



DYC Breeze

NOV/DEC 2024

Dalhousie Yacht Club
founded 1937 & Incorporated 1945



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Commodore's Ball ~ A great turn out, the red carpet, awards, delicious dinner, and dancing! Oh What a Night! Below on the left is Volunteer of the Year ~ Alan Crozier with Leigh in the middle and Member of the Year ~ Brian Fulton on the right.



Holiday Hours

Wednesday December 25 - Open for Pick-Up 2:00 to 4:00
 Thursday December 26 - Closed
 Friday December 27- 12:00 to 9:00
 Saturday December 28- 12:00 to 9:00
 Sunday December 29 - 2:00 to 9:00
 Tuesday December 31 - Open for DYC Member Levee
 Closed January 1 to January 12 for Renovations
 Reopening On Wednesday January 15 at 3:00 p.m.

Vision Statement: *The Dalhousie Yacht Club is a friendly, safe and affordable boating community dedicated, to learning, respect for all, and enjoyment in all aspects of the sport of boating.*



Haul Out and Docks Out requires a great deal of DYC Team Work!
Our Teams and Members make it look easy!



Commodore's Report . . .

by Leigh Brown

commodore@dalhousieyachtclub.com



January 2024

We kicked off the year with a huge Kitchen Renovation where members put their skills to excellent use saving the club thousands of dollars in labor.

We later celebrated by putting on our kilts and enjoying the musical poetry of Robbie Burns.

February 2024

Racers were taking advantage of the off season and making repairs to their vessels. It was a Mast Repair for Kirby World as we continue to reignite the one design racing fleet.

Inside signing, deals were being made as we secured our caterers and signed Ed and Emily, ensuring delicious meals for our members, and our guests.



March 2024

Let the **March Birthday Bashers** begin, followed by some green beers for Saint Patrick's Day.

Back out in the yard, preparations were well underway to get us splashed and back in the water with some regular **Travel Lift Maintenance**.

April 2024

Another massive project took place with **Shed "Repairs"**, adding more value to our buildings with again more volunteer member skill and effort.

Our **Spring Information Nights** are always well attended as members get ready for the season to come is only increased by the uncovering the boats.





May 2024

We welcomed the season with a Splash, getting our boats launched and got our Adult Learn to Sail program underway.

Some how, in all the excitement of the start of the season, we managed to sneak in our first of hopefully many trips to the BVIs.

June 2024

The highlight was, of course, Sail Past, where we celebrated our love for sailing, followed by a thrilling Commodores Cup race.

More work was completed to be sure, with a man in a hole one day, fixing a water pipe that has burst.



July 2024

We lit up the skies with Canada Day Fireworks and watched from the water anchored outside of the harbour.

Went back home to see family and enjoyed the sunrise and a day of fishing on the St. Lawrence with my cousin.

August 2024

Vacation, finally nearly a full month of relaxation as we cruised Lake Ontario with some of the greatest buddy boaters there ever were.

Home in time to host the corn roast and complete at Cornucopia, and letting loose with an outdoor concert in A Yard.



September 2024

Leah and I had our first viewing party at TIFF, rubbing elbows with my cousin's L.A. crew.

Time to get the skates sharpened, drafted to the Oilers again in the Jordon Old-timers Hockey League

One last big sailing adventure and first for me as we brought DYC Kirby World to Barrie.



October 2024

The **Cicada Music Festival** was another first for Leah and I. Officially the end of the season, confirmed with the Removal of our Race Marks, Boats, and Docks.



After all that planning and long work days, we celebrated the season with a glamorous **Red Carpet Commodore's Ball**.



November 2024

I experienced my first helicopter ride, soaring above the Niagara Falls.

I also got my first tattoo! K so I didn't get DYC engraved on my face, but maybe next time.



December 2024

We wrapped up our year with a vacation in **Mexico**, Sorry no cameras allowed, we're told.

We'll get back in time to enjoy some **Wednesday games nights**, share some holiday cheer and toast to a year filled with firsts, good times, and a long list of achievements we can all be proud of.

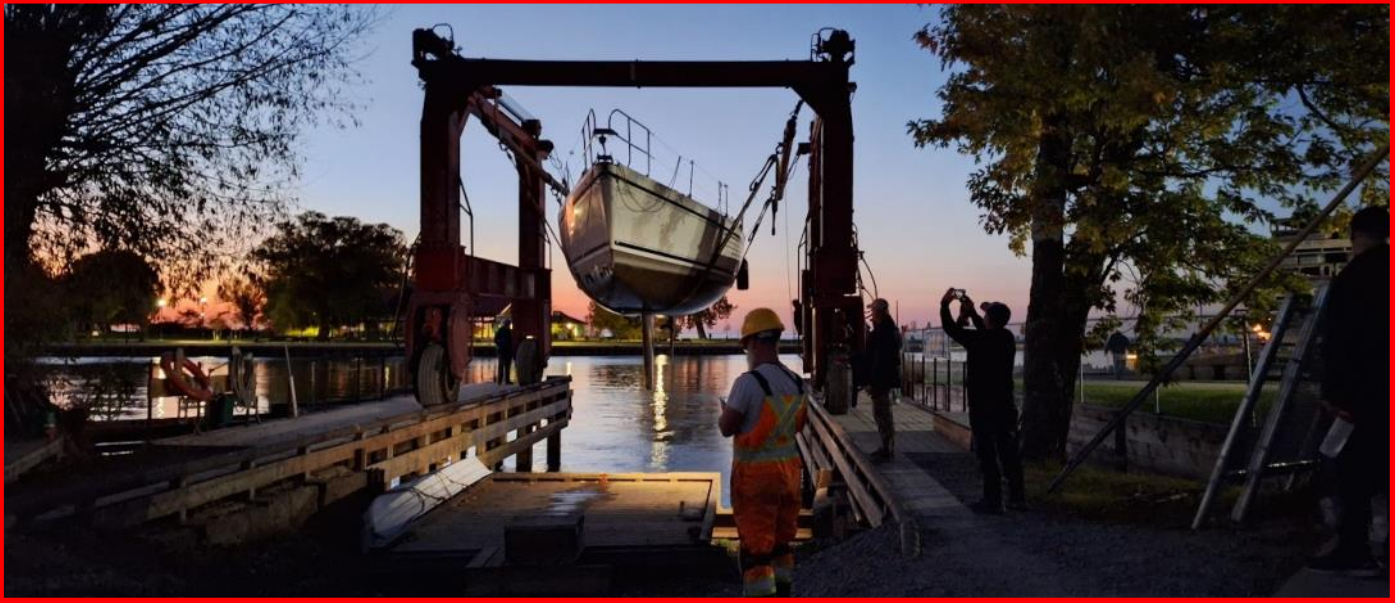


It's been an honor to represent our club these past 2 years as your Commodore. I want to thank you for all the support and for letting me be me. We are so very fortunate to have the so many great people in DYC, looking out for one and other and always there with a helping hand. I know Leah and I will be here for many MANY years because of all of you. Sorry, but you're stuck with us.

Leigh, Leah and of course, Leo



Members worked together to receive boats in the travel lift well, move cradles, place boat jacks and wood blocks, deliver, receive and pile docks, provide soups, chili and treats for the crew or worked to feed the crews. So many members helping to close out the season. **THANK YOU!**





2.5 Days of Haul Out,
One day of rain,
C Yard is full,
A Yard is partially full,
Docks are Out,
All is Well!



WHAT A TEAM! WHAT A BOARD ROOM TRANSFORMATION!

Many Thanks to Brian Fulton, Alan Crozier, Jason Matsugu and Murray Fischer, for ripping out the old carpet and ceiling tiles, replacing the ceiling, installing new flooring, incredible lighting and building 2 new custom built stunning solid wood tables with pop up power docks.



The Call for Members ~ HELP NEEDED

With Painting the Board Room, Replacing Carpet and Ceramic Broken Tiles
in our Clubhouse

This work has been scheduled to take place during the

Clubhouse Shut Down Wednesday, January 2 -
Tuesday, January 14, 2024

[Contact Brian Fulton if you can help!](#)

Vice-Commodore's Report . . .

By Patti-jo Chambers

vice.comm@dalhousieyachtclub.com



What a year! It's been filled with many events and gatherings of fun, laughter, many good times and some sad. We've celebrated these times together. We've welcomed many new social/ dinghy/ full /members to DYC and unfortunately said goodbye to a few.

Our docks have been continued to be filled with only a few left empty, we've welcomed many new visitors and repeat visitors throughout the season. Our Harbour Office staff has kept our grounds looking great, Patti Fagan has been taking on many new additional tasks and has our office running smoothly, and Fox Foods and staff continue to amaze us with delicious options and great service. Our Race Committee continues to support our avid racers, the Racing program continues to flourish and expand, our Learn to Sail Program continues to grow exponentially, Pressley fit all our boats in C yard, and our incredible members continue to volunteer their time, energy and expertise, to keep our assets and buildings in the of best shape. We continue to work toward a plan to replacing our docks that are needing attention. What a great year it has been!

Wishing you all the best of the Christmas season and an amazing 2025, filled with good health, love, laughter, family and friends making great times and great memories to think back on throughout our days. Hope to see you at the New Year's Eve Levee!

Patti-jo

The Call for Members ~ HELP NEEDED

With Replacing Carpet and Ceramic Broken Tiles in our Clubhouse

This work has been scheduled to take place during the

Clubhouse Shut Down, Thursday, January 2 - Wednesday, January 15, 2024

To be ready to re-open and kick off our 2025 season

for the Annual General Meeting, Thursday, January 16.

January 2 - Hauling out carpets + breaking up tiles

January 3 - Start the process of placing new carpeting. No experience necessary

We can train people as we go, the more the merrier.

This likely will take a number of days.

please offer up some time to help if you are available.

Please contact [Brian Fulton, DYC House Director](#) at this link.



Robin Bruce EAGLESHAM

[Robin Bruce Eaglesham](#)

Click above link to Robin's Obituary

8 Bells for Robin

Our friend Robin was an avid sailor, growing up in Dunnville, Ontario. Spending many days sailing on Lake Erie. Robin came to DYC sometime in the 80's with a J24 "Justine." Robin had won the Canadian championships and was the Canadian boat to go to the World Championships in Australia. Robin was always willing to help sail in a race, help set marks for many regattas, whether at DYC or Niagara.

Robin was one of the original partners with our Kirby 25 and now the Olson 30,

Robin leaves behind the love of his life Doris and his amazing children Reed and Susan.

Jeff, Richard, Jamie, Danny and I will miss him.

Brian Schmidt



Sincere
condolences
go out to the
family,
friends
and
crew mates
of Robin.

Another sad loss for DYC ~ Our hearts go out to the family and friends of Ron Wright.

Noreen Wright, beloved wife of Ron Wright for 56 wonderful years,

long time Boating and Social Member passed away at the end of November.

Noreen was a loving and devoted mother to Joel (Lisa) Wright and Matthew (Amy) Wright.

She was adored by her six grandchildren. She will be deeply missed by her siblings.

The memory of friendship with Noreen will be cherished by many.

Learn to Sail . . . LTS

by Marion Markarian @dalhousieyachtclub.com



It's a wrap for the 2024 Learn to Sail season ... and it's been a great one! 2024 saw a record number of registrations with 100 in the youth program and 20 in the adult Keelboat and Cruising programs.

As with any successful program, it takes a lot of people to make this happen and I want to personally and on behalf of DYC, thank them all. Behind the scenes but pivotal in their contribution are James, our Rear Commodore, who looked after all the fleet – dinghies, coach boats and keelboats – and Patti Fagan who looked the numbers and office management such as registration, ordering, payments, and Ontario Sailing Checkclick program, to name a just a few.

Thanks to all those who have a hand in maintaining the DYC website and FB. Also, a shout out to our sponsors for the Learn to Sail T shirts and all of you who supported us by purchasing one. Thank you to those who contributed to the LTS through donations, including all of you who kindly left bottles and cans!

Our community partners, the Joyce Foundation and the Navy League, with whom we have grown a mutually beneficial relationship deserve special recognition. More to come next year!

Last but certainly not least, our instructors... Patrick Bolton, Owen Bungard and Emily Byrne were a fabulous team looking after the young sailors. Chris Treschak and Chris Hunter successfully took command of the adult Keelboat and Cruising courses. Thank you all for your hard work in making this year the best yet!

I hope I have not forgotten anyone, there are just so many people that have contributed in various ways to grow the DYC Learn to Sail Program.

Planning has already begun for 2025. In addition to one instructor who is returning, we hope to grow the youth program next year so we will be looking for a Head Instructor and an additional instructor. Please spread the word to anyone you know who is qualified and interested.

Already counting the days until boats in *Marion*



Dining & Entertainment Director's Report

By Genevieve Hunt

food@dalhousieyachtclub.com

Ho Ho Ho-Id the Date...

Saturday December 7th is the DYC Christmas Dinner Party with entertainment by the The Usual Suspects Band. Enjoy a delicious Turkey dinner along with music to get you dancing!

Don't miss the members New Year's Eve Afternoon Levee, of course on the 31st. Come by to enjoy a complimentary buffet of delicious bites while raising a glass to toast the year that was and the anticipation of good things to come in 2025 with fellow members.

Saturday, January 18th is the DYC Robbie Burns Dinner with traditional Scottish dancers, bag pipes and of course haggis! Tickets go quickly, so book soon.

A sneak peak into February and of course DYC will be a lovely venue to share a special Valentines Day dinner menu prepared by Fox Foods, with your someone special then . . . later in the month

Saturday February 22nd will be THE best karaoke night at DYC! There'll be more details to follow on all upcoming events that will be sure to keep the Winter doldrums at bay!

Wishing you a lovely holiday, *Genevieve*

**NEW YEAR'S EVE
LEVEE**

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 31, 2024
2:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.**

Join us at the Sunset Dining Room with your fellow DYC members and toast to the New Year!

Light fare provided by DYC Board & Fox Foods.

Robbie Burns Night
Celebrate the Birthday of Scotland's Greatest Poet

Saturday January 18, 2025

Join us for a 3-course meal along with Traditional Piper, Scottish Highland Dancing and Address to the Haggis Ceremony.

Course One
Cock-A-Leekie Soup

Course Two
Traditional Haggis
Choice of: Braised Lamb Shank or Cod
Served with Mashed Turnip & Potatoes

Course Three
Sticky Toffee Pudding

6:00 p.m. Diner Service
DYC Members \$75 / Non-Members \$85

To Reserve Call 905-934-8325 Ex.22

WELCOME NEW DYC MEMBERS

We encourage you to join us in events, work parties and hope to see you soon in the Sunset!

Social

Aljosa Kovacevic

Kate Smith

Anna + Klaus Zimmermann

Associate Boating

Christina + Anthony Allwood



DYC 2025 Event Dates – Mark Your Calendar

Dining

- Robbie Burns Night January 25
- Valentines Dinner February 15
- St. Patrick's Celebration March 15
- Easter Dinner April 20
- Mother's Day Brunch May 11
- Sailpast June 14
- Cornucopia August 30
- Easter Seals ???
- Thanksgiving Dinner October 12
- Commodores Ball
- Racing Banquet November 15
- Lunch with Santa
- DYC Members' Christmas Party
- New Years Eve Levee December 31

Club Actives

- Annual Meeting (AM) January 16
- Docks In April 12
- Boat Launch April 26, 27 and May 3
- Sailpast June 14
- Boats Out October 18, 19 and 25
- Docks Out October 25

Cruising

- Cruise 1 June
- Cruise 2 July
- Thousand Islands and Beyond July 28 – August 16
- Cruise 3 August
- Cruise 4 September

Racing

- Marks In By May 10
- Susan Hood May 30
- Wednesday Night Series start May 21
- Lady Skipper June 7
- Commodores Cup June 15
- Long Distance Races - Evolving
- 300 July 12
- Youngstown Chase July 25-27
- Long Distance Race - Evolving
- Cornucopia (DYC) August 30-31
- Frostbite October 5
- Marks Out by October 18
- Racers Banquet November 15

<https://www.dalhousieyachtclub.com/event>



Dalhousie Yacht Club, annually for the past quarter century, has hosted the DYC-Easter Seals Ontario Regatta in which boat owners volunteer their boat and crew to take children & young adults with physical disabilities for a boat ride on Lake Ontario. This event also includes on shore entertainment, such as Puppet Show, steel band music, visits with Canada Coast Guard and St. Catharines Fire Fighter members and more. This past year, on shore events were a Magic Show, face painting, balloon critters, and kids allowed to climb on a fire truck and GAMRU's search and rescue boat and not to forget, musical entertainment from DYC's own balladeer, Neil Brockman. While we were unable to take guests onto the lake because of high winds and waves, everyone seemed to enjoy the entertainment, as well as the lunch of Domino's pizza, back bacon on a bun and healthy snack foods like donuts, chips, rice krispy bars and veggies.

Dalhousie Yacht Club is now looking for a member to take on the role of Chair, working together with Easter Seals Ontario, many volunteers and sponsors to organize the DYC-Easter Seals Regatta 2025. The role of Chair is not an onerous task, given that many members step up to help, Easter Seals Ontario arranges our guest lists and local businesses are very supportive.

Previous Chair, Tom Schulz, feels he should retire from this position but is ready and willing to help a new Chair as needed. If you have an interest, have questions or want more information, please feel free to contact [Patti-Jo Chambers](#) or [Tom Schulz](#).



Captured by
John Marshall Goodyear
The Christmas tree
was hung by the
yacht club with care,
in hopes that
Captain Nicholas
soon would be there.

Thank you John, for your
amazing photographs
that capture DYC,
Port Dalhousie, our
clubhouse and our boats.



Last get-together of 2024 for the "DYC Adventurers", aka the Wise-Guys, Wrinklies and Ancient Mariners. It was meant to be the ugly Christmas sweater day, but not everyone reads their emails or remembers what was in them.

These gatherings are most Wednesday afternoons in the DYC bar during the winter and under "Betty's-Tent" during the warmer months.

This year's activities included history presentations; whiskey tasting; guess-the-younger-person-in-the-photo; quiz's; show & tell; table-top sailboat racing and general comradery oh and a beer or two.

There is also the frequent passing of "The Trophy," where the only rule is decided by the current recipient of The Trophy, it could be for something outstanding or something silly or 'just-because'. A tradition has morphed into taking a picture of The Trophy in a place of pride at home and sending to the other participants.

Who knows what 2025 will bring? *Jim*

Happy Holidays, DYC Adventurers, aka The Wise-Guys, Wrinklies and Ancient Mariners!

Wishing you all good health, loads of laughter and more wise decisions throughout 2025.

Dear Members,

As we celebrate the holiday season, I would like to express along with my fellow flag and board of directors, our heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your dedication and hard work over the past year. We truly appreciate the time and effort you have invested in our yacht club.

From the many construction projects to the diligent maintenance of our facilities and equipment, and your unwavering commitment to keeping our operations running smoothly. Your contributions have made a significant difference! It is your passion and teamwork that have helped us thrive as a community.

I hope to see many of you at our [New Year's Eve Levee](#), an opportunity to cheer one another for the friendship and comradery shared over the year. If you can make it out, it would be a great opportunity to check out our new sailboat racing game in the members lounge and tap a tip to our friends at [GAMRU](#), a quick and easy way to donate \$2 or \$5 and contribute to raising necessary funds to help keep us safe on the lake.



New Year's Eve Levee 2024 | Dalhousie Yacht Club

Join us at the Sunset Dining Room with your fellow DYC members and toast to the New Year.

www.dalhousieyachtclub.com



This Christmas, may your homes be filled with warmth, joy, and the spirit of togetherness. I look forward to celebrating the past year and toasting to new adventures with all of you at the Levee on the afternoon of Tuesday, December 31st 2 - 6 pm, entertainment by Dan Serre.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Warm regards, *Leigh*

2025 DYC Board Nominations

Nominating Committee

- James Desjardins
- Patti-Jo Chambers
- Leigh Brown
- Alan Crozier
- Murray Fischer

Slate:

			Position	Incumbents
F L A G	O F F I C E R S	D I R E C T O R S	Commodore	Patti-Jo Chambers
			Vice Commodore	James Desjardins
			Rear Commodore	Jeff Newkirk
			Treasurer	Paul Demare
			Secretary	Dave Thomas
			House	OPEN
			Yard	OPEN
			Entertainment	Genivieve Hunt
			Membership	OPEN
			Docks	Sean Furniss
			LTS	Marion Markarian
			Fleet	OPEN
			At Large	Brenda LaPointe

Nominees

- Jason Matsugu
- Sandra Chave
- Steve Kopeschny
- Neil Brockman

It's That Time of Year Again

Do You Think You'd Like to Be Part of the Board of Directors?

If you have any interest in becoming a Board Member

- If you want to know more about the responsibilities of a Board Member;
- If you want to know about the time commitment of a Board Member;
- If you want to know more about the skills needed to be a Board Member.

Ask any Board Member ~ who has a good understanding of each of the portfolios and expectations.

Nomination Night has taken place November 7th. On this night, a slate of nominations was displayed for consideration as Board Members for the next year. Nominations will close (January 2nd) two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.

If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the Board or if you just want some more information about the Board, please reach out to any one of us, our contact information can be found on the last page of The Breeze.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held Thursday, January 16th, 2025 6:30 pm.

History Matters: HISTORY of RACING at DYC 1986 to 2023

By Chris Turner



The Kirby One design years.

Kirby 25 was designed by Bruce Kirby and built in Ontario as a Canadian answer to the very popular J24, designed by an American Rod Johnson. The first Kirby 25 in the Club was owned by Fred Northcote who purchased it new. It was then purchased by a Alan Pixton consortium and raced very seriously from 1995 to 2000 under the name of Shark Fund (since the consortium original intention was to buy a Shark with multiple owners). It was then purchased for the 2001 season by Chris Turner and renamed Ruby Tuesday. Originally sailed in the PHRF spinnaker fleet, it was later joined by Pablo 2 owned by Paul Haynes in 2003. This started an avalanche of purchases between 2005 and 2015 by skippers (Rick Dorrington, Max Keeping, Andrew Krall, Simon Krall, Tom Taylor, Steve Rigby, Brian Schmidt, Fred Northcote, and later Larry Hildebrandt, Theo Spatinos and Dennis Angle) because it was at that time much less expensive than buying a J24. During this period there was regularly 7 to 8 Kirby's on the start line at DYC

During the 2005-2012 period, Kirby 25 went through a resurgence of interest throughout Ontario, with the subsequent emergence of the Road Warrior Series. Because the boat was very trailer able, there were set up 5 regattas in various areas including Barrie, Frenchman Bay, Nepean (Ottawa), Youngstown (USA) and Dalhousie.

Unfortunately, the fleet slowly depleted, until during Covid the Kirby nearly vanished from the racing scene. However, with the purchase of a few boats for the Learn to Sail program, DYC is hoping to regenerate a one design fleet.

Cornucopia Regatta:

Started in 1988 by Peter Bartkiw (owner of Iniquitous) with help from the Board and in particular Norm Brooks to emulate the very successful Level Regatta held at Youngstown NY in July.

The schedule was set for the long Labour Day weekend at the beginning of September every season. Originally set up as a whole weekend affair with a welcoming party on Friday night and a full party on Saturday evening with cookout and beer served in tents set up in the A yard area. Sunday late afternoon was a lighter affair to accompany the award ceremony, the caterer offered a la carte menus in the Clubhouse. Respectable live bands played from 1800 to 2300 hours to attract not only the sailors, but sailors' families and friends.

Saturday Full racing on Saturday and Sunday (up to 5 races each day)

The most participants occurred during the early 90's when up to 80 - 90 boats in 5 fleets started attracting boats from the US, NOTL and the north shore. In later years the Regatta lost some of its appeal when Bronte Yacht Club held a similar event (Bronte Rocks) on the same weekend on the north shore, however it remained a very exciting event on the DYC calendar. With the resurgence of the Kirby class, a one design fleet was prominent with boats visiting from Frenchman's Bay, and Barrie.

In the post 2010 era, the regatta suffered from the same declining and aging boat owner issues plaguing the racing and boating scene in general.

The Regatta was not held during 2017 and 2019 because of high water levels and through the Covid epidemic 2020 to 2021 period. It was reinitiated by Race Chair Sean Furniss in 2022 with 18 boats and 2023 with 22 boats in 3 fleets. The highlight of the latest event is the 1 design Laser 28 fleet. The Regatta for 2024 was hoping to attract 2nd one design fleet of Kirby 25's.

Equipment

Mast crane located on the west side adjacent the Clubhouse remained basically unchanged from 1986 to 2023, except for the way in which the hook is raised and lowered. Since 2015 a repurposed electric drill was used in lieu of a human powered winch device. In 2023 this was replaced with a custom-built electric winch which provides instant breaking on release of the switch

Dry Hoist located to the NW of the Clubhouse was designed, constructed and installed by DYC members began operation in May 2010. This installation was generated by the need to lift smaller sailing boats, in particular the Kirby 25, J24's and Sharks, from the water during the season, to allow the boats to travel and to reduce the cost to the Club craneage for the launching and haul out of sailing boats into A yard. During the Kirby era, it was used for dry sailing, to allow visitors to trailer their boats to DYC. During the upgrade and reconstruction of the Harbour piers, the crane was made more accessible by relocating it further north along the edge of the harbour wall, so it was opposite the yard A entry gates on Lighthouse Rd.

Travel Lift Purchased in 2021 from Sugarloaf Marina Port Colborne, with the purpose of reducing the cost of craneage at launch and haul out of boats into C yard. With the increase demand for docks and winter storage, its dual purpose was to increase the density of vessels in C yard. Initiated by a very forward-thinking Dave Pressley, and Dale Jack, the crane was disassembled in Port Colborne, transported to Dalhousie Harbour and reconstructed and modified in-house by very able volunteers from DYC oversaw by Dave Pressley. A massive undertaking, the initial purchase and the building of a new runway and entry well was largely constructed using volunteer DYC expertise and the heavy civil engineering equipment from Rankin Construction. Operational for the first haul out in 2021 it has been used both to reduce

the cost of haulage and increase the efficiency of the semi-annual undertaking. It also, has enabled the Club to accommodate a larger number of boats in winter storage, improving the Clubs financial bottom line.

Race Committee and the Committee Boat:

In the late 1980s and early 1990s the committee boat (CB) and crew were very graciously provided by Gord Andrew and Hunter's Moon. At this time there were no race marks.

Then we went through a few years with volunteer starting boats mainly from racers, but also members with motor boats, but it was hard to maintain interest in the activity for long periods. This era was also known for its "rabbit starts" when a CB was not available. This required one of the racers to start on starboard tack cross the start line with the remaining fleet passing by their stern on a port tack. This made for some interesting maneuvers and results.

For the 1999 season, the Club purchased with a lot of assistance from Brian Rice, a used motor vessel (Over Early) about 25 ft long. It was crewed by a Race Committee (RC) made up of volunteers and when this didn't suffice, a group composed of skippers and crew from a race boat, which was selected each week from a duty schedule.

About this same time, race marks, made up of used sealed 44-gallon plastic containers, were set out in a circle of about 0.75 nm radius at roughly the 8 cardinal points and at the centre. These marks were launched at the beginning of each season, freeing up some of the pre-race activities required of the RC.

Over Early was used over many seasons, but DYC Racing was always on the lookout for a heavier vessel which would be more stable in rough seascapes making it more hospitable for the Race Committee volunteers. The prerequisites of a large open flat stern area to provide more room and seating for the RC, and the installation of a flag mast, was fulfilled when in November 2010 Over Early was retired and a repurposed commercial tug, Brutus, was approved and purchased from Florida. With some financial assistance from Ed Berkhout (who was given the naming rights for the new vessel), a new era of CB was established. With a lot of loving care from Lloyd Burton, Brutus is still in operation today.

In stages, the starting and signaling apparatus has been upgraded from air horns to propane "bird bangers" and recently to an electronic device. In 2023, a smart timer "Ergo" (named after the software writer) was used very successfully by the RC, not only for the Wednesday night races but also for the Cornucopia Regatta. The device operates from cell phone and an inbuilt software app. It comes complete, with airhorns timer and prompts for raising and lowering of flags, in one package.

While the operation had got more sophisticated, the age long issue of finding and maintaining a RC has remained. Ellen Ann Fowler who retired after the 2022 season, was committee chair for 8 years. Around her she accumulated a crew which carried out their duties faithfully .

In 2023, the new RC Crew consisted of Josh, Kevin, Jason and other part timers. The Racers are very thankful for their enthusiasm and dedication, because without their help, we would be still running races the way we did in the 1980's.

The Harbour:

The original harbour piers were set up for commercial traffic using the second and third Welland Canals. When the 4th Canal entrance moved to Port Weller, Dalhousie harbour was used to access Muir Brother's Dry Dock, a fishing fleet base, and repairs and storage of recreational and commercial craft.

Racing and docking in the Dalhousie Harbour has always been difficult and dynamic. In the early days, the racers were moored around the edges of the harbour. In 1962 wood docks were introduced on the west side of the harbour. Boats have always struggled with the wind particularly from the north quadrant and the variable north set current from Martindale Pond and 12 Mile Creek.

Following the construction of the Heywood Power station at the north end of Martindale Pond in 1986, the Harbour experienced numerous current issues. Pressured by the DYC and other harbour recreational users, the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) through the engineering consultant Acres Niagara, conducted studies seeking solutions. From September 1988 to September 1996 the removal of the existing and construction of a new break-wall at Lockhart Point was discussed. In November 1997, the government decided to install a new breakwater groin to deflect the current away from the A and B docks on the west side of the harbour.

In October 1990, the federal government was interested in constructing a new marina to augment the harbour and to improve the boating safety on the Lake. Work began on the site at Michigan Beach directly north of the Clubhouse and outside the east pier. At the Club level, discussion was held to investigate the possibility of relocating the DYC docks to the new marina. However, inclusion was dismissed by October 1991. It was then up to DYC to instigate upgrades to the existing docks within the harbour. Steel floating A docks had been installed in 1977. Construction of new piles and steel framed wood deck for our fixed Dock B were initiated during the winter of 2007. During the high-water levels experienced during the 2017 and 2019 seasons, Dock B platform was raised. Because of the age, the ongoing maintenance required of the existing docks A and B, and the pressure to increase the number and size of docks, DYC in 2024 once again is researching and raising the finances required to replace the existing facilities.

The original Harbour piers were constructed for the Second Welland Canal using wood framed cribs topped with wood decking. This framework was later topped with concrete. After many

repairs over recent times, the Harbour piers started to show significant signs of deterioration and sections of collapse, so from 2013 to 2018, the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) undertook a harbour study resulting in the closure of both piers to the public. Public polls showed that the residents of Niagara strongly felt that the piers should be reconstructed to match the existing structures. Following a redesign, reconstruction of the piers was started in January 2018 and completed for the 2022 season. At that time the federal government relinquished the ownership and responsibility of the piers to the City of St. Catharines. DYC continues to seek long term water and land leases on areas occupied by the Club, so that future expenditures have a sound foundation.



LUNCH

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Thank you, Anne Kalagian, for capturing these precious moments for our Members, the wee ones and grown.
No doubt, they will be remembered for year's to come!
(Click on the link above to check out the smiles through Anne's lens).





Lunch with Santa

CHILDREN'S MENU
PENNE & MEATBALLS
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MENU
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THE DYC Clubhouse + SUNSET IS CLOSED

January 1st - to Tuesday, January 14

RE- OPENING

WEDNESDAY, January 15

3 pm.

Holiday Hours

Wednesday December 25 - Open for Pick-Up 2:00 to 4:00

Thursday December 26 - Closed

Friday December 27- 12:00 to 9:00

Saturday December 28- 12:00 to 9:00

Sunday December 29 - 2:00 to 9:00

Tuesday December 31 - Open for DYC Member Levee

Closed January 1 to January 12 for Renovations

Reopening On Wednesday January 15 at 3:00 p.m.

**From the Editor's Desk . . .**

Wishing you all the best of happiness, loads of laughter and good health for 2025! I'll look forward to sharing it with you in the Sunset, in the yards, on the docks and on the water.

Brenda Hazlewood handed over the reigns to THE BREEZE to me July of 2019. It's been a pleasure keeping you all updated of DYC happenings throughout these past seasons. I truly will miss it!



It's time to pass the torch (aka - mouse), to Tracey Cookson. I'll be looking forward to receiving and enjoying her BREEZE issues, as I know many of you will.

Be sure to continue to submit thoughts, pictures or ponderings to

THE BREEZE. It's so appreciated! Sincerely, *Patti-jo*





Many thanks to Grant Joyce, of the Joyce Foundation, for his generous support and donation to our Learn to Sail Program and the RS ZEST SAILBOAT, sail and trailer.

As well, a big thank you to Bill Richardson who donated a LASER 1 SAILBOAT to the LTS Program - complete with one used sail, one new sail, plus the trailer and a spinnaker to DYC.

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Saturday December 7, 2024

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7:00 - Dinner

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NEW YEAR'S EVE LEVEE

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 31, 2024
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the New Year!

Light fare provided by DYC Board
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Past Commodore	Lew Holloway	past.comm@dalhousieyachtclub.com		
Treasurer	Paul Demare	treasurer@dalhousieyachtclub.com	647 -209 -9985	
Secretary	Dave Thomas	secretary@dalhousieyachtclub.com		Windsong
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Dining & Entertainment Director	Genevieve Hunt	food@dalhousieyachtclub.com		Volare
Dock Chair	Sean Furniss	docks@dalhousieyachtclub.com	416 436 4831	Ginja Ninja
Fleet Chair		fleet@dalhousieyachtclub.com		
LTS	Marion Markarian	sailing.school@dalhousieyachtclub.com	905- 687- 0418	Chimo
House Chair	Brian Fulton	house@dalhousieyachtclub.com	905- 329- 6226	Wishbone
Membership Chair	Claire Camden	membership@dalhousieyachtclub.com	905 931` 9561	Didgeridoo
Director at Large	Brenda LaPointe	brenda.lapointe@dalhousieyachtclub.com		Ditto

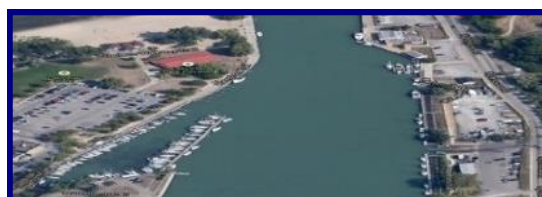
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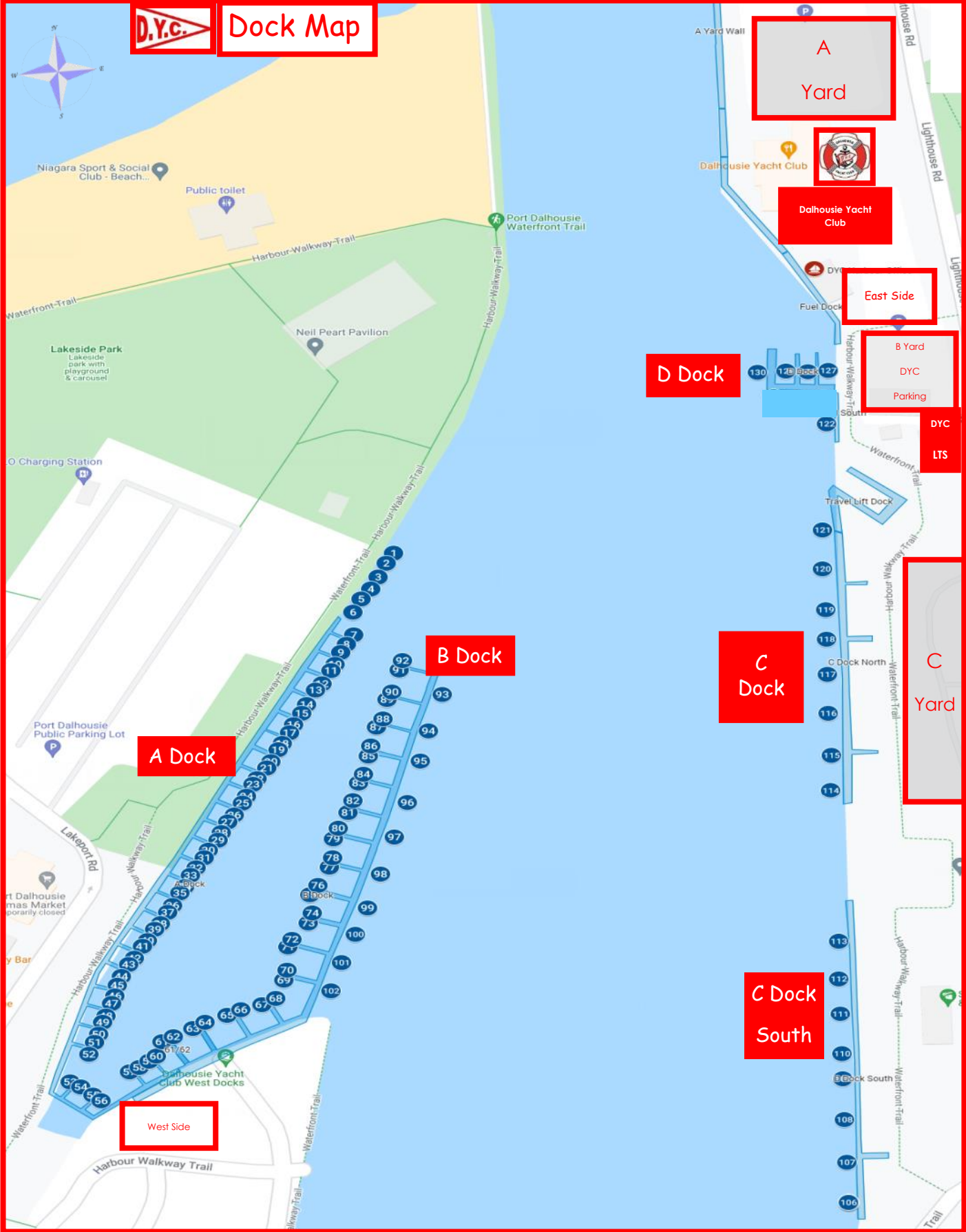
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Vision Statement: The Dalhousie Yacht Club is a friendly, safe and affordable boating community dedicated to learning, respect for all, and enjoyment in all aspects of the sport of boating.

November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 7 pm Darts + Eucher Night	7 Members Info Night Nominations + Docs 6:30 p.m.	8	9
10	11	12	13 7 pm Darts + Eucher Night	14	15	16 RACER'S BANQUET
17	18 DECK THE HALLS	19	20 7 pm Darts + Eucher Night	21	22 ILLUMINATION NIGHT	23
24	25	26	27 7 pm Darts + Eucher Night	28	29	30 LUNCH WITH SANTA

Rabbie Burns Night ~ Saturday, January 18th
Launch Dates—April 26, 27 + May 3

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 7 pm Darts + Eucher Night	5	6	7 DYC MEMBERS CHRISTMAS DINNER
8	9	10	11 7 pm Darts + Eucher Night	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 7 pm Darts + Eucher Night	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Years Eve Levee 2-6 pm	 Sorry We're CLOSED The DYC Clubhouse + SUNSET ARE CLOSED January 1st - 14th. Re-opening Wednesday, January 15 @ 3 p.m.			

ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025 6:30 PM.