

Olcott Yacht Club

Foot of Van Buren Street
Olcott Beach, New York 14126
(716) 638-4378
www.olcottyachtclub.com

web site:

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Scuttlebutt is the newsletter of the Olcott Yacht Club (est. 1919) Inc. and is published 10 times a year.

Publication deadline for the

May Scuttlebutt is

April 20

All submissions will be considered.

Editor: **P/C Mark Cassidy**

For inquiries about advertising space and rates call:

(716) 807-7915

or

e-mail:

RAPPAREEMS@AOL.COM

Scuttlebutt

April 2025



COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

The Board of Directors have been working very hard in preparing for the 2025 OYC season with regular Zoom calls. The initial event/racing schedule should be released shortly to assist you with your summer planning.

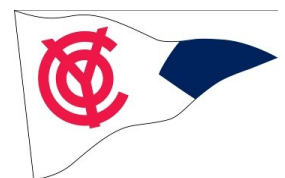
The snow and ice have finally melted at the club. Haul Out and Long-Range Planning committees are preparing for Spring work on the South Wall repair. Members will become busy in April. Fisherman boats launch beginning with the opening of the Town Marina in early April. Club and Reciprocal Club members begin working in the yard.

Mark your calendar for the club opening preparations for the last two weekends in April. It's a great way to earn service hours and catch up with your fellow members that you have missed over the long winter.

It's not too early to begin thinking about outreach for potential new members. Let your friends know about the early season adult sailing program run by Justin Naylor. It's a great way to introduce people to the club and sailing.

After the recent 70-degree day, it was easy to start thinking about hanging out on the best yacht club patio on the south shore of Lake Ontario or having a nice Sunset sail. I am looking forward to seeing you all in April and May.

Alan Rosenbaum



FROM THE VICE COMMODORE

Just so you know.... I have no intention of easing into the season. **Doors open May 1st**. Sign up with Sheila during the April workdays to help get the club ready for all the fun your house committee has planned.

****Join us Thursdays in May for our education and information series**

May 8th – The American Heart Association will be conducting **Hands Only CPR and AED training**. Hands-only CPR can be just as effective as conventional CPR. Learn what Hands-only CPR is and how to give it. This event is open to the community. Bring your friends, family, neighbors and colleagues. There is no cost for this training. Details to follow.

May 15th – **Racing Rules and Sportsmanship with Jason Cramer and Andy Sharp**. Learn anew or get a refresher on the OYC Racing Rules with tips to make your time on the water enjoyable for you, your crew and the race committee. Skippers – for each crew member that attends, names will go in a drawing for prizes.

May 22nd – **Skippers Meeting**. Your Fleet Captain will provide you with the details of the 2025 OYC racing schedule and other racing events around the lake.

May 29th – **Clark Godshall** will be presenting **“Suddenly in Command”**. This short boating safety introduction course is designed for those who are NOT normally at the helm who may find themselves "Suddenly in Command" if the skipper becomes ill, gets injured or falls overboard. It will provide an overview of the basics you should know to be prepared for an emergency, how to minimize mishaps, and how to call for help. This event is open to the community. Registration is required. Details to follow.

I hope you will take advantage of these great opportunities to enrich your boating experience.

Don't miss out. The full calendar will be posted on the website soon. Please be sure to follow us on Facebook to get updates and make sure your email address is current, so you don't miss the Constant Contact emails of all the upcoming events.

Dining receipt changes. Many of you felt the service charge was confusing and voiced your concern that you prefer to tip your server directly. This year, there will be no service charge. As you do in any other restaurant, when you close out your check at the end of the night you will indicate the amount of gratuity you want added to the bill. 100% of the gratuity will go to your server, bartender, and busser accordingly. Many of us have adopted the easy habit of leaving with just a wave or practice the Irish goodbye, knowing the bill will come on the first of the month. If you choose to leave the club without closing your check, an 18% gratuity will be automatically applied to that evening's check.

Help wanted. Please let me know if you have a talent or skill you would like to use that will help you generate service hours!

Pattie

Launching a ship

In earlier times, when a ship was launched she was splashed with human blood as a tribute to the gods of the sea; nowadays we use wine or champagne. Often the vessel was given a female name in token of its becoming a bride to Poseidon or Neptune, this being the reason ships are referred to as 'she' or 'her'. (Jeans 4)

“Red Sky at Night, Sailor's Delight; Red Sky in Morning, Sailors Take Warning.”

The variations on this saying come down to meteorological predictions dating back to biblical times, too. When the sky is red at sunset, high pressure and stable air are approaching from the west. By contrast, at dawn, red indicates approaching rain, and possibly stormy seas.

FROM THE TREASURER

April is here and that only means the official opening is fast approaching. Your dues payments are due by April 1, so please send them in to ensure that your charging privileges will be available come opening night Friday May 2nd.

The Board of Directors has again approved a "Prepay" opportunity to pay your annual "House Minimum" in advance **PLUS** some additional up to \$500! As a reminder, Senior and Associate memberships are required to spend \$150.00 total annually on food and beverage service. We break it down into two quarterly requirements:

Quarter 1 (May – July): \$75.00 Quarter 2 (Aug – Oct): \$75.00

Any unspent minimum (or balance of) each quarter, will be billed at the end of each period if not met. There will be plenty of open days and events each quarter to get this satisfied.

During the month of April, we will offer the "**Prepay**" opportunity. This offers the House some start-up cash flow, gives you a credit to start the season and most important satisfies your annual minimum so its completed.

The particulars of the offer are as follows:

Payment **MUST** be received between April 1 – 30, 2025 and can be for any amount between \$150.00 – \$500.00. Must be used in the 2025 open season (May – Oct). **No re-funds or carry over.**

This is voluntary and is open to ALL memberships, not just Seniors & Associates

Offer is not available to any current outstanding House/LTCC accounts owed

Make payment to "Olcott Yacht Club", re: House minimum. Please **DO NOT** combine with your dues payment, if still owed.

On Friday May 2nd, we will draw two (2) names from those members who prepaid, for an additional \$25 house credit each. What a way to start the season off! If you have any questions about your accounts or the minimum, please let me know.

P/C Sue Cassidy

716-807-7913 or susan.cassidy@ima.it

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

I hope you have had a healthy winter and are ready for another sailing/boating season at our Olcott Yacht Club! As I type this I am enjoying my last ski trip at Big Sky in Montana, but I am looking forward to warmer weather!

Please see my ad in this month's Scuttlebutt for Club Clean-Up dates and watch Constant Contact for times. This is a great way to start on your Member Service Hours and see all the friends you have missed seeing this winter!

I will have some extra projects we would like to get accomplished in April or very early in the season. If you are great at replacing screens, painting, or tackling a kitchen drain improvement, let me know! I could use your help and expertise!

Looking forward to seeing all of you in April!

See you at the club!

Sheila Flanagan

Club Clean - Up
Come see old friends and get some service hours! There are lots of jobs to do to get our club ready!
Saturday/Sunday, April 19 & 20
Saturday/Sunday, April 26 & 27

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact Sue Cassidy at susan.cassidy@ima.it if you have any address, phone number or email changes. Emails are more important with the new software we will be using starting this season for house account billing. Double check that yours is correct in the directory.

If we have any new boats in the club, let Sue know as well.

Sailing Superstitions







Always Step onto a Boat with Your Right Foot.





Why the right? Your left foot brings bad luck for the journey ahead. This remains popular among plenty of old salts today.

Never Change a Boat's Name.

Never, ever, ever do this unless you want bad luck to follow you. There is hope, however, if you carefully follow each step of revered renaming rituals. Since Poseidon keeps record of every vessel name, the rituals purge it from his book and his memory. Start by removing all (and we do mean all) physical traces of the name. For the rest of the steps, read "[Ceremony for Renaming Your Boat.](#)"

OYC CALENDAR

APRIL 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Club Clean-up, 11 AM 
20 Club Clean-up, 11 AM 	21 Scuttlebutt Deadline	22	23	24	25	26 Club Clean-up, 11 AM 
27 Club Clean-up, 11 AM 	28	29	 CLUB SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK-ENDS: APRIL 19, 20, 26, 27 Come help with Spring cleaning to ready to Club! 			

MAY 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	151st Kentucky Derby Saturday May 3rd, Betting starts at 5:30pm Get your best hats & bets ready!			1 Soft Opening	2 <i>Club Opening!</i>	3 Kentucky Derby Bets & Bonnets!
4  Specials!	5 CLOSED	6 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	8 Speaker Series Mantel Club	9	10
11  Mother's Day Brunch	12 CLOSED	13 CLOSED	14 CLOSED	15 Speaker Series	16	17 Club Open House
18	19 CLOSED	20 Scuttlebutt Deadline CLOSED	21 CLOSED	22 Skippers Meeting 6:00pm	23	24 Flag Raising & Past Commodore's Reception
25	26 Memorial Day Club Open White Trophy 10:20am	27 CLOSED	28 CLOSED	29 Speaker Series	30	31
~ May Hours ~ Thurs 5 - 11pm, Friday 5 - 11pm Sat. Noon - 11pm Sun. Noon - 6 pm OPEN Memorial Day Noon - 5pm Closed Mon. - Wed.		Flag Raising & Past Commodore's Reception Saturday May 24th, 5:30 pm Come recognize all our PC's & Immediate Past Commodore Joe Higgins! 				

HAULOUT AND STORAGE

LAUNCH SEASON HAS STARTED

The Haulout crew has our equipment in tip top shape and ready to use. Please help us make this spring as easy as possible and get you enjoying your boats quickly. This year's board has lots of fun planned so we need to get the boats in and the lot empty and ready for parking.

Focus on Key Maintenance Tasks

1. **Bottom Paint Check:** Inspect your boat's bottom paint. If it's in good condition, it doesn't need repainting, saving you time, effort, and money! Remember, antifouling paint prevents marine growth but doesn't protect the hull from anything else. Vc-17 lasts several seasons. Just because it has cured grey or blue does not mean it's not working. Ablative paints (red and blue powdery stuff) work by falling off as things try to grow, so painting on top of it is a complete waste of time. This stuff is nasty for the painter, the yard, and the lake. Just let it wear off. If you insist on sanding it, please use a drop cloth.
2. **Engine Maintenance:** Ensure your engine is ready for the season by making sure your oil level is topped off and your batteries are charged. Consider replacing your impeller. They are cheap and essential to prevent overheating. Make sure your intake valve is open before launch. It may have been closed after winterizing.
3. **Top sides:** Wash the hull above the waterline and if so desired, apply a coat of wax. Cleaner waxes are easy to apply. Consider what you are trying to accomplish- How old is your boat? Is it going to look any different after hours of polishing? All the fun happens on deck.
Masts- If you removed your mast, make sure its ready to step. Fair all of the halyards and stays and make sure you have all of the pins. If you need extra time to work on your mast, we would rather launch your boat and step the mast at a later date when you are ready.

Everything Else can be done at your dock at your own easy pace!

Once your boat is launched, you'll enjoy easier accessibility for additional maintenance tasks at the dock. It's warmer and more comfortable to work on your boat in the water, and you won't need a ladder for access. Use this time to tackle minor projects, such as deck and interior cleaning and equipment upgrades, while savoring your time on the water. Sometimes it's 50F in the boatyard and 70F upstream.

Watch the forecast and use the warm days wisely. Please breakdown your shrink wrap into small bundles and put it in the dumpster. Shoot me a text when you want to schedule your launch. Thanks!

Andy Sharp
716 957 4934

JUNIOR SAILING

The Junior Sailing 2025 application and fee schedule is up on the Olcottyachtclub.com website. Happy to say our 2024 staff is returning with Head Instructor: Ella Thibault, Instructors: Gabe Ferreira, Talia Ferreira, and Sienna Bowers. We are adopting a little more focused program with an emphasis on an "Adventure Sail" component with emphasis on pleasure and leisure sailing and a "Racing" component with emphasis on competition. Bill McKenna is taking on coaching the racers who will be traveling to various regattas around Western and Central New York. We will be working with staff to see how the racing "Travel Teams" are put together. We hope to have both 420 and Opti travel teams. Mantel Club is looking at purchasing new regatta sails for the travel racing teams and exploring the purchase of one or two "charter" 420s, boats that come from programs that have used them for one season and are pretty much like new these boats would come with new sails. These boats would be kept aside for use only by the travel race team to various regattas.

We have four good coach boats now and three slips at the Town Marina. So we will be good to go once the sailing season arrives. Looking forward to it.

JUNIOR SAILING FUND RAISERS

SAVE THE DATES:

FRIDAY JUNE 20TH - WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION BASKET RAFFLE

SUNDAY JULY 20TH - MANTEL CLUB BASKET RAFFLE AND REVERSE RAFFLE

P/C Mark Cassidy

716-807-7915
Rappareems@aol.com

OLCOTT YACHT CLUB

2025 Dues & Initiation Fees Schedule

New York State Sales Tax of 8% will be added to dues and initiation fees.

****** New Member Incentive - The Olcott Yacht Club's Board of Directors has approved a membership incentive of ½ price dues to "First Time" new Senior and Associate members joining during our 2025 season ******

<u>Membership -</u>	<u>Annual Dues</u>	<u>New Member Dues</u>	<u>Initiation Fee</u> (one-time fee)
Senior	\$775.00	\$387.50	\$250.00
Associate (23 and older)	\$465.00	\$232.50	\$150.00
Associate (18 - 22)	\$233.00	\$116.50	\$150.00
**Non-Resident	\$194.00	N/A	N/A

** If members in this category chooses to change membership to Senior or Associate, they will be charged the initiation fee the same as new membership applicants for the respective category.

01 FEB 25
OYC Board of Directors

Ilmator (Luonnatar): Goddess of Creation

The Kalevala is Finland's 19th-century work of epic poetry compiled by Elias Lönnrot from Karelian and Finnish oral folklore and mythology. Angelo Rappoport describes the origins of Ilmator (Luonnatar) in his book [*The Sea: Myths and Legends*](#):

The sea, according to many ancient traditions contained the germs of everything, and the earth, submerged in the sea, awaited the moment when the create fiat made it emerge above the waters. In the *Kalevala* the virgin Luonnatar (Ilmatar) came down from heaven and plunged into the sea, which made her fruitful. She swam in the waters for seven centuries, but one day she lifted her knee above the waters and the eagle deposited there his eggs. On the third day, Luonnatar (Ilmatar) having lowered her knew, the eggs fell into the sea. From their lower portion came the earth and from the upper portion the sublime heaven. The white of the eggs constituted the moon and the yolk the sun. (1928, p. 19)

Excerpt from *The Sea: Myths and Legends* by Angelo S. Rappoport (1995)

"The sea, according to the beliefs of many, is the daughter of the Gods. Hesiod relates that earth gave birth first to Uranus, crowned by the stars, and then to Pontus, and subsequently uniting itself to Uranus produced the bottomless ocean. In Oceania it is believed that T'ane married to Taaroa gave birth to the sea and the wind, while the Polynesians say that all things created issued from their respective mothers, and the sea, too, had one. According to other traditions, the sea is not the daughter of the Gods, but a divinity itself or a part of it, a belief which explains the reason why certain nations paid homage to and worshipped the sea. Macrobius says that the heaven constituted the head of Serapis, while the sea was its belly. In Scandanavian tradition the origin of the sea is explained as follows: In the beginning there was neither sand nor sea, but only Guinaunga-gap, the abyss of abysses. Thereupon the sons of Bur killed the giant Ymer, placed his body in the midst of Guinunga-gap and thus made earth. From his blood became the ocean and his bones constituted the mountains."



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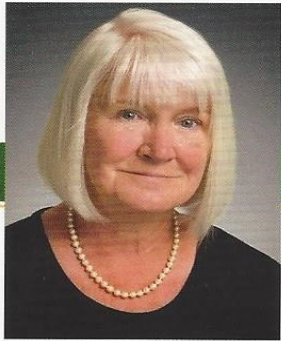


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Up Coming Events

Clean up weekends.:

April 19th/20th & 26th/27th

Friday May 2—Club Opening