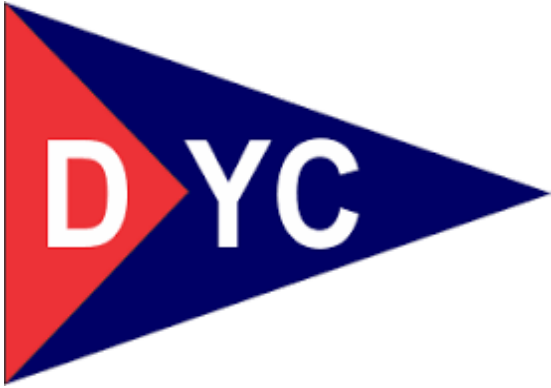




Flag Officers 2025

Past Commodore: Jay Bishop
Commodore: Tom Safford
Vice Commodore: (unfilled)
Rear Commodore: George Burns
Secretary: Chris Piede
Treasurer: Carl Waclawski

Committee Chairs

Facilities: (unfilled)
House: Lydia Evans
Membership: Tracy Smith-Dengler
Social: Mike Dinoto
Education: Alan Freville
Race and Recreation: John Ludwig

Appointed

Dockmaster: Brett Christy
Newsletter: Sarah Nash Wallace
Website: Larry Van Deusen

News from the Editor – Sarah Nash Wallace

The Annual Meeting of our Board of Directors was held on November 1st. Minutes are available on our DYC website. The Board elected new officers, approved Committee Chair positions and also Appointed positions. with the exception of Website, which will be manned by Donna Bjurlin = thanks, Donna! You can read a detailed summary of Board actions in our Commodore's Message on Page 3. Please take a few minutes to email any member news you might like to share to me at sarahbnash@msn.com – I'd love to update everyone in the next newsletter! Happy Holidays to all – our next newsletter will be issued in January of 2026!!



Some scenes from the Erie Canal this fall, taken by the Wallaces on their trip south. The fall foliage was amazing, and the locks are really impressive!!

Membership Report from the November Board Meeting – Tracy Smith-Dengler

Applications for New Membership: (11 Members)

Eric Golem	Sponsors: Michael Czekanski, Mark Czekanski
Steve Skrzypek	Sponsors: Michael Czekanski, Mark Czekanski
Mark Lutz	Sponsors: William Groves, Kirk Frey
Nathan Ganey	Sponsors: George Burns, Richard Burgstrom
Richard Fellingner	Sponsors: Tim Schrantz, Tracy Smith-Dengler
Anna Rokhlina	Sponsors: Tracy Smith-Dengler, George Burns
Blake Frey	Sponsors: Kirk Frey, Dennis Wolfe
Scott Richir	Sponsors: Brian Siebert, Kirk Frey
William Harford	Sponsors: Kirk Frey, Chris Piede
Greg Cramer	Sponsors: Phil Szymczak, Jayson DeGolier
Marie Cameron	Sponsors: William Groves, Chris Piede

Waiting List To Probationary: (11 members)

Robert Morris	Dave Raczka	Steve Zacharias
Tom Hunt	Pat Mahany	Rick Lamparelli
Alex Christy	Ed Lachapelle	Jim Debolt
Ken Cunningham	Nicole Cliff	

Resignations: (13 members)

Marcus Deas	Ralph Letersky	Paul Wallenhorst
Joe Troidal	Tom Webb, Jr.	Jerry Maras
Larry Willson	Friedrick (Fritz) Boettcher	Darren Buck
Larry VanDeusen	Cliff White	Diane Dillon
Anthony Bartholomew		

Probationary to Senior: (9 members)

Rich Leible	Tom Wilson	Robert Clark
Jayson DeGolier	Rich Wick	Paul Pomietlasz
Tim Borzilleri	Mark Zafuto	Stephanie McCann

Senior to Life Member: (0 members))

Change in Status: (4 members)

Greg Kowal	Inactive
Jim Priest:	Deceased
Ed Lachapelle:	Deceased
Greg Kowal:	Return to active status
Joe Gugino	Inactive

Waiting List Status: 30 Currently on Waiting List

Membership Status: 90 Active Members with 89 Assigned Slips

Club Merchandise: Available off season -contact Tracy Smith-Dengler (716-679-8862 or tisd429@gmail.com

November 2025 Message from the Outgoing Commodore – Tom Safford

Thank you all for the opportunity to have been your Commodore for this season. I want to take a moment to thank all the members of the board for their hard work this season, especially Fred Smith-Dengler for coordinating all of our facilities work, with a special shoutout to Billy Richter and Gary Belote and their helpers for their dedication to maintaining our barge and dock infrastructure.

I think this season was one of the best for social events thanks to Mike Dinoto and Kirk Frey and all the volunteers who helped them. I also want to thank Mike and Kirk and the Commodore Party Committee members for making my Commodore Party such a great success this season.

Alan Freeville and his instructors, Scott Foley, Joe McCausland and Mike Swenson, created a new format for sailing instruction that was highly successful, bringing in over 20 students and over \$1000 in net profit. And thanks to the Lamparelli family for the donation of a Flying Scot used for our training program.

For our boating pleasure, John Ludwig hosted a multitude of very fun boating events this season. I want to thank John for doing a great job as R&R Chair for the last two years as John will be leaving the board for next season and being replaced by Jason Schmidt. Tracy Smith-Dengler has done a wonderful job efficiently managing our membership and database information and, with her committee, introduced profitable new merchandise for the club.

Thanks to Lydia Evans for keeping our club ship-shape for the season.

Sarah Wallace has done a super job publishing our Newsletter.

Our Dockmaster, Brett Christy, managed to carve out time from his busy full-time job to manage slip assignments, transient visitors (with the help of Ed Lachapelle, RIP), dock repairs, open/close, LRP meetings and more. Terrific job Brett!

And a special thanks to our flag officers (Carl Waclawski, Chris Peide, Jay Bishop, George Burns and Joe Gugino) for their direction and support in keeping our focus not only on repairing our club, but on making improvements that will protect our club for decades to come.

I want to recognize Carl Waclawski who has been our Treasurer for over a decade and who will be leaving the Board next season. Not to worry, Carl will be working with the new incoming treasurer (Racheal Foley) to make sure there is a smooth transition. Carl – thanks for staying on the board for me this season.

November 2025 Message from the Outgoing Commodore: (continued)..

I also want to recognize Larry Van Duesen, our Webmaster, who for over a decade has managed our website, distribution lists, mailings, ZOOM meetings and so much more. Larry will be leaving the board and the club as he and his wife Jane will be continuing their adventure living aboard their sailboat up in the North Channel! Happy sailing! Donna Bjurlin will take over the Webmaster position for 2026 ... welcome Donna!

Lastly, as I resign from the board for personal reasons, Jay Bishop will stay on as Past Commodore to replace me. Thank you Jay!

Sadly, I'd like to recognize a few members who passed this season; Jim Priest, Carol Reid (Ken Reid's wife), Cathy Peters (cherished part of the Christy family), Ed Lachapelle (our resident member) and Ron Veklotz (member from 2004-2020). Rest in peace ...

It's been a really busy season with infrastructure repairs and improvements, with social and boating events and with education classes. We still have a lot of challenges ahead of us which will require more of our time and money.

HOURS: Things have changed since our DYC forefathers set club requirements in place. We are a self-help club and attempt to maintain and improve the club with member sweat equity. However, 10 hours of sweat equity per member that worked well 10-20 years ago, no longer works today. Several factors have affected the work that now needs to be done every year.

- Our steel infrastructure is rusting and weakening due to age and exposure
- The power plant closed in 2016 causing ice damage to our infrastructure
- We built a barge to repair/replace our pilings and other maintenance work, which now also needs to be maintained and stored
- We purchased a bubbler system to help reduce damage from ice, that now needs to be installed/deinstalled every season and maintained
- All of these new activities require additional hours that have not been addressed before.

After reviewing our Hours Log of all seasonal activities, the board has increased required member hours from **10 to 15** to promote fairness and address the need for more work hours.

November 2025 Message from the Outgoing Commodore: (continued)..

INFRASTRUCTURE FEE: The Board is asking for another Infrastructure Fee for next season of **\$100 per member**. The reason for the additional fee is as follows:

- 1) Continue rebuilding of main docks (metal frame repairs/replace, new upgraded electrical, new faux wood decking where required, new code compliant pedestals, future proofing for higher capacity needs)
- 2) Rebuilding of deteriorating wing docks to our new standard
- 3) Raising /Rebuilding of the main walkway
- 4) Remodeling of bathrooms
- 5) Rebuilding of our reserve funds

Last year the board promised that we would put this fee up to a vote and the membership voted for the fee for 2026.

The membership voted for the new 2026 board members as follows:

George Burns III, Commodore	– starting 2 year term
Greg Kowal, Vice Commodore	– finishing George B's 2 nd year term
Tom Wik, Rear Commodore	– starting 2 year term
Jay Bishop, Past Commodore	– finishing my 2 nd year term
Chris Peide, Secretary	– continuing 2 nd year term
Rachel Foley, Treasurer	– starting 2 year term
Tracy Smith-Dengler, Membership Chair	– restarting 2 year term
Charlie Kuell, Facilities Chair	– starting 2 year term
Mike Dinoto, Social Chair	– continuing 2 nd year term
Jason Schmidt, Race and Recreation Chair	– starting 2 year term
Lydia Evans, House Chair	– continuing 2 nd year term
Alan Freville, Education Chair	– starting his 5 th 2 year term

Happy Holidays and see you next season!

Tom Safford, Commodore

The next DYC meeting will occur on Tuesday January 13th 2026 at 7 pm at the Elks. Also available by Zoom !!
Happy Holidays to all !! See you next year!!



November 2025