

PONTOON YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER



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2026 PYC Officers

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

Board Members

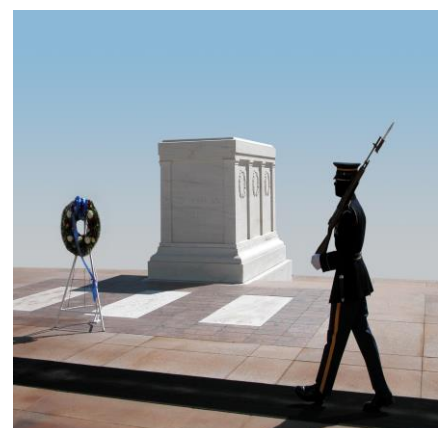
Gary Rhoads
Cindy Kindinger
MJ Williams
Mike Wells

Support Staff

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

May Holidays

May 5th Cinco De Mayo
May 10th Mother’s Day
May 16th Armed Forces Day
May 25TH Memorial Day





Commodore Joey O'Nishea

Welcome to April, PYC Boaters!

Hello Fellow PYC Boaters,

It's hard to believe that here we are already in the month of May. It's time for Mother's Day and Memorial Day this month. I want to take this time to wish all the mothers a wonderful month and to also salute and thank all of our veterans on this upcoming Memorial Day.

I want to thank all the members for their continued support attending the events. We had a good turn out for the cookout at Wooten Park. Thanks go out to co-host Rick and Cyndi Jones for their support in making sure that the event was a success. Thanks to those members that were able to attend the unscheduled pop-up event at Hurricane Grill. We have a new PYC sign now at Crazy Gators thanks to Richard and Cookie Brown for all that they do. Thanks also to Tom Williams and Gary and Cheryl Rhoads for their help in attaching the sign to the dock. I would like to take this opportunity to let everyone know that we are looking for members to be on the nominating committee for the upcoming election for officers and board members. Although it's a few months away from the official time for nominations it is never too early to start preparing for next year's leadership. This will give everyone an opportunity who is interested in a position either as PYC Officer or board member to make it known of their interest.

If anyone is interested in helping out with the PYC Facebook and website, please contact Kay Weaver.

As always, be safe on the water and happy boating.

Joey O'Nishea -Commodore
Commodore Joey



Vice Commodore Cheryl Rhoads

I'm sharing this thank you note with all of you that we received after our Wooten Park outing April 11th.

This is Rachel from Jones Brothers in Tavares, FL.

Recently, your organization had an event on Lake Dora, near the Tavares Pavilion. We at Jones Brothers (and the waterfront gentlemen) wanted to say a big thank you for feeding us - that was an incredibly sweet and thoughtful thing to share your food with us, and it did not go unappreciated. Our pilots and paddle staff often go hours without eating, either because of packed schedules or because of the time needed to go get food - this was such a wonderful meal to have and we appreciated every bit of it. Thank you! Rachel, Katrina, Joan, and the Jones Brothers team.

I responded to Rachel from PYC:

It was our PLEASURE to share this meal with you all! We appreciate everything you do to enhance Tavares, our "Seaplane City."

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL OUR PYC MOTHERS!

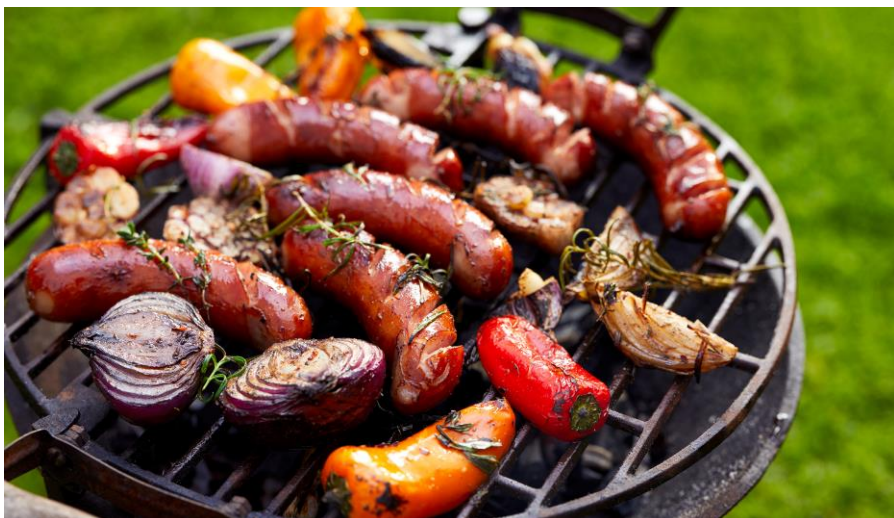
Cheryl



Rear Commodore – Rick Jones

Hi everyone, The PYC Spring Cookout was held on April 11th at Wooten Park in Tavares. We would like to thank our hosts, Joey and Lori O’Nishea, and co-hosts, Rick and Cyndi Jones, for organizing the event. After many hours of preparation, Joey and Lori provided smoked pulled chicken and pulled pork sandwiches, a variety of BBQ sauces, music, and all the place settings. Thank you also to the members who provided the many sides. We enjoyed a beautiful breeze in the pavilion and had 27 people in attendance, arriving by boat, car, and golf cart. Congratulations to the winners of the 50/50 drawings and the numerous door prizes. Additionally, the PYC Pop-Up Event was held on April 23rd at Hurricane Dockside Grill, hosted by Joey and Lori. Although we were unable to attend, the photos on Facebook made it clear that everyone had a great time. Remember to sign up to host, or co-host an event, as nothing happens without volunteers!! Hope to see everyone on the water! Rick Jones

Rick Jones





Secretary – Tom Hallowell

Greetings everyone. Spring is here, weather has been great... Actually, we COULD use a little rain, but I'll take it!!

I can't believe the year is nearly halfway over. To that end, it is time the members start thinking about 2027 Officer nominations for this year's election. The election will be held at the November Thanksgiving meal, with the new officers being sworn in, at the December Christmas Dinner. We have had a great year so far as have the last few years. Please JOIN THE RANKS OF THOSE THAT WILL TAKE THE CLUB INTO THE FUTURE!! We need new blood, new perspectives, new ideas. I thank those who have stepped up in the past, However, I would be remiss, if I didn't state the fact those in leadership positions over the last 10(?) years has literally, not changed very much. Same people doing different jobs. It's time for others to relieve them from these duties. It's up to you to continue to allow our club to thrive. Official Job duties are enclosed. Please contact any officer if there are any questions. We will also need a few volunteers for the nomination committee. Very easy and fast job. Please consider volunteering

Tom



Treasurer- Jay Asaibene

Nothing significant to report. I'm traveling right now... Enjoy the weather and be safe!!

2026 Nominations and Election Time is coming!

Each of these positions is vital to the club's success and offers a chance for YOU to make a real impact. Some folks have already stepped up to say they would be happy to fill a role – but you can still Step up, take on a role- or assist one already in place, and help us make our club even better! Our Policy and Procedures Manual has more detail, but here's an overview of Board Positions to be voted on in November:

Commodore: Take the lead as Commodore and guide the direction of our club. You'll chair the Board of Directors, organize outings, and ensure everything runs smoothly. This prestigious role offers the chance to make a significant impact, driving the club's success and fostering a strong community spirit.

Vice Commodore: Are you passionate about growing the club and welcoming new members? The Vice Commodore is key in recruiting and onboarding new members, making sure they feel welcome and integrated into the community. You'll also assist the Commodore and step in when needed, making this role both dynamic and fulfilling.

Rear Commodore: Do you enjoy ensuring everything runs smoothly? As Rear Commodore, you'll coordinate outings, manage raft-ups, and ensure that all boats are safely docked. Your role is crucial in maintaining the safety and organization of our boating adventures.

Treasurer: If numbers and finances are your strength, consider becoming the Treasurer. You'll handle the club's financial health, managing expenses, collecting dues, and preparing reports. This role is vital for ensuring the club's financial stability and transparency.

Secretary: Are you organized and detail-oriented? The Secretary role is essential in keeping the club running smoothly. You'll maintain records, manage correspondence, and ensure that members are kept informed through meeting minutes and newsletters. It's a crucial role with a significant impact.

Nominations and Election , cont'd

Board Members: As a board member, you'll have the chance to shape the future of our club. Your active participation in meetings and initiatives will help drive our success. This role offers a rewarding opportunity to be directly involved in making decisions that impact the club's activities and growth.

Webmaster: If you enjoy working with digital platforms and keeping everyone informed, the Webmaster role is perfect for you. You'll manage the club's website, sharing updates and important information with members. It's a great way to stay connected and contribute to the club's visibility and organization.

Cruise Master: Do you have a love for the open water and leading others in memorable outings? As Cruise Master, you'll be at the helm of our boating adventures, coordinating flotillas and ensuring safe, fun raft-ups. Your leadership will be key in making every outing a success, with the opportunity to guide and assist fellow boaters. These positions are not just responsibilities—they're opportunities to make a meaningful difference, connect with fellow members, and enhance the club experience for everyone. You can also volunteer to help any one of these positions as a fellow-propeller!



Cruise Master - Tom Williams

Recently I purchased two new accessories for our tritoon which I will be experimenting with on future excursions on our local waterways. Both items are from Mission Boat Gear which I found on Facebook and viewed at the recent Orlando Boat Show.

First is an innovative concept on boat fenders, called Maven fenders. They are longer than typical fenders which means they should give your side rails and toons more protection. They attach on the top side rails as typical fenders do but they also hook under the decks rub rail. One word of caution though, they should be removed when underway because they could come off when the surf is rough (although all fenders should be removed when underway to protect the boats finish).

Second is another innovation but with your dock lines. They are called Dreadknots. The knot-free dock line has two looped ends and a Slide-Lock that adjusts instantly and holds tight-just loop, slide, and you're done. These will help with tying to the docks cleats (which most boaters don't do correctly anyhow). The company states that the locking process is the same as rock climbers have used safely for many many years.

You are welcome to see both items on our boat next time we meet up while out enjoying our lakes and rivers.

As always, be safe out there,

Tom



Sunshine Chair – Karen Sofield

Nothing from the sunshine chair was sent out this month. If anyone knows of someone in need of a bit of sunshine please let me know!

Thank you,

Karen Sofield

908 421 5718

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	2/7	Scavenger hunt/crazy gator	Cheryl & Gary Rhoads	Rick & Cyndi Jones
Feb	2/21	Chilli Cook Off/Hickory point	M Evangelista	Cheryl and Gary Rhoads
Mar	3/14	St Patrick's Day Eustis Waterfront Grill	Richard & Cookie Brown	Kurt and Debbie Liebknecht's
Mar	23 - 26	Crescent Fish Camp, Crescent City	Tom and MJ Williams	Terry and Kay Weaver
April	4/11	Cookout at Wooten Park	Joey & Lori O'Nishea	Rick and Cindy Jones
April	25			
May	5-8	Camp Mack	Butch & Merrilyn Karrels	Co-host needed
May	5/16	PARATROOPER PICKUP, Lake Dora	Tom & MJ Williams	Bert and Karen Sofield
June	8-12	Riviera Resort	Terry and Kay Weaver	Tom & MJ Williams
June	25th	NEW EVENT: Sunset Cruise, Lake Harris (Details TBD)	Host Needed	Co-host needed
July	July 3	Fireworks	Host needed	Co-host needed
Aug	8/6	Picnic 'n Pool Party	Bert and Karen Sofield	The Latham's
Sept	9/12	Griffith Park Picnic	The Kindinger's	Mike and Bonnie Wells
Sept	9/26	Luau/BBQ	The Hallowell's	Co-host needed
Oct	12 - 16	Away - Homosassa	Terry and Kay Weaver	Tom and MJ Williams
Oct TBD		Poker Run	Bob And Cathy Banta	The Mests and Virginia Calven and Bob Banta
Nov	11/7	PARATROOPER PICKUP, Lake Eustis	Tom and MJ Williams	
Nov	11/21	Thanksgiving Lunch at Fox run, Social at 12:30, Lunch at 1:00PM	John Paul	The Mest's
Dec	12/11	Christmas Dinner	The Kinger's	The Well's

•Camp Mack

- 14900 Camp Mack Road Lake Wales, FL. 33898 863-696-1108 May 5-8, 2026, Camp Mack
- Camp Mack, Florida is an old fish camp located on the Kissimmee chain of lakes. South of Camp Mack is Lake Kissimmee which is a 17 mile lake that is part of the Kissimmee River. At the bottom end of lake Kissimmee is a lock leading down the Kissimmee river to lake Okeechobee which is approximately 60 miles of river front. North from Camp Mack are a series of lakes; Hatchineha, Cypress and Tohopekaliga. These lakes are part of the Kissimmee river chain that include approximately 2 dozen lakes and marshes. 1st Day: Depending on the weather we will travel either South or North. Lake Kissimmee can get rough if the winds are high so we will choose the nicest day to travel Lake Kissimmee. There are no restaurants on Lake Kissimmee, so you need to pack lunch or grill on board your boat. It took me 1.5 hrs to travel from Camp Mack to the lock at the bottom end of Lake Kissimmee, we will leave Camp Mack at 10AM. I believe we will have enough time to travel down through the lock on the Kissimmee River to experience the upper Kissimmee. We will raft up and eat lunch either at the bottom of Lake Kissimmee or after the lock. As a point of reference, Westgate River Ranch is 25 miles below the lock at the South end of Lake Kissimmee. 2nd Day: We will travel North on the Kissimmee River up through Lake Hatchineha, then North through the Hatchineha canal to Lake Cypress. We will encompass lake Cypress prior to traveling up the South Port canal (C-35) to lake Toho. which has another lock to pass through to access Lake Toho. I did not have enough time to travel beyond Lake Hatchineha so this leg of the trip will be new to all of us. Again, we will start our cruise at 10AM. Bring snacks while cruising since we will mostly complete our cruise before we stop at the Port restaurant on the North end of Lake Hatchineha for a late lunch or early dinner.
- There is a culdesac of cabins at Camp Mack, Cabins 55 - 61 which I suggest we stay at so we will all be in the same vicinity: 55: Terry & Kay Weaver 56: Gary Capucci & Virginia Calven 59: Butch & Merrilyn Karrels 60: Gary & Cheryl Rhoads and Jay Asaibene 61: Tom & Mary Jo Williams All other attendees will have to stay at the lodge or river homes.
- Please contact Camp Mack at 863-696-1108 to make your reservations, lodge rates are \$140.85 Sunday – Thursday. There is a restaurant just off Camp Mack grounds, the Freshwater Grill & Tavern, which serves food from a food truck which is a limited menu. The restaurant is open Tuesday – Saturday at 2PM to 10PM. Please be prepared to bring your own breakfast for each day at Camp Mack since there is limited restaurants in the area and you may have to travel 15 or more miles to find and open restaurant

<https://share.google/uUbODyMH3JyfZjeXf>

6/8/26 PYC Trip - Riviera Resort in DeLand An Exciting Getaway Experience

Riviera Resort in DeLand offers a unique escape for those seeking relaxation and adventure. Situated in the heart of Florida, the resort has beautiful waterfront views and guests can enjoy boating, swimming, and a variety of recreational activities that make every visit memorable.

What are you doing in June? Why not join us at Riviera Resort on the St. Johns River in DeLand? Hosts Kay & Terry Weaver are going over on Monday, June 8, 2026, and staying for one week. You could stay for two, three or more nights, it's up to you. The resort has a nice boat ramp, docks are okay and pool is great! Also, there is a long-covered pavilion with a BBQ grill and an air-conditioned community room. Bring your boat and join the fun! Call (386) 822-5662 to reserve your room. The more nights you stay, the better the room deals.

RSVP to Terry Weaver (352) 978-0439 or reply via e-mail.

If you have any questions, call or text us.

Current rates are posted on the members only section of the pontoonyachtclub.com website

Cookout at Wooten Park

April 11th



Hurricane Docksideside

April 23rd





Historian – Kay Weaver

A Look Back in Time.....

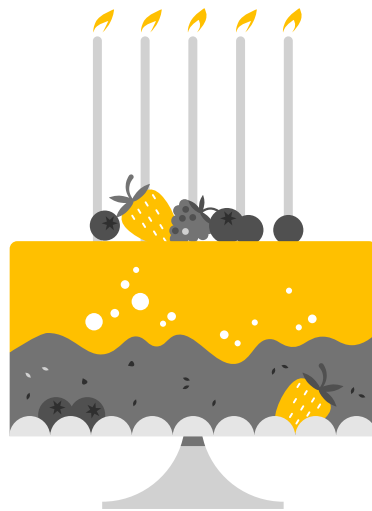
Saturday, April 26, 2008 - Champagne Brunch - We met at Lake Harris side of the Dead River at 11:00 AM. We had our brunch at 12 Noon on Lake Denham (end of Helena Run). We were having low water problems. The theme of this outing was "Eat... Drink & "Be MARY"... It was proclaimed that since most of our fairer PYC members share the brunt of outing responsibilities i.e. cooking delicious food to share, we deemed that the "MEN" should find their inner domestic demeanor in posing as the fairer sex. A democratic voting process declared the fairest "MARY" of all. We asked the men to dress up as MARY. We had fun and our them of "Food, Fun and Maryment was successful!!!" Everyone brought their favorite brunch dish to share.



Happy Birthday!!

May Birthdays

5/4 Bob Noffsinger
5/9 Mark Evangelista
5/12 Mary Bliss
5/12 John Mest
5/17 MJ Williams
5/23 Gary Horton
5/23 Terry Weaver
5/24 Cathy Banta
5/31 Wes Latham





Dockside Deals: Ads that Float Your Boat

If you are looking to **SELL** a particular item, simply send a brief description, a picture and include contact information and any particulars. It will be posted for all to see.



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.

Wanted !!

Nothing at this time

If you are looking **FOR** something specific..... Why not ask your boat club friends if they can help. Simply send a brief description, a picture and include contact info and any particulars. It will be posted for all to see.