

DLYC News

Flag Officers

Commodore

Louis Csokasy

Vice-Commodore

John Seidl

Rear Commodore

Anne Coles

Treasurer

Marilyn Gardner

Secretary

Marilyn Quackenbush

Past Commodore

Mike Malone

Board Members:

Term Expires 2020:

Tommy Block

Ann Coles

Louis Csokasy

Laura Ferris

Mike Jarrick

Term Expires 2021

Phyllis Clark

Andy Jones

Mike Malone

Tom Nolan

Tammy Renner

John Seidl

Mike Sharpe

Bill Stoler

Term Expires 2022:

Austin Francis

Marilyn Gardner

Nancy Gerber

Sue Heinrich

Marilyn Quackenbush

Ginny Rapp

Emeritus

Ron Francis

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August 2020



Commodore's Message—August 2020

We purposely delayed the August Bulletin until after the mid-August Board of Governors meeting, so we could provide a more accurate update on the status of activities at the Diamond Lake Yacht Club (DLYC) or lack of activities as it has worked out. At the July meeting, the Board took the position that we needed to cancel the remaining social activities for this year and limit the inside usage of the club to just the bathroom facilities. This was done in recognition that those outside club activities still needed access to restrooms. This decision was taken in recognition of state executive orders and the simple fact that the virus in Cass County has continued to get worse as the summer has gone on.

As written later in this bulletin the youth sailing program had a record year over year increase - even with the headwinds posed by the current environment. This did not happen by accident and a special thanks goes out to Anne Coles as Rear Commodore, the Sailing Committee, the Communication Committee (Jackie Bankowski Sue Heinrich, and Jim Ward) and our coaching staff of Lane Francis, Timothy Hesse, and Genevieve Hesse. The results of this year are even more remarkable when compared to 2018 (two short summers ago) when we had a total of 15 participants (versus 56 this year) in the program and there was serious discussions of discontinuing the program. Instead, your Board doubled down and authorized the purchase of two (2) new sailboats of the Opti class. How rare of an event was that? Your newest sunfish that DLYC has in their fleet used for youth sailing is 38 years old. Your youth sailing program is rapidly being recognized around western Michigan as one of the better programs available. Due to the bad publicity received from the sandbar party we were forced to delay the Reid Francis inter-county MC Memorial race. When we host this event next year, we should have 20 boats participating. Our swimming program was so popular that we added a third week over the last summer's two-week schedule. As we have done in previous years, we partnered with the Niles YMCA for the instructors

As I am writing this bulletin, I am reminded that it will be the last one required of me as your Commodore. Anyone who knows me has probably heard me say that "I am an engineer not an English major" so you may have guessed this was not my favorite task. What I have enjoyed is working with the membership these last two (2) years through good and bad, and I want to let each of you know that I was honored to serve in this role. Even with the unanticipated impact of the virus - your club is as strong as it has ever been. Lastly, I want to thank all the volunteers for the countless hours spent on club activities. Most of this work is hidden and goes underappreciated but needs to be recognized. For you serving on Committees, the DLYC Board and the Officers I cannot thank you enough.

Stay Safe,

Louis Csokasy

DLYC Commodore



Membership Information

During the Board Meeting on August 15, 2020, the continuing dedication and support of the club members was recognized, noting that the unprecedented events of this COVID pandemic created unique challenges for each and every one of us, as well as, organizations like the yacht club. It was further recognized, that we needed to do a better job informing the membership how the DLYC operates. As a small but rather complex organization with overall revenues approaching \$100,000 annually, we operate very much like a small business. With 150 household members, a Board governed by a set of By-laws and 13 Committees it has a unique management structure. But, like a business we also have employees, policies, computer systems, assets and facilities that need upgrades, repair or replacement.

As a result of the changing state orders regarding indoor gatherings of multiple non-family members and thus the decision to not host indoor activities, the clubs funding was negatively impacted just as almost any other organization currently operating in today's environment. Simply put, the fixed costs of the yacht club are supported by annual dues, the largest of those costs include insurance (liability, building and grounds, directors & officers insurance and workers compensation), taxes, and utilities. Normal maintenance and capital improvements for expenses such as a new roof, deck, kitchen equipment, carpeting and the like, constitute the second largest fixed costs. The direct costs for social events (food, music, club decorations, etc.) and youth events (cost of instruction and unique supplies) are calculated to "break even" and a fee is accessed for the event. Thankfully, we were able to organize and continue the outdoor youth sailing and swimming programs. Both programs were well attended and successful, and the membership support of these programs enabled many kids to have as "normal" of a summer as was possible!

Although the usual dinners and parties did not occur, the fixed costs of the yacht club continued, and will continue to do so. Those events, while always successful and well attended, are not "fund raising" in nature. Participation fees for attendance offset the food and entertainment at the event. The fixed costs and maintenance of the yacht club are supported by annual dues. Although increases in these costs are to be expected annually, the overall position of the club remains strong. We are in the process of replacing the carpeting in both the bar area and main hall. The financial resources are in place to have a full social season next year and to enhance our youth activities.



DLYC SOCIAL COMMITTEE—AUGUST 2020

With the continued closure of the DLYC clubhouse, all planned social activities have been cancelled throughout the summer.

We heard back from the participants what a pleasure it was to catch up with each other. Based on some members request—we had a Socially Distanced outdoor gathering on the clubhouse lawn.

So... we've decided to do it again!

This Friday August 21, at 7PM outside on the DLYC front lawn.

Bring your own chair and beverage.

There will be no food available.

The only access to the club will be for the bathrooms.

Social Distancing is mandatory by the state of Michigan, and masks are preferred.

Hope to see you this Friday!



Mary Bolen and Kathy Seidl
Social Committee Co-Chairs

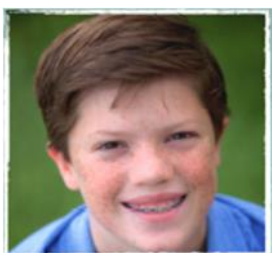
Mary Bolen—marylbolen@gmail.com
Kathy Seidl—mariano103@comcast.net

YOUTH SAILING 2020

Lane Francis
Lead Instructor



Tim Hesse
Sailing Instructor



Genevieve Hesse
Sailing Administrator



Perseverance and Gratitude

This summer seemed to be all about flexibility and understanding. The uncertainty in mid-June over summer camp offerings was put to rest when the first sailing session was booked to capacity. That made all the extra effort from the sailing staff worth it. And, there was a lot of extra effort this year!! There was setting up in the morning and tearing down in the afternoon all the tables and chairs in the front yard to create the outdoor classroom. Boats had to be disinfected between sessions leaving less time for a lunch break. There was temperature tracking and mask/gaiter enforcement. Gone were the comforts of snacks, bottled water, and an air conditioned clubhouse at the end of a hot day on the water. No one complained and the results reflect that:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>% INCREASE</u>
Total registrations	41	56	up 37%
Participating Sailors	32 (15 non-members)	37 (21 non-members)	up 16%
Revenue	\$4,100	\$6,620	up 61%

The multi-year commitment the club made in 2018 for the purchase of boats has made the club numbers above possible. In just over 2 years, the club has added 9 Opti's, a 420, a Butterfly, and a Zodiac to the fleet of boats.

We were fortunate, in a challenging year, to have the reputation of the rest in the hands of third and fourth generation members. **Lane Francis, Timothy Hesse and, Genevieve Hesse** should be commended for their dedication in keeping sailing enthusiasm alive at the DLYC. **Mason Coles** and **Conor Hogarth** were this year's sailing volunteers. And without hesitation, **Leah** and **Nicholas Peluchowski**, filled in for **Lane** during week 4.

We also appreciated the support of our members who registered for private lessons, or purchased gaiters and/or Regatta t-shirts.

In addition to youth sailing, we are hosting a currently postponed MC Invitational. The club will benefit by joining a broader sailing community with surrounding lakes. These relationships should position us well for continuing the success of our sailing programs.

Mark Your Calendars!

Reid Francis Memorial MC Invitational– Saturday, July 24, 2021



PICKLE BALL COURT IS AVAILABLE

The DLYC Pickleball Court is still open!

Social Distancing and your own equipment is required.

Or, Check the schedule for teen basketball! Great way to get some exercise!



YOUTH SWIMMING

We had another successful summer of swim lessons at DLYC thanks to our great partners, the Niles YMCA. Their instructors taught our young swimmers how to be stronger and safer in the lake. We originally had two sessions scheduled and they were so well attended, that we added a third session in August.

With so many summer activities cancelled, it was nice to have an outside activity with plenty of room to spread out. We look forward to another great summer next year!

The tentative dates for 2021 are the weeks of June 28th, July 5th and July 12th.



DLYC SAILING CLASS WEEK 4



AUGUST SAILING



AUGUST SUNSETS

