

## Olcott Yacht Club

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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 June Scuttlebutt is May 20. All submissions will be considered.

Editor: **P/C Mark Cassidy**

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# Scuttlebutt

May 2020



## COMMODORE'S MESSAGE ...

May has finally arrived to Lake Ontario but it feels like a winter gale has hit us all, and the storm is named Covid-19.

You all know by now that this pandemic has become all consuming in this region, state, and world. It is affecting our work environments, our recreation, and our relationships. Like you, OYC is trying to cope with this evolving situation.

The rules which we are obligated to follow have been changing as well over time. After an initial reversal, boatyards and marinas can be open and functioning with appropriate social distancing. This has enabled us to start launching boats. Thus boat owners are encouraged to come down to the Club, get their boats ready, and put them in the water. Boats would seem to be the perfect way to enjoy this upcoming summer of social distancing.

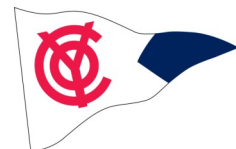
The House operation this season is a different matter. There are restrictions in place concerning bars and restaurants and it is not known yet how and when they will be modified. Therefore the opening date is unknown and subject to change. Currently we are unable to open up our food and drink service but we will see if that changes soon. The Board will have to make decisions about how we will operate as the restrictions are eased. As always, the safety of our members and staff will be foremost in our thinking as we try to resume operations.

Our calendar of social events will also change as time goes by. We know several community events in Olcott for this summer are already cancelled. The Board will keep the membership informed of changes as the decisions are made. The course of this entire situation is still quite uncertain.

It is important that we all continue to support our Club in these times. If you haven't already, please send in your 2020 dues. Don't be afraid to visit the yard - there is plenty of space to distance, the views of the water are still wonderful, and you might see an old friend to two. In times like this we need to maintain our social bonds, and for many of us OYC is just the place to do so.

Stay safe but stay connected.

*John Roehmholdt*



## VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT ...

As we approach our opening weekend with much uncertainty, we ask that anyone planning on dinner at the club, do so with a reservation. We need all of the members to support our house operation as best as possible. We will use the upstairs dining room if the reservations support our hiring of waitstaff. We will space patrons out over as large an area as possible. We will avoid large tables by limiting tables to 4 individuals, unless there are extenuating circumstances like a family of 2 adults and 4 children.

Our finances are stretched to the limit as we have taken large losses over the past three years and the anxiety of paying dues when we don't know how much we can use the club this year. With all of that in mind, I am asking that anyone interested in dinner when opening weekend has been determined please email, text or call me to give us an idea of how large or small of a turnout we can expect. PLEASE USE [MIKELAYMAN@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:MIKELAYMAN@HOTMAIL.COM) OR TEXT OR CALL 716-622-1304 WITH NAME AND NUMBER OF GUESTS. Please respond as soon as possible so I can report this information at the next board meeting.

As of right now we are waiting to hear from the Governor as to when restaurants and bars can reopen. The Board will continue to monitor the situation and keep members informed through Constant Contact. As of now we have moved Flag Raising till some time in June.



For those of you who have ordered 100th anniversary caps, I will have them available at the club as soon as we open. Please bring \$10 cash for each cap ordered. The 72 caps are promised but we will make any caps not picked up available to members at a later date.

When we do open, and you are interested in being a volunteer bartender for the 1 or 2 weekends please call

Mike Layman 716 622 1304

*P/C Mike Layman*

## FROM THE REAR COMMODORE ...

Happy May to everyone,

Despite the extraordinary times we are living in, Club Cleanup is still slated for Saturday May 16th and Sunday May 17th. We'll be cleaning what we can to prepare the club for if and when it is ready to open. If you are interested in assisting, please let me know ahead of time and I will add you to the list. Our cleaning activities will be dictated by the Members available, and supplies on hand.

For those of you working on your boats, please DO NOT put shrink wrap in the dumpster. At this time we need to ask members to "pack-out" their shrink wrap, and bring it with them to dispose of at home.

The dumpster IS available for smaller, more typical trash as you work on your boats.

Additionally, there will likely be more boats in the yard than usual at this time, so please take extra care as you maneuver around the parking lot. Lots jack stands and boats to avoid.

Also, a reminder that if you choose to use the outside restrooms at the club, please ensure that you are cleaning up after yourself as we have limited resources to keep the bathrooms clean as we usually would.

If you have any questions at all, please let me know.

*Chris Eglin*  
[ceglin@buffalo.edu](mailto:ceglin@buffalo.edu)  
716-523-7469

## SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT ...

Spring weather brought familiar faces back to the club and despite this year's changes many things are getting back to "Normal." Our lawn mower got much needed maintenance and John Luch is back in gear mowing the grounds. Thanks John!

Most of the projects are on hold saving dollars for necessities to address this year's needed changes. But, annual yard work and fix up continues, and we have the wood on hand from last year for haul out and dock improvements to be completed.

Boats are being readied for the season, water level is manageable thus far, and with help from willing hands doing repairs, the club is in good shape for our 100th season.

P.S: Even little things can be fun. Our mower now sports an OYC bulls eye on it's nose!

*Roger Voss*

In light of the threats posed by Covid-19 we have decided that cancelling the Adult Sailing lessons would be the responsible thing for us to do. We are leaving the possibility of running the class later in the season and should we do so, we will keep people posted through Scuttlebutt. Otherwise we will look forward to a more normal sailing season next year. *Joe Higgins*



## FLEET CAPTAINS REPORT ...

The wait is over!!!! This is the month it all starts to happen. Things are starting to progress down at OYC. There have been a few early boats already put in and even some out for a sail! I hope you all are able to get down to the yard to work on your boats and just enjoy the view, This a great time to be down working on your boats with the weather shaping up and for some, a little extra time to do so. Please exercise proper social distancing guidelines while you do!! While the club will not officially open for a few more weeks the bathrooms will be open soon with supplies to ensure it stays properly cleaned and disinfected. Although the bathrooms will be cleaned regularly it is up to us the members to clean it after each use.

I hope you all have had time to check out the new Olcott Yacht Club website that Roy Knapp has set up. Its a nice improvement from the last and very user friendly. While you visit the site check out the 2020 Race schedule!! Although this is really just the first printable edition, this is what we hope it to look like for the year. We are in the finishing stages of a condensed race schedule if we are delayed in any way. While there please print/download/scan, however you need the Race Registration form. These can be sent back to me at the email below or even just give me a call and I can fill out the necessary info for you.

The Skipper's Meeting has been postponed to Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4 pm. Please bring your registration forms and current insurance info if you haven't provided this already. This needed to be moved just to comply with social gathering standards set forth by NYS and why this years meeting will be so important. We will need to define our season based on the criteria that social distancing allows, this includes whether we move to a single division this year? White sails may be a better option for boats to need less crew etc. But still have a spinnaker division for some of the trophy races.

The OYC distance race is still on but not a lot of activity as of late, with most of Canada shut right down our drawing pool of entries is now limited. We will however push on and if need be still celebrate this race with a smaller fleet. If you are looking to sponsor and or help with this event please reach out to me as volunteers will be needed for a successful race. You can check out the details at..... <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm>

Again I hope that you and your families are staying healthy and well during this time and look forward to seeing you all soon.

*Jason Cramer*

[jcramer9@roadrunner.com](mailto:jcramer9@roadrunner.com)

## FROM THE TREASURER

While things are different now than they were a month ago, the goal is to get back to enjoying social interaction while practicing safe behavior to keep COVID-19 at bay. No one has the answers but there is a level of optimism that we will this summer enjoy boating & socializing if we all do the right things.

We are anticipating guidance from others about how best to go about safety at the Club, inside and outside, on the water and aboard boats. Clearly there needs to be some change of behavior and hopefully we will all be smart about it.

Much of our summer enjoyment comes from social interaction at the Club. While we were lucky to not have opened yet, the Club has financial responsibilities all year long. This is not the way we were anticipating our 100<sup>th</sup> season to begin but if you want the Club to be around for all of us in the future, we need your support now. Yes we are most likely looking at a shorter season to enjoy our benefits of membership, we do need those few who have not yet paid your dues to do so. If you need to make payment arrangements, please contact me so we can work something out.

If you are still considering to make a prepayment on your house account deadline is May 20th.

*P/C Sue Cassidy*

716-807-7913

[susan.cassidy@ima.it](mailto:susan.cassidy@ima.it)

## EDITOR

Thanks to the generous donations of: Buck and Darcy Buchanan, Mark and Sue Cassidy, Jenn Dilocenzo, Jeff, Ellen and Chris Eglin, Hank Hinckley and Janis O'Keefe, Mike and Rhonda Kearns, Mike and Barb Layman, and John and Sheilah Roehmholdt we have eight folding Adirondack chairs to compliment our fire pits....





## JUNIOR SAILING

Summer is just a little ways off and we're all looking forward to getting out of the house! Olcott Junior Sailing is excited for another season in the sun. We are preparing for any scenario as a result of Covid-19 and will be ready to adhere to any guidelines set by the CDC, US Sailing and New York State that will help us provide a safe environment for everyone involved.

We'll also be doing our best to keep everyone updated on any changes in plans. At this point we just want to reassure everyone that we are constantly keeping up on the situation. If you would like any information or to register for the upcoming season, check out our website at [Olcottyachtclub.com](http://Olcottyachtclub.com). There is a link there with most frequently asked questions with answers.

We have our first two Junior Sailing registrants.

Further questions contact: Junior Program Chairman Mark Cassidy at 778-9028; [cell] 807-7915; [rap-pareems@aol.com](mailto:rap-pareems@aol.com); Fleet Captain Vic Thibault at 778-7749; [cell] 778-4482; [vicsigns@yahoo.com](mailto:vicsigns@yahoo.com) and Program Director Ethan Sharp: 585-205-3005; [ethan-sharp892@gmail.com](mailto:ethan-sharp892@gmail.com).

*Ethan Sharp*

## MEMBER SERVICE PROGRAM...

Clean up weekends are always a good time to get service hours in at the club. Besides the regular chores to get the club ready to open we have a couple of additional areas that will need attention this year. The grounds around our new cement pad by the junior launch ramp and the storage lot across the street. Debris clean up from the high water and leveling around the new pad and spreading and leveling of fill in the storage lot. If you can help in these areas bring your garden rake!

*P/C Tom Beilein*

Kudos to OYC member, charter Capt. Vince Pierleoni who was recently recognized in the Buffalo News for his volunteer work in supporting the local Olcott fisheries program.

Vince and "Thrillseeker 2" was an early launch and was **the** first boat out of the harbor this season!

## MANTEL CLUB REPORT

This coming season we will continue our support of the Junior Sailing Program by finishing "landscaping" around the new cement pad in our launch area where the kayak racks will be; upgrading our regatta trailers and improving our storage lot.

Many thanks to John Daleo for his contribution to the Junior Program of a Lightning sailboat. We look forward to getting it ready for the coming season.

Thanks to all who make tax deductible contributions to the program.

*P/C Mark Cassidy*







## FIRST SAIL BOATS OUT OF THE HARBOR

### "LIGHTFOOT" & "LIVE ACTION"




# OYC CALENDAR


MAY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>~ Club Hours for May (Tentative)~</b> Friday 4 pm - 12      Saturday: Noon - 12 Sunday: Noon - 6 pm			 <b>CLUB SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK-END - MAY 16 &amp; 17</b> Come help ready the Club for opening! Please bring your own Food & Beverage			
					1 CLOSED	2 CLOSED
3 CLOSED	4 CLOSED	5 CLOSED	6 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	8 CLOSED	9 CLOSED
 <b>Happy Mother's Day</b>	11 CLOSED	12 CLOSED	13 CLOSED	14 CLOSED	15 CLOSED	Club Clean-up 11 AM 
Club Clean-up 11 AM 	18 CLOSED	19 CLOSED	20 Scuttlebutt Deadline CLOSED	21 CLOSED	22	23 Skippers Meeting 4PM
24	25 Memorial Day White Trophy 10:20am	26 CLOSED	27 CLOSED	28 CLOSED	29	30
31				 <b>SKIPPERS MEETING</b> Saturday May 23, 4:00pm		

JUNE 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Commodore's Ball 2020</b> <b>Saturday June 27th</b> <i>Cocktails &amp; Hors d'oeuvres, Dinner</i>				<b>Youth "Learn to Sail" Open House</b> <b>Sat. June 27, 10am - 1pm</b> Bring the kids to meet the staff and check it out!		
	1 CLOSED	2 CLOSED	3 Wed A1 6:20 PM	4	5	6
7 Sunday A1 10:20 AM	8 CLOSED	9 CLOSED	10 Wed A2 6:20 PM	11 Women's #1 6:20 PM Mantel Club	12	13 "Flag Raising & Past Commodore's Reception"
14 Sunday A2 & A3 10:20 AM	15 CLOSED	16 CLOSED	17 Wed A3 6:20 PM	18 Women's White 6:20 PM	19 Olcott 100 Race	20 Summer Solstice! Scuttlebutt Deadline
21 Happy Fathers Day! Cook Trophy 10:20 AM	22 CLOSED	23 CLOSED	24 Wed A4 6:20 PM	25 Women's #2 6:20 PM	26	27 Commodore's Ball Jr Sail Open House
28	29 CLOSED	30 CLOSED				

**OYC Flag Raising & Past Commodores Reception**  
 Honoring P/C Tom Beilein  
 Saturday June 13th



## *Youth Boating & Sailing Program @ Olcott's Lake Ontario* *Sponsored by Olcott Yacht Club*

The Olcott Yacht Club's Junior Sailing program is a summer sailing camp which began in the mid 1940's and today is still an important part of the Club and community. Over the years we have served many families and children as they enjoyed learning to sail and taking with them lifetime skills and friendships. Our program provides general sailing instruction for both boys and girls ages 7 to 18, non-members and members alike. Our sailing training is done in both Optimist dinghies and Club 420's providing an ample fleet of boats for both beginner sailors and returning veterans. We also train in a fleet of kayaks, providing additional water instruction on days when the lake is too rough to sail. Our advanced racers are known around the lake to be great competitors and true sportsmen.



Several levels of instruction are taught with an emphasis on safety, fun, sportsmanship, cooperation and competition. The curriculum follows the US Sailing Association format and our instructional staff (many of whom went through the program themselves) are all US Sailing and American Red Cross certified. Classes are kept small with a student/teacher ratio of less than 10:1.

We continue to do our best to provide an instructional experience that is reasonable in cost to each family. In order to be able to provide & maintain all of our boats & equipment used, beyond the income from camp tuition, we rely on generous financial support and fundraising from The Olcott Mantel Club; our past commodores organization which is a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization. Through their annual fundraiser and tax-deductible donations we continue to keep our program a success.

### **2020 Sailing Session Dates & Fees:**

**\*\*\* Open House:** Saturday's June 27; 10am – 1pm at Olcott Yacht Club  
Come meet the staff and get an intro to the program!

**Program Hours:** Monday through Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Session 1: July 6 to July 17	\$495
Session 2: July 20 to July 31	\$495
Session 3: August 3 to August 14	\$495
Weekly Rate:	\$295

**Register for <u>ANY</u> 2 sessions	\$900
**Register for full season (3 sessions)	\$1300

Parent/Guardian a member of Olcott Yacht Club? Receive 10% discount

For further information and questions, email or call:

Ethan Sharp – Head Instructor: [ethansharp892@gmail.com](mailto:ethansharp892@gmail.com) or 585-205-3005

Vic Thibault – Fleet Captain: [vicsigns@yahoo.com](mailto:vicsigns@yahoo.com) or 716-778-7749

Mark Cassidy – Junior Committee Chairman: [rappareems@aol.com](mailto:rappareems@aol.com) or 716-778-9028

**Visit the Olcott Yacht Club website [www.olcottyachtclub.com](http://www.olcottyachtclub.com)**





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# CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!



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May 16/17 Club Clean Up

Saturday May 23rd  
Skippers Meeting 4 P.M.

Monday May 25  
Memorial Day