

Nautical News



The Newsletter of the Dunkirk Yacht Club

2016 Board Members

Flag Officers

Commodore:	Robyn Beardsley
Vice Commodore:	Doug Reid
Rear Commodore:	Nancy Steffan
Secretary:	Carlton Hamann
Treasurer:	Carl Waclawski
Past Commodore:	Paul Wallenhorst

Committee Chairs

Membership:	Bill Wright
Education:	Donna Bjurlin
Facilities:	Brett Christy
House:	Carl Lis
Recreation & Race:	Kathy Fox
Social:	John Tallet
Dockmaster:	Carl Bjurlin
Newsletter:	Jen Christy
Webmaster:	Larry VanDeusen

The February DYC board meeting was called to order by Commodore Robyn Beardsley on February 9th. A new member was approved for probationary status, a warm DYC welcome to Paul Nichter. Paul and his wife Karen reside in Fredonia and have had many years boating experience on both Lake Chautauqua and Lake Ontario. In other membership news, a letter of resignation was received from Dana Verhague and a request from Joan Will to move to inactive status was approved. In addition, two members currently on inactive status have been approved to move to active membership, Darlene Letersky and Colleen Wright. There is one membership opening; therefore the next person on the waiting list will be invited to the March board meeting. Robyn spoke in regards to John King's passing, members of the Board expressed regrets and a motion was approved to make a donation to the Dunkirk Library in memory of John.

During opening comments from members in attendance Don Eno expressed reservations of having members doing repair work on pilings due to safety concerns.

In other Board news, a request was received from the US Coast Guard Auxiliary for a slip at the club to dock a 26-foot powerboat. Bill Wright will invite a representative to speak at the next Board meeting to provide more detailed information regarding the group. Renewal of US sailing membership was approved.

Race & Recreation and Social chairs will be working on establishing a schedule for the upcoming season. Carl Lis suggested advertising the CPR/AED



Next DYC Board Meeting
Tuesday March 8, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.
Knights of Columbus Clubroom

the training class well in advance to promote a good turnout. In regards to the upcoming housecleaning season starting, Robyn suggested that as it gets closer that a calendar of cleaning weeks be included in the newsletter to promote member sign up. Paul Wallenhorst suggested that the Board purchase copies of "Robert's Rules of Order" for Board members to have access to reference. A motion to purchase 4 copies was approved.

In facilities, it was reported that the inner harbor has been frozen on and off during the winter weeks. Damage has been noted however complete assessment of the full extent of damage will wait to be seen. Brett commented that there is great deal of leg work and planning to get us pointed in the right direction. It was noted that several pilings are heaving and will need to be restored.

Carl Bjurlin reported as dockmaster that there are falling pillings at 22,24,25,27 east dock. He inquired whether these pilings will be planned to be fixed as it will impact where slips are assigned. At this point slips affected will be unavailable if pilings are not restored. Board members agreed that this issue will be an ongoing issue that may require yearly restoration and maintenance.

In new business, Robyn reported that damage done to the sewer line last summer was caused by a contractor and their insurance should be reimbursing for the cost of the damage. In regards to the tabled motion from the January meeting to proceed with a \$400 assessment to members, it was moved to return the motion back to the table for discussion. Various points of view were shared, with some members reiterating that the assessment was against the by-laws, others contending that it does not violate the by-laws and some expressing their concerns with having an assessment without a clear cut plan in place. It was also noted that there is evident division among the membership in regards to the issue. Robyn declared that the motion of the assessment was out of order.

Members of the Board expressed a need for there to be communication to the membership from the Board to convey what they are working on and the direction they are planning on going. Please see the letter from the Commodore included the newsletter.

In moving forward with possible plans, Robyn said she would put together information regarding the pneumatic hammer and share with Board members to review specifics. See website listed below if interested in more information regarding this tool.

www.dycpilings.blogspot.com



FROM THE HELM

Dear members,

I know that everyone was wondering how the \$400 assessment would turn out, in light of the objections from many members. For this year at least, there will be no extra assessment. Per our bylaws, any deviation from bylaws requires a 2/3 vote to amend them first, and a motion cannot be allowed if contradictory. A simple majority can decide matters that are not already established by 2/3 vote. So the motion to increase our capital reserve fund is null and void. The Board of Directors and the members are all required to uphold our bylaws. To ignore that is a moral issue; and with member objection it can become a legal one.

If the damage to our facility was a 'one-time' matter, it might make sense to take special or immediate steps to amend our bylaws, (but that effort could still come to nothing if there is not a 2/3 support at a special or annual meeting). And now it seems we don't have isolated damage. A recent inspection of our docks reveals that we have at least 3 more pilings leaning, with more heaving of some finger docks. Annual ice damage will call for annual repairs. I'm guessing that membership won't allow an annual assessment, so we should consider alternatives. We have discussed various types of docks, different piling materials, bubblers etc. We all want a strong facility and a happy membership, without question. (And we probably all dream of making our corner of the facility better, upgraded.)

But without an extra assessment, how can we effectively use the funds we already have? Aside from the Capital Reserve fund of over \$50,000, our decking project is finished which will free up about \$8,000 of our annual fees that we were spending in prior years. Also, we have a little over \$5,000 left over from our \$50 assessment last year, which is already earmarked for piling work. Last April, we considered purchasing the tools to allow us to do our own dock work better. It started with the acquisition of our work boat, a pontoon boat with 6 pontoons with a history of being used to drive pilings in Chautauqua Lake. Then a few of us looked into the availability of a piling driver. Carl Bjurlin found one online at www.southernexposuremarine.com You can watch a video posted there. Maybe there are other products out there by other manufacturers, but I haven't found any yet that are small enough for us to handle, and big enough to drive our pilings. If you find any, let me know so we can properly review and compare.

January 2 of this year, Bob and I along with Henry and Julie Danielson, toured the fabrication shop where these piling drivers are made, in Naples Fl. We saw a demonstration along with a detailed explanation of how his work boat (a pontoon boat with only 2 pontoons) was modified to accomplish dock installation (our boat is bigger and better than his). We made some initial costs checks on things like winches, batteries, air compressors etc. The piling driver is \$6,500 w/o shipping cost (we can pick up, or another member that has offered). The modifications to our boat will be in the neighborhood of \$3,000 or \$4000. Much depends on the going cost of steel, or what can be donated. One member has a plasma cutter which would be extremely useful, and has commented on the desire to help. Other members, welders and other manual laborers have commented on the desire to help.

Some members have voiced concern over the safety of taking on this project. It is true that this will require more than the usual attention. But it is also true that our projects historically have had inherent risk, requiring knowledge, experience and good oversight. We don't want anyone to get hurt. We can take necessary precautions to stabilize all aspects of the work. Is it possible for us to accomplish this type of work? The maker of this piling driver operated it all alone the first year. He has since had enough success that he hires help. He put in new installations as well as maintaining existing all by himself. He is the manufacturer, but also an end-user. We are an existing facility, with existing docks to tie off to, with many hands to make the work 'light', which should make this work feasible and easier.

There are many more details to the actual work, but I wanted you to know that we do have options, and that we are considering them. The Board of Directors this year still has discussion and decisions to make, and I'm hoping that you will both appreciate and support the direction that we go in, all for the good of the club. We came into the club knowing that we have to work, so we should all understand that maintenance, though not easy, should be something we strive to carry out whenever possible. If we run into something we can't do, then we can re-evaluate whether to hire help or not.

Please let us know how you can help. 716-338-2830 or robb1000@verizon.net

Robyn Beardsley
Commodore 2016
S/V Peregrine

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE:

STAYSAIL: - Heavy duty, with wire luff and hanks, also snap shackle, sheets and bag. Excellent lightly used condition; Luff 19 ft. 7 in., Foot 8 ft. 10 in., Leech 17 ft. \$100
(716) 672-8994

FOR SALE:

24 ft. **Shark** Sailboat Hull #254

Seller would like to see the boat remain within NYC membership. Great starter boat with everything you need. Rigging is set-up so boat can be raced if desired. Includes set-up assistance if remains in NYC.

Call Carl Bjurlin @ 397-7530

FOR SALE:

22' 1977 Seafarer Sailboat

\$2500

Contact: Erin Armstrong erin.h.armstrong.phd@gmail.com

(614) 505-6912

FOR SALE:

1974 O'Day 22 Sailboat

asking \$2800

shoal draft, 5 sails, trailer, 1982 Evinrude 9.9 LS, electric start

549-0518



**REMINDER
CLUB DUES & SLIP FEES
DUE DATE**

FEBRUARY 29, 2016

**BE SURE TO CHECK AND UPDATE ANY
CHANGES IN ADDRESS, PHONE, EMAIL, ETC.**

**PLEASE NOTE – NEWLY ADDED
“DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY”
LINE THAT NEEDS TO BE FILLED OUT IF
YOU WISH TO NAME A BENEFICIARY
(LOCATED BELOW EMAIL ADDRESS UNDER
THE HEADING OF CHANGES)**