

# Genesee Yacht Club News



[www.geneseeyc.org](http://www.geneseeyc.org) ... [gycweb@geneseeyc.org](mailto:gycweb@geneseeyc.org)



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Editor: Nancy Pikuet

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## FEBRUARY

22 PHRF Class

## MARCH

5 Member Meeting  
12 Executive Board Meeting  
28 PHRF Meeting  
29 PHRF Meeting

## April

2 Members Meeting  
4 Private Party  
9 Executive Board Meeting

**DEADLINE**  
**for the next**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**is**

**March 12, 2020**

**E-MAIL items to**

[nap1314@rochester.rr.com](mailto:nap1314@rochester.rr.com)

## Member Mtg Agenda

- ★ Program:
- ★ Guest Introductions
- ★ Treasurer's Report
- ★ Secretary's Report
- ★ Commodore's Report
- ★ Vice Comm's Report
- ★ Rear Comm's Report
- ★ Committee Reports
- ★ Unfinished Business
- ★ New Business

## UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

21 Movie Night



### MARCH

20 Movie Night

**50/50**  
**Gerard Fisher**

♦ The updated job list is posted on the bulletin board. If there is anything you can help with, please sign up.

♦ No Brunch in March

♦ Voyager has agreed to allow members to park on their property for the winter Members Meetings. Please be responsible while parking there.



♦ Dues Need to be paid by March 5. Dock invoices will be sent out the end of February and are due by the April meeting

♦ There is a link on the GYC Racing Page titled "Race Volunteer Signup." Sign up early in order to get the dates of your choice for Race Committee.

♦ It is very important to keep track of the work done at the club, so please fill out the new chit sheets. Be sure to indicate the purpose of your work especially if it is related to flood remediation.

♦ CPR/AED training at Irondequoit Fire Dept. on Feb 23.

♦ Waterfront Project Ballot Passed

♦ The front boardwalk is being removed, the seawall evaluated and temporarily reinstalled at a raised elevation before the Spring Launch.



## In This Issue

Calendar / "Take Note"  
Events and Notices  
Meeting Minutes

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## **Note from the Commodore**



The winter months are often a time of reduced club activity. However, with floods two out of three years and a more than 50% chance of flooding in the year to come<sup>1</sup>, there is much to do.

The Executive Board presented the Waterfront Capital Improvement Project motion in January. This project addresses several pervasive problems the club deals with during high water. The projects in the motion are ones that could be completed in 2020 and to be sure we will need to deal with other areas in future years. About 65% of the membership cast ballots with a 95% agreement with the motion. The executive board is humbled by this level of support from the membership.

The projects continue to be evaluated, and we will continue to communicate about timing, plan details as well as other areas needing temporary solutions. The members-only page of the GYC website has information available including a recently added Project Status Update link which will be refreshed as details change. You can expect updates at membership meetings and at special informational meetings. The GYC Flood Blog, accessed from the home page, is also a location to look for new information.

In January the REDI LOBRP Grant was filed on time with help from LaBella, Jim Kavanaugh, Gary Leary, and the executive board. This grant has a potential cash benefit of up to \$200,000, or 50% of the value of grant-approved work completed. The state expects 180 applications with a total allocation of \$30M. Filing ours with help from a recognized Architecture, Engineering, Environmental and Planning firm further helps our case.

The goal of all of this off-season work is to enable us to do what our club is all about – sail and enjoy club comradery. Let's hope that the Lake does not flood, but if it does, our resolve to sail on will hold us together.

Footnote:

1] February 14 Tony David, U.S. member of the International Lake Ontario St. Lawrence River Board

Condolences to Paul Pytlak

On the passing of his Mother  
Lorraine Pytlak

February 19, 2020

### Membership Changes

These are the Associate members who moved to Active Membership:

**Pat Good-Speed Grant**

**Michael Insalaco**

**Robert Kreilick**

**Chic Lasser**

**William Mallory**

**Jack Morris**

**William Schulz**

The following Associate members have moved to Social membership:

**Patrick Barrett**

**James Spears**

**Carol Vallese**

The following Associate members have resigned:

**Steven McGrath**

**John Rodgers**

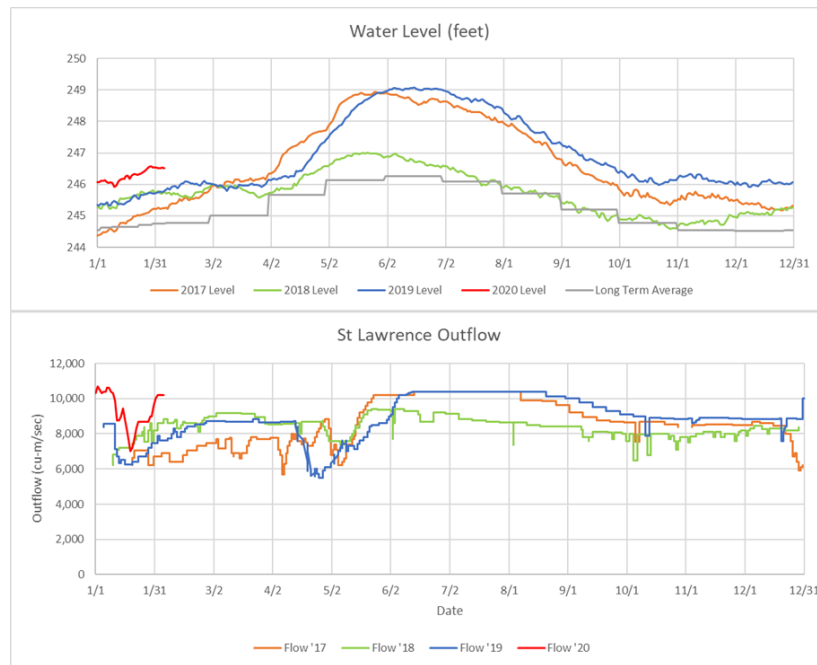
The following Active Member has resigned:

**Jack Jessmer**

GYC's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Winter Wonderland's Chili Fest was a huge success



The Lake Ontario water level is higher than at this time in 2019. See the graphs and discussion below.



As you may know, the IJC has authorized the River Board to work outside of the bounds defined by 2014 to release as much water as possible in advance of the seasonal spring thaw and rains.

The seaway remained open to shipping through December, and through that period outflows were managed to the accepted high flow limits +200 m<sup>2</sup>/s for safe navigation.

Upon closure of the seaway, outflows were ramped up significantly for the first week of January. Then ice formation began which lead to a series of downward flow adjustments. Within the past week, outflow has again been increased. The net result is that January finished 6 inches higher than it started and is now running about 21 inches above the seasonal average.

Why is this happening? Certainly the weather is playing a major role. All of the great lakes are at or near record high levels with little opportunity for man-made control. There is a high flow through the Niagara River into Ontario as a result, and inflow will be constant for this coming season. The local Ontario basin weather plays a more immediate role in water level dynamics, on top of this constant inflow from the other Great Lakes. The management of outflow in the Saint Lawrence therefore ultimately determines what happens. During shipping season, it is controlled for safe navigation. In winter, ice dams need to be managed. In spring, the Ottawa river dumps into the St. Lawrence at Montreal, and the city floods if the combined flow is too high. This last constraint is what is responsible for outflow reductions which cause the rapid and unpredictable rise April – May.

For this year, we are starting high as of now. Outflows are also high now, at 10,200 m<sup>2</sup>/s. That is nearly the peak level from last summer, which was 10,400. If we sustain this high outflow, the lake level will drop creating some storage capacity for the seasonal spring events.

There is a lot of snow in the northern Ottawa basin – this is not good.

Current predictions are pointing to high water; the question is, just how high? Our approach will be to be prepared for the worst, while we hope for the best.