

PONTOON YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER



Published in Lake County Florida, January 1, 2026

2026 PYC Officers

Commodore: Joey O’Nishea
Vice Commodore: Cheryl Rhoads
Rear Commodore: Rick Jones
Secretary: Tom Hallowell
Treasurer: Jay Asaibene

Board Members

Gary Rhoads
Cindy Kindinger
MJ Williams
Mike Wells

Support Staff

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



Commodore – Joey O’Nishea

Happy New Year!! Welcome to 2026 and it’s amazing how fast 2025 went by. I guess what they say is true when you’re having fun, time flies and that was very apparent with all the events that took place this past year.

Per the Bylaw’s and P&P Manual, let us not lose sight of the general purpose of the club which is to promote the pleasure, recreation, and enjoyment of Pontoon Boating. The Club also aspires to promote an interest in boating, to develop a fraternal spirit among boaters, and to preserve our waterways for future generations.

As the club starts a new year, so does the leadership of the club. I want to take this opportunity to welcome the officers of the club and board members.

Continued

January Holidays

New Years Day, Jan 1st
Martin Luther King Day,
Jan. 19th

The PYC Officers for 2026 are as follows: Joey O’Nishea- Commodore, Cheryl Rhoads-Vice Commodore- Rick Jones – Rear Commodore, Tom Hallowell- Secretary and Jay Asaibene – Treasurer. The board members for 2026 are: Gary Rhoads- Past Commodore, Cindy Kindinger, M.J. Williams and Mike Wells. I would like to thank everyone for their commitment to the club and looking forward to a great 2026.

The first event of the year is being hosted by Vic and Eliabeth Kapoor with Co-Host Bill and Joanne Marsella. The event will be held on January 10, 2026, at The Fish Camp on Lake Eustis, 901 Lakeshore Blvd. I’m hoping to see everyone at the event.

There are several upcoming events on the club’s event calendar that are in need of a host and co-host. Let’s not let an opportunity pass by to host or co-host one or more events. We need everyone’s support so we can have a successful 2026 so please review the calendar of events and sign up.

Happy boating and see you on the water.

Joey O’Nishea
Commodore



Vice Commodore Cheryl Rhoads

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Let's start out our 2026 PYC year with a BANG! How about let’s do a 2026 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE! I'll keep track this year of all the new members each of you bring into the club and at the end of the year the person who brings in the most will get a REWARD!

As always, let me know if you have any changes to your phone numbers, emails, or any other updates so I can correct your info in the membership list. I'll send out a new membership list in February after Jay, our Treasurer has received your 2026 annual dues.

I’m wishing you all a HEALTHY and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Cheryl



Rear Commodore – Rick Jones

We had our annual Christmas party on December 12th at the Mt Dora Country Club. Thank you to our hosts John & Cindy Kindinger and Mike & Bonnie Wells! It was an evening to remember with dancing, an awesome DJ, and great food. The card game throughout the night netted several winners with the \$150 final jackpot being split between two winners!

We would like to thank those retiring Officers and Board Members for their great service over the past year. We look forward to our new Officers and Board Members continuing to lead us in great boating fun, activities and events.

Wishing everyone the very best in the New Year and hoping to see everyone on the water!

Rick





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. Included, there is a draft schedule for '26. There may be some additions or changes since the Christmas party, Please reach out of so.

Please know we will be removing both the “Dockside “and “Wanted” from the monthly Newsletter **UNLESS THERE ARE ANY ITEMS SUBMITTED TO ME PRIOR TO THE NEXT NEWSLETTER DISTRUBTION DATE.** I will certainly help members when needed to place an item of interest. Attached is a rough draft of the outing schedule, there may have some changes since the Christmas parts, if so, please reach out!!

Tom



Treasurer- Jay Asaibene

Happy New Year to everyone. I wish you good health and lots of pontooning in 2026. Yep! It is time to renew your membership in our great club. Lots of good events already planned for the new year. Membership dues are due now. 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 Trail, Eustis, FL 32726. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me a 772-341-4046.

Jay Asaibene



Cruise Master - Tom Williams

The day after Christmas we took a cruise through the Dora Canal into Lake Dora and Lake Beauclair. WE were headed for a new (at least to us) place to go for a nice cruise and a new location for dining. We found it! Deer Island Country Club. It has a safe and easy dock with several (though) limited slips. They have a smaller menu but with good selections, full bar, and a friendly atmosphere. This might be a nice choice for any member not yet signed up to host an event, hint hint!!!

The other thing we noticed during our cruise was that the Sand Bar meeting place seems to have relocated just across the lake. I guess that was in response to Lake County passing a loud music ordinance for the old meeting place.

Tom



Sunshine Chair – Karen Sofield

I'm Karen Sofield, your new sunshine chair! I look forward to working with everyone. There were no sunshine cards sent in December!! If you know someone in the club that needs a bit of sunshine please contact me at 908-421-5718.

Karen

2025 Christmas Party







This is just a small sample. There are so many more on our web site!! Enjoy them!!



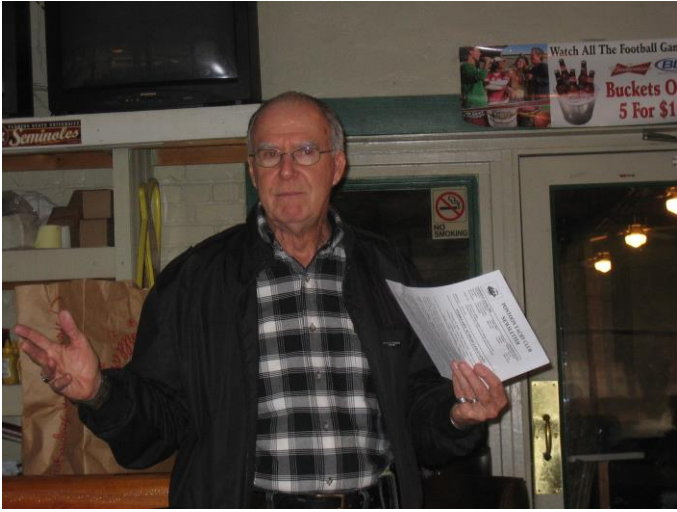
Historian – Kay Weaver

A Look Back in Time.....

In the Past - Our second meeting in January 2008, we had a "Crappy Gift Exchange" and it was a hit! This was the notice sent out prior to the meeting: Special after Christmas Gift Exchange to be held at Crazy Gator at the January 26th meeting. Please bring one really crappy unwanted gift. You are not, repeat, you are not to go out and buy this gift. This is to be something given to you that you have utterly no use for. Not something broken, not something used, just something utterly useless. Gifts are to be wrapped, preferably with iridescent paper and with no name tags attached! Each participant will then choose a gift that they will love and cherish and maybe even have a use for. So, join the fun and bring a crappy gift!

Our second meeting in January 2008

"Crappy Gift Exchange"



Happy Birthday!!

January

1/05 Carolyn Smith

1/05 Bert Sofield

1/06 Nancy Noffsinger

1/10 Dave Asaibene

1/15 Amy Latham

1/17 John Kindinger

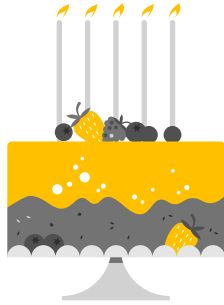
1/18 Karen Sofield

1/19 Harriet Reuter

1/20 James Smith

1/22 Debbie Leibnecht

1/23 Al Allen



Outing Event

Date: January 10th,2026

Location: Fish Camp Lake Eustis – 901 Lakeshore Blvd.,
Tavares.

Social Hour: 11.30 AM, Lunch at 12.00 noon, Order off the
Menu.

Host - Vik & Elizabeth Kapoor, **Co-Host** - Bill Marsella &
Joanne Welsh

No Raft Up but Please come by Car or Boat but do come
to celebrate beginning of a new year with PYC Members.
The guests are very much welcome.

Please RSVP(Text/Call) Vik Kapoor at 352-459-4839 or
Email at vkapoor441@gmail.com by Wednesday, Jan 7 or
sooner. Please note: the event day is Saturday January 10,
2026.

Continued

Outing Event

Crescent Fish Camp March 23-26

This is a new location for our club



When: March 23 to March 26, 2026

Where: Crescent Fish Camp, 100 Grove Ave., Crescent City, Fl.
386-698-2444

A NEW location for us - consider it a trial run!

We are looking forward to exploring Crescent Lake, Dunns Creek, and the adjoining section of the St. John's River.

Accommodations are limited but the owners are in the process of adding more cabins and boat slips in the coming year.

Cabins and boat slips are limited and available on a first-come basis. As is standard procedure we will try to accommodate all interested members wishing to attend if at all possible.

Crescent Fish Camp, Crescent City Fl. (386) 698-2444 for reservations and additional information.

Please let HOSTS know if you are coming, via phone, text or email

(comments on Facebook help others know who is coming too)

Tom & Mary Jo Williams (Hosts)

352-516-6178

Tcwilliams99@hotmail.com

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	3/14	St Patrick's Day Eustis Waterfront Grill	Richard & Cookie Brown	Co-host needed
Mar	23 - 26	Crescent Fish Camp RV Resort & Marina, Crescent City	Tom & MJ Williams	Terry & Kay Weaver
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	8-11	Away- Riviera Resort	Terry & Kay Weaver	Tom & MJ Williams
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	Luau/BBQ	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	Elaine and john Mest
Dec		Christmas Dinner	Host needed	Co-host needed