



PONTOON YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

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PYC Board of Directors

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Happy June Birthdays!

June 2 Joanne Welsh
June 13 Cindy Kindinger
June 17 Angela Brown
June 19 Elizabeth Kapoor
June 21 Kay Weaver
June 21 Jane Sorenson

Hope you a have terrific day, week, month and year.

Celebrate enough for all of us!

If I have accidently left off your birthday or it's wrong, please let me know so I can correct our list. Thank you, Cathy Green Banta mcathygreen@gmail.com; 352-455-2788

Don't miss out on the prize opportunity, see bottom of page 11.



Commodore's Comments – Tom Williams

Well, the getaway outing to the Tropical Resort and Marina sure provided us with some great club lore. We learned a few lessons on what to do and what not to do in a blinding rainstorm while in our pontoons. Cell phones and marine radios were ineffective due to lack of signal and extreme noise from the driving rain and abundant thunder and lightning.

Remember to turn on your navigation lights as we were not able to see more than a few yards ahead. Since many of you do not venture out at night, remember you may still need those running lights in rainstorms and dense fog. So periodically inspect them for proper operation. Rain gear would have been a real plus on my boat, duh !!!

When all was said and done, we all had a wonderful time on the St. John's River. Boating, swimming, games, campfires, and EATING. These away trips are a great way to get to really know each other. There is ample time to speak with everyone, which is not always the case on day outings. Thank you to all who attended and helped make this outing "one for the books."

Hope to see many of you during the June Outings. June 8th Moss Bluff Cruise and Picnic followed by the June 22nd trip thru Lake Harris to the Ski Beach Restaurant.

Stay safe, healthy, and happy, Tom.



Vice Commodore Report – Cheryl Rhoads No Report.



Rear Commodore Report – John Mest

On Tuesday May9th we arrived at the Tropical Resort and Marina on Lake Beresford in DeLand FL. boats and supplies we settled in. **We took a nice boat John's River Grille for dinner.** Then returned and

After unloading ride to the St enjoyed the fire pits!

Wednesday morning, we took a very enjoyable ride to Deleon Springs for lunch at the Sugar Mill Restaurant. Some people left immediately after eating and the rest of us stayed to swim in the springs. About halfway back we were caught in a nasty thunderstorm and downpour! It was not a good time to be on the water in an aluminum boat! The visibility was about fifty yards and not good! Thankfully after about an hour and a half we made it back safely. Thank you to our Cruise Master Butch for a job well done! Most of us then went to the Stockyard Restaurant for an excellent meal. Then we gathered for refreshments by the fire at the resort.

Thursday, we traveled to the Swamp House Restaurant for a great lunch! And then enjoyed more dinner! With more fun and games at the fire pit.

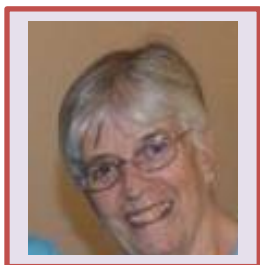
We had 26 people and 6 boats.

I would like to thank our hosts Butch and Merrilyn Karrels and Tom and MaryJo Williams!! I am sure it was a lot of work, and you all did an awesome job! Thank you! This was the only outing for May.

Looking forward to June's Joe Comastra's Moss Bluff Cruise and Picnic. Please keep Lorraine in your thoughts and prayers! My boat motor problem was a collapsed fuel line. After replacing the lines, it is running again! Safe travel and boating! John Mest

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Treasurer – Carol Clarke – No report.



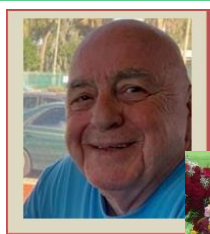
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Sunshine Chair - Virginia Calven

Sent out a sympathy card to Lorraine Weirsma. If anyone would like the PYC to send a get-well card to an ill member, please contact: Virginia Calven at 906-484-3478. * * * * *

Joe Comastra Forever in our hearts.



In Memoriam



It is with great sadness that I tell you, Joe Comastra passed away on Wednesday, May 24th. Joe was our Commodore for a brief time, January, and February 2023 before he became ill and had to resign as our leader. Joe is survived by his wife, Lorraine Weirsma.

As I think of Joe, a huge smile comes across my face. As Joe so happily and willingly became our PYC 2023 Commodore, Joe being a neighbor along with my role as Secretary, I am remembering his many visits to the house wanting to **“be the best he could be” at his new role as Commodore and he was always talking about how important it was for everyone to be out enjoying the water and boating.**

Joe and Lorraine enjoyed taking the leisurely way to our events because being out on the water **“and taking it all in”** is what I think of and see when I think of Joe. I really enjoyed working with him for that short time. He is already and will be missed!!!!

I believe Joe selected to sponsor the Moss Bluff outing because of its beauty and the fact that it would keep us out on the water for a longer time, **TAKING IT ALL IN!**

So, my challenge to all of you ... When on the outings for the rest of 2023 for **yourself and for Joe spend time:**

Taking It All In!

Rest in Peace, Joe, our Dear Beloved Boating Friend & Leader!

- Submitted by Cathy Banta -

First June Outing ... Thursday, June 8th



JOE COMASTRA'S MOSS BLUFF CRUISE AND PICNIC

JIM AND CAROL CLARKE AND TOM AND MARY JO WILLIAMS

RAFT UP AT 9:30 TO 9:45 AM ON LAKE EUSTIS SIDE OF HAYNES CREEK

We will be traveling north on Haynes Creek to Lake Griffin and to Ocklawaha River, north to the Moss Bluff Park. We have reserved the pavilion for our exclusive use. We will enjoy a picnic lunch of fried chicken and dessert. **Please bring a dish to pass and your own beverage (no alcohol allowed in park) and table service.**

After our picnic lunch, for those that want to go, we will be going through the **MOSS BLUFF LOCKS IF THEY ARE OPEN**, and a short cruise north. This is extremely exciting as it is a 23-to-24-foot drop of water level from one side to the other.

Please send your check to Carol Clarke, Treasurer, 3542 Manatee Road, Tavares, FL 32778 by Monday, June 5, 2023.

COST IS \$ 4.50 PER PERSON

This is a great and wonderful one day cruise, DON'T MISS IT.

Ski Beach Bar & Grille Restaurant – 21 Dozier Circle, Leesburg

SKI BEACH FUN TIME



Second outing in June

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Hosted by Virginia Calven and Carol Clarke

RAFT UP 10:00 TO 10:15 am

LAKE HARRIS SIDE OF DEAD RIVER

SOCIAL TIME: 11:30 TO 12:00 PM

LUNCH: 12:00 NOON (order off the menu)

NAUTICAL BINGO with PRIZES

Bring your money for 50/50 Drawing.

RSVP by Monday, June 19, 2023

To: Carol Clarke at 352-250-0952 or carolclarke4@gmail.com

Virginia Calven at 906-484-3478 or virginiacalven3@gmail.com

TUESDAY - PONTOON SALOON – July 18th

1050 W. Burleigh Blvd., Tavares

It's too FREAKING HOT!

The grass is dying, pavement is buckling, and lakes are drying up.

The temperature could reach 128°! Don't you just love that word "COULD!"
So, let's go boating! Come by boat or wimp out and come by car.

No raft up, meet at 11:30 A.M. at the Pontoon Saloon

located at the southeast corner of Lake Eustis on Highway 441 East of Buzzard Beach at:
1050 W. Burleigh Blvd., Tavares.

Order off the menu. For entertainment, we will tell tall tales about the hottest we have ever
been, or as I like to say, smell this!

RSVP to Terry Weaver (352) 978-0439 or
email tjweaver343@aol.com no later than 7/10/23.

*Save the date, Thursday, July 27th
for a Beach Party
by Dave & Jay Asaibene:
Details following in July
Newsletter.*





Our Visitors on the boat trip to St. John's RiverLucy at the top riding in the front of the boat.

What a way to ride!Cool breeze I'm sure felt good.

Jiminy and Daisy Nice ride also.





Pics & Design
by Kay



MAY 2023 PYC ST. JOHN'S RIVER TRIP



A Look Back Time by Kay Weaver,



Historian May 5, 6 & 7, 2005 – Crystal

Cove in Palatka hosted by Terry & Kay Weaver and Co-Hosts Bob & Merna Leigh. This was the funny write up in the next PYC Newsletter of all that can go wrong on a well-

planned trip:

Well, to make a short story long, this trip was kind of like being back up north, if you don't like the weather, wait a couple of hours, it will change. 36 boaters on 7 boats were in attendance. On Friday we were honored by the company of Suzy & Tim Hill who flew in from Tucson to attend their daughter-in-law's graduation from UCF. It was great to see them. Kudos to the Weavers and Leighs for a job well done.

Day 1 - Thursday: The ride up to Palatka was a thoroughly drenching drive, rain light, moderate and very heavy, and cool temperatures. Upon arriving at The Moorings, we left the boats on their trailers and after checking in and freshening up, we walked over to Corky Bell's for lunch. Believe me, it was probably the best eating experience of the trip. After some relaxation and libations, we motored over to East Palatka to Gator Landing for dinner. A beautiful restaurant on the St. John's River. Some of us had good meals, some not so good. Some had cheapie drinks, some of us didn't because we weren't told to go to the bar instead of ordering at the table. The checks did not add up properly, the tip being hidden in the addition. Bob Ross complaining... Should have been an omen of what was to come. The evening saw some of the more competitive, (blood-thirsty), ladies spending the evening at Mah Jong, (and the next night; and the next night) while the rest of us assembled to indulge ourselves of desserts and spirits and to plan our attack for Friday.

Day 2 - Friday: Boats in the water. Down the river we head ... snow suits, parkas, and the like. Yours truly was on Ed Buntin's boat; when Ed cranked er' up, I thought I was on a snowmobile back in Wisconsin. Back to Corky Bell's for lunch. Again, a delightful meal. More libations and conversation. The sun is starting to appear, and the temperature is rising. Late afternoon, we again motor down to the Riverview Inn on the river in Palatka. Woo-Eee. Get your own drinks, wait 1-2 hours for your food, get into an argument with bartender, wait in line for 30 minutes to pay the bill!!! Bob Ross complaining...

More libations back at the Moorings. Some of us even go back to Corky Bell's to finish dinner.

Day 3 - Saturday: Finally, beautiful Florida weather. We leave the docks; thread our way through hundreds of sailboats, drifting aimlessly to Jacksonville some 60 miles away

At Marina/Launch Ramp Preparing for Scavenger Hunt



First Day of Trip



Terry & Kay



Fishnets Restaurant



because of no wind. Finally, we are on our way to Welaka for lunch some 3 hours upstream. On the way we venture into the Florida Barge Canal to the locks at the Rodman Reservoir where **we see 3 American Bald Eagles soaring gracefully above**. As we arrive some of the boats have trouble docking because of the swift current; a few dings, but we finally get tied up.

The Fishnets Restaurant is closed just to serve us, doing a remarkably good job, except for a couple of us. Some of the guys found dollar Boogie beers from Wisconsin. Bob Ross is now complaining because he has nothing to complain about. So, it goes. We headed back to Palatka, most of us zooming back, some drifting slowly taking in the sights. A very delightful day on the river. What we came here for.

Arriving back, we loaded the boats back on their trailers and settled down for an evening of pizza, wine, and conversation on the docks. A scavenger hunt ensued, generating an argument about what a life saver is. The crowd votes for a candy life saver, not a purloined life preserver as Jack Orlando tried to convince us. The team of Buntin, Trundle, and Fehr are declared the winners, receiving each a bottle of wine. Of course, the ladies retired back to their Mah-Jongg, the rest of us to the lobby to reminisce, libate and dessert, (provided by Mary Fehr), away the evening.

You should have sensed by now that we glug-down and eat most of the time. Sunday morning, we each headed our separate ways. Another successful overnigher. Cannot wait until Crystal River in November.

From my records it showed Gene Fehr Road on Ed Buntin's boat so I assume that he is the one who wrote this enlightening article about what can happen on an away trip!

Kay Weaver, PYC Historian

Sailboats



Florida Cross Barge Canal



Terry Weaver & Tim Hill



GUESS WHO!!

The **first eligible member to guess, correctly**, Santa Claus's real name, will win a prize. It is not St. Nicholas. It is someone you all should know if you have been coming to our outings. Email Cathy Green Banta: mcathygreen@gmail.com by June 30, 2023.

PYC Event Signup Sheet 2023

Every member needs to sign up to host an event. Use the attached calendar to choose the exact date.

Date	Day	Form	Outing Description & Location	Host 1	Host 2
January 9-14 2nd week	14 th Sat.		Crazy Gator, Eustis	Vik & Elizabeth Kapoor	Leo & Harriet Reuter
January 23-28 4th week	26 th Thurs.		Puddle Jumpers, Tavares	Joe Comastra & Lorraine Wiersma	Scott & Lorraine Smith
February 6-11 2nd week	9 th Thurs.		Waterfront Grille-Valentines, Eustis	Richard & Cookie Brown	James & Carolyn Smith
February 20-25 4th week	25 th Sat.		George fest Parade - Eustis	Gary & Cheryl Rhoads	Bob & Bettie Nebergall
March 6-11 2nd week	9 th Thurs.		Crazy Gator – St. Patrick’s Day Celebration Luckier Than a 5 th Grader.	Dan & Sharon Vincent	Ray & Jerie Tallman
March 20-25 Thursday	23 rd Thurs.		Old Fashioned Picnic – Gilbert Park	John & Elaine Mest	Scott & Lorraine Smith
April 10-15 2nd week	13 th Thurs.		Moss Bluff Picnic Posted to June 8th	Jim & Carol Clarke	Tom & Mary Jo Williams
April 24-29 4th week	27 th Thurs.		Scavenger Hunt - Hurricanes	Gary & Cheryl Rhoads	Mike & Bonnie Wells
May 8-13 2nd week(T-R)	9-12 th Tue-Fri		St. John’s Tropical Resort & Marina Lake Beresford, FL – Road Trip to Deland	Butch & Merrilyn Karrels	Tom & Mary Jo Williams
May 22-27 4th week	-	-	No event	-	-
June 5-10 2nd week	8 th Thurs.		Moss Bluff Picnic	Jim & Carol Clarke	Tom & Mary Jo Williams
June 19-24 4th week	22 nd Thur.		Ski Beach	Virginia Calven	Carol Clarke
July 17-22 3rd week	18 th Tues.		Pontoon Saloon (Note: ON TUESDAY)	Terry & Kay Weaver	
July 24-29 4th week	27 th Thurs.		Beach Party TBD	Dave & Jay Asibene	
August 7-12 2nd week	12 th Sat.				
August 21-26 4th week	21-23		Geocache/Sunset Cruise Lake Dora	Tom & Mary Jo Williams	Richard Lowell & Debra Stewart
September 4-9 2nd week		7 or 9	TBD	Bob & Cathy Banta	
September 18-23 4th Saturday	23 Sat.		Poker Run	Jim & Carol Clarke	Bob & Cathy Banta Virginia Calven
October 9-14 2nd week(T-R)	10-13 Tue-Fri		River Cruise Crystal River	Butch & Merrilyn Karrels	Terry & Kay Weaver
October 23-28 4th week			TBD	Al & Diane Allen	Carl & Joan Scott
November 4 th 1st Saturday	4 th Sat.		Thanksgiving	John Paul	Ernest & Nora Sixby
December 9 th 2nd Saturday	9 th Sat.		Christmas	John & Cindy Kindinger	Richard & Cookie Brown

Any corrections to newsletter, please email: mcathygreen@gmail.com Sent: 5/31/23

