

St. Paul Yacht Club

Anchor Line

STPAULYACHTCLUB.ORG

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100 YACHT CLUB ROAD B-1, ST. PAUL, MN 55107

SEPT/OCT 2015 VOL. 17

COMMODORE'S REPORT

The boating season is winding down here, and I think we had a pretty good one overall. It has not however, been without its challenges.

We have had great social events, decent water to boat in, and have addressed overdue club business such as getting the Bylaws and Standing Rules updated and ratified.

As I look back over the season I have mixed feelings going forward. There is so much more to accomplish. I tend to get pragmatic, then impatient, and then overwhelmed by the process of changing a 104-year-old institution for the better. The support from the board and most members has been positive, although some are not happy with the results of our efforts.

I have learned to pick the battles, and try to make the important things matter. Sometimes the important things are small, but still the hardest to change. We have such a diversity of membership it is impossible to satisfy everyone.

We continue to try and be a marina that is all things to all types of boats and boaters. Boats that get used everyday, boats that don't move. Big boats, small boats, medium sized boats. Weekend boaters and live-a-board boaters.

The complexity of our membership and their boats is oftentimes impossible to manage successfully. On one hand, under the circumstances we do an incredible job. On the other hand, I see that things must change for us to move forward and survive.

Prepare for change, as it will be part of our future. It will be something that all of us will need except for the good of the club. Self-serving attitudes and demands will be replaced by cooperation and optimization of resources going forward into the second half of this decade.

This coming change is not a choice that we have, and it is not a mandate by this board or future boards. It will be decided by economics and what the Mississippi River and Mother Nature force us to do to exist as a viable boat club and harbors.

I want to welcome our new members and boaters and tell them they are the future of this club. I congratulate our long-term members that form our past and present and ask them to reach out and teach the history of the club to the new people. It is a rich history of volunteerism and cooperation that has enabled the SPYC to weather the storms of change over the last 104 years.

It will be those same great unselfish efforts that will pilot us forward into the future. — Dave McKusick



Photo by Maria Johnson

ROGER'S ARTICLE

I hope everyone has had a good boating season. This will go on record as one of the nicest summer seasons in terms of usable boating weather that I've ever seen. Not surprisingly, we've had a good rental season here as well; sometimes we forget just how weather driven this business is.

It's interesting to go back a little in history in that regard. As the chart below shows, we've had some disruptive water levels EVERY YEAR since 2010. I would consider anything over 10' to be disruptive in that it curtails travel on the river, stops gas sales, and generally just delays everything that needs to happen to fill up a marina. Anything over 15' pretty much brings everything to a halt, anything over 17' is considered major flooding and closes Lilydale Rd, Harriet Island, etc.

You can see by the chart that in the last 5 years we've had quite a run to contend with:

20.13 ft on 06/26/2014
14.05 ft on 07/01/2013
13.09 ft on 06/03/2012
18.71 ft on 04/10/2011
19.02 ft on 03/29/2011
16.70 ft on 10/02/2010

Did we fill up slips this year because we had a better marketing plan? Because we had a clubhouse? Because of the boat show? Because of the website? Did I become a better manager? I would say no, we filled up the slips, had better gas sales, and brought in some great new members who could have a long term impact on the club primarily because we've had the first truly cooperative weather here in the last 5 years. Now, I don't mean to minimize



Photo by Roger Anderson

any of those things as they are important and we can always improve in those areas. But there are always going to be two big factors – the weather and the general economy – that will have a major impact that can't be controlled.

I think it's also useful to consider that during the last five years of what could be considered to be both a down economy and ongoing unfavorable weather we've managed to build a beautiful clubhouse facility, continue to add to and maintain our enterprise equipment, run a safe facility, and maintain our fiscal position in a responsible (though I would argue somewhat too tight) manner. Our debt is at a reasonable level to be serviced within comfortable cash flow.



Photo by Shawn Patrice Tierney

Despite what some people seem to observe we have an excellent relationship with the City - so good in fact that in 2014 an additional 10 year extension was triggered in our lease. This required no negotiation, changes in our operations, or concessions of any kind – or even a discussion. We have recently been focusing again on dredging and COE funding rule changes and City role. It was brought to my attention by the club Secretary that "As a side note: There are 25 inland harbors designated within the State of Minnesota and we are the only harbor of record to have received any funds from the COE. I would have to say that we have been the beneficiaries of some very "good will" by the COE and the City of St. Paul prior to rule changes and this new law." I don't know how you could define a better relationship except if they walked up and gave us briefcase full of cash – and that's not going to happen.

What's my point? We have challenges facing us; I think the Commodore gave a real good statement on that elsewhere in this issue and as he indicates Mother Nature and simple economics will determine much of how our future unfolds. But the last five years have shown that when you look at the details we're smarter and more resilient than people think sometimes.

DOCKSIDE GRILL - *Slow Cooker Pot Roast*

6 servings - Total Time: 8 h 15 m

Ingredients:

- 1 onion, sliced
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 (2 1/2 pound) boneless beef chuck roast
- 1 pinch salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 1 (1.2 ounce) package dry beef gravy mix
- 1 (1 ounce) package ranch dressing mix
- 1 (.7 ounce) package dry Italian-style salad dressing mix
- 1/2 cup water, or as needed
- 5 whole peeled carrots (optional)

Directions:

1. Spray the inside of a slow cooker with cooking spray.
2. Spread the onion slices out into the bottom of the cooker.
3. Spread the flour out onto a work surface.
4. Sprinkle the chuck roast with salt and black pepper, and roll the roast in the flour to coat all sides.
5. Using the edge of a small, sturdy plate, pound the flour into the meat.
6. Place the floured roast into the cooker on top of the onions.
7. Whisk together beef gravy mix, ranch dressing mix, & Italian dressing mix in a bowl, and whisk the mixes with water until smooth.
7. Pour over the chuck roast. Distribute carrots around the meat.
8. Cover the cooker, set to Low, and cook until the roast is tender and the gravy has thickened, about 8 hours.



WET YOUR "BOAT" WHISTLE - *Apple Brandy Hot Toddies*

Hot toddies are hot water and liquor in basic form; they are great in cold weather or as an after-dinner drink. Instead of just mixing the liquor and water, make a light syrup with apple cider. This helps give it a natural sweetness and amplifies the apple flavor. Garnish the glasses with a cinnamon and sugar rim and frozen thin apple slices for ice cubes. It gives some dimension to the glass and makes the drinks that much more festive for the holidays.

Makes 8 Servings

- 2 cups apple cider
- 2 cups water
- 2 cups apple brandy
- 1 tbs honey
- 4- 8 inch cinnamon sticks, broken in half
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1 green apple, thinly sliced
- Cinnamon and sugar for glass rims

Preparation:

Lay the apple slices on parchment paper and put the apples into the freezer. Heat a small sauce pot over medium heat. Add the apple cider and reduce by half- it should take roughly 20 minutes over a low simmer. In a separate sauce pan, bring the water and cinnamon sticks to a boil. Turn off the heat and add the honey and lemon juice. Stir to combine and add the apple brandy. Keep the mixture warm over very low heat while you wait for the apple cider to reduce. Dip each glass into water and then into the cinnamon and sugar. Pour 1-2 tablespoons of the reduced apple cider into each glass. Fill the rest of the way with the brandy mixture. Garnish with one of the cinnamon sticks and a frozen apple slice.



Board Members Present At Board Meeting

Commodore	Vice Cmdre.	Secretary	Treasurer	Board	Board	Board	Board	Board	Board	Past Cmdre.
Dave McKusick	MJ Babcock	Roni Brunner	Greg Jorgensen	Lynn Adler	Dave Nelson	Bill Gibbs	Terri Meredith	Lynn Gunstrum	Bill Tschohl	Pat Boulay
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

BOARD MEETING NOTES - AUGUST

Attest: Roni Brunner, Secretary

Guest: Denny Sando, Barb Haake

Present: Roger Anderson

1) Call to Order: 7:05 p.m.

Denny Sando reported that Joe Holmes is not doing well health wise.

Minute Approval: Minutes approved for the July Board meeting. Motion by Bill Tschohl Second by Lynn Adler. Motion – passed.

New business: Gillette Children’s Boat Ride – Greg Jorgensen discussed the upcoming event on Sept. 20, 2015 which he is hosting at the club. This event will be similar to last years and all members are invited to participate. If you are interested in helping out; please contact Greg directly. Greg also made a recommendation that the club sponsor this event on an on-going basis. The board; however, made no decision at this time and request further details.

Committee reports:

Finance Committee (Greg Jorgensen): If interested in full finance report; please contact Marina Manager for more information.

Finance Committee brought forward their recommendation for 2016 slip rate adjustments. Their proposal would adjust slip rental rates that close the disparity between small and larger slips. After substantial investigation of pricing and marketing practices of all Pool 2 marinas it was found that for the most part, they are charging a single rate per length and they felt that the club needed to adjust rates on all slips to align them more closely. These new rates will continue to be based on the length and width of a slip. This will be a \$0 net gain in income to the club from fees. It is more of a rate correction for all slips to provide a fairer rate structure. There will be no change to the rates that tie-along slip holders pay and other exemptions will be handled by Marina Manager on a case by case basis. Final adjusted rates will be presented with the budget proposal for 2016 and will incorporate any potential changes as required by the board during the budget process.

Staff (Roger Anderson): There were four corrective action letters sent to members this month. One incident requires that we change our gate codes again. This will be done sometime this week and members will be advised accordingly. **UPDATE:** We currently have hired a Gas Dock attendant 10 -2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday for the next few weeks.

Operations Report (Dave McKusick):

Review from last month meeting - Gas and water upgrades for the lower

harbor: The Operations Committee is making a recommendation to replace all gas regulators (\$19 each); 5 – 10 gas meters (\$190 each) on the high usage boats; plus, the 1 inch connection pipe on shore side. Total cost for this project will be approx. \$1600 – 2600.

Motion made to approve the spending for these replacements. First – Lynn Adler; Second – MJ Babcock. Motion – passed.

Funding source for improvements:

Motion made to vote on Finance Committee recommendation from last month for a surcharge of \$50 per month for all Live-a-boards from November to March (five months) for setting up a fund to replace all gas and water lines. This fee would be discontinued once the gas and water lines are completely upgraded. First – Lynn Adler; Second – Dave McKusick. Motion – passed.

Bylaws: Will be voted on at September 9th general membership meeting.

Membership – Marketing – Social (Lynn Adler): Shrimp boil was a great success. The next event is the chicken feed on Sept.12th. The Social committee will be purchasing new grills for the club as the old one finally gave up.

Harbor Maintenance (Dave): Dave Nelson made a presentation of 2014 and 2015 dredging options. Currently, the committee estimates that the cost for dredging upper harbor only to be approx. \$236,000 to \$522,000 depending on the depth of the dredge. Obviously, this isn’t sustainable by the club so the committee was asked to evaluate other options. For example; what would happen if we didn’t dredge? What other options could we come up with if we don’t have the money. What other creative solutions could we see for our future? Dave Nelson is asking for anyone interested planning our future vision for the harbor to please contact him.

Strategic Planning Committee (MJ): We will have more on this next month.

Clubhouse Committee (Dave): Committee met in June and current day to day operations are being done by Mark Mosby. The committee will not be making any additional expenditure on microphones or furniture as they were ranked low on the priority list by the board.

Adjourned: 9:00 p.m.

Next Board meeting: September 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Attest: Roni Brunner, Secretary



CHICKEN FEST EVENT



SHRINERS CHILDRENS EVENT



Board Members Present At General Membership Meeting										
Commodore	Vice Cmdr.	Secretary	Treasurer	Board	Board	Board	Board	Board	Board	Past Cmdr.
Dave McKusick	MJ Babcock	Roni Brunner	Greg Jorgensen	Lynn Adler	Dave Nelson	Bill Gibbs	Terri Meredith	Lynn Gunstrum	Bill Tschohl	Pat Boulay
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTES - SEPTEMBER

Attest: Roni Brunner, Secretary

Present: Roger Anderson

1) Call to Order: 7:30 p.m.

Main item on the agenda: Voting on the Adoption of the new Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation for the St. Paul Yacht Club.

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction: Bylaws committee members introduced and thanked for their service to the club by Dave McKusick: Roni Brunner, MJ Babcock, Bill Gibbs, Lynn Adler, Terri Meredith, Richard Felsheim, Bob Hill, Denny Sando & Dave McKusick.

Quorum: 30 Voting Members in Good Standing present
Simple majority: 16

Dave McKusick begins the meeting by introducing the new Articles of Incorporation.

Motion: Denny Sando moves to approve the Articles of Incorporation
Second: Ron Hilson

One question from floor on the date of the member meeting which should state Sept. 8, 2015 not Sept. 9, 2015. Correction made. No further questions.

Motion passed: By voice vote the motion was adopted.

MOTION: Ruby McKusick moved: The By-Laws committee was appointed to draw up the proposed By-Laws and has agreed to the following draft which was passed by the SPYC Board; therefore, we now recommend that they be adopted by the members.

Second: by Lynn Adler

Request by Peter Kramer to restate the motion.

Voting members: 24 yes - **Motion passed**

MOTION: Barb Haake moved reconsideration of the previous motion.
Second by Bill Tschol.

Vote members: 11 yes - **Motion fails**

Motion does not have enough voting members.

Some discussion occurred by members on the newly passed By-Laws and a few house-keeping issues were addressed by Dave McKusick and MJ Babcock. A few members were concerned with the process and expressed their opinions; while others, stated they were comfortable with the outcome.

Regular Membership Meeting ensued after this discussion.

Staff Report: It is that time of year; winter storage invoices are out and everyone is encouraged to schedule their pull out. There are been a few maintenance issues this past month with the water and the pump out system;

however, the maintenance staff have been working the issues as the come up. Thank you to Denny Sando for volunteering to man our gas dock over the Holiday weekend.

Operations: Focus has been customer service and being more responsive to our membership. Lucy is fully installed at the top of the ramp. Thank you Barb Haake and Truman Howell for that donation. The yard has a few boats that are still finishing up and they probably will be out of the area by next spring so our "dead boat area" is quickly disappearing.

Wifi system is having new nodes put in and it is a work in progress. The new equipment will allow the club to monitor status and will send email messages to the staff. **Reminder:** Our bandwidth is limited. The river is at normal pool right now. Our harbor has some draft limits that we must keep in mind.

Upgrades to live-aboard community: Board approved a step replacing 10 gas meters, that will be paid for by the live-aboard community over time.

Finance: Cash reserves are a little short at this time which is typical for this time of year; so if you can pay your fall pull out bill early that would helpful. Thank you. Gas sales have been very good this season.

Question from Jeff Tetinger: how does our cash balance this year compare to last year. Greg Jorgensen: We didn't anticipate spending an additional \$30k on dredging; however, we are ahead on the number of slips we have rented for the year and have cut expenses.

Social, Membership, Marketing: We have two prospective new members tonight: Troy Janisch and Linda Miller.

Upcoming events:

- Saturday, Sept 12, 2015 will be our Kickin' Chicken Fest beginning at 5 p.m. with live music after by the Marina All Stars & the Leaky Beets.
- Sunday, Sept. 27th Booyah event hosted by Gordy Mergens and Danny Tedora.
- Saturday, Oct. 10th Halloween party.
- Friday, Dec. 4th Christmas Party at the Pool and Yacht Club.

Dredging: We need to have dredging in our long range strategic plan and that will be discussed at our next board meeting on Sept. 28, 2015.

Clubhouse: Committee didn't get the funding to move forward with their top three asset purchases this year. **Reminder:** don't plug two roasters into one circuit. The plug outlets in the kitchen have been labeled for your convenience. This summer the committee has done the following maintenance items:

Continued on page 7

IN OUR THOUGHTS



Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to Denise & Greg Jorgensen. They continue to make a slow recovery at home. Keep sending them positive energy.



Here's to a speedy recovery for Ruby McKusick after having surgery. Keep her and Dave in your thoughts and prayers as Ruby continues in her recovery.

AHOY SPYC MEMBERS AND FRIENDS!

Well the boating and social season is coming to an end. I want to thank ALL the volunteers who helped this year. We had some fabulous events that were very well attended. Continually had 80 to over 130 people participate in the different get togethers. It was a really FUN year!!

The last event of the year! Christmas Party at the Pool and Yacht Club, Friday, December 4th. There will be invites coming in the very near future!!

ladler@c-b-m.com or 612-599-4545.

Lynn Adler – Slip UH63
Board member and Social chair.
Skipper of the good ship *Livin' La Vida Loca*

MON, OCT 26TH 7:00pm At the Clubhouse

• **BOARD MEETING**

MON, NOV 23RD 7:00pm At the Clubhouse

• **BOARD MEETING**

TUE, DEC 4TH 6:00pm Pool & Yacht Club

• **SPYC HOLIDAY PARTY - MORE INFO TO COME**

Board Members Present At General Membership Meeting

Continued from page 6

- Freezer and refrigerator fixed
- Two grill regulators replaced
- The AC condensate line replaced;
- Leaking faucets repaired;
- Windows inside and out washed,
- Exterior of the building power washed

Thank you to Mark Mosby for taking care of the daily check-ups on the clubhouse this summer. There is a clubhouse maintenance check list for the clubhouse and this year the committee has taken responsibility to maintain it this year.

Concern by members on several things:

- Look at the kitchen sink hot water
- Door closures for the shower doors (committee would like to keep the doors open for ventilation)
- Womens shower needs new curtains to cover the full width of the shower

Strategic committee: All sub-committee strategic action plans should be presented to the board at the Sept. 28, 2015 meeting. A final overall Strategic plan will be developed from these materials. Motion made to adjourn by Denny Sando; Second by Mark Mosby. Motion passed.

Adjourned: 9:00 p.m.

Next Board meeting: September 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Attest: Roni Brunner, Secretary

Staff

Roger Anderson - Cell: 651-747-6068

Rick Kappelhoff - Cell: 651-747-6063

Board

Dave McKusick - Cell: 612-670-4859 - Email: crescentproduction@comcast.net
Committees: Operations

MJ Babcock - Cell: 612-910-8585 - Email: mjbab@aol.com
Committees: Strategic Planning

Greg Jorgensen - Cell: 651-283-4017 - Email: nottasinger@Hotmail.com
Committees: Finance

Roni Brunner - Cell: 612-963- 5874 - Email: rb2001bugs@hotmail.com
Committees: Member of several committees

Lynn Adler - Cell: 612-599-4545 - Email: ladler@c-b-m.com
Committees: Social, Marketing/Membership

Dave Nelson - Cell: 612-735-7348 - Email: dnelson688@gmail.com
Committees: Harbor Maintenance (aka Dredging)

Bill Gibbs - Cell: 612-940-5577 - Email: mpgibbs@centurylink.net
Committees: Member of several committees

Terri Meredith - Cell: 612-910-4272 - Email: tlmeredith099@gmail.com
Committees: Member of several committees

Lynn Gunstrom - Cell: 651-399-4612 - Email: Lynndock@live.com
Committees: Member of several committees

Bill Tschohl - Cell: 651-335-1719 - Email: ahandiman1@hotmail.com
Committees: Member of several committees

Pat Boulay - Cell: 651-983-8317 - Email: pboulay@newbizminn.com
Past Commodore

STAFF/BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION 2015

FOR SALE -
1984 Carver Santa Cruz - \$8,900

in very good condition. Very few of these are available, great entry level cabin cruiser with a large cockpit and a flybridge. Single Merc 260 I/O, rebuild engine (less than 200 hrs), many other upgrades. Dual controls, sleeps 3-4 people, galley, head, fresh water system, alpine stereo, two batteries, depth finder and marine radio. Boat is in a covered slip and well maintained, have all the service records. I have owned the boat for 10 years and has been a fantastic family cruiser.

Contact: Mike Detomaso at 651-224-0521



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