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Presque Isle Yacht Club



Newsletter



Commodore: Jim Buto

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June 2017

Many Events this Summer

Fleet Captain Kurt Fesenmyer has many fun events planned this summer and we hope you can join in on all the fun! Watch the bulletin board in the clubhouse as well as the PIYC website for updated information on the events.

The first event will be **Family Fun Day / Movie Night** on **Saturday, June 17th!** Dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. in the cove followed by activities for the entire family and then the movie Zootopia will be shown in the Cove at 8:30 p.m. Bring your own chairs for the movie to enjoy it in com-

fort. The cost is only \$5 per adult and \$3 per child from ages 3—12 and children 2 and under are free. The dinner will consist of hot dogs, walking tacos, fresh cut French fries and refreshments. The activities will include water balloons, sidewalk chalk, corn hole, lawn dice and more! You won't want to miss this event!

The next party will be the **Retiree/Goof Off party** which is scheduled for **Friday, June 23rd** beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the cove. The menu will consist of picnic foods and

snacks along with beverages. Please bring some picnic food or snacks to share with the other members. The cost is \$5 per person.

Next on the schedule is the **A, B, and Peach St. Dock party** which will be held on **Friday, June 30th** starting at 6:00 p.m. Please have a snack at your boat to share. There is no cost for this party and it's BYOB.

Contact FC Kurt Fesenmyer at 814-823-9326 or kfesen1@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Upcoming Events

All boats must be in water June 15

Coast Guard June 17
Auxiliary Boat 8:00 a.m.

Family Fun June 17
Day / 5:00 p.m.
Movie Night 8:30 p.m.

Retiree & Goof Off Party June 23
1:00 p.m.

Dock Party June 30
A, B, Peach St. Docks 6:00 p.m.

DOG Poker Run July 14
6:00 p.m.



VC Report

The boats are in and the club grounds look great. Now that the weather is improving we will once again bring out the tropical plants. Thanks to all of you for getting our club ready for opening day. It certainly was a difficult task given the weather and our full plate! Please remember to let us know when you are out of town with your boat so we may use your slip. If anyone is still looking for work hours I have some dock type of work and Robert has ground work that is in need of attention. Remember No Swimming in the Basin, shut off your A/C when not at the club, and don't park in the parking lot when you are on a trip. You need to park in the upper lot. As usual I am looking for stories as the year progresses that can be used at the haul out and awards party. Please share. We all goof and it is all in fun. Let's all have a great summer boating!

VC Herb Torrance



Board Report

This is the report from the June board meeting—Bill Ramey was granted his 25-year inactive status as of June 3rd. One member was granted a meeting credit for the May meeting. Officers' credit line was increased to \$2500 due to ongoing dock projects. Adam DiNicola came off probation. Six members were granted extensions for their boats to remain in the yard, all have been working on them throughout the spring to work out bugs. In the clubhouse and cove, Bob Green posted a list that has members' names along with their significant others name, boat name and slip number. This will help us get to know everyone.

P/C Dale Oregia

Happy Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to those members who have recently celebrated their anniversary as PIYC members:

- 5-Year:** Bob Bryson
Don Galbreath
- 15-Year:** Matt Viscosy
- 25-Year:** Bill Coyne
Bill Ramey

New Members

The Board and Officers have decided to take in new members.

Michael Dixon and his wife **Rachel**. Michael is a respiratory therapist at Allegheny Valley Hospital and Rachel is an RN at UPMC.

Tom Fromknecht and his wife **Kathy**. Tom is an engineer at GE and Kathy is an RN at the VA Hospital as a transplant coordinator. Tom and Kathy have three children; Kaitlyn, Krissy, and Emily.

If you see any of our new members around the club, please introduce yourself and make them feel like part of the PIYC family.

Sail News

There are four sail races this summer: July 1, July 29, August 12, and September 9, in which all are on Saturdays. We will meet in the picnic shelter at 9:00 a.m. for instructions and the races will start at 10:00 a.m.

We extend an encouraging invitation to all and hope some new skippers will join in the fun.

Gary Larson

Happy Birthday:

- Mike and Rosemary Barrett
- Becky Best
- Mike Briglia
- Bob Bryson
- Gary Bunting
- Anne Eisert
- Ella Galvin
- Patricia Howell
- Aaron Jarmolowicz
- Tom Kelley
- Don Kenton
- Gene Krahe, Jr.
- Bill Magee
- John and Sue Magee
- Judy May
- Mike McClimans
- Arron Petermann
- Paul Sauer
- Nicole Scarpitti
- Marilyn Tracy
- Charles White
- Marge Worley



USCG looks closer at private firm's documentation renewal mailings

Date Posted: 2017-04-12
Source: Lisa Suhay, WG
News Editor

While many services offering to renew your boat documentation are legitimate, those wishing to avoid higher costs should be extra cautious about letters arriving in the mail offering US Coast Guard documentation renewal. In recent weeks boat owners have received official looking renewal notices via the U.S. mail. Those who made a closer inspection found these were not sent by the U.S. Coast Guard, but by a documentation service offering to do the legwork for a fee. Because, some argue, the marketing effort too closely resembles official USCG communication letters and contain knockoff USCG logos, complaints began to sprout on social media. Alert subscribers passed these postings on to the Waterway Guide's editorial staff. Subsequent calls by Waterway Guide to the U.S. Coast Guard, two weeks ago,

launched an investigation into the marketing practices of some of these companies. "The Coast Guard is investigating the situation. As the investigation is ongoing, I can't provide any details at this time," USCG Fifth District Public Affairs Officer Nathan Littlejohn wrote in email Wednesday. Calls to one company named in various postings were not responded to by press time. Meanwhile, the Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) Consumer Protection Department, is urging boaters with vessels having a US Coast Guard Certificate of Documentation to be wary of any letter arriving by US mail offering renewal.

That's because an increasing number of BoatUS members have complained that these letters direct them to websites that may be mistaken for the actual US Coast Guard Vessel Documentation Center located in Falling Waters, West Virginia, and

appear to show a significant increase in the annual fee to renew US Coast Guard (USCG) documentation. Meanwhile, BoatUS advises that while the USCG does send official annual renewal notices by US mail, other notices being received by members are not from the USCG but rather third-party companies whose name or return addresses may appear similar to that of the official USCG Vessel Documentation Center. Members of the half-million boat owners group report the letters look like "real" USCG communications. Some examples members have forwarded to BoatUS do not have any disclaimers noting that they are not official USCG correspondence.

While third-party companies may legitimately provide services to assist with vessel documentation renewals, the USCG's own renewal process is simple for most vessels and the price, \$26, is often much lower than what

third-party services may charge. To renew, go to the USCG National Documentation Center website at www.uscg.mil/nvdc and click on "instructions and forms."

To be documented, a vessel must measure at least 5 net tons and, with the exception of certain oil-spill response vessels, owned by a US citizen. Boats about 27 feet in length or longer generally meet the weight requirement. If boat owners wish to file a consumer complaint about this or any other boating-related advertisement or company, BoatUS welcomes boaters to visit <http://my.boatus.com/consumer/dispute.asp> and click on "send us a complaint" button. Boaters also advises boaters who may have received mail that they believe is misleading or deceptive may contact the US Postal Inspection Service at 1-877-876-2455 or through its website <https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov>.

Boaters sound the alarm on E15 – Norm Schultz Blog

Boaters need to take time to let U.S. Senators know that adding more ethanol (E15) to America's gas supply is insupportable for the 12 million boats and millions of other off-road engines in use today. What's triggered the need for this aggressive move right now? Bluntly, it's to head off a backroom deal by pro-corn Senators that would overturn methane emissions regulations in exchange for the ability to push more E15 into our gas pumps nationwide. We know there is no doubt E15 is destructive to our boat engines. We also must recognize that an estimated 97 percent of boat owners fill up at gas stations, not at gas docks offering ethanol-free fuel. And, we know more E15 in

the marketplace will lead to (1) more misfueling and (2) the production and availability of ethanol-free gas will be greatly reduced or could disappear altogether. TWO ACTIONS TODAY, PLEASE...1. Click on this link: tell Congress or go to this site: (<https://www.votervoices.net/NMMA/Campaigns/52152/Respond>) and let your Senators know that the nation's 12 million boating families, and the industry, cannot stand for more E15 and want the broken Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) fixed now. 2. Ask your clubs and boating friends to "take 5" today and do the same: tell Congress ARE WE RIGHT? Damage to millions of small engines notwithstanding, are we right in call-

ing on Congress to take action on a broken RFS? Absolutely. When the RFS was created in 2007, there were several assumptions that have proven dead wrong. First, a report published in 1999 by the Clinton administration entitled "Biofuels: A Solution to Climate Change" was cited as a major reason for the RFS. But it was wrong. Scientists know now that machines running on ethanol emit vast amounts of acetaldehyde that reacts with sunlight to form ozone. End product - smog. It will nearly double greenhouse emissions. Second, it was claimed the RFS would make America less dependent on foreign oil. We are less dependent today. But ethanol is not the reason.

More fuel efficient cars use less gas and fracking and increased domestic oil production are making us far less dependent. Bottom line: The demand by Congress 10 years ago to put ethanol in gasoline, while well intentioned, created a huge new industry and profit center for corn ethanol producers. And they are anxious to cash in more. If increased ethanol in gas is allowed to expand beyond its current level, it will be on the backs of boaters and millions of small engine owners. With no environmental benefit, and no national security benefit, it's a no brainer that Congress must act to revise the RFS.

Who Will Be Top D.O.G.?

The 14th annual Dinghy Owners Group (DOG) Poker Run, is scheduled for **Friday, July 14th** beginning at **5:00 p.m.** Dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. before the race which starts promptly at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$50/hand which includes two DOG Poker Run T-Shirts, dinner, refreshments and snacks at reception, and prizes for TOP DOG, ASS. DOG and MAD

DOG. Checks can be made out to **Presque Isle Yacht Club**. If you would just like to attend the dinner, the cost is only \$5 per person. A reception will be held at the club following the event at 9:00 p.m. where refreshments and snacks will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend the reception. **You don't need a dinghy in order to participate.** Applications

are available online at www.piyc.com. Once again, this year's recipient of the proceeds will be EASE—Erie Adaptive Sailing Experience. This organization is entirely run by volunteers and allows community members, primarily youth, with physical and mental disabilities to sail independently on Presque Isle Bay. With the proceeds raised in the past Poker

Runs, EASE has been able to purchase sailboats, new high-quality comfortable Stearns Type 1 PFDs for children with special needs, covers for the sailboats, walkie-talkies, safety equipment for the pontoon boat, and testing/certifications and lunches for the volunteers.

More information is available from P/C Anne Eisert at 814-218-2239.

EASE /Volunteers Needed

A reminder that the EASE (Erie Adaptive Sailing Experience) program will occur on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. from June 24th to August 12th (8 consecutive Fridays) in the West Canal Basis and Presque Isle Bay. BMC / EASE appreciates your support during these hours. The program requires about 25+ volunteers each Friday. The program **is in need of additional volunteers**, primarily

ly for sailing. Sailing volunteers can sign up in 1 hour increments (up to 6 one-hour shifts each Friday). It is a VERY rewarding experience and lots of fun. EASE will train you on both sailing and handling children with special needs. It's a great way to fulfill community hours if you require them for college or other organization. Contact EASE Co-Director Kathy Lindell at 814-881-8307

or klindell@neo.rr.com for more information and mention your affiliation with Presque Isle Yacht. The son of a PIYC member has joined the ranks of the EASE volunteers as their youngest volunteer. **Cameron Baniewicz** is the son of **Joe and Lori Baniewicz** and grandson of **P/C Gene and Karen Krahe**. Here is a quote from Cameron "...I started volunteering at EASE because my mom

works with special needs kids and I thought it would be fun to do work with them too. The other reason is I grew up on the water and would see the kids go out sailing on the bay every Friday and I wanted to be a part of it."

Thank you Cameron!!

<http://bayfrontcenter.org/education/erie-adaptive-sailing-program-ease/>

Ramblin's

The Opening Day Ceremony was very beautiful and many thanks to all involved to put on a wonderful ceremony. Congratulations to **P/C Jerry Skolnik** who won this year's Harold Eisert Sr. Award during the ceremony. He is very deserving of this award.

Condolences to club members **P/C Neal Hammill, Sr.** and **P/C Jim Hammill, Sr.** and his wife **Nancy** on the death of their son and brother, respectively. Neal Hammill Jr passed away on Sunday, April 23rd at the age

of 52.

The USCG Auxiliary will be at PIYC on Saturday, June 17 to perform **free Vessel Safety Checks** starting at 8:00 a.m. Please sign up in the clubhouse on the sheets provided.

Many thanks to club member Randy Howarth for his donation of the sailing print, and books/bookshelf for the clubhouse.

As a reminder, please do not put electronics i.e. TVs in the dumpster. Those are items that

need to be recycled properly.

Many thanks to all the lift operators and ground crew. They all did a great job this past spring to get everyone in the water before the deadline!

Please send photos pictures of club activities and events to Bob Green for the website. Please email him at webmaster@piyc.com.

Wireless Internet access is provided for PIYC Members and their guests. The available net-

works are: **PIYC Clubhouse** and **PIYC Marina**. The password for both is: **16-PIYC-16**.

Please remember to break down your boxes before putting into the trash bin and this includes beer cases.

Congratulations to **Lance Howell**, this month's money winner.

Happy Father's Day to all the fathers and grandfathers in the club!

Presque Isle Yacht Club

P.O. Box 1075

Erie PA 16512



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Editor, Anne Eisert

