

Olcott Yacht Club

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

web site:
www.olcottyachtclub.com

Board of Directors

Commodore

Roger Voss

Vice Commodore

Joe Higgins

Rear Commodore

Alan Rosenbaum

Fleet Captain - Racing

Nick Southard

Fleet Captain - Junior Sailing

Vic Thibault

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Sheila Flanagan

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Susan Cassidy

Director

Mike Capen

Director

Dan Maxwell

Past Commodore

Chris Eglin

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

Publication deadline for the
January - February Scuttlebutt is
February 1

All submissions will be considered.

Editor: **P/C Mark Cassidy**

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Scuttlebutt

November - December 2023



COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

As I sit here contemplating when to pull Breezeby, and considering what recipe to use this year for the Chili Cookoff, I'm reflecting on the Year gone by - and ALL the Fun we've had this Year.

Memories of Father Jim are also at the top of my mind, after attending his Funeral Service.

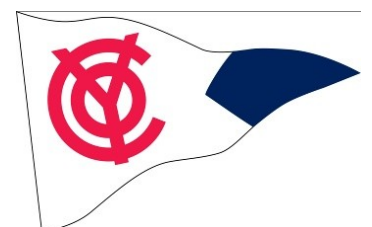
Taking that first, the most important message was how his influence lives on, both as an example and in all the help he gave everyone he came in contact with.

Our Family at OYC has been greatly affected by his example, such as chatting with anyone on fun or serious topics, without judgment or bias involved. Listen, think, and maybe respond as appropriate - without concern for any personal agenda. It's a great example of how we usually manage to get along with our OYC family, despite differences in opinion on many topics (Club or otherwise).

Moving on, I've been encouraged by the changes over the years, and particularly in recent times, as our Membership once again includes Sailors, Fishermen, Power Boaters, and Younger Members/Families who are enjoying all that OYC Membership includes.

Promoting the Art of Seamanship (Along with the good times on the Shore) is our reason for existence, and Sharing that with as many people of different ages & interests as possible is the Best we can do to continue our Tradition. Welcoming Visitors, Helping Mariners in Distress, Finding ways to make more Boating options available to ALL through our Club facilities, it's what we do as a Club.

I'm Proud to have been a Small part of that Tradition this Year, and again give thanks to ALL my OYC friends who have contributed once again to making OYC the Wonderful place it is.



Roger Voss

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT ...

As I write this, we still have a little over a week before the Halloween Party marking the end of the season and the closing of the club. By the time you read this my term as Vice Commodore will be pretty much done. I hope my efforts have been sufficient and have served members well. From my perspective I feel things went reasonably well. Sure there were some issues, but overall, I think things went smoothly.

I want to thank members for being patient. I started the job prepared to field a host of complaints and nit picking. None of that happened. Members have been very supportive of me as VC and I am very grateful to our membership for that support.

Based on the September financials it appears the house will actually end the year in the black. I did say at the beginning of the year that my goal was for the house to break even. Hopefully the September financials continue through October.

The House Committee did a fantastic job this year coming up with events and were always there to get things done. They came up with ideas like the Moonlight Dinner, Creek Poker Run, and more. The members of the committee were Sara Thibault, Joe Connolly, Mike Capen, Alan Rosenbaum, Jen DiLorenzo, Marie Sharp, Kelly Harpst, Elaine Ryan, and Janice O'Keefe.

I think Chef Julie outdid herself with weekend specials. Her creations were always tasty. The rest of the staff served us well. (Pun intended). We are lucky to have Tony behind the bar hustling to make sure we have our drinks. Lauren Cramer was once again always there doing whatever job needed to be done. Makenzie Killian and her brother Jeff did a fabulous job and Ashley Longo and her daughter Destinee efficiently stepped in at just the right time to see us through to the end of our year. Hopefully we will see Ashley and Destinee again next year. Amy proved to be a reliable and willing bartender for us on Sundays. She was a great addition to the team. I can't forget Catherine Stella and her son, Grant for helping out in the kitchen. Catherine has been with us for some time on weekends assisting Julie.

Thanks again to the support you gave the House this year and we can look forward to the reopening in the spring

Joe Higgins

Terry Keuhn from Lake Ontario Off Shore Racing/Port Credit Yacht Club presents Commodore with its Rescue Award for our assistance to racer Brian Mitchell from Coburg whose boat was struck by lightning and hauled and stored by the OYC haul out crew.



FROM THE REAR COMMODORE ...

The OYC season is winding down. Several improvements occurred in the yard this year. This included obtaining a riding lawn mower, trimming of the trees and bushes by the North Side walk, making a bonfire of yard waste wood/brush, pier wall construction with an extra gate, and planting new north yard grass. Thanks to the many members that helped with these efforts.

On the inside, recent improvements include the installation of bathroom handicap grab bars (by Michael Layman) and new kitchen sheet rock painting (by Sheila Flanagan). The new bench (also by Michael) in the fireplace room will enable future below floor access for venting and/or pumping needs.

For one of the last service hour opportunities, club close-out is scheduled for the weekend Sat/Sun October 28th and 29th at 11 AM. We will be pick-up around the yard, move patio fire pits & Adirondack chairs to the barn, stack patio tables, light inside cleaning, de-decorating, etc.

I would like to truly thank all the members that provided the support with maintaining and improving the OYC building and yard in 2023. I am sure like many members, I am looking forward to the 2024 season.

Alan Rosenbaum

MEMBERSHIP / SECRETARIES' REPORT...

The leaves are changing and the boats are filling the yard! Just a few more weeks and OYC will be closed for the season.

We have new friends to introduce!

Please welcome new Associate members, **James and Margaret Hagenbach**, of Lockport, sponsored by Sue Cassidy and Joe Higgins.

And, **Margo Warner and Peter Wellington** have been approved for posting for Associate membership, from Buffalo, sponsored by Marie Sharp and Sue Cassidy.

Don't forget to put the **Annual General Member Meeting** on your calendar, **Sunday, December 10th, 11:30 am**, at the Town Hall Community Room in Newfane.

Finally, if you haven't filled your service hour commitment, there will be plenty to do in the coming weeks to get the club ready for winter. Hope to see you for some of our final activities; a fish fry, a drink at the bar, a Bills game or the Halloween Party! Keep an eye on Constant Contact for all the closing news!

Sheila Flanagan

TREASURER'S REPORT

As the Club closes out the 2023 open season, we can look back at how we enjoyed a full season of fun events, good food, great boating and friendships. Vice Commodore Joe Higgins, his House Committee, Chef Julie and staff kept the membership happy with many events and plenty of great food and beverage. Your October House statements will be in the mail soon. Be sure to get them paid as soon as they are received, so we can finalize our accounts before the annual meeting in December. The memberships support this year was great as it looks like the House operation will have a positive year.

For the last 4 ½ years, P/C Melynda Stolzenberg has been handling the House account books. She volunteered to help out when long time treasurer/accounts guru Fred White became ill. Last week Melynda let us know that she will be stepping aside at the end of the year to enjoy some free time. We owe a huge thank you to Mel for handling this tireless, thankless job, and know this volunteer role will be hard to fill. We will be reaching out to the membership to see if there is anyone interested in stepping up to help out in this capacity.

On the General side of the finances, your Member Service Hours are due to P/C Chris Eglin by November 15 so don't forget to get them submitted. Email olcottyachtclubservicehours@gmail.com. All Senior and Associate memberships are required to help with 10 hours per season volunteering and any unworked/unrecorded hours will be invoiced at \$20/hr., which will be billed after the 15th. As always, please do not combine your House Account and Member Service payments into one check. Each should be paid separately. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

P/C Susan M. Cassidy

716-807-7913

susan.cassidy@ima.it

FLEET CAPTAIN JUNIOR SAILING...

The Olcott Yacht Club Junior Sailor program had a very successful campaign this past summer. Enrollment was consistently around 20 children for each of the first two sessions. The 3rd session was a bit lighter. Our staff did a great job of keeping our kids safe and on the lake as the weather was great for sailing this summer. The OYC was represented at races at the Rochester Yacht Club and our racers did a tremendous job in very challenging conditions. Congratulations are in order for every person who did their part to make sure this season was as successful as it was.

Vic Thibault

HELLO MEMBERS!

As the 2023 Season winds down, I'd like to thank all of our Members who have been able to donate time and goods to the Club. As a service-based club, OYC owes its ability to function to our Members who so regularly give so much time and effort to OYC. There is still plenty of opportunities to complete Service Hours between now and the end of the year. End of Season Cleanup is just one of the great ways to get hours in before the end of the year. If you are looking for ways to complete Service Hours, please reach out to any Board Member, and we'll be able to point you in the direction of initiatives requiring volunteers

Please be advised that the Member Service Hours Email Address for 2023 is: olcottyachtclubservicehours@gmail.com

To submit Member Service Hours, please send an email to olcottyachtclubservicehours@gmail.com with your name, number of hours completed, and the nature of the service completed for those hours.

Alternatively, Members may fill out Service Hours, with the same information as listed above, on the paper slips located in the Club entryway.

A spreadsheet tracking submitted Service Hours has been posted on the bulletin board in the Club entryway. This tracker will be updated at least every two weeks.

If you have any questions or concerns about Service Hours, please just let me know. Thank you!

P/C Chris Eglin

MANTEL CLUB

Many thanks to all who supported Mantel Club in its efforts to support our Junior Sailing Program. We can be very proud of our Junior Program For our size, "we run with the big dogs..." Our Junior Fleets are well supplied and sufficient for our needs going forward. We should probably think about a better third coach boat so we can get all three fleets: 420, Opti and Laser out on the water. I know that's what our staff wants.

We will start to get in touch with staff at the New Year and see where we are. Stay tuned.

P/C Mark Cassidy

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

I would like to thank the Nominating Committee for their efforts in securing candidates to run for the 2024 OYC Board; P/C Mike Layman, P/C Paul Elter, P/C John Roehmholdt, and P/C John Raskopf

P/C Mark Cassidy
Chairman

CLUB RACING

The racing season came to a close last month with our annual Trophy Night Banquet and Club Special Awards ceremony on October 14th. We had 86 in attendance made up of skippers, crew members, friends and special guests all enjoying dinner and remembering the year. The Club was presented with a special award by Terry Kuehn from Lake Ontario Offshore Racing/Port Credit Yacht Club for our assistance to Brian Mitchell in July, after his boat was struck by lightning while competing in the Lake Ontario 600 Challenge. Terry expressed Brian's gratitude for all the help he received from us as well as the Olcott community.

We rounded out the evening handing out series trophies and flags, followed by the Club's special awards and overall Club championships. Winners of those were:

Kathy Heck Memorial Award -
Christy Trophy (Sportsman of the Year) -
Neried's Pitcher (Yachtsman of the Year) -
Seneca Trophy (Highest dedication to OYC) -

Cathi Higgins
Mark Cassidy & Joe Higgins
Elisa Schwarzkopf
"The Floor Crew" (Roger Voss, Dan Maxwell, Alan Rosenbaum, Paul Elter)

Albright Trophy (Spinnaker Club Champion): "Sea Ya" - Nick Southard
Past Commodore's Cup (White Sail Champion): "Jolly Roger" - Alan Rosenbaum
Kurt Dewitt Trophy (Women's Club Champion): "Crews Control" - Marie Sharp

A big thanks to all who helped out this season with marks, scoring, race committee, trophy polishing, and the season finale banquet. Next season is only six months away!

ALBRIGHT TROPHY NICK SOUTHARD

P/CS CUP ALAN ROSENBAUM

KURT DEWITT TROPHY MARIA SHARP



CHILI COOK-OFF

Our annual Chili Cook-off was on Sunday October 22 with 12 entries to sample. The bills game was a bust, but the chili's were all very good and everyone had fun. It really was tough to pick an overall winner and the results was close in the end. Thank you to everyone who brought a chili and to those who also brought desserts. This year's winners were:

People's Choice -
Best Overall - Gary Coppola
Best Traditional - Gary Coppola
Best Non-traditional - Linda Rosenbaum
Best Name - Gary Coppola
Best Dessert - Judy Coppola

Judges Choice -
Best Overall - Anna Masters
Best Traditional - Gary Coppola
Best Non-traditional - Chris Eglin

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Day at OYC

This year, OYCers packed **41** shoeboxes for children in need around the world. A heartfelt "Thank You" to all who packed a shoebox and/or gave a donation. Using funds collected from items purchased from the shoebox store, **18** additional boxes were packed, making this year's grand total **59** shoeboxes!!! Fifty-nine children will be blessed by your generosity.
Thank you!!

Cathi Higgins

2023 Annual General Membership Meeting Agenda
Sunday December 10, 2023 @ 11:30 AM
Newfane Town Hall Community Room, 2737 Main St., Newfane

Call to Order
Determine quorum
Approval of 2023 Mid-season Membership Meeting Minutes

Board of Director Reports:
Commodore
Vice Commodore
Rear Commodore
Fleet Captain – Racing
Fleet Captain – Jr. Sailing
Secretary/Communications/Membership
Treasurer
Director – House Support
Director - Special Projects
Past Commodore – Member Service Program
Other Club Committee Reports

Old Business:

New Business:

- Election of 2024 Board of Directors

Adjournment

ABSENTEE VOTING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES
FOR ELECTION OF DIRECTORS (OYC By-Laws 14 JUL 13)

If unable to attend and are voting by absentee ballot, please read the following:

- The Club Secretary shall make available on the Club website a ballot containing the complete slate of candidates for election to the Board of Directors, including space for write-in candidates, no later than **November 1** preceding the Annual meeting.
- In order to be counted, completed absentee ballots shall have been mailed and postmarked no later than **November 21** preceding the Annual meeting.
- Per Article VIII, Section 6 of the Constitution: Ballots, on which more or less names are voted than there are offices to be filled, shall be voided.
- The absentee balloting procedure is designed to be blind, that is not to divulge the identity of the member casting the vote.
- The member voting by absentee ballot shall complete the printed ballot and place it in an unmarked sealed envelope then placed inside of another envelope addressed to:

Olcott Yacht Club, Attn: OYC Commodore
P.O. Box 715
Olcott, NY 14126
re: Election

NOTE: The outermost envelope should clearly identify the member casting the absentee ballot. The unopened absentee ballot shall be kept with the original envelope until the Annual meeting. At that time, if it is determined that the member is in good standing, the absentee ballot envelope shall be marked with the membership class of the voting member. When the election vote is tallied, these absentee ballot envelopes shall be opened and the vote cast and weighted in accordance with the membership class of the voting member.

Official Absentee Ballot – Election of 2024 Board of Directors

(See instructions for filing Absentee Ballot)

~ Olcott Yacht Club Annual Membership Meeting ~

Sunday December 10, 2023 @ 11:30 AM

Newfane Town Hall Community Room, 2737 Main St., Newfane, NY

Vote for **THREE (3)** candidates only

Place an 'X' before the name of the candidate(s) or write-ins for whom you are voting for. Ballots, on which more or less names are voted than there are offices to be filled, shall be voided.

Candidates: Vote for THREE (3) Candidates Only

Write-Ins:

___ Chris Masters (Senior – Boat Owner)

___ _____

___ Pattie Schneider (Associate)

___ _____

___ Jocelyn Sikorski (Associate)

___ _____

**Ballot must be mailed and post marked by November 21st.
Ballot must be placed in an unmarked sealed envelope then
placed inside another envelope and addressed to:**

OYC Commodore
Olcott Yacht Club
P.O. Box 715
Olcott, NY 14126

Outside envelope must have member's name casting the absentee ballot.

****All absentee ballots count toward meeting quorum****

**This is in accordance with the Constitution and By-Lays for
"Absentee Voting Requirements and Procedures for Election of Directors"**



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KATHY HECK AWARD BEST WOMEN'S CREW TO CATHI HIGGINS



SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD - JOE HIGGINS/MARK CASSIDY



Olcott Yacht Club
P.O. Box 715
Olcott Beach, NY 14126

Events

November 1 Absentee Ballot Available

November 15 Work hours submission
due

November 21 Absentee Ballot deadline

December 10 Annual Meeting 11:30 AM
Newfane Town Hall