

Tuscarora **Currents**

Commodore **Greg Sutton**



2014 Spring Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 26 at 2 pm

As I sit at my computer writing this article in late March, I'm staring out the window and still looking at piles of snow and 20-degree temperatures outside. This is a far cry from the last three years when I could work on my boat in early March with just a sweatshirt on. At least this year we had plenty of ice (14 inches) to be able to work on the Club docks. If you have been in WNY battling the winter weather as I have, I am sure you share in my sentiments that spring weather can't come soon enough and I hope when you read this it will be at least 60 degrees and sunny and we will all be working on our boats again readying them for spring launch.

Launch this season has been scheduled for May 2 and 3 due to the relatively late Easter break, and the Spring Meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, April 26, beginning promptly at 2:00 pm. The Board looks forward to sharing with you our goals and activities for this coming season, as well as updating you on various aspects of the Club's operation.

The Island is now accessible and back in business, the Clark's having performed an outstanding job repairing the bridge. This was a significant investment by the Clark's that will go a long way towards maintaining access to the grounds for years to come.

The Board of Governors and I met and discussed our views and goals for the next several years. It was an excellent and informative meeting and I was able to gain valuable insights and guidance from our past commodores.

We hope to be able to introduce several new members at the Spring Meeting, so be sure to welcome them. It is of the utmost importance to foster and maintain our member base. We are constantly losing members for various reasons and without new members to replace them we would be unable to meet our financial obligations. You will hear more about some of our efforts to market the Club at the Spring Meeting, but please remember, you know the Club best, and it is up to all of us to be the Club's ambassadors and recruit new members. If you don't recognize someone on the island,

be sure to introduce yourself, welcome them, and answer any questions they may have, and refer them to one of the members of the Membership Committee for follow-up.

See you all soon.

Greg Sutton
Commodore, TYC

Vice Commodore **Nancy Van Voorhees**



The 2014 party season kicked off with the Winter Dinner at My Tomato Pie restaurant. We had 50 members in attendance and all had a great time. The food was amazing (thanks to Chris McLeod for the recommendation). Sandy Jordan was our official greeter! Thanks Sandy for all your help!

The Spaghetti dinner will be held on Saturday, May 10. I wish to thank Marsha Emmons for again hosting this party. Marsha and her crew do a wonderful job each year!

The Commodore's Tea will be held on Saturday, May 17. The committee consists of Chris McLeod, Denise David, Sandy Jordan, Elena Balea, Kathy Maloney, Eileen Anderson, and Linda Maddigan. These ladies always do a wonderful job!

Attention cruisers! John Suita has been hard at work during the off-season planning some wonderful club cruises for us! The first will head out on Saturday, May 31 to Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing club. The rest are listed on our club calendar on the TYC website. Sign-up sheets will be available at the clubhouse on launch weekend.

Some of the parties on the docket for the summer are the return of a couple favorites. Father's Day Brunch, The Lobster/Clam Bake, International Potluck, and a German Oktoberfest. New this year is a Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ and a Christmas in July Party.

We will again be holding the "Thing Race." This will be on Saturday, August 2. Can the Murray Girls repeat? Will the "Soggy Bottom Boys" get back in the race? Everyone has several months to plan and build their entry! Let's see how many racers we can get this year!!! There are prizes for the winner and for the most creative, as well as your name on a trophy!

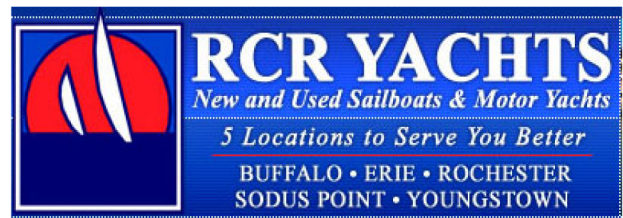
I want to thank Patience Tinkey, Myrna Stone, and Gaye O'Keefe for volunteering to chair the Commodore's Ball! I am still in need of chairpersons for a few parties. Please e-mail me or call me if you want to volunteer. Chairing and working a party are fun ways to earn your work hours!!!

After this horrendous winter we had (for those of us that suffered in Western NY), let's hope for a beautiful summer with gentle breezes, great sailing, wonderful motoring and, of course, some awesome parties!

Nancy Van Voorhees
Vice-Commodore, TYC



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Rear Commodore **Mike Lazich**



Thank goodness, the snowy and bitterly cold winter we experienced this year is finally behind us! I'm sure that many of you are now eager to begin the busy process of preparing your boats for the upcoming season. With the opening of the clubhouse scheduled for this coming Saturday (April 12), I expect to see many of you spending time at TYC getting things ready for that long-awaited launch weekend. We are all anxious to once again enjoy the beautiful surroundings and warm camaraderie of another pleasurable summer at TYC. I wish to thank all of you that have volunteered to assist Doug Klapper to get the clubhouse and grounds in order. This early ritual of spring is always a great opportunity to fulfill some of your work hour requirements, while at the same time making some new acquaintances and enjoying the companionship of some old friends.

As the season gets under way and launch weekend approaches, there will be many similar opportunities to contribute your time and effort to the operation and maintenance of our great facility. Remember, each full membership at TYC requires a minimum of 10 (ten) hours of service to the club each season. Please do not hesitate to contact one of the Board members or the TYC stewards for

advice on the various tasks that will need attention during this busy time of the year. You may report your work hours by filling out one of the green cards that are available next to the clubhouse billboard or by reporting your service and hours completed directly to me by email at <lazichmc@buffalostate.edu>.

One of the primary purposes of this April issue of Currents is to notify all our members about the upcoming **Spring Meeting on Saturday, April 26 at 2 pm**. This meeting provides an important opportunity for the Board to inform all TYC members about the plans for launch and other important matters related to our organization. It is also the most appropriate occasion for you to express your thoughts, ideas, and concerns to the Board members and the general membership. I sincerely look forward to seeing you at the Spring Meeting, and I share your enthusiasm to get the season off to a successful and long awaited start.

Mike Lazich
Rear Commodore, TYC

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WOW, I think that this was the longest and toughest winter in decades. Hopefully the weather will bring us a spring, summer and fall with great sunny days, beautiful nights and fair winds. Perfect weather or not, Tuscarora Yacht Club is going to be an even better place to enjoy the warmer season and the best sailing yet to come this year. With that said, we need to focus our attention on the upcoming spring launch of boats.

This year we are launching boats Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3, with the stepping of masts with the boom truck on Sunday, May 4. Michael Algase will once again be heading up the crews. We are going to begin launching boats, starting in the main parking lot on the island, at 4:00 pm Friday evening. Everyone with boats stored in the parking lot needs to plan on being present Friday evening.

Those stored along the west wall driveway need to be present and ready to go Saturday morning promptly at 7:00 am, followed by the north wall and east wall beginning at 7:45 am. Crane time is valuable, and backtracking is very expensive, so either you or a proxy needs to be present when we get to your boat. If you are assigning a proxy, please notify me in writing or email at psfleck3598@roadrunner.com in advance and provide the proxy with a copy of the authorization. Delays are costly in crane and operator time and we strive to be as efficient as possible in order to minimize the cost to TYC, so we expect that you will be ready. As part of your preparation, please remember to have 50 feet of good line attached to your boat at the bow and stern to allow the launch crew to maintain safe control as the boat is lifted. Make sure your boat is clearly marked and the lift marks visible from ground level.

The boom truck will be used Sunday for mast stepping beginning at 7:00 am and starting at slip I-00. Good preparation of your mast prior to lifting it for stepping also saves us expensive time for equipment and operator.

Jeff Strothmann and the club crew will start stepping masts with the gin pole on Saturday, May 3 at 10:00 am and Sunday at 8:00 am. "Doing it yourself" launch weekend is not permitted for insurance reasons, so take this opportunity and make it easy on yourself to get your mast placed with an experienced crew.

I also need to talk about safety during launch weekend. Over the past few years we have had quite an influx of new members with children into the Club. Launch weekend is a working weekend, and with that in mind we need to remind everyone that there will be many potential hazards, such as the front-end loader moving cradles around the club property and parking lots, the lifting of boats into the water with the crane, and the mast stepping operations. The rental of the crane and front-end loader from independent contractors involves various insurance regulations and safety policies by these companies while they are in operation on our property. We will therefore need each parent who brings small children to the club to carefully monitor their children's activities and keep them in close proximity at all times. No children are allowed in or around the operating area of the crane, and they will also need to be out of the roadways and parking lots during cradle movement. Also, absolutely no children are to ride on any piece of equipment during launch weekend. Your attention to this will be greatly appreciated by all. Safety cannot be stressed enough.

Last fall the cradle crews had a challenging time placing cradles because many were not properly labeled. Make a quick check this year to make sure your cradle is clearly marked with the owner's name, boat name, bow & stern. Don't forget your cradle maintenance this year as this is the time to make those repairs and adjustments to your cradle. You may know your own cradle but others don't. You don't want your cradle left up on the hill in the fall because the cradle crew couldn't identify it, so please make sure you label it properly.

I have posted sign-up sheets for the launch, mast, and kitchen crews. Sign-up sheets are available on the bulletin board in the TYC Clubhouse. It is a great way to get your work hours completed early in the year.

In other news, the Board of Directors has increased fees in the following areas for this year. Boom truck will increase to \$60.00 to cover the cost of the boom truck. Gin Pole will have a \$25.00 use fee anytime it is used during the year.

Last, but not least, if you are planning on storing a dingy on the Island or a trailer in the upper yard this summer, the required request forms are on the TYC webpage. Please complete the necessary form(s) and submit them to insure that a spot is reserved for your use.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and for your help on various work crews. We look forward to an efficient, safe, and fun launch weekend.

Wishing all the best for the boating season to come !!!

Peter R. Fleckenstein
Fleet Captain, TYC

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Club Members Paul Bukowski & Ken Olson

Secretary **Carol Goulah**



We are all so close to being back on the water . . . only a few short weeks before launch. Many of us are now beginning to plan summer trips to other clubs around the lake and beyond. Our reciprocal letters have all been sent out, some by regular mail, and the rest have been emailed. In turn, we have begun to receive letters and cards from several of them, with the majority arriving within the next month. While planning your trip, you may reference them in the binder kept in the Stewards' Shed. When you visit any of these clubs, please be sure to have your membership card available to present so that you can take advantage of reciprocal arrangements.

If you happen to go to Kingston, Ontario, you might like to check out the new Marine Museum of the Great Lakes, located at 55 Ontario Street. We have submitted some club information and a burgee for their display.

Carol Goulah
Secretary, TYC

Treasurer Hank Visger



Launch and another boating season are just around the corner, and I'm sure we are all looking forward to getting on our boats and enjoying it.

In an effort to control our spending and keep Club fees as stable and low as possible, the Board has been discussing a number of procedural changes in the way money is spent and reimbursed. We have updated the Reimbursement Form to keep a more accurate account of which Board member approved the various expenses. We also acquired a set of TYC credit cards; one that will be held by Commodore and the other by Treasurer. These cards are intended to be used to purchase some of the everyday expenses we incur in the operation of the Club, so that members no longer have to spend their own money and later wait to get reimbursed for those expenses. We have established a protocol for the use of the cards that I will go over at the Spring meeting.

As you might imagine, the Director of Operations (Doug Klapper) and his area of responsibility covers everything in the building and grounds and had the lion's share of the Club expenses, which amounted to approximately \$58,800 last year. The Vice-Commodore (Nancy VanVoorhees) had the next largest list of expenses in her direction of the many social events at the Club last year.

Utilities were also a large expense, so I will be looking closely at our suppliers and making sure that we are getting what we pay for. So, please remember not to run water for any longer than necessary and keep A/C running in boats only when aboard. I am also looking to upgrade our phone and internet service to the island in another effort to get better quality for the cost of that service.

I am looking forward to the Spring Meeting where I can discuss these issues with you in further detail and go over the financial reports for the Club.

Hank Visger
Treasurer, TYC



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Director of Operations Doug Klapper



Another season is upon us, and like every past season we are hoping to make the very most of it. From an operations point of view, I am looking forward to a successful season of keeping the club in great shape. As always, we appreciate our members' contribution of their time and effort to help with various projects and the general maintenance of the clubhouse and grounds.

We are fortunate to have four stewards from last year returning this season. Nick, Nicole, Hannah, and Brittany will be returning. Two new stewards, Eric Kostuk and Victoria Couturier, will also be joining our steward team this year. Both are students at Wilson High School. Please take a moment to introduce yourself and extend your typical TYC warm welcome.

We will be opening the club on Saturday, April 12. We can always use additional help, and this is a great way to get a head start on your work hours.

Eileen Hassett has spearheaded an effort to introduce a program to recycle disposable materials at the club. Details are being worked out and you will hear more about this at the Spring Meeting.

Shrink-wrap material is recyclable; however, the company that collects recyclables for the Town of Wilson **will not** pick this material up at our site. They will accept it only at their facility on Lockport Junction Rd (adjacent to the railroad tracks). Dumpsters will be arriving soon. Please **do not** put shrink-wrap material in the dumpsters.

Let's hope for another terrific season.

Doug Klapper
Director of Operations, TYC

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Director of Harbor Operations **Brian Jacobs**



At last the cold weather has broken. No doubt everyone will be rushing to prepare their boats for the launch scheduled for May 2 and 3, but hopefully a number of us can carve out some time for a dock repair work crew. In addition to some smaller tasks, I would like to replace some of the decking on a number of docks that are in particularly poor shape. Watch your emails for a work party announcement coming soon.

My thanks again to all those who came out for the February work party. Also, my thanks to Keith Robinson and Steve Gasiewicz for their work on raising the Haines dock in the area of H23–H25. I know everyone with a boat in that area will be appreciating that all summer long. This season, everyone did a much better job in removing their dockboards, and I very much appreciate the cooperation. As always, if your own dock is in need of repair, or if you are aware of any other docks that require attention, please let me know via email. Thanks again to everyone for your support.

Brian Jacobs
Director Of Harbor Operations, TYC



Tuscarora Yacht Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 826
Wilson, New York 14172-0826