



# PONTOON YACHT CLUB NEWSLETTER

Published in Lake County Florida **February 1, 2023**

## PYC Board of Directors

### PYC Officers

**Commodore:** Joe Comastra  
**Vice Commodore:** Tom Williams  
**Rear Commodore:** John Mest  
**Secretary:** Cathy Banta  
**Treasurer:** Carol Clarke

### Board Members

Richard Brown  
 Jim Clarke  
 Cheryl Rhoads  
 Scott Smith

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**Cruise Master:**  
**Sunshine Chair:** Virginia Calven  
**Historian & Facebook Administrator:** Kay Weaver  
**Photographer:** Sharon Vincent

**Newsletter Editor:** Cathy Green Banta  
**Marketing Chair:** Bettie Nebergall  
**Call Tree Team Chair:** Jay Asaibene  
**Call Tree Team:** Maggie Crowell, Shelley McGarry, Elaine Mest

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**Happy February Birthdays**

February 5th Carl Scott  
 February 5<sup>th</sup> Ray Tallman  
 February 6<sup>th</sup> Tom Williams  
 February 11<sup>th</sup> Richard Lowell  
 February 14<sup>th</sup> Lorraine Smith

Hope you a have terrific day, week, month & year!

Celebrate enough for all of us!

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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](mailto:mcathygreen@gmail.com); 352-455-2788)

## Commodore's February Comments - Joe Comastra



We started the year of 2023 with our first PYC outing at The Crazy Gator on the 14th of January. A big "THANK YOU" to our hosts Vic and Elizabeth Kapoor and Leo and Harriet Reuter who did a wonderful job. Thank you again for starting our year out right.

Our next outing was at Puddle Jumpers, Lorraine and I along with Scott and Lorraine Smith want to thank everyone who came and hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

There are still outing dates open, so please think about it and sign up to be a host.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our February outings. The first one is at The Waterfront Grill. And then get ready for the big one GEORGEFEST (Get your flags ready)!

I hope everyone has a marine radio or will be getting one. Having a radio will always make communication so much easier not only for the Georgefest parade, but whenever we/you are out on the water. And your radio will definitely come in handy if you should ever need HELP. Remember the PYC monitors on channel 72. Commodore Joe

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## Vice Commodore Report – Tom Williams



As the month of January is coming to a close nearly all members have kindly paid their dues for 2023, thank you. We value each and every one of our PYC members. For those who have yet to renew please send your check for \$24 to Carol Clarke.

Our club is in the process of planning the coming years fun filled events and we need your support and participation. New ideas for events and any suggestions for ways to attract new members would be greatly appreciated.

Hope to see you on, around, or "in" the water. Tom

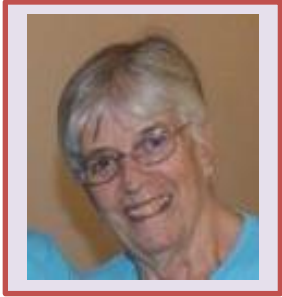
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## Rear Commodore Report – John Mest – thank you Bob for filling in.



At our January Crazy Gator outing, we had **35 boating friends present**. The weather was cold and windy so no one chose to come by boat. I heard everyone enjoyed visiting, and I also heard that the cookies were delicious that Vic and Elizabeth brought. I wasn't able to attend as that "Covid" caught up to Elaine and I but looking forward to seeing everyone in the near future. At our 2<sup>nd</sup> outing, **Puddle Jumpers**, we had **39 attendees, 0 came by boat** and several games of BINGO. Also I heard there were delicious brownies and cookies. See you on the water, John

**Treasurer – Carol Clarke – Welcome Back to Treasurer, Carol.**



At Dianes request due to health reasons, the board has voted on and Carol has accepted to continue on as Treasurer for another year. We thank you Diane for your willingness to serve and we pray for improved health for you.



**Sunshine Chair - Virginia Calven**

Get Well cards were sent to John Kindinger and Wally Moon.

If anyone would like the PYC to send a get-well card to an ill member, please contact: Virginia Calven at 906-484-3478

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**1st February Outing  
Thursday, February 9, 2023**



**Lake Eustis Waterfront Grille, 350 Lakeshore Drive, Eustis**

Host: Richard & Cookie Brown



Co-Host: James & Caroline Smith



**Raft Up 10:15 to 10:30 a.m. – Lake Eustis side of Dead River  
Social Hour: 11.30 AM, Lunch at 12.00, Order off the Menu**

**Valentine Theme so wear your red or pink**

**2<sup>nd</sup> floor, scenery will be beautiful.**

**Restaurant needs to know by Friday so please ...**

**RSVP by Thursday, February 2 to:**

Carolyn Smith at [leisurewoods1@gmail.com](mailto:leisurewoods1@gmail.com) or call 901-262-7253



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## 2<sup>nd</sup> February Outing – Saturday, February 25, 2023- Our Pontoon Parade **CALLING ALL PONTOONERS!**



Georgefest is the longest running celebration of George Washington's Birthday in the State of Florida, and at 121 years, it is the second longest in the entire US. Fireworks, carnival rides, live music, vendors galore, and a big street parade draw more than 30,000 attendees over the three-day extravaganza.

Streaming into Eustis at 12:00 on Saturday, our Pontoon Parade will circle the waterfront twice before docking. Georgefest's official photographer will be taking photos of us! Watch for advance articles online and in the papers, and plan to join in the fun on February 25.

### **WE NEED YOU!**

**A maximum number of boats make the Parade memorable.**

Pontoons will be decorated, some more, some less. It's up to you. All we ask that you display a flag and wave to the crowds along the waterfront.



is

- ❖ **Assemble at the staging area by 11:30 and make any final adjustments to your decorations.**
- ❖ **We depart in parade formation promptly just before 12:00.**
- ❖ **This is NOT a race. Keep speed to a walking pace along the waterfront.**
- ❖ **Maintain about 3 boat lengths between boats.**
- ❖ **Make two passes around the park and dock at the Community Center.**

Cheryl reserved Crazy Gator's private room. Due to heavy crowds, they need our meal choices in advance so they can purchase enough food ahead of time.

**Map and Menu are on the next page.**



Picture what  
you do ... see  
map and menu



**CRAZY GATOR GEORGEFEST MENU - \$16 PER PERSON - SODA/TEA INCLUDED**

- FISH SANDWICH (FRIED OR GRILLED) W/FRIES
- SHRIMP BASKET W/FRIES
- CHEESEBURGER W/FRIES
- LARGE CHICKEN SALAD (FRIED OR GRILLED)
- FISH BASKET W/FRIES
- CHICKEN TENDER BASKET W/FRIES
- CHICKEN BITES BASKET W/FRIES

**GEORGEFEST DRAWS HUGE HUNGRY CROWDS!**

**PLEASE NOTIFY CHERYL OF YOUR MEAL CHOICES SO THE RESTAURANT CAN ORDER ENOUGH FOOD TO INSURE YOU WILL BE SERVED.**

**DO NOT SEND MONEY IN ADVANCE!**

**EMAIL CHERYL: [CHERYLRHOADS1@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CHERYLRHOADS1@GMAIL.COM) OR TEXT: 954-802-0250**

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# 1<sup>st</sup> Outing - March 9, 2023 - Thursday

Event Meeting Place: Crazy Gator's, 402 N. Bay Street, Eustis, FL.

Host(s): Sharon & Dan Vincent Co-Host: Jerie & Ray Tallman

Times: Social Hour - 11:30 am Meal: Noon +

Raft Up: to be determined – watch for details in the March newsletter.



If the feathers are bright yellow, it quacks & waddles like a duck, then we must be approaching Pontoon Yacht Club's annual St. Patrick's Day celebration, takin' place on Thursday, March 9.

In preparation for that big day, hold tight to yer four leaf clover, shine up yer shillelagh & dust off yer best green outfit for the most excitin' (becoming legendary) Annual Leprechaun Costume Contest.

Erin go Bragh, Quack, Quack!

**What attendees need to (or may want to bring):**

- (1) Leprechaun Costume Contest attire.
  - (2) 25 cent coins to play the event games. Both are optional choices.
- Expect shenanigans, blarney, lots of fun & laughter,  
along with a roarin' good time!

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## AN OLD FASHIONED PICNIC

2<sup>nd</sup> March Outing - Gilbert Park in Mt. Dora

Thursday, March 23, 2023

11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Raft Up 10:00 to 10:15 a.m. – Lake Eustis side of Dead River

Host: John & Elaine Mest

Co-Host: Scott & Lorraine Smith



Bring your own picnic lunch (sandwiches) and or share a dish at your table and enjoy your PYC family for an outing at the Gilbert Park in Mt Dora. Pavilion #2 is the smaller pavilion closest to the lake.

Games will be played along with a 50/50.

Convenient parking for those who prefer to drive that day.

Pavilion with picnic tables provided.

Tablecloths, dessert, and bottled water also provided. No alcohol allowed in the park.



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**Heads Up ... Road Trip to Deland ... Make Your Reservations Now**

**St. John’s PYC River Event - May 9 to May 12, 2023**

**Tropical Resort & Marina, Lake Beresford, FL**

**1485 Lakeview Dr. Deland, FL. 32720**

**Hosts: Butch & Merrilyn Karrels Co-Host: Tom & Mary Jo Williams**

**Check-in: May 9, 2023 - 3:00PM - Check-out: May 12, 2023 - 11:00AM**

Each day you are on your own for breakfast; eat in or dine out. Itinerary is on the next page so you know what we will be doing and will help you in making your plans/reservations.

**Itinerary - St. John’s PYC River Event – May 9 to 12, 2023**

**Tuesday: May 9, 2023 12:30 PM:** Form boat convoy at CVS on SR19 and CR44 for all boats wanting to trailer their boats together to Tropical Resort & Marina. We will have people available to assist everyone unloading their boats. There is a single dock to unload all boats so if you join the convoy, it will take time to get all boats in the water and checked in.

**Tuesday: May 9, 4PM** take boats to St. John’s River Grill for dinner, 2997 FL-44 Deland, FL. Upon returning from the restaurant we will congregate at the fire-pit area to enjoy the evening and each other’s company. BYOB

**Wednesday: May 10, 10:30AM** leave Tropical Resort & Marina with our boats to go north on the St. John’s River to the Woodruff cutoff to De Leon Springs and the Sugar Mill restaurant for lunch. Coming back from the Sugar mill restaurant, we will cross Lake Woodruff and Lake Dexter on to the St. John’s River and go south back to the Tropical Resort & Marina. Make sure you have a full tank of gas for the day.

**Wednesday: May 10, 5:00PM** we will be taking our vehicles to the Stockyard restaurant for dinner. Depending on weather we will be able to eat outside in an area where we can eat as a group. Again after returning from the restaurant we will meet at the fire-pit for libations. We will have marshmallows for roasting along with chocolate and graham-crackers for s’mores.

**Thursday: May 11, 10:00 AM** we will be leaving Tropical Resort heading south on the St. John’s river toward Sanford, again make sure you have a full tank of gas. Right now there is construction on the railroad over pass and we may not be able to go into the Sanford marina but if we can we will go to the Sanford marina. We will turn around at the Sanford marina and head back across Lake Monroe and back up to Swamp House Bar & Grill where we will have lunch.

After lunch, it’s back on our boats heading north to Tropical Resort and marina where we will have our final gathering as a club at the fire-pit. We will be using the charcoal grills to make dinner for anyone who wants to eat this evening, bring your own food and Charcoal for this meal.

**Friday: May 12, 2023, 11:00AM** you will be on your own for breakfast. Depart

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# Pictures from our January Outing – Crazy Gator ... Pics by Sharon Thank you Vic & Elizabeth!



## January Puddle Jumpers - Bingo Thank you Joe & Lorraine ..... Pics by Cathy











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**A Look Back in Time by Kay Weaver, Historian**

September 11, 2004, PYC members took a Western Caribbean cruise on the Caribbean Princess departing from Ft. Lauderdale. It turned out to be a cruise to nowhere. We headed for St. Thomas and St. Marten getting behind Hurricane Ivan. Just as we were getting close to St. Thomas, another hurricane was brewing and heading our way so we made a mad dash to Jamaica which had already been hit by Ivan. We didn't see much in Montego Bay because of the



destruction and looting.



Some stayed on the ship while others only ventured into the terminal at the dock. We saw boats that were blown onshore or sunk by the storm. Our next port of call was Nassau and we returned home the next day. We never knew from day to day where we would end up! Amazing enough, it was a smooth cruise and no one was sea sick. We had plenty of sun and enjoyed the ship

and all the food you could eat since that was our entertainment for the week! Picture courtesy of Tim Hill. Kay Weaver, PYC Historian

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## PYC Event Signup Sheet 2023

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

As of 1/31/2023

Date	Day	Form	Outing Description & Location	Host 1	Host 2
January 9-14 <b>2nd week</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> Sat.		Crazy Gator, Eustis	Vik & Elizabeth Kapoor	Leo & Harriet Reuter
January 23-28 <b>4th week</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> Thurs.		Puddle Jumpers, Tavares	Joe Comastra & Lorraine Weirsma	Scott & Lorraine Smith
February 6-11 <b>2nd week</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> Thurs.		Waterfront Grille-Valentines, Eustis	Richard & Cookie Brown	James & Carolyn Smith
February 20-25 <b>4th week</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> Sat.		George fest Parade - Eustis	Gary & Cheryl Rhoads	Bob & Bettie Nebergall
March 6-11 <b>2nd week</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> Thurs.		Crazy Gator – St. Patrick’s Day Celebration	Dan & Sharon Vincent	Ray & Jerie Tallman
March 20-25 <b>Thursday</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs.		Old Fashioned Picnic – Gilbert Park	John & Elaine Mest	Scott & Lorraine Smith
April 10-15 <b>2nd week</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> Thurs.		Moss Bluff Picnic	Joe Comastra & Lorraine Wiersma	
April 24-29 <b>4th week</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> Thurs.		Scavenger Hunt - Hurricanes	Gary & Cheryl Rhoads	Mike & Bonnie Wells
May 8-13 <b>2nd week(T-R)</b>	9-12 <sup>th</sup> 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 <b>4th week</b>					
June 5-10 <b>2nd week</b>					
June 19-24 <b>4th week</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> Sat.		Crazy Gator	Carol Clarke Virginia Calven	
July 10-15 <b>2nd week</b>					
July 24-29 <b>4th week</b>					
August 7-12 <b>2nd week</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> Sat.		Scavenger Hunt TBD	Bob & Cathy Banta	
August 21-26 <b>4th week</b>	21-23		Springs (TBD Specific Location)	Tom & Mary Jo Williams	Richard Lowell & Debra Stewart
September 4-9 <b>2nd week</b>					
September 18-23 <b>4th Saturday</b>	23 Sat.		Poker Run	Jim & Carol Clarke	Bob & Cathy Banta Virginia Calven
<b>October 9-14</b> <b>2nd week(T-R)</b>	10-13 Tue-Fri		River Cruise	Butch & Merrilyn Karrels	Terry & Kay Weaver
October 23-28 <b>4th week</b>			TBD	Al & Diane Allen	Carl & Joan Scott
November 4 <sup>th</sup> <b>1st Saturday</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sat.		Thanksgiving	John Paul	
December 9 <sup>th</sup> <b>2nd Saturday</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> Sat.		Christmas	John & Cindy Kindinger	

Any corrections to newsletter please email: [mcathygreen@gmail.com](mailto:mcathygreen@gmail.com) Sent: 2/1/23

