

MUSKEGON YACHT CLUB

# Portwatch

MARCH 2023



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3198 Edgewater, Muskegon, MI 49441 • 231-755-1414  
[www.muskegonyachtclub.org](http://www.muskegonyachtclub.org)

## FLAG OFFICERS

Commodore.....Jessica Strecker  
Vice Commodore.....Kevin Moore  
Rear Commodore.....Jeff Blum  
Treasurer.....Larry Taunt  
Secretary.....Karen Garvey  
Past Commodore.....Eric Bombery

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cassy Marchido  
Jeremy Cox  
Marshall Lystra  
Kris Hoffman  
JD Wallace, Sr.

## FLEET OFFICERS

Fleet Captain of Sail.....Bobby Cox  
Fleet Captain of Power.....Paul Wickland  
Fleet Surgeon.....Dr. Veronica Petty

## STANDING COMMITTEES

By Laws.....Bill Newman, Ben Broughton  
Dock & Yard.....Jeff Blum, Rob Rafson  
House.....Karen Garvey  
Juniors.....Kim Blum  
Race & Regatta.....Steve Garvey,  
Steve Schiller  
Membership.....Melody Stenstrom,  
Craig Rozelle

## MYC STAFF

General Manager.....Kim Nguyen  
Business Manager.....Sue Peters  
Facilities Manager.....Nicky Anderson  
Bar Manager.....Dianna King

## Table of Contents:

Officers & Staff  
Commodore's Comments  
Meeting Schedules  
Committee Reports  
News & Articles  
Club Notices  
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## Portwatch Submissions:

Please email Kim Nguyen  
[kim@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:kim@muskegonyachtclub.org)  
Deadline for content  
submission is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each  
month.



## MYC Staff Contacts:

Kim Nguyen,  
General Manager:  
[kim@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:kim@muskegonyachtclub.org)  
Sue Peters,  
Business Manager:  
[sue@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:sue@muskegonyachtclub.org)  
Nicky Anderson,  
Facilities Manager:  
[nicky@muskegonyachtclub.org](mailto:nicky@muskegonyachtclub.org)



## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS:

Spring is right around the corner and boat work will be starting soon. I hope you have been able to make it down to the club since our reopening. If not, you should come down and try some of the new items on the menu. The kitchen staff is doing a great job with the new menu. We now have two weekly features that you can order all week long, a specialty steak dinner and flatbread. And don't forget about Happy Hour! On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 4-6pm, enjoy \$1 off Draft Beers, \$3.50 House Wine, \$2.75 Well Drinks, \$1.50 off Appetizers! If you haven't been down, please pop-in. The club can always use your business, but especially this time of year.

I can't wait to see you all out on the lawn and on the water soon. March 1st means it is T-minus 64 days until our first race of the season!

Check out fellow Muskegon sailor, James Cyigenza, breaking records and making headlines! Congratulations from all of us at MYC, James. Your story is one that should be told. If you haven't seen it already, here is the article:

<https://www.ussailing.org/news/into-the-record-books/>

Respectfully,

Jessica Strecker  
MYC Commodore



SPRING IS AROUND THE CORNER...  
*We're gearing up for our favorite time of year!*

# 2023 Capital Improvement Fund Update

**2023 Collected:**

**\$ 25,030**

**+**

**12/31/22 Balance:**

**\$ 136,380**



**2023 Expenditures:**

**\$ 2,034**

**Available Balance =**

**\$ 159,376**

***Projects Approved Pending Completion:***

2 Sets Entry Doors:

\$ 30,000

DY Projects: \$23,000

- Seawall repair
- SE clubhouse fascia repair
- SE parking lot concrete repair
- Front entrance stamped concrete

# H URS of OPERATION

	<b>Bar</b>	<b>Kitchen</b>
Monday	Closed	Closed
Tuesday	Closed	Closed
Wednesday	4 pm – 10 pm	4 pm – 9 pm
Thursday	4 pm – 10 pm	4 pm – 9 pm
Friday	4 pm – 11 pm	4 pm – 9 pm
Saturday	12 pm – 11 pm	12 pm – 9 pm
Sunday	1 pm – 9 pm	1 pm – 8 pm

## MYC Committee Monthly Meeting Reminders:



- Dock & Yard Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 9:00 am**
- House Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 10:00 am**
- Membership Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 11:00am**
- Race & Regatta Committee – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. at 7:00pm**
- Social Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 11:15am**
- Board Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 7:00pm**



## From the Business Office:

**2023 Membership Dues:** If you have not yet paid your 2023 Dues, please make sure to do so in the next few weeks to avoid a late payment penalty. Watch your mail for your new membership card! (Note to Autopay members – I will process your Dues payment on March 15, unless you have given me other instructions.)

### Reminders:

- In accordance with our credit policy (on pages 47-48 of the Handbook), please make sure we have valid credit or debit card information on file for your account.
- Please update us with any changes in your contact information – address, phone, email, boat information, etc. Our 2023 Roster will be published in the Spring and we want your information to be accurate!
- We encourage you to consider using our other convenient options – contact me to sign-up:
  - Paperless E-mailed Billing Statements
  - Automatic Credit/Debit Card Bill Pay

I hope to see you all very soon at the club!  
Sue Peters





## Treasurers Report:

Greetings fellow MYC members!

We are in the process of finalizing our 2023-2024 fiscal year budget and I want to thank my fellow Board members and Committee members, as well as our General Manager Kim and especially Sue Peters for the hard work that goes into this arduous annual process.

We held a budget meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup> and with our ambitious goals to pay down the remaining balance of our debt over the next five years this year was even more challenging than in years past. We are looking at every budget line to make sure we are managing all of our expenses closely. One of the budget expense lines that continues to grow is the fee we pay when people use credit cards to pay MYC. Depending on the card and the method that it is used we are hit with a 3.75-4.5% fee when people pay us with their credit card. Ten years ago, this did not amount to a lot of money so other than occasionally exploring different clearing companies for better deals we simply absorbed this fee as a cost of doing business. As times have changed and we have become a more cashless society, this amount has grown significantly to a point that we feel it must be addressed. We are currently on track to spend nearly **\$20,000** in credit card fees in the current 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Given this sizable expense the budget committee recommended to the board of directors and the board of directors has approved that starting May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, credit card charges at MYC will automatically have a 3% service charge added. In surveying our peer group, we have found that this is common in virtually all private clubs and is increasingly common in many, especially small businesses, and even our State and Federal Government.

It is important to understand that MYC is a not-for-profit entity and we budget and price things to a breakeven point. We do not have significant profit margins to continue to absorb this increasing expense. Increasing prices to cover the fee is not fair to the people who do not pay by credit card as they end up subsidizing the fee for those who do pay with credit cards.

We will be offering options for people to automatically pay their MYC account charges, dues, slip fees, etc. via ACH payments direct from your bank accounts, in order to avoid the 3% fee. Other options are to use your banks bill paying services which will issue and mail MYC a check at no charge to you at all, (even for postage). Of course, you can still write a check or pay cash, or use a credit card and you will be charged the 3% fee starting May 1<sup>st</sup> 2023. You will be receiving more correspondence directly on these options in the coming weeks.

The good news is that the club continues to operate on sound financial footing. The budget process is challenging especially when faced with the challenges of mother nature's ebbs and flows. The changing water levels that just a two short years ago were threatening to flood us, have now subsided to the point we are likely to be dredging the harbor. Both extremes cause expenses to the club. Maintaining our aging structures is an ongoing labor of love. We are also faced with an extremely challenging labor market and the inflation of cost of goods and services that we are all currently seeing in our daily lives.

Your GM Kim, has done an outstanding job keeping our staff with us and controlling cost in a difficult environment. Sue of course continues to keep us organized, and informed of our ongoing financial status as well as on budget. The board of directors spends much time and energy to keep the club on track and moving forward. We strive to provide an outstanding experience for all our members by providing great staff, Services, and facilities to meet our membership needs. Not surprisingly our marina is full and our membership is at near record levels. I am looking forward to another season at MYC.

As always if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Respectfully submitted.

Larry Taunt

Treasurer

Muskegon Yacht Club





## Membership Committee Report:

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

*On behalf of the Membership Committee, we are happy to announce the following additions to the MYC Family:*

Fred & Tamela Braun – Full Members – Rockford  
Phil & Lillian Dotzlaf – Junior Members – Norton Shores  
Edward Gauthier & Kelly Smith – Full Members – Coopersville  
Kary Krohn & Doreen Clarck – Full Members – Grand Rapids  
Alan & Diana McConnell – Full Members – Norton Shores  
Jeff & Beth Ritsema – Full Members – Byron Center  
Mark & Dana Scott – Full Members – North Muskegon



Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help represent Muskegon Yacht Club at the GR Boat Show. Your dedication and support are greatly appreciated. I'm happy to announce that seven new members joined during the show. Thanks again for all of your help!

Our committee's next event will be the Annual Spring Open House, which will be held on Saturday, April 29th beginning at 12 pm. We will be giving private tours,

enjoying a live guitarist, food, and drink specials, and offering a new member incentive with significant savings. If you know someone who is interested in learning more about the club and would like to experience our club, please share this date! We will be open to the public all day and non-members will be able to purchase food and beverages.

Thanks so much!

Melody Stenstrom & Craig Rozelle

MYC Membership Committee Co-Chairs



MUSKEGON YACHT CLUB

N 43.21 W 86.32 / EST. 1934

*Saturday, April 29, 2023*

*12:00 pm - 5:00 pm*

**OPEN HOUSE!**

Apply for membership at our 2023 Open House and receive **HALF OFF your INITIATION FEE!** Don't miss out on this special offer

(Valid 4/29 only)

*Come see what the talk is all about and make MYC your destination on the lake!*

*\*\*Open to the public all day\*\**



## **Race and Regatta Committee Report:**

February's RRC meeting was back at the Club this month and was well attended. Kim Blum reported that Queen's Cup registration is now open and 14 boats have already registered. Steve Garvey reported that he has purchased most of the equipment needed for the race committee boat and Steve Schiller showed the committee some of the new flags that were purchased along with the custom poles that he made to display them. Josh Wallace who oversees sponsorships reported on new sales material to sell sponsorships. Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor please contact Josh.

The committee decided to return to using permanent marks this season and purchase as many marks as necessary to have 8 permanent racing marks set this year. The committee also approved a request from Melges 24 fleet to hold their races on Tuesday night this year. Their season will not be quite as long as the Wednesday night series and there may be a few in the Melges fleet who plan on racing on both Tuesday and Wednesday nights this summer. The NOR's are complete and racers should expect to see registration on Yachtscoring to be open very soon.

Thank you  
Steve Schiller  
Co-Chair  
(231) 855-3189



## Muskegon Yacht Club 2023 Race Calendar

Date	Day	Time	Event (Black=MYC Blue=Non-MYC Red=Juniors)
5/3	Wed	6:30 PM	Wednesday Spring Challenge Trophy/Clipper Cup Series
5/19-21	Fri-Sun	See NOR	Midwest One-Design Spring Championship (MYC)
5/28	Sun	12PM	Commodores Cup*
6/7	Wed	6:30 PM	Last Race of Clipper Cup Series
6/9-11	Fri-Sun	See NOR	NOOD Regatta (Chicago) Chicago YC
6/14	Wed	6:30 PM	First Race of McKenzie Price Insurance Series
6/15	Thurs	See NOR	LMSS Double Handed Race (Muskegon to Port Washington)
6/17-18	Sat Sun	See NOR	Macatawa Bay YC Commodores Cup (Holland)
6/23	Fri	See NOR	WMYSA Regatta @ Spring Lake YC
6/28	Wed	See NOR	Tripp Memorial Cup (Muskegon to Milwaukee) LMSRF
6/30	Fri	See NOR	Queens Cup (Milwaukee to Muskegon) South Shore YC
7/8	Sat	11 AM	Neddeau Cup* (Lake Michigan if feasible)
7/9	Sun	12 PM	Craig Powell Memorial
7/7	Fri	See NOR	WMYSA Regatta @ Macatawa Bay YC
7/11-13	Tues-Thurs	See NOR	Butterfly Nationals @ Crystal Lake YC
7/14	Fri	See NOR	Opti "No Tears" @ Grand Rapids
7/15	Sat	See NOR	Jolly Roger Cup Cruising Race: White Lake YC to Muskegon
7/15	Sat	See NOR	GRSC 5th Annual Maiden Race
7/15	Sat	See NOR	Port Huron to Mackinac Bayview YC
7/19	Wed	6:30 PM	Last Race of McKenzie Price Insurance Series
7/21	Fri	See NOR	WMYSA Regatta @ White Lake YC
7/22	Sat	See NOR	Race to Mackinac Chicago YC
7/26	Wed	6:30 PM	First Race of Bluffton Bay Sail Series
7/28	Fri	See NOR	WMYSA Regatta @ Muskegon YC
7/28-30	Sat-Sun	See NOR	Ugotta Regatta (Harbor Springs) Little Traverse YC
8/1	Tue	6:00 PM	Ulrich Cup @ Muskegon Yacht Club



8/3-6	Thurs-Sun	See NOR	Westerns @ Muskegon Yacht Club
8/9	Wed	6:30 PM	Harbor Hospice Race (part of Wed Night Series)
8/11	Fri	See NOR	Lake Michigan Clipper Cup (Muskegon to Port Washington)
8/19	Sat	7:00 AM	MYC Pursuit Race to Grand Haven
8/19	Sat	12:00 PM	GRSC/MYC Commodores Invitational *
8/18-20	Fri-Sun	See NOR	Verve Cup Offshore Chicago YC
8/30	Wed	6:30 PM	Last Race of Bluffton Bay Sail Series
9/2	Sat	See NOR	Governor's Cup*
9/6	Wed	6:15 PM	First Race of Pigeon Hill Brewery Series
9/9	Sat	See NOR	Anchorage Cup (Grand Haven to Holland) Anchorage YC
+ 10/11	Wed	6:15 PM	Fall Challenge / Last Race of Pigeon Hill Brewery Series
11/4	Sat	6:00 PM	Annual Awards Banquet

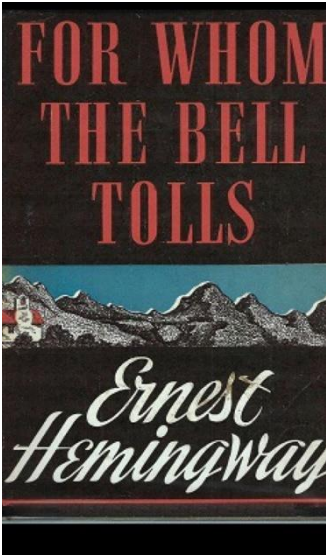


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INSURANCE



#### Blacklock Cup Trophy Scoring:

The Blacklock Cup will be awarded for the Best Overall High Point score for the combined races marked above with a red \*: MYC Commodores Cup, MYC Nedeau Cup, GRSC/MYC Commodores Invitational, and MYC Governor's Cup. There will not be a throw-out available for the Blacklock Cup Scoring.



**April Book Club**

**Thursday, April 6, 2023**

**6 pm**

**MYC Round Room**



Octagon Building Survey Results

Here are the results from the Octagon Building vote that took place January 27-30, 2023:

Option A: Rehab the existing building = 156 votes

Option B: Construct new building = 31 votes



## Dock and Yard Committee Report Cont.



Mark your calendars! The marina will be open to boats on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

In other news the marina is **SOLD OUT** for the 2023 season.

As spring nears, Dock & Yard has a big list of "To-Do's" that need to be completed before the marina fills up. Help will be needed with the following from many volunteers.

- Power washing the docks.
- Reconstruction of the finger slip between slips 70 and 71.
- Repair broken deck boards.
- Reconstruct the east end of the fixed dock to replace the wood planks with deck boards.
- Dock cleats need checked and bolts tightened.
- Bringing out lawn furniture, etc. from winter storage.
- And more!

As the time D&Y intends to have work-bee's scheduled for every weekend in April so stay tuned for notices.

Other projects that D&Y is working to complete this spring include repair to the concrete block seawall along the juniors launch area; replacement of the broken and settled concrete in the southeast corner of the Melges area parking lot, replacement of the concrete and carpeting at the main clubhouse entrance, and the fascia repair on the southeast corner of the clubhouse.

Also keep note that the 84th Queen's Cup Regatta is finishing at MYC on July 1st. D&Y is anticipating a very full marina with competitor boats moored, rafted, and docked in as many places as possible. Dock and Yard will be requesting feedback from slip holders who will be traveling that weekend or who are willing to move their boat to a mooring ball so that we can accommodate as many racers as possible.

Interested in becoming involved with the Dock & Yard Committee? We meet the second Saturday of each month at 9am. Attendance may be in-person or virtual. Contact Jeff Blum at [jeff.blum213@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.blum213@gmail.com).

Thank you,  
Jeff Blum







# DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Set your watch an hour ahead

March 12, 2023

\*\*\*\*\*



## Juniors Committee Report



**Classes for both beginner and experienced. Open to the public.**

## ***Help Wanted!!***



The "MYC Optimist S.A.I.L (Self Confidence, Adventure, Independence, Learning) Program" is an introduction to sailing outreach program using small Optimist sailboats, an indoor swimming pool, and industrial fans to create wind. This program reaches underserved youth in our community who may not otherwise have the opportunity to experience sailing their own boat. We will be hosting this program for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Muskegon Heights Public School students and the Boys and Girls Club on March 20, 23, 28 and 30.

The Muskegon Heights Aquatic Center indoor swimming pool is used as a safe and controlled environment for the youth to practice sailing, while industrial fans are used to simulate wind conditions.

If you would like to be a part of this awesome program, please sign up using the link here. [Sign up sheet](#)



***THANK YOU BLUFFTON BAY SAILS!!!***



Jim Frisinger is always so generous to the junior sailing program at MYC. He donates his time and materials to inspect and repair our sails each year. This year, he added the sailing school website to our Opti sails. Now MYC and sailors can be identified on the water during school hours, during regattas and hopefully on camera for the

Optimist S.A.I.L. Program.

*THANK YOU, JAY WALLACE JR,  
CHRISTINE MATTSON,  
AND JOSH WALLACE  
FOR YOUR DONATION  
TO THE SAILING  
PROGRAM THROUGH  
OUR FACEBOOK  
FUNDRAISER!!*



### **Join the MYC Junior Race Team**

In addition to the Learn-To-Sail opportunities offered by the MYC Sailing School, youth sailors can expand their sailing experience by joining the MYC Junior Race Team.

Weekly practices, youth regattas, and participation in the Wednesday night race series help young sailors improve their sailing skills, build confidence, and learn the importance of personal responsibility as part of a supportive, close-knit team.

Information and registration for the MYC Junior Race Team's 2023 activities can be found on the MYC web site at <https://www.mycsailingschool.com/myc-race-team>

**CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO FOLLOW THE JUNIORS ON FACEBOOK!**

<https://www.facebook.com/Muskegon-Junior-Sailing-Program-134232283314396/>

## **PLEASE SUPPORT MYC JUNIOR PROGRAMS BY GIVING TO THE MJSA**

The MYC Sailing School and MYC Junior Programs are made possible through the generous support of the Muskegon Junior Sailing Association (MJSA) which is a 501c3 charitable organization.



Please consider making the Muskegon Junior Sailing Association part of your planned giving with a tax-deductible donation. Follow the link for online donations. [Give Today!](#)

For more info on the program please click the link below:

<http://www.muskegonyachtclub.org/myc-juniors/mjsa/>

Respectfully,  
Kimberly Blum  
MYC Sailing School Chairperson



## **Social Committee Report**



The Social Committee really needs your help. We are always looking for more members. If you are interested in joining we meet the second Saturday of the month at 11:15am. Or

email [socialcommitteemyc@gmail.com](mailto:socialcommitteemyc@gmail.com)

## SATURDAYS IN MARCH



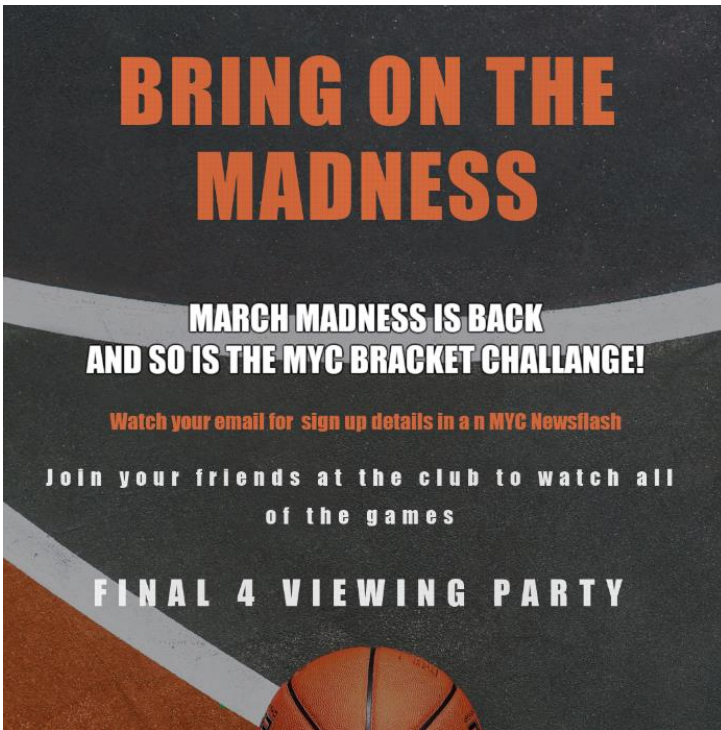
### March 18 Join us for Rock Painting

Grab some friends and a glass of wine and just have a creative and fun afternoon.



### March 25th, Book Swap and Bake Sale

Bring a few of your gently used books and pick up a new adventure and some delicious baked goods.



Do you remember the Final 4 from 2021? In one of the most exciting games in NCAA tournament history, UCLA and Gonzaga, tied as the clock winds down. Jalen Suggs banked in a buzzer-beating shot from center court that will live on

forever and propelled undefeated Gonzaga to the 2021 title game over UCLA. That's the kind of game you want to be watching with your friends.

Once again, we will be having the MYC bracket challenge using the CBS sports platform. Details and links on how to sign up will be upcoming in an MYC Newsflash email so watch for it.

Thank you,

Kim Blum- Social Committee Chair



MARCH WINE DINNER -  
FUN WAS HAD  
BY ALL!











Did you know your membership includes reciprocity to over 900 other Yacht Clubs in America?

To see a list of reciprocating Yacht Clubs, please visit the following website:

Click "Members Only" Section of the YCA's website  
[www.ycaol.com](http://www.ycaol.com)

For Access:  
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IN A  
WORLD  
WHERE YOU CAN BE  
ANYTHING  
BE KIND

MYC MARCH 2023 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Jam Session	6	7	8	9 Queens Cup Meeting	10	11 Committee Meetings
12 Daylight Savings	13	14	15	16 Board Meeting	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Rock Painting
19 Jam Session	20	21	22	23	24	25 Book Exchange / Bake Sale
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**If you have events or meetings you'd like added to the Portwatch or website calendars, please contact Kim Nguyen - [kim@muskegonvachtclub.org](mailto:kim@muskegonvachtclub.org)**

