



# CURRENTS

A Newsletter for the Members and Guests of Tuscarora Yacht Club

Tuscarora Yacht Club, Inc P.O. Box 820 Wilson, New York 14172

Erik Anderson  
*Commodore*  
Frank DelRusso  
*Vice-Commodore*  
Hank Hinckley  
*Rear Commodore*  
Dave MacLeod  
*Fleet Captain*  
Bill Fleming  
*Secretary*  
George Deck  
*Treasurer*  
Bob Schmidt  
*Director of Operations*  
Skip Hangen  
*Director of Harbor Operations*

## Spring Meeting April 16th!



*Erik Anderson  
Commodore*

**Spring is here!**  
(or at least it's close)

Eileen and I just returned from a land cruise to Philadelphia and NYC. We saw flowers and budding trees everywhere we looked. It is true

that we had the Jeep in four wheel drive to get through six inches of fresh snow during the last hour of our trip home, but we are sure the spring weather is following close behind.

Here are a few points to ponder before the spring meeting:

TYC membership and dockage status, at this point in time, are:

- 158 Full Memberships
- 7 Social Memberships
- 22 Life Memberships
- 136 Boat slips are rented
- 6 Dingy slips are rented

The TYC survey was a big success. Thank you to everyone who returned their completed survey. Rear Commodore, Hank Hinckley, has some further information in his comments on page 5.

I have been in regular contact with Mr. Brady concerning our current contract. In a February letter, TYC formally requested that we renegotiate the last year of our contract with him. The losses in 2004 were unacceptable and the most recent pro forma for 2005 is even worse. Mr. Brady is on his honeymoon, but has agreed to meet with us in early April when he returns.

I have also been in contact with Mr. Clark by numerous letters and phone. I have made it abundantly clear to Mr. Clark that TYC wishes to deal directly with him in the upcoming negotiations. He has made no commitments, but has agreed to meet with us when he returns to Wilson, from Florida.

The spring meeting will consist of a report on the TYC Survey, a detailed financial review, reports from all the members of the Board of Directors, including a status report on negotiations, and a question and answer section. Please mark your calendar with the date and time of the meeting. If you do not attend, your voice cannot be heard.

While this year may be a difficult one from a negotiation standpoint, it does not have to affect our boating or social activities in any way. I am looking forward to those social activities, a safe launch, and a great boating season.

*Erik S. Anderson*

BOARD MEMBERS  
REPORTS

EVENTS  
CALENDAR

MEET OUR  
NEWEST  
MEMBERS

SPRING MEETING  
APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> - NOTE  
THE SPECIAL TIME:  
3:00 PM @ THE  
CLUB HOUSE



*director of harbor operations*



Spring is here! Over the winter we had pipe extensions added on docks I-51 thru 89 that required them and leveled five docks that were in need. Many thanks to Pete Hubbell and Willie Hayes for their time and assistance. Several more need leveling before launch. I will need several work parties to help with replacing decking.

Please let me know if your dock needs any boards replaced. I have some 2 x 6 pressure treated stock at the club now. Please let me know if you are going to use some, so we can keep track of usage and repairs made. I have a supply of dock cleats available, however due to insurance and liability reasons slip owners are responsible for installation, which I can help with.

*Skip Hangen*



*director of operations report*

Spring is here and the Club House is open and the electric is on. The water will be turned on as soon as we are sure the pipes will not freeze. Please be sure to keep the club house doors locked when you leave. If you need a key for the club house or a gate card, they can be purchased from Peter Fleckenstein. Try to keep the club house clean. The Steward's won't be around until after the boats are in the water. Just to remind everyone, you have until May 8<sup>th</sup>, which is one week after launch, to have all masts and storage material removed from the Island or a \$25 assessment will be charged to you.

This year Stewards Ian and Samantha will be coming back for another season. If anyone knows of someone at least 15 years old and who would like a summer job as Steward, please let me know. A job list will be posted in the Club House so each member can get their work hours completed. If there are any problems around the club house or grounds, please let me know. See you at the club.

*Bob Schmidt*



*treasurer's report*



So many good things are beginning to happen! The snow is almost gone from the yard and the Snow Birds are beginning to return to their nests. It can only mean one thing: the TYC Spring Meeting is almost here. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the meeting this April. There are many things the Board

of Directors has to discuss with the membership. At this meeting we will have a new comparison report which includes financial reports from 2003, 2004, and projections for 2005. It is vital that all members attend this meeting to find out how the Club is doing financially. Please make every effort to attend. I am looking forward to seeing you in April.

*George Deck*



*fleet captain's report*



It's that time again! The Club should be a beehive of activity during April in anticipation of launch starting at 3:00 PM on Friday April 29<sup>th</sup> with the mainland boats launching first. We hope to have the entire fleet floating by the end of the second day on Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup> with the boom-truck coming for masts on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will

need crews for: cradles, gin pole, launch, and the boom truck. It is a great way to get your year's work commitment cleared. Crew Chiefs will be identified and postings for all activities will be on the bulletin board in the Club House.

If you have any questions or concerns about the launch, please contact me at my e-mail address [cdmacleod31@hotmail.com](mailto:cdmacleod31@hotmail.com).

*Dave MacLeod*

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## Meet our new members

Please join me in welcoming the following two of our seven 'late summer/fall' new members to TYC. Information on additional members will be included in future editions.

*Hank Hinckley*

A warm TYC welcome to new member **Todd Ciehomski** and his two great children – Alexis (age 9) and Kyle (age 7). Todd is a life long resident of the Town of Tonawanda and a relatively recent boating enthusiast. He started his boating experiences as crew on friend's sailboats 4 years ago. Two years ago he purchased his first boat, a 25 ft O'Day day sailor from TYC'er's Charley and Joanne Gilbert. Todd is looking forward to introducing his children to this fun-filled sport and will be docked in the Haynes area in 2005. Last fall he arranged to haul and store his boat on the Island near the TYC anchor and you can probably meet him there this spring, preparing his boat for launch.

A 1990 graduate of Buffalo State College he is currently employed as a detective in Tonawanda. In addition to sailing Todd enjoys woodworking, golf, beer brewed at home (as opposed to just ole home brew) and music. He says that he has built several pieces of furniture during our long WNY winters and has played the guitar in several local music groups. We are hopeful that we will be able to enjoy his musical talent this coming summer, perhaps at a TYC Talent Night party. Plan to stop by the Haynes area this summer and help integrate Todd and his children into the TYC family.

Also joining TYC in the fall of 2004 were **Bryan and Karen Burhans** and their two small children Sarah (age 5) and William (age 2). Sarah starts kindergarten this year and according to her mother, she and her brother will be spending a lot of time on the Island this summer. With these youngsters and the children of other members playing on the Island we all need to be doubly cautious when driving and strictly observe the 5 mph speed limits.

Bryan, as mentioned in Bob Stone's article last fall grew up at TYC where his father was one of TYC's

founding members and kept his boat BALYNDA at the club for many years. Bryan's father managed TYC's Jr. Sailing Program where Bryan, his brothers and his sisters developed their love of sailing. BALYNDA is now owned by Bryan's brother and is docked at the Rochester Yacht Club.

Bryan and Karen bought their boat WET WILLIE last fall and brought it to the Island in time to have it hauled and stored. Bryan races on a friend's boat out of Buffalo Harbor on Wednesday and Karen reports that she is on the racing team learning curve. Both Bryan and Karen also enjoy golf in the summer. Non recreational hours are spent at their home in Tonawanda, where they are neighbors of Dave MacLeod. Karen is a CPS and Bryan works in sales for BDI. Please make a point of including visits to the Burhans' boat when you are at the club this summer and welcoming them into the TYC family.

*Hank Hinckley*



[www.tycwilson.com](http://www.tycwilson.com)



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**HANK HINCKLEY**

**[hankhinck@aol.com](mailto:hankhinck@aol.com)**



 *vice-commodore's report*



I would like to thank all of you who attended the Commodore's Ball honoring Mark Farrell. Many were still dancing until the band left at midnight.

Check your calendars for the year's activities because we have some great events planned. By popular request we will have the *Italian Night*. Our chef and strolling violinist have been retained. The Frankfurters, one of Buffalo's premier German bands, will provide the music for an *Octoberfest in August*. Our popular *Blues Night* is scheduled. I have received several requests to reinstate the *Progressive Dinner*, and the survey indicated that many of you wanted to make sure that we improve our *club cruises*. We have dates for a cruise to 50 Point, and Past Commodore Linda Kelly has agreed to assist me in securing a cruise to one of the clubs in the Toronto area. Keep your eye on the events as they are posted on the TYC website and in the Currents.

I am looking forward to a great summer at our favorite yacht club. *Frank DelRusso*

| Sunday            | Monday   | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday  | Saturday  |
|-------------------|--|---------|-----------|----------|---|---|
| <i>April 2005</i> |  |         |           |          | 1   | 2   |
| 3                 | 4  | 5       | 6         | 7        | 8   | 9   |
| 10                | 11<br><br>Board Meeting | 12      | 13        | 14       | 15  | 16<br><br>Spring Meeting 3:00 PM |
| 17                | 18   | 19      | 20        | 21       | 22  | 23  |
| 24                | 25   | 26      | 27        | 28       | 29<br><br>Launch | 30<br><br>Launch                 |

 *secretary's report*

**MMSI - Maritime Mobile Service Identity.**

For those of you who are not familiar with MMSI, I will present my brief explanation; a telephone number for your VHF radio. It's that simple, and the best thing about telephone numbers; they are all unique. Imagine a busy weekend in July when radio air time is, let's just say interesting, busy and sometimes even "entertaining". With a VHF radio equipped with DSC (Digital Selective Calling) you could simply "dial" your fellow mariner, while keeping the "air clear" on Channel 16.

First step: Get a VHF radio with DSC. (You may want to speak with our advertiser and club members Paul Bukowski or Ken Olson for the best pricing on Standard Horizon Radios). You can then obtain a MMSI number through Boat US or West Marine. You can do it on line or via fax. The Web Site is: **www.boatus.com/mmsi** (The link is also on our WEB site). You will have to enter your assigned number into your radio and you are all set. When calling another vessel, the radio will transmit a digital signal and will automatically switch the receiving vessel's radio to a working channel of your choice. It is a great way to cruise! I have used it from my slip and successfully called across the lake. There are many more features other than just chatting. It can send out distress signals and when connected to a compatible chart plotter will show both vessels locations. I would be glad to demonstrate this feature if anyone is interested. For those who already use this feature and would like their MMSI number listed in the roster, please e-mail me at [bill@tycwilson.com](mailto:bill@tycwilson.com). There is a lot more information available on line so be sure to check it out. I am looking forward to launch and a fantastic boating season.

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday | Wednesday       | Thursday | Friday | Saturday  |
|---|---|---------|-----------------|----------|--------|---|
| 1<br><br>Mast (Boom Truck) | 2   | 3       | 4               | 5        | 6      | 7<br><br>Spring Clean Up   |
| 8<br><br>Spring Clean Up   | 9<br><br>Board Meeting | 10      | 11              | 12       | 13     | 14  |
| 15  | 16  | 17      | 18              | 19       | 20     | 21<br><br>Spaghetti Dinner |
| 22  | 23  | 24      | 25              | 26       | 27     | 28  |
| 29  | 30  | 31      | <i>May 2005</i> |          |        |   |

*Bill Fleming*



### MANY THANKS !!!

We sent you the TYC Membership Opinion Survey and you responded in great numbers by returning 128 of the 190 surveys sent – an impressive 67.4% response. With these numbers we are convinced that we have gotten a truly representative reading on what you think

and what you want. The information you provided will be used to guide the Board of Directors decision making process as we move forward with plans for the 2005 boating season and the upcoming lease negotiation process. Please plan to attend the spring meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup> when the survey authors and analysts John and Toni Gartner will provide an overview of the survey findings. The survey will be made available for members who want their own copy. One of the things you asked for in the survey was more financial information. At the Fall meeting only partial 2004 numbers were available. With the year now complete final numbers are available and will be presented at the spring meeting (another good reason for you to come and hear and be heard).

The 2005 season will be the second year of our member service program. In 2004 this program resulted in completion of a number of projects that helped make 2004 a really fine year in spite of non optimum weather. Projects included launch and haul, social parties, new ceiling in club house, creation of four new boat slips and resolution of a number of electrical problems. Practically all members were able to participate. Of the twenty-four members who were contacted in January about completing their 2004 required hours before June 1<sup>st</sup>, all but fourteen have corrected our records or replied with a willingness to fulfill their obligations. Bills for uncompleted 2004 hours, at an hourly rate of \$20, will be sent shortly after June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are looking for things to do please consult the club bulletin board after the club opens or call a board members and volunteer to help. Director of Harbor Operations, Skip Hangen (741-3747) is always looking for helpful hands to repair docks,

Vice Commodore, Frank Del Russo (631-5872) is organizing an enhanced social program and looking for help, Director of Operations, Bob Schmidt (688-8095) will be commissioning the club house and will need many helpful hands and Fleet Captain Dave MacLeod (873-3861) is putting out the call for launch crew. The Member Service Program is a great way to not only help make your club better but also to meet and get to know fellow members.

To further enhance communications we want to set up a calling committee in 2005. The goal of this group will be to provide *reminders and encouragement* to members about fun filled parties, cruises and work parties. If you would like to fulfill your 2005 Member Service Program hours by making phone calls please contact Maureen Hangen (741-3747) who has graciously agreed to be Chairperson of the TYC 2005 Phone Committee.

Bill Fleming is upgrading the TYC Web Site. Please call him with your ideas and suggestions. **If you are willing to get your copy of the Currents electronically to reduce club postage expense please drop Bill and e-mail at [bill@tycwilson.com](mailto:bill@tycwilson.com)**

I look forward to seeing you soon at the club.

*Hank Hinckley*

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- ~ CRUISE COMMITTEES NEEDED: Interested in organizing a club cruise? Contact Vice Commodore Frank DelRusso at FDRHAWK@adelphia.net
- ~ MEMBERSHIP WORK PROGRAM: See our Directors of Operations, Bob Schmidt and Skip Hagen to complete your hours
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