

GYC Journeys

December 2025
Volume 92, Issue 13



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COMMODORE'S Corner



What a wonderful time of year! Digging out all of our Christmas decorations, setting up for annual Children's Holiday Party and getting together in the Robert F. Read Room to laugh about great times this past summer and to fondly reminisce our absent friends.

After many years of worrying about the gas fireplace in the Robert Read room, I am so pleased to announce that we were able to install a brand new, state of the art fireplace. It provides the perfect '*roasting fire*' ambiance and warmth to the room, without turning it into a sauna! On top of that, it has many safety features that will help protect our club. Directions are next to the TV, please review before using.

I want to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May the holiday season bring you all joy and happiness and I look forward to seeing you in 2026.

**NOTICE: January, 2026 meeting will be held on January 8, 2026,
Executive Board Meeting will be held on January 15, 2026**



See more Christmas pictures on page 17

Keeping the Fleet in Sight - Vice Commodore Report

Bob Blakley



We have a potential opportunity for a GYC member looking for a 2026 slip at GYC if your sailboat fits. We have GYC River Slip #7 open for assignment for the 2026 season.

It has a measured distance of 9.02 ft between the wood pilings, which means according to Club rules, a boat with a beam of about 8.00 ft should be able to fit into this slip. Our rules state that a boat under 25 ft in length should have at least 12" minimum beam clearance. The consideration here is neighboring boats and adequate clearance while docked.

If the owner is willing to accept the risk and it is deemed there would be no interference with boats on either side, less beam clearance can be considered. Please contact me for more information about this issue if needed.

The size of the slip is meant for a boat with an LOA of 22 to 26 ft due this slip being on the river. While I intend to reach out to a few boat owners I think might be interested, the offer is open to any GYC member with a sailboat, even if they did not sign up for a GYC dock assignment. Remember, there are some restrictions such as seniority, not having two boats docked at GYC, etc which will apply. This slip is available due to a leave of absence request by the current slip 'owner', which means it is a bumpable and is NOT a permanent assignment. Please take that into consideration should you have a slip with another marina as you could potentially be asked to move mid season and would then have to find a new home for your boat!

If someone is interested, they should submit a written request to myself with a copy to Commodore Joel Doyle for review and consideration. Any questions, please send me an email or call.

We do put up an annual dock slip request sign up sheet which comes down after the December membership meeting. I would always recommend that you sign up for a slip with the club. Even if you feel your seniority or boat size might disqualify you! You have to be in it, to win in it!!! Sometimes circumstances create a scenario where you just might get lucky!

I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years!

Guiding Winds from the Stern - Rear Commodore Report

Kevin Reilly



I am pleased to announce that the Executive Board has purchased a Philips SmartHeart AED for the racing program. The AED will be carried on the Elaine Carter, as the markset boat is not anchored during the race and can respond to a medical emergency quickly.

In the event of a cardiac emergency, seconds matter and knowing we will have the equipment and personnel on hand to respond is very important. I am grateful for the wisdom of our Board to take a lead on this.

We are looking into scheduling a First Aid/CPR training class for club members in 2026. As Captain Ron said: *"If anything is going to happen, it's going to happen out there!"* We want to be sure we're all prepared.

I would also like to thank **Jeanne de Keyserling** for her very generous donation of a new chair for our committee boat. It was very much needed and will be greatly appreciated by our Committee crew next year!

I too want to wish everyone a very special holiday season. This is a great time of year for friends and family and I want to thank all of you for your hard work! Now....let's get ready for 2026 racing!

An AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is crucial because it delivers an electric shock to reset a heart in sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), dramatically increasing survival rates (often to 50-70% from under 10%) when used within minutes, which is vital since every minute without defibrillation reduces survival by 7-10%.

More information on pg 6

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GYC

January 08	General Membership Meeting
January 10	Euchre Tournament
January 15	Executive Board Meeting
February 21	Euchre Tournament
March 7	Chili Cookoff
March 21	Euchre Tournament
April 18	Euchre Tournament

Membership Packet Awarded

Kathy Gamut



GYC Provisional Membership Approved

Will Phipps

Active Membership Approved

Amy Aaronson & Bill Baum



• Next Month we Vote On:
Provisional Membership - Chris Sullivan & Patrick Berl

Please check the 2025 Directory for Accuracy!
Check you email, phone number, boat name & more!

If you would like to change something, contact
Craig Roth before the end of the year.

craigroth6@gmail.com

Directory is online in member's section at
<https://geneseeyc.org/>

**Would you like to add something to the GYC
Newsletter?**

**Contact Christopher Toole at
Toolenaround16@gmail.com**



If people want to email work hours, please send them to
Pat DeMetsenaere
(jerryco@frontiernet.net)
Be sure to beat the October 31st deadline!!!



2026 EXECUTIVE BOARD

COMMODORE Joel Doyle

VICE-COMMODORE Bob Blakley

REAR-COMMODORE Kevin Reilly

SECRETARY Peggy Braitch

TREASURER Robert Gibson

PAST-COMMODORE Kevin Dudarchik

MEMBER at LARGE Joanne Mudge (2027)

MEMBER at LARGE Frank Woods (2027)

MEMBER at LARGE Terry Pitt (2026)

MEMBER at LARGE Nick Lang (2026)



Lake Ontario Water Level

- Friday, December 12, 2025 - 244.23ft
- December long term average - 243.80 - 244.32
- Deep water temperature - 41° F

Would you like more information?

Go to the International Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River
Board's websight for more!

<https://ijc.org/en/loslrb/watershed/water-levels>

Thank you Rich Allen for this tip!!!!



TowBoatU.S.

TowBoatUS Rochester and Captain Grant Langheinrich stand by to provide assistance in the Rochester boating area 24/7.

Need a tow in the Rochester area?

Call

Oneida Marine Group, Inc.
Rochester, NY (585) 797-9847



Easy Link to GYC Work Needs

We've made the link to our volunteer work needs easier
(thanks Ken Patterson and Rich Allen).

Simply go to the GYC website
www.geneseeyc.com

If you are using a computer, the heading
Volunteer Work Needs is in bold on the right.

If you are using a phone, scroll down to the same link

This will take you to **SignUpGenius** and on that page you
will see a listing of all the available jobs.

**Start planning your volunteer schedule for our 2026
season!!!!**

Reminder—

If you are joining or renewing
BoatUS membership, our
cooperating Group ID number is:

GA80272Y

GYC Members Donate Gifts

Concerned members at GYC have been made aware that roughly 400 kids in our community will not be getting Christmas gifts despite a prior commitment from a local charity.

Apparently the charity that was going to help is falling short on donations and cannot meet this need and this group of children are now at risk of having nothing under the tree. Because of this, we are personally asking our friends for a bit of help.

While we know our friends are already very giving to those in need, we hope that some of you might consider picking up a toy, gift, or gift card, for a child ranging from 3yrs to 16yrs and dropping it off at any Bob Johnson location in Greece.

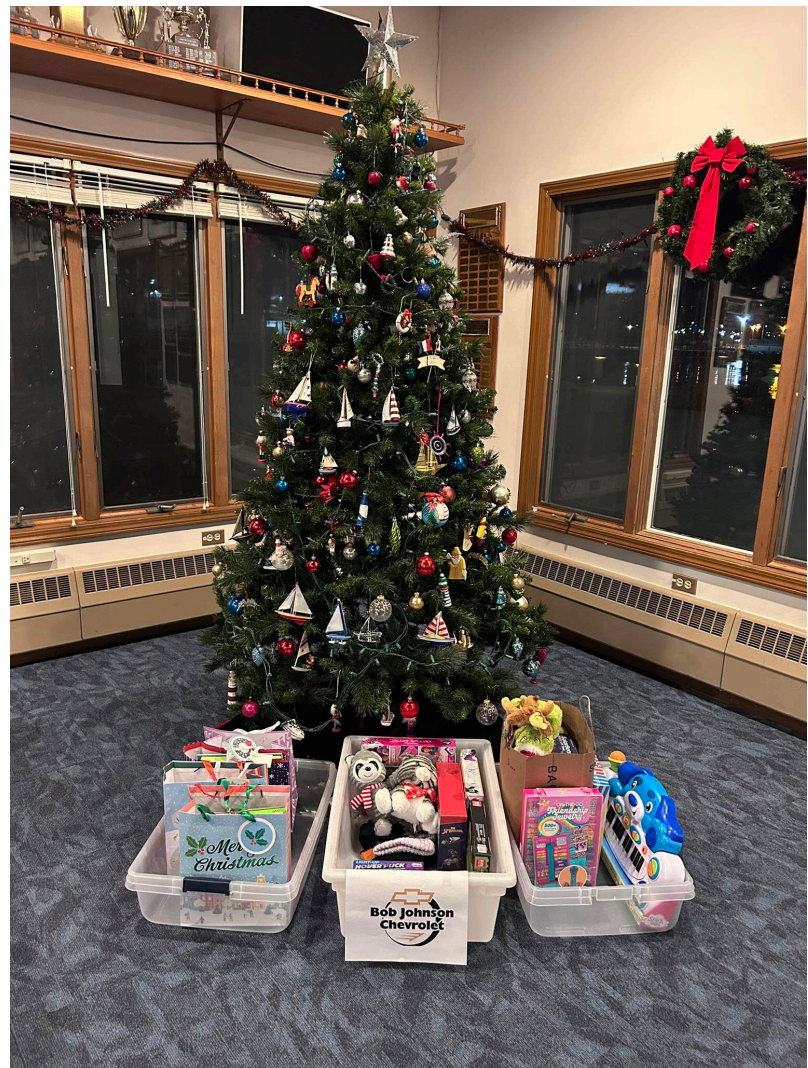
It doesn't have to be much, anything will help and trust me, the need is real. If you're not close by, or your schedule doesn't permit shopping, perhaps consider going on Amazon or another on-line source and picking something out. You can have it delivered



John Love is with **Johanna Salamone** ... X
Love.

1h · 2

Please share: We are almost there! Yesterday we delivered the first round of toys, and we have no doubt that we will hit our goal and meet the need. We owe a **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped this far. We have had the pleasure of meeting complete strangers who heard about our ask and have stepped up. We have been blessed with friends, family coworkers, customers all who have come together to make sure that these children who were at risk of being let down, will have the Christmas that every child deserves. This week is our big push to get across the finish line and there is no doubt that we'll get what we need to make sure these children have a bright Christmas morning. Thank you for what you've done so far. Stay tuned for updates.



to Santa @ Bob Johnson Chevrolet, 1271 West Ridge Rd Rochester NY 14615.

For children, the reality of poverty hits even harder when they are left wondering why Santa didn't stop at their home. I hope you will consider helping us stomp out the Grinch for these kids that deserve more than life has dealt them. Thank you for your friendship and for considering giving us a hand.

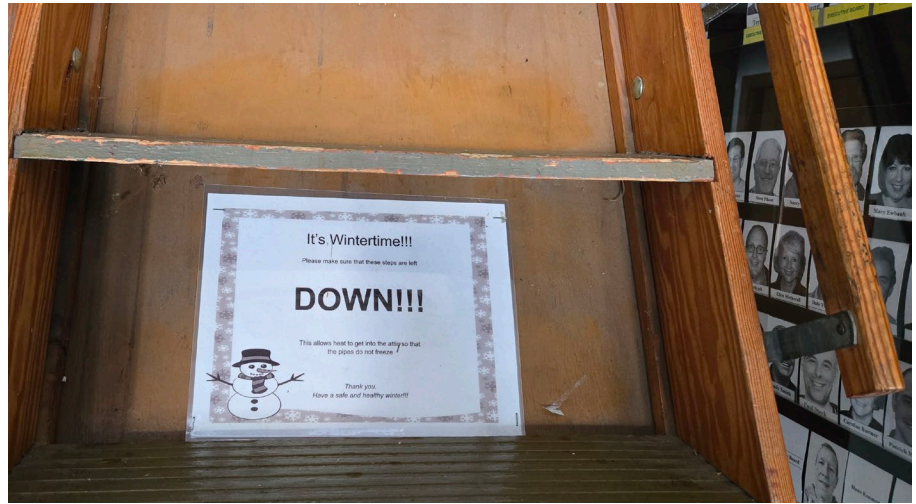
We have placed tote boxes under the GYC Christmas Tree, if you would like, you can purchase gifts and leave them at the Club for pickup. We will drop off any kind donations at Bob Johnson's up until Christmas. Please do not wrap your gifts so that they can be given to the appropriate child!

Support so far has been overwhelming and it is heartwarming to see our members rise up and help those that may be less fortunate during the holiday season.

~ **Nick Lang**



Baby It's Cold Outside

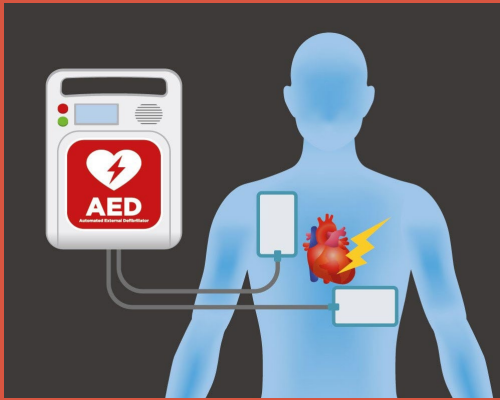


The GYC facility has changed over to its 'winter status'. During the cold months, care must be taken to insure that the entire building remains at a safe temperature to prevent pipes from freezing.

You will notice the doors to the Robert F. Read Room and the hallways are now closed to keep heat in. The stairs to the library on the second floor must remain down. This will allow heat to rise up and keep storage areas warm.

If you use the Club, please be sure that you leave the thermostat set and that you keep any doors with CLOSED signs closed and the stairs to the library down.

A Jolt of Hope When it's Needed Most



An AED (Automated External Defibrillator) works by analyzing the heart's electrical rhythm, and if it detects a chaotic, shockable rhythm (like ventricular fibrillation), it delivers a controlled electric shock to briefly stop the heart, allowing its natural pacemaker to reset and restore a normal rhythm, all guided by simple voice prompts for lay responders to use with CPR.

Here's a step-by-step breakdown:

- **Power On & Attach Pads:** Turn the AED on and place the electrode pads on the patient's bare chest as shown in the diagrams on the pads.
- **Analyze:** The AED uses the pads to read the heart's electrical activity (ECG) and automatically determines if a shock is needed.
- **Voice Prompts:** The device gives clear audio instructions, telling you to "Stand Clear" or "Do Not Touch" before a shock.
- **Deliver Shock (If Needed):** If a shock is advised, press the flashing shock button (or it may shock automatically). The jolt momentarily stops the heart's chaotic electrical signals.
- **Resume CPR:** Immediately after the shock, resume chest compressions (CPR) to keep blood flowing until the AED reanalyzes or help arrives.
- **Re-analyze:** The AED continues to monitor and will prompt for another analysis or shock if necessary, providing the best chance of survival during sudden cardiac arrest.

Why it's crucial: In sudden cardiac arrest, the heart's electrical system malfunctions, causing it to quiver uselessly instead of pumping blood. An AED effectively "resets" this system, potentially saving a life when used quickly with CPR.

PLEASE NOTE: Each AED is unique and you need to familiarize and train yourself with your specific unit!

Somebody's Watching You

It happens to all of us. We know better and we've seen the news segments, been admonished by our friends and family and yet in a moment of weakness or distraction we do the unthinkable.

We receive a text, a phone call or an email from someone we know or a corporation that we've done business with in the past. It's a simple request, a missed payment, a request for information, a follow up to a past purchase.

Why be concerned? You're in a hurry, you know what they need, take care of it now and follow up later.

What follows can be a simple lesson to be careful in the future or the first step in a catastrophe that in many cases leads to financial ruin. So many tragic and devastating stories of people that have fallen trap to phishing. Stories we all have seen and as we watch, we shake our heads and ponder... *'what were they thinking! How could they do that!'*

The digital age has opened a new world of access, communication and social openness that can leave even the most savvy computer users breathless. But there are ways to protect yourself and those that you potentially touch through your emails, texts and social media outlets.

Many of the things we should do are very obvious and we normally do them without thinking:

- **NEVER** provide someone with a password to **ANY** of your financial accounts, social media accounts, email accounts, apps or programs
- **NEVER** give **ANYONE** your personal information including social security numbers, bank account numbers, credit card information without knowing **EXACTLY** who you are talking to
- **NEVER** blindly respond to a phone call, text message or email without taking a step back and asking yourself.
 - o Do I know this person?
 - o Did I expect the call or text?
 - o Was I prepared to provide the information or funds and was just waiting on their request?
 - o Will my answer open me up to future requests or the possibility of access to my private life or finances?

Even though they are simple, it is the stress and/or distractions of life that cause us to make mistakes.

Easy enough to fix.

- When you receive a phone call, do you recognize the number? If not, the best solution is to not answer it. Let it go to voice mail, then see who it was.
 - o It can be hard to break yourself of that habit, the need to answer any call you get, but sometimes an attacker can use the simple 'hello' you utter as a way to get into your private world.
- When you get a text, think about the same questions. Treat every text as a potential attack. Especially if it is an unknown person or from someone you may have listed in your contacts but haven't heard from in years.
 - o Never text someone private or financial information unless you are absolutely certain of the receiver. Better to call or talk to that person or entity face to face.

Emails are much easier to scrutinize. Attackers can easily send you an email and have it 'look' like it is coming from a friend or a well known and trusted company.

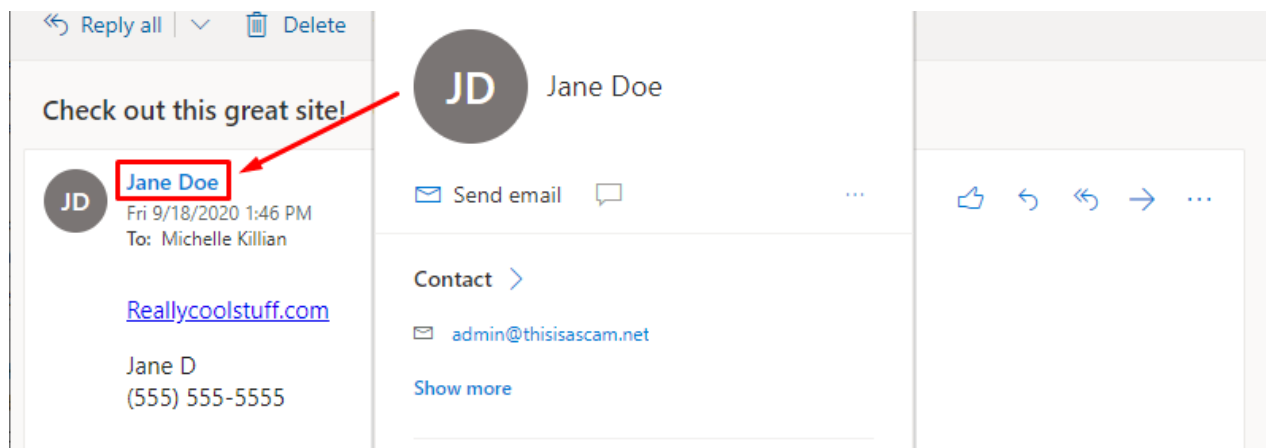
The easiest, and still one of the most effective ways to protect yourself is to validate the email address identity.

- First, hover over the 'from' display name to see what email address pops up (to hover, move your

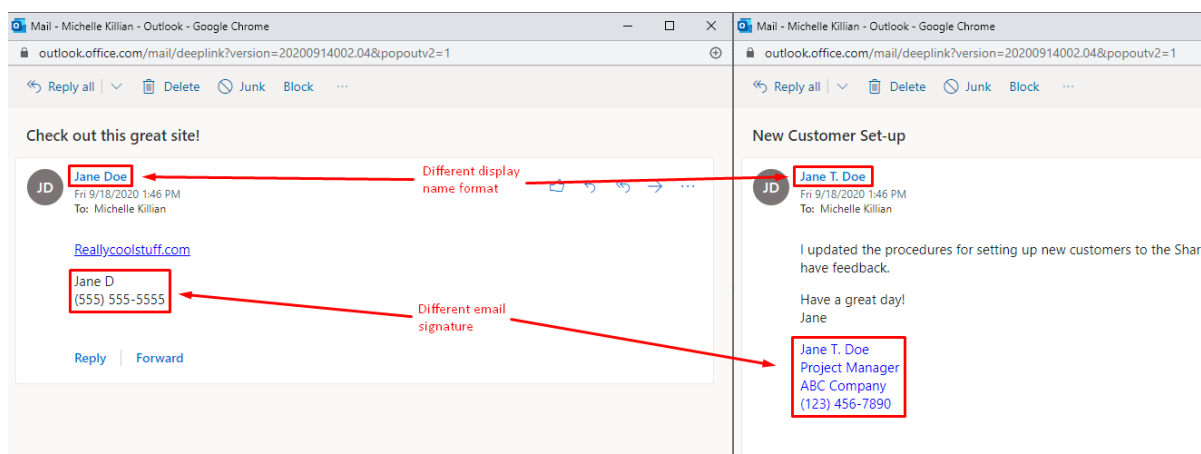


pointer over the information that you want to verify). It's very common for an attacker to spoof or fake a display name to look like it is coming from someone legitimate, but when you hover over the display name you'll often find that message is actually coming from someone else.

Notice in the picture below, the email is from Jane Doe, but when you hover over it, you can see the email is not what it appears to be!



- Still not convinced? If the email is coming from someone you regularly communicate with, compare the new message against older ones. Does the display name look the same for all emails? Is the email signature the same?



- And, lastly, try calling them! There's nothing like a good old-fashioned, pick-up-the-phone and ask the person if they meant to send you the *"I'm stuck in Paris and need money to get out now"* message – just make sure you use a phone number from your address book and not one on the potentially suspicious email.
- This 'hover' trick can also be very useful when examining a website. Attackers can easily create their own website to look like a legitimate business. It is nothing to download copies of company logos and recreate text and links that look like the real thing. By using the 'hover' trick you can see whether a link in an email is a legitimate link to *ACME.com* or to *WE-STEAL-EVERYTHING.com* that looks like *ACME*. By hovering over a link, the actual website that you will go to will be shown.

Usually email attacks happen because the attacker has accessed a legitimate business account and was able to steal email addresses. Once they do that, they will send out hundreds, sometimes thousands of emails to potential victims. If 1% of the emails generate a response, then 10,000 email attacks might generate 100 responses. 100 potential victims that just might fall prey to a request for money or access to private accounts. The profit in these attacks can be staggering and why they can be relentless.

Making Social Media Safe

Social media attacks often benefit from a specific target audience. Facebook, one of the largest outlets can be the easiest for attackers to use. All of us have either been the victim of someone creating a duplicate Facebook account in our name or have received a request from a *'friend'* that turns out to be false.

It is impossible to stop much of this from happening, but there are a few simple steps that will reduce the frequency of those attacks and perhaps stop the spread.

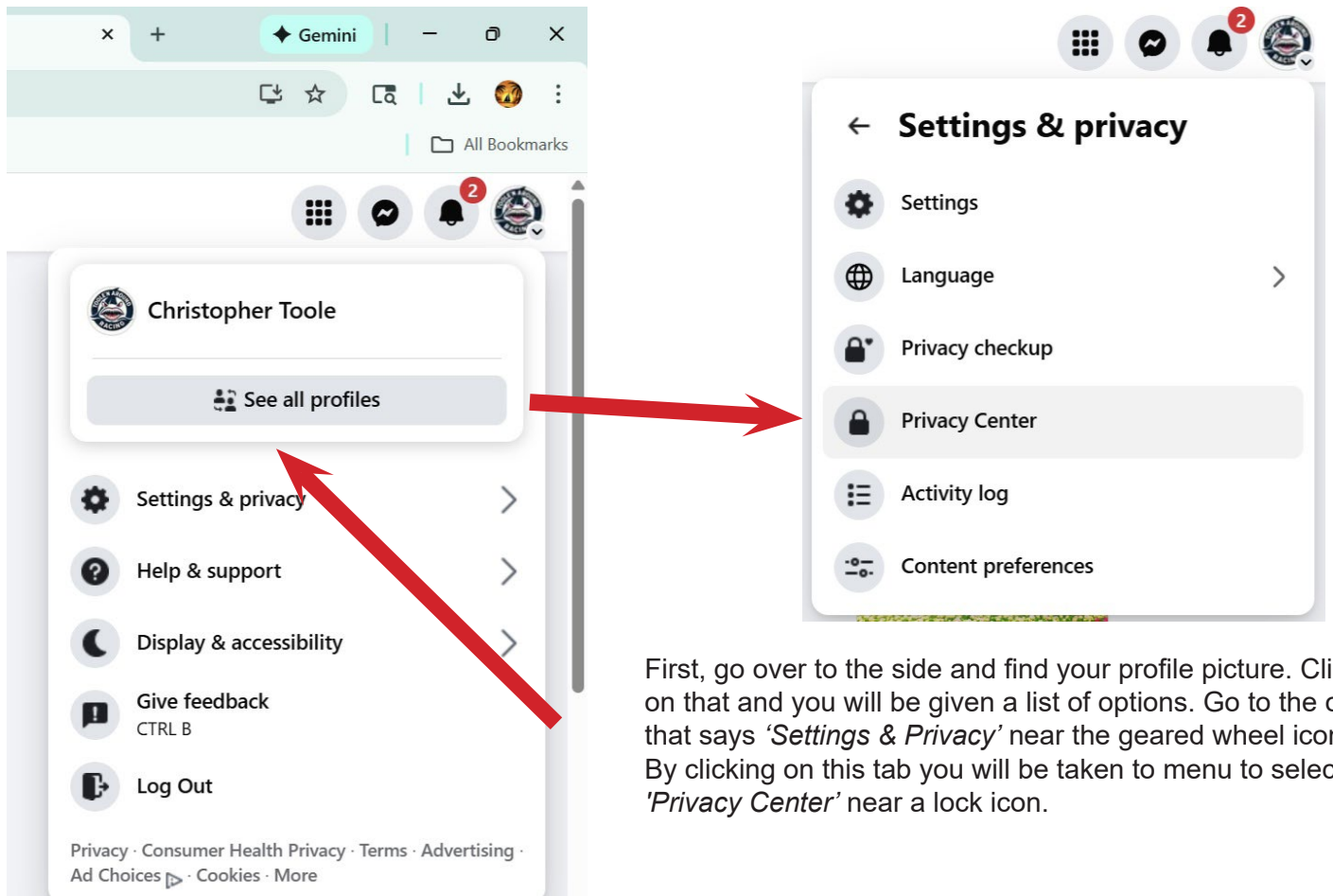
When you log onto Facebook, much of your life is an open book. It really depends on just how much you want to share. For many, Facebook has

become a way to share daily experiences, keep connections with old friends or to discuss your views of the world.

But do people, friends and strangers alike really need to know your actual birthday? Isn't that a useful piece of information needed to secure a loan or get access to a bank statement? Your friends and family know when your birthday is, no need to let outsiders know!

Do strangers really need to know you're flying off to Florida for a week or more? Do they need to know your house might be vacant, open for some quick free shopping!

You can limit this knowledge though! Facebook will allow you to curtail just how much other folks can see and is your best defense against attackers.



First, go over to the side and find your profile picture. Click on that and you will be given a list of options. Go to the one that says *'Settings & Privacy'* near the geared wheel icon. By clicking on this tab you will be taken to menu to select *'Privacy Center'* near a lock icon.

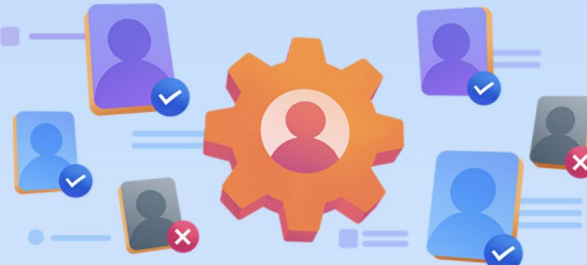
At the Privacy Center, click on the 'Common Privacy Settings'. Again, near the gear icon. Scroll down to the 'Manage audience settings'. There are many options available. The first will be to limit your profile information and who sees it. This will include your phone number, email, birthday, relationship status and more.

Meta

Privacy Center

- Privacy Center home
- Search
- Common privacy settings**
- Privacy topics
- More privacy resources
- Privacy Policy
- Other policies and articles

Manage in Accounts Center



Audience settings

We believe you should be able to choose who can see what you share

Some things you can do:

- Block other profiles from seeing what you share or contacting you
- Review tags before they appear on your profile**
- Make what you share more private

Manage audience settings

Audience settings

Use these common settings to manage who can see the things you share on Facebook and Instagram. You can review more sharing options in your Facebook and Instagram settings.

Facebook

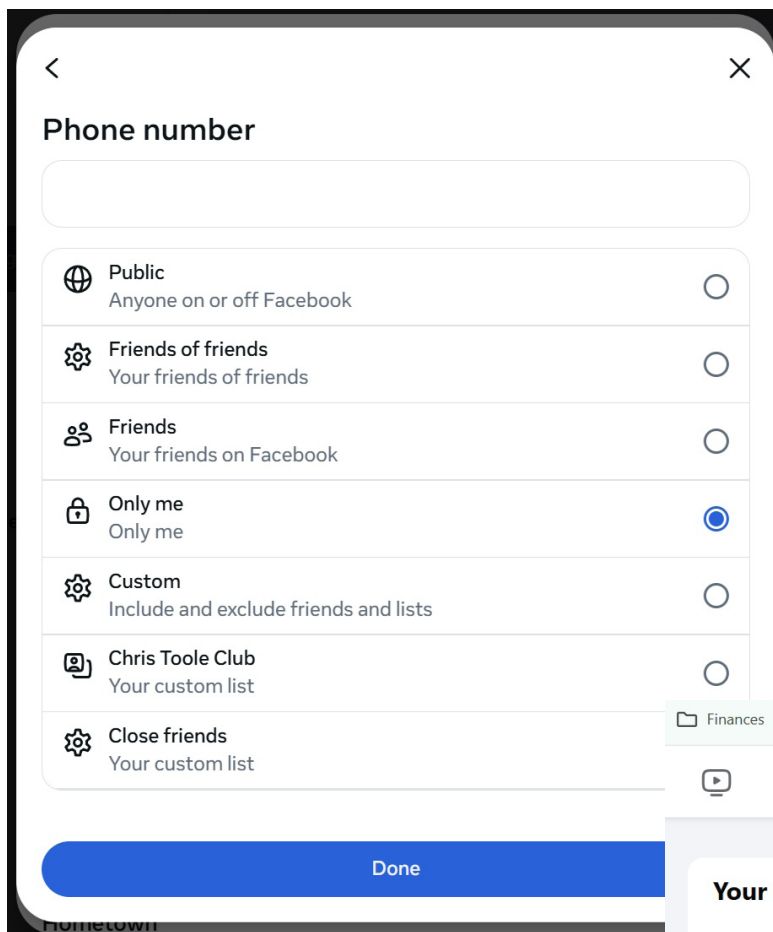
- Profile information >
- Posts and stories >
- Blocking >
- Review tags before they appear on your profile >

Instagram

- Make your account private >
- Review tags before they appear on your profile >

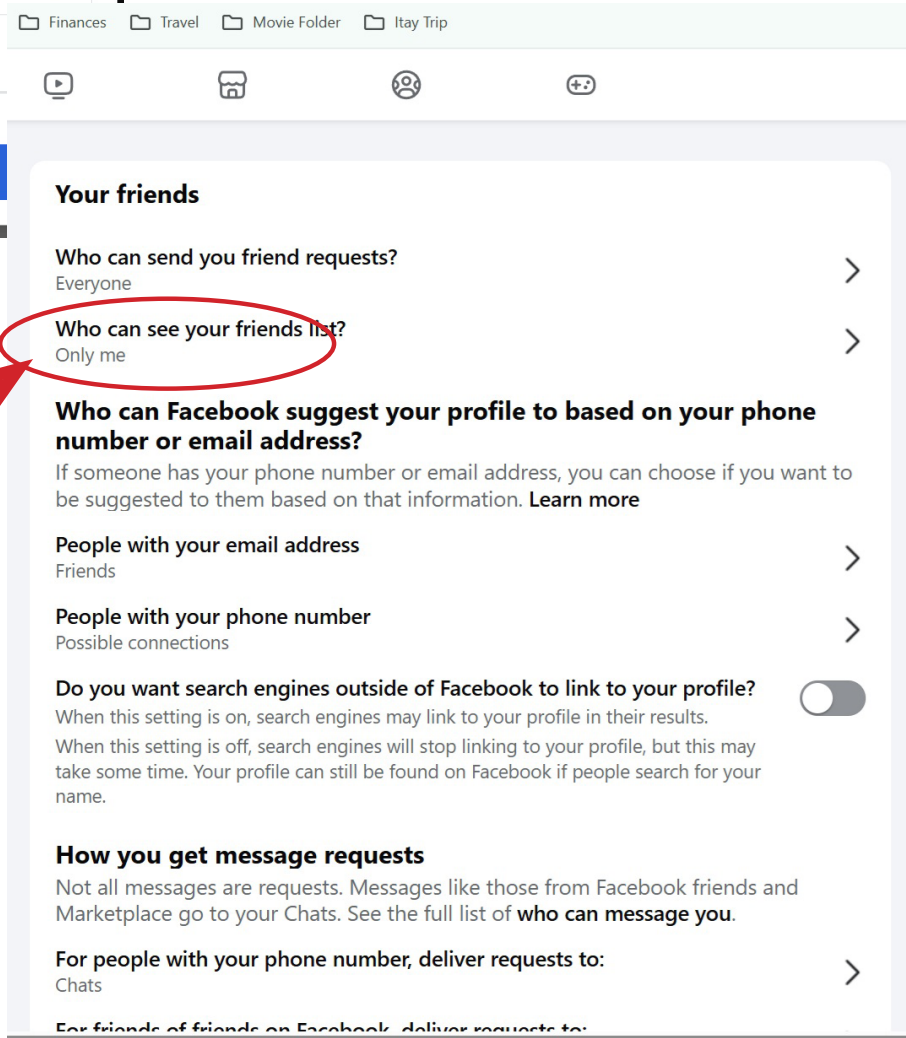
When you click on a specific piece of information, you will then be able to decide who can see this. It runs the gamut from the open public (on or off Facebook) to just you. For your most personal information, I would recommend that only you can see it. No need to announce to the world what your phone number is!

At the very least, limit any and all profile information so that it can only be viewed by you. For the rest of the options, where you work, where you went to school, etc. Only let friends see this. **NEVER** let the public see this. The most important item to click is to restrict **ANY** visibility of your friends to just you.



The picture to the left, you can decide the level of transparency you will allow for any of the 'Audience Settings'.

Again, the safest measure is to restrict what you post and who you are to just those Facebook users that you have accepted as Friends.



While adjusting your privacy settings, the best option is to restrict your profile information which includes your phone number, email, hometown and more so that 'only me' can view it.

Keep the visibility of friends low, so that only people YOU have selected to be friends can see them.

Keep your posts private, only allow your friends to see them. This will keep our the general public from trying to snoop around!

This is the most important step to take. If you limit who can see your posts to just friends, you will thwart most attempts at copying your account. Attackers thrive on the visibility of your friends. They quietly grab a list of your friends. Create a fake email account and then create a new Facebook account using your name and pictures that you have conveniently provided. There are millions of Facebook users so there is no restriction on the number of Chris Toole's on Facebook.

Once they have their new identity, they start sending friend requests to all your friends. Your friends probably don't think twice about it and confirm the attacker's request. Now they have access to your friends friends. A tree that will keep growing!

But you can stop that by turning off viewership to your friends. No one needs to know who or how many friends you have! Remember the goal of Facebook. To connect with friends and family and those with similar interests to you. NOT to help attackers convince you to send money to a stranded Nigerian prince with a great idea to invest in his newest business adventure.

In the end, not trusting text messages or emails may sound like a craven or weak way to view the world, but you work too hard for the things you have and there is no reason to give them to someone else!

One final note. Your Officers and Department Heads with the Genesee Yacht Club will NEVER send you an email asking for money or private information. GYC's internal email system is in place to communicate social events, work projects, Commodore reports, our newsletter and updates.

Should you ever get an email that is suspicious or asks for something outside of the normal, reach out to that person directly!

When You're Going Alone...With Friends!

Need something to do this winter that doesn't include shoveling snow or shopping online for the next expensive sailboat part?

GYC is scheduling a new round of Euchre tournaments for 2026. Just the thing to help pass the time with friends.

We will have four Euchre Tournaments Scheduled for 1/10, 2/21, 3/21 and 4/18. Please bring a dish to pass and your own drinks. We start at 5:30 pm, eat and then play five games starting around 6pm. The cost is \$10 per person. We will send out reminder emails prior to each week's game.

Don't know how to play euchre but want to learn? Stop by and we'll be happy to give you a primer! You can learn euchre in minutes!

If you have any questions or would like to help or better yet... PLAY, please contact Kathy Sebring Gamet at ksebring777@gmail.com for more information.



OUR COMMODORE'S SUNSET CORNER

Commodore Joel Doyle just loves a great sunset picture and we're going to dedicate a special corner each month to showcase some of his favorites!

Do you have a favorite sunset picture and want to share with the Commodore?

Send it in, we know how much he loves them!





We want to thank everyone who showed up in November for our Deck the Halls event. The Club looks absolutely amazing and created the perfect festive atmosphere for our annual Children's Holiday.





Scotch Bonnet about the race by the racers 2025

 Nicholas Lang
1 subscriber

 5   Share  Download  Save ...

Nick Lang has created a great montage video of this year's 54th running of GYC's Scotch Bonnet Light Race. Just be warned! Watching this video can generate severe bouts of sadness knowing we have months of winter to endure before sailing starts again!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gNI-0vwqbY&t=6s>





How did one ocean wish the other ocean a Merry Christmas?

THEY JUST WAVED



What do you call a merry lobster?

SANDY CLAWS



What is a coral reef's favorite Christmas decoration?

CHRISTMAS TREE WORMS



Who is a penguin's favorite family member?

AUNT ARTICA



What do fish use to wrap their presents with?

RIBBON EELS



What do you get when you cross a shark with a snowman?

FROST BITE!!!!

**Thank you!!!! We're be here all month!!!!
Merry Christmas from GYC!!!!**



Santa Claus is Coming to Town!!!!



Once again, GYC hosted a wonderful Christmas get together. With the help of Craig & Cathy Roth, Pat & Paul Pytlak and others, our friends and family enjoyed a perfect, cozy party. The best part was we were able to have Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus join us in the festivities!

There is nothing better than seeing the wonder and joy in the faces of our children as they sit with Santa. Our Club has some wonderful events throughout the year, but our Christmas party is always one of the most special!



