

2015 POINTER MARITIME UNIVERSITY (PMU)

It's that time of year once again; when we periodically check our bilges to make sure they are free of ice, and bone up on our seamanship. You old salts appreciate that second element is accomplished through our lauded Old Point Comfort Yacht Club (OPCYC) PMU. The course schedule remains "fluid" as we have an abundance of good topics and quality instructors (who because of their quality have demanding schedules). That said, you need a plan, so here you go (at least for the start of the "academic year").

All classes are on Saturday and run from 0930 until 1200. Unless otherwise notified, the classes will be in our OPCYC Clubhouse. We'll have the coffee brewing. We will send you changes to the schedule (of course there will be some) by email.

10 Jan. Barry Creighton provided an update on "**2015 Refresh on the Use of Electronic Devices (tablets/smart phones) for Marine Applications**". While the "application" offerings expand, so do the capabilities offered by major electronics providers. The "times, they continue to change".

24 Jan. Jeff Rogers will offer the first installment of "**Racing for Cruisers**". This session will establish base-line information of sailboat racing that is of value to our entire membership, as we learn/brush-up on rules, procedures, and techniques to win back the "Tri-Service Cup". Special emphasis on the non-racer and powerboat members as you will want to join in supporting activities. Expect "on-water" courses to follow as the weather warms.

Please take note: This will be FUN, Non-Threatening, will NOT require you to strip your boat, will cost next to nothing, will make you a better sailor, and will give you an excuse to get out on the water one day a month in the summertime. On top of that, it will definitely help OPCYC to WIN IT BACK! (The Tri-Service Cup)

31 Jan. Chandler and Charlene Clark from Signature CanvasMakers will present a class on "**Creative Design in Canvas, Steel and "See-through Stuff"**". Not only are these OPCYC members out in front in terms of material knowledge and application, but they are also award winners in design. Think your boat is not suited for a cockpit enclosure? We bet they have some really good ideas.

7 Feb. Road Trip! Our Commodore has arranged an exclusive off-site event for us in a "**Tour of Fisherman's Island**". On this tour of the southernmost island of the Delmarva Peninsula, we will pass through several habitats, learn about wildlife management on refuges, explore the diversity of wildlife, and discover the rich history of Fisherman Island and the role it played during World War II. And how about a follow-up lunch at "Southern Living" recognized restaurant/gas station "Sting-Ray's"? Travel details to follow.

14 Feb. We have a wonderful opportunity to hear from former acting U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security, Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, and Commandant of the U.S Coast Guard, Admiral (Ret) James M. Loy. ADM Loy will offer us his unique perspective on the "**Security of the Waters**" we boat in and the changing roles of government agencies charged with providing our protection.

21 Feb. For the past several years, our former Commodore Curt Morris has been sought out by Caribbean bound mariners to teach and advise on communications at sea prior to their departure. In this class, he will provide us with "**Maritime Communications - Soup to Nuts**". No matter if you are a "daytime-only fisherman" or bound for an oceanic passage, Curt will cover what equipment and procedures are right for you?

28 Feb. Someone has to do it, but if you are extremely lucky, that someone will do it well. Our Vice-Commodore is indeed an expert of taking care of her Captain and crew in the "sustenance department"--talk about a moral booster/buster! We will spend a morning with "**Eileen in the Galley**". Let's learn about provisioning and storing and preparing some of those delicacies you might enjoy on "Cats' Paws" (if you are very, very lucky). BTW, do you carry a pressure cooker?

7 Mar. Just like paying taxes, it is a fact that periodically, we all need the services of a boat yard. Peggy Cobb Duval knows the boatyard business inside and out and will share with us her perspectives on "**What Should I Expect in The Yard?**". Issues like, environmental regulations, availability of craftsmen and supplies, and schedule and cost all play into the answer.

14 Mar. Still scheduling

21 Mar. Some of members have faced "certification requirements" when planning that dream charter vacation to "pick a destination". And all of us would like to enhance our maritime skills. At the same time, there are a growing number of "schools" and "courses" available and willing to take a chunk out of our cruising kitty. What to do--what to do? Our own American Sailing Association certified instructor, Steve Runals will give us a "**Survey of Maritime Instruction and Certification**". Where and when can we go to enhance our skills (and what will it cost?).

We will continue courses through April and have lots of great topics to choose from. Keep alert for announcements.

Any questions please contact us:

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