



# Tuscarora Currents

## Commodore ~ Bill Shaw



716-622-0742



As the leaves fall and the covers go on our boats, I wanted to take this time to thank all of you for your support and cooperation in helping to make my 2 years as Commodore an absolute pleasure. The appreciation that I have for all of your hard work to help make our club so beautiful and just a perfect place to enjoy cannot be measured. With one more year left on the Board of Directors, I will continue to work as hard as I can, in whatever position that I am asked to serve, to help make all of your thoughts and ideas a reality whenever possible.

Two years ago when asked to be Commodore I began working with the Board of Directors and now that work relationship has turned into a true friendship. Over the past 2 years I have leaned on them in making decisions for the club. It's not every board that has 3 Past Commodore's (Greg Sutton, Peter Hubble and Bryan Burhans) helping to guide the club on the right path. I have also asked for assistance from other PC's, especially Jeff Jordan and Doug Klapper. A big thank you to all of the PC's.

The many wonderful additions over the past few years have contributed to making our club a great and beautiful place. With such an outstanding pool of candidates running for next year's board, I am confident that our club will continue to make great strides for years to come. I hope you all have a terrific Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas with your family and friends.

Stay safe and God Bless all of you!!!

Bill



## Vice Commodore ~ Bryan Burhans



716-867-7881



As the sun sets on another wonderful summer at TYC, so does my time serving on the BOD! It's been a great 4 years serving the club and its membership.

I have enjoyed both of my roles as Vice Commodore for 3 years and my one year as Commodore. The directors I have worked with over the years have been hard working and dedicated to the club and I am happy to have worked with all of them. I wish to thank all of the party committee people that have worked so hard over my tenure on the Board. The social events cannot happen without their hard work and dedication. Thank you to.....

Eileen Hassett and Martin Casstevens and their crews for the Italian Dinner

Keith and Cheryl Robinson and their crews for the Beef and Corn Party

Darlene and Dan Manhardt and their group for the Oktoberfests

Their planning and execution are all of their own and I have really appreciated working with all of them.

I'd also like to thank Jeff Jordan for his dedication to TYC and his sage advice to me as both a new and veteran BOD Member. Thanks to Doug Klapper for the same. Anyone running for the board should know, you are not alone, there are lots of experienced people around to assist and guide you.

Lastly, I'd like to commend Commodore Bill Shaw on 2 great years of being our leader. He never stops working for the betterment of the club, and for that, we should all be thankful.

Thanks again everyone! See you next spring!!



## Rear Commodore ~ Vince Bargnes



716-830-7175



A Western New York autumn is a bittersweet time of year for us boaters. Smiles come to our faces as we reflect on the past boating season, but a tear may well up as boats come “flying” out of our beloved harbor.

This reflection also brings a sense of gratitude for our TYC friends and neighbors. We might call them “co-workers,” united by a shared passion for our lake, our boats, and our leisure time.

I’d like to personally thank the friends (co-workers) with whom I’ve shared the Board of Directors table. To those who are stepping down: thank you for your time, talent, and friendship. To those continuing on: I look forward to another year of hard work and hard play. And to those joining us through this November’s elections: buckle up, it’s a fun ride.

Please take a moment to read the bios for your 2026 Board of Director candidates, included in this newsletter. Keep an eye out for ballots, which will be mailed to your homes in mid-November. We have a terrific cadre of men (Hey, where are you women?) all of whom would be a great addition to your board.

If you haven’t yet submitted your work hours for the 2025 season, please do so ASAP (There is a link below.) I’ll be finalizing the Work Hour Report at the end of the month and want to ensure all time is properly credited.

As always, feel free to text, email, or call anytime with any communication or tech questions that may arise.

### Smartphone Roster

Scan with Smartphone Camera



### Work Hour Submission Form

Click Below



## Treasurer ~ Greg Sutton



716-462-0900



One of the primary items that the board has instructed me to do this year is to follow up on delinquent invoices and follow the Club's by-laws related to late payment. Currently I have 9 members who are 60 days or more overdue for past invoices.

As a reminder Article 11 of the By-laws, as it relates to payments reads:

3. All moneys due the Club are payable upon presentation of a bill, and the following actions shall be taken by the Board:
  - A. At the end of thirty (30) days the member is in arrears, his or her name will be posted on the Club bulletin board and or newsletter (electronic or otherwise).
  - B. All voting rights as a member are suspended and a member cannot run for office or hold any Club office during this period.
  - C. At the end of forty-five (45) days, an arrears member shall be sent a Postal Service Delivery Confirmation letter stating that his or her membership will be terminated if all moneys are not paid in ten (10) days and he or she will forfeit all initiation fees.
  - D. Under extenuating circumstances, by two-thirds (2/3) vote the Board may modify the above terms.

All I am asking is that member pay their invoices on time so Doug Klapper and I don't have to chase people down for payment and you are not charged the 2% recurring monthly late fee.

Invoices for masts and haul out just went out on October 18<sup>th</sup> and payment is due no later than November 17<sup>th</sup>. You should have received an invoice by email and if you did not, please contact Doug or I immediately. In order to follow the intent of the By-Laws, it will be my intention to post names of delinquent members in the next Currents January.

Thank you for your help and cooperation and of course if you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Greg Sutton  
Treasurer

## **Director of Harbor Operations ~ Matt Deering**



**716-870-2517**



Hello to all,

As our summer has come to an end, and the trees are shedding their leaves, we too are all preparing for a long and hard winter without the ability to hop in our cars and escape to our private island, enjoy the last light of Wilson's beautiful sunset, and relax with friends and family around the best club in Western New York.

We can all agree that the summer of 2025 was one of great weather, HOT days, and a continuation of our love for the Tuscarora Yacht Club. This being said, we also accomplished many great things this summer concerning the infrastructure of our docking and grounds here at the club. We had the opportunity to replace five docks that had seen better days in their past, and I look forward to continuing this

momentum in the upcoming 2026 season, to replace more docks that are in need of repair. We had few issues with water and power supply lines this season, and believe that this will continue. With the help of Dan Manhardt we were able to repair and solidify a safe and operable Gin pole, which many of us rely on each year.

I want to give a sincere "Thank You" to all member that facilitated the many projects we took on this year, either working with a work party or taking your personal time to continue to make our club one that visitors are amazed by when having the privilege of passing over the bridge we call home.

I am happy to report that I look forward to serving every member again as I embark on my second year on the TYC Board of Directors in the upcoming season and extend the invitation to contact me at any time if there is any need or concern for our club's docking amenities.

With great respect,

Matthew Deering  
2025 Director of Harbor Operations  
716-870-2517



## Fleet Captain ~ Tym Zhuk



716-432-9064



Hello dear TYC members!

My time as a Fleet Captain is near the end and I'm getting ready to hand over my duties to the "next of kin". Sorry, I mean to the next elected Fleet Captain

I want to thank all who helped me to get things done: the Board, fellow club members and especially Jeff Jordan for his support.

I hope you rate my job at least as satisfactory. I've done my best. Almost.

Looking forward to seeing you all in the Spring.

Fair winds and following seas!

Regards,

Tym Zhuk



**Secretary ~ Kevin Dunn**



**716-704-2700**



Thank you all for a great 2025 season! See you in the spring!

**Director of Operations ~ Peter Hubbell**



**716-697-9123**



Thank you all for a great 2025 season! See you in the spring!

## Membership Committee Report



Hello TYC Members,

As our boating season draws to a close, I'm pleased to share that 2025 has been a strong year for welcoming new faces into our TYC family.

We got off to a modest start, with our first new member joining in April. But momentum quickly built, and since then, 12 more have followed—bringing our total to 13 new members this season!

A major highlight was our inaugural TYC "TGIF" Membership Drive in June. Thanks to your enthusiastic support, the event was a tremendous success. With approximately 75 attendees and the club looking its absolute best, the evening truly showcased the spirit of TYC. That night alone, we received two membership applications, with three more submitted in the weeks that followed.

Given the success of this event, we're excited to make TYC Open Houses an annual tradition moving forward.

I'm also happy to report that five current members earned the 10-hour work credit through our New Member Incentive Program, introduced this year. It's a great example of how we can grow our club while rewarding those who help make it happen.

And the year's not over yet! There's still time to introduce prospective members to all that TYC has to offer—so let's keep the momentum going.

Sandy and I wish you and your families a joyful and relaxing holiday season.

Warm regards,

Jeff and Sandy Jordan



**Please see the current membership report below.**

**2025 Membership Status:**

**Presently we have 211 Members**

**126 Full Members**

**32 Social Members**

**53 Life Members**

Of the **126** Full Members, we have **116** Slips Rented, comprising **78** sailboats and **38** powerboats.

**2025 New Members:**

1. Tom Wilkonson and Diane Gianturco-Laczi - Full
2. Michael & Joanne Berger - Social
3. Ken & Karen Lilly - Social
4. Daniel Buscaglia & Lisa DeCarlo - Full
5. Michael Moyer - Social
6. Stephen & Karen Hogan - Full
7. Marianne Cooke - Social
8. Roger and Sandy Hood - Full
9. Rober J. Paul - Full
10. Robert and Jennifer Morelli - Full
11. Ann Marie Doleski and Khalil Cottman (KC) - Full
12. Peter Clark - Social
13. Michael G. Smith - Full

**2025 New Incentive:**

**A New Incentive to Grow Our TYC Community! **

We're excited to roll out a new initiative designed to recognize the important role you play in shaping the future of TYC. As part of our ongoing Membership Drive, **any member who successfully recruits a new member** will receive **10 Work Hour Credits** as a thank-you for helping our club thrive.

This is a great way to reward your efforts while welcoming fresh energy into our TYC family. Members have already been notified to **submit their 10 hours of Work Hour Credit** once new membership is confirmed.

**10 Hour Members Incentives to date:**

1. Ken & Karen Lilly – **Jeff and Sandy Jordan**
2. Marianne Cooke – **Keith and Cheryl Robinson**
3. Robert and Jennifer Morelli – **Ned and Daniela Wolf**
4. Ann Marie Doleski and Khalil Cottman (KC) - **Domenic Mazziotti**
5. Michael Smith – **Don and Kathy Sipes**

**Let's work together to achieve our common goal: increasing membership and filling every available slip. Thank you for your support!**

**Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to our club's growth and success.**

## Meeting the Candidates: A Shared Commitment to TYC's Future

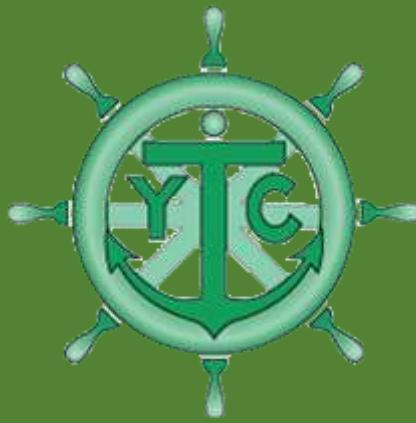
As we look ahead to the 2026 season and beyond, we're proud to introduce a slate of candidates who reflect the values, energy, and vision of the Tuscarora Yacht Club. Each nominee brings a unique blend of experience, dedication, and fresh perspective to our leadership team. Whether longtime members or 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.

## **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.

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