

# PONTOON YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER



Published in Lake County Florida, July 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

<b>Cruise Master:</b>	Tom Williams
<b>Historian/Facebook Admin:</b>	Kay Weaver
<b>Sunshine Chair:</b>	Virginia Calven
<b>Web Master:</b>	Kay Weaver (Acting)
<b>Photographer</b>	Sharon Vincent



**Commodore – Gary Rhoads**

## Independence Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>



Happy fourth of July, Boaters! We had a busy month of June with three events. Sandbar grilling hosted by Kay and Terry Weaver, BBQ and pool part hosted by Karen and Bert Sofield and Wes and Amy Latham featuring “Bert’s brisket” (Patent Pending), and The Rainbow River trip. Special thanks to Butch and Merrilyn Karrels for hosting this event, even though they live way down in the wilds of Okeechobee. It’s even easier to host an event if you live locally! Looking forward to our Fourth of July event hosted by Dave and Jay Asaibene. See you on the lake!

See you on the Lakes,  
Commodore Gary.



## **Cruise Master – Tom Williams**

The latest news is the “powers that be” can’t get their act together about the closing of the Burrell Lock. Seems it is being delayed again past the July 1 proposal because the new engineering design is flawed. If I get an update, I’ll post it on the Facebook and our PYC website.

Tom  
**Cruise Master**



## **Vice Commodore – Joey O’Nishea**

An application to join the club was received from Rex Osborn and Sue Else who recently moved from GA to Tavares, FL. They heard about the club from the dock sign located at Hurricane Grill. I have their application and only waiting for a check for their membership fee and initiation fee.

If you have any questions please call me or text.  
See you'll when all of us get back from traveling.  
Have a great July 4th.

Joey O’Nishea  
Vice Commodore



## **Rear Commodore – John Mest**

Elaine and I were gone for most of June. It looks like we missed a good time at the Sand Bar in Lake Dora! Thank you to the Weaver's for hosting! Thank you to the Sofield's and the Latham's for the pool party at the Sofield's home!

I want thank everyone who has hosted and cohosted events! This is what keeps us going as a club!

John Mest  
Rear Commodore



Nothing significant to report for June. Enjoy the Holiday weekend and be safe!!

Jay Asaibene

**Treasurer- Jay Asaibene**



I sent a sympathy card to mark Evangelista on the passing of his mother .If anyone in PYC needs a card sent to a club member you can text me or call. Thank you, Virginia Calven 906-484-3478

**Sunshine Chair - Virginia Calven**



**Secretary – Tom Hallowell**

As usual, please reach out directly, with any omissions or errors. I can be reached at: [Thomas.ace.Hallowell@gmail.com](mailto:Thomas.ace.Hallowell@gmail.com) or via Cell at 561 797 5369.

The Commodore has asked me to start the ball rolling with reviewing our Bylaws and Policies and Procedures. It is my intent to have the officers review and provide input in the very near future. The goal would be to have both ready, published for Membership review and have the documents voted on at the November meeting. If anyone has any input or suggestions, please get them to me, and I will attempt to get them considered during the approval process.

Tom Hallowell  
**Secretary**



**Historian Kay Weaver**    **A Look Back in Time.....**

The February 2007 Newsletter had a message from the Commodore Gary Geiger about the Chilli Cook-Off at the Triangle Boat Club and low water levels:

Another chili cook-off has come and gone and once again this club has proved that if it isn't the best boating club in the world (which it is) it sure has the best cooks. I'm always a bit heavier after one of those outings than I was when I arrived. Thanks to all who provided intake to fuel our individual engines and bravo to the four who brought their boats. With the lakes down so much it was a daring maneuver to get into the dock area. With that in mind, let me alert everyone to be extremely cautious when out on the lakes. The lake levels are so low that new obstacles are just below the water surface and going in places you have always gone may not be as safe now. If you boat up the Dora canal be very careful. The water is still deep enough to get through But remember to stay in the middle and that boats coming from Lake Dora have the right of way so you may have to move over. Just be cautious.

A look back in time, Cont'd



picture of 2007 Commodore Gary Geiger.

## **Nominations and Election Time is coming!**

Each of these positions is vital to the club's success and offers a chance 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:

- 1. \*\*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.
- 2. \*\*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.
- 3. \*\*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.
- 4. \*\*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.
- 5. \*\*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.

## Nominations, cont'd

**6. \*\*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

**7. \*\*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.

**8. \*\*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.

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!

PLEASE JOIN OUR MEMBERS ONLY PAGE ON OUR PONTOON YACHT CLUB WEBSITE. Some of you have not joined yet. Those who have not will be receiving another invite to join about the same day the July PYC Newsletter is emailed to you. These invites do **expire** so please do not wait to join! Follow the directions below to join and if you have any questions or want help, call Kay Weaver (352) 978-9416.

Access the private **Members Only** section of [www.pontoonyachtclub.com](http://www.pontoonyachtclub.com).

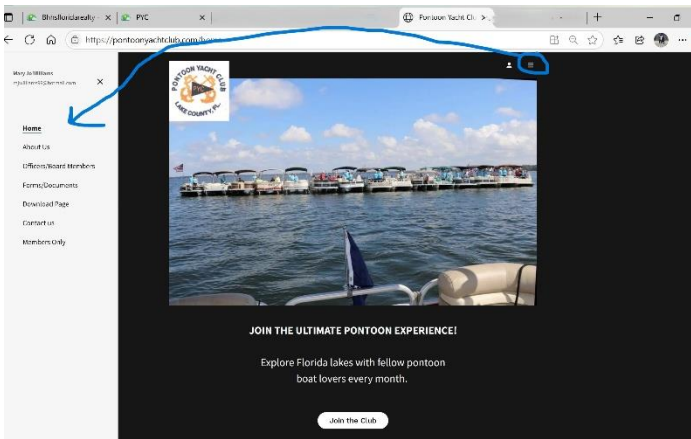


## Pontoon Yacht Club



### How to Log In to the Members Only Section

(Not to be confused with Facebook!)



### Step 1: Watch for Your Email Invite




You'll receive an email inviting you to **create your password** for the website.

(If you don't see it, check your spam/junk folder just in case!)



### Step 2: Create Your Password

- There are **no special requirements**, so choose something simple and memorable.
- Type it in **both lines** to confirm.
-  Click the little **eyeball icon** if you want to see what you typed.
- Then click the **Set Password** button.



Once it says your account is created, **you're in!**



**Tip:** Write down your password or save it in your phone's password manager.



### Step 3: Visit the Website

Go to: [www.pontoonyachtclub.com](http://www.pontoonyachtclub.com)



On mobile: Click the **3-bar menu** in the upper right-hand corner.



On desktop: Look at the top menu.

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 **Step 4: Click "Members Only"**

This is your private area!

You'll be asked to log in using the password you just created.

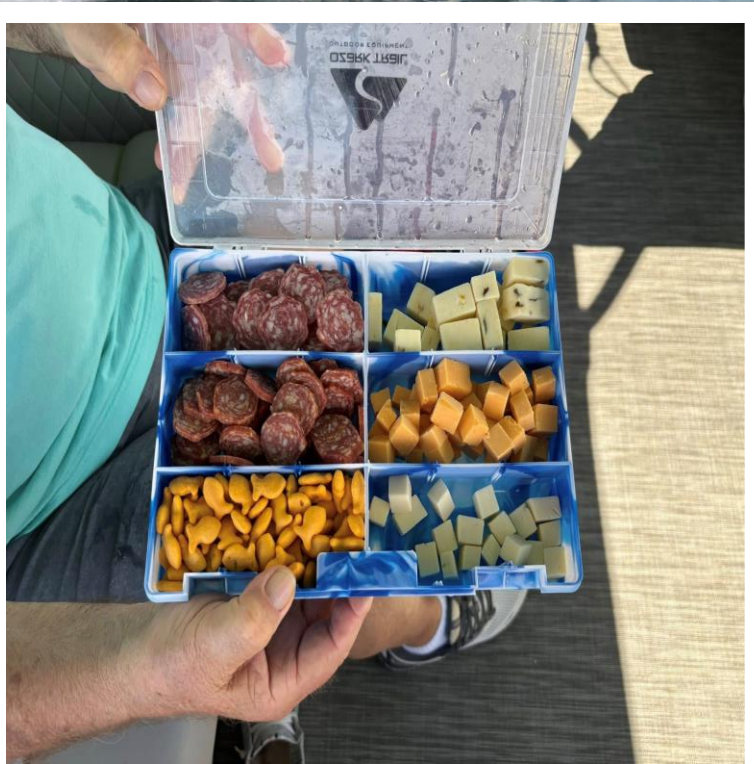
✓ Once logged in, you can access **member-only content** anytime!

**Welcome aboard!**  

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# Sandbar Grill and Chill

## June 12th



# BBQ at the Sofield's June 19th



# Rainbow River Club

## 23-25 June

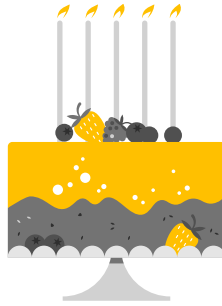
The 6/23/25 PYC Trip to Dunnellon and Rainbow River was a whole lot of fun from start to finish! Some arrived early, settled in their rooms and enjoyed the nice pool at Rainbow River Club where we gathered every day for a swim. Dinner was at Blue Gator with seafood as their specialty. It did rain while we were there but it was hot and this cooled the temperatures down. We met on the back porch of the Rainbow River Clubhouse to strategically plan Tuesday as some were kayaking or paddle boarding or floating down the Rainbow River, and others were just visiting the Rainbow River State Park! Those who went in the water met down river for lunch at Swampy's Restaurant. Evening was at Asaibene's Cabin 11 for drinks and snacks. Our last day, Terry, Kay, Virginia & Gary went for a morning airboat ride. There was more pool time and exploring the grounds at Rainbow River Club and Dunnellon. Dinner on Wednesday was at Stumpknockers and we enjoyed a nice meal with PYC members. A successful trip! Thank you Hosts Butch & Merrilyn Karrels and Gary & Cheryl Rhoads.



# Happy Birthday!!

Jan Matthews July 4  
John Paul Dargo July 4  
Cyndi Jones July 10  
Carol Clarke July 15  
Greg Wallace July 7/16

Bonnie Wells July 17  
Vik Kapoor July 23  
Tom Hallowell July 26  
Merrilyn Karrels July 31



Please Welcome to our newest member



**Mark Evangelista III**

## **PYC 2025 OUTINGS**

**JUNE 23 - 25 – Rainbow River Club, Dunnellon, FL on Rainbow River** -nights 06/23, 06/24, 06/25. This is to make up for trip missed in 2024. No need to bring your boat. We will rent what we need and share the expense .Explore Dunnellon and Rainbow River. Great cabins, call Rose or Richard at (352) 489-9983. Unique area!  
Website:[www.rainbowrivers.com](http://www.rainbowrivers.com). Hosts: Gary & Cheryl Rhoads & Butch & Merrilyn Karrels.

**SEPTEMBER 2025 - Tropical Resort, Deland, FL on Lakes Beresford that connects with St. Johns River: 9/8 to 09/15 or less, up to you!** Great rooms, pool, boat slips, and fire pit! Call Aaron (386) 734-3080 to make your reservation. One night deposit is required at time of reservation and balance is due upon arrival.  
Website:<https://tropicalresortandmarina.com>. Hosts: Terry & Kay Weaver  
**WHEN YOU MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS, TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE PONTOON YACHT CLUB!!! DON'T WAIT, BOOK NOW!**

**August 8<sup>th</sup> 2025:** Lake Dora Paratrooper drop pick up. Tom and Mary Jo Williams are hosting this event. Please remember there has been a change to the process for selecting boats for pick up. The PYC is basically in reserve and they will contact Tom W., if there is a need for additional boats. He will reach out to members if there is a need. However, it is still a good time out on the water to watch this event. We will meet a

### **October 30, 2025, Thursday (new date)**

Event: Poker Run

Restaurant: Crazy Gator, Reservations made. More details to follow!

Hosts: Cathy and Bob Banta, Co-Hosts are John and Elanin Mest and Virginia Calven and Gary Pauucci

# Event Sign Up Sheet

2025

## Pontoon Yacht Club Outing Schedule

**Every member needs to signup to host or co host at least one event annually. Use this calendar and choose an exact date.**

2025 Event Week	Event Date	Outing Location/Description	Host 1	Host 2	Full Moon
April 4	4/7 - 4/14	Parramore Resort	Terry & Kay Weaver		4/13
April 20th	4/26	Margaritaville Pool Party & BBQ	Tom & Linda Hollowell		
May 4	5/10	Paratrooper Water Jump Pickup Lake Dora	Tom & Mary Jo Williams		5/12
May 18	5/22	Mount Dora SandBar Grilling	Joey & Lori O'Nishea		
June 8	6/12	Mount Dora Sandbar Grilling	Terry and Kay Weaver	CO-HOST NEEDED	
June 22	Confirmed Date 6/19	Pool Party & BBQ	Karen & Bert Sofield	Wes & Amy Latham	
June 22	6/23 - 6/25	Rainbow River Club	Gary & Cheryl Rhoads	Butch & Merrilyn Karrels	6/11
June 29	7/1	Fireworks, Lake Eustis	HOST NEEDED	CO-HOST NEEDED	7/10
August 10	8/16	Paratrooper Water Pickup Lake Dora	Tom & Mary Jo Williams	CO-HOST NEEDED	8/9
September 7	9/8 - 9/15	Tropical Resort, St Johns River	Terry & Kay Weaver	CO-HOST NEEDED	9/7
Sept. 21	TBD	Gilbert Park Picnic	John & Cindy Kindinger	Mike & Bonnie Wells	
October 12	10/18	Apopka Canal	Debra Stewart and Richard Lowell	CO-HOST NEEDED	10/7
October 26	10/30	Poker Run	Bob and Cathy Banta	The Mests, Virginia Calven, Gary Papucci	
November 2	11/8	Paratrooper Drop Pick up Lake Eustis	Tom & Mary Jo Williams	CO-HOST NEEDED	11/5
Nov 23	TBD	Thanksgiving Dinner	John Dargo & Mary Bliss	John & Elaine Mest	
Nov 30	TBD	Christmas Dinner	John & Cindy Kindinger	Mike & Bonnie Wells	12/4

## 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



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](mailto:tcwilliams99@hotmail.com). 7/31



Six gallon used plastic gas can, used for a portable 4 HP motor, No leaks. I may have the hose. \$25.--

Dave Asaibene. 561-427-8090 E-Mail: [MrChefDave@gmail.com](mailto:MrChefDave@gmail.com)  
7/31



**Fishing rod holder**  
**PRICE CHANGE**  
designed for inserting into RTC or YETI cooler. **\$25.00** Call/ Email Mary Jo, 352-516-6736, or [MJWilliams99@hotmail.com](mailto:MJWilliams99@hotmail.com) 7/31



Brand new, never used 3 gallon OMC steel gas can. \$50.00

Dave Asaibene. 561-427-8090 E-Mail: [MrChefDave@gmail.com](mailto:MrChefDave@gmail.com)  
7/31



Small boat fenders, New with lines \$10.00 each

Dave Asaibene 561-427-8090 E-Mail: [MrChefDave@gmail.com](mailto:MrChefDave@gmail.com)

7/31

# WANTED

Example

**Name:** John Doe

**Contact info:** [Jdoe@Gmail.com](mailto:Jdoe@Gmail.com) or  
555 555 5555

**Info:** Looking for pool cleaning  
references

**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**