



# Tuscarora Currents

## Commodore ~ Darlene Manhardt



I feel very honored and appreciative to be TYC's 3<sup>rd</sup> woman Commodore. After being Vice Commodore for two years I now feel ready to man the helm. I wanted to understand the club before I took on this huge task. I will do everything in my power to do an outstanding job. Thank you all for voting me on to the board again. Thank you Jeff (and Bethann) Strothmann for being our 2018 Commodore. It was an unforgettable 50<sup>th</sup> year for TYC...Thank you from all of us at TYC for a tremendously memorable year. You did a spectacular job!

I want to thank our 2018 outgoing Board members. Kathy Sipes-Secretary and Lou Coppola-Director of Harbor Operations. Thank you for an outstanding job...TYC greatly appreciates your efforts and dedication. I also want to Thank the New Board of Directors for electing me as commodore. Vice Commodore- Doug Klapper, Rear Commodore-Vince Bargnes, Fleet Captain- Jeff Jordan, Treasurer-Greg Sutton, Secretary- Hank Peters, Director of Operations-Jeff Schuster and Director of Harbor Operations- Jeff Strothmann. A heartfelt Welcome goes out to my new board. I am truly blessed to have a wonderful board to work with.

As winter slowly ticks by and we freeze up here in New York, I can only hope that spring will be right around the corner and the weather will warm up so we will be able to work on our boats and launch the last weekend of April (Friday April 26 & Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>).

Doug Klapper our new Vice Commodore has been hard at work planning our events for this season. We will be having a TYC North & South Winter dinner on February 16<sup>th</sup> this year and another Pub crawl around the club (unanimously voted back) and a catered Oktoberfest and many more events. Please check out the calendar on our website for more information. I encourage all members to attend social events, participate on a committee or social event as it is a great way to become involved in your club, get to know other members of the club and make friendships.

The Board plans on working on the club's infrastructure this year to give her a newer, fresher, well maintained look. A facelift as you will. She is in desperate need of repair in certain areas and we plan on working on that with the help of our members and the Clarks'. So keep an eye open for work parties and get your hours in. We will need your help.

Membership recruitment is in need. We are planning an Open house for the spring but this is not enough. A critical element to our success is membership. Jeff & Sandy Jordan are doing an excellent job along with the Membership Committee-Bill Guggemos and Bob Stone. It is not only their job to recruit new members but all of our jobs. Every member should be promoting and looking for new members.

TYC has a new suggestion box on our website under the "quicklinks" section. So if you have any suggestions, please let us know. If anyone has any concerns or questions I am always happy to speak with each and every one of you.

In closing I just want to say.....I am very proud to be your Commodore and I plan on steering TYC into another great year...financially, socially and "fun-damentally"...

## Vice Commodore ~ Doug Klapper



Winter is definitely here.

The hearty TYCers are enjoying the beauty of the bright white snow, the great exercise of shoveling that beautiful snow and the crisp cool (cold) temperatures outdoors.

The less hearty TYCers are basking in the warm sunshine of the southern climes. They don't know what they're missing... OR DO THEY???

I am greatly honored to be serving on the Board again and as your Vice Commodore. Congratulations Darlene being elected as Commodore -- It's going to be a great year.

Our 2019 Winter Dinner will be held Saturday February 16 at Milos Restaurant. If you have not already made reservations – hurry and get them to me by Friday Feb.8. There will also be a TYC South party that evening hosted by Karen & Bill Guggemos. Please contact them if you plan to attend.

We are looking forward to a terrific season!!

I have been working with the Board to set a calendar of events for the coming season.

Here is what we have so far [Subject to Change]:

March 3 – Book Club	July 13, 14, 15 – Cruise Dalhousie YC	August 23,24,25 – Cruise Port Credit
April 13 – Spring Meeting	July 21 – Book Club	YC
April 26-28 – Launch Weekend	July 27 – Pub Crawl	August 31 - Beef & Corn Dinner
May 18 – Pasta Dinner	August 2,3,4,5 – Cruise Highland YC	September 8 – Commodore's Tea
May 19 – Book Club	August 10 – Commodore's Ball	September 15 – Book Club
June 15 – Sail Past/Garage Sale	August 17 – Kids Day & Dinner	September 21 – Oktoberfest Dinner
June 22, 23 – Cruise NOLSC	August 18 – Book Club	September – Fall Meeting
June 29 Pot Luck Dinner/Blues Jam	August 16,17,18 – Cruise Whitby YC	October 20 – Book Club
June 30 – Book Club		

Please mark your calendars for these events.

I am looking for folks to chair many of these events. This is a great way to get involved, meet many members and 'earn your hours'. (It's also a lot of fun) Please get in touch with me if you would like to help.

If you are interested in participating in the Club Cruises, you should contact John Siuta at jsdz59@aol.com. John does a great job organizing these cruises and they are always a fun time.

Looking forward to another outstanding year at TYC!!

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## Rear Commodore ~ Vince Bargnes



Burr...

I could end the article with the one word above and all us Western New Yorkers would understand... But no, spring is just around the corner (well maybe a few miles ahead then turn the corner.) However far off it feels, our boats will be back in the water in just three short months. That's less time than they have been out...

Suggestions:

This year I again hope to improve communication within our club. There is a new "[Suggestion Box](#)" in the quick links of the TYC Website. Please send me your thoughts and advice. Be it an improvement to the website, policies, grounds, communication, or any concern you might have, please send me your "suggestions"!

Club Stats:

There is a Membership Committee Report later in this newsletter that details, among other things, recruitment efforts for new members. Our club stats (2017 -vs- 2018) are as follows:

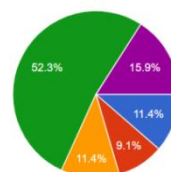
Full Members: 135 to 128; Social Members: 22 to 23; Life Members: 40 to 45; Total 197 to 196. While we only decreased our ranks by one member, we lost seven boaters. In order for our club to thrive, we need to fill our available slips. Wouldn't the days of a waiting list for docking members be something to again strive for? The boating members at TYC are the best advertising advocates for the club. Be sure to talk up the club when you're talking boats.

Survey Says:

Thank you all who participated in the "No Smoking" survey! The winner of the survey was hands down (52%) to keep the Clubhouse Interior and Patio/Grill areas as no-smoking zones. The policy will be formalized for the 2019 season. I hope to include you all in ongoing surveys when policies and programs are modified or considered. Please keep up the participation so we can run the club as our members see fit.

Proposed No-Smoking Policies

88 responses



- 1. The entire Property - From the entry gate down - would be designated no-smoking.
- 2. The entire Property - From the entry gate down - would be designated no-smoking.
- 3. The area inside the roadway loop (except the parking lot) would be designated no-smoking.
- 4. The clubhouse and gathering areas (patios and grill stations) would be designated no-smoking.
- 5. Only the clubhouse interior would be designated no-smoking.

2019 Roster:

I will be updating the club roster in the first quarter of this year. Please use the [<Roster Updates & Corrections>](#) link to make any changes (names, phone numbers, slips, etc) necessary. The on-line roster has been updated with the most current information available and will be republished in the spring along with the paper version that will be distributed at the spring meeting.

Handy TYC Website Links (click on any of them)

[<Roster Updates & Corrections>](#)

[<Work Hour Submission Slips>](#)

[<Slip/Dock Change & Swap Request>](#)

[<Dinghy Reservation>](#)

[<Trailer Storage Request>](#)

[<TYC Calendar of Events>](#)

[<Email me a Members' Only Username & Password>](#)

[<Suggestion Box>](#)



To email any board member or committee chair published in this Currents simply click on the email icon adjacent to their name.



## Treasurer ~ Greg Sutton



Its tax time again and all the W2s and 1099s have gone out to the staff as we close out the Club's 2018 fiscal year. As I had mentioned during the fall meeting we had a pretty good year after recovering from the 2017 high water season. Our Income was up while the board held the line on expenses bring the end of the year budget close to the breakeven point. I will be providing a full report at the Spring Meeting and will be able to answer any questions you may have.

I am very excited to work with the new Board members, Hank and Doug and I also wanted to thank the membership for reelecting me so I could serve another two years in the Treasurer's position. While our margins continue to be tight, I'm am sure this Board will continue to budget our discretionary spending very conservatively. Again, this year I am not anticipating any large capital expenditures while we continue to maintain the Club's facilities to our high standards. I am sure you will hear it from other members' reports, but the key to our long-term financial security, is to be able to constantly replace members as they leave with new members. The key to new members is you, the membership. You know how the great our Club is, so spread the word.

I would also like to offer my many thanks to Mary Lazich for all the help she has provided acting as the financial secretary for the Club. The new arrangement continues to work out very well and I can assure you she is always keeping me on my toes. I am also continuing to simplify and document our accounting practices for future Treasurers to use and implement the recommendations that were made by our accountant. A special thanks also goes to Peter Fleckenstein, who as the Club bookkeeper, sends out all the invoices, manages the gas sales tax requirements and is the historical authority on Club by-laws and policies.

As always, please feel free to call me (or email me at [treasurer@tycwilson.com](mailto:treasurer@tycwilson.com)) if you have any questions about your club's finances or even the Boards operation, in general. Detailed financial reports will also be available at our Spring Meeting for your review.

I am looking forward to a great season and the end of this cold winter weather.

Thanks



	
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## Fleet Captain ~ Jeff Jordan



I would like to start by congratulating Darlene Manhardt on her appointment by the Board of Directors to serve as commodore this year. I would also like to congratulate Henry Peters, Doug Klapper and Greg Sutton on their election to the board. I once again am honored to serve as your TYC Fleet Captain for the 2019 boating season.

This year we will begin launching boats on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> with the operation continuing throughout Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mast stepping at the Gin Pole will start on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and continue into Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>.

For those who wish to have their mast stepped with the Boom Truck this will be done on Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>. Please, MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Michael Algase, Jeff Strothmann, Peter Hubble, Jan Klapper and Carol Goulah have all accepted the role of Crew leaders once again this year. When you see these members please thank them for their years of dedicated service to TYC.

When the clubhouse opens I will be posting sheets requesting volunteers for mast stepping, launch, cradle and kitchen crews. Working on one of these crews is a great way to get your work hours in and interface with TYC members.

More information regarding launch details will follow at the spring meeting.

If you are unable to launch your boat yourself, please send me a proxy notification prior to launch.

Last year we had many members change their slips. If a slip becomes available at any time during the year, the details of the slip will be posted on the Club's Website and an Email notification will be sent out to all members. Available slips will be posted on the TYC clubhouse bulletin board between launch and haul out. If a member would like to request a slip or request a slip change it is very simple. Just fill out the Slip Request / Swap Form on our website.

We currently have slips available and can accommodate boats up to 50'. I ask you to share this with friends and acquaintances that have a desire to enjoy all phases of boating and social activities and would love to experience these activities at TYC.

As in the past, those members wishing to store their dinghies in the parking lot must fill out the online Dinghy Reservation Form on our website. Note, we have 12 spaces available on a first come basis. There is no charge for dinghy storage.

Members may also store their boat trailers in the upper parking from May 1<sup>st</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup> for an \$81.00 tax included fee. This request must be made by filling out the online Trailer Storage Request on our website.

I would like to thank everyone for submitting your dock reservations and insurance certificates promptly for this 2019 boating season.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you any questions that need to be addressed.

You can reach me at my email, [fleetcaptain@tycwilson.com](mailto:fleetcaptain@tycwilson.com) or call my cell 716-432-9064

Looking forward to our Spring Launch

## *Director of Operations ~ Jeff Schuster*

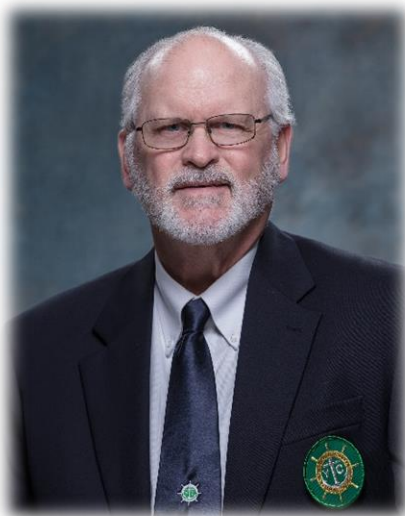


Hello to all - I hope that those in the north are faring well during this cold winter. I viewed a picture of the backside of the club that shows the canal by slips 54 - 80 and shows the water frozen. Well that's winter for you.

We are still looking for Stewards for this coming season. Applicants need to be 16 years old and be able to work a flexible schedule. Any interested parties should get in touch with myself and I will get them an application.

There are small things which need to be completed at the Club. We have base molding in the main hallway, some touch up painting needs to be completed in the restrooms. Opening the Club will soon be upon us.

I'm looking forward to a great boating season, I hope that you are also. Launch and mast step dates are posted on our calendar - so all should be ready to go. Enjoy winter!



## *Dir of Harbor Operations ~ Jeff Strothmann*



Hello everyone, as I sit here writing this article it's 9 degrees outside and I'm wishing it were summer again. Oh well, just wishful thinking, but soon summer will be here and before it arrives there is be work to be done at the club.

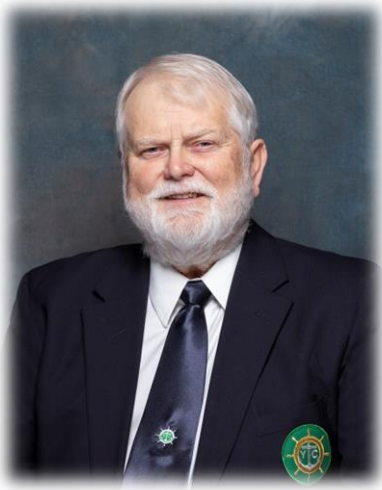
As most of you know already I have taken over the job of Harbor Operations from Lou Coppola. Thanks Lou for the job you did last summer.

Please if anyone has dock, electrical or water issues email me at [harboropps@tycwilson.com](mailto:harboropps@tycwilson.com). I will try to get of these projects done before launch (weather permitting). If a winter work party is needed I will get one organized and send an email. This provides a good opportunity to get work hours in. I also have a variety of small projects such as painting of the cap rails around the club that need to be done. These jobs can be done by an individual or as a group! There's something for everyone to get their work hours completed.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the winter meeting!

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## *Secretary ~ Hank Peters*



Hello to all!

I am not sure that thinking about boating or sailing is a topic that enters my mind at 14 degrees. It does make me wish for warm days and good breezes that will be coming back to us as the weather turns for the better.

I wish to thank the TYC membership for allowing me to serve the club. I would be happy to convey any of your questions or concerns to the Board of Directors.

My wife April and I have been members of TYC for the last 19 years. We have enjoyed the friends and experiences that we've had over that time.

I would like to give a special thanks to Kathy Sipes, our past secretary, for her help and thoughtful encouragement. I need to grow bigger feet to fill the shoes she left for me. Thanks Kathy! We are beginning to receive letters of reciprocity from other yacht clubs. Kathy started a notebook containing those letters. I will continue to maintain that book. The letters will give you the information you need to visit other yacht clubs. The book will be in the steward's office.





## ***Membership Report~ Jordan, Guggemos & Stone***



The membership committee welcomes our newest 2019 TYC member Todd Treat to our Club. We hope that many others will follow in Todd's footsteps this year.

A critical element to the success of TYC is Membership Status.

Presently we have:

128 Full Members, 23 Social Members, and 45 Life Members, for a total of 196 Members.

Last fall we had a major shift with our docking demographics.

From the Fleet Captain's point of view:

We gained 8 docking members in 2018, but 16 of our full docking members did not renew their slips for the 2019 boating season.

Some of these members have moved onto the next phase of their lives which does not include boating. Some have sold their boats and changed their member status Social or Life.

This decrease in slip fees, and a decrease in membership dues, puts a financial burden on the club.

This year's Board of Directors is committed to making the 2019 Membership Drive one of its priorities.

The Membership Committee asks all members to speak with colleagues, friends and relatives to promote the wonderful advantages of joining our yacht club. Encourage them to visit (by boat if possible) and provide their names to the Membership Committee Chair persons for follow up.

Signage, social media, open houses, membership involvement and advertising are some of the tools we hope to use this year to help make this year's recruitment of new members second to none.

If anyone has any marketing ideas that they think might help, please reach out to a board member or one of the membership committee members with your suggestions.

Let's all work toward the common goal of increasing our membership and filling our open slips.

On behalf of the Membership Committee - Thank You.

Jeff and Sandy Jordan, 716-432-9064

Bill Guggemos, 716-939-7706

Robert Stone, 941-276-1958



## *Ship's Store* ~ Kathy Sipes



Hopefully winter has given up and the Polar Vortex is back up North where it belongs. The warmer air reminds us Boating season will be here sooner than you think.

Before your boat is launched you may want to add a TYC Burgee and Decal to identify yourself as a proud TYC member. You can find boat Decals, TYC Burgees and US Courtesy flags at the Ships Store. We will be open for a short time before and after the Spring Meeting

Launch weekend we will have extended hours (9AM - 3PM) when we will be fully stocked with the latest men and women Nautical fashions.

After that we will be open Saturdays Noon - 2pm. ( Weather permitting) Or during certain social events.

We look forward to seeing you stop by.

Kathy Sipes  
Ships Store Chairlady

A poster for the Tuscarora Yacht Club Winter Dinner. The background is a photograph of a frozen lake with a small wooden boat partially buried in snow in the foreground. The sky is a mix of pink, orange, and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. In the top left corner is a green circular logo with a white anchor and the letters 'TYC'.

 Tuscarora Yacht Club ~ Winter Dinner  
Saturday February 16th, 6:00pm  
Milos Restaurant  
5877 Main Street  
Williamsville

R.S.V.P by Friday February 9th,  
Doug Klapper - [vicecommodore@tycwilson.com](mailto:vicecommodore@tycwilson.com)

## Bimini Sun-Flap Modification

Below is an article from Good Old Boat (Feb 2015 - Issue 100) that gives a nice modification to a bimini sun flap. Shortly after reading this article, I was at the club and Doug David was showing me how he had seen the article and installed the modification on his boat. It worked like a charm. I recently had some work done on my bimini and had Custom Covers install this modification. I hope this may prove helpful to you. Doug Klapper

### Exterior improvements

# Bimini window treatment

BY HENRY BAROUSSE

Open and close a sun flap from below

Home waters for my 1980 Hunter 30, *Summer Wind*, are Lake Pontchartrain and the central Gulf Coast, where a generously sized Bimini over the cockpit is a necessity during two thirds of the calendar year. But, while the Bimini reduces exposure to the relentless sun, it also obstructs a sailor's view of the sails and masthead. Therefore, most Biminis are fitted with a window to allow the helmsman something of a view overhead.

These overhead windows are typically accompanied by a flap that can be closed using various combinations of Velcro, snaps, and ties. To secure the flap in either the open or closed position, a crewmember must stand on the coaming or aft rail and reach around and over the Bimini frame — a maneuver that can be tricky, especially when under way.

As I most often sail alone, I devised a system that allows me to open and close the flap over my Bimini window without leaving the helm. This simple system, which has served me flawlessly for at least 20 years, uses a cord passed through four strategically placed grommets and attached to the free corners of the flap.

Two grommets are placed in the Bimini just aft of the window. As the cord is pulled through these grommets, the flap is led to the closed position. Two more grommets are located forward of the window by a distance slightly greater than the length of the flap. As the cord is pulled through these, the flap is led to an open position. (If the flap is hinged at the aft end, the reverse order applies.)

The cords are led continuously through the grommets on the underside of the canvas and can be operated

by anyone standing in the cockpit. Over the years, I have used several variations of this system when I have replaced or redesigned my Bimini. The current arrangement causes the flap to fold as it is led to the open position, reducing the required distance between the forward and aft grommets by half (and keeping the whole system on one side of a transverse zipper). For cords, I use 3/16-inch shock cord.



Opening and closing a typical Bimini window requires a certain amount of gymnastics.



Henry's window can be closed ...



... and opened ...



... by pulling on the cords on the underside.

Henry did not like having to climb over his Bimini to close the flap over the window, so he devised a system of cords that he can operate while standing in the cockpit. The drawing shows the principle, but the cords (made of shock cord) are tensioned so they hold the flap securely open or closed.

A slight tension in the cord secures the flap in the desired position, preventing it from being disturbed by wind.

The shock cords hold my Bimini flap in position. My Bimini remains very taut so the tension in the shock cords does not distort the surface of the canvas Bimini. Other methods can be devised to hold the flap in position. One of my earlier versions used two hooks sewn to the canvas to secure the cord (using a different routing path than I am using presently) at either extreme of its travel. Variations of the system can be developed, depending upon the design of a particular Bimini, but the basic principle — using cords fed through grommets to control the position of the flap from under the Bimini — remains the same.

Henry Barousse is a retired civil engineer and lives in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His first sailing experience was in 1969 on a Sunfish at a USO facility in Vietnam, and he's been sailing regularly ever since. In addition to PHRF racing and daysailing his Hunter 30, *Summer Wind*, Henry enjoys cruising the Central Gulf Coast, maintaining and upgrading his boat, and helping friends with maintenance and improvements to theirs.

www.audiostories.com

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Good Old Boat 43