

Tuscarora **Currents**

Commodore **Doug Klapper**



Introducing the 2015 TYC Board of Directors

Happy New Year to all! It truly is an honor and privilege to serve as commodore this year. Tuscarora Yacht Club is an outstanding organization and I will do my very best to continue the legacy of leadership provided by our excellent past commodores. I am especially thankful to be serving with such a fine Board of Directors, and I aspire to meet the high standard of leadership left to me by our past commodore, Greg Sutton. His history with TYC, his knowledge of the workings of the club, his relationship with the Clark family, his outstanding leadership capabilities and his good-natured personality leave me with a very challenging legacy to follow.

Greg led a Board of outstanding capability, some of whom have ended their service on the Board. Vice Commodore Nancy Van Voorhees organized our social events at a level that leaves a challenge for all that follow in her position. Fleet Captain Peter Fleckenstein, with two years each as Fleet Captain and Commodore, takes with him a vast knowledge of the operations of the Board. Director of Harbor Operations Brian Jacobs managed not only the docks and harbor systems, but also our computer systems and the TYC website. The exceptional record of service rendered by all of these departing members of the BOD is greatly appreciated, and their talents and capabilities will be sorely missed.

I am truly fortunate to be serving with the seven outstanding individuals comprising this 2015 Board of Directors:

*Vice Commodore, Keith Richardson, newly elected this year, will be organizing our social calendar.

*Rear Commodore, Mike Lazich, is continuing in this post for his fourth year. He will be taking charge of the 'communications' activities of the club; publishing our Currents, posting the blast emails, publishing the TYC Roster, leading the management and development of our website, managing the Work Hours program, and keeping records of membership information.

*Fleet Captain, Hank Visger, will be managing slip assignments and coordinating the launch and haul-out activities.

*Treasurer, Carol Goulah, will be managing the finances of the Club.

*Secretary, Anne Van Benschoten, newly appointed to the Board to fill a vacancy this year, will be

handling the correspondence for the club and overseeing our reciprocal program with other yacht clubs.

*Director of Harbor Operations, Jeff Strothmann, also appointed to fill a vacancy this year, will be in charge of the maintenance of our docks and all the dock services. He will also be managing the Officer of the Day program.

*Director of Operations, Steve Schellhammer, newly elected this year, will be responsible for the maintenance of the clubhouse, grounds and the steward program.

The Club owes a special thanks to Anne and Jeff for volunteering to fill vacancies left by resignations. Their stepping up to take on the responsibility and effort required to fill these positions is a remarkable statement of their commitment to TYC.

I am looking forward to 2015 being an exciting year for TYC. The execution of a new 10 year lease with the Clarks to begin in 2016 provides a factor of stability for the club that is vital to keeping membership and attracting new members. In addition, the dredging of the harbor and our slip areas by the Clarks will ease some of challenges of shallow water that we have been experiencing in recent years. Keith has already been hard at work organizing our social calendar for the year. He has some terrific ideas that will provide us with some great parties and activities. He has also been working with John Siuta to organize our club cruises for the season. See the calendar on the TYC website for more specific information. The task of organizing all these events is a daunting one. Please make the effort to volunteer to either chair or work on one or more of these events. It is the volunteer effort that makes these events so successful.

Our Work Hours program and Officer of the Day program were well supported this past year. It is the volunteer effort of our members that allows us to achieve so much on a limited budget. Launch and haul-out crews, mast truck and gin pole crews, kitchen crews, lawn mowing, weed-wacking, party crews, cradle placement crews, garden and flower crews, the list goes on and on, are a great way to help out the club and make some new friends.

Every year each of us is asked to formally express our intent to dock our boat at TYC. The Dock Reservation request sent to our members includes an opportunity to update your personal information, which is vital to maintaining the accuracy of our records and the ability to contact or relay information to you. Please make certain that your information is complete and up-to-date. Your insurance information is also important, which is why that same Dock Reservation form requests confirmation of insurance, including the name of the insurance company, the policy number and expiration date. Unfortunately, many forms are returned without this information. Please make certain your policy information is accurate and current. Maintaining appropriate insurance on your boat is a requirement of membership at TYC. What you may consider a small mishap, could put you in a serious liability situation. An obvious example would be a fuel leak. The environmental liability alone, which is generally included in all policies, could prove extremely costly.

We are just three short (?) months away from launching boats. Is this winter just flying by or what?!?!? Are all those winter projects complete? Are they even started? Launch will come sooner than you expect. Stay warm—think warm thoughts—see you at the Winter Dinner.

Doug Klapper
Commodore, TYC

Vice Commodore **Keith Robinson**



I wish to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve you as a TYC board member, and I look forward to another great boating season.

As always, TYC is YOUR club and I welcome any and all ideas for fun and enjoyable events, parties, and get togethers, both large and small. Kids, we want your suggestions too! Some suggestions already submitted include: a movie night, card night (Euchre, Pinochle, Bid Pitch), bocce tournament, volleyball, jam session, theme party (suggestions?), and dinner theater.

These need not be overwhelming: just a dish or snack to pass, BYOB, relax and enjoy! If you wish to chair or initiate any of these or any other activity, please feel free to contact me at kar.2469@gmail.com or call 716-957-0145. Any help is always needed and welcomed!

A number of traditional events are already on the calendar, kicking off with the Winter Dinner on Feb. 28, Sock Burning on May 15, Commodore's Tea on May 16, Meet the New Members on May 30, Sail Past on June 6, Father's Day Brunch on June 21, and Beef and Corn Dinner on September 5. The Commodores Ball is TBA.

John Suita has gotten a jump on the cruise season with club cruises to: Niagara-on-the-Lake on June 12-14, Mimico on July 24-26 and Ashbridges on Aug. 7-9. Contact John if you are interested in any of these or future cruises.

Please remember to send your reservations for the Winter Dinner by Feb. 16. I look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions.

Keith Robinson
Vice Commodore, TYC

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Rear Commodore Mike Lazich



As we struggle to endure the icy cold of another winter in Western New York, I'm sure that many of you share my yearning for the balmy days of summer and another season of fun and fellowship at TYC. There have been some dramatic changes to the club since we tucked our boats away last fall—most notably, Wilson Harbor has finally been dredged; and Clark Marine has dredged the slips around the island as well. This means that we will no longer have to fear plowing bottom as we exit and return to our docks this season. This also means, however, that there will be much work to do tidying up the areas along the walls that were disheveled during the dredging process. There will therefore be many opportunities for you to get a head start on completing your work hours this season.

A volunteer organization such as ours is only as good as the combined efforts of its members, and you have consistently demonstrated the excellence of TYC and the high morale of its membership through your generous labors. As the new season approaches, there will be many opportunities for you to begin adding to the total of ten (10) hours of service required from each full membership at TYC. If you are uncertain about how you might most effectively contribute your time, please feel free to contact one of the BOD members or stewards for helpful suggestions. Also, be sure to report your service to me by either filling out one of the green work hour cards posted on the clubhouse bulletin board or by emailing me directly at lazichmc@buffalostate.edu.

I have recently been making many revisions to the TYC Roster to reflect the changes to your addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, boat names, and slip assignments that you reported when you returned the member information questionnaire you were all sent. Please contact me if you know of any additional changes or corrections that should be made to the TYC Roster before we have hardcopies printed prior to our Spring Meeting. This year, the TYC Roster will also be available electronically upon request through the TYC website. We also maintain a list of member email addresses to send out important messages and information electronically. So, if you have not been regularly receiving emails from TYC, or if you have changed your email address, be sure to contact me so I can make sure that you are listed correctly on the electronic mailing list.

Once again, I wish to thank you for your dedicated contributions to making TYC the best yacht club on Lake Ontario. I sincerely look forward to another year of working with the fine members of the 2015 BOD as it oversees the maintenance and operation of our remarkable facilities.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Mike Lazich
Rear Commodore, TYC

Fleet Captain **Hank Visger**



First and foremost, I wish to congratulate Doug Klapper on his appointment by the Board of Directors to serve as commodore this year. I also congratulate Keith Robinson and Steve Schellhammer for their election to the Board. We have another excellent, new Board of Directors in place and I'm honored to be part of it.

I look forward to serving as your Fleet Captain this year. Launch this season is scheduled for Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2. I will have more details in the next issue of Currents regarding specific times and tasks, so please read it carefully. Also, please remember to sign up for one of the work crews. A list of times and crew leaders will be posted in the clubhouse for the annual Spring Meeting. Working on one of these crews is a great way to get your work hours in and meet other members of TYC. We always have great working crews that make work easier for everyone involved.

I'm currently in the process of assigning slips to recent new members. Those who have recently requested a change should contact me to confirm their request. Please send your request to ben381z@aol.com. The list I currently have contains five requests. Contact me if you have any questions or needs at the email above or call me at 716-213-8805.

Just think, there are only 48 more days until spring is officially here. I'm hoping for just a touch of global warming to make launch on May 1 and 2 more enjoyable.

Hank Visger
Fleet Captain, TYC

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Secretary Anne Van Benschoten



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the other members of the Board of Directors for asking me to join the Board and fill a position that became vacant mid-term. I appreciate their confidence in me and look forward to working with the Board and all TYC members for the betterment of our great club.

The Board of Directors has been busy behind the scenes preparing for another great boating season. I am updating our Reciprocal list and will be sending out Reciprocal Invitations to other clubs shortly. If you have never taken advantage of this benefit of club membership, I encourage you to do so this coming summer. The list of clubs with whom we share reciprocal privileges will be available in the Stewards Shed and on our website during the active boating season. Visiting other clubs for no charge or a minimal dockage fee is a wonderful way to meet fellow boaters and explore our great Lake Ontario. I highly recommend it!

As I write this, I look out the window and see snow falling. As beautiful as it is, I long for the warm days of summer, lazy afternoons cruising on the open water, and lively conversations with good friends as we relax on the club patio. Launch cannot come soon enough for me—think Spring!

Anne Van Benschoten
Secretary, TYC



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Treasurer Carol Goulah



I would like to thank you, the membership, for your continued support and confidence in re-electing me to your Board of Directors. This year I have assumed the position of treasurer. Serving as secretary for the past two years has provided me with some background and insight into the internal operations of TYC that should prove very helpful in this new capacity. Although I do have an M.B.A., as well as a good working knowledge of QuickBooks, I do not pretend to be a C.P.A. I am, however, very detail-oriented and will work hard to meet our financial responsibilities and keep a careful record of our finances.

The Board of Directors has been very concerned about the continuity of information and operations from one year to the next, as successive individuals occupy the various officers' positions. We are striving to provide that continuity by establishing and archiving Standard Operating Procedures for each office. That is particularly important for the Treasurer, since that office oversees both the Bookkeeper and the Financial Secretary. We are a conscientious, cohesive group whose primary objective is to benefit the members of the best club on Lake Ontario—Tuscarora Yacht Club.

Carol Goulah
Treasurer, TYC



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Director of Operations **Steve Schellhammer**



It may not seem like it when you look outdoors, but TYC will be opening in a couple of months. As in previous years, the electricity will be turned on by the last weekend of March, and the water as soon as the weather permits.

We expect to have three of our stewards from last year returning this season, please let me know if you are aware of any other possible candidates.

I would like to thank the membership for their support in electing me to the Board of Directors. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any suggestions, problems or concerns as I commence my duties as Director of Operations.

In closing, I would like to thank the outgoing Board members for their dedicated efforts and outstanding "helmsmanship" while serving on the TYC Board of Directors.

Steve Schellhammer
Director of Operations, TYC



Dredging Operations, 2014

Director of Harbor Operations Jeff Strothmann



Surprise! I'm back, to serve on the board for another year.

Thank you, Doug, for believing in my abilities enough to ask me to come back when an unexpected opening occurred. I am looking forward to serving this year and will work diligently to make this season enjoyable for all.

Think spring everyone. While you're thinking please let me know if there are any issues with your dock or the surrounding area, as this is the best time for dock repairs—while we have ice. Please let me know as soon as possible, for the ice won't be around too much longer (hopefully). Also on my agenda, is getting dock I-12/13 reinstalled. This is a Clark project but we are looking into replacing the dock with a wooden one if the Clarks agree.

If there are any other projects that I'm not aware of, please feel free to let me know so repairs can be done in a timely fashion, minimizing interference with the summer boating season.

Jeffrey Strothmann
Director of Harbor Operations, TYC



Dredging Operations, 2014