Hi Everyone:

I vividly remember the first time I ever stepped foot on a sailboat. It was September 2011 during my first class of the Learn-To-Sail program taught by Brian Holloway. Brian was rigging the club-owned Flying Scot at the B-Dock rigging area. I asked, “Is it okay for me to just step on?” He replied, “Sure, welcome aboard.” The Flying Scot gave way, ever so gently, under my weight. “Oh, I’m going to like this” I immediately thought. Brian was a calming influence, and he liked my enthusiasm enough to allow me to double up on the morning and afternoon sessions.

There were plenty of opportunities to sail in those early days. My first dinghy race was with Paul Healey. During one upwind beat, his boat heeled only about 3°. Wide-eyed, I asked if it was okay to heel that much. Paul chuckled and assured me we weren’t going to turn over. One Saturday, John Roberts approached me in the parking lot to ask if I was looking to race. He wondered if I knew how to fly a spinnaker. “Sure, no problem. I can handle a spinnaker,” I assured him without telling him I had only seen a spinnaker launched once or twice and had no clue how to actually use one.

Then, there was the time after the Learn-To-Sail program ended that I decided to take out a Flying Scot in 15 MPH wind. This was a disaster of nearly epic proportions as the Flying Scot screamed out of the harbor with me yelling at the top of my lungs “I DON’T KNOW WHAT I’M DOING!” I left the club that day humiliated, vowing never to return.

Brian later told me David Varnell asked if I was going to get a refund of my Learn-To-Sail fee. Haha... thanks, David.

Though the Learn-To-Sail classes ended, I didn’t stop learning. I cannot count the number of people willing to teach me during those early days. John Roberts continued to invite me aboard as Gary Smith patiently taught me the finer points of spinnaker trim. Chris Cyrul showed me what a real gybe looks like. Lloyd Cox encouraged me to experiment with knot tying techniques. Tina Campbell enlightened me on never wearing a white down jacket during the Halloween Regatta. David Bergevin inspired me to have 10 jokes at the ready for every situation. Scott Cline demonstrated the ability to sail a Snipe downwind in 30 MPH gusts. Stewart Cofield taught me just how beautiful a mid-ocean sunset can be. Rob Fowler revealed time-tested secrets of conjuring a favorable breeze. Past Commodore Josh Landers divulged that, sometimes, you just need to be quiet and listen to the wind. The list of names and experiences goes on and on.

You have asked me to be Commodore of Privateer Yacht Club. I am humbled by your trust. I admire the long list of Commodores before me. PYC’s Family Membership list is filled with names of my friends and confidantes, and the Associate Membership list is filled with the active members of tomorrow. We have a great group of which I’m proud to be a member, and we have a lot of exciting things in store this year. I sure am glad Brian didn’t refund my Learn-To-Sail fees all those years ago.

Keith Harper
## Coming Events

### February 2020

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FROSTBITE #4
FOOTBALL, YOU BET.
In lieu of a peashooter,
the penguin has picked up a pigskin.

Come join your PYC friends
February 02, 2020

1:00 Skippers Meeting
2:00 Scratch Boat Starts
4:30 Potluck - Falkland Island Favorites
6:00 Superbowl Pre-game
6:30 Superbowl - B.Y.O. Snacks

Kansas City Chiefs
VS.
San Francisco 49ers
2020 PYC Annual Awards Banquet

RACE WINNERS!

Wednesday PHRF

1st Place: Corey Blair and Josh Landers
2nd Place: Tom Clark & Rob Fowler
3rd Place: Ed Buiel

Sunday Portsmouth Dinghy

1st Place: Steve Sherman
2nd Place: Josh Landers
3rd Place: Eddie Craig

Saturday PHRF

1st Place: David Varnell
2nd Place: Richard Ralston

Frostbite Series

‘Party Boat’ award: Barry Klein
‘Why not him?’ award: Adam Ankers
Outstanding Junior Award

Kaiulani Sherrow

Commodore Award

Jan Varnell

Steady Hand Award

Ed Buiel

Brainard Cooper Award

Pat Crowe

"A Night to Remember"

Ed and I truly enjoyed everything at the meeting on Saturday 1/25/20. The choice of decorations, the mood that was set, and of course the wonderful dinner the caterers created. Thanks to Katie & Josh Landers and all who helped them make this years Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet a magical night. And one of the best ever!

Thanks again,
Lorraine and Ed Ford
2020 PYC Annual Awards Banquet
Continued...

Photo Album
Past Commodore’s Report

This past year I have served as Past Commodore on the PYC Board and my chief duty was to also serve on the board of the Privateer Sailing Education Foundation (PSEF), which I did. The purpose of this was to serve as a liaison between the two boards, report to the PYC Board what PSEF was currently working on and relay suggestions or offers from PYC back to the board of PSEF. It is the hopes of the board members of PYC that this will allow PYC to assist the needs of PSEF so they can further succeed to educate those in our community who are interested in the sport of sailing.

PSEF was formed as a result of the efforts of a PYC Education Committee, which was formed to further the “purpose” of PYC as stated in our Constitution. That “purpose” summed up is to promote educational activities, particularly those involving water sports and athletic endeavors on or in the vicinity of the Tennessee Valley Lakes.

As a result of the PSEF Board and it’s volunteers the following are a few accomplishments they were able to pull off with the help of all of your donations whether it was time or monetary donations:

Sail Camp ran for the months of June and July and introduced or increased the skills necessary to skipper a boat, and harness the wind in a way that one could successfully maneuver about the lake in a direction they demanded. PSEF had 120 students graduate from sail camps this past year. The sail camp director was Tim Chambers. Daniel Locke served as lead instructor and has worked at sail camp now for 5 years. Sail camp instructors also included Hunter Dingler, Claire Linderman, Erin Maxwell and Brendon Roberts. Sail Camp Counselors included Eliah Prevost, Pax Poggi, Lane Travis, Megan Cline, Hannah Gersch and Preston Hibberts. Sail Camp Volunteers included Bob Bissel, Nan Brooks, Tia Richardson, Sandy Braden, Mary Martin and Steve Sherman. Please will you and your families all stand.

A US Sailing Junior Olympics Regatta was held in the Fall that featured four classes of boats with over 60 participants and their families. Clubs that sent sailors to PYC included Atlanta YC, Concord YC, Birmingham YC and Adelaids SC YC. Many thanks to Steve Sherman for his hard work in organizing this event.

Special practices were held on a regular basis with proper coaches to train athletes in order to increase their sailing skills which they in turn used at various clubs in our region to test their skills amongst their peers. This produced a PSEF race team which participated in the Hot Chocolate series of races which were hosted by several clubs in our area as well as PYC. Our team traveled to Atlanta YC, Lake Lanier Sailing Club and Birmingham YC. Spencer, Samantha and Josh were the leaders that put this together. Adult sailing lessons were organized and those in our community used these to test the water of sailing and learn something they had only dreamed of. Classes were held in both the spring and the fall.

Sailing experiences were shared with those physically and mentally challenged in our community through PSEF’s adaptive sailing programs. Steve Sherman headed up this outreach.

Two separate Boy Scout Troops spent separate weekends volunteering their services for an opportunity to have a sailing adventure. Tim Chambers and Bob Rupe entertained 13 scouts and their parents from Troop 58 and Pack 3030 with a 3 hour sail in northerly winds of 10-12. Kevin Gersch and Bob Bissel took on 10 scouts and 3 adults from Troop 115 out of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church. Troop 115 combined their sailing with a water gun fight between boats.

New equipment was purchased to increase safety and productivity involved in the endeavors associated with the educational activities of sailing. Some of the safety and equipment upgrades included installing prop guards on all four chase boats, purchasing and installing bimini tops on the two ribs, and a new parts storage shed for the optics. Two Laser sailboats were purchased for the race team. Next year PSEF plans include replacing most of the optics with newer ones that meet current opti measurements.

Funds for all the above and more came from proceeds from sail camp fees, adult learn to sail fees, monetary donations, donations of boats and the like that PSEF sold. While sail camp fees and adult learn to sail fees were able to fund the ex-
penses of sail camp and adult to sail, it was the voluntary donations which totaled over $14,00.00 that really made the difference.

I’d like for the board members of PSEF to stand as I call out your names: Josh Sneideman, Tim Chambers, Scott Lee, Marv Martin, Edith Collins, Sponsor Wiberley, Corey Richardson, and Danius Jonika. Also please stand Steve Sherman, Samantha Travis, Ed Buiel and Bob Bissel who have also been very instrumental in the projects taken on by PSEF this past year.

And finally, regarding PSEF, I’d like to remind all here of what Dan Williams stood up and told us last year at this banquet. Dan told us about his start as a youngster in sailing and how his mom sacrificed to help him purchase a boat so that he could be a part of PYC, master the skills of sailing, and go on to make sailing and all it involved a part of his life. Dan, with his life-long experience in sailing told us “This is the future of sailing”.

Thanks for your time here tonight in celebrating the accomplishments our club has had over the past year and allowing me to share with you the success that Privateer Sailing Education Foundation has enjoyed with your help.

Guy Campbell
Past Commodore
Privateer Sail Camp
Sailing and other water activities

4713 Privateer Road, Hixson, TN 37343
(423) 718-3704, tim@psef.us
Learn more at https://www.privateeryachtclub.org/sail-edu/pyc-youth-sail-camp
Co-ed, ages 8 – 17, 8:45 to 4 pm daily

Privateer Sail Camp offers weekly camps during June & July where we teach the skills of sailing. The emphasis of the camp is fun and safety. Campers will learn how to: speak the language of sailing, rig their own boat, leave the dock and return, use the wind to sail in any direction, right the boat when it tips over, then de-rig and put away the boat at day’s end. While on shore campers meet new friends while being taught care of their boat, rules of safe boating, and how to tie the most useful knots. They will do some swimming, paddling, hiking, and much more.

Learning to sail their own boat and safely returning to shore gives your child increased self-esteem and confidence in their abilities. Many campers return year after year.

$300/week includes: lunches, snacks, and T-shirt. Discounts available for multiple weeks, or multiple kids from the same family.

HOSTED BY PRIVATEER SAILING EDUCATION FOUNDATION
B Dock recently had the launch ramp walkway replaced and during the install the electrical conduit on the walkway leading from the PYC clubhouse was relocated vertically about 4-6 inches. The water release during the holidays was so extreme that the rigging walkway and the first section of B Dock was sitting in the mud. The flexible watertight conduit connection from B Dock and the fixed walkway was ripped apart.

At the same time, one of the boat owners on B Dock reported a reverse polarity issue with the electric supply on B Dock and had problems on the boat.

We knew that something had to be done with the conduit connections and add length to the flexible portion for future potential problems. **David Varnell, Eddie Graham** and I planned out a solution and killed the power to B Dock.

That Friday we cut the wires that were hanging in air and replaced the flexible watertight conduit and made a loop to allow variations in low and high tides we seem to get now. Run two ne circuits worth of grounds, neutrals and hot wires in a larger size gauge. It seems that we have tripping problems when motor loads have been applied on the dock (vacuums, hydrohoists, HVAC, and whatever. Up sizing the feed wire took 100’ of new wire just to the first power pedestal on B Dock.

Polarity issue resolved and all were tripping properly when tested. BUT; I still was getting power feed on neutrals on all pedestals with my circuit tester. Monday, I took the outlets and lights apart on every pedestal and redid all connections, Still with no success, found lots of issues and corrected.

Calling an electrician was discussed and agreed upon, I ended up calling the State Dock Electrical Safety Inspector and he agreed to come down and do a courtesy inspection, He had come down when we had the initial new State Law inspection. Well I thought he would just do B Dock, but ended up doing the entire water side electrical safety inspection.

We did have a single circuit breaker on D Dock not working properly and a cable also on D Dock not supported on the walkway. All were corrected and we now have a new 5-year Certificate of Occupancy to use the docks as we wish with no stipulations. We are the first in TN to pass a re-inspection as the first cycle has not yet come around. There are several Marinas that still have not passed the first round that came into law three years ago.

Thank You to prior and current Dock Masters and the constant diligence of dock users reporting issues as they come up.

Respectfully Submitted,

**David Bergevin**
For Sale

Catalina 22 - $4,000 - Li'l Buoy Blue - Reconditioned fully race ready, with good sails and gear. Walt Jenison 423 653-4091, Home 886-5655

Chuck Castleman @ 423-322-0531, crazydog1102@gmail.com

PYC pin- Taking bids I reserve the right to refuse the bids.

2 Anchors— a Early 70’s Danforth 13s and a West Marine copy of the Danforth

Off-Shore compass—Aqua Meter model 142 black Saturn bulkhead mounted with 30 degree card, navagrid and inclinometer, made in USA. $50 OBO.

Vang Assembly—1/2” line. $45 shows use

Rope—Sampson STA-SET-x 7/16 yacht braid 75’. $50, never used

New Blue Star Sails Catalina 22
Main Sail for Sale –$595

This beautifully made, long lasting cruising or racing sail features the following:

- 5.6 oz Dimension Polyant Optimum Cruise Dacron
- Built to maximum C22 class racing measurements
- Seams double stitched with 3 step stitch
- 1 reef point with leech reinforcement up to the reef
- Rutgerson headboard with 5 pressed stainless rings
- Cunningham and heavy duty metal slide at clew
- 1 full 3 short horizontally oriented battens
- Loose foot
- All slip slides on luff with metal slide at headboard and batten

Additional options: Class Insignia, Draft Stripes, Racing Numbers all 3 for $85

Contact Kent at Blue Star Sails
tel/text 423-255-5969,
email kent@bluestarsails.com
Privateer Yacht Club
Annual Meeting of the Membership Minutes, January 25, 2020

Board Members Present: Guy Campbell, Rob Fowler, Eddie Graham, Keith Harper, Gary Harwell, Paul Healy, Josh Landers, Linda Lind, Tom Prevost, and David Varnell.

The meal started at 7:00 p.m. in the beautifully decorated PYC club house with Commodore Josh Landers leading the invocation and announcing that the night’s business would be begin after the dessert was served. The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

Commodore’s Report (Josh Landers): I would like to start my report with a very large thank you to the board for diligently doing their jobs. This board was passionate and hardworking. They made my job very easy. We have accomplished some large goals this year.

- We paid off the clubhouse in March making PYC debt free once again. Thank you to the PYC visionaries who made this beautiful place possible.
- We started PYC 20/20 to focus our capital expenditure efforts.
- We performed three large capital projects that David Varnell will talk about.

I personally want to thank two people simultaneously: Pete Snyder and Cory Richardson. Pete, as you all know, was our Private Ear editor for 12 years. He decided it was time for a much needed and well deserved break. We began the search for a replacement early in the year. Cory Richardson and Brian Denning stepped up to take over for Pete. Brian was unable to stay on as editor due to some unforeseen circumstances and Cory stepped up to the plate to take it on as his own. Thank you, Cory!

Thank you to Peyton Ankers for donating her time tonight to be our Banquet Captain. Her company FLIK created our wonderful meal and food service. Thank you to my wife Katie for supporting me this past year and helping me find the time to keep up with all of this. She is the inspiration (or blame) for this special event tonight and has worked tirelessly to pull this thing off. Thank you, thank you!

I would like to end my report by remembering some very special people that we lost this year. Udo Schroff, Billy Roberts, Dan Williams, and most recently Ken Simons. It is difficult to estimate their individual legacies, but we thank them for their contributions to sailing.

Rear Commodores Report (Building and Grounds, Rob Fowler): Activities this year included removal and replacement of the launching ramp, repair and replacement of two AC condensers, spring clean-up work party and trying to solve an ongoing sewer problem. Thanks to Keith Harper, we now have a large format TV mounted to the wall in the main room of the clubhouse, and Linda Lind headed up an effort to replace some of the old deck chairs with new models made from composite lumber. In preparation for the first ever annual meeting to be held at PYC, Josh and Katie Landers have installed new string lights over the main hall in the clubhouse and have purchased rugs for the inside and the deck. Also, as of the week before the annual meeting, we have contracted with a tree service company to remove three large trees overhanging the south cove boat storage area.

The sewer problem, an intermittent stoppage of the line from the restrooms and the resultant back up into the restrooms through the floor drains, was an ongoing issue throughout the year. Numerous calls to Roto-Rooter and Embark Construction Services (the original general contractor) were made to find the problem and cure it. By using a pipe inspection camera, we were able to find a section of pipe that had a low spot in it, which caused waste to slow down significantly at this location. Fortunately, this was under the parking lot adjacent to the clubhouse, and the replacement of this section did not require any work in the clubhouse proper. The removal and replacement at a better slope through this area seemed to help the problem but did not solve it entirely. As of this writing there are several theories about the ongoing problem and its solution, including the use of higher flow fixtures and toilet paper that breaks down faster. I want to thank Steve Sherman for his efforts in trying to find a solution for this issue.

Future Building and Grounds projects: For the upcoming year I would propose a couple of improvements that I wanted to get to this year but was unable to do so. First, the stairs to the South Cove dry sailing area need to be replaced. They are in very bad condition and can be hazardous when they are wet. This could be a replacement of the old construction with new wood stairs, or the construction of a trail from the J-lift lot down to the existing trail that runs alongside the harbor. Also, the path from B-Dock around to the launching ramp could use some re-grading, edging and clean up. Finally, we will need to reinforce our shoreline in areas that have been eroding over the years.

Treasurer’s Report (Gary Harwell): We had a couple of unplanned expenditures in 2019; replacing two HVAC units and the sewer line repair. Otherwise, it was a pretty uneventful year. We are ending the year with no debt, all bills current and paid, and a nice cash balance. Copies of the financials were distributed, and members can contact me with any questions.

Secretary’s Report (Tom Prevost): After thanking PYC for the opportunity to serve again the last two years and thanking Cory Richardson for taking the minutes in the secretary’s November absence, approval of the minutes was requested and approved.

Social Director’s Report (co-chair, Linda Lind): The year was full as we tried to implement new ideas for the socials. The response was gratifying, and there’s a lot of thanks to spread around from Susan Howell, co-chair, and the many who pitched in. It’s always a challenge to be preparing to serve up to a 150 people!

Dockmaster’s Report (David Varnell): Major accomplishments were:
- Replaced damaged portion of concrete launching ramp.
- Installed new launch ramp rigging dock.
- Obtained required permits for South cove dredging and completed dredge project.
- Performed several maintenance projects to secure A dock safety.
- Removed abandoned hydrohoist and abandoned pilings from the harbor.
- Obtained safety code certification of all electrical wiring on PYC docks from State of Tennessee electrical inspector (1/17/2020 letter will be posted and a copy filed with the
was Tim Chambers. Daniel Locke served as lead instructor and increased the skills necessary to skipper a boat, and harness the wind in a way that one could successfully maneuver about the lake in a direction they demanded. PSEF had 120 students graduate from sail camps this past year. The sail camp director was Tim Chambers. Daniel Locke served as lead instructor and

Membership Director’s Report (Eddie Graham): As Josh reminded us, we sadly rang 8 bells for four of our members this past year. But, to “fill the breach” we have been fortunate to welcome several new Family and Associate members, leaving us at the end 2019 with; 17 Associate Members, 148 Family memberships, 18 Junior Members, 18 Out Of Town Members, and 6 Honorary Members. I look forward to serving in this capacity for another year and thank you all for creating an environment which is attracting enthused and active members.

Club Boat Director’s Report (Paul Healy): All Privateer Yacht Club owned powerboats are operational. No significant repairs or malfunctions were observed in 2019. The oldest boat in the fleet is a Carolina Skiff with a 60 HP 2 stroke engine, the plan is to replace this boat and motor in 2020, or re-power this vessel with a newer used Honda 4 stroke engine. The secondary pontoon RC boat will be sold in 2020 and the funds used towards the purchase of a new outboard motor for the Skiff. The deck on the PYC Committee boat has several rotting sections that need to be repaired or replaced and the deck sealed with a marine paint. The fleet will be serviced in mid March with plugs and wires replaced and fluids checked by Cleveland Marine, the authorized Honda Service center in our area. The registrations are due on all PYC watercraft and they will be renewed for an additional 3 years with the TWRA. A training for new associates on the operation and care of the power watercraft will be held at several dates in the Spring. A metal gas locker has been donated by club member Ed BuieI and will replace the existing non secure plastic locker. A special thanks to Tim Chambers, Steve Sherman, David Bergevin, and Bob Bissel for aiding in the repair and upkeep of the boats in 2019.

Past Commodore’s Report (Guy Campbell): This past year I have served as Past Commodore on the PYC Board and my chief duty was to also serve on the board of the Privateer Sailing Education Foundation (PSEF), which I did. The purpose of this was to serve as a liaison between the two boards, report to the PYC Board what PSEF was currently working on and relay suggestions or offers from PYC back to the board of PSEF. It is the hopes of the board members of PYC that this will allow PSEF to assist the needs of PSEF so they can further succeed to educate those in our community who are interested in the sport of sailing. PSEF was formed as a result of the efforts of a PYC Education Committee, which was formed to further the “purpose” of PYC as stated in our Constitution. That “purpose” summed up is to promote educational activities, particularly those involving water sports and athletic endeavors on or in the vicinity of the Tennessee Valley Lakes. As a result of the PSEF Board and it’s volunteers the following are a few accomplishments they were able to pull off with the help of all of your donations whether it was time or monetary donations:

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- Thanks are due to David Bergevin and Eddie Graham for their support with technical expertise and labor. And thanks to all members that performed volunteer work on dock projects during the year. The care of our dock resources could not be accomplished without your help.
Williams stood up and told us last year at this banquet. Dan told us about his start as a youngster in sailing and how his mom sacrificed to help him purchase a boat so that he could be a part of PYC, master the skills of sailing, and go on to make sailing and all it involved a part of his life. Dan, with his life-long experience in sailing told us “This is the future of sailing”. Thanks for your time here tonight in celebrating the accomplishments our club has had over the past year and allowing me to share with you the success that Privateer Sailing Education Foundation has enjoyed with your help.

Vice Commodore’s Report (Racing, Keith Harper): We had another year of excellent racing participation. A highlight was the regional Junior Olympics in September. Here are the awards:

- **Wednesday PHRF** (CSC John Wesley Award, 3rd—Ed Buie, 2nd–Tom Clark & Rob Fowler, 1st-Corey Blair & Josh Landers.
- **Sunday Portsmouth Dinghy trophies**: 3rd–Eddie Craig, 2nd –Josh Landers, 1st—Steve Sherman.
- **Saturday PHRF** (Hank Zander Memorial Trophy). Only two boats qualified: 2nd–Richard Ralston, 1st–David Varnell.
- **Frostbite Series**. Fun and light-hearted, three trophies have already been awarded, so here are two remaining for tonight: Party Boat – Barry Klein, Why Not Him, Too – Adam Ankers.

Outstanding Junior Award (PSEF President Josh Sneideman): Kauilani Sherraw sailed at the USODA Opti Southeastern Championships, Junior Olympics, Hot Chocolate Series and attended sailing seminars in FL and MA. Kauilani will be attending the next USODA event in Houston Texas. For all her efforts, improvements and dedication she is more than deserving of the 2019 Outstanding Junior Sailor award.

Steady Hand Award (PSEF President Josh Sneideman): Ed Buie is often seen with a crew of young racers on his Melges 24 giving young racers diverse race experience. Ed works hard to get young people interested in racing. Ed could be found on almost any day of the week encouraging youth racers with the purchase of 3 new 420's he immediately had 6 full-time dedicated sailors, ready to learn. Ed went so far as to find them coaches to assist in their development.

Ed also contributed to the summer sail camp program supplies to help improve the storage of supplies on the teaching doc. All in all, Ed spent countless hours, effort and dedication getting kids out on the water racing and for this, he is more than deserving of the Steady Hand Award. Receiving the award, Ed spoke of how his desire for youngsters learning to sail and teaching one another stems from his own learning to sail in Canada.

The Commodore’s Award (Josh Landers): This is a very special award. It is a solid silver cup that had been won many years ago and proudly kept by a former PYC member by the name of Hubert Horan. He died in 1995 and his family donated the cup back to PYC where it had been won years before. It was decided by the PYC Board to start a Commodores Award, given by the Commodore to a person of his or her choosing who has been of exemplary service to PYC. Myra Brown, the Commodore at that time, presented the 1st award to Kathy Robertson back in 1997.

This year is the 23rd presentation of the Commodore’s Award. This year’s winner has, in the tradition of the award, been of great service to PYC. She is one of the hardest workers in the club, and is always the 1st to volunteer if something is needed. I first met her about 10 years ago while racing in the Scowabunga regatta. She had been working very hard all weekend and had barely left the kitchen. Jonathan Few and I thought it would be funny to help her wash dishes in not much more than an apron. She took it all in stride and laughed at us like everyone else. She has continued that tradition of hard work behind the scenes working tirelessly at many regattas and socials through the years.

She always helps with a smile and takes her volunteer positions both seriously and personally. She is always quick with a hug and making sure that the porch chairs don’t float away on Sunday afternoons at 5 o’clock. This year when Katie and decided to break from tradition and attempt to have this banquet here at the club, she was one of the first people I spoke to about it. I knew that her wisdom was to be trusted and I looked forward to her comments. She basically said “I am not sure that it is gonna work, but how can I help.” In typical fashion she jumped right in and helped with the planning. Thank you for all that you do and for being such a great asset to our club. This year’s deserving winner is Jan Varnell.

The Brainard Cooper Award (Brainard Cooper): This trophy is named for Brainard Cooper, my father, former editor of the old Chattanooga News-Free Press. My dad was an enthusiastic sailor from the day we first were taken sailing in 1948 until the day he died. As his health failed Patricia Fowler’s dad John Wesley took him sailing daily during his last summer with us. He promoted this club enthusiastically and brought many new members into the club in his lifetime, including at least 2 former winners of this award.

This year’s recipient of this award started sailing in the 1940s; he sailed Snipes in the 50s, bought one of the first Columbia Contenders and was a founder of the Cruising Fleet. He introduced the J-24 class to PYC and started the fleet here, bringing in new members to sail this boat. He was District Governor for the southeast for the J-24 Class. He bought the first windsurfers ever seen on Chickamauga lake.

He has raced at Block Island, the Heineken in St. Martin, and Antigua Race Week. AND this past weekend, as he approaches his 90th birthday, he raced on Chickamauga Lake with Chuck Puglisi. The winner of this year’s Brainard Cooper award is Pat Crowe.

There was no old business.

The only new business was the election and introductions of the 2019 PYC Board: Commodore – Keith Harper, Vice Commodore (Racing) – Rob Fowler, Rear Commodore (Building & Grounds) — Tom Clark, Secretary – Linda Lind, Treasurer – Gary Harwell, Board Director – David Varnell (Dockmaster), Board Director – Paul Healy (Club Boats), Board Director – Eddie Graham (Membership), Board Director – Susan Howell (Social). Josh Landers presented the new flag officers with their flags and proudly displayed his Past Commodore flag. He then turned the gavel over to Keith Harper, who an anecdote and ‘Bearcat’ award to Josh before calling for an adjournment. The response was unanimously in favor.

Respectfully,

**Tom Prevost**
Privateer Yacht Club was organized on July 25, 1940, in order to promote sailing in the Chickamauga Lake area and particularly in Chattanooga; to teach its members to talk the language of the sea and build up a marine tradition for “The Great Lakes of The South”; to help promote water safety and a code of ethics for the waterways; to form a social and activity nucleus for people in the area interested in sailing; and to develop an active relationship with other sailing and boating organizations to promote racing and other boating activities.

PRIVATE EAR is a monthly publication written by PYC Club Members, and compiled by: Cory Richardson