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New Officer Installation and Meeting Recap from the TYC Winter Gala, February 7, 2015

# And a Good Time Was Had by All at the Hangar

For those of us who take sailing seriously, getting through the winter is difficult and seems to take forever. If you're lucky enough to enjoy a bareboat charter in the Caribbean when the snow begins to fly in the Midwest, then you may not need a mid-winter teaser to keep you focused on the upcoming sailing season at Lake Carlyle. For the rest of us, though, the TYC Winter Gala provides a respite from cold, dreary weather and a chance to restore our spirits with good food, libations and friends with whom we share a common bond.

The Winter Gala was reprised in the same Cahokia, IL, location as the 2014 event, but the venue sported a new name, "The Hangar," which is more indicative of its proximity to St. Louis Regional Airport. The warm, friendly spirit inside took the chill off the weather and the buffet-style provisions were once again hearty, plentiful and delicious. The weather was crisp outside, but the ambience inside was predictably warm and inviting!

If you missed the event this year, be sure to put the TYC Winter Gala on your calendar for next year. Judging from the photos inside this issue, you won't be disappointed.

### Meeting Recap

2014 TYC Commodore Danielle Vera introduced our 2015 officers:

Brian Stork, Commodore; Craig West, Vice Commodore/Social Chair; Race Craig Vera, Chair; Lee Högman, Secretary; Karen Morris-Högman, Treasurer; Pam Hayden, Power Squadron Commander; Ellie Vargo, Media Representative/Docklines Editor.

New Board members include Danielle Vera and Bob Howard, who replaces Bill Mackenzie. Theresa Hollingsworth and Ann Mackenzie will each serve for another year.



Site of the Tradewinds Yacht Club Winter Gala, Saturday, February 7, 2015

**Craig West** was honored with the 2014 Member of the Year Award.

**Treasurer's Report:** We spent \$184.75 for each of 8 events last year, or \$1,478 total. As of December 2014, we had a balance of \$1,682, which will allow us to spend \$200 for each of 8 events in 2015.

Anyone who hosts a major event can request these funds. Think of it as throwing a party at your home for 50 or so of your best friends—but you don't have to clean the house, get dressed up or hire a babysitter for the kids. And the party's on TYC!

2015 Calendar of Events: Member-hosted social events are open to everyone who has paid their TYC dues. That includes Friday night sails, raft-ups, etc. You don't need a special invitation. If you're not signed up to host an event, you are asked to do your share by volunteering to set up and/or clean up.

News from the Marina: Craig Swann has installed new ceiling fans and lights in the pavilion and the tiki hut. Fascia trim around the clubhouse has been painted, but there is more painting to do and Craig is hoping for volunteers.

New Year's day was celebrated in the clubhouse with biscuits, gravy and bloody Marys. It seems that **Chris Pottdorf's** Hunter 22 sank a couple of weeks earlier—and that may explain the bloody Marys. A number of Keysport's finest helped pump

it out and Craig maintains that the boat suffered only minimal damage, so celebrating an insurance windfall may have been premature.

A new restaurant opened on the other side of the lake near Boulder Marina. Please don't keep the secret if you've already enjoyed a meal there—or not.

Congratulations are in order for several of our members who recently passed the Coast Guard test for their Captain's licenses: Brian Stork, Craig Swann and Craig West. Isn't it about time that someone arranged a Caribbean charter? There must be at least 100 of us that would love to crew in a warmer clime. Let's put that on our Winter 2015 "must do" list!

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#### From the Commodore

# Another Sailing Season is Starting—and I'm Still Learning

Hello, fellow sailors! Most of our members' boats are in the water and the weather is warming. We have a fun year ahead of us. Lots of new faces, some new social events, great racing and camaraderie! In reflecting on last year's season, I realized that there is so much to learn. Here are some of my learning opportunities from last year—hold your laughter for now. (We all get our comeuppance at some point.)

- 1) Large quantities of epoxy get wicked hot and melt all things plastic, like the cup you are mixing it in—best to use an old metal cooking pan or metal can.
- 2) If a line is jammed for some reason, pulling extra hard to free it is not such a good idea. What was that part that fell down from the masthead?
- 3) Don't volunteer to hoist your friend up the mast unless you're part gorilla—there must be an easier way.
- 4) When raising the spinnaker, all sheet lines must be on the outside of running

rigging! A real mess when you miss one, however, peeps in the cockpit will surely find your dilemma entertaining.

- 5) If the spinnaker is lifting you off the deck, let go of the line.
- 6) 120 VAC feels different than 12 VDC. Unplug your boat from shore power before getting into wiring modifications.
- 7) Silicon caulk is a mess. It doesn't set up well, doesn't last and is very hard to get cleaned off. Don't use it. Use the good stuff: Boatlife or Sika.
- 8) Don't let your dog eat dead fish. The muzzle in your face the next morning makes for a nasty wakeup call.
- 9) Don't tie the little reef lines real tight, just the outhaul and downhaul. If the reef lines are too tight, you will rip the sail at the eyelet. (Thank you, Craig S., for this little tip.)
- 10) The top of the sail is exposed to 5 mph more wind than the bottom, so sail twist is important to have or the top of the sail will stall. Lengthen the mainsheet and move

the traveler windward to promote good twist. This lets the boom raise in gusts, allows the sail to twist and is easier on your passengers.



**Brian Stork** 

11) When you're out of rum, don't

switch to tequila. It's not a good morning. On the flip side, however, you won't hear the carp.

- 12) A dark, moonless night is tricky. Shore lights at a distance can trick you into thinking you're somewhere you're not. (Yes, there's more to this story, but I won't tell.)
- 13) It is very worthwhile to learn a rolling hitch and how to use it to clear a fouled winch.

Hope everyone has a great time this coming year—see you on the water!

- Brian Stork, Commodore

### From the Race Chair

## Get Ready: the 2015 TYC Racing Season is Underway

ongratulations you've made it through another cold winter. Spring series racing began on May 16 with races 1 and 2. Races 3 and 4 and the racing BBQ have been scheduled for June 27 due to inclement weather. It has been a good showing so far, and we have a lot to look forward to for the upcoming season.

Each race will again be \$10 with a discounted rate of \$40 for the series if the whole fee is paid in advance. The first race of each double-header will be a triangle course. The second will be a windward-leeward course. A race packet will be provided with basic information about the courses, the starting sequence and sailboat racing if you don't have one already.

Thank you to Bruce and Jan Cowin for serving Committee Boat duties for races 1 and 2. They did an excellent job, accompanied by Ken Baker on the bagpipes for the first race of the season.

This year we are switching to JAM PHRFs, which should help everyone have a better understanding of their lakewide

numbers. Of course, these are calculated by CSA officials and we are still waiting on a few boatss' PHRFs.

We have our TYC Commodore's Cup on June 13 this year. Be looking for a Notice of Race soon. Regrettably, I will not be able to attend. I'm looking for volunteers with some experience for committee boat duties to get the race started and work the starting sequence. We will have spinnaker, low PHRF and high PHRF divisions this year.

Thanks to all who participated in the 2014 racing season. Award winners for last season include:

- Slow Poke Award: Brian and Shelley Stork, Remedy
- Committee Boat Award: Doug & Pam Hayden, unnamed Pontoon
- Third Place Spring Series: Bill and Annie Mackenzie, Dreamboat Annie
- Third Place Fall Series: Craig and Danielle Vera, Delphia
- Third Place Season: Gary Grall, Ambrosia
- Second Place Spring: Steve and Theresa Hollingsworth, Summerwind
- First Place Fall & Spring: Bob and Lisa Howard, Nabolisk

If you're at all interested in racing, let me encourage you to come out! We are out there to have fund and improve our sailing skills. Our racing environment is relatively laid-back, and I am sure you will find plenty of people to help with rules, strategy or post-race libations.

Have a great season!

- Craig Vera, Race Chair



Craig Vera

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#### Bill's Bits

## Heads Up!

A small project that some people have done recently is to change the source of water supply to their boat's head from sea water (or lake water) to fresh water. The major benefit of this process is decreased odor-causing bacteria entering the holding tank to make foul-smelling wastewater worse. The down side is having to watch your water usage carefully and having to top off your fresh water tank more frequently.

With access to dockside fresh water, this change to your boat's plumbing can be made easily. Very few supplies are needed and the cost is minimal.

To tackle this project, you'll need three things:

- One T fitting to split the supply line from the tank.
- A length of the proper size hose to go to the head. (Some step-down or step-up fittings may be needed to connect everything together.)
- Lastly, you will need to install a check valve (backflow preventer) to this hose so that cross contamination is not a possibility.

Any vented loops in the old system can be eliminated since flooding when heeled does not come into play. Make sure to install all new plumbing before the pressure pump. That's about it.

You may return the plumbing back to the original condition just as easily as you changed it. I would remove the lever and cap off the old seawater thru-hull as a safety measure. Now enjoy a fresher holding tank and sail on to something else.

- Bill MacKenzie, Dreamboat Annie, 'It's always something'

### **New Member Spotlight**

I wife Amy and I are the proud owners of Mimsy, a 1978 O'Day 23 that has a slip on F Dock and is looking for a new name.



We got into sailing because we love the outdoors and have

Ben and Amy Alderton

always wanted to learn how to sail.

After taking the ASA 101 course from Bill Learn, we felt ready to buy a boat; we also knew that Tradewinds would be a great fit for us.

Amy is a research scientist with Nestlé Purina and I am an asset manager with U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corporation. We live in St. Louis with our two labs, Zoe and Lexi.

- Ben and Amy Alderton

### 2015 TYC Event Schedule

(All dates are Saturdays)

May 9 . . . . . Race Seminar / Starting Practice

May 16 . . . . Race / Customer Appreciation Day hosted by owners Terry Alexander and Greg Kintz

May 23 .... Memorial Weekend

June 6: ....Race; Boat Renaming Party—hosted by Bob Weber & Trish Hurford (If anyone wants to be included in ceremony, please contact Bob Weber.)

June 13 . . . . TYC Cup; Commodore's Dinner hosted by Brian Stork

June 20 .... CYC Cup

June 27 . . . . Race Makeup Day; Carlyle Fireworks

July 4...... Galley Crawl hosted by Craig West—followed by Keyesport Fireworks

July 18.....Ladies' Day on the Lake hosted by Shelley Stork

July 25 . . . . Poker Party hosted by Craig Vera

Aug. 8 . . . . . Jamaican Night hosted by Danielle Vera

Aug. 15 . . . . Martini Night hosted by Kris Stoneman and Eric Alger

Aug. 29 . . . . Race with BBQ, followed by "Name the Drink" hosted by Doug & Pam Hayden

Sept. 5.... Possible Hog Roast hosted by Lee Hogman

Sept. 12....Race

Sept. 19....Race; Wine and Cheese hosted by Marianne Moore & Lisa Howard

Sept. 26....Race Makeup Day; if not needed, group raft up MM5 ((BYOB and snacks) followed by Movie Night hosted by Mike & Ellie Vargo

Oct. 17 . . . . Chili Cook Off hosted by Anne MacKenzie

Oct. 31 . . . . Halloween Parade in Keyesport and Party; Need Host!

Open dates are still available for the event of your choice!

### From the Editor

Winter has finally retreated, my neverending salon cushion project has come to an end, and Mike and I have finished the spring planting and mulching so that we can enjoy summer weekends at the lake.

I worked on boat cushions most of the winter. Sewed, ripped, sewed again and ripped some more. Who knew that salon seats on aren't the same length on each side? The only thing that saved me was that I bought good fabric that doesn't show the stitch marks and manhandling. On the bright side, I can now install a 60" zipper in about 10 minutes.

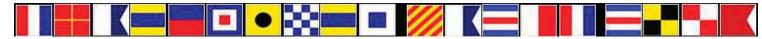
We launched *Inamorata* several weeks ago and are just waiting for good weather and a gentle wind to take her out for a spin.

Have something of interest you'd like to share with your mates? *Feel free to contact me at ellievargo.mac@me.* 



Ellie Varao

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## Weather Inopportune for Sailing? Come Watch the Eagles!

We fought our battle with the ice on the lake successfully this year, and there is no damage to report. Here's a short recap of happenings at the lake this past winter:

If you enjoy wildlife, winter is a great time to come out to the lake. While most of the rest of humanity in the Midwest is hibernating during January and February, stately bald eagles take up residence in Keysport. One of these magnificent birds arrived at the mouth of the harbor every morning and as many as 15 were sighted farther out on the ice. The public access is one of the better places to view eagles and is only a short walk from the warmth of the clubhouse. Occasionally, one would fly over the levee and through the trees in our storage lot.

As winter ground on, we were already preparing the facilities for the upcoming boating season. New fans for the clubhouse pavilion and the tiki hut have been installed. As weather conditions improved, maintenance tasks became easier to complete, and we should have the building and grounds in top condition by the start of the season

If and when you have a major boat maintenance project planned, let us know far ahead of the sailing season—January is not too early if you want us to do any of the

work. That gives us plenty of time to order materials and take the time required to do a quality job for you.

If you want extra time on the lift for bottom paint or other service, please let us know as early as possible, and be sure to let us know how much time you'll need. We will try to be as accom-

modating as possible so that everyone can get their boat into the water by their target launch date.

Here's hoping your new year is off to a good start. We are looking forward to a great year here at the marina!

Spring has been very wet and the lake is up. That means there's lots of debris floating around out there. Be sure to use extra caution while boating. You'll want to check your dock lines and fenders, because lines become chafed and/or rotted and fenders become deflated, factors that can lead to boat damage. Trust me, chasing runaway boats and fenders is no fun. Check life jackets to make sure you have enough for everyone on board. They only work if you wear them!

For those of you with trailer boats, don't forget to do a little maintenance on the wheel bearings. Keeping bearings well



**Craig Swann** 

greased can save you from inconvenient roadside repairs and potentially dangerous situations.

Be advised there are some new boating laws in effect in Illinois:

Illinois Senate Bill 3434 Operating Under the Influence (OUI): allows for the seizure of a watercraft used in the commission of certain offenses related to operating under the

influence. Penalties are similar to those for operating a motor vehicle while impaired by drugs or alcohol.

Illinois Senate Bill 3433 Mandatory Boater's Education: requires that persons born after January 1, 1998 take and pass a boating safety course validated by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and hold a valid boating safety certificate before they can operate a motorboat with an engine over 10 horsepower.

Illinois Senate Bill 2731 **New Skier Tow Rules**: mandates that the operator of any watercraft towing a person, such as a water skier or tuber, must display a bright oragne flag measuring not less than 12 inches per side. The flag must be displayed from the time the person to be towed leaves the boat until s/he returns to the boat at the conclusion of the activity.

– Harbor Master Craig Swann

### Consider Yourself Officer Candidate Material? Here's What You'll Need to Know to Make the Cut

To be eligible for office, nominees must have been members in good standing of the Club for an entire calendar year pior to the date that they would take office (at the Winter Gala). Commodore and Board of Directors nominees must have been members in good standing for 2 years prior to assuming office.

Our Secretary and Treasurer hold their offices for two years, as do members of the Board of Directors. Here's the slate of officers we vote for annually:

Commodore

Vice Commodore

Race Chair

Power Squadron

(1) Director (must be approved by the current Board Members)

### TYC Marina contact information

618.749.5649 tradewinds@frontiernet.net

www.tradewindsyachtclub.com

### Your 2015 Officers

Commodore
Race Chair
Vice Commodore / Social Chair Craig West
SecretaryLee Högman
Treasurer
Power Squadron Commander Pam Hayden
Media Representative/Dock Lines Editor Ellie Vargo
Web Master Steve Hollingsworrth
Board Member Theresa Hollingworth
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member Danielle Vera



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# **TYC Membership**

Your secretary and treasurer are looking forward to warmer weather and smooth sailing in 2015!

The TYC Secretary keeps the membership roster up to date, makes sure there is an official record of TYC meetings, ensures that our club roster is kept current and that our records are safely retained.

Our Treasurer manages the club's funds and financial records, solicits and collects dues, obligates funds for events and pays club-related bills.

Karen and I are in the second year of our 2-year terms. If you haven't yet renewed your membership, we ask that you do do so at your earliest convenience to enjoy the use of the clubhouse and the full schedule of this season's events.

Annual dues are \$40. You can catch us at the lake most weekends or mail your dues to us at:

Lee Högman 440 S Railway St. Mascoutah, IL 62258

Please make your checks payable to Tradewinds Yacht Club. Also make sure that we have your current contact information, particularly your email address and/or phone number and your desired contact method(s).

Your dues are used to fund—in part or in full—all our parties and events throughout the year. We also buy needed equipment and items for the Club, like the new fans in the Tiki Hut and Patio.

We are always looking for great ideas for our club to invest in, so please send us your ideas and recommendations!

Fair Winds and Best Wishes for a Great Sailing Season to Come!

Lee Högman, SecretaryKaren Högman, Treasurer



Lee and Karen Högman

# Highlights from the 2015 TYC Winter Gala



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