



The Mainsheet

Newsletter of PYC Sailing
Live well, have fun, sail!
(Vol 3 No. 1, February-March 2022)



On to a New Year!

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If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter,
send an email to ClarkEChapin@gmail.com.
Back issues are available [HERE](#).

Photo of the Month



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2022 PYC Race Committee

Jack White, Chair
Brook Smith, Vice Chair
Clark Chapin, Secretary
Rick Lyons (LA) Tom Ehman
Bill O'Donnel Bill Foster
Brian Hawkins (FS) Ann Taylor
Marc Gleichert (IL) Steve Wiseman

2022 HPYC Board of Governors

Steve Wiseman, Commodore
Brian Hawkins, Past Commodore
Clark Chapin, Secretary
Brook Smith, Treasurer
Bill O'Donnel, Governor

2022 Plans Underway!

The Race Committee, which plans much of the sailing activity (and all of the racing) on Portage Lake is hard at work planning for 2022. While plans are not finalized, there are several activities in the works:

- Racing Rules Book Club (Mar 10-Apr 28)
- Slalom Race (Jun 12)
- Invitational Regattas:
 - Hot-to-Trot (Interlake) (Sat 20-Aug)
 - Hot Scot (Flying Scot) (Sat 17-Sep)
 - No Sweat (Laser) (Sat 24-Sep)
- Jib and Main Racing (no spinnakers)
- Opportunities for non-racers to assist with the racing program
- Outreach to the "sailing curious"

SailGP Final Comes to San Francisco



The global series of races featuring the ultra-fast F50 foiling catamarans will come to San Francisco on

March 26-27. This will be the final event of the 2021-2022 season and the winner will win a \$1M winner-take-all prize.

Eight teams will compete: Australia, New Zealand, USA, Great Britain, France, Japan, Denmark, and Spain, but only the top three teams in the overall standings will race for the top prize on Sunday 27-Mar. Going into the final, the standings are:

1. 55 pts Australia, skippered by Tom Slingsby;
 2. 53 pts USA skippered by Jimmy Spithill;
 3. 51 pts Japan, skippered by Nathan Outteridge.
 4. 43 pts Spain, skippered by Phil Robertson
 5. 42 pts New Zealand, skippered by Peter Burling
 6. 41 pts Great Britain, skippered by Ben Ainsle
 7. 38 pts Denmark, skippered by Nicolai Sehested
 8. 35 pts France, skippered by Quentin Delapierre
- All of the top skippers are veterans of the America's Cup.

The Great Britain team and Ben Ainsle were expected to be in the final, but a horrendous crash in the previous event in Sydney, AUS scuttled their chances. On Day 1, GBR was at fault in a collision that broke off the port bow of the Japan boat. (Video [HERE](#)) According to the rules, they withdrew, but magnanimously gave their hulls and assistance to Japan, allowing them to finish 4th in the event and gain 7 points – enough to keep them in third place in the overall standings.

In the San Francisco event, after the fleet racing is completed on Saturday, the top three teams will race for the \$1M prize.

Racing Rules Book Club Returns March 10!



In each situation, after a description of an incident or situation and a recap of the basic rules involved,

the participants will discuss their ideas of how the rules should be applied and who should be (or not be) penalized. Finally, the host will present their opinion or quote from various authoritative sources.

Last year, we had attendees from as far away as Traverse City, Indianapolis, and Buckeye Lake, OH.

Preserving Portage Lake



HPYC Past Commodore (2003, 2017) Craig Kivi has created a vital project to protect Portage Lake and its water quality through the acquisition and restoration of the remaining

natural shoreline and the adjoining wetlands. Natural Shorelines Forever is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that is working now, even in these winter months, to restore the shoreline of our lake. Check out <https://NaturalShorelines.com> for more information. The site includes historical information about how the shoreline of Portage Lake has changed over the years and how Natural Shorelines Forever plans to reverse the damage. The State of Michigan has more information about the importance of shoreline preservation at:

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/wrd-natural-shorelines-inland-lakes_366530_7.pdf

Cleaning up the Lake



Craig and his friends have, over the last two years, pulled over 1,000 pieces of trash from both Portage Lakes, much of which is non-biodegradable plastics. This is a photo of a single day's work last summer. Yuck! After the annual fireworks display on the July 4th weekend,

Craig spent more hours on the sandbar near Klave's Marina where the fireworks barges were anchored cleaning up the debris from the launching mortars.

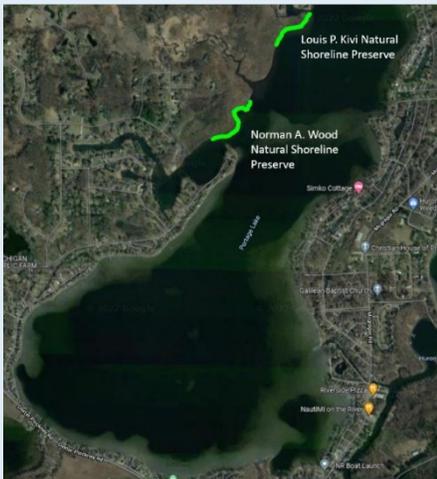
Michigan's Largest Inland Lake Restoration Project



Natural Shorelines Forever has enlisted the aid of Michigan State University, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Michigan Department of the Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). According to Craig, "Top officials in these organizations are very excited to be working on what in all probability is the largest inland lake restoration and protection project in Michigan's history."

Two Preserves Identified and Purchased

Thus far, Natural Shorelines Forever has identified and purchased two parcels of land on the northwest corner of Portage Lake. The Norman A. Wood Natural Shoreline Preserve contains 1,500 feet of shoreline and 9 acres of adjoining wetland. It is named for Craig's great grandfather, who was a curator of birds at the University of Michigan's Museum of Natural History in the early 20th century.



The second preserve is named for Louis P. Kivi, Craig's father and another Past Commodore (1969-70). It is located farther north and includes 1,200 feet of shoreline

and 2 acres of wetlands.

Current Activities

Several old trees and tree roots have been donated by Portage Yacht Club, are being transported over the ice to the Preserves, and are being installed to protect and restore the shoreline. This work has to be done in the winter because the Preserves, as natural areas, have no road access to the shores themselves. This work could not have been completed in such a timely fashion without the support and assistance of Tom Ehman, Sr., Rick Lyons, and PYC who have also provided staging areas and lake access. According to Craig, "Without the donated natural materials, staging area and access to the lake, the project would have taken

years more and cost far more. I'm not sure I could have gotten it done."

How you can Help

Tax deductible donations, that go entirely toward the project, can be made by sending a check to:

Natural Shorelines Forever
1248 Louise
Pinckney, MI 48169
Or call Craig at (734) 478-5730

US Sailing Open Series



The USA has, to put it kindly, not been successful in the Olympics lately. Since 2012, we have only had a single bronze medal (and were completely shut out in the 2021 event in Japan), a far cry from 1992

when the USA won 9 medals out of 10 events. Paul Cayard, an accomplished Olympic and America's Cup sailor, was hired to be the new Executive Director of Olympic Sailing. A crucial part of his plan to revive our medal hopes is the US Sailing Open Series of Regattas, regattas in Florida and California where anyone can enter and compete against the very best sailors to sharpen their skills and raise the level of competition. Paul's goal is to return the USA to the podium in every class in the 2028 Olympics where the sailing events will be held in Long Beach, CA.

The current Olympic Classes (for 2024) are:

470 (Mixed)	NACRA (Mixed)
49er Skiff (Male)	49erFX Skiff (Female)
ILCA (Male)	ILCA Radial (Female)
iQFOiL (Male)	iQFOiL (Female)
Kiteboard (Male)	Kiteboard (Female)

The dates and locations for the events are:

January 15-17, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

January 21-23, Miami, FL

February 3-6, Clearwater, FL

June 17-19, San Diego, CA

July 15-17, Long Beach, CA

August 12-14, San Francisco, CA

See: <https://usopen.ussailing.org/>

Dear Rick



Review of past columns

Gee I've written a baker's dozen articles for this publication now and thought it was probably time to give these another look while being cooped up indoors out

of the cold more often than I'd like to be. The tips and thoughts that I've shared look like most relate to just racing a sailboat, but if you dig into them, they all make any sailor, new or old, better at handling their sailboat, which in turn is safer, faster, and more fun. There articles can all be found at:

<http://ms-pyc.com/past-newsletters/>

- Aug 2020 Boat handling drills
- Sept 2020 Handling the mainsheet (*Ed: the line on your boat, not the newsletter*)
- Oct 2020 Mainsheet gets caught too much
- Dec 2020 Cross training - no gym workout
- Feb 2021 Treat your lines right
- April 2021 Clearing those weeds
- May 2021 Spring prep checklist
- June 2021 Starting line basics
- July 2021 More about the starting line
- Aug 2021 Mark roundings (gains and losses)
- Sept 2021 Top 5 goals while learning
- Oct 2021 What the sport can teach us
- Dec 2021 Hydrofoiling sailboats - what/how/what?

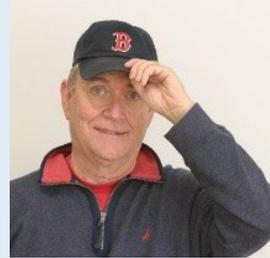
This has been fun and I'm willing to write about any questions you may have from beginner sailor to advanced racer. So, shoot me an email and I'll give it a go. If I can't figure out a good way to explain or write about it, I will do my best to research and point to the links where all can view the results of the query and we all learn.

Enjoy.

Rick Lyons

(More questions? Send them to RL@CharterMI.net)

From the Back of the Boat – Jack White



Hello all and welcome to our 2022 racing season. The Portage Yacht Club Race Committee is busy putting together this year's program. We are making a number of changes to accommodate new sailors

and expand our learn to sail program while putting together a fun and challenging program for the "veterans". We will have more to say about the specifics in the next issue of "Mainsheet". One thing I will mention is that we are planning a couple of things to bring sailing closer to the neighborhoods around the lake. Did you know that (1) no registration is required if you just want to come out and join in one or more of our races. You won't be scored, but you will be welcome, and (2), when you choose to register and be scored, we waive all the requirements and fees for participating in our program for the first year of registered racing?

There are several large and small boats available for folks that want to try their hand at sailing. And there is always a sailor eager to take folks out and help them get started. People live here because they love the water. Pretty much everyone is a boater. What we want to do is introduce our neighbors to sailing. More on all of this in the next issue.

Right now, there is 3 ft of ice on the lake, but spring is coming. Soon our own Clark Chapin will be leading the Racing Rules Book Club meeting, and many will be starting to plan boat repair projects and some new equipment. My birthday happened to fall in February, and I've already pulled together my wish list for "go faster".

Sailing is one of life's great joys. Sailing is a sport that is both beautiful to the eye and challenging. Going home after one of our weeknight races is a feast for the eyes with the sunsets and our beautiful lake. Racing and getting together with sailors after the race is stimulation for the brain and body, and a joy to the heart. We are a lucky band. But we don't want to be the few. So come and join us.