

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

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Pattie Schneider

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Jocelyn Sikorski

Fleet Captain - Junior Sailing

Elisa Schwarzkopf

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Treasurer

Susan Cassidy

Director

Taylor Sukdolak

Director

Chris Masters

Past Commodore

Joe Higgins

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

Publication deadline for the January Scuttlebutt is December 20th

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

Nov Dec 2025



COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

The exciting 2025 OYC season is wrapped up with sadly most boats having been hauled out. It is time to get ready for winter by completing club cleanup and thinking about the 2026 Season.

During the 2025 season, there were many exciting new developments: new OYC restaurant reservations system setup by Pattie; OYC social media upgrades by Jordan Morgan and Jr Sailing crew; BOD monthly hybrid club meetings with zoom participation option setup by Doug; work to repair the east wall sidewalk, and expand haul out/launch pad by Haul out crew/Chris Master; Jr Sailing racer participation in multiple offsite locations (with Bill McKenna's support) and; extended Sail racing season with September race makeups (by Jocelyn), and extra Serotinal races (by Nick Southern).

After the Halloween Party, Chili Cook off, and Club Cleanup, the final event for the season is the AGM Meeting on December 7th. During the AGM, a proposed change to Article V of the Constitution will be reviewed (see details below).

The OYC Board of Directors reviewed Constitutional ARTICLE V – Initiation Fees, Dues, and Indebtedness. The proposed change to Veteran Status percentage is intended to have better alignment of categories, so a Senior (veteran) isn't paying less than an Associate and an Associate (veteran) isn't paying the same Non-Resident rate. All dues are based annually off the rate set for the Senior member. Seniors and Associates still carry their weighted privileges for voting and member privileges above Non-residents. It still gives a benefit to someone who has been a long-term member and qualifies under provisions. OYC will continue to be one of the least expensive Clubs around for what we offer our membership in a full-service Club. Using the 2025 Senior rate, an example of the change, if approved, is shown below.

Senior rate is \$775.

Senior – Veteran: current (40%) \$310, proposed rate (70%) \$543

Associate (60%) \$465

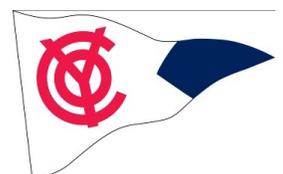
Associate – Veteran: current (25%), \$194, proposed rate (40%) \$310

Non-Resident rate (25%) \$194

Thinking about the future, the Board and Mantel club was exploring getting a mid-size transition sailboat that could be used by both Jr Sailing and Adult sailing. Unfortunately, inspection of the 17-foot Hunter opportunity had risky cracking issues which made us decline providing a purchase order; but we have not given up looking for a good opportunity.

This will be my last Scuttlebutt Commodore article, I would like to thank the board of directors, various committees (H&S, House, LRP, WYA, etc....), Mantel Club, and Jr Sailing staff for all the hard work to make 2025 an excellent season at the OYC.

Alan Rosenbaum



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT ...

It's almost a wrap! I hope you have had as good a season as I have!

It has been a pleasure being your Rear Commodore, and I have just a few more favors to ask of you this season...

I know many of you have completed your Member Service Hours, but if you have some time, I could use your help! Or, maybe you are a new member this year and have hours to fulfill. I will be at the club all weekend, Friday 10/24 - Sunday 10/26. I would love to put you to work!

We will have our traditional **Club Clean-Up** weekend **Saturday and Sunday, November 1 and 2**, starting at 10 AM. There is plenty to do, inside and out. Come and help out, and have your last hotdog from the grill for lunch! If needed, we will continue with our Clean-Up November 8 and 9.

It looks like Matt Oates has been hard at work again this month clearing our fence line! Thank you Matt, the club is looking very cleaned up!

So many members have done so much this season. Please know it has not gone unnoticed, and I thank you for your contributions to the club house, the grounds, and our events.

Shelia Flanagan

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT ...

Say it isn't so! Our season has come to end way too quickly.

Looking back on the year I am so impressed with our staff and house committee and volunteers. Thank you to the numerous volunteers who planned the parties, and who set up and tore down for events, decorated the dining room and the patio, provided centerpieces, hosed down the patio (repeatedly), hosted, bartended, and cleaned taps.

You grilled burgers and dogs and steak sandwiches. Sorted and bagged clams, shucked clams and corn, grilled steaks and boiled lobsters. Organized a bonfire and cleared the path to the beach. Passed out "treats" to our creek cruise kayakers. The amazing foodies who shared their culture and cuisine at Cruise Around the World, our Potluck and the Chili Cookoff.

The talent that brought us music through karaoke, bingo, pop up performances and disco parties. Special thanks to Jourdan Morgan and Roy Knapp for their work keeping you informed with posters, social media, and the website and to Sue Cassidy for Constant Contact emails.

All the fun couldn't have happened without our House Committee – Marie Sharp, Sara Thibault, Alex Rosenbaum, Jen Dilorenzo, Anna Masters, Janice O'Keefe, Margo Covell, and Sheila Flanagan. They brought laughter, energy and great ideas and made it all work seamlessly behind the scenes.

My biggest thanks go to Julie and her staff. What a fantastic menu and such flexibility with all of our events. "What are we doing this week?" Doesn't matter – they made sure we didn't go hungry or thirsty. "We'll make it work" they would say. Table for 2 that's now 8 – done. Thirsty sailors shoulder to shoulder at the bar – no problem. And always with a smile.

Thank you to you, our members. You welcomed the changes to our gratuity policy, were responsive to our new online dining and event reservations systems, and were gracious when we were short staffed or occasionally ran out of something. Thank you for delivering drinks and food to your fellow members and for bussing tables. This is more than a club, it's our community.

I hope you are looking back like me and saying, "What a great summer!"

Pattie.

CLUB FOOD/WINE SELL OFF

SUNDAY NOV. 2ND 11 - 3

CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT CARD ONLY

TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK NOV. 2ND



FROM THE PAST COMMODORE ...

November 15th is the deadline for submitting work hours. After that date those not reaching the 10 hour requirement will be billed at \$20 per hour not worked. Please note that after 11/9 submissions must be made by email: qqhiggs@gmail.com

P/C Joe Higgins

FROM THE TREASURER

As the Club closes out the 2025 open season, I can see we all enjoyed a full season of fun events, good food & drink, great boating and friendships at OYC. I'd like to thank Julie for another good season managing our kitchen/bar operation. I'd also like to thank Robert Winter and Chris Eglin for their behind the scenes help all year with house deposits and monthly POS reports.

October house invoices will be coming out following the final food/beer/wine sell-off on Nov. 2nd. That will be the invoice date, and you should have them in your inbox by Nov. 5th. If you did not meet the QTR 2 \$75 minimum, you will be billed for that or the difference. Please make payment when your invoice is received so the clubs accounts can be closed out for the season and reports finalized for the AGM. All accounts need to be paid in full by December 1, this includes any others past due. I want to thank all members who have been diligent to pay their invoices on time all year.

Member Service Hours:

Member Service Hours need to be submitted by email to P/C Joe Higgins by **November 9** to be credited for this season. Joe's email is qghiggs@gmail.com. All Senior and Associate memberships are required to help with 10 hours total per season volunteering. Any unworked/unrecorded hours will be invoiced at \$20/hr. This is invoiced from the General fund and will be mailed.

As always, please do not combine your House Account and Member Service payments (general) into one check. Each should be paid separately. Please be prompt with your payments to get them all satisfied before the holidays.

As always, if you have any questions about any invoices, please don't hesitate to contact me.

P/C Susan M. Cassidy

716-807-7913
susan.cassidy@Ima.It

2025 Proposed Constitutional Changes - Veteran Status Dues AGM Membership Meeting 07 DEC 25

ARTICLE V – Initiation Fees, Dues and Indebtedness Section 2:

WAS:

At the organizational meeting of the Board, it shall determine Senior Member dues for the year. The dues for the remaining membership classes shall be in accordance with the following schedule:
Senior Member - 100% (Veteran Status 40%)

Associate Member 23 years of age and over – 60%
(Veteran Status 25%)

Associate Member under 23 years of age – 30%

Non-Resident Member – 25%

Affiliated Member – 25%

CHANGE TO:

At the organizational meeting of the Board, it shall determine Senior Member dues for the year. The dues for the remaining membership classes shall be in accordance with the following schedule:
Senior Member - 100% (**Veteran Status 70%**)

Associate Member 23 years of age and over – 60%
(**Veteran Status 40%**)

Associate Member under 23 years of age – 30%

Non-Resident Member – 25%

Affiliated Member – 25%



2025 Annual General Membership Meeting Agenda
Sunday December 7, 2025 @ 12 Noon
Wilson House Rest., 300 Lake St., Wilson, NY (North dining room)

Call to Order
Determine quorum
Approval of 2025 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:

- 2025 Proposed Constitution Changes (see attached)
- Election of slate for 2026 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 2026 Board of Directors

(See instructions for filing Absentee Ballot)

~ Olcott Yacht Club Annual Membership Meeting ~

Sunday December 7, 2025 @ 12:00 Noon

Wilson House Restaurant, 300 Lake St., Wilson, 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:

___ Sue Cassidy (Senior – Boat Owner)

___ _____

___ Sheila Flanagan (Senior – Boat Owner)

___ _____

___ Todd Sukdolak (Associate)

___ _____

Ballot Instructions

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****

Ballots are not opened until day of meeting election

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



Sailor's Service LLC.

Roger Vost

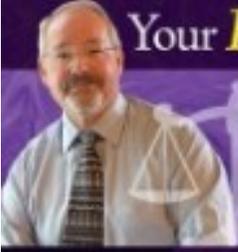
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" If it needs to be done - right "

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[Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Day at OYC 2025](#)

A heartfelt “Thank You” to all who packed shoebox and/or gave a donation for children in need around the world. **43** shoeboxes were packed, plus **25** were added using monies collected from items purchased at the “Shoebox Store”, making this year’s grand total **68** shoeboxes!!! The children who will receive your gifts will be blessed by your thoughtfulness and generosity. Plus they will learn about God’s amazing love and care for them. Contact Cathi Higgins if you are still interested in donating a shoebox or funds towards one. Thank you and God bless you for your sup-



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Olcott Beach, NY 14126

Up Coming Events

Nov. 9th Wk Hour Deadline

Nov.21st. Absentee Ballot
Deadline

Dec 7 th AGM Wilson House
12 Noon