

MUSKEGON YACHT CLUB

Portwatch

NOVEMBER 2023



Photo Credit: Josh Wallace

10/11/23 – Last Wednesday Night Race

3198 Edgewater, Muskegon, MI 49441 • 231-755-1414
www.muskegonyachtclub.org

FLAG OFFICERS

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeremy Cox
Marshall Lystra
Kris Hoffman
JD Wallace, Sr.
Clark Miller

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 Schiller
Membership.....Melody Stenstrom,
Craig Rozelle

MYC STAFF

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

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Portwatch Submissions:

Please email Kim Nguyen
kim@muskegonyachtclub.org
Deadline for content submission
is the 20th of each month.



MYC Staff Contacts:

Kim Nguyen,
General Manager:
kim@muskegonyachtclub.org

Sue Peters,
Business Manager:
sue@muskegonyachtclub.org

Nicky Anderson,
Facilities Manager:
nicky@muskegonyachtclub.org

Dianna King,
Bar Manager:
Dianna@muskegonyachtclub.org



COMMODORE'S COMMENTS:

Greetings Fellow MYC Members

As I write my first letter as Commodore of MYC the boat slips are empty, the pool is covered, and all the summer furniture has been put away for the upcoming winter season. The junior sailing team has completed their last regatta for the year and the annual Michigan, Michigan State football game has been played.

When I met with our club manager, Kim, I asked her what am I supposed to put in my "First" official letter? She counseled me that the letter should be topical, not too long but not too short either, and make sure that I got it to her before the deadline so she could get the monthly Portwatch out!

Seems simple LOL, until I had to start writing it! As I was sitting at my desk staring at the blank piece of paper, I was multitasking, reading the endless string of daily emails, looking at text messages and wondering exactly what menu choice I needed to make for the awards banquet before that deadline.

And then I got an email from a fellow MYC member, and they made the comment that I was now in the "Captain's Chair". BAM! I now had my topic for my first monthly letter.

I took that beautiful nugget of inspiration and used it to make the analogy between what a Captain's role on a boat is and what a Commodore's role is at a Yacht Club.

As a Captain of a boat, your job is to keep the boat headed in the right direction, maintain the best speed possible using the current conditions and trying to anticipate what future conditions will be. Rely on and trust the actions and input of your fellow crew members. If you do it correctly you get to the finish line with no blown-out sails, damage to boat and crew and a podium finish!

All without yelling! Nah, only kidding about that part, whenever you are racing a boat, there is always yelling LOL!

In my opinion, that is exactly what a Commodore does! We benefit from all the great work done by the Commodores who preceded us. We get valuable input from the board members, committee heads, MYC staff and the countless volunteers who put in untold hours dedicated to developing and sustaining all the committees, programs, events, and operations that make our yacht club the best on the Great Lakes!

Thank you for allowing me to be in the captain's chair for the upcoming year!

Kevin Moore
Commodore
Muskegon Yacht Club



2023 Capital Improvement Fund

2023 Collected:

\$ 47,182

+

12/31/22 Balance:

\$ 136,380



2023 Expenditures:

\$ 92,826

Available Balance:

\$ 90,736

HOURS of OPERATION

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

MYC Committee Monthly Meeting Reminders:



Dock & Yard Committee – 2nd Saturday at 9:00 am

House Committee – 2nd Saturday at 10:00 am

Membership Committee – 2nd Saturday at 11:00am

Race & Regatta Committee – 3rd Wed. at 7:00pm

Social Committee – 2nd Saturday at 11:15am

Board Meeting – 3rd Thursday at 7:00pm



Membership Committee Report:

Reminder:

New applications for first time membership ONLY on or after July 1 of any calendar year shall be accompanied by a payment based on a month prorated basis plus the entire initiation fee. The prorated amount will be equal to $1/12$ of annual applicable membership dues multiplied by the number of remaining months at the time of the application.





Treasurers Report

Greetings fellow MYC Members!

We recently held the “Annual Membership Meeting” where I gave a financial report for MYC. For those who were not able to attend I will provide a brief overview of the report.

Overall, the club is on solid financial footing. We have a reasonable cash balance, and our operations are running approximately on budget. Sales have finally begun to approach pre-pandemic levels.

Per Sue Peters we broke an important milestone in the debt service of the marina note in that our most recent monthly payment applied over \$10,000 to principle for the first time! We are making extra payments on the note currently with a projected payoff of the balance sometime in 2028. Our current balance on the note is approximately \$650k from our original balance of \$1.5 million. We were able to lock in a low 5% interest rate in late 2022 for the remainder of the term with no balloon payment. We are working to a loan payoff and will not need to refinance again.

The board at my initiation had a spirited debate about the 2023-2024 dues and Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) levels. The board majority approved an increase in full member dues from \$875 to \$925 however this vote requires a super majority to approve, and the proposed increase failed. The proposed increase of the CIF to \$15 per month or a lump sum of \$150 was unanimously approved by the board.

As treasurer I am disappointed that the dues increase was not approved. This amounts to an increase of \$4.16 per month coupled with the CIF increase this would have been a \$6.24 per month total increase. Given the sharp increase in our cost, especially labor cost, in the current economic environment, we

may have to make some difficult decisions in the upcoming budgeting process. Operational hours, staffing levels, pricing formulas, and services will all have to be examined closely as many of our expenses such as taxes, utilities, cost of goods, are beyond our control. Nobody likes dues increases but if we want to maintain our level of services to our members, they are an unfortunate fact of life. To my mind not approving incremental dues increases simply kicks the can down the road resulting in a larger, even less popular increase in the future.

The Capital Improvement Fund, since introduced, has allowed MYC to rebuild, repair, and upgrade our facilities tremendously. Our roofs and windows no longer leak, our building heating and cooling systems have been upgraded, our bar is renovated, our entrance doors have been replaced, our pool deck vastly improved and more. Unfortunately, we still have much more to do. Our patio awning has seen better days as has our shade areas at the pool. Our parking lot needs a complete rebuild and resurface. We still struggle for storage and office space, our kitchen is still in need of cooling to improve our working conditions, our restrooms need updating. Now that the Octagon building is dry, further repairs and improvements are needed there. We have an old building that requires constant attention to maintain.

Our GM Kim, Business manager Sue, and Facilities Manager Nicky, along with their staff continue to provide us with an outstanding product and services. Our membership level is near all-time high levels. Our Full membership IS at all-time high levels, our club continues to operate in a fiscally responsible manner and as such our finances are strong.

Respectfully submitted.

Larry Taunt

Treasurer and Past Commodore



From The Business Office

Did you know...



...you can receive your MYC statement by email instead of paper mail?

Contact Sue in the business office to sign up!



...you can pay your bill securely online from our website?

Visit www.muskegonyachtclub.org. Under "Quick Links" select "Pay with Card" or "Pay with Bank Account"!



...you can pay your bill securely online using your bank's bill-pay feature?

Visit your bank's website to learn more about it!

Contact Sue with any questions!

sue@muskegonyachtclub.org or (231) 755-1414 option 2





Race and Regatta Committee Report:

The 2023 Race Season will conclude with the MYC Awards Banquet being held on November 18th. Thank you to RRC Committee Member Karen Garvey for serving as the chairperson for this very special evening. Also, thank you to Clark Miller, Josh Wallace and Brady Wallace who pulled our seasonal racing buoys and power washed them along with the race committee boat. Overall, 33 boats registered for the 2023 Season. The MYC Race Committee Team thanks the owners, skippers, and crew, for their continued support and valued participation. It has been a great summer of racing and we are already working on making next year's season even better!

Steve Schiller
Race & Regatta Chair



Photo Credit: Josh Wallace 10/11/23



MYC ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Saturday, November 18, 2023

MYC Dining Room

Cocktails 5:30 pm ~ Dinner 6:30 pm

Entrée Selections - \$30.00 per person

Marry Me Chicken Tortellini

Chicken Breast – Tortellini – Broccoli Florets – Mushrooms – Marry Me Sauce

Braised Short Ribs

Braised Beef Short Ribs – Glazed Carrots – White Cheddar Mashed Potatoes – Gravy

Deep Fried Walleye

Beer Battered Deep Fried Walleye – Garlic Roasted Trio Blend Potatoes – Green Bean Almondine

Salad & warm dinner rolls served with dinner!

Self-serve dessert bar will be available after dinner!

Vegetarian Option Available Upon Request

Junior Sailors Menu - \$15.00 per person

Chicken Tenders & French Fries

Spaghetti & Meatball

Cheeseburger & French Fries

Reservations Required to Attend!

All reservations will be member charged – including 18% gratuity.

All non-member reservations will be charged to skippers account.

Please make sure to include the boat name in your RSVP for seating purposes.

RSVP – kim@muskegonyachtclub.org or call 231-755-1414, or at the bar!

RSVPs accepted until 11/12/23

RSVP To Kim – Kim@muskegonyachtclub.org



Dock & Yard Committee Report:

The **December Slip Assignment meeting** is December 2nd. Mark your calendars and watch for announcements on meeting time and how to attend in person or virtual.

If you are a permanent slip holder and wish to move to a different slip you must attend the Slip Assignment meeting to see what is available. If you are on the waiting list you must also attend to select an available slip.

Reminder - Each slip holder must provide a Slip/Dry Sail License Agreement and provide proof of insurance.

Thank you to all the people who helped at the Saturday, October 21st work bee. Much was completed in a short amount of time. The volunteers completed taking down the awnings, moving outdoor seating, pool furniture, and grills into the octagon building for winter storage.

This month's Dock and Yard meeting is Saturday, Nov. 11th at 9am. Immediately after the meeting (10:00am) we will be installing deicers (bubblers) around the marina and will be looking for volunteer help. Please consider helping.

-Jeff Blum





Social Committee Report:

It is Novem-brrrrrr. What a cold and snowy start to the month, good thing we have chili cook off happening soon to warm us up! Thanks to everyone who participated in our Halloween party, I had a great time, and I hope you did as well.

Here is what is on the calendar for the near future:

November 11th—Chili Cook Off. Bring your soups, stews, and chilis to compete for best in house. This event coincides with a Dock & Yard work day, help out if you can.

November 18th—MYC Awards Banquet

November 22nd—Bar Olympics. Spend the biggest bar night of the year at MYC. More details to come.

November 25th—Michigan/Ohio State football game. Cheer on the home team!

November 26th--Christmas tree trimming/Winter decorating.

If there is something you would like to see us do, or an event you would like to plan, PLEASE let me know. See you soon!

-Emily Turek

*'Tis the
Season*

Soup & Chili Cook Off

All in One Day!

November 11, 2023

Drop off your soup/chili at noon to the Spinnaker Room
with a description of what you are serving.

Tastings begin around 12:30 pm

\$5 Tasting Charge



**SUBMIT YOUR FAVORITE SOUP
OR CHILI FOR YOUR CHANCE
TO WIN!**

This is a long standing MYC tradition.
Come join us!





Junior Sailing Committee Report

Thank you all who have participated so far for your outstanding support of the junior fundraiser: The Lions' Football Squares. Your participation has helped the juniors raise over \$3,000 toward new equipment! The funds raised through this initiative will go a long way in supporting our junior program and ensuring that our young sailors continue to flourish.

If you haven't had a chance to get in on the action yet, don't worry! We are

starting the 2nd portion of the 8 weeks of Lions' Football this coming Sunday!! We have quite a few squares to sell this time around at just \$50 each. The payout is \$50 per quarter for the next eight games. It's not just about football; it's a winning opportunity for you and a valuable contribution to our

Squares for Sailors 2

SUPPORT THE MYC JUNIOR SAILING PROGRAM!

FOLLOW THE DETROIT LIONS AND PURCHASE SQUARES FOR THE 2ND HALF OF THE SEASON.

- EACH ENTRY GETS YOU 1 SQUARE PER WEEK
- NEW NUMBERS DRAWN EACH WEEK
- \$50 BUY-IN AND \$50 PAYOUT PER QUARTER
- NUMBERS WILL BE EMAILED WEEKLY
- SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN-UP BY NOV. 9TH

kimberly Blum
@MYC-Juniors-49



PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL WITH PAYMENT

junior sailing programs.

To purchase your squares you can do this through Venmo, Paypal, member charge or cash. If you have any questions or learn more about this fundraiser, please reach out to Kim at mycjuniorsailing@gmail.com.

kimberly Blum
@MYC-Juniors-49



venmo

We want your used sails!! If you have used, even torn Dacron sails that have not delaminated, please donate them to the junior sailing program. We can exchange them with Sea Bags for cash to our program and provide you with a receipt for your tax deduction purposes.

As always, 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!](#)

If you have questions you can speak with Bobby and Sandy Cox, Jeff Allen, Mary Greve, Steve

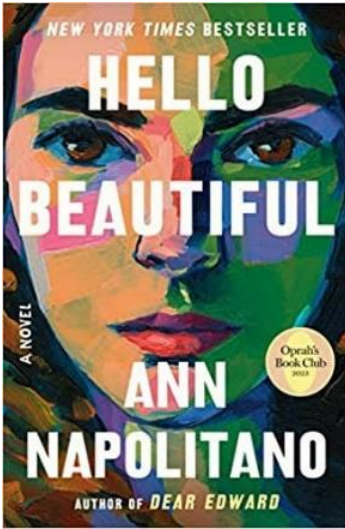
Bawks or Steve Schiller

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

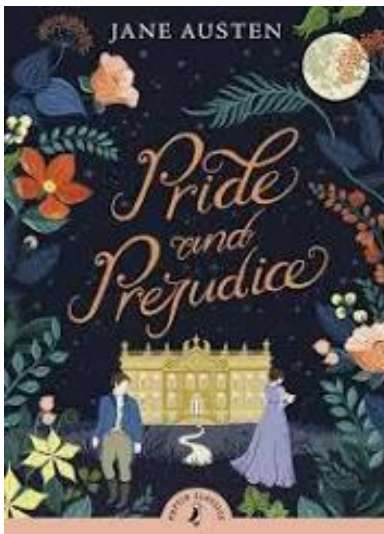
<http://www.muskegonyachtclub.org/myc-juniors/mjsa/>

Respectfully submitted,

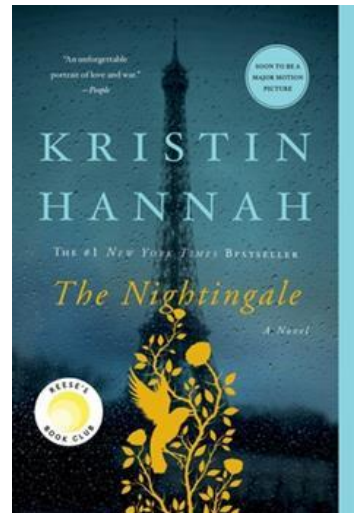
Junior's Chairperson
Kimberly Blum



11/9/23
6pm



12/14/23
6pm



2/8/24
6pm



Life Member Luncheon 10/12/23





Life Member Luncheon 10/12/23





Life Member Luncheon 10/12/23





Blast from the Past Commodore



This month I had the opportunity to sit and chat with Past Commodore Larry Larsen. Mr. Larsen was born and raised in Muskegon. He joined MYC in 1972 and was elected Commodore in 1987.

Past Commodore Larsen hung around MYC in the late 60's, sailing and swimming. Austin Freye was Larry's biggest influencer & mentor when it came to sailing. He encouraged Larry to join MYC, which he did in 1972, making MYC his home for competitive sailing. 80% of Larry's sailing career has been on one-design boats as he was never really interested in cruising. He has competed in the Westerns, Blue Chip, and Hobie National regattas, just to mention a few, throughout his 53 + years of sailing. MYC's membership was about 80% sailing and 20% social at that time with many opportunities to crew, up to four days a week. The winters were slow, with many just waiting for that spring day to get back out on the water.

During our short time together, Larry shared numerous stories with me, one of which made me laugh. The story begins with Larry and member Keek Wickland meeting at MYC for appetizers and drinks one Friday night. This was during the time that members could bring in their own proteins and cook it up on the grills that were located by the coffee station in the southwest corner of the bar area. On feature that night from the club manager was oysters. So, they placed an order, grabbed some drinks, and sat down for a night of stories and comradery. Their

order was delivered and “boy they were good.” So good that they placed another order, and another, and another. After a few rounds of oysters, they asked where they came from, thinking they were eating platters of fresh oysters all night. It was explained to them that Etterman’s Supermarket (located in Lakeside at the time) sold containers of shucked oysters and the manager was placing the meat on the shells herself. They could not contain their laughter once they found out and still laugh about it today. He also shared with me that he was the first Commodore to break the Commodore’s dress code at the annual Commodore Reception by wearing Bermuda shorts instead of dress pants. Some people frowned but quickly got over it.

I asked Past Commodore Larsen, “what challenges did you face during your time at the helm?” He responded with “dock issues.” However, those issues helped Larry develop better leadership skills as it exposed him to other people in the club, which created lifelong friendships in return.

After one rowdy board meeting, Larry purchased a copy of “Roberts Rules” to help him understand and facilitate meetings better. Back then, they would lock the door to the board meetings so they would not be interrupted. “You either stayed in the bar or went to the meeting, not both.” He also indicated the atmosphere at meetings (and in general) is much calmer now than it was back then. He gives the drinking laws and health awareness credit for that.

My last question for Past Commodore Larsen was, “What advice would you give to our membership?” He responded, “Stay involved – get involved...it is very rewarding.”

In the summer you will find Past Commodore Larsen in Muskegon enjoying our natural resources and volunteering his time. In the winter, he can be found in Costa Rica surfing, a sport that he has done longer than sailing.

Thank you, Larry, for your time and stories. It was my pleasure speaking with you and learning more about MYC in 1987. Safe travels this winter!

Kim Nguyen
General Manager

Employee Holiday Fund

Happy Holidays!

The Muskegon Yacht Club is blessed to have a dedicated, reliable, hard-working, and loyal staff. Sue Peters, MYC's business manager, has been with us for over 26 years! Nicky, our facilities magician aka manager has been keeping things running for over 24 years. Kim Nguyen, our general manager as well as bartender, kitchen helper, and event organizer, depending on who needs help with what has been with us for 11 years. Jersey Elizondo, one of our amazing bartenders, has been with us 11 years. Dianna King, our bar manager and bartender has been with us for 10 years and Chef Sam for 2 years.



Nine years ago, at the request of our membership, a new program was created to allow members to contribute to a Holiday Gratuity fund for our staff and have it put on their member account.

The money generated from this program will be divided amongst ALL of our staff members including Greg, Josh, Mingan, Katie and Becca and given to them prior to Christmas as a Holiday bonus. I am inviting you to please contribute to this fund at whatever level you wish, all contributions are deeply appreciated. This is a voluntary program and is a great way to show your appreciation to the entire staff of MYC.

Thank you,

Kevin Moore

Muskegon Yacht Club Commodore

You may contribute online by selecting "Pay with Card" or "Pay with Bank Account" at www.muskegonyachtclub.org, or return the form below.

I wish to contribute:

\$200 \$150 \$100 \$75 \$50 \$25 \$ Other

To the Muskegon Yacht Club "Employee Holiday Fund"

Please Charge my account -OR- Check enclosed

Member Name

Member Signature

Date



You can buy all the latest and greatest MYC gear at the Clubhouse, stop down today!

NOW IN STOCK:

Charcoal Grey MYC T-shirts, Beach Towels, Women's Swim Skirts, **Hoodies, Full Zips Sweatshirts, Full Zip Vests, Long Sleeve Dry Wicking Shirts**, Hats, Stickers, Burgees, MYC stemless Wine Glasses, Iron on Patches, Youth T-shirts, Racerback Tank Tops.

See the bartender on duty for assistance!



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

For Access:
User ID: club1040
Password: y100446c



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kim@muskgeonyachtclub.org***

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MKT-5894N-A

> edwardjones.com

MYC November 2023 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Daylight Savings Time Ends	6	7	8	9	10	11 Committee Meetings Soup & Chili Cook Off Veterans Day
12 Member Private Event	13	14	15	16 Board Meeting 7pm	17	18 Awards Banquet
19	20	21	22 Bar Olympics	23 Club Closed - Thanksgiving	24	25 Michigan/Ohio State Game
26 Christmas Decorating	27	28	29	30 Wine Dinner		

If you have events or meetings you'd like added to the Portwatch or website calendars, please contact Kim Nguyen - kim@muskegonyachtclub.org

