



Tuscarora Candidates

Meeting the Candidates:

A Shared Commitment to TYC's Future

As we look ahead to the 2026 season and beyond, we're proud to introduce a slate of candidates who reflect the values, energy, and vision of the Tuscarora Yacht Club. Each nominee brings a unique blend of experience, dedication, and fresh perspective to our leadership team. Whether longtime members or newer voices, they share a common goal: to uphold our traditions while embracing thoughtful progress.

Below, you'll find brief bios and photos to help you get to know them better before casting your vote. We encourage all members to engage, ask questions, and participate in shaping the future of our club.

Please keep in mind that you may vote for up to four candidates. I'm confident that each of these individuals will meet your expectations and serve our club with integrity if elected.

Thank you,

Jeff Jordan

On behalf of the 2025 Election Committee

Meet the Candidates



Chuck Panepinto



Hi everyone....my name is Chuck Panepinto and I am interested in serving on the Board at TYC starting with the upcoming boating season.

My wife Kim & I have been members at TYC for the past four sailing seasons. The first two as social members and the last two as full members with our 30' Newport sailboat "Cool Change". Prior to moving to TYC we were members at RCR - Buffalo and before that we were at Buffalo Small Boat Harbor. Having belonged to two other clubs, it's given us the chance to compare TYC vs other clubs in the area and I can easily say....there's no comparison. In the time we've been members we've come to appreciate what TYC has to offer including club events, reciprocal arrangements around the lake and camaraderie with new & old friends.

I retired last year after 42 years in the Aerospace & Defense business primarily as a Project Manager at Sierra Research (aka DRS Technologies) and Moog. During my career I had the good fortune to work on many interesting projects both here in the US as well as around the world including in the UK, Europe & the Middle East. I have previously served on other volunteer Boards and enjoy working with folks for the betterment of the organization and service to the membership. I believe my professional and volunteer experience could be beneficial to the incoming Board.

Kim and I have 5 young grandchildren who we hope will come to enjoy everything TYC has to offer. My main objectives for joining the Board are 1) grow the membership; 2) build on the progress accomplished by the current board and 3) continue to find ways to make TYC the best value club on the Lake.

Thank you in advance for your consideration....

Chris Mack



Hello, I would like to introduce myself for those of you who I haven't met yet. I am Chris Mack and my wife is Dina. I have been sailing for most of my life and we came to Tuscarora Yacht Club in 2022. I have friends here that were trying to get us up to TYC for several years. I went to Barker for sails one November day and since I was in the area I thought I would drive by TYC and take a look. After telling my wife, we sent an application in that night. As everyone here knows, TYC is a wonderful place.

We spent our summers with our daughters, Emma and Anna, in Crystal Beach where we had a cottage. TYC is our new "cottage" and it has the same feel as a caring community as our Canadian community. I hope I'll have grandchildren so I can spoil them at the club. My daughter Emma is hoping to become a member soon so it will be nice to see the cycle continue.

I believe that running for the board is an honor and a necessity. Being retired, I know I have time that others may not have. And my directive to myself is to honor the hard work previous members have provided and to task myself with having ideas to continue to improve the club. My experience as a board member at our beach club in Crystal Beach will be helpful to integrate with the TYC board. It was very similar to TYC but serving a different environment. Again, it would be a pleasure to be elected to the board and of course, Dina and myself hope to meet those we haven't met yet.

Sincerely,

Chris Mack

Kevin Dunn



Dear TYC Membership, my name is Kevin J. Dunn, and I am running for a second-term board of directors' position.

I have been a member of TYC in good standing since 2019, however my history with TYC dates back to 1979 when my parents, Charles (Red) and Karen Dunn joined TYC and are lifetime members. Some of the best moments in my life have been at TYC and I want to offer my services to our membership.

Growing up at TYC was always great and those times included Junior Sailing School with Mike Algase as an instructor, organizing Haines Dockside parties at age 16 and of course kid friendships that included Bryan Burhans and Bill Fleming. Treasured adult friendships include members still active in the club today and unfortunately, some who are in remembrance.

In my professional career I am a technology project manager specializing in network engineering and ERP software transformations for the manufacturing, finance and health care industries.

My first term on the board of directors as Secretary was a true learning experience and extremely rewarding. Highlights included assisting the stewards with reciprocal cruises and introducing myself to our visitors as a board member, which was always appreciated and added a level of professionalism to the already high standards of our club. In 2024 I managed the well-known golf cart incident by visitors. And it's always been my pleasure managing the door for our great parties.

I would like to use my knowledge of our board and club operations and continue for a second term and I am asking for your vote.

I want to thank the members who encouraged me to once again run for a Board of Directors' seat.

With Gratitude,



Kevin J. Dunn 2025 Secretary Tuscarora Yacht Club

Chris Gaul



My name is Christopher Gaul. My wife Ruth and I have been members of TYC since 2020 and have enjoyed meeting new friends, hanging out at the Club and going on club cruises. We have owned 3 boats during the past 25 years including our current 30-foot power boat. I have been enjoying boating for 60 years and remember coming to TYC during the 1970s when my father had a power boat here.

I worked as a Civil Engineer for nearly 40 years before retiring earlier this year. During that time, I managed many complex highway design projects and was Parsons' Buffalo Office manager for a few years prior to retiring. I have been on the Board of Directors for several organizations including Ontario Outing Park Association (OOPA), the New York State Association of Transportation Engineers, and Tri-Town Aquatic Club. OOPA is a group of 20 cottages located on Lake Ontario East of Olcott For OOPA, I have been on the BOD for over 20 years and have served as President at least 12 times. While serving on the OOPA board I helped resolve administrative issues, guide the replacement of the association sewers and waterlines, facilitate reconstruction of a 60' long pier and armoring the lake bank during the recent high-water events.

If chosen by the TYC members to serve on the Board of Directors, I hope to use my previous BOD experience and engineering background to serve the club and help keep TYC running smoothly.

Thank you for your consideration

Chris Gaul

Todd Ciehomski



Greetings Everyone!

For those of you I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting yet, my name is Todd Ciehomski. I would be honored to be given the opportunity to serve you on TYC's Board of Directors.

I've been a member of Tuscarora Yacht Club for 21 years after spending my first 3 years as a keelboat owner down the channel at Island Yacht Club. Our good friend and past commodore Bill Fleming convinced me to join TYC and I haven't looked back since. Simply put, TYC is the best club on Lake Ontario. The atmosphere and the people have been an integral part of memories that will last a lifetime for me and my children, who are now adults.

I spent 30 years as a Town of Tonawanda Police Officer where I served in various capacities. I spent most of my career as a union official and served two terms as Union President, where I presided over negotiations on several long term contracts.

I feel that volunteering my time to serve on the Board at TYC is long overdue and I hope to have the opportunity to contribute to the distinguished legacy created by previous Directors.

Respectfully,

Todd C. Ciehomsk

Robert (R.J.) Seager



Hello fellow TYCers!

As another wonderful season on our little bay comes to an end, I am writing to you, the membership, to ask that you please consider me for a position on the TYC board of directors. I always appreciate the opportunity to give back in any way to this club that has given so much joy to me, and it would be an honor and a pleasure to serve our club on the board.

For those of you who I haven't had the pleasure of meeting yet, I have been a proud member of our club since 2021, and I own a CS-30 sailboat named "Hullabaloo".

I grew up here in Wilson, NY and I am a proud graduate of Wilson High School. I then attended Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas where I studied nuclear engineering and watched a lot of college football (in case you're wondering what I do on Saturdays in the fall). After that, I moved to Boston, Massachusetts where I pursued my PhD in biomedical engineering. At BU, my research focused on developing computational models of how cancer cells process information and communicate with other cells within tumors. I also used my time in Boston to attend a financially inadvisable amount of baseball games, since BU graduate housing was only a block away from Fenway Park (even though I'm a Yankee fan). Boston is also where I learned to sail in 420 dinghies rented from the BU sailing team boathouse on the Charles River.

I moved back to the Buffalo area in early 2020 and transitioned to the private sector, where I currently work as a bioinformatics scientist in the field of precision oncology. I moved back to Wilson shortly thereafter, and in the winter of 2021, I found my current boat for sale right here in Wilson, and the opportunity to get back into sailing on our fantastic home waters of Lake Ontario was too good to pass up.

Only by chance during a visit to my new boat in storage did I run into Jeff and Sandy Jordan. In a conversation I know to be familiar to many of our members, Jeff and Sandy convinced me that TYC was the place for me, and I immediately pursued membership.

2025 Board of Director Candidates for the Tuscarora Yacht Club - Wilson, New York

My five summers at TYC have been a fantastic experience filled with adventure on the water and good times with a growing list of friends. I truly believe this club lives up to its reputation as the friendliest club on Lake Ontario, and if you'll allow me, I would love to do my small part to give back to this incredibly special place.

While I'd be honored to serve on the TYC board of directors, I'd like to close by saying that regardless of whether you favor me with your vote and your trust, I want to extend a tremendous and heartfelt thank you to all of you for making TYC such an amazing place. This place is what it is because of the efforts of our membership, past and present, and that sense of personal stewardship among our members is perhaps why our club remains such a beautiful, kind, and fun place to spend our summers.

Thank you, and if you see me and Hullabaloo at I-61, don't be a stranger!

R.J. Seager

Jerry Trankle



My name is Jerry Trankle and I am looking for your support to become a Board Member for TYC.

My wife Deborah and I have been members of the club for 9 years. We have met many great people and have forged lasting friendships. The wealth of knowledge at TYC has helped us over the years become better members and better boaters.

I wish to give back to the club by joining the Board and helping TYC meet and exceed its standards to be the best that it can be.

My life experience of working for Wegmans Food Markets for 43 years taught me how to build relationships and work as a team.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry Trankle