

Happenings

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Commodore's Letter

Hello OBYC!

As the season winds down, I am ramping up as your new Commodore. Thanks to all of you who welcomed me into the role and have offered your support.

A lot has happened in my first month. The Board has held two productive meetings since our Annual Meeting. In September, we established 3 areas of focus for the next year:

1. **Digital modernization.** This includes such things as establishing a digital document sharing and archiving system, potential enhancements to our digital communications (i.e. the club website and evaluation of ways in which we might use social media) and attention to digital enhancements that may help protect against cyber criminals.
2. **Social engagement.** Our Social Committee has done a tremendous amount of work to bring members together over the years, including

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Social Season Ending

By Bunny Siegel

The Social Committee wrapped up a busy summer with 35 members enjoying OBYC's October cocktail party the Saturday before floats were pulled from the water.

Only the December 5 gathering with no water and no bathrooms remains before social life resumes next June. Tim Vail and Joanne Urquhart will run that holiday party.

The Committee oversaw a wide variety of activities during the summer. It renewed the Welcome Back gathering in June attracting about 40 attendees. It was quickly followed by the Blessing of the Fleet which attracted 65 people.

During August, the Club sponsored a picnic gathering following the annual meeting. Some 75 people came. Combining the social activity with the operational side of the club boosted attendance at both.

We had two lively trivia nights run by Bob Seaman and Jill Olausson in July and Cindy and Warren Burroughs in August. Attendance was 40 and 55 people.

In September, the club held a chili and

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Commodore's Letter

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planning, oversight and execution. We are aligned with their recommendation and have included increasing social activities in our top 3 areas of focus.

3. **Building a leadership pipeline for the future.** We have incredible Committee leaders and members but a common theme among the Committees and the Board is that we need to identify future leaders. Personally, I believe that by increasing connectivity within the Club and finding more ways to spend time together, the more likely it is we will identify future leaders.

Our ability to achieve these goals is a shared responsibility. The Board is committed to these areas, but we cannot do it without you. We are a volunteer-run Club. To that end, we are seeking volunteers who are interested in helping with any of the priority initiatives above, or with other Club needs for which you have time and skills to contribute. It can be an hour or two a month or an hour or two a week. Common barriers to volunteering are the feeling that it is going to be daunting or consuming ("I just don't have time") or that you don't have the necessary skills. I would argue that everyone has an ability to contribute and any one of us on the Board would be happy to have a conversation to explore your interest. Starting the conversation with "I want to help, I just don't know how" is a perfect intro!

In closing, I would like to thank the volunteers who recently decommissioned the waterfront for the season under the leadership of Paul Cournoyer and Ed Kenyon, Co-Chairs of Waterfront & Anchorage. I also want to acknowledge the Building & Grounds Committee and volunteers who participated in the activities related to closing the Clubhouse and for their flexibility in delaying the closure for the Social Committee's planned potluck the evening of the W&A work party. It sounds like it was a nice evening despite the power outage!

I look forward to continuing to get to know more of you and welcome your questions or ideas as we prepare for another season with waterfront commissioning, May 15, 2027!

Best Regards,

Dawn





Chili-Chowder Potluck

Margie Ruszcek and Bunny Siegel, left, and Cathy Nicholson, Barbara Messamore and Maggie Gill.

Below, Big group on the porch. *Photos by Teena Patton*



Social Calendar

Dec 5, Sat, 4pm Annual Holiday Party – Bring a hearty appetizer to share. Please remember the water has been shut off and the fireplace will provide the only heat. questions and/or if you can help contact: Tim Vail or Joanne Urquhart [jurq.23@gmail.com]ucy Cook

Social Season Ending

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held a chili and chowder potluck which attracted 55 people.

Members of the social committee include Lynn Knight, Margie Rusczek, Lucy Cook, Judi Hartman, Cathy Kelly, Bobbi Robertson, Jill Olausson, Joyce Duda and Bunny Siegel. They appreciate the many volunteers who help out at large events, especially with setup and cleanup.

Besides the social committee itself, many members stepped up and facilitated or sponsored popular activities. Charlie Johnson continued to boost yoga classes. Alice Hootsmanns picked intriguing tales for the Book Club. Linda Kittle made sure people were playing Mah Jong.

Lew Incze drew about 40 people for a lecture about lobsters and their migration patterns in the Gulf of Mine. And 55 members heard Charlie Cook talk about the current election season and his long career analyzing political campaigns.



October Cocktails





Lee and Charlotte McIlvaine picked up a new burgee from the Mobile, Alabama. Yacht Club. They were changing their latitude and attitude on a Jimmy Buffet pilgrimage.



New Member

Jack McKenzie became our newest member, following his wedding to member Haley Burroughs. Jack is a cybersecurity expert.

Scott and Hilary Haley resigned their club membership.

The actions bring membership rolls to 260 members, the current authorized level.

Club Newsletter

OBYC Happenings comes out monthly from May to October.

Member contributions and photos are always welcome. Bill Bulkeley is the editor. Reachable at bill.bulkeley@gmail.com.

Orr's-Bailey Yacht Club

Officers

Commodore — Dawn Kalmar
Vice Commodore — Holly Lusk
Secretary — Tara McCarthy
Treasurer — Jon Skinner
Asst. Treasurer — Sue Baker

Directors

Phil Sumner
Janice Skillings-Goff
Teena Patton
Lee McIlvaine
Chris Nichols
Tom Nicholson
Liz Incze