club member and chef John Paul Dargo for cooking the turkey and stuffing and mashed potatoes! As always, they were done to perfection! Thank you to all the members that brought side dishes and desserts! They were all amazing! We all enjoyed a great meal and time together! Thank to our Host John Paul Dargo and cohosts Virginia Calvern and Gary Papucci and Elaine and John Mest! And thank you to our 50/50 winners who donated their winnings back to the club!



Treasurer- Jay Asaibene

I apologize for not having a November report on income and expenses. Dave and I have been traveling during the month of November. Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving.

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2026:

Yep! It's time again to renew membership in our great club. Membership dues are due on January 1, 2026. Our dues remain at \$36 for the year January 1 - December 31, 2026. Make your checks payable to the Pontoon Yacht Club (PYC) and send to Jay Asaibene, Treasurer, 3040 Indian Trl, Eustis, FL 32726.

THANK YOU GIFT FOR COMMODORE:

As you know, we have an annual tradition to take up a collection to give our Commodore a thank you gift for serving in this so important role. This gift is presented at the PYC Christmas Banquet (December 12). If you would like to contribute to thanking Gary for serving, please make your check payable to the Pontoon Yacht Club (PYC) and in the memo section indicate "Commodore's Gift". Please send your check by December 5 to: Jay Asaibene, Treasurer, 3040 Indian Trl, Eustis, FL 32726 Send it along with your Christmas Banquet reservation. You can include both the Gift and Banquet on the same check.

If you have any questions on our membership dues or commodore's gift, please let me know. jasaibene@me.com or 772-341-4046."

Jay Asaibene PYC Treasurer



Secretary – Tom Hallowell

As usual, please reach out directly, with any omissions or errors. I can be reached at:

Thomas.ace.Hallowell@gmail.com or via Cell at 561 797 5369.

I would like to thank the officers of 2025 for their efforts and congratulate the new officers of 2026! It will also be my second year Secretary, and I will continue to work towards constant improvement. Suggestions always welcomed.

Tom



Historian Kay Weaver

A Look Back in Time.....

January 12, 2008 - Sinbad's - All PYC boats met at Sinbad's on Lake Eustis at 11:00 a.m. for lunch and a meeting was held to rehang our OLD Commodores' flag on the original rusty nail over the bar with new names added. Choice of menu for \$10 per person was 10 oz. Peel & Eat Shrimp Basket with Slaw or Pork Bar-B-Q Sandwich with Chips & Pickle or Grilled Chicken Breast Sandwich with Chips & Pickle, Lettuce, Tomato and Mayo. All choices included one draft beer, tea or soda, tax and gratuity! We made a lot of good memories at Sinbad's and it is sad to see the empty building last called Pontoon Saloon every time you drive by it on Hwy. 441!

Kay Weaver, PYC Historian

A look back in time, Cont'd



Steve Robin, original owner of Crazy Gator



OLD Commodores' Flag (Note tiles on ceiling) Kay Weaver has NYC original tile from Sinbad's ceiling when building was sold and renovated!



Paratrooper drop



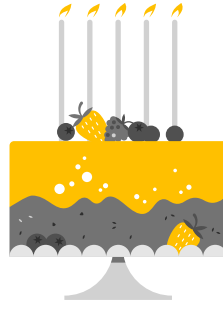
Thanksgiving Lunch (Fox Run)



Happy Birthday!!

December

Butch Karrels	12/5
Bob Banta	12/6
Cherly Rhoads	12/7



OUTING EVENTS

December 12th, Mark your calendar PYC Christmas Party at the Country Club of Mt. Dora. Flyer attached

OUTING EVENTS SCHEDULE 2025 AND 2026

There are two outing schedules below. The first is the last event schedule for 2025

The second is a rough draft of the outing schedule for 2026. For those that have not signed up for an event at the Thanksgiving lunch, as you can see there are many dates available. As a reminder, each member is required to host or co-host an event each year. The board as filled in many events that are usually yearly events, **BUT PLEASE KNOW, YOU CAN PICK A DATE AND AN EVENT. THE EVENTS LISTED ARE JUST SUGGESTIONS.**

2025 Outing Schedule

2025 Week Of	Actual Date	Outing Description & Location	Host 1	Host 2	Full Moon
Jan 5	1/11	Fishcamp Restaurant	V and E Kapoor	R and J Tallman	1/13
Feb 2	2/6	Ski beach Restaurant	R and C Brown		
Feb 16	2/22	GeorgeFest Boating, Eustis waterfront Grill	G and C Roads		2/11
Mar 9	3/15.	Hurricanes Restaurant	J Tallman Sharon Vincent		3/14
Mar 16					
Apr 4	4/7-14	Parramore Resort, St. Johns River	T and K Weaver		4/13
Apr 20	.4/26	Margarittaville Pool Party and BBQ	T and L Hallowell		
May 4	5/10	PARATROOPER PICKUP, Lake Dora	T and MJ Williams		5/12
May 18	5/24	Mount Dora Sandbar and Grilling	J and L O'Nishea		
June 22	6/23-6/25	Rainbow River	G and C Rhoads	B and C Karrels	6/11
June 22	6/19	Pool Party and BBQ	K and B Sofield	W and A Latham	
June 29	7/1	Fire works, Lake Eustis	D and J Asalbiene		7/10
Aug 10	8/16	Paratrooper pick up Lake Dora	T and MJ Williams		8/9
Sep 7	9/16	Ski Beach Replacement event	T and K Weaver		9/7
Sep 21	9/27	Gilbert Park Picnic	J and C Kindinger	M and B Wells	
Oct 12	TBD	Apopka Canal	Host Needed	Co-host needed	10/7
Oct 26	10/30	Poker Run	B and C Banta	Mest, Calvin, Papucci	
Nov 2	11/8	Paratrooper pick up Lake Eustis	T and M Williams		11/5
Nov 16	11/22	Thanksgiving Dinner	J Dargo, M Bliss, J Mest	V Calven, G. Pacucci	
Dec	Dec 12th	Christmas Dinner	J and C Kindinger	M and B Wells	12/4

2026	Actual Date	Outing Description & Location	Host 1	Host 2
Jan	1/10`	Fish Camp on Lake Eustis, 901 Lakeshore Blvd.	Vic & Elizabeth Kapoor	Bill & Joanne Marsella
Feb		Chili Cookoff	Host needed	Co-host needed
Feb	2/28	Georgefest	Cheryl & Gary Rhoads	Rick & Cyndi Jones
Mar	3/12	St Patrick's Day Eustis Waterfront Grill	Richard & Cookie Brown	Co-host needed
Mar	23 - 26	Away- Riviera Resort	Terry & Kay Weaver	Tom & MJ Williams
April			Host needed	Co-host needed
April	4/25	Cookout at Park	Joey & Lori O'Nishea	Co-host needed
May	4 - 6	Away- Kissimmee River	Butch & Merrilyn Karrels	Co-host needed
May	5/16	PARATROOPER PICKUP, Lake Dora	Tom & MJ Williams	Co-host needed
June			Host needed	Co-host needed
June		Away- Crescent Fish Camp RV Resort Marina, Crescent City	Tom & MJ Williama	Terry & Kay Weaver
July		Fireworks	Host needed	Co-host needed
Aug	8/6	Picnic 'n Pool Party	Karen & Bert Sofield	Wes & Amy Latham
Sept			Host needed	Co-host needed
Sept	9/26	Margaritaville	Tom & Linda Hallowell	Co-host needed
Oct	12 - 16	Away - Homosassa	Host needed	Co-host needed
Oct			Host Needed	Co-host needed
Nov	11/7	PARATROOPER PICKUP, Lake Eustis	Tom and MJ Williams	Steve & Sharon Sensenbach
Nov		Thanksgiving Dinner	John Paul	Co-host needed
Dec		Christmas Dinner	Host needed	Co-host needed



PYC Christmas Banquet

Holiday Attire is suggested.

Friday, December 12, 2025

Country Club of Mt. Dora

1900 Country Club Boulevard, Mt. Dora

Social Hour 5:30 – 6:00 P.M. Cash Bar

*A sit-down dinner will be served which includes salad, entrée, vegetable,
starch, rolls and dessert.*

Beverages include coffee, tea, and water.

Christmas Card Game will be played.

2026 Officers will be installed.

Music by DJ Dave Serio for your listening and dancing pleasure.

*Reservations and Money must be received by Jay Asaibene (3040 Indian Trail, Eustis, FL 32726)
by Monday, December 8, 2025 along with your choice of Beef Tips with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy OR
Chicken Piccata with Wild Rice.*

Cost for Members \$28.00 Cost for Guests \$38.00



Dockside Deals: Ads that Float Your Boat

Reel in the Cash! FREE for Members to list.

Email your ad to the Secretary for inclusion in the monthly newsletter
Submit your items to the secretary, no later than 2 days before the end of the month. There is a 3 Month time limit unless sold or extended



1. Support our club and show your PYC colors. Purchase a **30" X 60" PYC towel** for \$25.00 and \$5.00 will be donated back to the PYC treasury. Text Tom at (352) 516-6178 or email at tcwilliams99@hotmail.com.
11/30

2. Bill Marsella has two **Marine flags** that he cannot use: Both are size 3x5. One DEVIL DOGS. One US MARINE.

Contact Bill at 304-374-1086
if interested

WANTED

1. Name:
2. Contact info:
3. Description

1. Please send me any items you may be looking for, Send it to me, prior to the end of the month for publication in the following months Newsletter