

# *Tuscarora* **Currents**

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## *Commodore* **Doug Klapper**



### **Spring Membership Meeting is Saturday, April 18 at 2:00 p.m.**

The calendar tells us spring is here. Would it not be nice if Mother Nature would agree?? As I am writing this, the airport is registering 17°!!! This is the end of March – NOT January. We must be firm in our conviction that the weather will improve so that we will be able to have our boats ready for launch. We will be launching this season on May 1 and 2. Remember when that seemed so far away?

It has been a long cold winter, but Keith Robinson warmed it up a bit with a terrific Winter Dinner. There was a great turnout, the food was excellent, and a good time was had by all.

Last fall, the Clarks completed dredging around the island. This was a big project giving us the peace of mind that our deep draft boats will not be plowing through the muck into their slips. The dredging did leave a bit of a mess around the island, however. The Clarks have promised to clean this up as soon as the weather allows.

The Board has been hard at work to make certain we are off to a good start as the season approaches. The Clubhouse will be opening Saturday, April 4. If you are free that day, come and give Steve a hand and fulfill some of your required work hours. As you prepare your boats for launch, please make sure you keep the area around your boat picked up and tidy. As you know, the wind is very effective at redistributing our rags and supplies. Also, as you work on your boat, take a look at your cradle and make certain it is clearly marked with your name. This is a huge help to the cradle crew in the fall.

As we look forward to the season, please note the schedule of Club Cruises that John Siuta has put together. Once again, he has done a super job of organizing these events. Don't hesitate to sign up with him as the openings fill quickly.

TYC has been and continues to be a very vibrant and dynamic club. We all enjoy the wonderful facilities, the great location and the terrific camaraderie. This to me is due in large part to the inexhaustible volunteer effort of all our members. Whenever a task presents itself, someone

always steps up to see it completed. This year will again present many opportunities for you to contribute to the maintenance and operation of our facilities. Keith will always be looking for help to coordinate or help out with a party or event. Jeff and Steve will also be looking for extra hands as projects become necessary. Please take a moment to let these folks know you are willing and able to lend a hand when needed. This volunteer effort really defines us as a club.

**The Spring Membership Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 18 at 2:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse.** Prior to the meeting, at 12:30 p.m., Dave MacLeod and Eric Anderson will be hosting a "Town Hall" type meeting to present the new lease agreement to any members who are interested. Please MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Also, be sure to check the calendar on the TYC website for more upcoming events.

I am looking forward to a fantastic 2015 season; think warm thoughts and see you at TYC.

Doug Klapper  
Commodore, TYC

## *Vice Commodore* Keith Robinson



Our 2015 season kicked off with the Winter Dinner at Banchetti by Rizzo's Banquet Facility in Amherst. We had a great turnout, good food, and fun conversation. Hopefully, this got us all thinking about spring, despite the frigid weather!

As the season fast approaches, there have been some changes. The Commodore's Ball has moved to May 30 and will be held at the Youngstown Yacht Club (Invitations coming soon!). May and early June are busy, so please check out the new improved TYC website calendar for details.

Note that the calendar this year will also include events happening in the local community and neighboring yacht clubs. Likewise, these clubs will be sharing our events schedule with their members. Also, keep checking the bulletin board in the clubhouse for TGIFs, movie and card nights, and event signups. I am happy to say that Frank Scannapieco and his group have agreed to host a Blues Jam Night this season (TBA), so all you amateur musicians should start practicing! Kids too.

I am still looking for ideas and volunteers for a summer theme party or any other activity that you would like to see. These do not need to be overly complicated; simplicity is the key. Working together,

we can make this a great boating season. Feel free to email me with any ideas or suggestions at <kar2469@gmail.com>. You may email John Siuta to sign up for club cruises, on a first come first served basis. The Labor Day cruise to PCYC is still tentative.

Don't forget the Spring Meeting April 18 at 2:00 p.m. in the clubhouse.

Keith Robinson  
Vice Commodore, TYC



## *Eighth Annual Commodore's Tea*

Please join us for the eighth annual Commodore's Tea, which will be held on Saturday, May 16 at 1:00 pm in the TYC Clubhouse. The tea is informal and lots of fun, offering such delights as tea sandwiches, a chocolate fountain, scones with sweet jam and Devonshire cream as well as too many other delightful desserts to list. Bring your own fancy teacup if you have one. You may wear a hat if you are so inclined, but it is not necessary.

All TYC members and guests are invited to attend. It is a wonderful way for new members to get to know the friendly, welcoming TYC members.

The committee of Chris MacLeod, Denise David, Sandy Jordan, Elena Balea, Linda Maddigan and Kathy Maloney are happy to answer any other questions you may have.



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## *Rear Commodore* Mike Lazich



Thankfully, the winter we thought would never end is finally behind us, and we can now begin the busy process preparing our boats for the upcoming season. With the opening of the clubhouse scheduled for Saturday, April 4, 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 our new Director of Operations, Steve Schellhammer, to get the clubhouse and grounds in order. This annual rite of spring is always a great opportunity to fulfill some of your required work hours, while at the same time making new acquaintances and enjoying the companionship of old friends.

As the season gets under way and launch weekend approaches, there will be many opportunities for you to contribute your time and effort to the operation and maintenance of our remarkable facilities. 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 suggestions 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 on 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 18 at 2:00 p.m.** 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 ideas and concerns to the Board members and the general membership. The Spring Meeting is also your first opportunity to pick up a copy of the 2015 TYC Roster. This is an important source of information that includes key information on each of our members, while also listing the various rules, policies, and costs of membership at TYC. So, be sure to pick up your copy as soon as possible, and check to see that your information is listed accurately. Any changes in membership information should be reported immediately to the Rear Commodore.

I sincerely look forward to seeing you at the Spring Meeting, and I share your enthusiasm to get the season off to a safe and successful start.

Mike Lazich  
Rear Commodore, TYC



## *Fleet Captain* **Hank Visger**



### **Boats Will Be Launched Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2**

Launch is just around the corner and the boating season is about to begin! Hopefully, all the ice will be melted by then!!!

**This year we are launching boats Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2**, with stepping of masts with the boom truck on Sunday, May 3. The launch and boom truck crews will be led by Michael Algase (Thank you, Mike!).

Prior to launch weekend, 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 work crews that make the work safer and more efficient for everyone involved.

**Boat launching will start as close as possible to 4:00 p.m. on Friday.** Owners with boats stored in the parking lot need to plan on being present late Friday afternoon or early evening, depending where your boat is located.

**Those stored along the west wall driveway need to be present and ready to go Saturday morning promptly at 7:00 a.m.**, followed by the north wall and east wall beginning at 7:45 a.m. All others along the south wall should be watching and ready to go, since last year all boats were launched by 1:30 p.m., Saturday.

Crane time is valuable, and backtracking is very expensive, so 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 me at <ben381z@aol.com> prior to launch. Make sure you provide your 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 cost to TYC, so we expect that you will be ready. **Remember to have 50 feet of line attached to the bow and stern of your boat** to enable the launch crew to safely control your boat as it is lifted. Make sure your boat has lift marks that are clearly visible from the ground.

**The boom truck will be used Sunday for mast stepping beginning at 7:00 a.m. and starting at slip I-00.** Good preparation of your mast prior to lifting it for stepping also saves us time for equipment and operator costs. So, be prepared!

**Gin pole mast stepping will begin on Saturday, May 2 at 10:00 a.m. and will continue as needed on Sunday, May 3 at 8:00 a.m.** The crew will be led again this year by Jeff Strothmann (Thank you, Jeff!)

Let's remember to be safe this year again. Launch weekend is a working weekend, so with that we need to keep in mind that there are many hazards around the club associated with the movement of heavy equipment such as the crane, front end loader, heavy-duty vehicles, etc. **Please remember, no children are allowed in or around the operating area of the crane**, and they will also need to stay out of the roadways and parking lot during crane movement.

Last fall the cradle crew 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, slip number, boat name, and bow and stern marked**. This small effort on everyone's part makes this job so much easier. Just to remind you there is a \$25 dollar penalty for unlabeled or improperly labeled cradles.

I will post sign-up sheets for the launch, mast stepping, gin pole, cradle removal, and kitchen crews on Club opening day, April 4 on the bulletin board in the clubhouse. Jan Klapper and Carol Goulah, leaders of the kitchen crew, would appreciate help with preparing food for the work crews—they really work up an appetite! The food preparation has always been outstanding and served with smiles. This is a great way to get your work hours completed early in the season, while getting better acquainted with your fellow TYC members.

If you are planning on storing a dinghy on the island or a trailer up in the upper yard (where the cradles are stored) this summer, the required request forms are on the TYC webpage. Please complete the necessary form(s) and submit them to insure a spot is reserved for you.

The Board has set the dockage rate at \$60 per foot for the 2015 season. Boom truck fee and gin pole fees remain the same.

Thank you for your cooperation and for your help on the various work crews. We're looking forward to an efficient, safe, and fun launch weekend.

Hank Visger  
Fleet Captain, TYC



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## Secretary Anne Van Benschoten



This past week, one of our club members reported sighting a freighter on Lake Ontario! I do believe this the boater's equivalent of sighting the first robin in the spring...a sure sign that despite the lingering snow and ice, spring—and launch!—are just around the corner.

With spring, comes our annual Spring Membership Meeting, and I would like to remind all members that it will take place on Saturday, April 18 at 2:00 p.m. in the clubhouse. All members are invited!

In preparation for the upcoming boating season, TYC reciprocal letters have been emailed to close to 100 clubs around Lake Ontario, and we've seen a steady stream of reciprocal invitations arriving from other clubs. This past year saw discussions among many Lake Ontario clubs about making reciprocal policies more readily available to boaters on their respective club websites. To this end, we are designing a Reciprocals page for the TYC website. For prospective visitors, it will outline our reciprocal policies as well as provide our Visitor Information brochure in a downloadable format. From this page, TYC members will be able to download the list of clubs with whom we share reciprocity. This list will contain a very brief summary of each club's reciprocal policy as well as their website address. I strongly encourage anyone planning a voyage to another club to visit that club's website. Most club websites post useful information such as harbor approach, docking and checking in procedures, dockage rates, club amenities, as well as the availability of local restaurants and other services. As always, the actual reciprocal invitation letters we receive will be kept in the Stewards' Shed and accessible to everyone.

On a final note, I would like to wish everyone a pleasant spring—let's hope the weather cooperates as we prepare our boats for launch!

Anne Van Benschoten  
Secretary, TYC

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## *Treasurer* Carol Goulah



Our winter weather has given me the indoor time to really familiarize myself with the various facets of the office of TYC Treasurer. The Board of Directors has decided to move to QuickBooks Online in order to streamline our financial records and record keeping, while affording the Commodore, Treasurer, and Bookkeeper access to the overall picture for analyses. Our sincere appreciation must be extended to Karen Burhans, who has provided so much time, assistance and guidance during the implementation phase. This has been quite a process and is still ongoing as we work out the kinks. Moving forward, there should be an easier transition for a new Board member to move into the office of Treasurer when the time comes.

Just a reminder, if and when you have a club-related expenditure for which you expect reimbursement, please be sure to get a Board member's preapproval. Then fill out an expense form (available on the bulletin board in the hall) and submit it to me, along with the itemized receipt, preferably within thirty days.

Thank you again for your confidence in re-electing me to your Board of Directors. I will make every effort to not disappoint you.

Carol Goulah  
Treasurer, TYC





## *Director of Operations* Steve Schellhammer



TYC is scheduled to open this Saturday, April 4, even though spring seems reluctant to commit! However, the clubhouse will be available to warm up in and use the facilities.

The automatic key card security gate will be back in operation and the bridge gate unlocked permanently. Please remember your gate card and, if you need one, please contact Commodore Klapper at <commodore@tycwilson.com>.

TYC's wireless Internet service should be available by launch weekend. Time Warner has scheduled our restoration of signal for April 28.

I am looking for a volunteer to manage the "ice cream" concession in the TYC clubhouse this boating season. Please email me at <operations@tycwilson.com> if you are interested or have any questions.

As we begin preparing our boats for launch, please be sure to take your shrink-wrap home with you for disposal in your municipality's recycle/garbage collection. With so many boats on the island, it is difficult for us to dispose of such bulky refuse.

In closing, I believe restoring the island back to its pre-dredging state is going to require some patience and time. Be assured that I will work tirelessly to make that happen as soon as possible.

"Sea" you soon!

Steve Schellhammer  
Director of Operations, TYC

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## *Director of Harbor Operations* Jeff Strothmann



Here we are again, the start of April and it is still uncomfortably cold. Soon we will all be back at TYC working on our boats. I have already received several emails from members whose docks are in need of repair. With the severe winter that we had, I am afraid that as the ice melts we will find even more problems. Please check your docks as soon as possible. This is a busy time of the season as we all try to get our boats prepared for launch, so let me know if your dock is in need of repair as soon as you can and I will do my best to fit it into my schedule.

Thank you and hope to see you all real soon!

Jeffrey Strothmann  
Director of Harbor Operations, TYC

### **Ship's Store Opening**

Launch weekend also means the opening of the Ship's Store. TYC Decals for your boat, TYC Bugees, and Canadian Courtesy Flags will be available.

While you are waiting for your boat to be launched check out the display case in the main hallway or stop by inside and see our supply of boating wear. Hats, jackets, sport shirts, tee shirts, sweatshirts and more are in stock.

Launch weekend we will open at 9:00 a.m.

During the season hours are Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Kathy Sipes  
Ship's Store Lady



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